

Dear County Council Member,

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of the Bishop Public Land Initiative. Before giving final approval, I hope you will consider the following:

Three proposals have been offered, but none of these proposals speak to the highest level of conservation requested by a large group of Grand County citizens. When I was raising young children and teaching primary education I often gave my children/students a choice but always a choice between two actions that I wanted. This gave the child a sense of empowerment in making a choice but also insured the action that I requested.

"You can clean your room now or you can clean your room in a half hour."

This is how I view the three proposals being presented. I am being empowered to make a choice, but I must choose only between these 3 conservative choices.

Therefore, I request a fourth choice be crafted and allowed to be debated. This fourth choice should include:

- **Protection for the Green River Corridor
- **Buffer zone around Arches National Park
- **Strong watershed protection for the source of the waters that feed our aquifer
- **Greater protection of Grand County lands from fracking and mineral extraction.
- **Include the Antiquities Act!

Our livelihood is primarily generated by tourist income. We need to preserve the beauty and the accessibility of our lands. Lands that are filled with drilling rigs, fracking pads, & large potash mines will not be attractive to anybody (tourist or local) who want to travel through our lands - whether you walk, ride a four wheeler or drive a large rock crawler. Please note this conversation between two Texans overheard during last year's jeep safari: "Yeah, I drive all the way to Utah hauling my side-by-side because you just can't ride in Texas anymore with all the drilling." Accurately quoted.

Thank you for listening to my comments and sincerely considering adding a fourth alternative which includes a more expansive conservation of lands that both insures the continued health of our residents and visitors and the continued vibrancy of our tourist economy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lisa P. Paterson".

Lisa P. Paterson

To: Members of the Grand County Council and Congressman Bishop

From: Russell W. von Koch, 1757 South Highland Drive, Moab, UT 84532

Subject: Strengthening the Grand County Economy by Providing an Appropriate Name and Designation for key Public Lands near Moab through the Public Lands Initiative



Personal Introduction and Proposal Background

My name is Russell von Koch. I am a resident of Grand County and own a small natural resource consulting business. From 1985, through my retirement from the Bureau of Land Management in 2012, I led the BLM's Recreation Program in Moab. During this period, I also worked to benefit the citizens of Grand County on multiple projects at the request of, or in partnership with the County.

In 1986, when Grand County sought to revive economic activity following the closure of the Atlas Mill, it asked BLM to do what it could to help develop tourism. In response, BLM worked with the Travel Council to design and publish the Moab Area Activity guides, (hiking, biking, rock art, scenic drives, etc.). This action, coinciding with related facility development by BLM, helped spark Grand County's still unfolding economic revival.¹ These actions crystalized my belief that providing recreation experiences through facility development and information is a potent strategy for increasing the economic and human value of public lands.

Providing a Name and Appropriate National Designation for the Key Public Lands Near Moab

The Moab National Recreation and Conservation Area

Under this proposal, Congress, through the Public Lands Initiative (PLI), would designate the most widely recognized recreation areas managed by BLM in Grand County as the Moab National Recreation and Conservation Area (Moab NRCA). As part of the PLI process, Grand County would submit a general statement of management purpose and intent for the overall Moab NRCA. As these areas are already highly developed and intensively managed, future management of these BLM-administered public lands would be generally consistent with present management. The Moab NRCA could also include other areas of scenic, recreational, cultural, and scientific importance as determined through the PLI process.²

This hybrid designation would be the first of its type and would combine the advantages of a National Recreation Area and a National Conservation Area. The National Recreation Area part of the name, specifies a well-known flexible designation. The National Conservation Area portion of the designation further indicates that the values of these lands require special management for the continued realization of their benefits.

Providing an overall name for the most popular and well-known public land recreation areas in Grand County would be one of the most important outcomes of the PLI. It would assure their long-term management and strengthen the County's economy. The designation would provide a collective identity for these areas by replacing much of the "white space" on maps around Moab and Arches with an identifiable destination. This would make it easier for visitors to search for pre-trip information and add value to the trips and services offered by outfitters and other recreation-oriented businesses. It would elevate the lands designated to the status presently enjoyed by other "national" quality destinations.

Location

The Colorado Riverway Special Recreation Management Area from Dewey Bridge to Canyonlands National Park, the Sand Flats Special Recreation Management Area co-managed with Grand County, and the cycling areas west of Arches National Park are recommended for inclusion as part of the Moab NRCA. These areas accommodate the vast majority of public land recreation visitor use to Grand County and include many of the recreation areas at our doorstep cherished by Grand County residents.

Management

The above areas proposed for inclusion in the Moab NRCA already have most of the management prescriptions necessary for their continued protection. These recreation management actions were developed through a series of management plans and further defined by approval of BLM's 2008 Moab Resource Management Plan. These plans were developed with the participation and support of Grand County. Congressional designation of the Moab NRCA would assure long-term continuity of management by codifying overall management goals and intent.

Conclusion

Designation of the Moab National Recreation and Conservation Area would recognize the key public land recreation areas in Grand County as a national level outdoor recreation asset and help promote their conservation and management. It would also support sustainable economic activity and development in Grand County and contribute to maintaining the high quality recreation opportunities enjoyed by residents and visitors alike.

Respectfully submitted,

Russell W von Koch 2/6/15

Russell W von Koch

¹ By 1990, a dramatic increase in destination visitation to the Moab area public lands made it necessary to begin development of the public land recreation sites and facilities that surround, and help define, Moab. Facility development occurred in tandem with management actions collectively devised with the support of Grand County to provide for orderly recreation use.

² The NRCA, as proposed is a flexible designation. Other areas could be included, as appropriate, but would have separate statements of purpose and intent and be managed accordingly.

KaLeigh Welch

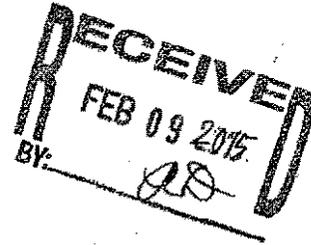
From: Mobad [gomobad@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 08, 2015 8:54 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Bookcliffs and Beyond

I am I full support of efforts to protect the bookcliffs and surrounding areas including Westwater Creek and the Beaver Creek drainages. Thank you for accepting email comments and for listening.

John Hartley

Sent from my iPhone

Mary McGann
County Council
125 E Center St.
Moab, UT 84532



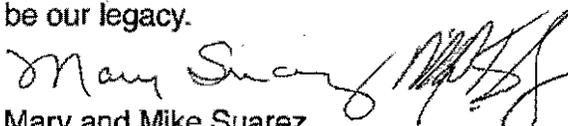
Dear Councilmember McGann,

Thank you for taking another look at the recommendations being made regarding the Bishop public lands bill. We hope the recommendations will be made looking at the maps and factual information of all interested parties and not ideologies.

The last election made it clear that the people of Grand County want to preserve our landscape which is unique in this nation. We want to make sure that third rate oil deposits and a highway through the Book Cliffs are not used to sacrifice our world class scenery, water and quality of air.

Please say no to the Book Cliffs Highway once and for all. Please protect the nearly 1 million acres of remaining BLM and Forest Service wilderness in Grand County that provide recreational and scenic opportunities for the world to enjoy and employment to the people who live here.

We cannot stress too much that the short term gains of the energy industry will only leave a significantly more damaged area to future generations. We do not want this to be our legacy.


Mary and Mike Suarez
PO Box 1186
Moab, UT 84532

KaLeigh Welch

From: marcia tendick [mtendick@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 09, 2015 9:16 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protection of our land and life

Dear Liz, Lynn, Chris, Mary, Ken, Jaylyn and Rory,

Please support wilderness and National Conservation Area protection for the Book Cliffs and the Westwater-Beaver Creek areas, that is lands east of the Colorado River. I further urge you to say NO to a Book Cliffs highway/pipeline/corridor once and for all. This is an issue beyond the economics of Grand County. It is about the survival of humans on this earth, survival in a way that is tolerable for all of us. We must protect our air, soil and water. We need to find a way to continue on earth in a less destructive and more sustainable way.

Thank you,
Marcia Tendick

KaLeigh Welch

From: Sue Bellagamba [sbellagamba@TNC.ORG]
Sent: Monday, February 09, 2015 1:17 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net; lchurch@citlink.net
Cc: Clif Koontz; Dave Livermore; Chris Montague; Joan Degiorgio
Subject: Lands Bill Initiative Power Point Presentation
Attachments: BLBIGrandCounty.pdf

Dear Grand County Council Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to refine and reiterate The Nature Conservancy's solutions to solve a range of public land issues in Grand County through federal legislation. Attached you will find my brief power point presentation based on the Conservancy's priorities to protect the lands and waters in Grand County. I am also working on getting shape files to the county and I would be happy to work with the county on language to be included in the bill.

Once again, we appreciate the Grand County Council for their demonstrated leadership and commitment to what is an incredible challenge and perhaps our best hope for a viable future in Utah.

Please consider the environment before printing this email

Sue Bellagamba
Canyonlands Regional Director

sbellagamba@tnc.org
(435) 259-2551 (Phone)
(435) 259-7607 (Mobile)
(435) 259-2677 (Fax)

The Nature Conservancy
Moab Project Office
P.O. Box 1329
820 West Kane Creek Blvd.
Moab, UT 84532



nature.org

"Study nature, love nature, stay close to nature. It will never fail you" – Frank Lloyd Wright

KaLeigh Welch

From: Darcey Brown [darcey@frontiernet.net]
Sent: Monday, February 09, 2015 1:54 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Bishop Plan

Dear Council Members-

Thank you for opening up the Bishop Plan public comment to those who were overlooked initially and who represent a majority of the broader community. Also thank you for the (mostly) respectful and professional acceptance of alternate plans. My concern is that the views of all those wishing greater protection have and will be further diluted by the current process. Personally, I know that within the groups I am associated with, there have already been compromises- an NRA in lieu of an NCA, a push for less wilderness here and there- all in order to get the plan through the Grand Council. My fear is that by the time the Council and then the true "special interest groups" get through with it in Washington, we will have very little left. Gone are the days when the US House of Representatives passed the Wilderness Act 373 to 1. Please work to send a plan to WDC that reflects the majority view calling for greater protection.

Again, thank you for your time and your service.

Darcey Brown
2931 E. Bench Rd
Moab, UT 84532
435-259-6118
435-260-2373

KaLeigh Welch

From: Pam Hackley [phackley@frontiernet.net]
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 7:19 AM
To: Grand County Council
Subject: Fw: PLI Letter

Please see the letter below from Alice Drogin.

Thank you,

Pam Hackley
HC 64 Box 3208
Castle Valley, UT 84532

On Monday, February 9, 2015 9:01 AM, Alice Drogin <alisaurus@citlink.net> wrote:

This letter is in support of creating strong decisive conservation measures in Eastern Utah, particularly in the Bookcliff Mountains area.

Water, our most precious resource, could too easily be contaminated by development and accidental spills in this region. For reasons of watershed protection, I oppose a Bookcliffs Highway.

Please keep clean water (for humans and wildlife) in mind when you are crafting a document for inclusion in the Bishop Land Use Initiative.

Thank you for the difficult and important work you are doing. Let's put the "conserve" idea back in conservative policies.

Alice Drogin
Castle Valley, UT

KaLeigh Welch

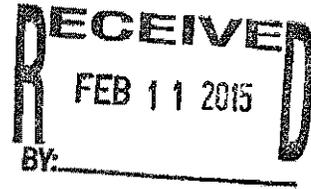
From: Dick Walter [dickwalter56@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 11, 2015 7:58 AM
To: kaleighwelch@grandcountyutah.net; rdillon@grandcountyutah.net;
council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Friends of Bookcliffs and Beyond letters and articles of support for our proposal
Attachments: Alesha my letter for the books project 2 5 15.docx; BHA Jay.docx; Bill Bunch.docx; Book Cliffs Roadless Area--Brad Barber KT rev.docx; Book Cliffs --Ryan Bingham--KT rev.docx; Book Cliffs-Winter Ridge--Chris Barton-kt rev..doc; Books.pdf; Dolores triangle--KT rev.docx; Mark S letter.docx; Maya Pandya.docx; Robert Dehnke.docx; Russell Gambosi.docx; ZachColeman.docx

Kaleigh

Would you please let me know this works. I am new to Dropbox.

Thanks

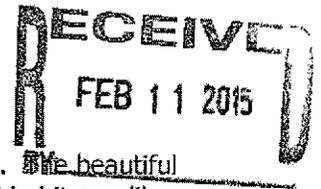
Dick Walter



To whom it may concern,

I am writing you to express my disapproval of drilling for oil in the Roadless Book Cliffs in Grand County Utah. I hunted the Book Cliffs in 2013 and returned again in 2014. Its was nice to enjoy such a beautiful and unmolested piece of America. To see roads and oil rigs in the Book Cliffs would be an absolute travesty. The ruggedness and remoteness of the area is what makes it so special. I understand America and its politics, its all about the almighty dollar. I am only one small voice, but I hope and pray that someone in this decision making process has a conscience and a soul and will do what is right morally and ethically. It would be refreshing to see values supersede dollars.

Thank You,
Mark Schmudlach



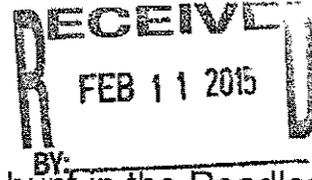
Dear Alesha,

thank you for sharing your camp in the Book Cliffs roadless area with me last October. ~~The~~ beautiful high country you showed me with hundreds of elk and other wildlife is an undisturbed habitat unlike anything I've experienced in Europe or much of the USA. I thoroughly enjoyed hearing bull elk bugling and cows calling their calves, as well as a close encounter with a black bear, and I look forward to fly-fishing in the isolated West Willow Creek. I was saddened to hear of plans to drill and spoil this unique roadless area irreversibly, as seen through other parts of the Book Cliffs with road access and associated infrastructure. I wish you success in preserving this site which is part of what makes Utah so special.

Best wishes,

Maya Pandya

Salt Lake City, UT



To whom it may concern,

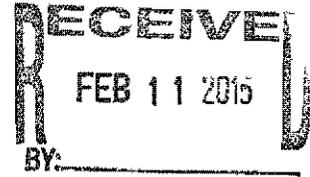
During October, 2014, I was able to experience an elk hunt in the Roadless Books Cliffs area. It is a truly remarkable wilderness area untouched by the development of man. The size of the elk herd could only be described as second to what visitors see in Yellowstone National park. The natural colors and hues of the rock formations and the vivid fall colors of the vegetation is indescribable.

Man and civilization must strike a balance with the preservation of wildlife and it's habit and the development of our natural resources. The Roadless Books Cliffs area must be preserved for the sake of the wildlife. Man continues to have a negative impact on the wildlife of the western United States and recently, Chronic Wasting Disease has been identified in an elk heard in northern Utah.

Much like what Ducks Unlimited has done for the preservation and future of the duck population, this area in question must be set aside for the future of the elk and deer population.

I strongly encourage those with the power to decide the fate of the Roadless Books Cliffs area to deny any future development in this area.

Robert K. Dehnke
13824 Cruden Bay
Herriman, UT 84096
719-330-4765



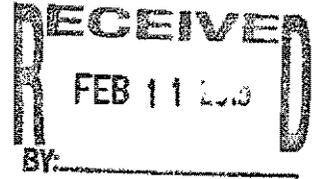
To whom it may concern,

Greetings! I am a physician from Pennsylvania that once lived in Utah. I have been on 4 hunts into the Bookcliffs roadless area, the last two with 2 of my 3 daughters. These trips into the backcountry of the Bookcliffs cemented our relationship and produced memories that will last a lifetime. Truly wild areas are few and far between.

Adventure, unique beauty, multitudes of elk bugling high on the ridges, clear streams and bright starlit skies without human interference are the main reasons I continue to return to Utah and request this specific location. Oil and natural gas is currently plentiful, leading to low prices and a significant slowing of new production. Including the Bookcliffs in a new drilling unit would irreversibly alter this landscape when no pressing economic need is present. I certainly would look elsewhere for my Western hunts and wilderness vacations.

In conclusion, I request that you permanently create a wild and primitive area out of the current Bookcliffs roadless area and forbid oil and gas exploration. The Bookcliffs are a hidden gem that I have and will repeatedly vacation to so that I may enjoy the many things I have noted above. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Russell Gombosi MD
5271 State Rt 973 E
Cogan Station, PA 17728



To whom it may concern:

My name is Zack Colman. I have been a whitewater river guide in southern Utah for nine seasons, exploring the wilderness of canyon country for fifteen years, and have been an outdoor enthusiast for as long as I can remember. The wilderness areas of Grand County are not only magnificent in beauty and grandeur, but a large part of my livelihood. The feeling I get from taking people into the wilderness, via the River and mountain bike, and seeing the joy and amazement on their faces is irreplaceable. Not only do I love sharing the history, geology and folklore of the land, but getting even one individual interested in the land is considered a success for me.

I ask that we continue to protect these natural lands and wilderness areas for everyone to see, enjoy, and bask in the bewilderment for generations to come. They are an integral part to the majesty of Grand County and must be protected. Thank you for your time and consideration in reading this letter.

Regards,
Zack Colman



FLYING J OUTFITTERS, INC.

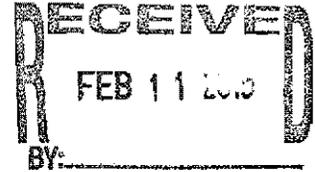
"Your Pack Train
to the
Utah Wilderness"

www.FlyingJOutfitters.com

February 7, 2015

RE: Bookcliffs Roadless Area

To whom it may concern:



I would like to start this letter by saying first that I am not anti oil/gas by any stretch of the imagination. I have grown up and presently still live in the Uinta Basin which is supported almost entirely by the oil/gas industry. I have seen the growth and the fall of the economy, and lived through the ups and downs of the industry. And I have seen my back yard and landscape change from once was open ground to oil and gas wells and pumps and rigs. So the oil and gas development is nothing new to me and I have never opposed the industry growth before.

My grandpa started Flying J Outfitters in 1970. I grew up hunting and outfitting in the Roadless unit of the Bookcliffs. I have never, to date missed a year of my 41 years of life of being in this country. We would spend 65 days straight down there back in the 1990's and never go home. Since my grandpa's death in 2006 I have become the owner/outfitter and still run hunts and pack trips in the Roadless bookcliffs every year, spending on an average of 40-60 days a year. So you might say this project has touched a nerve with my emotions as well as my future pocketbook.

I absolutely agree that oil and gas is an important part of our countries growth. That being said I also hope that you could agree that protecting parts of our western heritage and keeping some wild land wild is just as important to the future of our country.

The piece of land we are talking about is not big in comparison to other projects and compared to the road part of the Bookcliffs it is very small chunk of land. But this small roadless unit is so unique and spectacular. It is almost like it has a bubble over it, like it is uninfluenced by the outside world. Almost like man hasn't had a say in it and it is still how God created it. The habitat alone is all its own. It has an aura about it that you just feel when you hit the bottom of the canyons. It is the closest thing to feeling like walking back in time I can describe. It is impossible to put into words just how awe inspiring this land really is, you have to see it for yourself to get the meaning. The wildlife is abundant. It is the only place I know of that you can literally drive to the trailhead, unload a horse, and within a 3-5 hour ride see Elk, Deer, Bears, Coyotes and a variety of Hawks all within one ride and then drive back home that night.

The history of this area is also very unique. There was a huge cattle company that ran in the roadless country, today you can still see remnants of this. I can take you to a place that you can find native American arrowheads and pottery and look from that overhang to where a cabin stood from the cattle days. It is a true part of our western heritage.

- It would be a shame to wipe out our past and parts of our heritage to move forward with progress. Once it is gone it is gone. The wildlife will never be the same if roads get put in the roadless unit. It will change the very dynamics of the unique eco system that exists in the Bookcliffs roadless unit.

P.O. Box 70 • Myton, Utah 84052-0070 • Phone: 435-646-3208 • Fax: 866-852-9880

Permitted By: The Ashley National Forrest



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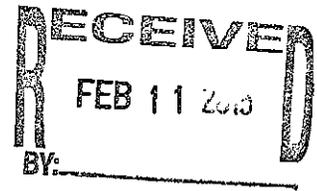
It would be my hope and wish that everyone who is involved in this project and who has a say as to its outcome gets the opportunity to truly enjoy what the roadless has to offer before they make the decision to destroy it. If we punch roads into this country it will destroy everything that the Bookcliffs Roadless unit is about. It will never be the same.

Respectfully,

Alesha Williams
Flying J Outfitters
Myton UT
Alesha@flyingjoutfitters.com

P.O. Box 70 • Myton, Utah 84052-0070 • Phone: 435-646-3208 • Fax: 866-852-9880

Permitted By: The Ashley National Forrest



The Bookcliff Range is widely recognized by sportsmen from all over the world as one of the premier big game hunting opportunities in North America. It's vast and rugged undeveloped expanses harbor the undisturbed habitat that is critical to maintaining robust populations of elk, deer, and even bison.

It has been a priority of both the National Backcountry Hunters and Anglers as well as the Utah Chapter of that organization to see that the areas which are currently not dissected by roads remain that way. The Utah Chapter identified the protection of the Bookcliff Range as our top priority in regard to Congressman Bishop's Grand Bargain initiative. We remain committed to seeing the full protection of those areas under that process.

Our members depend on public lands for pursuing our passion of backcountry hunting and fishing. No place offers better opportunity for such solitude and escape from the mechanized world in Utah than the rugged county of the Bookcliffs. We stand opposed to any action that would denigrate the pristine values that draw us to this area.

Your truly,

Jay Banta

2/6/2015

To whom it may concern,

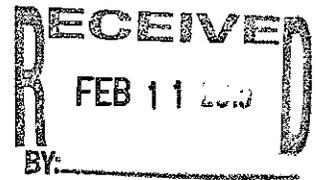
I am writing this letter to express my strong opposition to any development in the Little Creek Roadless Area of the Bookcliffs and recommend that any and all measures be taken to ensure that the area remains in its current state.

I live in California and have been blessed with the opportunity to visit the Roadless area and to enjoy the rare and basically untouched beauty that would be lost if the area was subjected to development. The area is filled with clear streams that run through valleys filled with tall grass between slopes covered with aspens and pines. There is spectacular wildlife that flourishes in the area like deer, bear, and the incredibly majestic elk.

History has taught us how fragile and precious nature is and the importance of setting aside and protecting areas for future generations. This is one such area and I hate to think about the tragic consequences of allowing development to occur in such a special place.

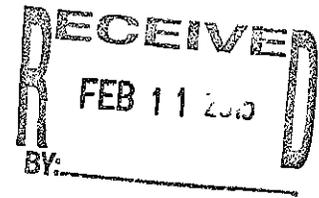
Please take the necessary steps to preserve and cherish this unique and beautiful part of Utah.

Sincerely,
Bill Bunch



Book Cliffs Roadless Area

Brad Barber, Salt Lake City



The Book Cliffs roadless area is in northern Grand County, in eastern Utah. It is a special and unique place-- beautiful and rugged and remote with a diversity of plant and animal life. Truly a backcountry hunter's paradise, it has many applicants for the few limited entry big game tags made available by the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources. Drawing a coveted tag may take years of applying in order to improve your odds each subsequent year. In the meantime, you dream. And prepare.

To get to the really good hunting areas used to entail enduring four hours of a terribly wash-boarded, kidney-bruising dirt road (the road is now improved). Then there're another three or four hours on horseback negotiating rough and steep terrain--and that's after getting saddled up and gear loaded at the trailhead. This trip isn't something to be taken lightly, and being unprepared could have dire consequences. But, looking back, of course it's all well worth it!

I started hunting there in the mid-nineteen eighties. The two biggest mule deer bucks and two bull elk I have ever taken came from this place. I have also had the pleasure of being "guide," wrangler, and cook for several friends on some other incredible trips. The memories and stories of this place take up many pages in my diary, but will stay with me for a lifetime.

One particular memory is worth sharing. We were camped in a beautiful meadow by a small stream. Given I was the wrangler and camp cookie on this trip, I was not up at "o-dark-thirty" but sleeping in after the hunters headed out early – that is, until I was awakened by elk bugling and a raucous commotion right in camp!

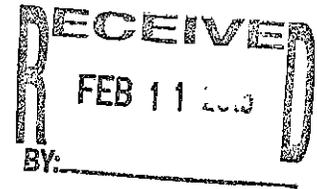
As I grabbed my pants and scrambled from the tent, I found myself among a flock of wild turkeys which immediately exploded into flight as a coyote bounded from the willows along the stream, trying for an easy turkey dinner. Almost simultaneously, two bull elk trotted bugling, grunting, and snorting from the golden aspens into the meadow where my horses were grazing. – the horses, of course, were immediately nervous. I (and the horses!) wasn't sure if the bulls were going to fight or if they saw my horses as potential harem mates. As I watched the drama unfold, not five minutes later a black bear eased across the opposite hillside, negotiating a tall redrock cliff, finally emerging from some thick mountain mahogany and oak brush. It stopped for a long minute, swiveling its head looking first at me, then all the activity. He finally stuck his nose in the air for a quick sniff. Surely deciding the neighborhood had gone to "heck," the bear silently vanished into the conifer-filled ravine below camp.

Collapsing into my camp chair, I said to myself "No one's going to believe what I just saw!"

Needless to say, I'll be back.

Book Cliffs

Ryan Bingham



There are very few places that afford the opportunity to have a truly remote backpack, camping or hunting experience like that of the Book Cliffs Roadless area in eastern Utah. Over the years, I have explored deep into the backcountry in several western states. There is really nowhere else in the world like the Book Cliffs. It is nothing short of a paradise for those who love to hunt big game with a horse or mule.

Three years ago, I was privileged to experience a hunt of a lifetime with my father, 62 years-old at the time. He had been applying for a limited entry bull elk tag for seventeen years!

The effort required to access the Book Cliffs Roadless Area limited our scouting to one trip over Labor Day weekend. Then a few long weeks later, we were back for the hunt. We set up a remote horse camp complete with wall tents, outfitter-style, then hunted on foot a two-hour hike from camp. After deciding to focus our efforts on one particularly symmetrical 6-point specimen, we played "cat and mouse" for two days before the perfect shot opportunity presented itself to my dad.

This untamed area is far from motorized traffic and evidence of human disturbance. The feelings and unique experience of being there really cannot be adequately explained with words. I can only say it is a sacred experience.

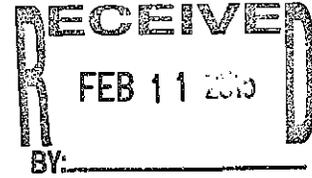
Before I made my first trip into the remote areas of the Book Cliffs, I didn't understand the mystique-- why so many people I talked to had such a reverence for this special part of Utah. Primarily seen from the I-70 corridor, one simply cannot imagine what lies beyond the sheer vertical cliffs that give the Book Cliffs its name. Now, having had that opportunity, I understand. You do not just "visit" the Book Cliffs, once you've experience it, you retain part of it in your heart.

For me and my father, the opportunity to spend some time in "the Books" and harvest a trophy bull elk will be the pinnacle of our hunting lives.

I hope that it remains in its pristine and undeveloped condition so that others can see what wild backcountry really is. And who knows, maybe I'll get that rare chance to hunt the Book Cliffs with my sons.

Book Cliffs—Winter Ridge

Christine Barton, Brigham City, Utah



I was very excited to have drawn an archery buck tag for the Book Cliffs in eastern Utah for the 2013 season. The area has a reputation for good big game hunting as a result of the habitat and remoteness. It is far from any towns so I knew it would be great hunting. Less people mean better deer.

My husband and another bowhunting friend both purchased archery elk tags, which for this limited entry unit meant they could only harvest spike elk. We planned hunt in the north portion of the Book Cliffs unit as we had limited time to access the more remote roadless area to the south.

As we headed south from Highway 40 east of Roosevelt, Utah, we expected 90 miles of dirt road but found that much of that distance was newly paved. It was a little over an hour when the road turned to dirt and then it wasn't too far to the area we planned to hunt. On the drive there, we noticed that new gravel roads were being built by the oil companies in order to access the wells which are being drilled everywhere out there.

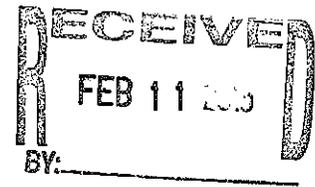
We used some of the roads to scout out the area first by the truck then ATV, but I wasn't seeing all these deer everyone told us would be everywhere. Not being familiar with this area I was seeing it from a fresh perspective. Other seasoned hunters we encountered who had hunted the area for years told us the poor vegetation has really hurt the deer population and racks were much smaller than in years past. Still, with access roads for the oil wells literally everywhere, I wondered if that hadn't made an impact on the deer population. While the roads provide improved access to this area, they are a mixed blessing.

Towards the end of our hunt, I finally harvested a nice mule deer buck—not huge, but any animal taken with a bow should be considered a trophy! My husband was also successful in taking a spike bull elk with his bow, so our hunt was extraordinarily successful.

If given the chance I will eagerly hunt the area again. It is beautiful and rugged. While not yet overrun with hunters due to its remote setting, I wonder how long it will stay that way.

Dick Walter, Moab, Utah

The Dolores Triangle



The "Dolores Triangle" in east-central Utah is so named because it is bounded on three sides by distinctive features-- the Colorado border on the east, the Colorado River on the north, and the Dolores River along the southerly edge. Located on the northern fringes of the Colorado Plateau, it is noteworthy for its varied terrain, seasonally-abundant wildlife, and isolation.

The area is entirely on federal land managed by the U.S. Department of Interior's Bureau of Land Management. Perhaps not what many would consider scenic in itself, surrounding views of the the LaSal mountains to the south and the rugged San Juan mountains to the east in Colorado provide spectacular backdrops to this remote and lightly visited area.

The geographically-defined landscape of the Dolores Triangle is essentially a large plateau that slopes from the higher elevations of Colorado westward into Utah. The land drops down to lower elevations along the bordering rivers with numerous canyons in between.

Within its boundaries, the area is roughly characterized as having two recognizable zones, with northern and southern components. The northern portion, a BLM Wilderness Study Area, includes red rock cliffs, benches covered by pinyon-juniper intermixed with open, grassy meadows. The southern portion is in a BLM Natural Area with similar vegetation, rocky slopes, and mesas dissected by numerous smaller canyons that lead into the larger canyons of the Colorado and Dolores rivers.

The habitat of this area appears similar to much of what would be considered a common western landscape. Rather than having abundant year-round populations of big game, the "Triangle" provides critical winter range for deer and elk that migrate from adjacent higher elevations of western Colorado. Lack of convenient access and the few gravel roads in the area limits potential of human disturbance to these animals while they are most vulnerable.

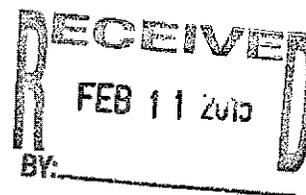
Hunting pressure is light only because a few limited entry tags for deer or elk are made available, but those lucky hunters that draw coveted tags might have an opportunity to harvest a trophy animal in a wild setting.

The potential for impacts from energy development and operations is a concern for the future of this unusual area as several tracts have been approved for oil and gas leasing by the BLM. Disturbance to wintering wildlife could result from construction of road networks and operations, including water and air pollution, noise, oil field traffic and human presence. Increased motorized access during the winter when wildlife is typically stressed and unwary would make animals much more susceptible to poaching.

2/2/2015

* * *

Caleb Bergeleen
Professional Guide
471 Upper Elgin River Rd
Elgin, TX 78621



To whom it may concern:

To whom it may concern:

Every fall for the last 13 years I have spent in the back country of the western states guiding hunters. I have guided in Idaho, Colorado, Utah, and New Mexico. But seven of those years have been the most special because I had the opportunity to guide in the bookcliffs roadless unit. This is an area unlike any other in the United States because of its unique beauty and abundance of animals. In a world of quickly disappearing wilderness/roadless areas, we have to do what is right for our children and our children's children and protect our wild areas.

Theodore Roosevelt once said

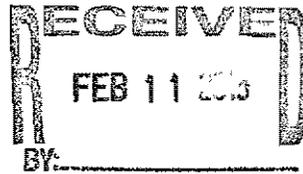
"Here is your country. Cherish these natural wonders, cherish the natural resources, cherish the history and romance as a sacred heritage, for your children and your children's children. DO NOT let selfish men or greedy interests skin your country of its beauty, its riches or its romance."

I feel the same as he does. Natural resources are vital to our country, and I am all for drilling and the oil business as a whole. But, we must protect our public lands that have remained wild and free at all costs.

Thanks you for your time,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "Caleb Bergeleen", written in a cursive style.

Caleb Bergeleen



To whom it may concern,

Greetings! I am a physician from Pennsylvania that once lived in Utah. I have been on 4 hunts into the Bookcliffs roadless area, the last two with 2 of my 3 daughters. These trips into the backcountry of the Bookcliffs cemented our relationship and produced memories that will last a lifetime. Truly wild areas are few and far between.

Adventure, unique beauty, multitudes of elk bugling high on the ridges, clear streams and bright starlit skies without human interference are the main reasons I continue to return to Utah and request this specific location. Oil and natural gas is currently plentiful, leading to low prices and a significant slowing of new production. Including the Bookcliffs in a new drilling unit would irreversibly alter this landscape when no pressing economic need is present. I certainly would look elsewhere for my Western hunts and wilderness vacations.

In conclusion, I request that you permanently create a wild and primitive area out of the current Bookcliffs roadless area and forbid oil and gas exploration. The Bookcliffs are a hidden gem that I have and will repeatedly vacation to so that I may enjoy the many things I have noted above. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Russell Gombosi MD
5271 State Rt 973 E
Cogan Station, PA 17728

KaLeigh Welch

From: Ruth Dillon [rdillon@grandcountyutah.net]
Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2015 9:44 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: FW: List of Participants in Bishop Process

From: William Love [mailto:sombra@frontiernet.net]
Sent: Sunday, February 8, 2015 9:56 AM
To: grand county council
Cc: moabsunnewseditor@gmail.com
Subject: List of Participants in Bishop Process

Please Distribute

The list below is the people invited to participate in the Bishop Proposal Big Flats meetings. This list was presented to the County Council several meetings ago. Please notice that almost all the Conservation Groups were excluded. Several members from conservation groups who tried to participate in the workshops were removed from the table by Lynn and told to sit in the audience as they were not invited. Fidelity was fully represented at the table. Missing are SUWA, Sierra Club, Canyonlands Watershed Council, Living Rivers, Grand Canyon Trust and any other group who wanted to participate as a conservation group. The council workshop for new presentations included several organizations that have been part of past workshops and may be just repeats of prior information.

Curtis Wells; Doug McElhaney; Lynn Jackson; Clif Koontz; Dina Brown (Fidelity Oil); Ashley Korenblat; Gene Ciarus; Lavonne Garrison (SITLA); Mike Keller (Fidelity); Sue Bellagamba; Jason Keith; Bryan Torgerson; Ruth Dillon; Sandy Freethy; Dave Vaughn; Bill Jackson; John Andrews (SITLA); and attended at least once: Wade Garrett and Kelsey ____ (from Wade Garrett's office I believe). There were also two young men from PLPCO who ran the GIS mapping during the meetings. There may have been others from Fidelity a time or two.

Bill love

KaLeigh Welch

From: Richard Schwartz [richard@mtperson.com]
Sent: Saturday, February 14, 2015 8:18 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Protection

Grand County Council
Attn: Public Lands Bill
125 E Center Street
Moab, UT 84532

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am responding to the Grand County Council's invitation for public comments on protection for public lands in Grand County as part of Rep. Rob Bishop's 'Public Lands Initiative' in SE Utah. I strongly support National Conservation Area status for the Book Cliffs and Westwater/Dolores Triangle/Beaver Creek areas.

I have resided in Castleton in Grand County for 17 years. I cannot emphasize how important it is for the future of Grand County to protect as much land as possible as Conservation Areas or official Wilderness. Such a designation is critical for a vibrant adventure-based economy. The many visitors who visit Grand County take away indelible impressions of beauty. These lands merit conservation

From my home in Castleton I see the Book Cliffs. I have floated Westwater many times. The Dolores Triangle is remote, hard to get to, and thereby very special. All are deserving of conservation protection.

In summary, I support an expansive designation of protected land in Grand County. Such designation will preserve something that people literally come from all over the world to see, fueling the local economy. People do not come to see fracking operations, hazy air, and heavy oil trucks thundering through the desert. Ask the people of North Dakota how much the local communities have gained by being boomtowns.

Wilderness also offers the residents of Grand County the solace and spiritual nurturing of untrammelled land, to say nothing of the tourist dollars. When I moved here 17 years ago, it was in no small part due to the landscape of this unique area.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Rep. Bishop's public lands bill.

Sincerely,
Richard Schwartz
Castleton

KaLeigh Welch

From: glen zumwalt [glenzum@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 15, 2015 12:57 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Fwd: Feb.16 PLI meeting

----- Forwarded message -----

From: glen zumwalt <glenzum@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, Feb 15, 2015 at 10:42 AM
Subject: Feb.16 PLI meeting
To: Council@grandcountyutah.net

I am Glen Zumwalt, (Utah board member of The BlueRibbon Coalition) and will be attending the council's meeting. We (BRC) have been involved with the eastern Utah PLI since its inception and have provided various forms of input and support to the counties and /or local organizations where maintaining and preserving access to public lands becomes an issue. I would appreciate the opportunity to introduce myself and offer any assistance we may be able to provide as you work toward finalizing Grand Co.'s position. Thanks- Glen ph. [435-680-1919](tel:435-680-1919)

KaLeigh Welch

From: Canyon Voyages Adventure Co. [info@canyonvoyages.com]
Sent: Monday, February 16, 2015 3:47 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Bishop Public Lands Initiative

My wife and I own and operate a successful business that depends on a high quality visitor experience. Over the 23 years of building our business we have seen much growth in Moab's tourism economy. Unlike previous boom/bust cycles of extractive industries, tourism has formed a solid foundation that has been thriving but is now threatened by incompatible uses such as increasing oil and gas development. View sheds and air quality can be quickly spoiled and for these reasons, we believe it is imperative that you support protection via the Bishop Public Lands Initiative.

Book Cliffs Area: Please preserve the existing large tracts of wilderness quality land as wilderness and extend management oversight for adjacent lands in a Book Cliff National Conservation Area. Wildlife migration corridors are vital and must be maintained including corridors through existing oil and gas fields. We ask that you do not support the Book Cliff Highway proposal or oil/gas pipeline proposal because of the disruption it would cause to this unique and largely unspoiled area.

The other natural treasure worthy of protecting for future generations is the Westwater-Beaver Creek area. These remote locations are highly sought after by our clients specifically for their wilderness quality. These desert river canyons encompass unique riparian and wildlife habitats. We request your support in preserving these lands as wilderness in the form of a Westwater-Beaver Creek National Conservation Area.

Thank you, in advance, for your leadership in protecting these wild places for the citizens of Grand County and those who visit it from throughout the world.

Sincerely,

Don & Denise Oblak

CANYON VOYAGES ADVENTURE Co.
211 N. Main St.
Moab, UT 84532
(435) 259-6007
info@canyonvoyages.com
www.canyonvoyages.com

KaLeigh Welch

From: Tory Hill [tory4411@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 17, 2015 9:51 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Bishop Lands Initiative

GC Council,

I want to thank you for your service and your willingness to listen to the community's concerns.

In regards to the Bishop Lands Initiative, specifically the 3 alternatives for the Book Cliffs Highway, I would like to ask the GC council and all those involved to seriously consider removing any and all plans for the Highway. As you know maintaining roads in Grand County is not an easy thing even under the best of circumstances. How many times have we had to totally rebuild the road to Mineral Bottom or clear large slides from 128 or replace culverts everywhere because they have failed?

As you may know Counties and Municipalities get state tax monies to help pay for the building and maintenance of our roads. This is calculated by the mile, NOT by the monetary need of the road. As treasurer of Castle Valley for the last 5 years I can tell you that the money we get from the state for C.V. drive does not even begin to cover the cost of maintaining the road. This is a road that is relatively flat and has good drainage and is easy to get to.

I ask that before the council makes a decision to say yes to this, you go up to the Book Cliffs and drive for yourself the 3 alternative routes. I think if you do you would easily see that all 3 routes are building and maintenance nightmares. GC would be financially responsible for this Highway. And Highway it is. Let's not fool ourselves into thinking this is a nice little road for a drive like 128. Currently where the pavement ends at the GC line this *little* road is far larger than 191. It must be built for the BIG rigs to drive as fast as they can, they'd like 60 to 70 mph, though the grade on all 3 alternatives would limit this to some degree. Contrary to what some think and have said we cannot charge a toll on this Highway. Do we really want to bind ourselves to paying for this road into eternity just to make it easier for Big Oil to frack and pollute the Colorado River watershed and Canadian Tar Sands to strip mine our Book Cliffs for some of the dirtiest energy on the planet?

Please GC Council, remove the Hydrocarbon Highway from all alternatives to the Bishop land initiative!

Also please be proactive and do whatever it takes to protect our watershed here in the Moab valley and GC in general. As you know we live in a desert and there is a finite amount of water, we need to conserve and protect it.

Once again Thank You, Tory Hill

KaLeigh Welch

From: David McLean [mclean777@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 17, 2015 4:07 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Thank You Grand County Council

The two recent Administrative Workshops for the Public Land Initiative, one on 9 February and the other on 16 February, were examples of excellent leadership by our Grand County Council.

These workshops were well attended, the presenters were well prepared, and everyone (audience, presenters, and Council) was civil and respectful. This result was because of the ground rules, openness, tone, and conduct by you the Council members. The extra hours and work you put in to accomplish this is appreciated by me and, I suspect, everyone in Grand County.

Thank you for inviting public comment by anyone and everyone with information to share, and for courteously and respectfully listening and considering their input. Grand County is fortunate to have great selfless people like you.

Citizen Dave

Dave McLean

KaLeigh Welch

From: Wendy Hoff [wendyhoff@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 18, 2015 9:03 AM
To: Grand County Council
Subject: Bishop plan comments - Book Cliffs

It's my understanding that you are currently addressing the Book Cliffs portion of the Bishop Plan.

I would just like to comment that I am in favor of wilderness protection for this area. That is no development, no oil and gas. It is not worth devouring the current landscape for finite purposes.

Wendy Hoff
256 S 100 E
Moab, UT

KaLeigh Welch

From: Pam Hackley [phackley@frontiernet.net]
Sent: Thursday, February 19, 2015 7:20 AM
To: Grand County Council
Subject: Fw: Public Lands Protection

Please forward this letter from Richard Schwartz to Council.

Thank you,

Pam Hackley
HC 64 Box 3208
Castle Valley, UT 84532

On Saturday, February 14, 2015 8:20 AM, Richard Schwartz <richard@mtperson.com> wrote:

Grand County Council
Attn: Public Lands Bill
125 E Center Street
Moab, UT 84532

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am responding to the Grand County Council's invitation for public comments on protection for public lands in Grand County as part of Rep. Rob Bishop's 'Public Lands Initiative' in SE Utah. I strongly support National Conservation Area status for the Book Cliffs and Westwater/Dolores Triangle/Beaver Creek areas.

I have resided in Castleton in Grand County for 17 years. I cannot emphasize how important it is for the future of Grand County to protect as much land as possible as Conservation Areas or official Wilderness. Such a designation is critical for a vibrant adventure-based economy. The many visitors who visit Grand County take away indelible impressions of beauty. These lands merit conservation

From my home in Castleton I see the Book Cliffs. I have floated Westwater many times. The Dolores Triangle is remote, hard to get to, and thereby very special. All are deserving of conservation protection.

In summary, I support an expansive designation of protected land in Grand County. Such designation will preserve something that people literally come from all over the world to see, fueling the local economy. People do not come to see fracking operations, hazy air, and heavy oil trucks thundering through the desert. Ask the people of North Dakota how much the local communities have gained by being boomtowns.

Wilderness also offers the residents of Grand County the solace and spiritual nurturing of untrammelled land, to say nothing of the tourist dollars. When I moved here 17 years ago, it was in no small part due to the landscape of this unique area.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on Rep. Bishop's public lands bill.

Sincerely,
Richard Schwartz
Castleton

KaLeigh Welch

From: Kevin Walker [k23walker@gmail.com] on behalf of Kevin Walker [kevin@canyon23.net]
Sent: Friday, February 20, 2015 10:23 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Book Cliffs Wilderness and NCA

Dear County Council Members,

Here are my comments on the Book Cliffs in the context of Grand County's recommendation for the Bishop process.

I hope you will do three things on Monday:

- (1) Recommend wilderness for the three units in the eastern Book Cliffs (Hideout Canyon, Mexico Point, Survey Point).
- (2) Recommend wilderness for the southern tier of the main Book Cliffs proposed wilderness areas (all the way to the "first bench" road).
- (3) Recommend an NCA to protect some parts of the Book Cliffs which are not covered by wilderness.

The reasons for protecting the Book Cliffs are well known to you, so I will limit myself to a short bulleted list on that topic:

- * In the lower 48 states, only 8% of the land still qualifies as wilderness. Most of the that 8% currently has no formal protection. If we do nothing, that 8% will eventually shrink to around 3%.
- * Grand County is lucky to have more than its share of these remaining wild lands. We should preserve what we have for future generations.
- * The Book Cliffs is one of the largest remaining roadless areas in Utah.
- * The Book Cliffs is important wildlife habitat.

(1) Hideout Canyon, Mexico Point, Survey Point

What reasons have been offered against protecting these three areas as wilderness? At a recent GCC meeting, Lynn Jackson said the old County Council felt the areas did not qualify as wilderness because they were "full of gas wells" (or something like that; I'm paraphrasing). This claim is clearly wrong:

(a) Hideout Canyon, Mexico Point, and Survey Point do not contain any gas wells. It's is easy to verify this by visiting the areas or by checking the Utah AGRC database of oil and gas wells. The boundaries of these proposed wilderness areas were carefully drawn to exclude gas wells.

(b) In the large majority of the acreage, you cannot see or hear a gas well. These areas are relatively large (14,000 acres, 17,000 acres and 9600 acres -- well above the 5000 minimum for wilderness) and there is only one cherry-stemmed boundary. The topography is very rugged, which reduces impacts from gas wells outside the proposed wilderness.

(c) The BLM has inventoried these three areas and determined that they have wilderness characteristics. See http://www.blm.gov/style/medialib/blm/ut/moab_fo/rmp/rod_approved_rmp/maps.Par.82463.File.dat/Maps%2015.pdf.

(I will note parenthetically here that when I quoted Lynn Jackson above I was careful to make clear that he was reporting on the old County Council's views, not his own personal opinion. As a long time veteran of the BLM, Lynn would know very well that any claim that these three units did not qualify as wilderness is clearly false. I suspect that Lynn tried hard to set Gene Ciarus et al straight on this point, but that they obstinately refused to listen to him.)

A second reason (and I suspect the real reason) given for leaving these areas out of a wilderness recommendation is that designating wilderness here would make it more difficult to build a Book Cliffs Highway (or energy corridor). I would argue that if anything, this is a reason in favor of designating wilderness here.

In the early 1990s and again last year, Grand County held elections in which the proposed Book Cliffs highway was a major campaign issue. In both cases highway proponents lost decisively.

If we take wilderness designation for these three units off the table, then the chances of a highway being built increase greatly. All highway proponents have to do is revive the issue every few years. They will lose most of the time (as they have in the past), but they only have to win once in order for the highway to be built. Without protective designations, the deck is stacked in favor of building the highway.

It's time to say "No" once and for all to the Book Cliffs Highway. We should not have to win 10 out of 10 elections to stop the highway. Winning two out of two should be enough.

(2) Southern boundary of Book Cliffs wilderness

Some proposed wilderness boundaries for the Book Cliffs leave out many thousands of acres of pristine wilderness on the southern flank. In some cases this is based on old, flawed WSA boundaries. I think the County Council should use the more modern boundary found in the Moab BLM Resource Management Plan (see http://www.blm.gov/style/medialib/blm/ut/moab_fo/rmp/rod_approved_rmp/maps.Par.82463.File.dat/Maps%2015.pdf). This boundary extends all the way to the "first bench" road (and in some cases beyond.) It is very similar to boundary used in America's Red Rock Wilderness Act.

To my knowledge, there are no serious resource conflicts along this southern boundary of the wilderness proposal.

(3) Book Cliffs NCA

There are areas in the Book Cliffs which deserve some level of protection, but which do not qualify for wilderness. The main two are:

(a) The area between the base of the cliffs and the first bench road. This is the prominent escarpment you see from Interstate 70. It's what a lot of people think of when they hear "Book Cliffs". It's not part of the wilderness proposal because of the first bench road.

(b) An area in the northeast which would provide a wildlife bridge to the Sweet Water and Bitter Creek proposed wilderness areas. Some of this area has gas wells (relatively low density), but it's still important for biological reasons.

Designating an NCA in the Book Cliffs would nicely complement the wilderness designations.

Thank you, County Council members, for all the time you are devoting to this issue.

Sincerely,

Kevin Walker

From: [Liz Thomas](mailto:Liz.Thomas)
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Bishop PLI - Book Cliffs Wilderness and NCA
Date: Friday, February 20, 2015 10:09:03 PM

RE: Book Cliffs Proposal for Rep. Bishop's Public Lands Initiative

Dear Council Members,

Thank you for the time and effort you put into the public workshops over the past two weeks during which local citizens groups and non-profit organizations presented their public lands proposals.

I am writing to urge the Council to support comprehensive wilderness and other preservation designations for the Book Cliffs in the Council's recommendation for Congressman Bishop's Public Lands Initiative.

1) Wilderness designation for these lands is not controversial and would not affect valid existing rights (i.e. existing energy leases, mining claims). The public lands in the Book Cliffs have long been recognized as Grand County's wildest and most remote areas. The Council should recommend wilderness designation for all of the wilderness-quality lands in the Book Cliffs, which includes, generally, the area from the Green River (on the west) to East Canyon (on the east), encompassing most of the lands above the cliff line along I-70.

- The Book Cliffs are not targeted for energy or other mineral development. Wilderness designation would not affect any valid existing rights, and the existing oil/gas fields are located outside proposed wilderness areas (this can be verified by review of the Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining website);
- The Book Cliffs are rugged, undeveloped and remote lands that provide critical, unfragmented wildlife habitat, and do not have recreational use conflicts. The area is prized by backcountry hunters and others seeking a truly remote experience surrounded by quiet canyons, mesas and native wildlife.
- The Book Cliffs have been identified by the BLM as having wilderness character. See http://www.blm.gov/style/medialib/blm/ut/moab_fo/rmp/rod_approve_d_rmp/maps.Par.82463.File.dat/Maps%2015.pdf

2) The only controversial issue in the Book Cliffs is the Book Cliffs highway/energy corridor. Wilderness designation is the best way to effectively preclude a Book Cliffs highway and/or energy corridor. The Book Cliffs highway/energy corridor/pipeline was the biggest issue in the recent County Council election. Voters expressed opposition to a Book Cliffs highway/corridor/pipeline in November 2014 and elected new Council members to represent their interests. A similar Grand County election over the Book Cliffs highway occurred in the 1990's, with similar results. It is time to say "NO" to a Book Cliffs highway/energy corridor/pipeline once and for all, rather

than to continue wasting taxpayer time and dollars on this issue.

3) Finally, there are lands adjacent to the proposed Book Cliffs wilderness areas that should be protected in a National Conservation Area (NCA). An NCA is an appropriate designation to preserve and enhance the ecological, scenic, recreational (including hunting and fishing), cultural, historical, natural, educational, and scientific resources, and specifically the wildlife habitat and migration corridors of the Book Cliffs. In general, these adjacent lands are located south of the proposed wilderness areas, from the base of the cliffs up to the first "Bench Road" along the length of the Book Cliffs escarpment, and are located along the northeastern portion of the Carbon-Grand county line between the Hideout Canyon proposed wilderness area and the Sweet Water and Bitter Creek proposed wilderness areas (located primarily in Carbon County). Although these adjacent lands might not technically qualify for wilderness designation, they are an integral part of the Book Cliffs and should be included in a National Conservation Area to provide heightened management protection for wildlife habitat and migration corridors, and the iconic scenic values.

Preserving the Book Cliffs in their current, undeveloped state is a no-brainer; it is not controversial. There is no downside to protecting what is, essentially, the status quo. It would be controversial to NOT preserve the status quo and to allow a large transportation corridor to bisect the Book Cliffs. Wilderness designation will allow our kids and grandkids, and visitors from far and wide the opportunity to continue to enjoy Grand County's natural wilderness heritage.

Thank you for your patience and interest during the public workshops. I urge you to recommend full protection for the Book Cliffs and to say "NO" to the Book Cliffs highway and/or energy corridor..

Sincerely,

-Liz Thomas

Liz Thomas
PO Box 321
3291 Juniper Drive
Moab, UT 84532

KaLeigh Welch

From: John Hartley [juan.bolle@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, February 21, 2015 7:16 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Bookcliff hiway&pipeline corridor

Please protect the remote areas of the Bookcliffs and prevent the development of an energy corridor and the paving of the Bookcliff Roads.
John Hartley
Sent from my iPhone

KaLeigh Welch

From: Joan Gough [goughjoan@frontier.com]
Sent: Saturday, February 21, 2015 8:00 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Bishop Lands Bill

Dear Council Members:

Thank you for the time and work you are giving to the Lands Bill. There is so little actual wilderness left in America and we have a piece of it here in Grand County. I support what you do to protect the Book Cliffs. No road through them and no new development are the minimum protection we should afford the area.

Sincerely,
Joan Gough

KaLeigh Welch

From: Nancy Kurtz [nancystarjive@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, February 21, 2015 9:37 AM
To: Grand County
Subject: The Book Cliffs

To the County Council members,

I wish to add my voice to those who are encouraging you to give the greatest preservation possible to the Book Cliffs area to sustain and enhance the integrity of the land.

Unlike many from whom you are receiving letters, I have not been up to the Book Cliffs. I tend to hike and walk closer to home and it seems far to drive. So I rely on others for specifics on the areas under consideration --

It distresses me greatly that having respect for areas being considered for wilderness designation is not something upon which we can all agree. Surely, this is the best and highest use of this land.

This area is simply not compatible with oil drilling, fracking, tar sands, and everything that accompanies industry/extraction, such as:

Deterioration of air quality

Reduced health of people and wildlife in the area
Impacts to the soil and vegetation from digging up the ground, injecting fluids and chemicals, etc.

Impacts to our precious supplies of water due to vastly increased usage and contamination.

And also -

The huge amounts of water and energy it takes to drive this determined engine should give us pause, as well as,

The impacts and dangers of transporting oil and water over vast distances, as evidenced by an increasing number of train derailings and truck accidents resulting in perilous fireballs too, too close to where people live -

I have been a resident of Moab for almost twelve years. During that time, as I open my eyes more and more and learn to appreciate and revere where I now find myself, the land seems to be under a greater threat than ever could be imagined.

Yes, there is a learning curve for those not accustomed to seeing the world through its own lens. If only those focussed primarily on how much profit they can make by selling off these gifts could see that and make a different choice.

Please do all you can to support wilderness designation for this vulnerable and fragile area. I have a disagreement with the Bishop incentive's basic philosophy. As sentimental and feel-good as it sounds, I believe the concept of extraction as compatible with the intrinsic value of the land is a mirage. There is a tipping point. If you give away sizeable chunks of it, I-feel, you may as well say, here, take the whole damn thing, it will fall into itself and be ruined forever.

In particular, a road through the Book Cliffs, a wide swath to accommodate its primary intent - to grease the wheels of industry - would be a big, big mistake. It is the kingpin upon which this house of cards relies. Please don't let it happen.

Thank you for your attention to these comments.

Very truly yours,

Nancy Kurtz
139 Arches Drive
Moab

Nancy Kurtz
nancystarjive@gmail.com
435-259-0734

KaLeigh Welch

From: Lisa Cenicerros [lisacenicerros@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, February 21, 2015 5:39 PM
To: Council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: no more designations

Dear Council, we are aware you will be dealing with the future of the Book Cliffs in Grand County at a workshop on 2/23/14 when considering recommendations to Congressman Rob Bishop's Public Lands Initiative. I wish to go on record as saying I do not wish to see any more wilderness designations in Grand County. I want Hay and East Canyons left open for the possibility of a future highway connecting Moab and Vernal. And I do not want to see any special land designations in the area below the Book Cliffs that will ultimately result in closed roads and trails. Thank you for your time.

Lisa Cenicerros

KaLeigh Welch

From: Sue deVall [sdev.cv@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, February 21, 2015 5:57 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Book Cliffs Highway

I have written twice to the Council about my objection to the Book Cliffs Highway. First was my objection to including it in all three of the proposals for the Bishop land initiative. There was no choice there.

This highway proposal is intended only to enable a dirty industry at the expense of wilderness quality land in a pristine area.

Are the taxpayers of Grand County expected to build it, maintain it and police it? Certainly not.

Sue deVall
84532

KaLeigh Welch

From: Kathey McNeely [katheymcneely@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, February 21, 2015 6:03 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Grand County Public Lands related to Congressman Bishop' s Proposed Public Lands Bill for SE Utah

1. Please do NOT propose designating any more wilderness in the Book Cliffs!
2. Please do NOT propose designating any more wilderness in Grand County! We have enough protected areas!
3. Please do NOT propose shutting down any more roads or trails in Grand County! Several 4-wheel drive roads I've been on since I was a kid are now closed! Why?

**I was born in Moab and grew up here. I've seen many changes throughout the years. I even remember when Moab's Main Street was still a dirt road! Places I use to go hunting, camping, fishing, and picnicing as a kid and a young adult are now controlled/protected or closed off by Forest Service, BLM, National Parks, or private properties, including gated communities. Many places have been taken over by the tourist industry (including Sandy Beach, Take Out Beach, Big Bend Campground, Moonflower Canyon, Culvert Canyon, etc.)

***Do I want this beautiful place I've lived in all my life, preserved? Of course! My dad taught me to respect and take care of this land! But I also want multiple use. I am for a balanced economy which includes recreation and tourism, but also responsible mining and drilling, and grazing- yes, cows- I like meat!

****Roads - remember a lot of the roads enjoyed by tourists, bikers, jeepers, etc. were built by mining and drilling companies.

****So, think about it! What is best for Grand County and its residents? Do we want the government to control every bit of our county? Wilderness for only the healthy and wealthy?

Sincerely, Kathey McNeely

KaLeigh Welch

From: Josh Green [gojoshgreen@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, February 21, 2015 6:25 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Concerns about recent meetings

Dear Grand County Council,

I am writing to express my concern about the scheduling of your recent meetings regarding the Bishop's Land Initiative. As a working citizen, I am unable to attend meetings that take place at 9 AM. I have voiced my concern to other taxpayers and they are equally frustrated at the meeting times. There is also confusion as to why one week we are holding meetings at 9 AM and the next week holding meetings at 4 PM.

When I asked about this, I was told that the Council is doing this to accommodate a Councilman's child sitting schedule. I question this. Why are we accommodating for one person so that he can make these meetings, but cannot accommodate the entire work force of Grand County?

What is good for one should be good for all.

From what I have seen in the lineup of those that are speaking at these meetings, this doesn't feel like you are accommodating for the Councilman. It feels like a tactic is being used to keep a particular group of people out of the meetings (IE The working taxpayer who is against turning Grand County into a monument).

Along with this letter, I am also contacting the Governor's office and expressing my concerns.

Thank you for your time,

Josh Green

Moab, Utah

KaLeigh Welch

From: Kristen shelburg [shelburg_1@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, February 21, 2015 6:33 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: BOOK CLIFFS

Hello, I would like to express my concern for the Book Cliffs.

1. Please designate all of the proposed wilderness in the Book Cliffs 2. Please stop the Book Cliffs Highway by designating Survey Point, Mexico Point, and Hideout Canyon units as wilderness Thank you.

KaLeigh Welch

From: Celia F Alario [celiaalario@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, February 21, 2015 7:13 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Please protect the Book Cliffs, no Hwy please!

Greetings,

I'm writing as a resident of Moab (1990-92 and again for the last seven years) to ask that you please designate all of the proposed wilderness you can in the Book Cliffs area and do all you can to protect that area. Also please oppose and stop the Book Cliffs Hwy at all costs, preferably by supporting the proposal for designating Survey Point, Mexico Point and Hideout Canyon Units all as Wilderness.

Moabites have been smart enough to avoid the Book Cliffs Hwy all this time, and it is still the right thing to do for all the same reasons as before.

I'm especially interested in protecting the hunting and fishing areas up there, as well as the excitement of accessing these areas for hiking and camping and four wheel drive use.

The quiet, the darkness, the wildness and the value it provides to the area, vs. the traffic, the opening up the area for huge extraction vehicles, the other impacts of the highway is just a clear cut situation, we don't want that road. I know I speak for many people who I hope write to you and also tell you the same!

All the best!

Best,

Celia Alario
celiaalario@gmail.com
+1 310 721 6517

"Rules for being Amazing"

Risk more than is required.
Learn more than is normal.
Be strong. Show courage.
Breathe.
Excel. Love. Lead.
Speak your truth.
Live your values.
Laugh. Cry.
Innovate. Simplify.
Adore mystery. Release mediocrity.

Aim for genius. Stay humble.
Be kinder than expected.
Deliver more than is needed.
Exude passion. Shatter your limits.
Transcend your fears.
Inspire others by your bigness.
Dream big but start small.
Act now. Don't stop.
Change the world.

"Rules for being Amazing"
by Robin Sharma

KaLeigh Welch

From: Kiley Miller [moabkiley@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, February 21, 2015 7:54 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: public lands please protect them

Please designate all of the proposed wilderness in the Book Cliffs, please stop the Book Cliffs Highway by designating Survey Point, Mexico Point, and Hideout Canyon units as wilderness. Please protect the public lands and give them the deepest protections possible.

Thank you
Kiley Miller

--

"I am not an atheist but an earthiest. Be true to the earth."
-Ed Abbey

"Growth for the sake of growth is the ideology of a cancer cell"
-Ed Abbey

"We are obliged, therefore, to spread the news, painful and bitter though it may be for some to hear, that all living things on Earth are kindred"
-Ed Abbey

"The idea of wilderness needs no defense, it only needs defenders."
-Ed Abbey

KaLeigh Welch

From: Mary Meador [mary_meador22@outlook.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 7:06 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: In regards to Workshop on 02/23

Dear Council;

We are aware you will be dealing with the future of the Book Cliffs in Grand County at a workshop on 2/23/15 when considering recommendations to Congressman Rob Bishop's Public Lands Initiative. I wish to go on record as saying I do not wish to see any wilderness designations beyond what has been proposed by BLM in that area. I want Hay and East Canyons left open for the possibility of a future highway connecting Moab and Vernal. And I do not want to see any special land designations in the area below the Book Cliffs that will ultimately result in closed roads and trails.

Thank you for your time. Mary Meador

KaLeigh Welch

From: Todd Gilmer [toddggi@q.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 9:24 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: 2/23/14 workshop on proposed wilderness

Dear Grand County Council,

I am aware you will be dealing with the future of the Book Cliffs in Grand County at a workshop on 2/23/14 when considering recommendations to Congressman Rob Bishop's Public Lands Initiative.

I wish to go on record as saying:

1. If new wilderness must now be added in Utah, I do not wish to have wilderness designations beyond what has been proposed by BLM in the Book Cliffs.
2. I want Hay and East Canyons left open for the possibility of a future highway connecting Moab and Vernal.
3. And I do not want to see any special land designations in the area below the Book Cliffs that will ultimately result in closed roads and trails.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Todd Gilmer
Geoscience consultant to Grand County businesses
Buena Vista, CO 81211

KaLeigh Welch

From: marymoran@frontiernet.net
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 10:00 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Bishop Public Lands Initiative

Dear Council Members,

Thank you for listening to local citizens groups and non-profit organizations during recent public workshops, as they presented their public lands proposals.

Please support wilderness and other preservation designations for the Book Cliffs in the Council's recommendation for Congressman Bishop's Public Lands Initiative.

Please recommend wilderness designation for all of the wilderness-quality lands in the Book Cliffs, roughly the area from the Green River on the west to the East Canyon on the east, north of the cliff line paralleling I-70. These are Grand County's wildest and most remote areas, providing critical, unfragmented wildlife habitat. The BLM has identified these lands as having wilderness character. Further, wilderness designation for the Book Cliff lands in question would not affect existing valid energy leases or mining rights.

The only controversial issue is the Book Cliffs highway or pipeline. A large majority of Grand County citizens are opposed to both the highway and pipeline idea. This was expressed in elections back in the 1990s and again a few months ago.

Some adjacent lower-elevation lands south of the areas above should be protected in a National Conservation Area. This would provide for better management tools for protecting the critical wildlife corridors and would better protect existing recreational values, hunting, fishing, ecological and scenic values, and cultural and scientific resources.

In summary, please recommend comprehensive wilderness and other protections for the Book Cliffs, and oppose any energy corridor or highway dissecting the Book Cliffs.

Sincerely,

Mary Moran
471 Loveridge Dr
Moab

From: Lisa Paterson [lpater1@hotmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 10:33 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Book Cliffs

Dear County Council Members,

Thank you for reading and considering my comments on the Book Cliffs as you craft Grand County's recommendation for the Bishop process.

Please include the following in you recommendation:

- (1) Recommend wilderness for Hideout Canyon, Mexico Point, & Survey Point.
- (2) Recommend wilderness for the southern tier of the main Book Cliffs proposed wilderness areas (all the way to the "first bench" road).

Why protect the Book Cliffs?

Because the Book Cliffs are one of the largest remaining roadless areas in Utah.

And because the Book Cliffs are important wildlife habitat. Preserving these lands as wilderness benefits a multiple use: hunting, hiking, remote wilderness experiences.

The BLM has reviewed these three Book Cliffs zones and concluded that they do in fact have wilderness characteristics.

Some have stated that the Hideout Canyon, Mexico Point, & Survey Point areas are filled with drilling rigs already, but this just isn't the case. Please review the maps that have been submitted to you showing that this indeed is a wild land worthy of preservation. Please note that wilderness designation will not affect valid existing energy leases & mining claims.

Reasons have been offered against Book Cliffs wilderness designation and land preservation because some want to build an energy corridor highway. Grand County residents have spoken against building this road. It's important to honor this majority as well as to follow the BLM recommendations.

Thank you for all the time you are devoting to this issue.

Sincerely,

Lisa Paterson

Lisa Paterson Coaching and Rosen Method Bodywork

Gently Held, Deeply Seen

<http://www.lisapatersoncoaching.com/>

KaLeigh Welch

From: tibbettsmasonry@yahoo.com
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 10:33 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Book cliffs no more wilderness

Sent from my Verizon 4G LTE Tablet

Dear Council, we are aware you will be dealing with the future of the Book Cliffs in Grand County at a workshop on 2/23/14 when considering recommendations to Congressman Rob Bishop's Public Lands Initiative. I wish to go on record as saying I do not wish to see any wilderness designations beyond what has been proposed by BLM in that area (or you can say you don't want to see any wilderness). I want Hay and East Canyons left open for the possibility of a future highway connecting Moab and Vernal. And I do not want to see any special land designations in the area below the Book Cliffs that will ultimately result in closed roads and trails. Thank you for your time.

Sent from my Verizon Wireless 4G LTE smartphone

James Tibbetts

KaLeigh Welch

From: keelerbruce [keelerbruce@netscape.net]
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 11:07 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: County Council re Bookcliffs designations

I would like to express my position on the recommendations for the Bishop Initiative.

1. I would not include any energy corridor.

2. There are several areas with little or no mineral leases that should remain undeveloped due to their wilderness characteristics or wilderness designation. These are mostly included in the most recent BLM maps.

Hideout canyon, Mexico Point, Survey Point, the area between the base of the cliffs and the first bench road and the area between the Bitter Creek and Sweet Water proposed wilderness areas.

Thank you for continuing this process to include a broader input from the community.

Bruce Keeler -

78 Bailey Lane

Castle Valley

Sent from my iPhone

KaLeigh Welch

From: Craig Bigler [craigbigler@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 11:24 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Please protect the Book Cliffs

Dear Council Members,

Congratulations, and heartfelt gratitude, for becoming a council that truly represents the whole community.

Please keep this ball rolling by saving the only part of Grand County where the opportunity for solitude still exists.

For thirty years my wife, Susan Jamieson, and I have lived the dream of hiking in the vicinity of Moab. Now days we hike four days a week, but it is a struggle to get away from roads and the noise of off-road machines.

The scenery and the dream remain, but the adventure is gone. While solitude is still possible in the small WSAs that are nearby, we are never more than half an hour from a road, and closer than that to the noise-- and the commotion.

So OK. Moab's dream of becoming the "Outdoor Adventure Capital" has been achieved. And we are old and perhaps no longer consequential.

We don't expect you to do this for us. But what about future generations?

Now it is time to save what remains of what put Moab on the map, the wide open spaces.

Do not allow the Book Cliffs Road to happen. It is a boondoggle that will benefit nobody but the energy corporations and their minions.

Save wilderness discovery opportunities for our great grand children, and yours.

Demand Wilderness designation from the Green River to East Canyon.

Thank you for doing the right things.

Craig Bigler and Susan Jamieson

1924 Roadrunner Hill
Moab,UT
435-260 1007

KaLeigh Welch

From: Bill Foreman [wc4man@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 11:45 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Book Cliffs Wilderness

I hear there is now an opportunity for the Council to recommend wilderness designation for wilderness quality lands in the Book Cliffs. Please make that recommendation. Without wilderness designation now, the land can be altered in ways that cannot be reversed in the future.

Bill Foreman
460 Rosetree Lane
Moab, UT 84532-2728

KaLeigh Welch

From: Deb Walter [debwalter56@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 12:06 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Book Cliffs protection

Dear County Council Members,

Thank you for taking the time and making the effort to study and discuss the options for protection. It is a big job.

I urge you to protect the Book Cliffs areas as far as the bench road as wilderness and the adjoining areas as NCA's. Though it is remote and off the radar for many, we have been camping in the Book Cliffs and have 2 more horse packing trips planned for this coming year. It is beautiful, a sanctuary providing necessary habitat for wildlife. The Book Cliffs are also high elevation, gathering much of the water that eventually flows into the Colorado River. Much of the land has already been valued as having wilderness characteristics by the BLM and by SUWA.

The areas of Hideout Canyon, Mexico Point, and Survey Point should especially be recommended for wilderness designation as this area provides a necessary migration route connecting to areas in Colorado and north into Uinta County. A proposed right of way for a highway/pipeline has been proposed to cut through this land and thus fragment it as well as extend fossil fuel infrastructure and commitment into the future. Wilderness designation would protect these lands from these developments.

I urge you to protect areas adjacent to the Wilderness Areas as National Conservation Districts to be managed to conserve the water, air quality, and wildlife habitat that these lands currently provide. These areas may not presently qualify as wilderness because of current man made impacts, but they should be protected for the future.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Deb Walter
4100 Easy
Moab, UT 84532

KaLeigh Welch

From: Pam and Quent Baker [2pnbaker@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 12:19 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Bishop Plan

Dear County Council,

As you shape your recommendations for submission to the Bishop Plan, please eliminate any consideration of a highway through the Book Cliffs or nullification of the Antiquities Act. The community is solidly behind you in these actions as evidenced by the recent election. We need to protect the Book Cliffs as they currently exist and the Antiquities Act has brought us many precious national monuments.

Sincerely,
Pam & Quent Baker

Pam and Quent Baker
1950 Roadrunner HI
Moab, UT 84532

KaLeigh Welch

From: Susie Johnston [susallenj@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 12:49 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Bishop Lands Proposal

Dear Council,

I am aware you will be dealing with the future of the Book Cliffs in Grand County. I wish to go on record as saying I do not wish to see any wilderness designations beyond what has been proposed by BLM in that area. I want Hay and East Canyons left open for the possibility of a future highway connecting Moab and Vernal and I do not want to see any special land designations in the area below the Book Cliffs that will ultimately result in closed roads and trails. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Susie Johnston

KaLeigh Welch

From: Barbara Webb [baw129@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 1:26 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Book Cliffs

Dear Grand County Council Members,

We are writing to urge you to recommend wilderness designation for the Book Cliffs - from the Green River to East Canyon - as part of Congressman Bishop's Public Lands Initiative.

In the 1990s, when a highway through the Book Cliffs was proposed, citizens overwhelmingly chose to keep the area from being dissected by a road. The exceptional qualities of this large undeveloped area were recognized then. Today, as previously untouched areas fall to development pressures, the Book Cliffs area is even more worthy of protection. To preserve this large, wild tract for future generations of Utahans to enjoy would be a noble and lasting legacy. We ask your help in making this a reality.

Thank you for your consideration,

Barbara Webb and Jerry Shue
867 Rainbow Drive
Moab UT 84532

KaLeigh Welch

From: Tom Edwards [tedwards@preciscom.net]
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 1:38 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Re: Bishop Land Initiative, for Monday, 2/23/15

Dear Grand County Council Members,

I am writing you to register my opposition to the proposed Book Cliffs highway in particular, and to register my strong support for wilderness designation for Hideout Canyon, Mexico Point, and Survey Point in the eastern Book Cliffs. I am also in strong support of wilderness designation for the southern tier of the main Book Cliffs proposed wilderness areas all the way to the "first bench" road, and I strongly recommend an NCA to protect parts of the Book Cliffs not covered by wilderness designation.

The value of the Book Cliffs as wilderness far outweighs any temporary commercial value you could imagine. Please think of wilderness for future generations when you make your decision. I made my first trip to Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks this past summer. I was amazed to see so many people from all over the world enjoying the wonders our forefathers had the vision to set aside. I felt very proud of America. I hope to feel the same pride in your decision.

Sincerely,

Tom Edwards
4300 Easy Street
Moab

KaLeigh Welch

From: s kirkham [mskirkmoab@msn.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 2:07 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Recommendations for Congressman Bishop

Dear Council Members,

Thank you for the time you have taken to hear Grand County citizens on the critical Book Cliffs proposal. The decision is a weighty one but one that may create a future for generations of citizens that want to hunt, fish, hike and view this beautiful area.

We are asking that you designate this area as wilderness and allow for the existing multiple uses. Creating a Book Cliffs highway or "energy corridor" as some call it, will change this pristine area forever. It will never recover.

This issue has been rejected several times by the voters and it is time to put it away. The use of large sums of taxpayer dollars to benefit a few large businesses is not prudent.

Thank you for your time and deliberation.

Sue and Mike Kirkham
3195 Juniper Dr.
Moab

KaLeigh Welch

From: Mike & Jean Binyon [binyon@binyon.us]
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 2:12 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative--Book Cliffs

Dear members of the Grand County Council,

In your deliberations Monday, February 23, 2015, regarding the public lands north of I-70, please consider the following points:

- * We believe that there should be no energy/transportation corridor reserved in the Book Cliffs. It cannot be justified on economic or any other grounds.
- * Two materials were included with the Agenda: 1) a listing of BLM possible designations--a listing which was incomplete because it failed to include "Non-WSA's with Wilderness Characteristics," an essential inventory compiled in the 2008 Resource Management Plan of areas which should have been designated and maintained as Wilderness Study Areas and which subsequently should be considered for preservation as wilderness. 2) A biased exposition published by the Blue Ribbon Coalition, an organization which has explicitly opposed wilderness designation. If the council desired or needed an explanation of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, a brief summary could have been attached to the Agenda. As a lone and unbalanced position, the Coalition's should be disregarded.
- * In your future considerations of the public lands south of I-70, we hope that your Agenda will attach both Forest Service and Wild and Scenic Rivers designations, in addition to BLM's. Presenters at your Workshops February 9 and 16 clearly emphasized the importance of the river systems, and of watershed, ground water, and aquifers. Your recommendations to Congress for conservation, recreation, and development of our public lands, as well as for trades with SITLA, should fully embrace a legacy of vision, sustainability and benefit to future generations.

Michael & Jean Binyon
3057 E. Coyote Ct. Moab, UT 84532

KaLeigh Welch

From: Rodney K Dalton [basicdrillingllc@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 2:16 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: concerned tax payer

Dear Council, we are aware you will be dealing with the future of the Book Cliffs in Grand County at a workshop on 2/23/14 when considering recommendations to Congressman Rob Bishop's Public Lands Initiative. I wish to go on record as saying I do not wish to see any wilderness designations that has been proposed by BLM. I want Hay and East Canyons left open for the possibility of a future highway connecting Moab and Vernal. And I do not want to see any special land designations in the area below the Book Cliffs that will ultimately result in closed roads and trails. Thank you for your time.

Basic Drilling, L.L.C.
"Pug"
P.O. Box 32
Moab, UT 84532
Cell: (435)210-0430
Email: basicdrillingllc@gmail.com
Website: www.basicdrillingllc.com

KaLeigh Welch

From: glen [glen.lathrop@hotmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 2:16 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Bishop Land Bill

Dear Grand County Council,

In regard to the Bishop land bill I would like to see some kind of protection for the Dome Plateau area.

Thousand of people daily make the trip to view Delicate Arch and yet most of the land that they see behind the arch is not protected land. At one time this area was included in the park when it was a monument. And it needs to be protected once again.

I would like to see Wilderness protection for this area but because of the roads this might be a problem but certainly some kind of special recreation designation could be applied to this area.

Thank you for excepting public comments.

Glen Lathrop

KaLeigh Welch

From: Thea Nordling [theakn@frontiernet.net]
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 3:05 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Book Cliffs Proposal for Rep. Bishop's Public Lands Initiative
Attachments: County Council Bookcliffs letter.doc

Please see the attached letter.

Thank you,

Thea Nordling

KaLeigh Welch

From: Terri Stucki [terristucki@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 3:14 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Book Cliffs

Dear County Council, and Ken Ballentyne (who represents where I live)

I am aware you will be making some decisions on wilderness regarding the Book Cliffs on Monday morning. I wish to go on record as saying I do not wish to see any wilderness designations in the Book Cliffs. I would ask that you do not designate Hideout Canyon, Survey Point, and Mexico Point as wilderness but kept open for the possibility of a future highway connecting Moab and Vernal.

Thank you for your consideration.

Terri Stucki

KaLeigh Welch

From: Robert P Lippman [Bob.Lippman@nau.edu]
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 3:56 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Cc: Robert P Lippman
Subject: Books Cliffs Wilderness Recommendations

To: Grand County Council
From: Robert Lippman
Date: 2/22/15
Re: Book Cliffs protection, wilderness, and Bishop process

The new Council's oversight review of recommendations to the Bishop Bill process is most appreciated and needed. It is my hope that the Council will take a broad view of regional and community values to be protected in this effort.

Industrialization of the Book Cliffs area - one of the largest remaining "roadless" areas in Utah and indeed the intermountain West - would have only negative impacts on these values, and legislation should be protective as opposed to being used to subsidize an increasingly speculative and destructive industry. Protecting the Book Cliffs area from development (including oil and gas drilling, strip mining for tar sands, road and related infrastructures) is needed to protect wildlife habitat from fragmentation, air quality from further deterioration, and water quality from contamination.

In addition to official designations of lands already long-considered qualifying as wilderness (including the Hideout Canyon, Mexico Point, Survey Point units), other protections including National Conservation Area designation, should be recommended to further ensure full and adequate protection of these and worthy adjacent lands, and the other values implicated.

Regarding any proposed "Book Cliffs road," this Council was elected with a popular mandate to reject this idea, on top of a long history of well-grounded opposition to such a project. The Council should not be misled by false information regarding existing oil and gas operations or speculative industry agendas.

Grand County's present and future critically rely upon a connected and more sustainable basis of economic activity and community well-being, including a rapid and meaningful transition to renewable energy, public lands protection, air and water quality protection and enhancement, limited recreational activity ("primitive" camping, hiking, hunting and fishing) and watershed thinking.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of these comments, and your aggressive, protective efforts.

Robert Lippman
Castle Valley, Utah

KaLeigh Welch

From: Andrew Family [annalee.andrew@frontiernet.net]
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 4:10 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: my thoughts on agenda items for monday's meeting

Dear Council-

we are aware you will be dealing with the future of the Book Cliffs in Grand County at a workshop on 2/23/14 when considering recommendations to Congressman Rob Bishop's Public Lands Initiative. I cannot attend this meeting due to work responsibilities. However, I wish to go on record as saying I do not wish to see any more wilderness designations beyond what has been proposed by BLM in that area. I want Hay and East Canyons left open for the possibility of a future highway connecting Moab and Vernal. And I do not want to see any special land designations in the area below the Book Cliffs that will ultimately result in closed roads and trails. Thank you for your time.

-Annalee Andrew

KaLeigh Welch

From: Dick and Mary Jane Cozzens [moabcozzens@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 4:11 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Book Cliff land designations

We are aware of a meeting to decide on lands in the Bookcliffs area. This is to tell you that we are absolutely against any more land being set aside for any purpose that is not for all the public use. Our lives are constantly being bombarded by people who decide our future for us and our future generations.

In the future it may be decided to make a road between Vernal and Moab, and we would like this to remain an option in the future.

Too many roads and trails have been set aside and removed from ordinary people's use, and it has got to stop here and now!

Thanks so much for your consideration of our wishes.

Richard and Mary Jane Cozzens
909 E. Oak St.
Moab, UT 84532
435.259.6701



This email is free from viruses and malware because [avast! Antivirus](#) protection is active.

KaLeigh Welch

From: Carolyn Tibbetts [tibbettscarolyn@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 4:40 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands

Dear Council,

We are aware that you will be dealing with the future of the Book Cliffs in Grand County at a workshop on 2/23/15 when considering recommendations to Congressman Rob Bishop's Public Lands Initiative.

We wish to go on record as saying that we do not wish to see any wilderness designations beyond what has been proposed by BLM in that area.

We want Hay and East Canyons left open for the possibility of a future highway connecting Moab and Vernal. And, we do not want to see any special land designations in the area below the Book Cliffs that will ultimately result in closed roads and trails. Thank you for your time.

Respectfully submitted,
Ray Tibbetts
Carolyn Tibbetts

KaLeigh Welch

From: Adele Alsop [adelelebourgeoisalsop@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 4:50 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: wilderness designation

To the Grand County Council; all members,

(A)

Please designate as wilderness all proposed BLM Wilderness Areas, in their entirety, in the Book Cliff area.

(B)

Please stop the Book Cliffs Highway.

Cancel plans to build the proposed Book Cliffs Highway by designating Survey Point, Mexico Point, and Hideout Canyon as Wilderness. Designate these three BLM proposed Wilderness Areas areas in their entirety as wilderness.

Sincerely,

Adele Alsop
Castle Valley Utah

KaLeigh Welch

From: Wendy Tibbetts [wendywalkertibbetts@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 5:29 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Bookcliffs

Councilmen;

I am asking that you do not consider ANY Wilderness moving forward. I would think reasons to be obvious, however, I will reiterate;

Our Bookcliffs are pristine, due to current 'Rules and Regulations' already legislated. Already enforced.

You are restricting generations to come, funded by a few special interest groups. Where is your conscience in this act?

Ask your selves WHY? Surely you haven't fallen for the propaganda that insults all of our intelligences? Could it be the photo of Delicate Arch surrounded by drill rigs? (That's my favorite). I just have to believe your smarter than that.

With energy markets existing since the 1800s here in Grand County, how can you justify such lies?

Be mindful of your reputation, what will come in the years ahead. Your special interest groups will not stand by you once you fulfill there agenda. Your vote will forever be on the record.

Due to the rhetoric of the last political campaign, again propaganda, Moab has an interesting history politically. Be mindful of that. You are an elected official who are to represent all the constituents in your District, be mindful of that. We are all paying attention at this time.

Thank You,
Wendy Walker Tibbetts

KaLeigh Welch

From: Kimberly Call [kcbountyboyz452@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 6:00 PM
To: Council
Subject: Fwd: letter to county

Grand County Council,

Our government, the national, state, and local American representative variety, was designed to be inefficient in order to protect against despotism. It doesn't take an expert to point out the obvious: in our government, even on a local level, it's supposed to be cumbersome and difficult to pass laws and ordinances. It's supposed to be hard to solicit public input and convene meetings, where citizens are required to leave home and hearth. It's supposed to be a sacrifice to represent constituents as an elected official and accomodate the time constraints of numerous meetings.

Even so, the county had, until 2013, supported a resolution that allowed for working persons to attend council meetings:

Resolution No. 2894, approved on June 2, 2009, page 8:

I. Council Meetings

3. Council Meeting Dates and Times:

The Council shall hold regular meetings the first and third Tuesdays of each month. In those months when the holidays or elections fall on the first or third Tuesdays, the meeting shall be held the following day. To the extent practicable and if so required as determined by the chair, administrative matters shall be considered at 3 PM and items of public interest and concern shall be considered at 7 PM.

In 2013, the council changed it's formal meeting times to accomodate council members, possibly in violation of the above resolution. Citizens were not informed of the time change and, to date, it is impossible to find a public record of this change (except buried in council minutes?).

This 2013 deviation from the 2009 resolution impacts our current situation regarding the workshops being held to discuss the Bishop PLI. Because of the high level of 'public interest and concern', these workshops should be held to accomodate interested constituents' time constraints rather than individual council member's domestic schedules.

Again, because of the high level of 'public interest and concern', one would anticipate the council would be inclined to mitigate the appearance of despotism and, instead, avail themselves of every opportunity to accomodate interested citizens, including and not limited to holding the county PLI workshops at 7 PM.

One can only assume that excluding citizens of Grand County, whose schedules conflict with those of council members, serves the despotic agenda of the new council. That exclusion would eliminate participation by those people who, like myself, disagree with the new council's anticipated proposal for more wilderness designations in the county and a myriad of NCA and NRA designations, road closures and many more violations of personal property rights. Excluding dissenting individuals from the PLI conversation would certainly facilitate an efficient way for the new council to proceed along a despotic path.

7 PM workshops would certainly be in the best interest of county citizens. And the council would be in compliance with it's legal resolution. Thank you for your time.

Kim Call

KaLeigh Welch

From: G Stucki [gregg.sunflowerhill@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 6:23 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Book Cliffs Workshop Monday 2/23

Dear Council Members,

Despite the nice sound bites and photo ops that accompany designations of wilderness, and the tremendous pressure applied by the more extreme special interest groups, I encourage you to take a more reasonable (not radical) approach to *OUR* county's recommendations for the Public Lands Initiative.

Conservation and economic development can successfully co-exist. Please do not go beyond the reasonable wilderness designations proposed by the BLM, or limit the option for a future highway between Moab and the Vernal area.

I like the way a fellow County Commissioner put it during Congressional hearings, "*Please don't insult rural communities with the notion that the mere designation of National Monuments and the restrictions on the land which follow are in any way a substitute for long-term wise use of the resources and the solid high wage jobs and economic certainty which those resources provide.*"

Respectfully,
Gregg Stucki

KaLeigh Welch

From: Moab Solutions [moab_solutions@hotmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 6:28 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Re: The Book Cliffs Highway

Dear County Council,

I would like to add my voices to all the others who oppose a highway through the Book Cliffs area.

This unique and fragile area deserves the fullest protection possible. The best thing would be for the area from the Green River to the East Canyon to receive a wilderness designation.

I possess no great talent for describing how much the untouched natural world means to me - not for my sake but for the sake of the land, which is perfect in its beautiful imperfections and damaged beyond belief by the hand of man.

Please! Do the thing that future generations will forever praise you for. Protect our lands!

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Sara Melnicoff
Moab Solutions
PO Box 1549
Moab, UT 84532
435.259.0910 or 435.401.4685

KaLeigh Welch

From: Kimberly Call [kcbountyboyz452@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 6:32 PM
To: Council
Subject: Re: letter to county

An Adendum: Councilmen Baird and Ballantyne, currently serving on the new 2015 council, signed the 2009 resolution. Their disregard of the 'public interest and concern' language in the resolution and allowing the workshops to proceed in a manner to exclude a certain population in Grand County, suggests indifference and/or ineptitude on the parts of one or both councilmen.

Thank you.

On Sun, Feb 22, 2015 at 5:59 PM, Kimberly Call <kcbountyboyz452@gmail.com> wrote:
Grand County Council,

Our government, the national, state, and local American representative variety, was designed to be inefficient in order to protect against despotism. It doesn't take an expert to point out the obvious: in our government, even on a local level, it's supposed to be cumbersome and difficult to pass laws and ordinances. It's supposed to be hard to solicit public input and convene meetings, where citizens are required to leave home and hearth. It's supposed to be a sacrifice to represent constituents as an elected official and accomodate the time constraints of numerous meetings.

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One can only assume that excluding citizens of Grand County, whose schedules conflict with those of council members, serves the despotic agenda of the new council. That exclusion would eliminate participation by those people who, like myself, disagree with the new council's anticipated proposal for more wilderness designations in the county and a myriad of NCA and NRA designations, road closures and many more violations of personal property rights. Excluding dissenting individuals from the PLI conversation would certainly facilitate an efficient way for the new council to proceed along a despotic path.

7 PM workshops would certainly be in the best interest of county citizens. And the council would be in compliance with it's legal resolution. Thank you for your time.

Kim Call

KaLeigh Welch

From: Randolph Jorgen [rjorgen@rjorgen.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 6:41 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Bishop public lands bill and Book Cliffs road

Dear County Council members:

I am a stakeholder in the Bishop public lands bill planning process. I don't need an oil drill rig or a bulldozer or a bike tour company or a herd of cattle or status as an official of some organized group to be a stakeholder. I am a citizen of Grand County and of the United States, and that is enough.

As has been said so much more eloquently by others before me, to the extent that it is possible to do so, it is time to put completely to rest the possibility of completing the highway across the Book Cliffs to Uintah County. Grand County voters have spoken on this issue twice now, and they don't want the road built. I believe the last election was as much about voters being outraged with the old council trying to slip this one through yet again as it was about the 7CIC. You will know the best ways to put this issue to rest definitively; you don't need me to tell you how. Just have the courage to do it.

The Book Cliffs highway is primarily of benefit to Uintah County. It would do almost nothing to benefit Grand County in the long run; why should we go along with Uintah's bidding? To the extent that it would succeed in bringing oil, gas, and tar sands royalties (and a meager few construction and trucking jobs) to the county, it would simultaneously be helping to destroy one of the nation's largest remaining wild and natural areas, with all the attendant values such areas have to offer to this and future generations in this county and in all others. This highway is about short-term greed, simply put.

Oil and other energy sources are many on this planet and plenty more will be found or created elsewhere, but wild lands have shrunk to be a shadow of their former selves, are extremely popular with the plants and animals who live there, are facing exponential growth in popularity with humans, and are completely irreplaceable. As "locals," we are blessed and we are burdened by being in a position to have an influence over the fate of these lands that is disproportionate to our numbers. I urge you to secure in your recommendations for the entire county the preservation of wild lands wherever they exist, whether of "wilderness quality" according to the definition of the Wilderness Act or not. We owe this not only to our own great-great-grandchildren but also to those of everyone else in this country.

This county has already been sufficiently ripped up by roads and pipelines and mines and wells and senseless alterations of biotic communities. It is time for our community to mature and find ways to make a living other than by simply ripping up and selling the earth. The notion that we have no tools at our disposal but using up the land to make a viable economy is absurd. Get with building act two—a sustainable economy built upon our own citizens' creative assets and local cooperation—before we turn Grand County into someplace just like every other place, just like all those other ruined places people are for the moment still flocking here in their every spare minute to escape from.

Sincerely,

Randolph Jorgen
Castle Valley, UT
435.259.4056
rjorgen@rjorgen.com

KaLeigh Welch

From: Darla [darlasue63@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 7:29 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Bishop public lands initiative

Dear Council Members,

I am disappointed that the Grand County Council members continue to give in and give up control of our land. The Moab area is obviously beautiful and we have a great amount of our land already protected by the federal and state government. I won't quote statistics on the large percentage of our state that is government controlled, restricted or off limits, I'm sure you already know it. If not, you should. My note to you today is simple, do not give up any more control of our land. I implore you to submit a request to Congressman Bishop that we are no longer willing to designate additional areas as wilderness, therefore restricting and eliminating our access to our lands.

Thank you for your consideration.
Regards,
Darla Patterson
PO Box 1225
Moab Utah

KaLeigh Welch

From: Sandy CF [moonwolf42@hotmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 7:46 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: A note to the county council
Attachments: 1280px-UtahTarSands (1).png

Dear County Council,

I am writing to you about my concerns of what is happening in our area. I am well informed on the effects on the

health effects of a communities (some up to 200 miles a way) from the development of fossil fuel industries taking

over and selling out in their area. It seems as a town we are at a cross road... Fossil fuel vs tourism. If you do

the research you will find it everywhere that the ill effects on the community health, water, soil, and air has

been ravished for the short sighted goal of jobs and money. We can not have both! I am not sure if you all are

aware that it is Alberta Tar Sands that has started the First Tar Sands Mine on US soil? If so have you done the research and seen

photos of the devastation this causes not only there but in a 200 mile radius of there. The poor health of the people, land, and

water? This seats on a water shed for the Colorado River. Here is a link to a fly over a photographer did of Alberta Tar Sands Mine

<http://www.businessinsider.com/photos-destructive-canada-oil-sands-2012-10?op=1#ixzz2PS8HTCoN> .

Enough said about that....So we all know that why the Book Cliffs Highways is being pushed to be built. Please stop the Book

Cliff Highway by designating all the proposed wilderness and designate Survey Point, Mexico Point, and Hideout Canyon units

as wilderness.

Thank you, a concerned citizen for grand county, the earth and future generations ~ Sandy

Democracy Now

~ http://www.democracynow.org/2014/3/14/utahs_carbon_bomb_state_plots_massive

Eco Flight flew over PR Springs oil sands and Red Leaf oil shale developement just 70 miles north of Moab Utah

(a tourist destination) ~ <http://youtu.be/ueIWnypdXuQ> — PR SPRINGS Utah ~

Colorado Border

KaLeigh Welch

From: Frontier Customer [theresaw@frontiernet.net]
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 8:06 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: for the future of the Book Cliffs

We support these comments on the Book Cliffs in the context of Grand County's recommendation for the Bishop process.

Please do three things on Monday:

- (1) Recommend wilderness for the three units in the eastern Book Cliffs (Hideout Canyon, Mexico Point, Survey Point).
- (2) Recommend wilderness for the southern tier of the main Book Cliffs proposed wilderness areas (all the way to the "first bench" road).
- (3) Recommend an NCA to protect some parts of the Book Cliffs which are not covered by wilderness.

The reasons for protecting the Book Cliffs are:

- * In the lower 48 states, only 8% of the land still qualifies as wilderness. Most of the that 8% currently has no formal protection. If we do nothing, that 8% will eventually shrink to around 3%.
- * Grand County is inordinately lucky to have more than its share of these remaining wild lands. We must preserve what we have for future generations.
- * The Book Cliffs is one of the largest remaining roadless areas in Utah.
- * The Book Cliffs is important wildlife habitat.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Theresa and David Wilson

KaLeigh Welch

From: Ginny Carlson [ginny@wyn.org]
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 9:16 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Rep. Bishop Public Lands Bookcliffs

RE: Book Cliffs

Dear County Council Members,

Thank you diving back into this important issue and holding these important public workshops.

I urge the Council to support the wilderness designations for the Bookcliffs, a remote and wild area which should be preserved for our children and grandchildren. In addition it is very important for the preservation of wildlife that these large land areas remain free from human construction.

Grand County should should recommend Wilderness designation for all wilderness quality lands in the Book Cliffs and remove any possibility of a highway corridor through the Bookcliff area.

Sincerely,

Ginny Carlson
3136 Far Country Dr
Moab, UT 84532
email: ginny@wyn.org
phone: 259-3494

KaLeigh Welch

From: Pete Gross [orcabay@sisna.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 11:03 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Book Cliffs Proposal for Rep. Bishop's Public Lands Initiative

Dear County Council Members:

Shortly after I moved here 23 years ago, Moab citizens abolished the three member County Commission in favor of the current seven member County Council. The unpopular Book Cliffs Highway promoted by the old County Commission was a driving force for the change of government.

Here we are rehashing a similar issue a generation later. Once again, the voters made it clear via the ballot box last November that they don't want a highway through the Book Cliffs.

We apparently haven't learned the lesson from Jimmy Carter's \$88 billion boondoggle aptly named Synfuels Corporation in 1979. The low quality fossil fuels targeted by that initiative make even less sense today than they did 35 years ago. A rigorous analysis by one of the world's foremost energy experts, Amory Lovins, makes the case in his recent book, *Reinventing Fire*, that the United States could, should, and probably will transition away from oil as an energy source led by business for profit without government intervention at a net savings of \$5 trillion by 2050.

I've read through the proposal by Friends of the Book Cliffs. I support their recommendation of wilderness designation for wilderness quality lands from the Green River to East Canyon.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Pete Gross
853 Mountain View Drive
Moab, UT 84532

KaLeigh Welch

From: Carol Mayer [mtwcarol440@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, February 22, 2015 11:24 PM
To: Council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Book Cliffs

I have a concern about the decisions you will be making regarding the Book Cliffs. Please consider my wishes when you make your decision. They are as follows:

- a. **Please designate all of the proposed wilderness in the Book Cliffs**
- b. **Please stop the Book Cliffs Highway by designating Survey Point, Mexico Point, and Hideout**

Canyon units as wilderness

Thank-you,
Carol Mayer
444 Rosetree Lane
Moab

KaLeigh Welch

From: Kimberly Call [kcbountyboyz452@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 23, 2015 2:16 AM
To: Council
Subject: Resolution 2894

Grand County Council ~

It has been suggested that a 2013 deviation from the council's 2009 Resolution 2894 be made public, addressed, and resolved.

I am suggesting the current council workshops regarding the Bishop PLI be put on hold until the issue with the council meeting time change is addressed and resolved.

Kim Call

KaLeigh Welch

From: Colleen Tibbetts [colleentibbetts@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 23, 2015 6:09 AM
To: Council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Meeting times

To the County Council,

I would like to voice my concern regarding the meeting times you have chosen. During the election I was assured (Mary McGann & her crew) that me and my fellow citizens were going to be able to participate in decisions concerning Grand County. However with the times of the meetings you have set, I know you are trying to exclude. This is very disconcerting to me, meetings should be held at 7:00 PM so that those of us who work (pay taxes) have ample opportunity to participate in the choices that affect us all. It seems Audrey Graham in her day set the meetings later in the evening to include the citizens. I want to see this again. If you don't include us all, you are dividing our community.

Colleen Tibbetts

KaLeigh Welch

From: Quinn Palmer [tayloromadewooden@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 23, 2015 7:53 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net

I do not want to see any wilderness area

KaLeigh Welch

From: Brooke Williams [brookus426@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 23, 2015 8:31 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: book Cliffs

Dear Council,

I've spent many days exploring the Book Cliffs. I've driven most of the negotiable roads and hiked in dozens of washes. It may be the wildest place in the 48 United States. I've seen elk herds and wild horses and signs of mountain lion.

As you consider wilderness in Grand County please consider the Book Cliffs. We don't need the Book Cliffs Highway. There are currently enough well-maintained dirt roads in conjunction with the new Uintah Co. paved road to completely traverse the area. Stop the talk of a Book Cliffs Highway by including all identified Wilderness in your proposal.

In the future it will be the dirt roads, the solitude, the big game and other wildlife that our children and grandchildren will value.

Sincerely,
Brooke Williams, Castle Valley.

--
Brooke Williams
Great West Institute

"In Atlantis and Hesperides, the ancients had their own Great West, enveloped in mystery and poetry..." -
Thoreau

KaLeigh Welch

From: dbollermann@frontiernet.net
Sent: Monday, February 23, 2015 8:35 AM
To: Grand County Council
Subject: Land Management

To the Grand County Council; all members,

(A)

Please designate as wilderness all proposed BLM Wilderness Areas, in their entirety, in the Book Cliff area.

(B)

Please stop the Book Cliffs Highway.

Cancel plans to build the proposed Book Cliffs Highway by designating Survey Point, Mexico Point, and Hideout Canyon as Wilderness. Designate these three BLM proposed Wilderness Areas in their entirety as wilderness.

Sincerely,

Damian Bollermann
Castle Valley Utah

KaLeigh Welch

From: Eve Tallman [evetallman@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 23, 2015 9:22 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Book Cliffs Highway

Dear Council Members:

Thank you for your service to the people of Grand County.

As you consider the future of our precious Book Cliffs, please fully protect the Book Cliffs by recommending wilderness designation for the Book Cliffs - from the Green River to East Canyon. Wilderness designation is the best way to preclude a Book Cliffs highway/energy corridor once and for all.

As evidenced by the results of our last Council election, the majority of citizens of Grand County place protection of the Books Cliffs as a high priority for the Council.

Remember the broader appeal of the protection of the Book Cliffs beyond the citizenry of our community, as evidenced by the efforts of Ducks Unlimited, the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, and even the Governor to voice opposition to development of the area.

Protect the Book Cliffs from a highway and oil shale strip mining.

Thanks for your consideration,
Eve Tallman
Moab Resident
& Voter

KaLeigh Welch

From: M. Karen Buchanan [matategirl@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, February 23, 2015 6:04 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Moab person

The best thing for Grand County residence, would be the Bishop Proposal Three....it covers more of what we need and the best compromise

KaLeigh Welch

From: Don Leathers [donleathers@frontiernet.net]
Sent: Monday, February 23, 2015 9:33 PM
To: Council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Book Cliffs wilderness

Dear Council,

I wish you to know that I wish you to:

1. Please designate all of the proposed wilderness in the Book Cliffs
2. Please stop the Book Cliffs Highway by designating Survey Point, Mexico Point, and Hideout Canyon units as wilderness

Thank you,
Dr. Donald T. Leathers, ND
76 S. Main St. Suite #10
Moab, Ut 84532
435-259-8123
donleathers@frontiernet.net

KaLeigh Welch

From: Karrie Stewart [kdstew2003@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 8:52 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Bishops Lands Bill

On Feb 24, 2015 8:43 AM, "Karrie Stewart" <kdstew2003@gmail.com> wrote:

>

> To All Concerned,

>

> As a concerned Moab citizen, I feel that the Bishops 3 proposal is the logical and optimal compromise for all parties concerned for our community. It has been going on for several years and doesn't require further debate.

> I am positive that the progressive side has presented their views abundantly and would like nothing more than to live in a bubble of utopian ignorance as to the hard economic reality of life.

>

> Sincerely,

> Karrie Reynolds

KaLeigh Welch

From: Thomas Moreau [moabmoreaus@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 9:05 AM
To: Grand County Council
Subject: Thank you for protecting Wilderness in Grand Co.

Council,

Thank you for a couple things.

First, you voted to get us out of the 7CC. Thanks.

Second, your do-over of the Bishop Public Land Initiative recommendation.

I wrote a letter during the public comment time frame last year but it seemed to fall on deaf ears, every proposal from the council was counter to my comments. Then I was more perplexed when I learned that the vast majority of the letters to the council were just like mine and they too were ignored.

Now it seems that this new council is acknowledging and addressing the concerns of the citizens who comment on policy. I like that.

Thank you,
Thomas Moreau
399 McGill, Moab

--

"It's whatchya do with whatchya got that makes ya who you are" - Glenn Caldwell, Alaska Fisherman

KaLeigh Welch

From: greg child [gregchild@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 10:51 AM
To: Council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: thanks for supporting Bookcliffs WSA

Dear Council Members,

I have learned that the council has voted to support WSA in and around the Bookcliffs area, and that it has voted to oppose the Transportation Corridor through the Bookcliffs. I am glad to know that you've chosen to do those things, and I support such a stance for this county. Thankyou to the council for taking this position.

Sincerely
Greg Child
Castle Valley

KaLeigh Welch

From: anazazi1@preciscom.net
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 11:53 AM
To: Council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Bookcliffs

*Thanks Council... for taking action to protect the B
My vote seems to have counted this*

**Wilderness is not a luxury but a necessity
of the human spirit.**

Edward Abbey

 BrainyQuote

Thank

*Let me know when you
get the*

KaLeigh Welch

From: Marilyn Stolfa [marilyn@stolfa.net]
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 11:56 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Many thanks

Thank you, Members of the Grand County Council, for your recommendations re: the Book Cliffs area and NO highway in the area! I appreciate your judgment and taking the concerns of our community and future generations to heart.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Stolfa

KaLeigh Welch

From: Karrie Stewart [kdstew2003@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 2:23 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Bishop 3

To Whom it Concerns,

Grand County offers some of the most beautiful scenery in the world! It does require a certain amount of protection, however, it pains me to hear that the progressive parties in this community would rather see the death of this area than give up an inch of their agenda! Lets not forget to mention some other areas progressives would like to get their hands on, Fisher Towers, Lasalle Water Shed, etc. How about we just hand them over the whole shabang! It was obvious at last council workshop that several council members were unaware were the areas are and they are making these decisions on behalf of the people!

What about what other industry gives back to the community??? Take it all away and hear the progressives whine about no support for programs that count! I among many rely on tourism to live here in this majestic place but, lets lock it all up so no one can appreciate it and watch our town die! Really council members whom do you work for???

Sincerely,
Karrie Reynolds

KaLeigh Welch

From: kent green [kentgreenmoab@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 4:19 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: land issues?

Dear Grand county council.

I am just a simple person who lives in Moab Utah and Grand county I am very concern on what you folks are doing to our county who gives you the right to speak for me ? with out even talking to me about how I feel about the land grab you are doing. Yes land grab... It has been brought to my attention that you have made promise to folks who contribted to your campaign fund to be elected to the grand county council to change the work that has already been done by our previous council members who worked very hard on the project. you are now wasting tax's payers money. Most of you have only been here a short time as a resident of Grand county, implants is what we call it. you were welcomed in to the community with open arms to share our growing town. now that you are here you want to shut the door to those who might want to come to Moab to live and raise a family or even open a business to provide jobs and a better way to live. Have you really thought about what your doing? you are shutting off access to public lands..... yes public lands.... remember public lands not just the few people who our physically able to walk and hike in to the remote areas you are closing roads to 4x4 's to OHV use industry that can and has always paid for our schools and others needs. you will dry up this town and no one will be able to live here including you. what about the handicap folks who are physically UN able to walk in or even use any type of motor assist to gain access to areas where we usest to be able to drive to on an existing road? what are you going to tell them ?? to bad?? you need to set aside your personal feeling and do whats best for the county not whats best for you. Kent green

KaLeigh Welch

From: Andrew Family [annalee.andrew@frontiernet.net]
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 5:10 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: my thoughts...

To Whom it May Concern:

I do not support any wilderness designations on the western slope of the LaSal Mountains. Even though there may be small discrete areas of 5000 acres with no roads, the concept of wilderness in an area that is front country for our community and receives so much use, is illogical and flies in the face of the true character of wilderness. Additional wilderness on the north end of the LaSal's, congruent with our county's 1999 recommendation for the Beaver Creek drainage, is the only reasonable area for consideration of wilderness that would involve Forest Service lands.

I do not support creation of a special land designation watershed zone. We all want clean water. Current management plans of both BLM and the US Forest Service for this area provide more than adequate protection for our watershed, both eliminating industrial uses in the watershed. A special designation will ultimately lead to future restrictions on roads and trails, grazing, vegetation management to reduce fuels loads and potential for catastrophic wildfire, and impacts to development of private inholdings in this area.

We do not need any further expansion of Arches National Park. We appreciate our park and support it, but making it bigger serves no useful purpose. Arches NP has expanded at least six times in the past. Every time it's expanded, the park immediately starts looking for new areas to expand to. When does it stop? People come to Arches NP to view the arches, they do not care how big the park is. And again, BLM management plans on lands adjacent to the park provide protections that are adequate to protect the viewshed of Arches while still allowing for proper types of development.

I do not support the creation of any National Conservation Areas on any of these lands. NCA's are another type of designation that will ultimately result in long-term loss of roads and trail closures, and impacts to private land inholdings. I support protection of our river corridors along the Colorado and Dolores rivers, but limited to the actual river corridors.

I would like to have a reasonable expectation of a balanced set of recommendations to our Congressmen on this issue coming from our Council. Creating layer upon layer of special land management designations and wilderness is anything but balanced, ultimately resulting in loss of any opportunity for responsible use of other natural resources in our area in addition to recreation and tourism.

Respectfully,

Annalee Andrew

KaLeigh Welch

From: Jamison Wiggins [wigginsjamison@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 5:33 PM
To: Council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: no more land grab please

Dear council,

My name is Jamison Wiggins. I am a fifth generation of grand county. I wanted to take the time to write you a brief email explaining why I do not support locking up of more land. One thing that bothers me more than anything is outsiders coming into grand county and telling us "locals" how to manage our land. I want you to listen to the locals that have lived here for a long time, on how we all enjoy using our public land, from hunting off of it to local ranchers raising cattle. Consider this, Arches National Park has 76,359 acres, and Canyonlands National Park has 337,598 acres(both in grand county) Now to me, that's more than enough locked up land. Leave what blm/sitla public land that we have left open to the public to enjoy. I want my children to have the same experiences of enjoying and using our public land that I've experienced. Let's use what resources we have in grand county and develope them.

Thanks,
Jamison Wiggins

KaLeigh Welch

From: Celia F Alario [celiaalario@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 7:38 PM
To: Council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Thank you for your leadership!

Amazing how good it feels to be a Moabite, that participatory democracy is alive here, that you are listening to 'We the People'.

I applaud your efforts and am grateful to call Moab home!

Best,

Celia Alario
celiaalario@gmail.com
+1 310 721 6517

"Rules for being Amazing"

Risk more than is required.
Learn more than is normal.
Be strong. Show courage.
Breathe.
Excel. Love. Lead.
Speak your truth.
Live your values.
Laugh. Cry.
Innovate. Simplify.
Adore mystery. Release mediocrity.
Aim for genius. Stay humble.
Be kinder than expected.
Deliver more than is needed.
Exude passion. Shatter your limits.
Transcend your fears.
Inspire others by your bigness.
Dream big but start small.
Act now. Don't stop.
Change the world.

"Rules for being Amazing"
by Robin Sharma

KaLeigh Welch

From: Stella Ann Lightfoot [stellaann@outlook.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 3:09 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Members of the Grand County Council:

I am writing to let you know that I do not want any wilderness designation areas on the La Sal's. It is absurd to lock away an area that is so vital to our community and is used and enjoyed by so many locals just to please these environmental groups. I also do not support creation of a special land designation watershed zone. This is a backdoor attempt to lock up the land and gain control of our watershed by the environmental NGO's that seem to think they can speak for the whole area. They do NOT!! . Current management plans of both BLM and the US Forest Service provide more than adequate protection for our watershed. Industrial use is not allowed by either of these entities. A special designation will only lead to more restrictions on roads and trails, grazing, vegetation management to reduce fuels loads and create a potential for catastrophic wildfire, not to mention the impact on private inholdings in this area. I would like to remind you that as, elected officials, your first duty is to protect the private property rights of the citizens of this county, not to do the bidding of this group of environmental NGO's who think they are the only ones who matter in the county. Private property includes protecting our water rights from over regulation by these NGO's. I also do not want any further expansion of Arches National Park. It is fine just the way it is. It has already been expanded at least six times. Making it bigger serves no useful purpose. . Every time it's expanded, the park immediately starts looking for new areas to expand to. When does it stop? People come to Arches NP to view the arches, they do not care how big the park is. Since the park itself cannot seem to handle the current parking problem, it seems pretty stupid to make the problem bigger by making the park bigger. And again, BLM management plans on lands adjacent to the park provide more than adequate protection for the viewshed of Arches while still keeping the value of multiple use of the land and allowing for proper types of development. Contrary to the proposals put forth by these selfish environmental NGO's,, this area is big enough for ALL of us. I also do not support the creation of any National Conservation Areas on any of these lands. NCA's are another back door land grab tool of these NGO's that will ultimately result in long-term loss of roads and trail closures, and impacts to private land inholdings. I support protection of our river corridors along the Colorado and Dolores rivers, but limited to the actual river corridors ONLY. In conclusion, I would like to have a reasonable expectation of a balanced set of recommendations sent to Congressmen Bishop on this issue. The maps and recommendations presented by the NGO's and special interests since the new council chose to reopen the issue, have not shown a balanced approach at all. We had such a balance from our previous council who did all the heavy lifting on the issue and put two years of hard work into their proposals and their process was a truly a bi-partisan effort. After having attended many meetings and workshop since the new council took office, sadly, I cannot not say that this council has presented the same level of bipartisanship or concern for the economic well being of the county. On the contrary, this council has set out to only listen to the environmental NGO's and special interest groups over and above the citizens and taxpayers of this county by limiting in put to those who have access to a GIS mapping system and holding meetings at a time that the people who actually have jobs in Grand County cannot attend. . Creating layer upon layer of special land management designations and wilderness is anything but balanced, ultimately resulting in loss of multiple use and any opportunity for responsible use of the natural resources in our area in addition to recreation and tourism. Taking our natural resource production out of the mix, as the NGO's and special interests would like you to do, would be fiscally irresponsible and highly detrimental to the economic well being of the entire area.. Again, I would like to restate, that there is room for all views to be equally represented in the county recommendations sent to Congressman Bishop and would hope that you will find the balance needed to fully represent the views of ALL the citizens of this area. . I will be letting Congressman Bishop and Congressman Chaffetz know of my concerns regarding how this council, with the exception of Councilman Paxton and Councilman Jackson, has chosen to disregard many citizens and limit citizen input in order to show favor to the environmental NGO's and special interests. Respectfully, Stella Ann Lightfoot

Sent from Windows Mail

KaLeigh Welch

From: Jared Wiggins [buckfeverjjw@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 8:14 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Keep it open

Council, my name is Jared Wiggins. 5th generation grand county resident. It's about time we stop all the non sense of locking up more lands. We have national parks state parks and plenty of designated wilderness study areas. We don't need any more. As a tax payer and one who loves the outdoors, who also makes a living in oil and gas I think the council should take a look at the revenue that oil, gas, potash, and recreation generates in our small community. It's not about locking it up for the privileged ones or supporters of the land grab. Public land is a land of many uses and I support land of many uses.

Thanks.

Jared Wiggins

Sent from my iPhone

KaLeigh Welch

From: Kathey McNeely [katheymcneely@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 8:37 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Grand County Public Lands related to Congressman Bishop's Proposed Public Lands Bill

Dear Grand County Council,

1. I do NOT support the expansion of 12,000 - 15,000 acres to Arches National Park. I love Arches National Park and hike there all the time, including back into many of the trails and washes that don't get much traffic. It has expanded at least 6 times in the past. When does it stop! The only reason I see at this time for expansion is to lock out any possible mining or drilling adjacent to the park in the future.

2. I do not support ANY wilderness designations on the LaSal Mountains, especially on the western slope. I have hunted, fished, jeeped, and camped all my life on the LaSals. Even though there are some areas of 5000 acres without roads (or roads that have been closed down), they do not fit the criteria of wilderness. Already, the Forest Service has closed roads that we had access for hunting and camping. The LaSals receive so much use from this community, especially during the summer and fall, that it seems illogical to lock it up for wilderness. And in most cases, it does NOT fit wilderness criteria.

3. I do Not support the creation of a special land designation watershed zone above Castle Valley and Spanish Valley. We own 5 acres and a cabin in Upper Willow Basin looking down on Castle Valley and out as far as you can see and have since 1984. The current management plans of both the BLM and US Forest Service for this area are adequate protection for our watershed. A special designation could ultimately lead to future restrictions on roads and trails, grazing, and vegetation management to reduce the potential of devastating wildfires, besides having an impact on many private lands and cabins in this area.

4. I do NOT support ANY National Conservation Areas added to our county, especially those that include all of the Fisher Mesa/Fisher Towers , Mary Jane Canyon, and Porcupine Rim/Dome area.

***I have currently been to the public meetings and all the "new" councils' meetings concerning this subject. I feel that most of your minds were already made up. I need to remind you that you also represent me and all the people in Grand County, and the citizens that actually live here year-round, not just the people in your district or the ones who voted for you. Your job is to do what is best for Grand County and all of its citizens, not pander to special interest groups, and radical environmental groups who want to "lock up" this whole county! Who are they "saving" it for? Not my grandchildren or great grandchildren, but for healthy hikers and wealthy people who can afford to take guided horseback trips into the wilderness - a "select" few!

Sincerely,
Kathey McNeely
(Local - 3rd generation)

KaLeigh Welch

From: Anita Islas [anita_cebollas@yahoo.com.mx]
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2015 8:37 PM
To: Council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Thank you!

As someone who grew up in beautiful Grand County and will forever love both its land and community, I want to thank you heartily for protecting the Book Cliffs! What a wonderful move in keeping Grand County the unique place that we love.

Thank you,
Hannah (Graham) Luna

KaLeigh Welch

From: D Wells [darrinwells1@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 7:57 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Fwd: Public Lands Initiative

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: D Wells <darrinwells1@yahoo.com>
Date: February 24, 2015 at 9:35:47 PM MST
To: "council@grandcountycouncil.net" <council@grandcountycouncil.net>
Subject: Public Lands Initiative

Dear Council members I am sending this e-mail because I think it's time for the people of Moab to stand up to those who are trying to take over and make changes to our land. Below are my thoughts and the thoughts of the majority of this community thanks.

1- I do not support any wilderness designations on the western slope of the LaSal Mountains. Even though there may be small discrete areas of 5000 acres with no roads, the concept of wilderness in an area that is front country for our community and receives so much use, is illogical and flies in the face of the true character of wilderness. Additional wilderness on the north end of the LaSal's, congruent with our county's 1999 recommendation for the Beaver Creek drainage, is the only reasonable area for consideration of wilderness that would involve Forest Service lands.

2- I do not support creation of a special land designation watershed zone. We all want clean water. Current management plans of both BLM and the US Forest Service for this area provide more than adequate protection for our watershed, both eliminating industrial uses in the watershed. A special designation will ultimately lead to future restrictions on roads and trails, grazing, vegetation management to reduce fuels loads and potential for catastrophic wildfire, and impacts to development of private inholdings in this area.

3- We do not need any further expansion of Arches National Park. We appreciate our park and support it, but making it bigger serves no useful purpose. Arches NP has expanded at least six times in the past. Every time it's expanded, the park immediately starts looking for new areas to expand to. When does it stop? People come to Arches NP to view the arches, they do not care how big the park is. And again, BLM management plans on lands adjacent to the park provide protections that are adequate to protect the viewshed of Arches while still allowing for proper types of development.

4- I do not support the creation of any National Conservation Areas on any of these lands. NCA's are another type of designation that will ultimately result in long-term loss of roads and trail closures, and impacts to private land inholdings. I support protection of our river corridors along the Colorado and Dolores rivers, but limited to the actual river corridors.

I would like to have a reasonable expectation of a balanced set of recommendations to our

Congressmen on this issue coming from our Council. Creating layer upon layer of special land management designations and wilderness is anything but balanced, ultimately resulting in loss of any opportunity for responsible use of other natural resources in our area in addition to recreation and tourism.

Respectfully,
Darrin Wells
Sent from my iPhone

KaLeigh Welch

From: Kimberly Call [kcbountyboyz452@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 8:02 AM
To: Council
Subject: Fight to Repeal the Antiquities Act

Grand County Council,

Grand and San Juan counties are embroiled in an ideological battle for ownership, management, and access to the land within our boundaries. Our nemesis is a US President who is employing terrorist tactics by wielding a most ominous weapon, the perverted Antiquities Act. Our councils operate as if with a 'gun' to their heads.

In order to mitigate the overreach of this O administration, our congressmen are asking residents in Grand County to surrender thousands of acres to unelected administrative councils/boards who will lock away that land in NCA's and NRA's ~ in perpetuity and forever. New Mexico attempted, for six years, to craft legislation to prevent a monument designation in their state but were slapped with one anyway. Colorado just received notice of a federal land grab - monument - in theirs. Of course, the largest theft ever, Escalante, was a stealth operation - no one saw it coming. Do our congressmen actually expect to prevent a similar fate in our county(ies)?

Rather than asking us to wave the white flag and surrender lands as a ritual sacrifice to a greedy, pompous, power-hungry administration, our representatives should be employing every force necessary to win this ideological battle against a terrorist president and his Antiquities Act and see to it's final demise.

Kim Call
Moab, Utah

KaLeigh Welch

From: Ric Foster [brrichard@sharetrails.org]
Sent: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 12:15 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Cc: Glen Zumwalt
Subject: BlueRibbon Coalition Comments on Grand County Public Lands Initiative
Attachments: BRC Ltr to Grand County Council on PLI_02.24.15_FINAL-COMPLETE.pdf

Please find attached the BlueRibbon Coalition's comments on the the Grand County Public Lands Initiative. If there are any problems opening the document please contact me.

Ric Foster
Public Lands Department Manager
BlueRibbon Coalition
4555 Burley Drive, Suite A
Pocatello, ID 83202
208.237.1008 ext 107
brrichard@sharetrails.org



BlueRibbon Coalition
4555 Burley Drive • Suite A
Pocatello, ID 83202-1945
1-800-258-3742 • brc@sharetrails.org

February 24, 2015

Grand County Council
Public Lands Initiative
125 E. Center St.
Moab, UT 84532
council@grandcountyutah.net

RE: Grand County Public Land Initiative

Dear members of the Grand County Council:

The BlueRibbon Coalition (BRC) has participated in the Eastern Utah Public Land Initiative (PLI). BRC was asked to bring the perspective of Off Highway Vehicle enthusiasts into this important process. It is our hope that the PLI effort may lead to a mutually beneficial resolution on many contentious issues surrounding public land management. We appreciate the involvement of the Grand County Council and wish to briefly articulate our thoughts at the current point in the PLI process.

The current Bureau of Land Management and Forest Service management plans in Grand County represent years of work by the agencies and countless hours of public input. These plans are not what any individual or advocacy group would adopt as their own but represent plans developed with the give and take of the public process. BRC's believes the current management plan embodies a relatively good job at balancing "use" vs "protection." Importantly, we believe the recreational access provided by the BLM's designated routes decisions must be retained and only modified if the modification can be shown to benefit all user groups. Designated route retention should be an important position in the County's recommendation which will provide more certainty for future access.

It is important for the Council to note that BRC is open and willing to consider any "designation" proposed through the PLI process, including Wilderness. However, we remain firm in our belief that the current travel plan be sustained through any future land management designation. We want to point out that the BLM has closed thousands of miles of roads and trails in Grand County since the first round of "emergency closures" in 2001. We don't yet know if the transportation system that remains can support the current, let alone the future, need. We do not support going through another "travel management plan" process so soon after the previous process was completed, and before that process has been fully implemented.

We hope the Council is successful in forwarding a proposal to Congressman Bishop that protects the interests of the citizens of Grand County. I have attached BRC's position letters on the PLI, dated 4/23/13 and 7/10/13, which confirms our position of preserving existing access and allowing for improvements in the future. This proposal should be viewed in context to subsequent collaborative efforts by local Off-Highway Vehicle groups. BRC supports the recommendations included in February's presentations to the Council by Red Rock 4 Wheelers, Ride With Respect and Moab Friends For Wheelin.

Sincerely,



Glen A. Zumwalt
BlueRibbon Coalition
Director

Attachments: BRC Letter to Bishop re E Utah effort_04.23.13_FINAL
BRC Potential Pillars for Bishop Bill_07.10.13_FINAL



Attachments:

BRC Letter to Bishop re E Utah effort_04.23.13_FINAL

BRC Potential Pillars for Bishop Bill_07.10.13_FINAL



Honorable Rob Bishop
United States House of Representatives
123 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
Fred.Ferguson@mail.house.gov

April 23, 2013

RE: Eastern Utah Public Lands Legislation

Dear Representative Bishop,

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the development of a comprehensive lands bill for Eastern Utah.

The BlueRibbon Coalition's (BRC) staff and volunteers have experience in similar public lands legislation efforts in Utah and other western states. We very much appreciate the opportunity to continue our involvement in your efforts to look at a comprehensive lands bill for Central and Eastern Utah.

One cannot ignore the threat posed by a Presidential national monument designation. In our last letter to you we noted; *"The OIA [Outdoor Industry Association] letter requests that President Obama unilaterally impose the wishes of only one stakeholder group. To pull the rug out from under those who will be most likely to be impacted by land use decisions – local citizens – as they hammer out compromises is unwise."*

The latest request for the President to designate a Greater Canyonlands monument has, perhaps unwittingly, brought attention to the fact that it is wildly out of line with what the people who live there want.

This is why we deeply appreciate your efforts to oppose unilateral national monument designations. Your work to bring together the knowledge of all of the state and national groups involved, as well as the local counties, is a welcome breath of fresh air.

We understand the need for prompt response. Therefore, we have put together some general thoughts for your consideration as you move forward. We hope to provide additional information when appropriate.

Thank you for considering our interests in the outcomes of this important public lands initiative.
Very sincerely,

Brian Hawthorne
Public Lands Policy Director
BlueRibbon Coalition
208-237-1008 ext 102

Cc: Senator Orrin Hatch
Senator Mike Lee
Representative Jason Chaffetz
Representative Chris Stewart

Regarding a “process”

- A regional approach, as opposed to a county by county process, seems appropriate. At some point counties must coordinate to avoid conflicting management across county boundaries.
- Normally BRC encourages a formal collaborative process. However, there are many reasonable arguments for expediting any necessary collaborative efforts. A shortened process has been successful in other areas and is probably appropriate here.
- Most of the counties affected have considered various components of a land bill. One has a detailed legislative proposal, while some counties have just recently begun. If an expedited process is appropriate it should not be so expedited that the product lacks the full support of the county(ies).

Things to consider when developing a proposal for the Greater Canyonlands area

- Any legislation must address Utah's need for “regulatory security.”
- A regional land use bill may not be the vehicle to address litigation. Still, it should be acknowledged that litigation acts like an anchor on land management. Litigation empowers well funded trusts and foundations to apply undue influence on federal land management.
- In November 2008, the BLM completed six management plans in Utah. Although progress is being made, none of the plans have been fully implemented yet. Imposing a new planning process before the last plan has been completed is not wise or necessary. Any new designation (NCA, NRA, etc) should include specific management direction for federal land managers so valuable resources are not wasted with another round of planning.
- The BLM's new management plans contain a lot of accurate information regarding the lands and resources at issues, and they are also well understood by all involved. The management plans should prove useful, at a minimum, to provide information. They may also be useful for specific management direction in legislation.
- The proponents of the Monument cite a recreation impact study that shows “\$646 billion in national sales and services in 2011 and supporting 6.1 million jobs...” They are telling only part of the story. The same study shows that approximately \$257 billion, or nearly 40% of the total \$646 billion in economic impact, is derived from motorized recreation.
- The BLM's latest plans closed just less than half of the existing roads and roughly three-quarters of existing, non-road OHV trails. Implementation of the travel plans, has not yet been completed. As travel plans are implemented, it is common for land managers to make adjustments and even add routes to make the transportation system better and reduce impacts. If anything, all efforts should look at ways to add motorized and mountain bike trails, not reduce them.
- Previous oil and gas development in this area has been shown to be compatible with semi-primitive recreation and good wildlife habitat. Recreation and resource development should not be considered mutually exclusive.

Potential Legislative Pillars

- No net loss for motorized and mountain bike recreation
Motorized recreationists also seek “regulatory security.” The BLM has closed tens of thousands of miles of roads and trails since the first round of “emergency closures” in 2001. We don't yet know if the transportation system that remains can support the current, let alone the future need. Moreover, wealthy trusts and foundations regularly fund appeals and litigation on even basic motorized travel plans.
- Categorically exclude from NEPA analysis casual recreation event permits and require the BLM develop a streamlined process for commercial recreation permits.
- “Codification” of existing BLM Management Plans
There seems to be consensus among many local stakeholders that BLM's new management plans are, with a few exceptions, acceptable. To BLM's credit, a lot local groups believe they can “make it work,” or “we can live with it.” There seems an equal consensus that any future reductions in access, recreation and other commercial uses is something they can not live with. Legislation, even a designation such as an NCA, can and should “codify” the current management as a baseline. Additional uses could be authorized via planning and NEPA.
- Specific Management Direction
Congress often passes legislation giving federal agencies specific management direction for a specific resource. Specific management needs should be 'legislated in' to the federal land manager's plans.
- Wilderness
We are open to considering any designation, including NRA, NCA, Wilderness and any others.
- Minimum Transportation System
Although it isn't complete, there seems to be some support for the existing transportation system. In line with the theme of regulatory certainty, each potential designation should include the concept of codifying the existing travel plan so it serves as a minimum travel system. Recreational trails, both motorized and non motorized, could then be added consistent with NEPA and other applicable laws.
- State Park
Some lands may be better managed as a State Park(s)
- Trust or other community partnership
Another concept that has been proposed as a way to provide regulatory certainty is forming a collaborative trust for managing one or all of BLM and USFS programs.



July 10, 2013

Honorable Rob Bishop
United States House of Representatives
Fred.Ferguson@mail.house.gov

RE: Eastern Utah Public Lands Legislation

Dear Representative Bishop,

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the development of a comprehensive lands bill for Eastern Utah.

A true collaborative solution exists when all stakeholders benefit and compromise. In our current system of public land management, Wilderness is the designation which most prioritizes preservation to the exclusion of all other uses. Multiple-use advocates and affected communities are willing to accept this restrictive one-dimensional management approach when Wilderness designation comes as a result of true compromise by preservationists and is accompanied by their long-term recognition of, and commitment to, a corresponding benefit to multiple-use interests. Today, this means explicit legislative acknowledgment and authorization of specified uses in identified areas. In most instances, this will mean no more than ratification of long-existing uses.

An example of a step toward such an approach is seen in the Draft Emery County Public Land Management Act. Based on this example, and related themes, we offer a more detailed response to your letter dated June 3, 2013. It is our hope that you find that our suggestions have merit and warrant more detailed discussions. We would welcome the opportunity to participate in the process initiated by your letter.

Greg Mumm
Executive Director
BlueRibbon Coalition
Office 208-237-1008 ext 101
Cell: 208-244-2112

Brian Hawthorne
Public Lands Policy Director
BlueRibbon Coalition
Office: 208-237-1008 ext 102
Cell: 208-390-5770

I. INTRODUCTION

In the past half-century, each decade has brought further restrictions on vehicle access and recreation on lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in Utah. While some of these restrictions were necessary and appropriate, we've reached a tipping point. In Utah, most of the BLM Resource Management Plans (RMPs) and travel decisions cut road and trail access roughly in half while greatly expanding areas providing an exclusive non-motorized experience.

Despite these restrictions, preservation advocates seek to close half of the remaining half of the motorized routes. For an example we note the Greater Canyonlands petition released on March 18th, 2011, by the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance. In addition, these same groups are seeking even more closures via federal lawsuit (*Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance, et al., v. Burke*, No. 2:12cv257 DAK), which at present is focused on the Richfield Field Office but will eventually proceed to challenge the RMPs & travel plans for five (5) other Utah Field Offices.

In response, the natural urge is to submit a counter-proposal that would open all the routes which were closed by the RMPs. However, to do so we believe would run contrary to the spirit of collaboration and not achieve a workable outcome. Therefore, our proposal is based on the current management, which at least attempts to balance appropriate protection of natural resources with sustainable recreation, including mountain bike and motorized recreation.

II. REGULATORY SECURITY

The term regulatory security describes a situation where the management of public lands is known by state and local governments as well as affected industries and recreationists, for the reasonably foreseeable future. That situation does not exist today. For a variety of reasons, public lands management is in constant flux, and management actions are inconsistent or uncertain across state, district and even field office levels.

Under the current model, Congress acts with restraint, imposing only generalized guidance which must be applied in any area and on individual sites through agency analysis and discretion. These analyses, and associated regulations, have become one-way gates that largely constrain active management of our public lands and provide fodder for environmentalist lawsuits, which seem to be designed to stop any active management simply through embroiling the agency in a war of procedural attrition.

It is time for Congress to consider new paradigms of public land management. There are places, and uniquely so in Utah, where agency analysis has been performed and where Congress can appropriately take its role in outlining future management direction. The underlying objective should be to cut through the regulatory morass and at least attempt to provide some level of regulatory security and long-term certainty allowing for active management of our public lands.

A. Management paradigms that may provide regulatory security:

No Net Loss - Minimum Transportation System

In line with the theme of regulatory security, where possible legislation should seek to codify the existing travel plan so it serves as a minimum travel system. This approach makes particular sense for Utah BLM lands, where the agency, coordinating agencies, affected entities and the public have recently invested millions of dollars revamping RMPs and travel designations. These decisions can and should form a long-term management foundation. Where appropriate, recreational trails and areas, both motorized and non-motorized, could later be added consistent with NEPA and other applicable laws.

We do not wish to preclude federal land managers from temporarily closing or restricting public access to a designated route for purposes of resource protection or public safety. Provided, however, that if the closure becomes permanent, or the length of the temporary closure impairs established access and use normally provided by the designated route, the land managing agency shall establish alternate access, equivalent to that provided by the designated route.

“Codification” of existing BLM Management Plans

Where there is a consensus among local stakeholders that BLM's new management plans are appropriate, the legislation can and should “codify” the current management as a baseline. Additional uses could be authorized via planning and NEPA. Elimination of current uses should not be allowed. Legislation may also include specific direction to immediately process all pending rights of ways and other infrastructure needs.

State Park

Some lands may be better managed as a State Park(s).

State Management “Pilot Project”

Similar to the Sand Flats area near Moab, some of these lands may benefit from state management.

Trust or other community partnership

Another concept that has been proposed as a way to provide regulatory certainty is forming a collaborative trust for managing one or all of BLM programs.

Specific Management Direction

Congress often passes legislation giving federal agencies specific management direction for a specific resource. Specific management needs should be 'legislated in' to the federal land manager's plans.

III. LAND DESIGNATIONS

It is important that land designations be used in a coherent fashion that fits within and carries out the comprehensive management vision, as opposed to a patchwork of individual compromises achieved at disjointed times through varying participants.

A. Wilderness Study Area (WSA)

WSAs have long presented management and political challenges. The June 3, 2013, letter signed by members of the Utah U.S. House Delegation requests:

Submissions that include lands outside and beyond Wilderness Study Areas (WSA), the draft Emery County Public Land Management Act, or other county-backed land plans must include a thorough and complete written justification explaining why the area is worthy of additional consideration. Lands recommended to be released from their WSA status should also include a thorough and complete written justification as to why the lands should be returned to multiple-use management. Finally, lands proposed for alternative designations or actions must include a thorough and complete written justification as to why the alternative designation or action should be considered.

We do not propose the release of any WSAs. That any federal land management agency will truly release these lands for multiple-use/sustained yield management is no longer a viable assumption¹.

1 Under “multiple-use management” Idaho BLM's Jarbidge office simply “re inventoried” WSAs that were released via the Owyhee Public Land Management Act and is proposing to manage those lands as “Non Wilderness Study Areas with Wilderness Characteristics” and impose management that is even more restrictive than under WSA management. Recently Colorado BLM's Grand Junction Field Office has

Instead, we support language that prescribes specific uses, including mountain bike and motorized recreation in existing and/or designates routes/areas.

Regarding the subject of “hard release.”

Few public lands issues have been as controversial as the current BLM policy that mandates a never-ending, ongoing, inventory and planning process for wilderness characteristics. We understand of course that no Congress can bind the hands of a future Congress. However, the legislation should ensure that these lands no longer be subject to future wilderness inventory or study under Section 202 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976. Legislation should clearly and unambiguously mandate that lands which are not designated for wilderness shall be released from further wilderness study and shall be exempt from planning actions made pursuant to BLM’s Land Use Planning Handbook Appendix K (Wilderness characteristics inventory).

B. Wilderness

At least in this initial stage in this process, we want to remain open and flexible when considering Wilderness. Our “official” position supports Wilderness designation for the “recommended” WSAs on BLM lands in Utah as long as routes and areas currently authorized for motorized and mountain bike use are “cherry-stemmed” out of these areas².

When reviewing proposals for Wilderness the legislation should specifically evaluate and address key issues such as:

Access:

Designated routes should be “cherry-stemmed” through any new Wilderness designation. Many areas that will likely be proposed for Wilderness in this process contain historic roads and significant OHV and mountain bike use. BLM recently completed a comprehensive travel and transportation plan designating those roads and trails which are suitable for continuing motorized and non-motorized uses. Therefore, it is appropriate that any legislation “cherry-stem” any route that is currently on the BLM’s travel plan out of the designated Wilderness area.

Grazing/VER/Water rights/Buffer Zones

Whatever the designation this process considers (e.g. National Recreation Area (NRA), National Conservation Area (NCA), Wilderness, state management) the grazing of livestock should be permitted to continue where established based on sound range management, including, but not limited to, predator control, permanent structures and water projects, which benefit the resource and ensure that grazing levels will remain viable for the livestock growers. In addition, nothing in the process should affect any valid existing surface water or ground water right or other valid existing right. The legislation should also preclude any protective perimeter or buffer zone and clearly acknowledge that an activity or use on land outside any Wilderness or other designation that can be seen or heard within that designation shall not preclude the activity or use.

Boundary review and adjustment process.

Any area proposed for Wilderness in this effort should go through a process to review and adjust the boundary to address conflicts in Wilderness management.

Suitability and Manageability assessment

Any area proposed for Wilderness in this effort should go through a process to review the suitability

proposed a “de-facto” Wilderness management for some WSAs in the event Congress releases them into “multiple use management.”

2 The BLM has authorized OHV use in several existing WSAs and current monitoring has shown the use has not substantially diminished the Wilderness characteristics. These routes and areas should be “cherry-stemmed” out of the new Wilderness area.

and manageability for management under the National Wilderness Preservation System. Where suitability and manageability conflicts exist, a designation other than Wilderness should be considered.

C. Alternative Designations – NCA, NRA or Beyond

We are open to consider any federal land designation, including Wilderness, in this process. However, it is necessary for each designation to include very specific management guidelines. It is important to determine the nature and specifics of the ultimate management vision, and select the land designation that best provides for the desired result.

Identify specific “legislative values”

The establishment of the National Landscape Conservation System (NLCS) directs the Secretary of the Interior to manage lands in a manner that protects the values for which the components of the system were designated. However, BLM's NLCS implementation directives generally require management plans to enhance environmental preservation. This requires that special attention be given to the specific legislative values. For example, legislation establishing an NCA may identify “recreation” as a value to be managed for. However, under current NLCS guidelines, such a term would not ensure that a diverse range of recreational uses will continue. Therefore, to ensure the wide range of diverse recreational uses currently authorized will continue, each recreational use should be specifically mentioned as a value in the legislative language.

No Net Loss - Minimum Transportation System

In line with the theme of regulatory security, any NRA or NCA should include the concept of codifying the existing travel plan so it serves as a minimum travel system. Recreational trails, both motorized and non-motorized, could then be added consistent with NEPA and other applicable laws.

Again, it is not our intent to preclude federal land managers from temporarily closing or restricting public access to a designated route for purposes of significant resource protection or public safety. Provided, however, that if the closure becomes permanent, or the length of the temporary closure impairs established access and use normally provided by the designated route, the land managing agency shall establish alternate access, equivalent to that provided by the designated route.

Limits on new management plans

Some stakeholders are asserting that federally managed lands are in need of immediate protection. This assumes that the current management plans do not provide sufficient protection of natural resources. This is not true. In November 2008, the BLM completed six management plans in Utah. These new plans contain significant protection for important natural resources. Given this Herculean effort, a more traditional Congressional command to “study and plan” is not only unnecessary but would squander scarce agency resources. This is a perfect time and place for Congress to seize upon the work already performed by the agency and engaged stakeholders to create a new certainty for public lands management.

Notwithstanding the above, it does not seem appropriate to categorically preclude any planning for any new designation (NCA, NRA, etc) and, of course, any additions to the National Wilderness Preservation System would require the completion of a management plan. So that scarce financial and staff resources are not wasted, any new designation should specifically limit the BLM's authority to plan and include specific direction on what uses and activities federal land managers can plan for. The focus for subsequent planning for any new designation should be the “need for change.”

IV. DETAILED SUBMISSIONS

We are mindful of the Delegation’s request for detailed submissions to allow an assessment of the

viability of a new solution along the lines of the draft Emery County Public Lands Management Act. BRC is only able to address this request on a limited scale at this time, given its unique place between grassroots users, local organizations, private industry, and state and local governmental entities. We will continue to monitor and update this status and offer here our suggestions and detailed submissions in those areas where an obvious direction or growing consensus is apparent.

A. Rationale

To address the need for adequate OHV recreation opportunities:

Motorized OHV use is firmly established as a major recreational activity on BLM-administered public lands. National Management Strategy for Motorized Off-Highway Vehicle Use on Public Lands. BLM's Manual 8340 (May 25, 1982), establish that off-road vehicle use is an 'acceptable use of public land wherever it is compatible with established resource management objectives.' As established by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA), the BLM is required to manage public lands on the basis of multiple use and sustained yield, including providing recreation, while protecting natural values.

Unfortunately, federal agencies have responded to the significant, and in at least some instances increasing demand for quality OHV access by closing tens of thousands of miles of roads and trails. Motorized recreational opportunity has been drastically reduced throughout the region. Travel management planning on adjacent BLM and National Forest lands have reduced opportunity for motorized recreationists, while at the same time provided additional opportunity for those who prefer a non-motorized experience.

The amount of motorized route and area closures has reached a critical mass. Every single mile of motorized route that is open today is extremely important. Further closures will have a much larger impact than those in the past.

Economic benefits of motorized and mountain bike recreation

The Outdoor Industry Association, when pushing a unilateral presidential National Monument, cited a recreation impact study that shows "that outdoor recreation is 'an overlooked economic giant,' generating \$646 billion in national sales and services in 2011 and supporting 6.1 million jobs, powering the economy in a manner comparable to the financial services and insurance industries or outpatient health care." They are telling only part of the story. The same study shows that approximately \$257 billion or nearly 40% of the total \$646 billion in economic impact is derived from motorized recreation.

Unfortunately motorized recreation is often severely restricted in protective designations such as NCAs or even NRAs. Unless specific measures are taken the designation of these lands as a NCA or NRA along with the almost certain restrictions that come along with designation could effectively mean that a significant portion of the total economic impact of recreation to the area will be forfeited. Also, many other recreational uses that contribute to the overall figure of \$646 billion frequently are restricted in National Monument areas as well. For example bicycling accounts for another \$81 billion annually. Now consider that the National Park Service has recently twice denied permits for a professional bike race to be held, in part, in Colorado National Monument, despite the positive economic impact the race would have on the local economy. This is but one of many examples of recreational uses being limited in these areas.

B. Specific Proposals

Our proposal here is based on the current management and protections provided in the RMPs but strengthen the ability to manage and provide OHVs.

Carbon County

No specific recommendation at this time

Uintah County

No specific recommendation at this time

Wayne County

No specific recommendation at this time

San Juan County

In addition to the proposals made by San Juan County and SPEAR (San Juan Public Entry & Access Rights), we suggest the Yellow Circle Mine OHV Area be designated for enhanced OHV use and the Cameo Cliffs SRMA be expanded.

The Yellow Circle Mine OHV Area

The Yellow Circle Mine is located approximately ten miles southeast of Moab (see attachment). The Yellow Circle Mine is a cluster of abandoned roads on a steep and rocky hillside. It's next to large power-lines, as well as Area BFE, which is a 320-acre rock-crawling park on private property. This area is suitable and manageable for a "high challenge" 4x4 OHV management area.

Cameo Cliffs OHV Area

Extend the Cameo Cliffs SRMA south toward South Canyon Point and north toward Black Ridge

Grand County

Rationale:

Presumably, a public lands bill could establish long-distance trails, recreation areas, and other special designations. Whatever the means, we envision an end product that provides more and closer day loops surrounding OHV hubs or focus areas, as well as quality multi-day loops that connect towns. It's much easier for land managers to achieve compliance when the visitors have diverse recreation opportunities.

The 2008 RMP established the Labyrinth Rims Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA), which includes the Dee Pass Motorized Trail Focus Area. It also established the Utah Rims SRMA partly for motorcycling (and mountain biking). Finally, it established the Cameo Cliffs SRMA partly for ATV riding (and horseback riding).

These SRMAs provide three hubs for OHV riding. While they may seem large on a map, many parts of the SRMAs are off-limits to OHV use (i.e. the top of Duma Point in Labyrinth Rims, the bottom of Bitter Creek in Utah Rims, and the upper part of Hook And Ladder Gulch in Cameo Cliffs).

There is a need to expand those hubs toward the nearest towns so that visitors won't have to travel so far just to reach the trail. Further, this connectivity would facilitate multi-day rides, and emerging markets like dual-sport motorcycling. This sort of long-distance trail, such as Paiute ATV Trail, has helped many rural communities. The same thing could be done for Green River, Moab, and Monticello (or even from Price to Blanding).

Already, Kokopelli's Trail connects Moab with Grand Junction, Colorado. However a lot of the "trail" relies on graded roads, while another section is non-motorized, which forces OHVs onto paved roads. Therefore, long-distance trails for multi-day rides should utilize primitive routes to consistently provide enough challenge, scenery, etc. Motorcycle single-track (40" wide) and ATV trails (52" wide) are ideal, but only in addition to a wider route for side-by-sides and "jeeps." So the main route would be doubletrack and then single-track options could appeal to more motorcyclists and mountain bikers.

To proactively manage recreation, areas should be designated in anticipation of increasing visitation,

not in reaction to it. SRMA boundaries and focus areas should be large enough to "grow into," as trends emerge.

Suggestions:

Utah Rims Recreation Area

There is a need to extend the Utah Rims SRMA southwest toward Cottonwood Wash (to encompass Mel's Loop) and north to the Bookcliffs to encompass the Wild Cow Loop.

An expanded Dee Pass Motorized Focus Area

The current Dee Pass Motorized Focus Area should be expanded northwest to reach Green River and further southeast toward Bartlett Wash, where many riders stage from.

Trail corridors:

The current Moab Extensive Recreation Management Area should provide additional primitive roads, ATV and single-track trails and dry washes to connect SRMAs and towns. Such routes offer opportunities for long-distance tours, which are increasingly popular among motorized and mechanized enthusiasts. Additionally, such links boost rural economies and disperse use, thereby alleviating conflicts. One logical trail corridor is the Thompson to Mack trail corridor (see map).

Emery County

BRC is on record as strongly supporting the process used to formulate the draft Emery County land bill. Although still in draft form, BRC generally supports the legislation.

One of the key consensus points in the Emery County proposal is that it would, as much as possible, "freeze" the current management in the BLM's 2008 Price Field Office Resource Management Plan, including the travel management plan, in place. However, on page 19, of the draft legislation the bill mandates yet another round of OHV travel management planning.

Normally, such an inconsistency would raise serious questions. However, we are approaching this review based on the understanding the current mandate on page 19 was not intentional and the county would be open to suggested edits that would preserve the consensus agreement.

Toward that end, below are suggestions we have submitted to Emery County:

The consensus is that the legislation should "freeze" current management, including travel management in place. However, the current draft mandates another round of travel planning for the NCA. There is also consensus that there is a need for additional trail based non motorized opportunity as well. The suggestions below attempts to address both concerns.

~~Strikeout~~ = deletions

Underline = additions

Draft Emery County Public Land Management Act of 2011, Pages 2,3:

(g) Motorized Vehicles -

(1) ~~IN GENERAL ROADS~~— Except in cases in which motorized vehicles are needed for administrative purposes, or to respond to an emergency, the use of motorized vehicles in the National Conservation Area shall be permitted ~~only~~ on roads and trails designated by the Emery County Public Land Management Act, 2011—, as shown on the Emery County Comprehensive Travel and Transportation Management Plan.

(2) Trails: Except in cases in which motorized vehicles are needed for administrative purposes, or to respond to an emergency, the use of motorized vehicles in the National Conservation

Area shall be permitted on roads designated by the Emery County Public Land Management Act, 2011 as shown on the Emery County Comprehensive Travel and Transportation Management Plan.

(3) CLOSURES AND RESTRICTIONS – The Secretary shall not-

(A) close any designated route as identified in the Price Field Office RMP that is open to the public as of the date of the enactment of this Act;

(B) Prohibit motorized access any designated road or trail as identified in the Price Field Office RMP Travel Plan that is open for motorized access as the date of the enactment of this Act;

(4) EXCEPTIONS – Nothing in this subsection shall be construed as precluding the Secretary from temporarily closing or restricting public access to a designated route for purposes of significant resource protection or public safety. Provided, however, that if the closure becomes permanent, or the length of the temporary closure impairs established access and use normally provided by the designated route, the Secretary shall establish alternate access, equivalent to that provided by the designated route.

Option A: Allowing for additional motorized trails in the NCA:

Page 19:

(c) Trail Plan –

(1) IN GENERAL – the Secretary, in consultation with interested parties, and after providing opportunities for public comment, in a manner consistent with the Emery County comprehensive travel and transportation management plan, shall develop a trail plan to provide additional motorized and non motorized trail recreation opportunities –

(A) in a manner consistent with the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), hiking and equestrian trails in the wilderness areas designated by this Act;

(B) non-motorized and motorized recreation trails in the conservation area;

(C) enhanced recreation trail opportunities, including a West-Side Multiple-User Community-connector Trail System, on lands not designated wilderness or National Conservation Areas by this Act.

(2) West-Side Multiple-User Community-Connector Trail System Defined – For the purpose of this subsection, the term “West-Side Multiple-User Community- Connector Trail System” means

(3) Report – Not later than two years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on the implementation of the plan required under subsection (?), including the identification of priority trails for development.

Option B: Allowing for no additional motorized trails in the NCA:

Page 19:

(c) Trail Plan –

(1) IN GENERAL – the Secretary, in consultation with interested parties, and after providing opportunities for public comment, in a manner consistent with the Emery County comprehensive travel and transportation management plan, shall develop a trail plan to provide additional motorized and non motorized trail recreation opportunities –

(A) in a manner consistent with the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), hiking and equestrian trails in the wilderness areas designated by this Act;

(B) non-motorized ~~and motorized~~ recreation trails in the conservation area;

(C) enhanced recreation trail opportunities, including a West-Side Multiple-User Community-connector Trail System, on lands not designated wilderness or National Conservation Areas by this Act.

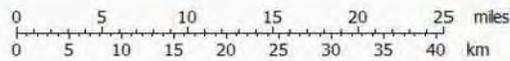
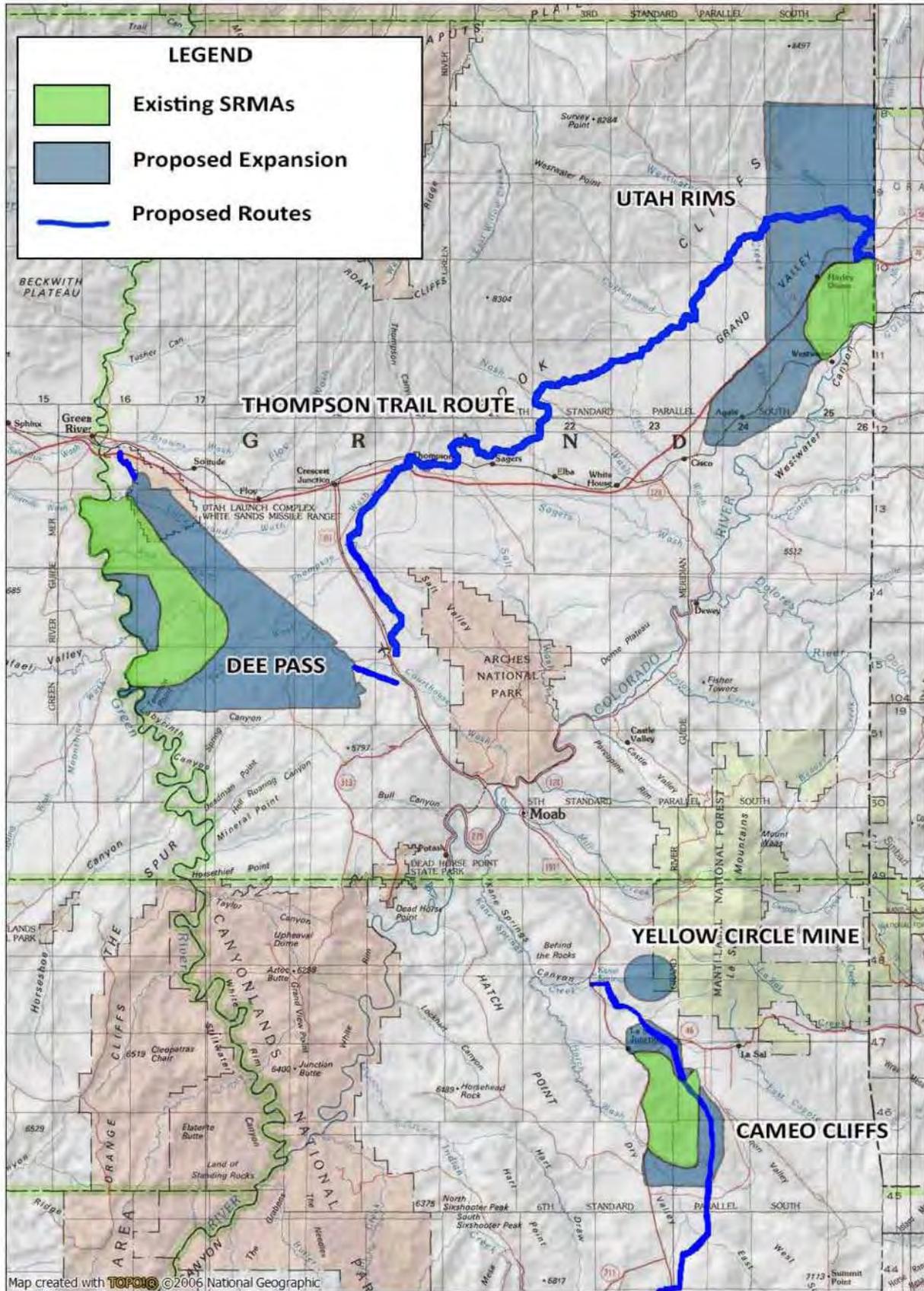
(2) West-Side Multiple-User Community-Connector Trail System Defined – For the purpose of this subsection, the term “West-Side Multiple-User Community- Connector Trail System” means

(3) Report – Not later than two years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on the implementation of the plan required under subsection (?), including the identification of priority trails for development.

V. A final thought

We are excited by the effort outlined in the June 3, 2013, letter. We sit collectively at a unique juncture created by decades of management uncertainty, a universal desire for management security, mature awareness of the diverse stakeholder positions, and unprecedented need for governmental efficiency and accountability. We look forward to helping create a new management vision for Utah’s treasured BLM lands.

SPECIFIC PROPOSAL FOR GRAND AND SAN JUAN COUNTIES



TN MN
11 1/2
07/03/13

KaLeigh Welch

From: richard leech [ril.leech@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 11:39 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Cc: dhinkins@le.utah.gov
Subject: Concerned Citizen
Attachments: letter to all concere.docx

I have included an attachment in this e-mail for consideration by council members, and other representatives. I would like it included in any public record associated with the current lands bill debate.

Thank you for your Time

Mr. Rick Leech

736 Kane creek blvd

Moab UT

Letter To All Concerned

Greetings to all.

I have been attending the Grand county council workshops for congressman Bishop's "lands bill initiative". Regarding the recent Book Cliffs workshop on 2-23-15, I have multiple concerns. First, if the intent of including the county council recommendations for exact boarder location of Wilderness Study Area's (WSA) boundaries was to incorporate the local topographical knowledge, then that goal was not achieved. Only one councilman, who's carrier was in this field, seemed familiar with all of the areas discussed within the Book cliffs section, although even his impressive knowledge was incomplete. Of course nobody in council government should be expected to have an intimate knowledge of all the terrain within their jurisdiction. However, it was apparent that most members did not know if we were in the mountains or in the dessert when discussing exact boarders of the eastern WSA. The problem was twofold, part being due to the fact that mapping information was difficult to integrate into a cohesive presentation, which should include topographical information underlying ownership /management boarders. Additionally, the area is remote and unfamiliar to most county residents including council members. Therefore the councils WSA boundary recommendation should be considered superficial. My second Concern is the apparent activist influence on the majority vote resulting in a WSA recommendation outside of proposal #3 boundaries. If the new round of workshops was to familiarize new county council members with the proposal then I did not witness any of these issues discussed or debated in the public forum. If it was in private I would like to know how they arrived at their conclusion. Since I cannot ask these questions during a workshops, I would hope that one of my representative's might do so and for instance ask (if permitted by protocol) . Councilmember "Doe" can you tell me for the record how you decided that a transportation corridor through an existing road network would be a bad thing for the citizens of grand county? She or he may reply " That is none of your business" or "I Hate Roads", "it costs to much", "it will kill 750 rare Segolilies". All of which are legitimate answers. Then at least we know what reasoning, or none reasoning, is behind their position. Apparently the new members had arrived at their position before this "workshop" took place. If we are just going through the motions then let's drop the pretense of a public debate forum and just e-mail in our positions. Furthermore, if it is perceived that Bishops proposal #3 is nothing more than a new tool to grant as many huge parcels of previously accessible land to a massive federal bureaucracy that will have no accountability to anyone, especially not the local folks, then Utah citizens will not and should not support it. I don't believe this council is acting in the spirit of compromise. Appearing to compromise by granting a small exclusion in the far western corner of the WSA that was not even in contention, then expanding all other portions of the WSA is exactly the scenario that is feared by many county residents and could sink the local support for Proposition 3. Another worry is the " ad hoc" citizens groups that where formed exclusively to gain an advantage over the individual in the public's representation. These "organizations" are making arguments in the public arena that are more appropriate to an individual's concerns. Yet because they claim to represent a certain group of people their position is given due consideration and legitimacy at meetings. Their arguments are for solitude, views and other personnel desires that are more in line with an individual's concerns then a collective organization. I argue that if these individuals have concerns, then these individuals should be representing only themselves as

themselves like the rest of the Grand County citizens. This unfair practice is not representative and should cease immediately, also any documentation conveyed to the council by these individuals should not be considered as legitimate concerns by an organization. As for this individual, my family settled the lower Willow Creek area of the Book Cliffs in 1908. My Grandfather was born there in 1915. He met my Grandmother in the thirties at Sege Canyon. She traveled between the family's coal mine at Sege and Moab for school. They then settled in Moab ,that is my heritage to Grand County. I am Familiar with the Book cliffs area, much of it is spectacular and almost as much of it is quite a bit less than spectacular, in this individuals opinion.. The area along ridge road should not be considered for tar sands development, in my opinion. Areas to the North in Uinta County and the very upper boarder of Grand County should be considered for development, in my opinion. The councils majority vote to include new WSA, s not in proposal # 3 should be ignored, as should their desire to preclude a transportation corridor based entirely on the supposition that this would obviate the Tar Sands development. I submit that this is an entirely inappropriate use of this designation and an inadequate argument regarding the corridor. I Believe that these lower elevations and canyons can be responsibly developed into low impact gas and oil fields, should the market support it. This can be done with minimal long term impact. All other additions and modifications I agree with, except Horse Plateau, which should stay outside of WSA boundaries. Next, I believe the council is responsible for a budget in which services are provided to county residents. If the council members choose to disregard the tax revenue generated by extracting minerals out of the ground, which has been done responsibly for generations, then I and many others will assume that they represent a radical environmental coalition and choose to ignore basic obligation to its citizens. I along with many other property and business owners should not be asked to support any increase in county Tax revenue now or in the future. Services and expenditures, including pay raises for county employees, should remain at current levels for as long as such a cavalier attitude toward county finances remains within our office. My position is thus. We don't need or want oil and gas fields everywhere, but we can and should have them where it makes sense, providing the mineral is present. Other Mineral deposits should be given this same consideration. "View shed" belongs within national park boundaries. If this notion is allowed outside of that context then there will be no end to it. Road access and OHV trails should conform to the lands bill proposal #3 as is. It's not perfect and it's not what I prefer, however, I think it is the best compromise.

As a taxpaying resident of Grand County I expect the council to give as much consideration to these concerns as to any other individual's or organization's concerns. No more, but no less either.

Thank You for your time.

Rick Leech

Moab, Utah

KaLeigh Welch

From: Gregg Tibbetts [greggtibbetts@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 8:09 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative

Dear Grand County Council,
I would to take a minute to express my view on a few of the issues that are on the table.

1). Wilderness designation on the western slope of the LaSal Mountains. I DO NOT SUPPORT THIS. I believe that Southern Utah already has a over abundance on wilderness / wilderness study areas and Grand County has too much of the above mentioned.

2). I DO NOT SUPPORT the creation of a special land designation of a watershed zone period. All this amounts to is another fancy name for taking control of public lands and this is one of the newest ways in doing so. We all want clean water and we have it now and will be in the future without the special designation of a water shed zone.

3). Expansion of the Arches Nation Park just does not make any sense, In my daily job I travel ALL the country around the Arches Nation Park, North-South-East and West and the land around the park does not qualify for National Park status, the park already has the land features in its boundaries that do qualify. Expanding the park would be just another land grab.

4). Last but not least I DO NOT SUPPORT creation of any National Conservation Area, there is already to much land being locked up through other designations.

We already have too much of our lands being locked up for the special few and it is time to say enough. Grand County has given away a extreme amount of its lands in the last few years and it is time for the people to stand up and say ENOUGH.

SINCERELY, Gregg Tibbetts
Born in Grand County in 1963 and lived here every since.

Sent from my iPad

Colleen White Tibbetts

Born and raised in Moab 47 yrs

KaLeigh Welch

From: Colleen Tibbetts [colleentibbetts@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 8:44 PM
To: Council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Council letter

To the County Council,

I do not support any wilderness designations on the western slope of the LaSal Mountains. Even though there may be small discrete areas of 5000 acres with no roads, the concept of wilderness in an area that is front country for our community and receives so much use, is illogical and flies in the face of the true character of wilderness. Additional wilderness on the north end of the LaSal's, congruent with our county's 1999 recommendation for the Beaver Creek drainage, is the only reasonable area for consideration of wilderness that would involve Forest Service lands.

I do not support creation of a special land designation watershed zone. We all want clean water. Current management plans of both BLM and the US Forest Service for this area provide more than adequate protection for our watershed, both eliminating industrial uses in the watershed. A special designation will ultimately lead to future restrictions on roads and trails, grazing, vegetation management to reduce fuels loads and potential for catastrophic wildfire, and impacts to development of private inholdings in this area. The nation needs food, the cattlemen and women in Grand County are helping to provide free range all natural beef cattle to the consumer. And special interest groups are continually trying to skew the facts regarding cattle in order to remove cattle all together. I want to know our beef comes from our country, not a foreign country! Remember, cattle have been in this country for well over a Hundred Years and the environmentalists are telling you how amazing the land is, there is no better evidence that the ranchers are doing an amazing job of keeping this land beautiful!

We do not need any further expansion of Arches National Park. We appreciate our park and support it, but making it bigger serves no useful purpose. Arches NP has expanded at least six times in the past. Every time it's expanded, the park immediately starts looking for new areas to expand to. When does it stop? People come to Arches NP to view the arches, they do not care how big the park is. And again, BLM management plans on lands adjacent to the park provide protections that are adequate to protect the viewshed of Arches while still allowing for proper types of development.

I do not support the creation of any National Conservation Areas on any of these lands. NCA's are another type of designation that will ultimately result in long-term loss of roads and trail closures, and impacts to private land inholdings. I support protection of our river corridors along the Colorado and Dolores rivers, but limited to the actual river corridors.

I would like to have a reasonable expectation of a balanced set of recommendations to our Congressmen on this issue coming from our Council. Creating layer upon layer of special land management designations and wilderness is anything but balanced, ultimately resulting in loss of any opportunity for responsible use of other natural resources in our area in addition to recreation and tourism.

Respectfully,

KaLeigh Welch

From: Liz Thomas [moablizard72@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 26, 2015 4:48 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Bishop PLI - Moab Core/Lands East of Hwy 191

RE: Grand County Council's Recommendation for Rep. Bishop's Public Lands Initiative - Moab Core/Area East of Hwy 191

Dear Council Members,

I submit my comments, below, for your consideration for the Moab Core/Area East of Hwy 191. I urge the Council to make several modest improvements to Alternative 3 (drafted by the previous Council).

Specifically, I request that the Council:

- Recommend for Wilderness designation, consistent with Alternative 3, Westwater Canyon, Big Triangle, Granite Creek, and Beaver Creek areas along the Colorado-Utah border. The Council should add Renegade Point to this Wilderness area recommendation to complete wilderness preservation along the UT-CO border, which will also protect vital wildlife migration corridors and habitat in this area. Renegade Point extends across the border into Colorado, and the overall Renegade Point wilderness area is larger than the portion in Grand County. The Council should not overlook this area merely because the bulk of the wild lands are located in Colorado.
- Recommend Wilderness designation for all lands that are Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs) and lands that the BLM has identified as having wilderness character within Alternative 3's National Conservation/Recreation Area, including: Fisher Towers, Mary Jane Canyon, Mill Creek, Negro Bill/Morning Glory.
 - The Council should include the Dome Plateau area, Dry Mesa, and The Highlands (the area above Lost Spring Wash WSA) in its wilderness recommendation. This area is the view shed for Delicate Arch, The Windows and other prominent view points in Arches Nat'l Park and the BLM has concluded that the bulk of these areas have wilderness character.
 - The Council should include the Porcupine Rim area (above Castle Valley) in it's wilderness recommendation.
 - Importantly, the Council should insure that these wilderness areas are not impacted by off-road vehicles by recommending that non-Jeep Safari routes in these wilderness areas be closed (unless a compelling reason exists otherwise);
- Improve Alternative 3 by extending the Nat'l Conservation/Recreation Area boundary in specific areas:
 - If the Dome Plateau, Dry Mesa, and The Highlands are not ultimately recommended for wilderness designation, it is critical that the Nat'l Conservation/Recreation Area boundary along the Colorado River be moved west, back from the top of the cliffs to protect the outstanding recreational values of the river corridor and the scenic values along Hwy 128, and redrawn to include Dry Mesa and The Highlands to preserve the outstanding scenic values enjoyed the nearly 1 million annual visitors to Arches Nat'l Park;
 - The Nat'l Conservation/Recreation Area boundary should be extended in the south to include Forest Service lands in the LaSals to protect Moab's watershed.
- Recommend closure of a short section of the Steel Bender Jeep Safari route that loops into the Mill Creek WSA. This is a very short section of the trail and closure of this short section would provide

significant benefits to the backcountry experience of this area (i.e. dramatically reduce noise and user conflicts).

There are approximately 1400 miles of route on BLM & SITLA lands in the Moab Core area/lands east of Hwy. 191. Preserving what is essentially the status quo, and designating all of the WSAs and lands with wilderness character in this area as wilderness would have little effect on the vast majority of designated routes -- i.e ~90% of designated routes would not be affected by designating all of the proposed wilderness in the Moab Core area.

Grand County is prized for its redrock scenery, canyons, rivers and huge vistas. Let's keep it that way. There is no downside to protecting what is, essentially, the status quo. It would be controversial to NOT preserve the status quo and to allow the outstanding lands surrounding Moab and lands in the Westwater-Dolores Triangle-Beaver Creek area to be degraded. A National Conservation Area, and wilderness designations for deserving lands in this area will allow our kids and grandkids, and visitors from far and wide the opportunity to continue to enjoy Grand County's natural heritage.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration of citizens' input in this PLI process.

Sincerely,

-Liz Thomas

Liz Thomas
PO Box 321
3291 Juniper
moablizard72@gmail.com

KaLeigh Welch

From: Barb Zinn [barbzinn@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 26, 2015 7:05 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Bishop PLI - Moab Core/Lands East of Hwy 191

Feb. 26, 2015

Dear Council Members,

Here are my comments for the Moab Core/Area East of Hwy 191. I urge the Council to make a few improvements to Alternative 3 (drafted by the previous Council).

- Recommend for Wilderness designation Westwater Canyon, Big Triangle, Granite Creek, and Beaver Creek areas along the Colorado-Utah border. Add Renegade Point to this Wilderness area recommendation to complete wilderness preservation along the UT-CO border, which will also protect vital wildlife migration corridors and habitat in this area.
- Recommend Wilderness designation for all lands that are Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs) and lands that the BLM has identified as having wilderness character within Alternative 3's National Conservation/Recreation Area, including: Fisher Towers, Mary Jane Canyon, Mill Creek, Negro Bill/Morning Glory.
 - The Council should include the Dome Plateau area, Dry Mesa, and The Highlands (the area above Lost Spring Wash WSA) in its wilderness recommendation, as the area is critical view shed for Arches NP.
 - The Council should include the Porcupine Rim area in its wilderness recommendation.
 - The Council should insure that these wilderness areas are not impacted by off-road vehicles by recommending that non-Jeep Safari routes in these wilderness areas be closed (unless a compelling reason exists otherwise);
- Improve Alternative 3 by extending the Nat'l Conservation/Recreation Area boundary in specific areas:
 - If the Dome Plateau, Dry Mesa, and The Highlands are not ultimately recommended for wilderness designation, it is critical that the Nat'l Conservation/Recreation Area boundary along the Colorado River be moved west, back from the top of the cliffs to protect the outstanding recreational values of the river corridor and the scenic values along Hwy 128, and redrawn to include Dry Mesa and The Highlands to preserve the outstanding scenic values enjoyed the nearly 1 million annual visitors to Arches Nat'l Park;
 - The Nat'l Conservation/Recreation Area boundary should be extended in the south to include Forest Service lands in the LaSals to protect Moab's watershed.
- Recommend closure of a short section of the Steel Bender Jeep Safari route that loops into the Mill Creek WSA. This is a very short section of the trail and closure of this short section would provide significant benefits to the backcountry experience of this area (i.e. dramatically reduce noise and user conflicts).

Designating all of the WSAs and lands with wilderness character in this area as wilderness would have little effect on the vast majority of designated routes -- i.e ~90% of designated routes would not be affected by designating all of the proposed wilderness in the Moab Core area.

Preserve the unmatched scenery of Grand County.

Sincerely,

Barbara Zinn

460 Rosetree Lane

Moab UT 84532

barbzinn@gmail.com

KaLeigh Welch

From: Colleen Tibbetts [colleentibbetts@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 26, 2015 10:23 PM
To: Council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Fwd: Council@grandcountyutah.net

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Colleen Tibbetts <colleentibbetts@gmail.com>
Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2015
Subject: Council@grandcountyutah.net
To: "colleentibbetts@gmail.com" <colleentibbetts@gmail.com>

To the County Council,

I do not support any wilderness designations on the western slope of the LaSal Mountains. Even though there may be small discrete areas of 5000 acres with no roads, the concept of wilderness in an area that is front country for our community and receives so much use, is illogical and flies in the face of the true character of wilderness. Additional wilderness on the north end of the LaSal's, congruent with our county's 1999 recommendation for the Beaver Creek drainage, is the only reasonable area for consideration of wilderness that would involve Forest Service lands.

I do not support creation of a special land designation watershed zone. We all want clean water. Current management plans of both BLM and the US Forest Service for this area provide more than adequate protection for our watershed, both eliminating industrial uses in the watershed. A special designation will ultimately lead to future restrictions on roads and trails, grazing, vegetation management to reduce fuels loads and potential for catastrophic wildfire, and impacts to development of private inholdings in this area. The nation needs food, the cattlemen and women in Grand County are helping to provide free range all natural beef cattle to the consumer. And special interest groups are continually trying to skew the facts regarding cattle in order to remove cattle all together. I want to know our beef comes from our country, not a foreign country! Remember, cattle have been in this country for well over a hundred years and the environmentalists are telling you how amazing the land is, there is no better evidence that the ranchers are doing an amazing job of keeping this land beautiful!

We do not need any further expansion of Arches National Park. We appreciate our park and support it, but making it bigger serves no useful purpose. Arches NP has expanded at least six times in the past. Every time it's expanded, the park immediately starts looking for new areas to expand to. When does it stop? People come to Arches NP to view the arches, they do not care how big the park is. And again, BLM management plans on lands adjacent to the park provide protections that are adequate to protect the viewshed of Arches while still allowing for proper types of development.

I do not support the creation of any National Conservation Areas on any of these lands. NCA's are another type of designation that will ultimately result in long-term loss of roads and trail closures, and impacts to private land inholdings. I support protection of our river corridors along the Colorado and Dolores rivers, but limited to the

actual river corridors.

I would like to have a reasonable expectation of a balanced set of recommendations to our Congressmen on this issue coming from our Council. Creating layer upon layer of special land management designations and wilderness is anything but balanced, ultimately resulting in loss of any opportunity for responsible use of other natural resources in our area in addition to recreation and tourism.

Respectfully,

Colleen White Tibbetts

Born and raised in Moab 47 yrs

KaLeigh Welch

From: Deb Walter [debwalter56@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, February 27, 2015 7:46 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Bishop PLI

Dear Grand County Council,

Again I thank you for taking the time and effort to go through letters and maps in this process of developing lasting protections for Grand County's lands. It is an important task.

I am writing today to talk about maintaining the connectedness of these areas for protection for wildlife habitat. Wildlife, plants as well as all animals, need space to thrive. Within that space they need protected sources of water and food. They need quiet and lack of human intrusion. For these reasons, large connected areas of wild lands need to be protected.

The area north of the Westwater Wilderness Study Area should be protected to maintain connectedness with protected areas in Colorado. In Colorado, the McInnis Canyons National Conservation Area protects the lands north of the Black Ridge Canyons Wilderness all the way to the north side of I-70. The same corridor should be protected in Grand County, extending south and west from Black Ridge Canyons Wilderness as well as north along the state border to parallel the protected areas in Colorado.

My husband Dick and I went on an equestrian competitive trail ride there a few years ago. The area north of I-70 is beautiful, open, and wild country; the area south of I-70 in Rabbit Valley is wonderful quiet red rock country. The Colorado River flows through this area, and is an important water source for wildlife. Connectedness to these nearby wilderness and protected areas in Colorado should be retained and enhanced.

Looking back at the Book Cliffs workshop, I would request the Grand County Council take another look at the Horse Mesa area as well as the northeastern areas that connect to Wilderness Study Areas in Uinta county. Wildlife need space, and they need to be able to travel various routes to find food in different seasons. Please reconsider recommending these areas for wilderness designation.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Deb Walter
4100 Easy St.
Moab, UT 84532

KaLeigh Welch

From: marymoran@frontiernet.net
Sent: Friday, February 27, 2015 7:52 AM
To: Grand County Council
Subject: Bishop PLI - lands east of 191

Dear Council Members,

Please support protection of public lands, particularly with regard to those under consideration east of highway 191. We submit that none of the alternatives drafted by the previous council went far enough for protection, but with a few additional measures, alternative 3 is the closest one to being acceptable.

Some of these lands are particularly near and dear to the hearts of many Moabites, many of them being the closest wilderness-quality lands to town. The current WSAs Mill Creek, Negro Bill/Morning Glory, Fisher Towers, and Mary Jane Canyon should all be designated wilderness. This basically preserves the status quo, and doesn't threaten travel routes.

The Dome Plateau area, Dry Mesa, and The Highlands should be recommended for wilderness designation; they have all been found to have wilderness qualities by the BLM, and are within view of Delicate Arch and nearby places in Arches National Park. Some edges of these units are also visible from the Colorado River. We have visited portions of Dry Mesa and the Dome Plateau recently, and these are wild places of solitude. If they are not recommended for wilderness, then please adjust the Nat'l Conservation/Recreation Area boundary to protect the views mentioned above.

Motorized and mechanized travel in the Moab area has been increasing, and we are concerned about its impacts on our wild lands. Besides causing physical damage to soils and plants, many of the vehicles are loud, and thus impact the quiet and wilderness experiences of those seeking quieter experiences. They also impact wildlife sensitive to noise, an impact more significant than most people realize. By preserving the wild lands mentioned above, and others in alternative 3, we are mostly just protecting the status quo, which allows various vehicle travel on more than 1000 miles of routes, but keeps that mileage from increasing much. We imagine there are very, very few people who have traveled all of the routes, and think that the imagined need for more routes is a false one.

Thank you for your time and efforts.

Sincerely,
Mary Moran and
Dennis Silva

471 Loveridge Drive
Moab, UT 84532

KaLeigh Welch

From: Ginny Carlson [ginny@wyn.org]
Sent: Friday, February 27, 2015 7:55 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: (Bishop) Week 2, lands east of 191

To Grand County Council Members

Subject: Please preserve the wild areas close to Moab by approving and adding to Alternative 3.

Certainly Arches National Park is the magnet that pulls visitors to Moab, however the setting of Moab, surrounded by Wilderness (Study Areas), makes Grand County unique in it's setting. Staying on highways in the area, one can experience Beyond the Rocks, Negro Bill, Mill Creek, Fisher Towers and Mary Jane wilderness preservation (for about 30 years protected by Congressional designated WSA's). The Council should consider adding Porcupine Rim area to the protected wilderness and continue protection by Wilderness designation of these areas.

Other areas that are important, but not as visible from major highways, are Granite Creek, Beaver Creek, Westwater Canyon and the Big Triangle, which should also be included in wilderness protection.

I have hiked in portions of each one of these WSA areas.

In listening to the presentations and viewing the photos, I would like to recommend that the Dry Mesa view shed (which adjoins Arches) be protected. This is a great area to hike as well providing the scenic background for many iconic arches in the Park (Delicate, North and South Windows) as well as smaller arches.

Sincerely,

Ginny Carlson
3136 Far Country
Moab, UT 84532
435-259-3494
email: ginny@wyn.org February 26, 2015

KaLeigh Welch

From: Nancy Kurtz [nancystarjive@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, February 27, 2015 10:26 AM
To: Grand County
Subject: Book Cliffs wilderness

Thanks for devoting your time to this all-important issue and considering those of us who treasure the pristine lands for themselves. Not everyone can or chooses to come to meetings. Please know that many of us out here are cheering and behind every decision.

Thanks especially for recommending large wilderness areas in this sensitive spot and for recommending that a road to facilitate transportation of oil and gas not be cut through this area.

Very truly yours,

Nancy Kurtz

Nancy Kurtz
nancystarjive@gmail.com
435-259-0734

KaLeigh Welch

From: Kevin Walker [k23walker@gmail.com] on behalf of Kevin Walker [kevin@canyon23.net]
Sent: Friday, February 27, 2015 11:03 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Comments for 2nd Bishop process workshop (east of Hwy 191)

Dear Council Members,

Here are my comments for areas covered in the second workshop (areas south of I-70 and east of Highway 191).

If you are too swamped to read the whole things, here is a short summary:

- * Start with Alternative 3 from the old County Council
- * Expand the NCA to protect the Dome Plateau area north of the river and east of Arches
- * Protect the La Sals (and our watershed) by expanding the NCA or designating wilderness
- * The more wilderness the better
- * The road density is too high, so it would be good to close a few routes which have the greatest impact on quiet recreation

If we take Alternative 3 as a starting point, there are some relatively easy ways to improve it:

- * Expand the NCA north of the Colorado River and east of Arches NP. At a minimum, the expansion should go to the top of the cliffs. I think it makes sense to go at least a mile beyond the top of the cliffs -- we don't want oil wells encroaching on the river canyon. Another reason to expand the NCA is to protect the views from Delicate Arch, The Windows, Skyline Arch, and other popular viewpoints in Arches NP. The proposed park expansion does not attempt to protect these viewsheds. We don't want our world-famous scenic vistas marred by oil wells. (I will send a map of the Delicate Arch viewshed in a separate email.) Another possibility is to expand the NCA to include all BLM Wilderness Character areas that are within 4 or 5 miles of the Colorado River (and east of Arches NP).
- * Expand the NCA to cover the La Sals, or, alternatively, designate wilderness in the La Sals (Grand Canyon Trust proposed boundaries). I thought Bob O'Brien and David Erley made a very strong case for protecting our watersheds, and I also thought Tim Peterson made a strong case for wilderness (or maybe an NCA) in the La Sals.
- * Make sure the NCA language in the legislation tracks the NCA language in the Daggett County and Washington County bills. As you know, an NCA can mean many different things, depending on the specific language in the legislation that establishes the NCA.
- * For the Beaver Creek, Granite Creek, Big Triangle, and Westwater proposed wilderness areas, retain the boundaries used in Alternative 3. Alternative 3 avoids unnecessary cherry-stems in the boundaries. (I should clarify here that I am going by the map for Alt. 3 on the county web site, which does not show any cherry-stems in the Big Triangle area (for example).)
- * Add Renegade Point (adjacent to Big Triangle) to the proposed wilderness. This unit straddles the state line (i.e. it extends into Colorado). Areas like this often fall through the cracks.

* Alternative 3 actually proposes a "National Recreation Area" (NRA) and not an NCA. I think an NCA makes much more sense. NCAs become part of BLM's National Conservation Lands, whereas NRAs do not. Public lands bills for Daggett and Washington Counties created NCAs, not NRAs.

As you well know after reading so many comment letters, there is not much potential wilderness left in the lower 48 states. It would therefore be very sensible to designate all remaining potential wilderness areas in Grand County -- in other words, the proposed wilderness areas in ARROWA (America's Red Rock Wilderness Act). This is especially true for areas outside the NCA. The main differences between ARROWA and Alternative 3 are:

* Mary Jane Canyon and Fisher Towers. For these the BLM Wilderness Character boundaries are very similar to the ARROWA boundaries.

* Mat Martin Point (Porcupine Rim). BLM disqualified this area because of a minor jeep trail that goes out on Mat Martin Point. I think BLM made a mistake here and that making this area wilderness would be a good idea.

* Dome Plateau. This is the area north of the river and east of Arches. It is discussed above. The BLM wilderness character boundary is smaller than the ARROWA boundary, but still significant.

* Arches-adjacent areas. The potential wilderness areas within Arches NP extend past the park boundary and onto BLM land. I think it makes sense for these areas to be designated as wilderness. This would close few (if any) routes and should be relatively uncontroversial.

* Mill Creek and Negro Bill Canyon. Alternative 3 uses WSA boundaries, but it would be better to use the BLM Wilderness Character boundaries here. The difference in acreage is not large, but in high use areas like this small differences can be important.

Finally, there is the issue of the transportation plan. The current travel plan is heavily biased in favor of motorized recreation. Only a very small percentage of Grand County is more than one mile from a motorized route. Some people visit here (and live here) in order to drive Jeeps and motorcycles, but other people visit (and live) here to take quiet hikes or bike rides. There is room enough for both types of people, but only if the transportation plan is trimmed back to create more balance and more room for quiet recreation.

The County Council does not have time to do a thorough review of the transportation plan. But one very important thing the CC can do is

* Include language in the legislation saying that the one of the purposes of the NCA is to provide ample and balanced opportunities for both motorized and non-motorized recreation, and that a future transportation plan should reflect this.

Designating wilderness proposed in ARROWA would close a small fraction of the routes which are currently open. Some prominent and important examples are:

* A portion of the Flat Pass (Steel Bender) jeep trail network. (The main parts would remain open.)

* The jeep trail on Mat Martin Point (which receives very little use)

* Roughly 3 miles of dead-end jeep trails on the south rim of Negro Bill Canyon.

The above Jeep trails have a disproportionate impact on quiet recreation and I think it would be a good idea to close them.

KaLeigh Welch

From: Thea Nordling [theakn@frontiernet.net]
Sent: Friday, February 27, 2015 12:48 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Bishop Public Lands Proposal for Moab Core Area
Attachments: County Council Bishop Proposal letter.doc

Please see my attached letter

Thank you,

Thea Nordling

Re: Grand County Council's Recommendation for Bishop Public Lands Initiative

Dear Council Members,

Thank you for your recent decision favoring protection of large portions of the Book Cliffs. I hope you will recommend similar protection for lands east of Highway 191. Please protect all Wilderness Study Areas and lands that the BLM has identified as having wilderness character within Alternative 3's National Conservation/Recreation Area, including:

All lands in the view shed of prominent viewpoints in Arches National Park including the Dome Plateau, Dry Mesa, and The Highlands.

Porcupine Rim, above Castle Valley and Mill Creek, above Moab.

The river corridor, tributary canyons (Fisher Towers, Mary Jane Canyon, Negro Bill Canyon) and high cliffs along scenic Hwy 128.

Lands in the Westwater-Dolores Triangle-Beaver Creek area (Westwater Canyon, Big Triangle, Granite Creek, and Beaver Creek areas along the Colorado-Utah border). Addition of Renegade Point would protect vital wildlife migration corridors and habitat.

Forest Service lands in the La Sals that supply Moab's watershed.

Wilderness and National Conservation Area designations for deserving lands in this area would have little effect on the vast majority of existing designated routes. Such designations would essentially preserve the status quo and prevent further degradation. With long-term protection, the lands surrounding Moab will continue to draw visitors from around the world to recreate and be inspired by the land we love so deeply.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Thea Nordling
1996 Highland Drive
Moab UT 84532

TOWN OF CASTLE VALLEY

February 11, 2015

Dear Grand County Council,

Representative Bishop's Public Lands Initiative (PLI) has been a big undertaking for Grand County. The Castle Valley Town Council commends the Grand County Council for the willingness to take input from a diverse group of stakeholders. Watershed protection is an issue that should garner support from the vast majority of Grand County's citizens and most of the stakeholders you have heard from.

The Castle Valley Town Council encourages the Grand County Council to include a strong watershed protection proposal as part of the PLI. This proposal should prohibit oil and gas development as well as large scale mineral mining to protect the drinking water of Grand County in perpetuity. This could be accomplished through tools such as a National Conservation Area (NCA) or National Recreation Area (NRA) containing specific provisions to prohibit threats to water quality. Wilderness is another tool that could be used in conjunction with an NCA or NRA to accomplish this goal.

There will need to be language that is consistent with state and federal laws directing the land management agencies that manage the NCA or NRA. We recommend that the following language be included.

The top management priority should be protection of the watersheds for Moab, Castle Valley, and Negro Bill Canyon. This includes, but is not limited to prohibition of the following activities:

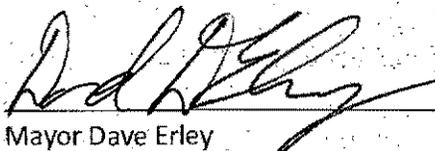
- Drilling, including any horizontal drilling under the NCA (NRA) land
- Oil and gas extraction, including fracking
- Hard industrial mining
- Commercial logging
- New roads
- Surface occupancy of new, large point-source pollution

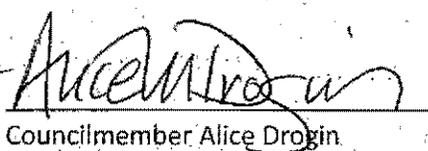
This area should be managed so as to protect the watershed of Moab, Castle Valley, and Negro Bill Canyon.

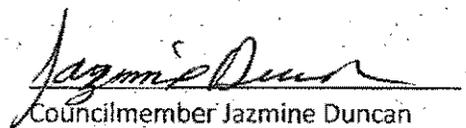
Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

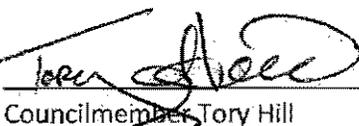
Sincerely,

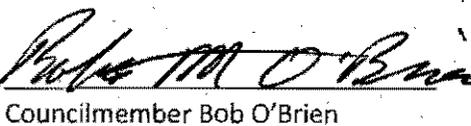
Town of Castle Valley Council


Mayor Dave Erley


Councilmember Alice Drogin


Councilmember Jazmine Duncan


Councilmember Tory Hill


Councilmember Bob O'Brien

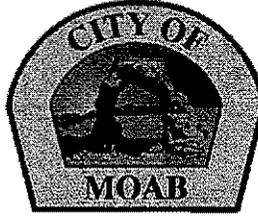
HC64 Box 2705 ■ CASTLE VALLEY, UTAH ■ 84532-9608 ■ 435-259-9828

FAX 435-259-9846 ■ townofcastlevalley@frontiernet.net



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City of Moab
217 East Center Street
Moab, Utah 84532-2534
Main Number (435) 259-5121
Fax Number (435) 259-4135



Mayor: David L. Sakrison
Council: Kyle Bailey
Heila Ershadi
Doug McElhanev
Kirstin Peterson
Gregg W. Stucki

February 26, 2015

Elizabeth Tubbs, Chair
Grand County Council
125 E. Center Street
Moab, Utah 84532

Dear Ms. Tubbs,

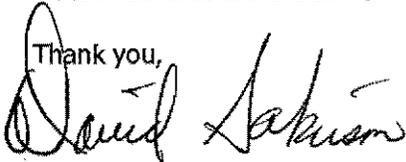
When Representative Rob Bishop announced the Public Lands Initiative he included the idea that local counties and communities could use the process to improve their own situation. The Public Lands Initiative could be a means of resolving uncertainty about issues, problems or land uses.

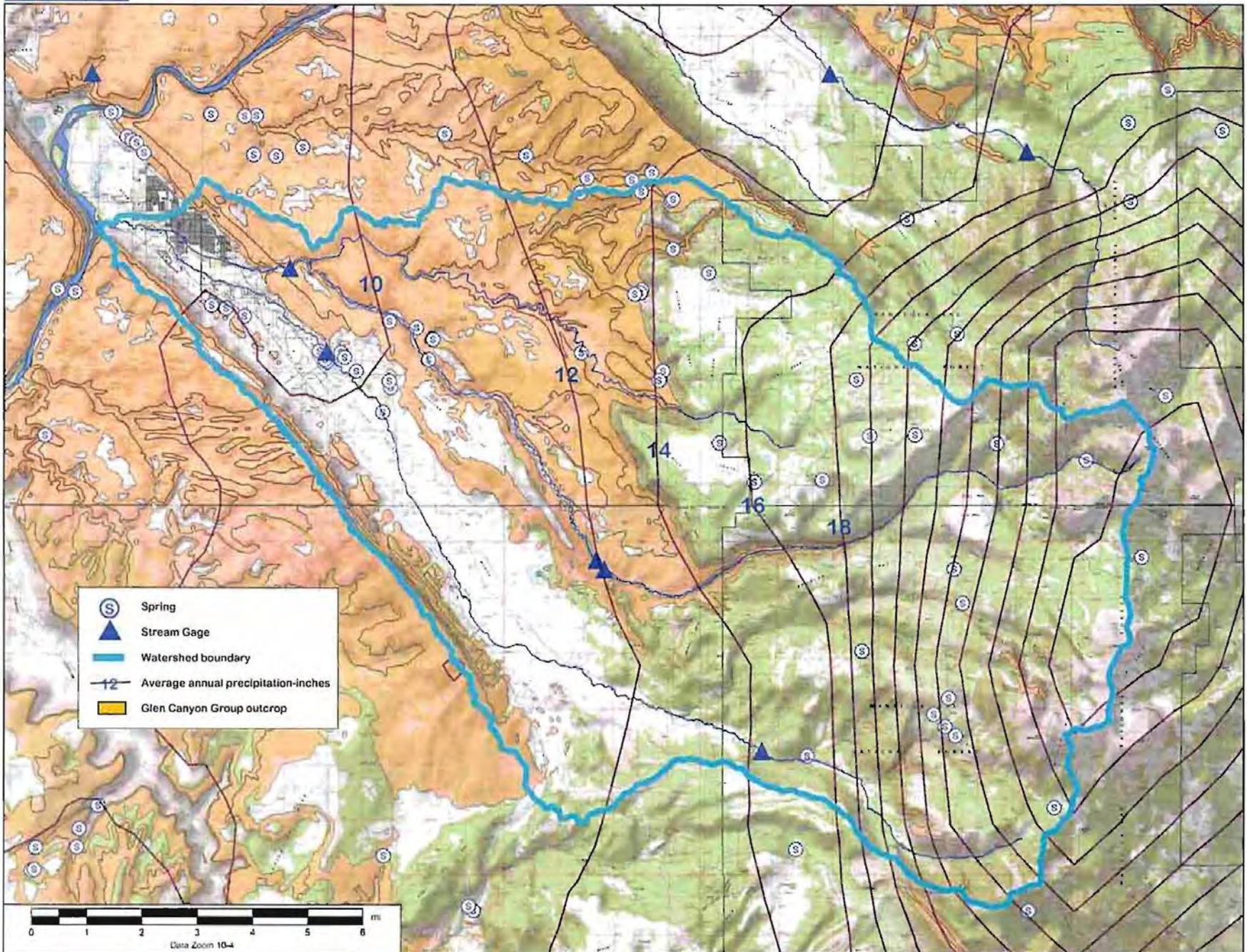
The City of Moab views the Public Lands Initiative in this way. One long-standing problem has been uncertainty about the management of the public lands and National Forests surrounding our community with regards to our water supply. All of the water that enters our aquifers comes from the mountains above us and the mesas surrounding us. The recharge zones and water supply come from these sources beyond our city limits. While the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management recognize the importance of these lands to Moab and generally cooperate with Moab in managing these lands, we would like to see this cooperation recognized in legislation.

Including Special Management Zones for protection of our watershed would provide Moab certainty about keeping our watershed in good health into the future. Moab could not exist without the replenishment of our ground water supplies.

We have attached maps of our current watershed boundaries. Our request would be a protection zone overlying these boundaries that would exclude any development that negatively impact the watershed recharge areas including mineral extraction. Whether we choose a Special Management Area, Conservation Area or other protective designation, the language stating allowed and disallowed uses as well as the aims for this designation would be important. A similar situation occurs in Uintah County and they have also requested Special Management Area to protect recharge zones for Ashley Springs. There should already be a provision in the public lands legislation for watershed protection and we should take this opportunity to obtain protection for our watershed.

Of the two maps we have supplied, one shows land ownership while the other shows geologic and hydrologic information including springs in the Moab/Spanish Valley. The boundaries for the watershed area are the same.

Thank you,

Mayor David L. Sakrison



Data use subject to license.

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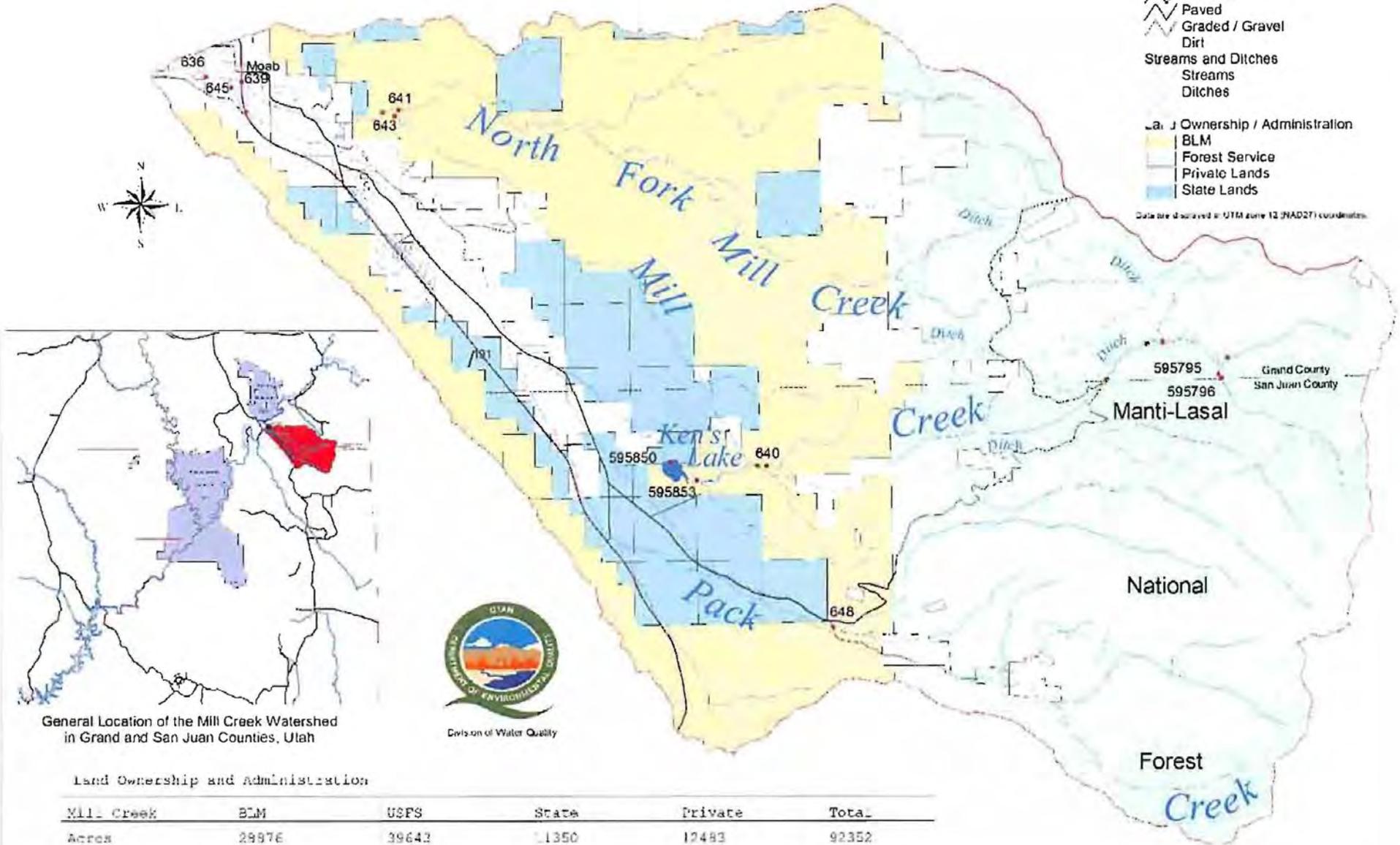
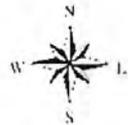
www.delorme.com

★
MN (10.3° E)

Mill Creek Watershed

- STORET Sites (I.D. = 595XXX)
- Fish Survey Sites
- County Boundary
- Roads
 - U.S. 191
 - Paved
 - Graded / Gravel
 - Dirt
- Streams and Ditches
 - Streams
 - Ditches
- Land Ownership / Administration
 - BLM
 - Forest Service
 - Private Lands
 - State Lands

Data file downloaded in UTM zone 12 (NAD27) coordinates.



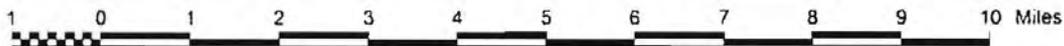
General Location of the Mill Creek Watershed in Grand and San Juan Counties, Utah



Division of Water Quality

Land Ownership and Administration

Mill Creek	BLM	USFS	State	Private	Total
Acres	29976	39643	11350	12483	92352
Percent	31.3	42.9	12.3	13.5	100



KaLeigh Welch

From: Josh Green [gojoshgreen@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, February 27, 2015 2:38 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Upcoming workshop

Dear Grand County Council,

I am writing you today to express my concerns in regards to this coming weeks workshop.

I do not support any wilderness designations on the western slope of the La Sal Mountains. The only reasonable area for consideration (which was recommended by our county) is the 1999 recommendation of the Beaver Creek drainage. Creating more wilderness areas on the La Sals will have catastrophic effects on our lands.

I do not support any creation of a watershed zone. Clean water is definitely a need, but current management plans by both the BLM and USFS for this area provide more than enough protection of our watershed. Locking up that land would not benefit Grand County or its residents. Creating this will create a path towards future restrictions on the land, which is unnecessary and not right for Grand County.

I do not support any further expansion of Arches National Park. Arches National Park has expanded multiple times in the past, and every time it does, it wants to expand again. Recently, with the Government shutdown, Arches was closed off to the public for an extended period of time. This ran the possibility of destroying our tourism-based economy. If they have more control of land, we risk the same happening and impacting our county even more. Arches is big enough. Enough is enough!

I do not support the creation of new National Conservation Areas on ANY of these lands! This is a foothold for those that wish to shut down our roads and limit use! This will impact our county severely.

I am in support of a reasonable balance of recommendations to our Congressman in regards to this issue. Our Council should not be creating special land regulations that will jeopardize the responsible use of its resources, both recreational and industrial. This is not a balance, this weighs heavily in favor of those that wish to shut down our land-use.

I have lived in this town for 35 years. I am 6th generation—my grandparents sowed these lands, built

these roads, and fought for this country to keep these privileges. It is atrocious that you want to take a stance that throws all that hard work away. There is an old saying "If it's not broke, don't fix it!" Grand County is fine the way it is, stop trying to take it away from us.

With great concern,

Josh Green

KaLeigh Welch

From: Sandy [sandratangren@msn.com]
Sent: Friday, February 27, 2015 9:48 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Lands

Grand County Council,

I do not support any wilderness designations on the western slope of the LaSal Mountains. Even though there may be small discrete areas of 5000 acres with no roads, the concept of wilderness in an area that is front country for our community and receives so much use, is illogical and flies in the face of the true character of wilderness. Additional wilderness on the north end of the LaSal's, congruent with our county's 1999 recommendation for the Beaver Creek drainage, is the only reasonable area for consideration of wilderness that would involve Forest Service lands.

2- I do not support creation of a special land designation watershed zone. We all want clean water. Current management plans of both BLM and the US Forest Service for this area provide more than adequate protection for our watershed, both eliminating industrial uses in the watershed. A special designation will ultimately lead to future restrictions on roads and trails, grazing, vegetation management to reduce fuels loads and potential for catastrophic wildfire, and impacts to development of private inholdings in this area.

3- We do not need any further expansion of Arches National Park. We appreciate our park and support it, but making it bigger serves no useful purpose. Arches NP has expanded at least six times in the past. Every time it's expanded, the park immediately starts looking for new areas to expand to. When does it stop? People come to Arches NP to view the arches, they do not care how big the park is. And again, BLM management plans on lands adjacent to the park provide protections that are adequate to protect the viewshed of Arches while still allowing for proper types of development.

4- I do not support the creation of any National Conservation Areas on any of these lands. NCA's are another type of designation that will ultimately result in long-term loss of roads and trail closures, and impacts to private land inholdings. I support protection of our river corridors along the Colorado and Dolores rivers, but limited to the actual river corridors.

I would like to have a reasonable expectation of a balanced set of recommendations to our Congressmen on this issue coming from our Council. Creating layer upon layer of special land management designations and wilderness is anything but balanced, ultimately resulting in loss of any opportunity for responsible use of other natural resources in our area in addition to recreation and tourism.

Respectfully,
Sandra Tangren

KaLeigh Welch

From: Lisa Cenicerros [lisacenicerros@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, February 28, 2015 10:05 AM
To: Council@grandcountyutah.net
Cc: rob.bishop@house.mail.gov; jennifer.scott@house.mail.gov; fred.ferguson@house.mail.gov; scott.parker@house.mail.gov; melissa.subbotin@house.mail.gov; wade.garrett@house.mail.gov; casey.snyder@house.mail.gov; colton.miles@house.mail.gov; garyherbert@utah.gov; jasonharding@utah.gov; mikemower@utah.gov; kathleenclarke@utah.gov; codystewart@utah.gov; alanmatheson@utah.gov; dthinkins@utah.gov
Subject: Why national special interest groups and not your constituents?

To The New "Progressives" Sitting On The Council:

You have made it next to impossible for the citizens the you supposedly represent to have any say on what you ultimately recommend for the Bishop Lands Initiative. You have deliberately given preference to national special interest groups (

1- I do not support any wilderness designations on the western slope of the LaSal Mountains. Even though there may be small discrete areas of 5000 acres with no roads, the concept of wilderness in an area that is front country for our community and receives so much use, is illogical and flies in the face of the true character of wilderness. Additional wilderness on the north end of the LaSal's, congruent with our county's 1999 recommendation for the Beaver Creek drainage, is the only reasonable area for consideration of wilderness that would involve Forest Service lands.

2- I do not support creation of a special land designation watershed zone. We all want clean water. Current management plans of both BLM and the US Forest Service for this area provide more than adequate protection for our watershed, both eliminating industrial uses in the watershed. A special designation will ultimately lead to future restrictions on roads and trails, grazing, vegetation management to reduce fuels loads and potential for catastrophic wildfire, and impacts to development of private inholdings in this area.

3- We do not need any further expansion of Arches National Park. We appreciate our park and support it, but making it bigger serves no useful purpose. Arches NP has expanded at least six times in the past. Every time it's expanded, the park immediately starts looking for new areas to expand to. When does it stop? People come to Arches NP to view the arches, they do not care how big the park is. And again, BLM management plans on lands adjacent to the park provide protections that are adequate to protect the viewshed of Arches while still allowing for proper types of development.

4- I do not support the creation of any National Conservation Areas on any of these lands. NCA's are another type of designation that will ultimately result in long-term loss of roads and trail closures, and impacts to private land inholdings. I support protection of our river corridors along the Colorado and Dolores rivers, but limited to the actual river corridors.

I would like to have a reasonable expectation of a balanced set of recommendations to our Congressmen on this issue coming from our Council. Creating layer upon layer of special land management designations and wilderness is anything but balanced, ultimately resulting in loss of any opportunity for responsible use of other natural resources in our area in addition to recreation and tourism.

Respectfully,

KaLeigh Welch

From: Kathey McNeely [katheymcneely@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, February 28, 2015 5:06 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Cc: Fred.Ferguson@house.mail.gov
Subject: Grand County Public Lands related to Congressman Bishop' s Proposed Public Lands Bill for SE Utah

Kathey McNeely <katheymcneely@gmail.com> wrote:

1. Please do NOT propose designating any more wilderness in the Book Cliffs!
2. Please do NOT propose designating any more wilderness in Grand County! We have enough protected areas!
3. Please do NOT propose shutting down any more roads or trails in Grand County! Several 4-wheel drive roads I've been on since I was a kid are now closed! Why?

**I was born in Moab and grew up here. I've seen many changes throughout the years. I even remember when Moab's Main Street was still a dirt road! Places I use to go hunting, camping, fishing, and picnicing as a kid and a young adult are now controlled/protected or closed off by Forest Service, BLM, National Parks, or private properties, including gated communities. Many places have been taken over by the tourist industry (including Sandy Beach, Take Out Beach, Big Bend Campground, Moonflower Canyon, Culvert Canyon, etc.)

***Do I want this beautiful place I've lived in all my life, preserved? Of course! My dad taught me to respect and take care of this land! But I also want multiple use. I am for a balanced economy which includes recreation and tourism, but also responsible mining and drilling, and grazing- yes, cows- I like meat!

****Roads - remember a lot of the roads enjoyed by tourists, bikers, jeepers, etc. were built by mining and drilling companies.

****So, think about it! What is best for Grand County and its residents? Do we want the government to control every bit of our county? Wilderness for only the healthy and wealthy?

Sincerely, Kathey McNeely

KaLeigh Welch

From: Nancy Kurtz [nancystarjive@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 01, 2015 11:00 AM
To: Grand County
Subject: Monday's vote on public lands process

Dear Councilmembers,

Thank you for giving your time to this process. It's so important to address this proposal and send a clear statement –

The areas under consideration for wilderness and other designations Monday are rare treasures. I'm not a boater, so I can't speak to specific stretches of the river. But we all are aware how vital the river is to our very existence.

Arches is becoming overbooked, and these areas are going to see increasing numbers.

It is important that we keep in view what we wish as residents to protect these areas from industry and over-use by off-road vehicles.

I hike almost every day this time of year at Sand Flats in anticipation of the spring/summer when the jeeps come roaring in. Sand Flats is so amazing. From there you can see pathways to Negro Bill Canyon, the Colorado and Mill Creek, the mountains. It's all one, in that unique way we can see here on those clear days.

Fisher Towers and Mary Jane are unbelievable spots and must be preserved. Mill Creek and Negro Bill. How could we even consider not protecting these gifts? They are not even ours to give away.

Not being well versed in all the different riparian areas - I leave the specifics to others. Many of them are names to me that I have heard over and over but have not seen.

It's clear to me that any area close to the river system that makes our home an oasis requires wilderness protection. Which probably includes almost everything you are considering today.

The bottom line, more wilderness, less industry/extraction, curtailing of off-road vehicle use. I disagree with the core premise of the Bishop initiative that states wilderness is compatible with more impactful uses of the land for fun and profit. I do not think this is true. Any degradation impacts the whole.

Thank you for whatever you can do to preserve our sensitive environment.

Sincerely,

Nancy Kurtz

Nancy Kurtz
nancystarjive@gmail.com
435-259-0734

KaLeigh Welch

From: Rose Chilcoat [rose@greatoldbroads.org]
Sent: Sunday, March 01, 2015 2:55 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Input to Bishop Public Lands Initiative
Attachments: Grand County Council PLI comments final.pdf

Please accept this input to the Bishop Public Lands Initiative process for Grand County.

Thank you.

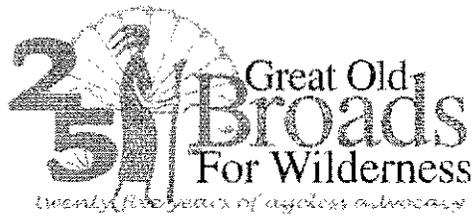
Rose

Rose Chilcoat
Associate Director
Great Old Broads for Wilderness
Box 2924
Durango, CO 81302
Office: 970-385-9577
Cell: 970-799-3679
www.greatoldbroads.org
facebook.com/greatoldbroads (LIKE US!)

Great Old Broads for Wilderness is a national organization that engages and ignites the activism of elders to preserve and protect wilderness and wild lands. Broads gives voice to the millions of older Americans who want to protect their public lands as Wilderness for this and future generations. We bring experience, commitment, and humor to the movement to protect the last wild places on Earth.



Celebrate 25 years of ageless advocacy with our \$25 introductory rate. [Join](#) today!



Grand County Council
Moab, Utah

Sent via email to council@grandcountyutah.net

March 1, 2015

Dear Council Members,

Great Old Broads for Wilderness thanks you for the time and effort you are putting into the public process to learn about local citizens groups and non-profit organizations priorities for Representative Bishop's Public Lands Initiative (PLI).

Great Old Broads for Wilderness is a national organization that inspires and engages the voices and activism of elders to preserve and protect wilderness and wild lands. We give voice to the millions of older Americans who want their public lands protected as Wilderness for this and future generations. We bring experience, commitment and humor to the movement to protect our last wild places on earth. With more than 5,500 members and supporters nationwide and a network of 36 active chapters (called Broadbands) in 15 states, we have a broad reach. While we have members in Grand County, at this time we do not have an active chapter to present our vision in person at your workshops, but would like to weigh in for wilderness protection for lands in Grand County.

We urge the Council to support comprehensive wilderness and other preservation designations consistent with those included in American's Red Rock Wilderness Act. This vision for protection of Utah's wildest lands has had tremendous support in Congress with 99 original cosponsors in the House and 23 in the Senate in the 113th Congress. This bill, while ambitious and unlikely to prevail in today's Congress, is based on a robust inventory of wilderness-eligible lands and provides an excellent starting point for consideration of wilderness designations at a more local level.

There are few places in the country more deserving of wilderness designations than the incomparable landscapes of Grand County that you are privileged to represent. Wilderness designation is the best mechanism Americans have to ensure deserving lands are freed from the threats of development, exploitation, and abuse—to ensure these lands remain as they are today into the future. No other designation provides this gold standard level of protection. Broads wholeheartedly support the detailed recommendations Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance (SUWA), our partners in wilderness protection, have provided as input to your decision process for the PLI.

While wilderness designation may seem extreme to some, it is the only way to ensure some places will be left for quiet, human-powered, human-paced recreation—places for rambling, climbing, exploring, hiking, backpacking, horseback riding, bird watching, wildlife watching, rock watching, paddling a canoe or rowing a raft. These types of uses ensure a true connection with the landscape and its other inhabitants.



Increasingly it is difficult to find places in Grand County where a person can experience complete uninterrupted silence and tranquility apart from the chaos and noise brought by mountain bikes, dirt bikes, ATVs and jeeps zipping over the landscape. The impacts of these user groups on “quiet users” cannot be overstated. There needs to be places where these vehicles are not allowed; places where they will not impact the silence of the canyons. Adrenaline adventure sports have replaced quiet use in much of Grand County. Cash registers and insistent user groups will always push for “more”. Broads’ voice is to push for more protection, so that what little is left wild will remain wild. While humans are part of nature, we are also part of its unravelling. Let’s have the humility to leave some of it as it is rather than always framing our views in terms of economics, recreation, exploitation, consumption, and us! The demands on these lands will only increase in the future. Now is the time to protect the wild that remains.

As you know, the Book Cliffs highway/energy corridor proposal would destroy the very heart of this landscape. The remote and wild wilderness quality lands in the Book Cliffs deserve to be kept as they are via wilderness designation to provide important un-fragmented wildlife habitat. There has been strong opposition to this proposal now and in the past. Wilderness designation would provide the most durable mechanism to ensure this short-sighted proposal dies once and for all. The wild lands south of the proposed wilderness areas of the Book Cliffs should be protected as a National Conservation Area to preserve the ecological, scenic, recreational (including hunting and fishing), cultural, historical, natural, educational, and scientific resources, and specifically the wildlife habitat and migration corridors of the Book Cliffs.

Recent years have brought a plethora of threats to Grand County’s doorstep. From tar sands, to oil and gas development, to increasing ORV abuse and demands for “new” adventure activities such as mountain biking, the area is attractive to a variety of interests for a variety of reasons. Where some people see exploitation as “new opportunity” others see it as “destroying” existing opportunities and relationships with the land. The changes are already underway and the results are not good. Night skies are no longer dark; industrial infrastructure interferes with cross country exploration and tourism marring the extraordinarily scenic views; and fracking puts precious and limited water resources at risk. Places like Big Flat are changing before our eyes...and not for the better.

When most people think of Moab they think of iconic landscapes such as Arches National Park and Behind the Rocks, Negro Bill Canyon, and Mill Creek, where they have explored and hiked and found escape from the modern world and its trappings of development. People are unaware that many of these incredible places are not protected. Wilderness designation for these areas is the only way to ensure they will remain as they are. Without wilderness there will simply be a continued “chipping away” at these places until they are changed beyond recognition.

These lands are America’s lands. While local voices and input are critical to decision processes, we must recognize that the wild landscapes of Grand County are also incredibly important and valued by people from across the nation—and the American people deserve a seat at the decision table as well. Please don’t allow short-term financial interests and strong voices from “recreational interest groups” to irrevocably damage these treasured landscapes. Keep your sight on what is best in the long view.



Wilderness and other protective designations will allow our kids and grandkids and visitors from across the country and around the world the opportunity to continue to enjoy Grand County's natural landscapes. We urge you to embrace all remaining eligible lands as wilderness in your deliberations.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input and for your efforts with the public workshops.

Broadly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rose Chilcoat". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Rose Chilcoat
Associate Director

KaLeigh Welch

From: Nancy Orr [orrxylla@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 01, 2015 3:08 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Lands Initiative

Dear County Council:

I understand we have a chance to weigh in on the Bishop Lands Initiative soon. Please consider recommending the following:

Negro Bill and Mill Creek Canyons ~ protect as wilderness

Manage Fisher Towers and Mary Jane Canyon as non-motorized use only.

Close the Moab Rim Trail at the top, with no further access toward Hidden Valley. The thrill comes in achieving the top ~ I often hike up there, and have noticed many of the four wheelers are there just to summit; few continue on. Having a quiet escape from the four wheelers as a reward for hoofing it to the top would be extra incentive for hikers on that steep climb. I would definitely hike it more often if there was guaranteed escape from the motorized crowd.

Increase protection for the Daily section of the Colorado River, as well as Westwater Canyon and Beaver Creek.

Support the council's Alternative 3 proposal for the Bishop Lands Initiative, and include Renegade Point in that proposal.

Thank you for considering my comments!

Regards,

Nancy Orr

KaLeigh Welch

From: Kate Finneran [kaitlinfinneran@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 01, 2015 7:09 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Thank you! Please protect our watershed, please recommend more wilderness!

To the Grand County Council:

Thank you for all you did in the Book Cliffs workshop to recommend more wilderness within the Bishop process. Now please protect our watershed by declaring Mill Creek as Wilderness.

With the ever increasing tourism in Moab, we desperately need you to protect the quiet places we have left. I believe that means more local Wilderness, and less off road vehicle use. Negro Bill should also be declared Wilderness.

Please ensure Mary Jane and Fisher Towers are managed for non-motorized use. Please close the Moab Rim trail at the top of the cliff, not allowing vehicles to drive toward Hidden Valley.

Using an NCA will protect the other side of the Daily better than an NRA, as it will likely bring in more funding and provide better protection.

For the Eastern edge of the county, please support Alternative 3, and add Renegade Point.

Above all, keep up the good work!

Sincerely,

Kate Anderson
530 Bowen Circle
Moab, UT 84532

KaLeigh Welch

From: Robert P Lippman [Bob.Lippman@nau.edu]
Sent: Sunday, March 01, 2015 8:13 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Cc: Robert P Lippman
Subject: Comments regarding Bishop Bill recommendations

To: Grand County Council
From: Robert Lippman
Date: 3/1/15
Re: Additional comments regarding Bishop Bill recommendations

Thank you again for revisiting the matter of appropriate recommendations for the protection of public lands and community well-being in Grand County. I strongly urge the council to fully support maximum protection through Wilderness, NCA and other designations or legal mechanisms, for the following reasons:

- protection of critical watersheds, including Wilderness designation for Mill Creek WSA, and the LaSal Mountains;
- protection of the sensitive river corridors, being the most precious public lands "assets" in Grand County as well as treasured international scenic and recreational "resources," including Wilderness status for Negro Bill, and other appropriate designations (National Conservation Area, Wild & Scenic River, etc.) for the Richardson Amphitheater, Fisher Towers, Mary Jane Canyon, Onion Creek, and indeed, the entire, integrated river corridor from Dewey to Moab;
- coordinated protection for the Westwater and Dolores Triangle areas and river corridors;
- designated protection for the Labyrinth Canyon river corridor, including Hell Roaring and Hey Joe, as these areas are under heavy assault from motorized intrusions and incompatible energy development.

The issue of impacts from commercial and private helicopter flights must also be addressed though creative and appropriate restrictions before these uses become entrenched, as such activity is completely incompatible with and destructive to the values of this unique and special region, especially within the river corridors, wild back-country, and populated areas (Moab, Castle Valley).

Thank you for your consideration and vigorous efforts to protect what little is left of a not-so-long-ago, de facto wilderness of solitude, splendor and challenge.

Bob Lippman
Castle Valley
Grand County, Utah

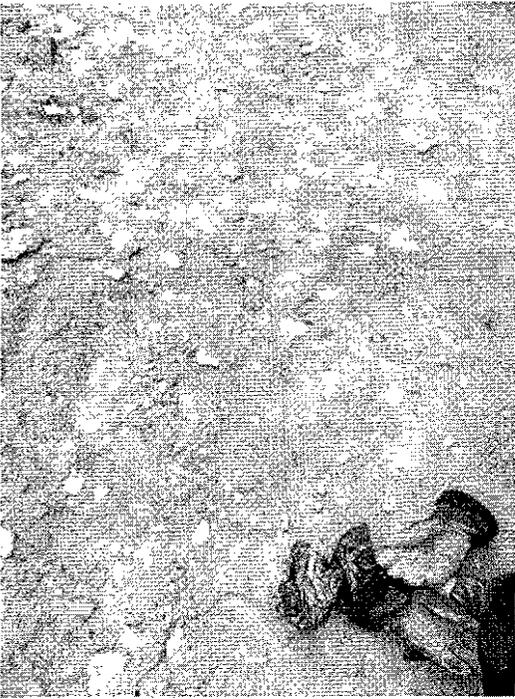
KaLeigh Welch

From: Moab Solutions [moab_solutions@hotmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 01, 2015 9:01 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: RE: Wilderness
Attachments: mfc 1.jpg; mfc 2.jpg; mfc 3.jpg; mfc 4.jpg

Dear County Council,

I have spent much of my time over the last 11 years in Mill Creek Canyon, and have watched, with some horror, the impacts increased tourism has had there, and everywhere in and around Moab. I do litter and trash clean ups, restoration work, and trail maintenance. While my main focus is the Powerdam area, I do cleanups area-wide and deal with problems on public lands. For example, I spent several hours on Saturday and Sunday removing graffiti from one end of Moonflower Canyon to the other, in over 50 sites. I attach some photos below:







The quiet that so many seek and love has become a circus of noise, pollution, and damage to the lands, through deliberate and unintentional behaviors. The huge increase in off-road vehicle type and number (and the deafening noise some of these vehicles produce) has made their presence a dominant one in many places for much of the spring and autumn, and have driven locals and visitors away from much loved places. This is just not right.

It is more important than ever to protect these special places, limit off-road vehicle use, and move toward methods of hosting a sustainable number of tourists. Everyone, from shopkeepers to law enforcement will thank you. And the land will thrive instead of die!

I would ask specifically that you protect my beloved Mill Creek Canyon and Negro Bill Canyon, as well as keeping Mary Jane Canyon and Fisher Towers vehicle free. And please! Close off vehicle access to Hidden Valley from the Moab Rim Trail.

Any way that lands can be protected and quiet nurtured would be more than greatly appreciated.

Most Sincerely,

Sara Melnicoff
Moab Solutions
PO Box 1549
Moab, UT 84532
435.259.0910 or 435.401.4685

KaLeigh Welch

From: Deep Desert Expeditions [mike@deepdesert.com]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2015 9:11 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: protect our wild heritage!

Dear Council Members,

first, thank you for your enlightened approach to our public land management!!! we all know how important these wild places are for our sanity and our economy.

I submit my comments, below, for your consideration for the Moab Core/Area East of Hwy 191. I urge the Council to make several modest improvements to Alternative 3 (drafted by the previous Council).

Specifically, I request that the Council:

- Recommend for Wilderness designation, consistent with Alternative 3, Westwater Canyon, Big Triangle, Granite Creek, and Beaver Creek areas along the Colorado-Utah border. The Council should add Renegade Point to this Wilderness area recommendation to complete wilderness preservation along the UT-CO border, which will also protect vital wildlife migration corridors and habitat in this area.
Renegade Point extends across the border into Colorado, and the overall Renegade Point wilderness area is larger than the portion in Grand County. The Council should not overlook this area merely because the bulk of the wild lands are located in Colorado.
- Recommend Wilderness designation for all lands that are Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs) and lands that the BLM has identified as having wilderness character within Alternative 3's National Conservation/Recreation Area, including: Fisher Towers, Mary Jane Canyon, Mill Creek, Negro Bill/Morning Glory.
 - The Council should include the Dome Plateau area, Dry Mesa, and The Highlands (the area above Lost Spring Wash WSA) in its wilderness recommendation. This area is the view shed for Delicate Arch, The Windows and other prominent view points in Arches Nat'l Park and the BLM has concluded that the bulk of these areas have wilderness character.
 - The Council should include the Porcupine Rim area (above Castle Valley) in it's wilderness recommendation.
 - Importantly, the Council should insure that these wilderness areas are not impacted by off-road vehicles by recommending that non-Jeep Safari routes in these wilderness areas be closed (unless a compelling reason exists otherwise);
- Improve Alternative 3 by extending the Nat'l Conservation/Recreation Area boundary in specific areas:
 - If the Dome Plateau, Dry Mesa, and The Highlands are not ultimately recommended for wilderness designation, it is critical that the Nat'l Conservation/Recreation Area boundary along the Colorado River be moved

west, back from the top of the cliffs to protect the outstanding recreational values of the river corridor and the scenic values along Hwy 128, and redrawn to include Dry Mesa and The Highlands to preserve the outstanding scenic values enjoyed the nearly 1 million annual visitors to Arches Nat'l Park;

- The Nat'l Conservation/Recreation Area boundary should be extended in the south to include Forest Service lands in the LaSals to protect Moab's watershed.
- Recommend closure of a short section of the Steel Bender Jeep Safari route that loops into the Mill Creek WSA. This is a very short section of the trail and closure of this short section would provide significant benefits to the backcountry experience of this area (i.e. dramatically reduce noise and user conflicts).

There are approximately 1400 miles of route on BLM & SITLA lands in the Moab Core area/lands east of Hwy. 191. Preserving what is essentially the status quo, and designating all of the WSAs and lands with wilderness character in this area as wilderness would have little effect on the vast majority of designated routes -- i.e ~90% of designated routes would not be affected by designating all of the proposed wilderness in the Moab Core area.

Grand County is prized for its redrock scenery, canyons, rivers and huge vistas. Let's keep it that way. There is no downside to protecting what is, essentially, the status quo. It would be controversial to NOT preserve the status quo and to allow the outstanding lands surrounding Moab and lands in the Westwater-Dolores Triangle-Beaver Creek area to be degraded. A National Conservation Area, and wilderness designations for deserving lands in this area will allow our kids and grandkids, and visitors from far and wide the opportunity to continue to enjoy Grand County's natural heritage.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration of citizens' input in this PLI process.

Keep it Wild!

Mike Coronella
Owner/Guide
Deep Desert Expeditions
Moab UT
mike@deepdesert.com
www.deepdesert.com
(435) 260-1696

KaLeigh Welch

From: Sarah Hedden [sarah.hedden@me.com]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2015 10:40 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protect our wild lands

Dear Grand County Council,

Please do the right thing and protect our wild places. These untrammeled lands are the foundation of our economy and so much more.

Critical considerations:

1. With the ever increasing tourism around Moab, we desperately need the council to protect the quiet places we have left, & that means more local wilderness, and less off road vehicle use.
2. Protect Negro Bill and Mill Creek as Wilderness.
3. Ensure Mary Jane and Fisher Towers are managed for non-motorized use.
4. Close Moab Rim trail at the top of cliff, not allowing them to drive toward Hidden Valley.
5. Use NCA (National Conservation Area) to protect other side of the daily, rather than and NRA, because that could mean more funding and better protection.
6. Protect West Water and Beaver Creek
7. For the Eastern edge of the county, support the County's Alternative 3 proposal, and add Renegade Point.

Sincerely,
Sarah Hedden

KaLeigh Welch

From: Donna Rivette [dancingdrdonna@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2015 10:56 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protection of Wild Areas

with tourism here reaching epic proportions, we need to protect the quiet places that we still have. We need all the protection we can get for our beautiful local wild areas like Negro Bill, Mill Creek, Mary Jane Canyon, Fisher Towers, Hidden Valley, Westwater, Beaver Creek, etc. etc. There are plenty of motorized trails already (and now we have the noise pollution from helicopters, which seems to increase daily).

I urge you to consider keeping our public lands protected from further motorization and/or "development."

Sincerely,

Donna Rivette
Grand County Citizen

KaLeigh Welch

From: greg child [gregchild@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2015 11:35 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: For consideration for today's council meeting

Dear Council members,

I understand today's discussions will address the growing trend around Moab of off-road motorized recreational tourism.

I believe the county has plenty of off-road trails as it is, and that NO MORE trails should be supported, and that the quiet palces that do not have trails should be preserved and left for quiet uses, like hiking. Some roads should probably be closed. I hope the council can impress upon the BLM the need around Moab to preserve the quiet places and protect them from motorized destruction by visitors to Grand County.

Specifically, the following areas should receive protection:

1. Protect Negro Bill and Mill Creek as Wilderness.
2. Ensure Mary Jane and Fisher Towers are managed for non-motorized use.
3. Close Moab Rim trail at the top of cliff, not allowing them to drive toward Hidden Valley.
4. Use NCA (National Conservation Area) to protect other side of the daily, rather than and NRA, because that could mean more funding and better protection.
5. Protect West Water and Beaver Creek
6. For the Eastern edge of the county, support the County's Alternative 3 proposal, and add Renegade Point.

Sincerely
Greg Child

KaLeigh Welch

From: Brad Woodford [pbwoodford@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2015 11:39 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protect More Areas

With the ever increasing popularity of Moab, the council has a duty to help look after and protect the areas which are treasured by both locals and tourists. We can not protect everything but places such as Weswater ,one of the most amazing canyons in the west with some of the oldest exposed rock in the world, is truly wilderness and deserves the protections that comes with. So long as the designations do not further limit access by non motorized recreation I am all for it.

I also am in support of alternative 3 proposal with the addition of Renegade point. If there was another alternative that provided more protection and support for recreation I would be in favor of that.

The word balance sounds good to those who oppose more protection, but when we see our economy is already 70% for the recreation and tourism I think to achieve "balance" would be devastating to our largest most sustainable part of our economy. Yes lets diversify our economy but lets do it in a more sustainable and smart forward looking way, not the way of boom, bust, leave the mess.

So please protect the areas you can.

Thank you.

Brad Woodford

KaLeigh Welch

From: Claire Eileen [claire.e.core@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2015 11:51 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands

Dear Council,

As a lover of this land, a hiker and botany enthusiast, please consider protecting the quiet, solitude and uniqueness of this land. The following areas are important to me and many others and as representatives of us here in Grand County, please note these place in your discussions regarding public lands designations:

1. Protect the quiet places we have left: more local wilderness and less off road vehicle use.
2. Protect Negro Bill and Mill Creek as Wilderness.
3. Ensure Mary Jane and Fisher Towers are managed for non-motorized use.
4. Close Moab Rim trail at the top of cliff, not allowing them to drive toward Hidden Valley.
5. Use NCA (National Conservation Area) to protect other side of the dally, rather than and NRA, because that could mean more funding and better protection.
6. Protect West Water and Beaver Creek
7. For the Eastern edge of the county, support the County's Alternative 3 proposal, and add Renegade Point.

Thank you,

Claire Core

Student, USU

Moab, Uah

KaLeigh Welch

From: Ali Fuller [sisterroot@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2015 12:34 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Thank You! & continue to steward the land!

Dear Council,

Thank you so much for all that you have done for Grand County and supporting the preservation of our land. As the population continues to grow and Moab becomes hit harder and harder by more and more people the work you are doing is vital to our sustainability.

I would like to encourage you to protect the Fisher Towers, Mary Jane Canyon, Negro Bill Canyon, Mill Creek, the Moab Rim Trail from more motorized vehicle activity. All of these places are watersheds and should be protected as wilderness.

Please use the NCA to protect the other side of the 'Daily' and I support Alternative 3 for the eastern edge of our county with the addition of Renegade point.

Thank you for your willingness to serve and for the open ear to your community!

Ali Fuller

KaLeigh Welch

From: jasonm234@aol.com
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2015 12:38 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Thank you &

Dear Council,

Thank you so much for all that you have done for Grand County and supporting the preservation of our land. As the population continues to grow and Moab becomes hit harder and harder by more and more people the work you are doing is vital to our sustainability.

I would like to encourage you to protect the Fisher Towers, Mary Jane Canyon, Negro Bill Canyon, Mill Creek, the Moab Rim Trail from more motorized vehicle activity. All of these places are watersheds and should be protected as wilderness.

Please use the NCA to protect the other side of the 'Daily' and I support Alternative 3 for the eastern edge of our county with the addition of Renegade point.

Thank you for your willingness to serve and for the open ear to your community!

Sincelrely,
Jason Matz

KaLeigh Welch

From: Michael Peck [colorcountry@frontiernet.net]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2015 1:47 PM
To: Grand County Council
Subject: Public Lands and User Fees

Dear Grand County Council,

It is important to protect sensitive areas in Grand County with Wilderness classification to protect the quiet places we have left, and that means we need local wilderness designation for such areas as Negro Bill and Mill Creek canyons, and less off road vehicle use. It is important to ensure Mary Jane and Fisher Towers are managed for non-motorized use. Please protect West Water and Beaver Creek and the other side of the Daily on 128 making it a National Conservation Area. ORV's are incompatible with hiking, bird watching, or anything that requires quiet to enjoy. There are already plenty of ORV trails so they don't have to drive everywhere like the Moab Rim trail at the top of cliff, not allowing them to drive toward Hidden Valley. We might try charging event fee's on the Jeep Safari participants, the Car Show, large biking events etc. to cover the cost of clean up and policing needs so we are not so over whelmed after these events. Telleride Co. has been doing this for years and people still go to those events in droves.

Michael Peck
Castle Valley

KaLeigh Welch

From: Abby Scott [abbyjeanscott@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2015 1:50 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public comment re: land areas closer to Moab

Grand County Council Members,

I am writing today regarding some of my personal favorite areas, which I believe are also places of immeasurable community value and places worth protecting for all future visitors looking for peaceful quiet and breathtaking beauty.

I would like to respectfully ask the council to support the following proposals:

- Designate Negro Bill Canyon and Mill Creek as wilderness.
- Close the Rim Trail at the top, and do not allow expansion into the Hidden Valley area.
- Protect the other side of the Daily as a National Conservation Area.
- Ensure that Mary Jane and Fisher Towers are managed for non-motorized use.
- Protect Westwater and Beaver Creek.
- Support County Alternative 3 with Renegade Point included.

I urge you to please protect our serene places, increase wilderness areas and restrict expansion of OHV areas into places that have previously been free from exhaust fumes and engine noise. The future of our County depends on making smart long-term choices now.

Thank You,
Abby Scott
477 Juan Ct., Moab UT

KaLeigh Welch

From: Pete Gross [orcabay@sisna.com]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2015 2:05 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Congressman Bishop's public lands initiative

Dear Council:

I don't have time to comment on every detail of public lands management proposals to be forwarded to Congressman Rob Bishop.

I'd like to see Wilderness Study Areas and adjacent lands where appropriate finally receive the formal wilderness designation they deserve. In particular, Mill Creek and Negro Bill/Morning Glory WSA's should be designated wilderness in my opinion. They're not generally suitable for motorized use and are popular areas for backcountry use by local and visiting hikers. I've spent a lot of time in some of the most stunning scenery in our country in places like the Sierra Nevada in California, the Chugach Range in Alaska, and countless side canyons in the Grand Canyon. Mill Creek and Negro Bill Canyons rival the best of them in their solitude and splendor.

On a general note, we need to protect our world class scenic resources for the long term economic and social benefits. Tourism sustains our local economy. Let's not chase them away because we compromised our most valuable assets. I have yet to hear any visitor say they came here for resource extraction and noise in the backcountry.

Thank you for all you do for our county.

Sincerely,

Pete Gross
853 Mountain View Drive
Moab, Utah 84532

KaLeigh Welch

From: Kevin Walker [k23walker@gmail.com] on behalf of Kevin Walker [kevin@canyon23.net]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2015 2:35 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Viewshed maps for Dome Plateau and other areas east of Arches NP
Attachments: PanoramaPoint.jpg; ATT00292.txt; MoabMLPConservationViewsheds2.0-compressed.pdf

Dear County Council members,

In my earlier comment letter, I said I would send maps depicting the areas east of Arches National Park which are visible from popular viewpoints within the park. I have attached two such maps, and I'll send others as they become available.

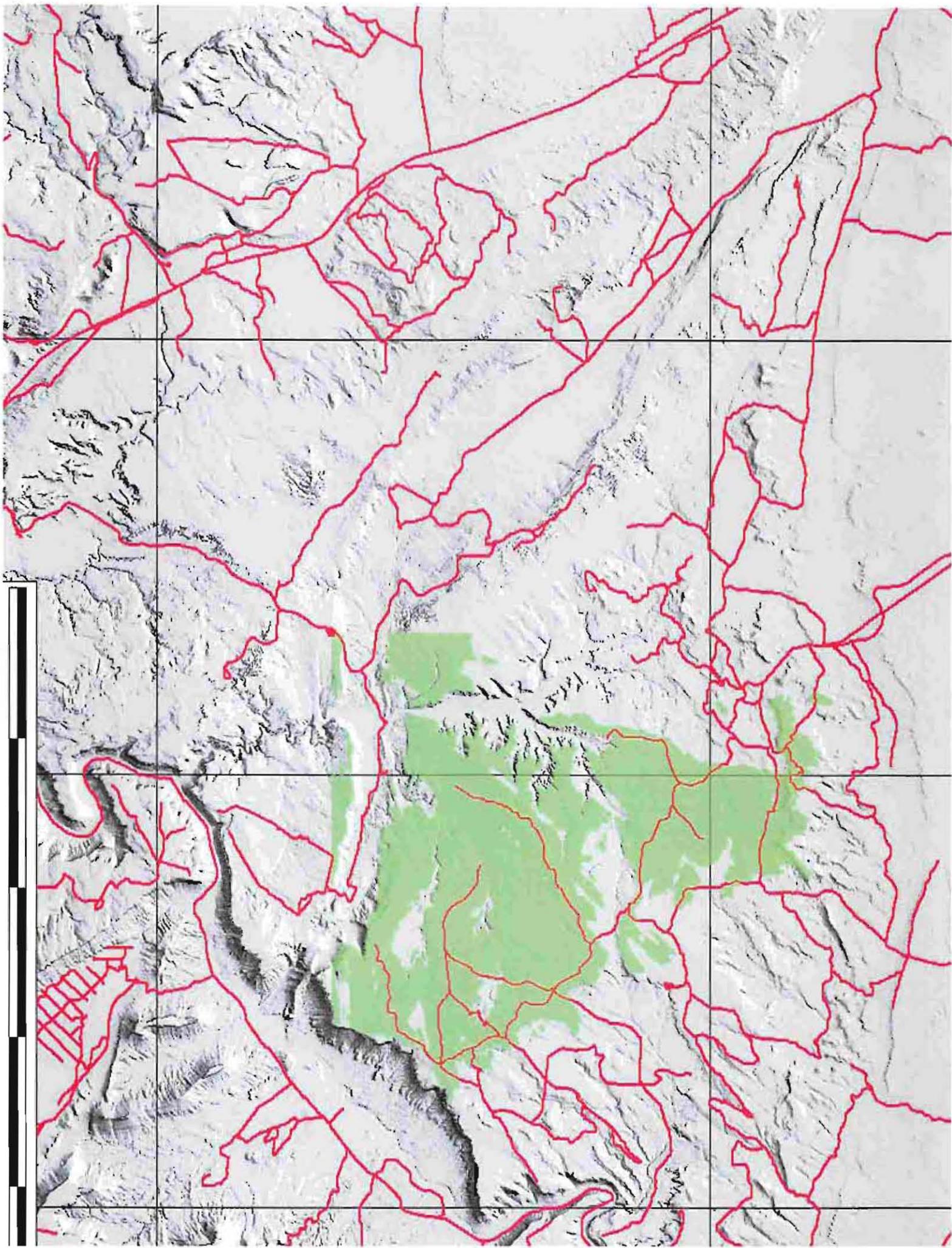
The first map (PanoramaPoint.jpg), prepared by Tom Messenger, shows the viewshed from Panorama Point in ANP.

The second map, prepared by NPCA, shows combined viewsheds from several points in Arches and Canyonlands NPs.

I think that expanding the proposed National Conservation Area to include these areas east of the park is a sensible and prudent way to protect a resource that is very important to Grand County.

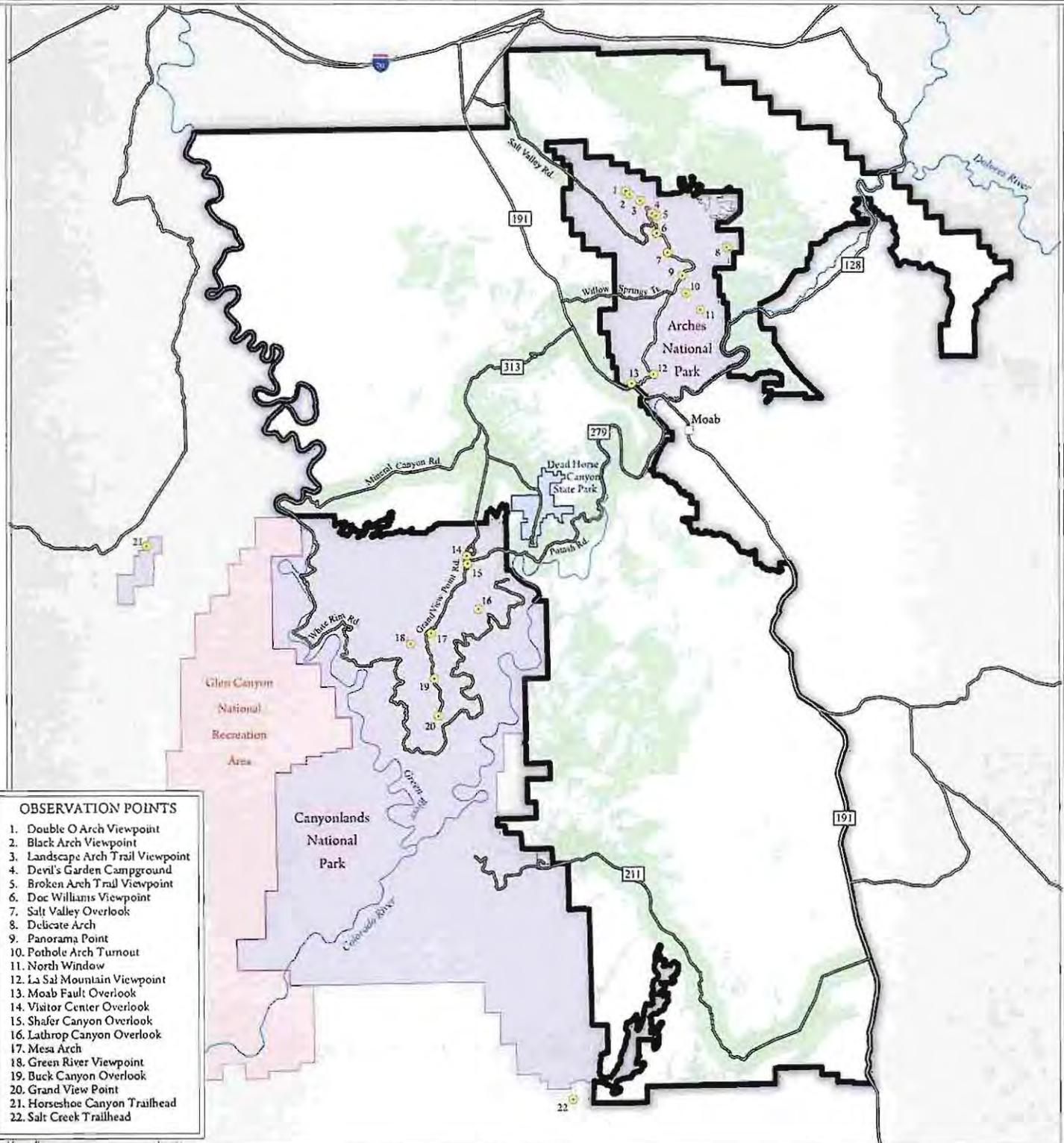
Thanks,

Kevin Walker



MOAB MASTER LEASING PLAN

NATIONAL PARK CONSERVATION VIEWSHEDS

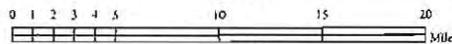


OBSERVATION POINTS

1. Double O Arch Viewpoint
2. Black Arch Viewpoint
3. Landscape Arch Trail Viewpoint
4. Devil's Garden Campground
5. Broken Arch Trail Viewpoint
6. Doc Williams Viewpoint
7. Salt Valley Overlook
8. Delicate Arch
9. Panorama Point
10. Pothole Arch Turnout
11. North Window
12. La Sal Mountain Viewpoint
13. Moab Fault Overlook
14. Visitor Center Overlook
15. Shafer Canyon Overlook
16. Lathrop Canyon Overlook
17. Mesa Arch
18. Green River Viewpoint
19. Buck Canyon Overlook
20. Grand View Point
21. Horseshoe Canyon Trailhead
22. Salt Creek Trailhead

- Moab MLP Proposed Conservation Area
Conservation area is comprised of both National Park viewsheds (based on key observation points from within the parks), as well as one-mile buffers around key park access roads
- National Park Key Observation Point (KOP)
- Key National Park Access Road

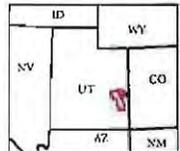
LEGEND



1:560,000
NAD_1983_2011_StatePlane_Utah_Central_FIPS_4302



- National Recreation Area
- National Park
- State Park
- Primary Road



KaLeigh Welch

From: Nate Sydnor [nate@moabdesertadventures.com]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2015 2:58 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Designations

Dear Council Members,

It is my understanding that you will be discussing public land designations in Grand County this afternoon. As a local business owner and tour operator, offering tours to over a thousand guests per year in the Moab area, my guests and I have a vested interest in decisions that are made regarding our public lands.

I understand that motorized tourism is a large part of the Moab economy, and I fully respect people's right to utilize public lands in designated areas with 4x4 vehicles. However, we and our guests utilize public lands in a non-motorized way, and my personal and professional opinions are the same on this subject; I would like to see less, or at minimum not more vehicle use in the Moab area. At times our guides and guests find ourselves at odds with these users, as it can be more difficult for us to enjoy the solitude and quietness of nature while endless lines of 4x4s roll by.

I have spoken at great length with my clientele, as well as my staff, and we have several recommendations.

We feel that Mill Creek and Negro Bill Canyons, the latter of which is used often by canyoneers, should be protected as wilderness. We would particularly like to see the Fisher Towers area managed for non-motorized use.

On a personal note, I often hike in the Hidden Valley, and would like to see the Rim Trail closed at the top to prevent vehicles from traveling further in that direction. Making it to the rim, to see down into the Moab Valley seems plenty far enough to me, especially with hundreds of miles of other trails available.

Otherwise, having attended the meetings regarding the 3 proposed alternatives for land designation, I would support the County's Alternative 3, and would echo other's sentiments to add Renegade Point to this as well.

Please feel free to contact me at any point if necessary, and I sincerely appreciate your consideration of my comments.

Regards,

--
Nate Sydnor

Proud Owner
Moab Desert Adventures
804-814-3872
nate@moabdesertadventures.com

KaLeigh Welch

From: Kevin Walker [k23walker@gmail.com] on behalf of Kevin Walker [kevin@canyon23.net]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2015 3:37 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Viewshed maps for Dome Plateau and other areas east of Arches NP

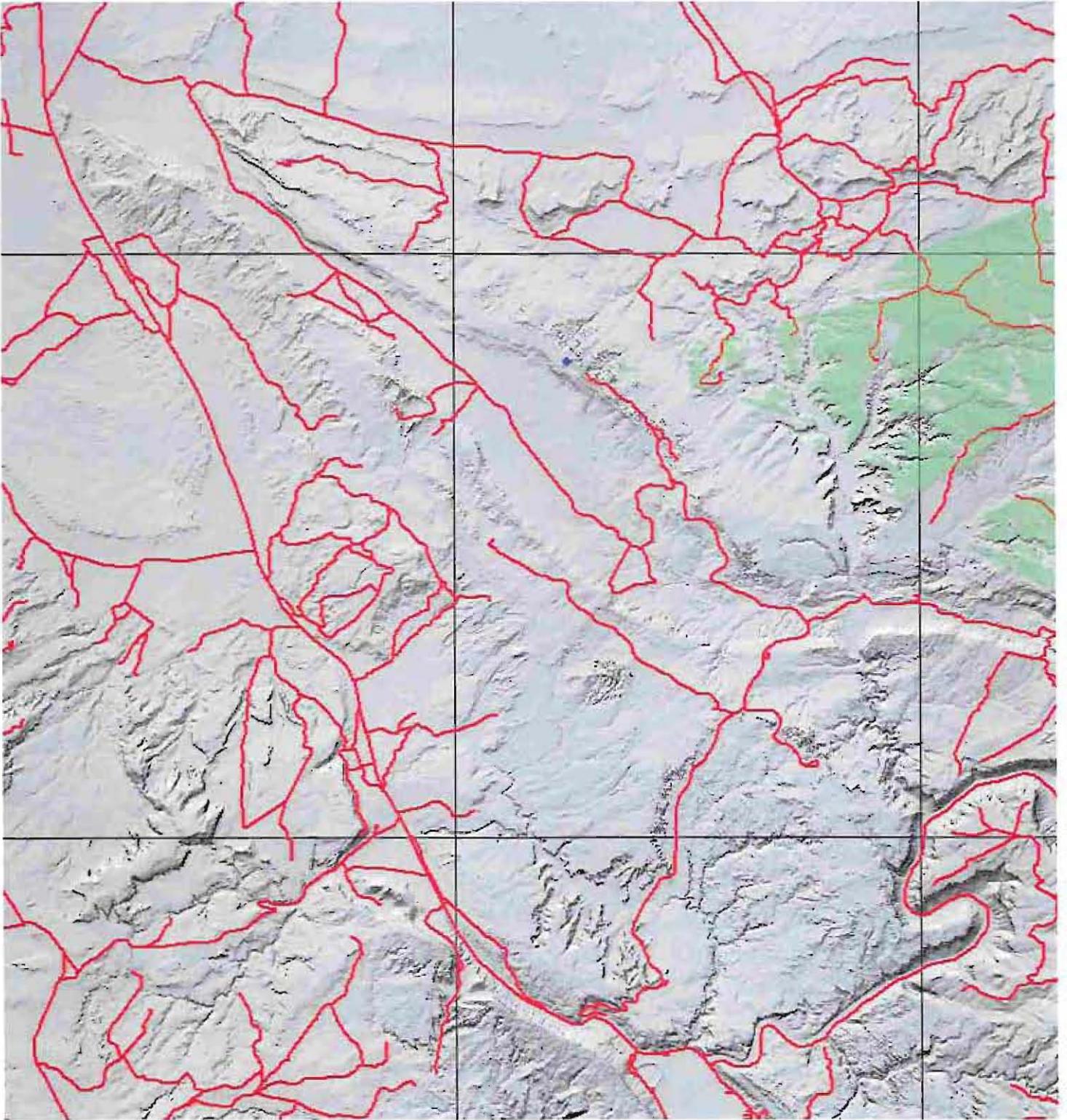
Dear County Council members,

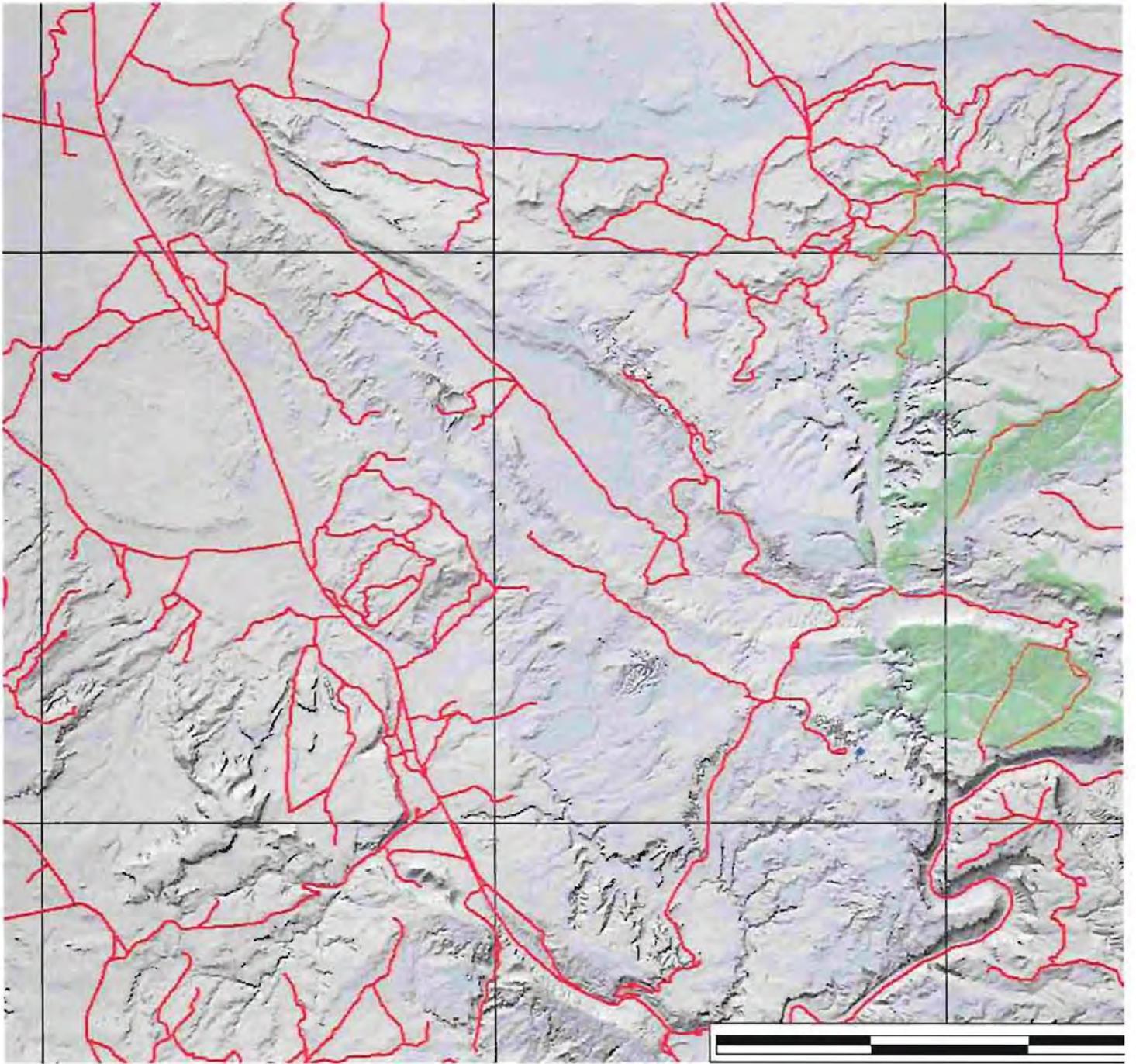
Here (attached) are two more viewshed maps, one from Double O Arch and the other from Turret Arch. (Image credit again goes to Tom Messenger of Moab.)

As before, these maps show that protecting the world famous vistas of Arches NP means protect the Dome Plateau area east of the park.

Thanks,

Kevin Walker





KaLeigh Welch

From: Ashley Anderson [c.ashley.anderson@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2015 3:42 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Please favor protection at 3-2-79 mtg

Dear Council,

I'm a local father who is related by blood to half the town. I'm proud to call Grand County home, like seven generations of family before me.

Please consider the strongest possible protections for our wild areas in your discussions of the lands bill. Designate Negro Bill, Mill Creek as Wilderness, manage Mary Jane and Fissure Towers for off-road use threats, close off the Moab Rim trail to keep jeeps out of Hidden Valley, and please recommend we use the NCA to protect the North side of the Daily River section.

Please support the Alternative 3 Proposal. It looks best.

Thank you for your service to our community.

With respect,

Charles Ashley Anderson

530 Bowen Circle
Moab Utah 84532



Land Initiative Proposal: Grand County

The Porcupine Rim Trail is part of the 25 mile long Whole Enchilada Trail that is considered one of Moab's premier mountain bike trails. It is currently located within a portion of the Negro Bill Wilderness Study Area.

The Grand County Trail Mix Committee recommends that a portion of the mountain bike trail known as the Porcupine Rim Trail where it passes through the wilderness study area becomes the new boundary of the Negro Bill Canyon Wilderness Study Area near Highway 128 and Jackass Canyon (see map). If the trail is used as a new boundary this would remove approximately 240 acres of Wilderness Study Area currently on the north side of the trail. We recommend that the trail boundary should include a 10-20 foot buffer zone to allow for maintenance.

As a general rule trails and roads should not be used as a boundary of Wilderness Areas without providing a buffer of 10 – 50 feet for future maintenance needs.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sandy Freethey".

Sandy Freethey
Grand County Trail Mix Committee Chair
1/23/15

KaLeigh Welch

From: GT Outfitters [gtoutfitters@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2015 12:29 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands proposal

I have looked at the proposed lands bill and letter to Congressman Bishop. As a resident of Green River, a business owner paying substantial sales taxes to Grand County and BLM and SITLA special use permittee, I am appalled at your decisions. The proposed wilderness on the south side of the Bookcliffs and the lack of access to public lands is not in the best interest of the future. Access to the Bookcliffs has already been diminished over the past decade and your proposal is unreasonable. I spend a great deal of time on the Bookcliffs and as a hunting outfitter have a vested interest in the future access to the south Bookcliff area. I pay a great deal of sales tax for the hunts I provide on the south Bookcliffs.

Living in Green River, I may not be a Grand County resident, but I see who is enjoying the Bookcliffs. I know that the vast majority of public comments you have received concerning the lands use bill are from people who have never once stepped foot on the Bookcliffs. Those who have, most likely only went to the Sege Canyon petroglyphs and now feel they are experts on the Bookcliffs. There is not need for the Bookcliffs to have any wilderness areas, the area is remote as is and the limited roads is already disappointing. Access to Cottonwood Canyon has been cut of for vehicle travel. There are SITLA lands and oil and gas well pads that were once accessed and a great many Green River residents once enjoyed being able to drive the canyon. Now the road is nearly impossible to take a horse trailer up to the end and illegal BLM closure on SITLA land, then the canyon extends another twelve miles. This lack of access does nothing but lock up a huge area to nobody enjoying. This is only an example of many canyons.

You as a council have a responsibility to see that your county is economically viable. Closure of the south Bookcliffs by utilization of Wilderness designation is not viable. Oil and gas will not be available. SITLA lands are not accessible, in direct violation of case law requiring access. My outfitter business will be impacted. As a council, you should be able to see the future and take into consideration what you need as a county to survive. You may have received letters requesting more wilderness, but you should look at those who have requested the increase and see they have no vested interest. I would not think to tell someone in Rhode Island how to take care of their lands, and do not think someone from across the country should tell Utah locals how to manage ours.

Guy Webster
GT Outfitters
Green River, Utah

KaLeigh Welch

From: Cody Webster [bear_wild@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2015 1:04 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Book Cliffs wilderness

I find it very alarming that Grand County Council would consider designating more wilderness on the book cliffs. There has already been entirely too much access lost to this great country. I fear many of those in favor of more wilderness there have never spent the time in the areas they intend to close. I would like to see the council consider the desires of those that use a specific area first and foremost. There are several areas that if anything need more access. Canyons such as Cottonwood and Diamond, badly need grazing permits to help control the over growth. These canyons present extreme fire hazards because of the unused vegetation.

Uintah county has done an excellent job of providing road access while maintaining plenty of remote country. I feel Grand County is severally losing out by not providing a paved road to connect on Seep Ridge with Uintah County. I would challenge anyone to provide more wide based knowledge as to the conditions of the Grand County part of the book cliffs. I spend roughly 100 days per year in this country for various recreation uses. I strongly urge Grand County to provide more access and maintenance, certainly not less.

Sent from my iPhone

KaLeigh Welch

From: Clif Koontz [cliftonkoontz@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2015 4:24 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Cc: Ruth Dillon; KaLeigh Welch
Subject: tour of public lands

Dear Council Members,

Yesterday's meeting continued the healthy debate over public-lands planning. Some of the ideas involved a major change from the current conditions and management under the BLM's 2008 RMP.

Of course off-highway vehicle enthusiasts appreciate any directives to maintain access to currently-designated routes and areas. While NRA and especially NCA designations tend to become slippery slopes toward preservation, they can be established in a way that protects existing recreation opportunities, or even new ones if you so choose.

Nevertheless, we see value in visiting areas where major changes are being considered. With limited time, the easiest way to explore is by 4WD vehicle. I spoke with Doug McElhaney from Red Rock 4 Wheelers, Jeff Stevens of Moab Friends For Wheelin', as well as Melissa Fischer, David Adams, and Ber Knight. Any of us would be happy to take you to the Labyrinth area, Dolores area, or other other parts of the county that you are interested in seeing first hand.

If you call me, I would be happy to coordinate schedules. If you prefer to contact MFFW or RR4W directly, that's fine, too. Thanks for your service.

Sincerely, Clif

executive director
Ride with Respect
435-259-8334 land
201-741-0361 cell

KaLeigh Welch

From: Liz Thomas [moablizard72@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 04, 2015 12:09 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Bishop PLI - Lands West of Hwy. 191

Dear Council Members:

I submit my comments, below, for your consideration for the public lands west of Hwy. 191. I urge the Council to:

- Not endorse the Big Flat working group's recommendations. Wilderness advocates were excluded from the group and as a result, the working group's recommendations failed to include a critical component and were unduly biased in favor of mineral extraction and motorized recreation.
- Protect Ten Mile Wash, White Wash and Spring Canyon, by extending the NCA boundary (Alternative 3) to include these areas.
 - Ten Mile Wash is a rare perennial stream in the desert, and White Wash has numerous seeps and small springs. Perennial streams make up 2% of public lands in Utah, and provide habitat for ~85% of all wildlife species.
 - These areas have irreplaceable ancient archaeological structures, artifacts and rock art.
- Close a small fraction of the off-road vehicle routes in this area to move towards a better balance of recreational opportunities. The critical ORV routes to close, which are generally in canyons and wash bottoms, include: Ten Mile, White Wash, Hell Roaring Canyon, Mineral Canyon, Hey Joe along the river, and the little-used jeep trail north of Long Canyon and south of Day Canyon.
- Extend the County's wilderness proposal to include Ten Mile Wash, Spring Canyon, Hell Roaring Canyon and Mineral Canyon - similar to the BLM's No Surface Occupancy designation areas (2008 Resource Mgmt. Plan); extend wilderness protection to the Goldbar area and Behind the Rocks WSA.

The public lands west of Hwy. 191 include some of the most outstanding canyons in Grand County. This area contain ancient archaeological artifacts, wildlife habitat and beautiful calm-water boating on the Green River in Labyrinth Canyon. This is not an appropriate place to sacrifice for mining potash for fertilizer, or expanding leasing for of oil and gas speculation.

I urge you to consider the long-term importance of this area and preserve it for current and future generations. The public lands west of Hwy. 191 are too spectacular to continue to nickel and dime them away to private energy and fertilizer companies that merely want to make a quick profit off of our public lands.

Thank you for your time and effort in this PLI process and for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Liz Thomas

Liz Thomas
PO Box 321
3291 Juniper
Moab, UT 84532
moablizard72@gmail.com

KaLeigh Welch

From: Trudy [webstertrudy@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 04, 2015 12:33 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Wilderness designation

As a citizen of Green River and South Eastern Utah I would like to express my concern for the proposals that have been put out in dealing with new wilderness and scenic river designations in my back yard.

As a mother and a citizen I have raised my children to respect and enjoy the fact that we live in such a great area.

It is a place where we have spent countless days riding atv's and all terrain vehicles, as well as 4wheel drive pick-ups in order to explore, hunt and just enjoy the great outdoors. As my children are now starting their families, it would be a shame if my grandchildren were not given these same opportunities.

As a business woman who has worked in the restaurant business it would be very detrimental to our town and business if the roads with access to these areas were closed. We have many customers who come to our area to get a chance to enjoy the Bookcliffs and the surrounding areas. They love to be able to have access to such great riding for dirt bikes and atvs with a chance to stay in town and enjoy a nice motel and hot restaurant meal at the end of the day, and do it all over again the next day. To close all this access would greatly impact the tourist business in a little town that is trying to get by.

Please consider the voices of the local people over the politicians and people who have never lived or even visited this great area.

This is my home and my back yard. Please let me keep it!

Thank you.
Trudy Webster

KaLeigh Welch

From: Darcey Brown [darcey@frontiernet.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 04, 2015 2:08 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Cc: Darcey Brown
Subject: Public lands west of #191

Dear Members of the Grand County Council Again thank you for including views from groups and conservation minded people excluded from the initial Bishop discussions and from the Big Flat Working group. I urge you to; 1. Include Spring Canyon in an National Conservation Area and write a management plan for it that is truly conservation in intent.

2. Add as much land that qualifies for wilderness into a wilderness designation. Specifically Gold Bar and Behind the Rocks should be declared wilderness.

3. Be creative in looking for solutions to address user conflicts in areas such as Hey Joe Canyon. For example, roads could be open to loud motorized users during the months when the river has fewer boaters. Odd and even use days might also help in areas where biker and hiker experiences are disrupted by motorized users. Or potash and drill rig traffic could be suspended on weekends with heavy road bike use. Some of these might not be realistic, but I think you get the point that it doesn't always have to be either /or. Ride With Respect has always demonstrated a willingness to work with the non motorized community, and we with them, so it's a starting point.

Thanks,

Darcey Brown
2931 E. Bench Rd
Moab, UT 84532
435-259-6118
435-260-2373

KaLeigh Welch

From: Kevin Walker [k23walker@gmail.com] on behalf of Kevin Walker [kevin@canyon23.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 04, 2015 2:56 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Comments for Labyrinth / Island in the Sky, etc.

Dear County Council members,

Most of my comments are on the Labyrinth Canyon / Island in the Sky area. Comments for Behind the Rocks, Hunters Canyon and Goldbar are at the end.

In the next workshop, I hope you will do three things:

(1) Expand the NCA from Alternative 3 to include Tenmile Canyon, Spring Canyon, and the Duma Point / Whitewash area. These scenic and biologically important lands should be free of potash mines and SITLA "trade-in" areas.

(2) Close a small percentage of the motorized routes in the area in order to move toward a better balance between motorized and non-motorized recreation. The most important routes to close are the ones within the inner canyons: Tenmile Wash, Hey Joe (along the Green River), Hell Roaring Canyon, Mineral Canyon.

(3) The County Council should *not* follow the recommendations of the Big Flat Working Group, which was biased in favor of extractive industry and motorized recreation. Wilderness advocates were excluded from the Big Flats Working Group, so the group's recommendations are not a "consensus" in any meaningful sense.

In a little more detail:

* Grand County has some of the best scenery and recreational opportunities in the world. It makes no sense to sacrifice these resources for fertilizer (potash) and minor oil deposits.

* The existing road network in the Labyrinth area is heavily biased towards motorized recreation; it is not at all balanced. Closing a small percentage of the motorized routes would move us toward a more fair and balanced travel plan.

* SITLA should trade into existing development, which need not even be in Grand County. SITLA should not trade into scenic areas. Precedents for this can be found in the Eastern Utah Land Exchange legislation.

* We have already made the mistake of leasing some these areas for oil and gas development. Let's not repeat that mistake with potash.

* The existing oil and gas leases in this area constitute an additional reason IN FAVOR of designating an NCA. Granting the leases was a serious mistake on the part of the BLM, but now that the leases are there they should be managed according to strict standards. Placing these areas in the NCA sends a strong message to the BLM that they should not use business-as-usual standards for future oil and gas development.

* I think the best boundary for the NCA is the one proposed by the Labyrinth / Island in the Sky Working Group in January. This boundary includes all the scenic lands in the area. None of the land within this proposed NCA are appropriate sacrifice zones for extractive

industry. All of these lands deserve protection, and I hope that is exactly what the County Council will recommend to the Rep. Bishop.

* As I mentioned in my presentation in January, with the current travel plan OVER 95% of the area is less than 1/2 mile from a road or motorized trail. That's pretty ridiculous. Clearly the travel plan should be altered to provide more balance. A good start would be to close routes along the Green River and routes within the four major sidecanyons (Tenmile, Spring, Hell Roaring, Mineral). Specifically, this means Hey Joe, Tenmile, and anything that goes north from Mineral Bottom (Hell Roaring and Mineral Canyons). The road down Spring Canyon to near the Green River is less of a concern.

* The routes out on Deadman Point should also be closed. There are many other places where one can drive to the rim of Labyrinth Canyon. There should be at least one small section of the rim reserved for quiet recreation.

Other Areas

I urge the County Council to recommend wilderness for the Hunters Canyon, Goldbar and Behind the Rocks areas. It would also be a good idea to have the NCA cover these areas. (This is already the case in Alternative 3.)

Hunters Canyon straddles the county line, but that is not a reason to ignore it. It contains some of the best hikes in the Moab area.

Behind the Rocks also deserves protection. Most of the proposed wilderness is uncontroversial. At the north end, I think a good compromise would be to leave the jeep trail open from the trailhead to the first high point, but close it after that. The continuation to the sand dunes is nothing special by Moab jeep trail standards, and there is a shortage of quiet places to hike near town.

The Goldbar area also contains some of Moab's best hiking. Unfortunately, on most weekends of the year one has to listen to motorbikes and other vehicles slowly make their way along the Moab Rim Trail. Because of the topography engine noise from this trail travels to most of the canyons below, and consequently this trail has more adverse impacts on other forms of recreation than almost any other. I hope you will consider using a wilderness boundary that goes all the way to the rim. Another good candidate for closure is a little-used jeep trail that goes out on the point between Long and Day Canyons.

Thanks,

Kevin Walker

KaLeigh Welch

From: Terry Sanslow [tsanslow@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2015 5:43 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Bookcliffs wilderness designation

Grand County Council;

I am writing to express my concerns about wilderness designations and wild river designations to close areas of the Bookcliffs. I have enjoyed this area for many years. I would hate to think that I wouldn't be able to enjoy the area any more. My age and hiking abilities are not what they once were. I feel I am not alone. I have grand children and great grand children that I would like to share this area with. This area needs to be protected but not locked up from the general public.

Please don't let this happen. Leave things as they are.

Terry Sanslow

PO Box 654

Price, Utah 84501

435-637-4036

KaLeigh Welch

From: Allison Jones [allison@wildutahproject.org]
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2015 6:48 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Comments on Labyrinth Canyon from Wild Utah Project
Attachments: biological values of Labyrinth comments to GCC.doc; Labyrinth Ecological Analysis maps.pdf

Dear Council Members,

Please see the attached Special Values Report for the Labyrinth Canyon area, written by our staff biologists and GIS analyst. We understand that the Council is poised to make recommendations next week for areas to be protected in the new Land Initiative ushered by Rep. Bishop. Based on our field surveys, other expertise in the area and review of the literature and available GIS data, we think a very strong case can be made for protecting the Labyrinth area because of its ecological importance and biological diversity. Interestingly, we are not aware of a special ecological values report that has been written on Labyrinth Canyon and its tributaries. So we thought we would put one together for you. Please also not the pdf attachment, which contains the maps we made to accompany the report.

Sincerely, Allison Jones

Allison Jones, Executive Director
Wild Utah Project
824 South 400 West, Suite B-117
Salt Lake City, UT 84101
(801) 328-3550
www.wildutahproject.org

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THE BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES AND ECOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE OF THE LABYRINTH CANYON AREA, AND NEED FOR PROTECTION

Allison Jones¹, Emanuel Vasquez and Mary Pendergast

A white paper presented to:
the Grand County Council

04 March 2015

Author's Addresses:

¹ Wild Utah Project, 824 S. 400 W, Salt Lake City, UT 84101 (801) 328-3550 TEL;
allison@wildutahproject.org

KaLeigh Welch

From: Ashley Anderson [c.ashley.anderson@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2015 3:42 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Please favor protection at 3-2-79 mtg

Dear Council,

I'm a local father who is related by blood to half the town. I'm proud to call Grand County home, like seven generations of family before me.

Please consider the strongest possible protections for our wild areas in your discussions of the lands bill. Designate Negro Bill, Mill Creek as Wilderness, manage Mary Jane and Fissure Towers for off-road use threats, close off the Moab Rim trail to keep jeeps out of Hidden Valley, and please recommend we use the NCA to protect the North side of the Daily River section.

Please support the Alternative 3 Proposal. It looks best.

Thank you for your service to our community.

With respect,

Charles Ashley Anderson

530 Bowen Circle
Moab Utah 84532



Land Initiative Proposal: Grand County

The Porcupine Rim Trail is part of the 25 mile long Whole Enchilada Trail that is considered one of Moab's premier mountain bike trails. It is currently located within a portion of the Negro Bill Wilderness Study Area.

The Grand County Trail Mix Committee recommends that a portion of the mountain bike trail known as the Porcupine Rim Trail where it passes through the wilderness study area becomes the new boundary of the Negro Bill Canyon Wilderness Study Area near Highway 128 and Jackass Canyon (see map). If the trail is used as a new boundary this would remove approximately 240 acres of Wilderness Study Area currently on the north side of the trail. We recommend that the trail boundary should include a 10-20 foot buffer zone to allow for maintenance.

As a general rule trails and roads should not be used as a boundary of Wilderness Areas without providing a buffer of 10 – 50 feet for future maintenance needs.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sandy Freethey".

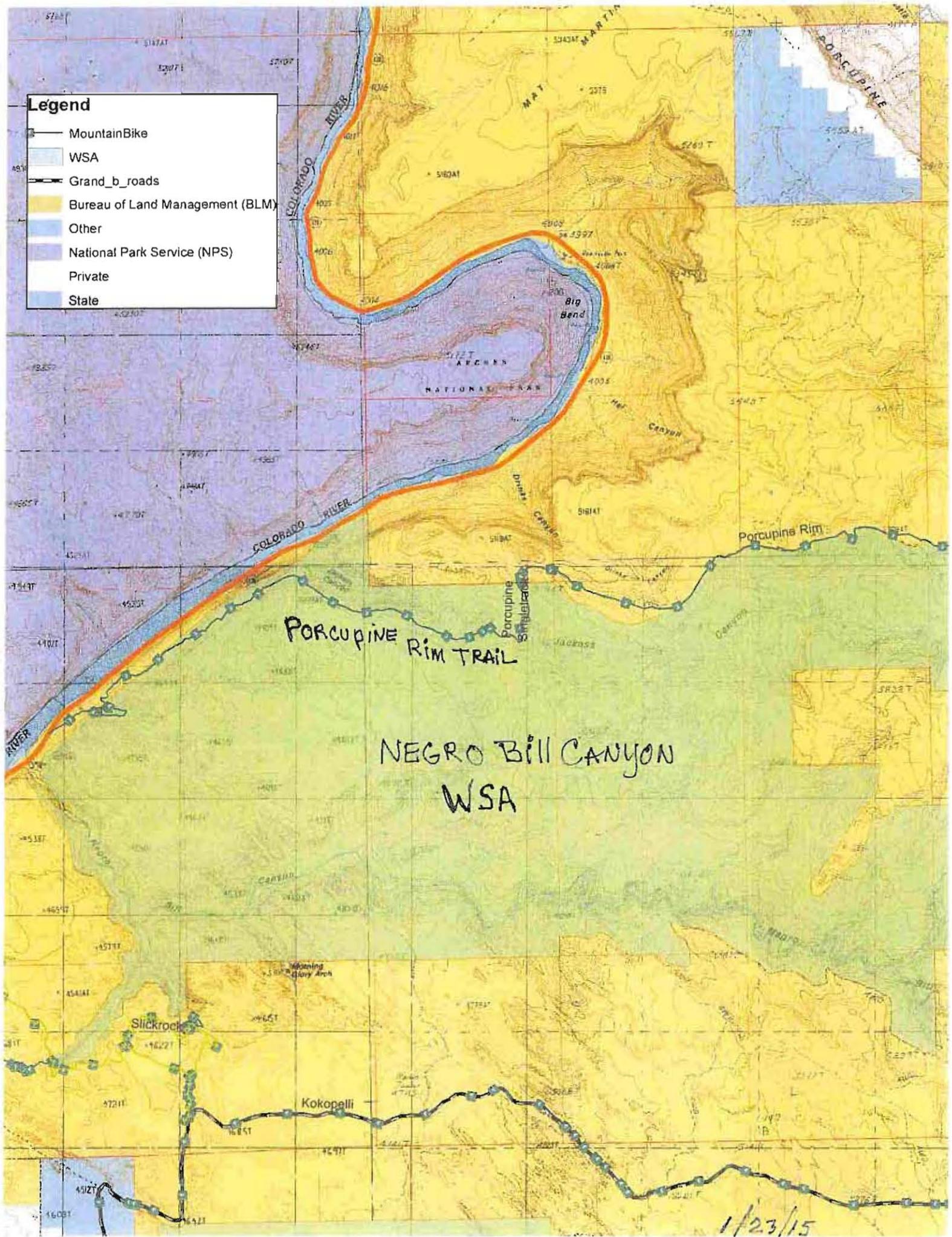
Sandy Freethey

Grand County Trail Mix Committee Chair

1/23/15

Legend

- MountainBike
- WSA
- Grand_b_roads
- Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
- Other
- National Park Service (NPS)
- Private
- State



1/23/15

The Labyrinth Canyon Region of the Colorado Plateau, along with its tributaries, encompasses a highly biodiverse area with outstanding wildlife habitat and rich ecological assemblages. There are substantial threats currently acting on this area so rich in ecological treasures, which would be greatly reduced if this unit of the Red Rock Wilderness Act is protected as Wilderness in Rob Bishop's Land protection initiative.

Flora of the proposed Labyrinth Canyon wilderness unit. Highly variable geography, geology and soil types that result from unique geological formations, coupled with an elevation range between 3,500 to 6,000 feet; result in a high diversity of ecotypes including but not limited to the salt desert shrub, lush grasslands, and pinyon-juniper forests of the Labyrinth Canyon region. The flora of the Labyrinth Canyon region is considered to be part of the Canyonlands Floristic Province, which possesses greater plant diversity than any other floristic region in Utah (Cronquist et al. 1972, Davidson et al. 1996). Hundreds of different species of plants can be found in the Labyrinth Canyon Region – which comprises a significant percentage of the plants known to the Colorado Plateau Ecoregion (Albee et al. 1988).

Additionally, high rates of endemism occur in this region, which is linked to the many unique features of this province, including climate, position along plant migratory routes, and distinctive geologic history (Welsh 1978). Conditions for growth on the unique substrates and stark formations of this part of the Colorado plateau are often rigorous at best, limiting the number of plants capable of establishment and reproduction in any given area (Davidson et al 1996). Small populations of unique plants that have evolved in relative isolation are the result of these unique habitat conditions. Some of these small populations represent rare species occurrences that they are easily imperiled by any ground disturbing activities and/or human actions such as ORV use and non-native species introduction due to their existing vulnerabilities, including low reproductive potential, restricted geographic ranges, and substantial fluctuations in numbers within small populations. Some of these species are protected as federally Threatened or Endangered species (e.g. dwarf bearclaw poppy, clay phacelia, and clay reed mustard). Importantly, 21 federally listed Endangered and Threatened plant species can be found in the Greater Canyonlands region encompassing the Labyrinth Canyon proposed wilderness unit (UDWR NHP 2011). These species often have low reproductive potential, restricted geographic ranges, or typically experience substantial variation in population size, all of which make them highly vulnerable to human disturbance.

In Labyrinth Canyon, Bowknot Bend protects an isolated relict plant community that remains unaltered by human activity and livestock grazing. This location has the potential to serve as reference (or control) site for scientific studies of adjacent vegetation communities that incur impacts of livestock grazing (normally considered to be a near ubiquitous impact to most plant communities of the intermountain West). The natural history values in this area are recognized by BLM as it is currently representative of a fairly pristine native plant community. In fact this 1,080 area of Bowknot Bend has been designated by the BLM as an Area of Critical Environmental Concern (BLM Price F.O RMP). Additionally, the Labyrinth Canyon region encompasses numerous steep-walled mesa tops that are virtually inaccessible and as such, have been predominantly isolated from anthropogenic disturbances (including livestock grazing). This has resulted in multiple areas of relict plant populations, some of which have existed since the Pleistocene, where natural processes continue unaltered by humans. As witnesses to the past, these pristine areas establish a baseline against which to measure changes in species composition, community dynamics and biogeochemical cycles in adjacent areas impacted by human activities.

Fragile biological soil crusts play a critical role throughout the Labyrinth Canyon area. These crusts increase the stability of otherwise easily erodible soils, increase water infiltration in a region that receives limited precipitation, and increase fertility of xeric soils often limited in essential nutrients such as nitrogen and carbon (Johansen 1993, Belnap et al. 1994). Studies examining the crucial ecosystem functions performed by biological soil crusts (some of which have been conducted not far from Labyrinth Canyon (Belnap and Sharpe 1995, Miller et al. 2001, Barger et al. 2005, Goldstein et al. 2009), have documented the negative consequences that ensue in cases where the crusts have been destroyed; including the primary impacts of reduced soil stability and fertility.

Wildlife of Labyrinth Canyon region. The diverse plant communities of the Labyrinth Canyon region support a diverse wildlife community of birds, mammals, fish, reptiles, and invertebrates. This includes species on the Utah Division of Wildlife Resource's list of Species of Greatest Conservation Need, such as white-tailed prairie dog, kit fox and Townsend's big-eared bat (UDWR 2001, 2015). The Green River through Labyrinth Canyon also includes a suite of rare desert fish, ranging from fish species on Utah's list of Species of Greatest Conservation Need like roundtail chub, bluehead sucker and flannelmouth sucker, to the four federally endangered Colorado river fish that could all potentially be found in this stretch of the Green: the Colorado pikeminnow, humpback chub, bonytail chub and razorback sucker (UDWR 2001, 2015). In addition, the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources reports that the west side of the Labyrinth proposed

wilderness unit contains Crucial pronghorn habitat (UDWR 2010), and that Substantial desert bighorn habitat can be found to the south of the unit, and Crucial bighorn habitat can be found on the north end (UDWR 2008). Concentration areas of biodiversity or biological 'hot spots' for both wildlife and plants include the mainstem of the Green River and its tributaries throughout the Labyrinth Canyon proposed wilderness unit, where countless songbirds, shorebirds, and migratory waterfowl depend upon the river as a stopover point in their long journeys north and south.

Raptor habitat which includes nest sites, foraging areas and roosting sites are common in and around the Labyrinth Canyon region. Riparian habitat such as that found along the Green River and its tributaries supports the greatest diversity and number of prey species, thus providing the greatest food supply for raptors. Raptors using the area include bald eagles (primarily they use wintering habitat along the Green River), and (reintroduced) peregrine falcons who nest on the steep cliffs above Labyrinth Canyon. Ferruginous hawks are active nesters in this region, often nesting on the ground of mesa tops. Ferruginous hawks also favor open terrain where they are vulnerable to human impacts. Swainsons' hawks are seen flying through Labyrinth Canyon as they migrate between nesting areas to the north and winter areas in South America.

River corridor, riparian zones and wetland values of the Labyrinth area. Most of these fish and wildlife species rely on healthy, free-flowing watercourses and associated functioning and connected riparian areas along them at some stage of life history and development. Significantly, while riparian ecosystems make up less than one percent (1%) of all public lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in Utah, they support 70-80% of Utah's arid land plants and wildlife species (Schelz 2007). The Labyrinth Canyon region contains over 53miles of perennial watercourses, including the Green River (USGS 2011a), which support perennial riparian vegetation, and over 700 miles of intermittent stream courses (USGS 2011a) such as Tenmile Wash and White Wash, which have continuous surface flows during wet times of the year such as spring and fall; however, during dry periods they may be intermittent with perennial sections and pools. Either way, these intermittent streams generally have, or have the potential to have, desert riparian vegetation composed of cottonwood and willows and a host of other typical riparian/wetland plants, offering important habitat to wildlife and even some aquatic species (Schelz, 2007).

Stream-riparian ecosystems are among the most biologically diverse, productive, and threatened habitats in the American Southwest (Johnson 1991, Stromberg 1993, Minckley and Brown 1994). Riparian habitats on

the Colorado Plateau support diverse and unique assemblages of species not found elsewhere, as well as many facultative species from the surrounding uplands (Stacey 1995, Naiman and Decamps 1997, Sabo et al. 2005). Riparian ecosystems within the Labyrinth Canyon region act as important migration corridors for larger species such as deer, mountain lions and bears (Belnap 1997). They provide temporary, or permanent, connections to outlying wetland pockets that provide auxiliary nurseries for a variety of invertebrates, amphibians, and larval and immature native fish (Wolz and Shiozawa 1995, Davidson et al. 1996). These systems also provide refuges and stopovers for neotropical migrant birds within otherwise dry and inhospitable habitat (Moore 1990). Riparian corridors are natural attractants to recreational users and are easily disturbed by human activities ranging from motorized and non motorized recreation, to dams and water diversions. Because riparian sites are often relatively isolated from similar habitat in riparian zones associated with a different drainage, their recovery from disturbance is likely to be hindered by the difficulty of recolonization from other drainages.

In the Labyrinth Canyon region there are 36 perennial springs in this otherwise dry landscape (USGS 2011b). In the Labyrinth area, springs are formed when sandstone formations that store water bond with less permeable layers leading to seeps and springs where they meet. Some of the rarest species in Utah and the most spectacular biotic assemblages are those associated with the springs and seeps that dot the landscape in this region. Just as areas with distinctive soil types are inhabited by their own special floras, the uniqueness of spring and seep habitats usually translates into unusual species communities, including “hanging gardens” (Rushforth et al. 1976, Johansen et al. 1983). Further, because these springs are generally isolated from other springs and seeps, their recovery from any form of disturbance is likely to be impeded markedly by the difficulty of recolonization from similar habitats that may be miles away. Moreover, seeps, springs and hanging gardens provide crucial habitat for a variety of wildlife, ranging from important stop-over habitat for neotropical migrants, to essential habitat for resident vertebrates – especially amphibians - who use these areas for foraging and breeding. Because these communities are often unique and difficult or impossible to replace, they merit the strongest possible protection.

Rare and unique dune systems in Labyrinth proposed wilderness unit. Located between the Green River tributaries of Salt Wash and Tenmile Wash are the White Wash Sand Dunes, a semi-active, longitudinal dune about ½ mile wide and 2.5 miles long. This dune system is the result of eolian, or wind-blown, deposits derived from wind-transported sand from the San Rafael Desert to the West. The sands of the dunes are very fine, and as such have very high water holding capacity, which in turn leads to a perched water table. This

phenomena allows for Fremont cottonwoods and coyote willows to grow on the tops of the dunes... well above the water table represented by White Wash and emerging springs in the bottoms and along the outskirts of the dunes. This is a very unusual phenomenon (Bowers 1984, personal communication Stan Welsh, BYU Herbarium). Available water for these hydrophytic plants is drawn up by the plants through capillary action into the roots, rather than a direct connection to a water table (personal communication Stephanie Ellingham, Moab BLM, November 2004).

Currently, the White Wash Sand Dunes experience heavy traffic by off-road recreational vehicles (ORV). Historically, parts of the White Wash dunes were held in place by a thin, chemical crust, comprised inorganically (i.e. weather and rainfall),¹ but perhaps with some further stabilization by cyanobacteria. Traces of this mechanical crust are observable on the White Wash dunes today. However, most locations where this crust still exists is torn up and crossed by ORV tracks (personal observation, ALJ). In addition, there is evidence of limited willow and cottonwood recruitment on the dunes, likely because of the ORV use (personal observation, ALJ). Dunes are particularly fragile and are easily impacted by even light motorized use (Biodiversity Conservation Alliance 2003). Dune buggies and sand rails, whose tires can cut deeply into the sand even when accelerating on level ground (Stebbins 1995) pose significant threats to the stability of sand dunes. These specialized tires throw up large rooster tails of sand, which in the process causes loss of precious soil moisture (which is one of the more unique factors of the White Wash Dunes). The integrity and viability of any sand dune ecosystem depends on the balance of sand deposition and sand loss. Typically a portion of dunes are actively accumulating sand, a portion are stabilized, and a portion are actively eroding and losing sand due to wind. While some dune systems can be partially stabilized by abiotic soil crusts, the chief cause of stabilization is anchoring by vegetation. ORV use in sand dunes can cause major destruction of dune plant communities, including significant impacts to diversity and richness of dune vegetation (Bury and Luckenback 1983, Kutiel et al. 2000, Center for Biological Diversity 2004). Thus, ORV use in sand dunes leads to dune destabilization and eventual loss of dune area. Dune buggies and sand rails also pose significant threats to many species of animals that live in dune ecosystems. For dune-specific fauna such as sand beetles, ORVs pose a particularly significant threat. Hardy and Andrews (1980) report that most dune beetles spend the day buried at a depth of 5 to 8 cm. This depth is not sufficient to protect individuals from the shearing activity of dune buggies, sand rails and other vehicle tires (Stebbins 1995). Burrows of lizards and small mammals can also be crushed by the deep digging action of paddle tires. And ground-nesting bees have nests that are often

¹ Since precipitation can help create these physical crusts (Jayne Belnap, unpublished manuscript), areas such as the White Wash Dunes that receive very little precipitation are less likely to often harbor these helpful physical crusts.

shallow and can be crushed or exposed by ORV activity. Moreover, ORVs can destroy bee nest entrances and manipulate or destroy visual landmarks bees use to locate nests when they return from foraging (personal communication Terry Griswold, USU Bee Lab).

The Ecological uniqueness of Tenmile Canyon. Tenmile Canyon is an extensive riparian/wetland canyon located approximately 20 miles southeast of Green River, Utah. It drains parts of the Cisco Desert and the Book Cliffs areas and flows west into the Green River. Tenmile Canyon is unique because it is one of the most extensive drainages south of Green River, Utah, that drains into the Green River from the east and contains perennial pools and surface flow for much of the year. As such, there are areas that have extensive functioning riparian systems that provide good habitat needs for fish and wildlife (including federally listed species like migrating southwestern willow flycatchers) that is not otherwise available in the area. (Schelz, 2007). In addition, there is a group of desert bighorn group that live in Tenmile Canyon area that likely rely on the stream and riparian habitat in Tenmile Canyon for food, water and shelter.

Tenmile Wash's riparian areas has been designated as "Non-Functional" or Functioning-at-Risk" by both the BLM and by ecological consultants, and this low functionality rating is a direct result of the presence of the existing dirt road in the Canyon, and Off-Road Vehicle activity, specifically, many stream crossings by ORVs (Schelz, 2007). In fact, the stream channel used to naturally meander before the streambanks suffered massive degradation at the hand of ORVs and the stream itself got repeatedly diverted onto the straighter 4-wheel drive routes during flood events. After floods scour and deepen the straightened stream channel, a new 4-wheel drive route is often created by visitors or the BLM, and then these new routes start the degradative process all over with the next large flood (with the likelihood of the next flood being even worse because of increased flood energy with straighter channels and lack of banks). Thus, water is then channeled quickly through the system, deepening the channel even more and decreasing the likelihood of flooding out into the floodplain, with even more concomitant impacts to the ecosystem (Schelz, 2007). Basically, the use of dirt roads in Tenmile Canyon, even when the roads are distant from the stream channel, has led to a sparsity of regenerating shrubs (in contrast to the higher levels of shrub regeneration away from roads), a reduction and elimination of ground cover of native grasses, rushes and forbs, and the presence of undesirable exotic plants. (Schelz, 2007).

Threats in Labyrinth Canyon area that would be alleviated if this unit protected as wilderness.

One good reason to protect the Labyrinth Canyon unit as wilderness is to ensure that some of the energy related speculation activities of days past, such as uranium and potash mining, will not come back to

degrade this area. Potash mining currently occurs in locations relatively nearby the Labyrinth Canyon area. Where potash mining occurs, the landscape may be disturbed through the removal of topsoil and vegetation, excavation and deposition of overburden, disposal of processing wastes and underground mining induced surface subsidence. The quality of surface and groundwater may be adversely affected by the release of processing water and the erosion of sediments and leaching of toxic minerals from overburden and processing wastes. Water resources may be affected by dewatering operations or beneficiation processes. Air quality can be affected by the release of emissions such as dust and exhaust gases (UNEP 2001).

As evidenced with the White Wash Sand Dunes and Tenmile Canyon example,² one of the most pervasive, current threats to the special desert ecosystems found in the Labyrinth Canyon area is ORV use. And while, as discussed above, ORV use in desert environments can have serious impacts in terms of impacts to rare dune environments, trampling vegetation, altering wildlife behavior, and causing soil erosion (Jones 1999), one of the most insidious threats ORVs have on the fragile Colorado Plateau is the impacts to the important biological crusts (also mentioned above). ORVs are incredibly destructive to these crusts, even a single pass of an ORV causes noticeable damage. And once they are destroyed they take a very long time to recover. The recovery time for the lichen component of crusts has been estimated at about 45 years (Belnap 1993) but the 45 year-old crusts will not have recovered their moss component, which will take an additional 200 years to fully come back (Belnap and Gillette 1997). Destruction of crusts by ORVs increase wind and water erosion of surface soils that were previously protected by the crusts (Webb 1983). The destruction of cryptobiotic soils can reduce nitrogen fixation by cyanobacteria, and set the nitrogen economy of these nitrogen-limited arid ecosystems back decades (Belnap 1995). Once the intact crusts - which prohibit weed establishment by preventing weed seed germination - are destroyed, bare ground is available and "roughed up" for colonization and germination by exotic weeds (Tisdale and Hironaka 198, Eckert et al. 1986, Mack 1989, Belsky and Gelbard 2000). Even small reductions in crusts can lead to diminished productivity and health of the associated plant community, with cascading effects on plant consumers (Davidson et al. 1996). In summary, healthy and intact cryptobiotic crust communities are now rare in this part of the Colorado Plateau, and so their intact occurrence anywhere within the Labyrinth Canyon area underscores one of the most important ecological values of this region. We must preserve what we have left and help these rare and important

² ORV use in the Labyrinth Canyon Area is by no means limited to TenMile Canyon and the White Wash Dunes. For example, ORV use is also causing problems on the road into and inside Hey Joe Canyon.

habitats recover to higher levels of ecological function, and protecting the Labyrinth Canyon unit from ORV use through Wilderness designation is probably the very best way to achieve this protection. Doing so could remove ORVs from the better part of what is now over 500 collective miles of routes, ways and dirt roads in the Labyrinth Canyon proposed wilderness unit (Utah AGRC 2014), alleviating many destructive impacts to riparian zones, cryptibiotic soils, sand dunes, and other sensitive plant communities.

General biological importance of protecting large blocks of roadless lands as wilderness The science of conservation biology in the past few decades has, through empirical research, conclusively shown us that one of the best rates of return in terms of preserving biodiversity and sustaining critical ecological processes is through the conservation of large, roadless tracts of habitat (Noss and Cooperrider 1994, Review by Trombulak and Frissell 2000, and references therein). This is achieved by protecting rare and susceptible native plant and wildlife species and their associated habitats from anthropogenic disturbances including: plant collectors, hunters, and poachers who access areas on roads; noise (human and mechanical); ORVs that illegally degrade habitat by crossing pristine areas from roads; aggressive exotic weeds that tend to colonize undisturbed habitat along roads; and pollution and erosion caused by roads and thus affecting the watershed. Preserving the Labyrinth Canyon area as an intact roadless wilderness unit is vital to ensuring these aforementioned impacts on the critical ecological qualities of this special and biologically diverse landscape are minimized to the extent possible.

Conclusions. Protection of the Labyrinth Canyon area as wilderness is vital to preserving its ecological treasures and Utah's natural heritage. Managing this area primarily for its outstanding natural values will improve this region's ecological health, function, and most importantly its ecological resilience, or rather - the ability to "bounce back" from the increased droughts expected with climate change, which is predicted to accelerate desertification in the Colorado Plateau (Schwinning et al., 2008). As Biologists who study the ecology and function of this remarkable area, we ask the Grand County Council to put forward the full Labyrinth Canyon proposed wilderness unit for the protection it deserves, and to seek this protection as part of Rep. Bishop's new land initiative.

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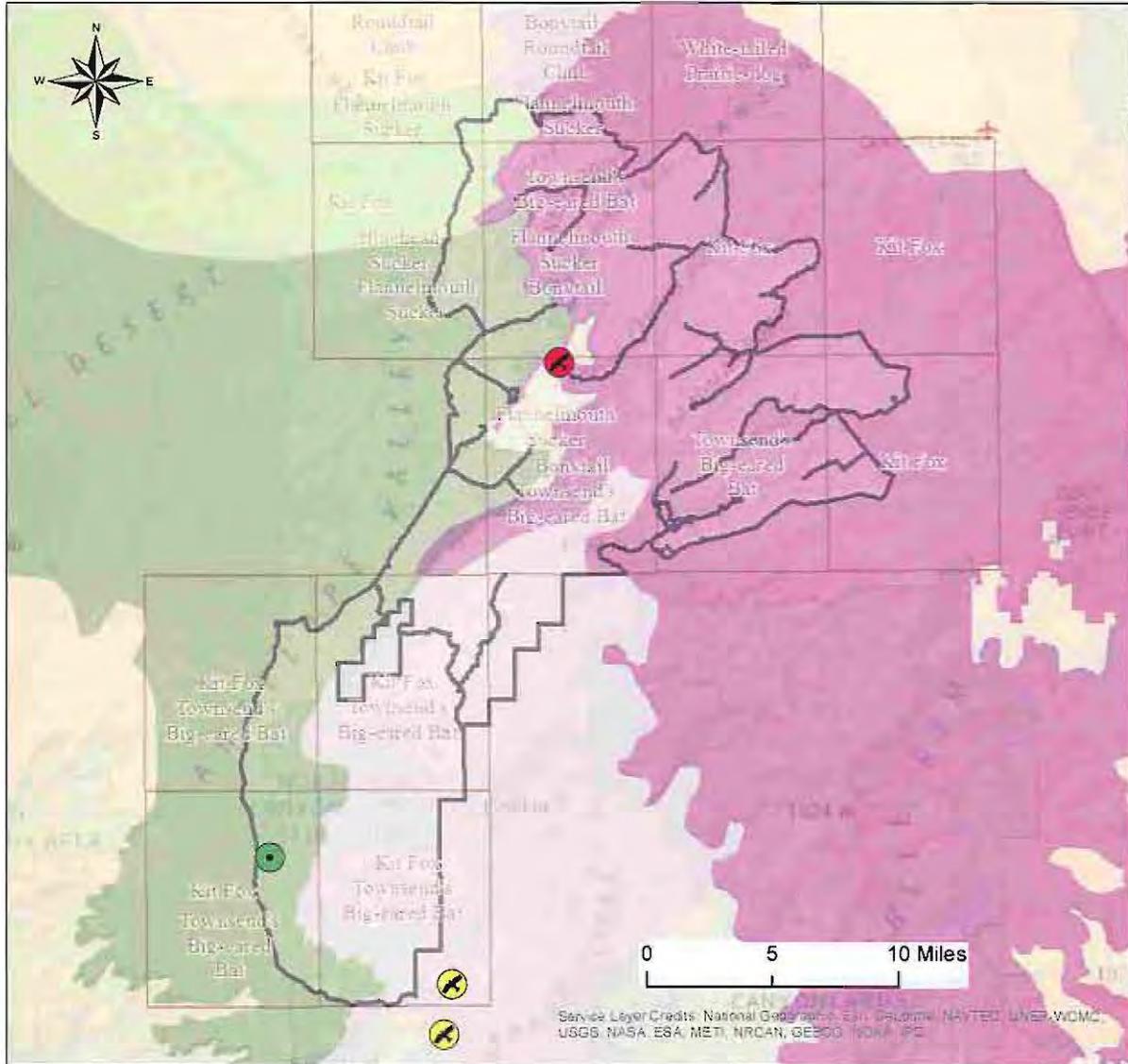
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Wildlife Occurrences and Habitat Type

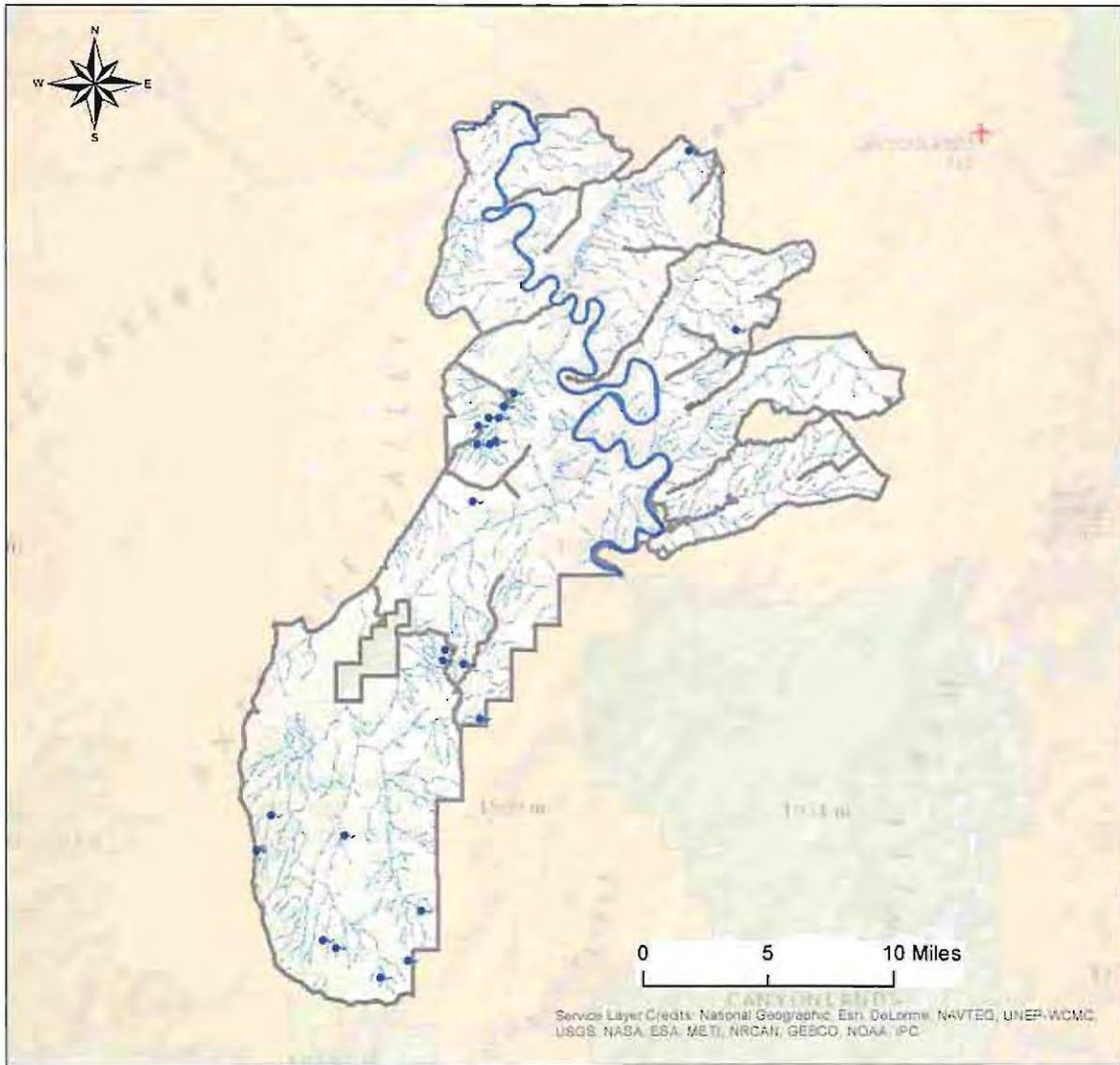
Labyrinth Canyon



<p>Natural Heritage Species, UDWR 2001</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Peregrine falcon Spotted owl Townsend's big-eared bat 	<p>Desert Bighorn Sheep Habitat, UDWR 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crucial Substantial <p>Pronghorn Habitat, UDWR 2010</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crucial Substantial 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utah Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive Species Occurrences, UDWR 2014 Labyrinth Canyon Boundary, UWC 2008
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Map Scale 1:433,757
 NAD 1983 UTM Zone 12N
 Prepared by Emanuel Vasquez
 March, 2015

Perennial Streams, Intermittent Streams, and Springs Labyrinth Canyon



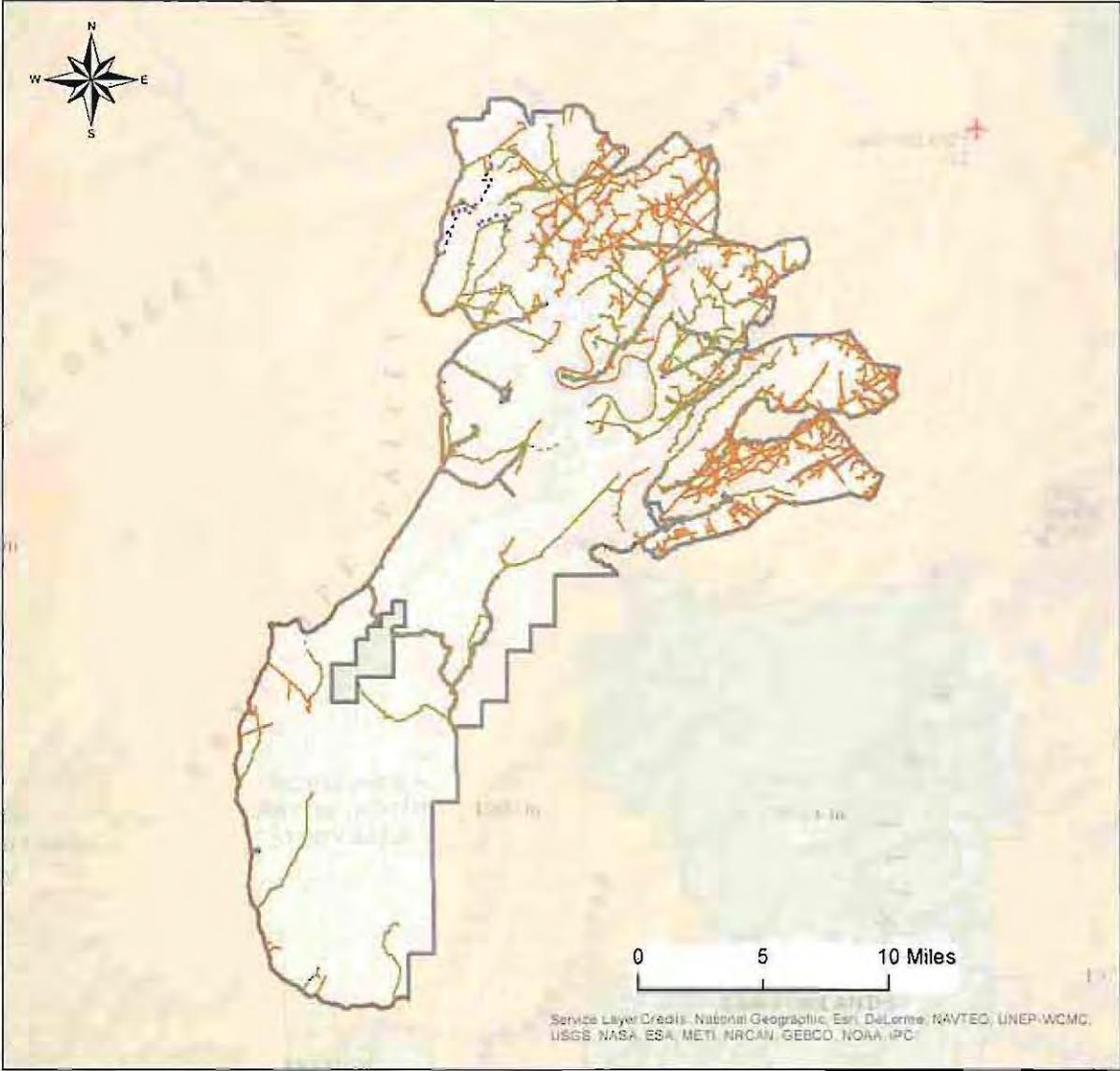
Streams, NHD USGS 2010		 Major Rivers, NHD USGS 2010
 Intermittent	 Labyrinth Canyon Boundary, UWC 2008	
 Perennial		
 Springs, NHD USGS 2010		

Map Scale 1:433,757
 NAD 1983 UTM Zone 12N
 Prepared by Emanuel Vasquez
 March, 2015



Roads and Trails

Labyrinth Canyon



Service Layer Credits: National Geographic, Esri, DeLorme, NAVTEQ, UNEP-WCMC, USGS, NASA, ESA, METI, NRCAN, GEBCO, NOAA, IPC

Roads, AGRC 2015	Trails System, AGRC 2015	 Labyrinth Canyon Boundary, UWC 2008
 Paved	 Paved Trails	
 Improved	 Non-Motorized Trails	
 Dirt		

Map Scale 1:433,757
NAD 1983 UTM Zone 12N
Prepared by Emanuel Vasquez
March, 2015



KaLeigh Welch

From: Franklin Seal [manomoab@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2015 7:17 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: the Bishop process

My input on the Bishop Public Lands Initiative:

I've lived here 22 years. I work in the tourism industry and much of my time, both while working and for pleasure, have been spent in several of the key areas under consideration: Behind the Rocks, and the Labyrinth Canyon/Tenmile Canyon/Spring Canyon/Duma Point/Whitewash area. I know both these areas intimately. Here's my two cents, for what it's worth:

Though I have been a jeep guide and have spent many fun hours driving off-road for fun, there are *so many* places to drive a jeep, and there will still be plenty, even if some areas are set aside for non-motorized recreation. But the inverse is not true: areas that are frequented by motorized recreation quickly drive away all forms of non-motorized recreation. We can not afford to allow the majority of areas to become "off-road sacrifice zones." Therefore:

- Close a small percentage of the motorized routes in these areas in order to move toward a better balance between motorized and non-motorized recreation. The most important routes to close are the ones within the inner canyons: Tenmile Wash, Hey Joe (along the Green River), Hell Roaring Canyon, Mineral Canyon.
- Expand the NCA from Alternative 3 to include Tenmile Canyon, Spring Canyon, and the Duma Point / Whitewash area. No potash mines, no SITLA trade-in areas.
- Please do not follow the recommendations of the Big Flat Working Group, which was biased in favor of extractive industry and motorized recreation.

Also:

- Grand County has some of the best scenery and recreational opportunities in the world. It makes to sense to sacrifice these resources for fertilizer (potash) and minor oil deposits.
- The existing road network in the Labyrinth area is heavily biased towards motorized recreation; it is not at all balanced. Closed a small percentage of the motorized routes would move us toward a more fair and balanced travel plan.
- SITLA should trade into existing development, which need not even be in Grand County. SITLA should not trade into scenic areas.
- Wilderness makes sense for the Behind the Rocks and Goldbar areas.
- We have already made the mistake of leasing some these areas for oil and gas development. Lets not repeat that mistake with potash.

Franklin Seal
256 E 100 S, Moab, Utah 84532
Phone: 435.259.4811
Email: manomoab@gmail.com
Facebook: [franklin.seal](https://www.facebook.com/franklin.seal)
LinkedIn: [linkedin.com/in/franklinseal](https://www.linkedin.com/in/franklinseal)
Google+: <http://bit.ly/1732m3W>



"It is difficult to get a man to understand something when his salary depends upon his not understanding it." - Upton Sinclair

KaLeigh Welch

From: Deb Walter [debwalter56@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2015 10:04 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Big Flat/Labyrinth

Dear Grand County Council,

Thank you again for putting all this time and energy into making good decisions for the future of Grand County. It has been a long road, and we appreciate your diligence.

The Big Flat/ Labyrinth Canyon area is an area of beautiful vistas and rock formations, canyons; habitat for big horn sheep, raptors, and other wildlife; archeological treasures that have yet to be surveyed; and countless recreation opportunities. It is also on the much traveled route to Canyonlands National Park and to Dead Horse Point State Park. It is very accessible to Moab and is the most heavily used unprotected public land area in Grand County. Originally it was included in the proposal for Canyonlands National Park. For all the above reasons, it is deserving of land protections against all mining and extraction industries.

The areas that have recently been drilled by Fidelity Exploration and Production are scars on the landscape. The Moab Endurance Ride trails run through the Spring Canyon, Dubinky Wells, Monitor and Merrimac, Bartlett Flat, and other nearby areas. Riding out there is now not an option unless one wants to encounter dangerous and dust creating truck traffic, view the industrial zone as the new backcountry scenery, and breathe noxious fumes. The BLM has permitted Fidelity to exclude safety standards originally in the Dead Horse Lateral Pipeline EA, putting local citizens and tourists at risk. If Grand County intends to continue on the path of financial well-being and creating a vibrant community in which people move here to add their resources to the community, then Grand County needs to support the BLM in giving them the ability to protect this area as much as possible.

I urge you to honor all the people who have spoken in favor of protecting this area from future development. Businesses and recreationists depend on this protection, thus the whole community benefits. Do the right thing and create stiff protections in the form of NCA's, restricting all forms of mining and extraction in the whole area.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Deb Walter
4100 Easy St
Moab, UT 84532

KaLeigh Welch

From: Frontier Customer [theresaw@frontiernet.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2015 11:18 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Bishop Public Lands Initiative - Lands West of Highway 191

Thank you, Council Members, for considering our input.

We fully support these comments concerning the Bishop Public Lands Initiative and the Lands West of Highway 191:

- Please do not endorse the Big Flat working group's recommendations. The recommendations need a much closer look concerning mineral extraction and motorized recreation.
- Protect Ten Mile Wash, White Wash and Spring Canyon, by extending the NCA boundary (Alternative 3) to include these areas. Ten Mile Wash is a rare perennial stream in the desert, and White Wash has numerous seeps and small springs. Perennial streams make up 2% of public lands in Utah, and provide habitat for ~85% of all wildlife species. These areas have irreplaceable ancient archaeological structures, artifacts, and rock art.
- Close a small fraction of the off-road vehicle routes in this area to move towards a better balance of recreational opportunities. The critical ORV routes to close, which are generally in canyons and wash bottoms, include: Ten Mile, White Wash, Hell Roaring Canyon, Mineral Canyon, Hey Joe along the river, and the little-used jeep trail north of Long Canyon and south of Day Canyon.
- Extend the County's wilderness proposal to include Ten Mile Wash, Spring Canyon, Hell Roaring Canyon and Mineral Canyon - similar to the BLM's No Surface Occupancy designation areas (2008 Resource Mgmt. Plan); extend wilderness protection to the Goldbar area and Behind the Rocks WSA
- The Big Flat/Labyrinth Canyon area is an area of beautiful vistas and rock formations, canyons; habitat for big horn sheep, raptors, and other wildlife; archeological treasures that have yet to be surveyed; and countless recreation opportunities. It is also on the much traveled route to Canyonlands National Park and to Dead Horse Point State Park. It is very accessible to Moab and is the most heavily used unprotected public land area in Grand County. Originally it was included in the proposal for Canyonlands National Park. For all these reasons, it is deserving of land protections from all mining and extraction industries.

The public lands west of Hwy. 191 include some of the most outstanding canyons in Grand County. This area contains ancient archaeological artifacts, wildlife habitat and beautiful calm-water boating on the Green River in Labyrinth Canyon. This is not an appropriate place for mining potash for fertilizer, or expanding leasing for oil and gas speculation.

Your time and advocacy in this Public Lands process is most appreciated. Please consider the long-term importance of this area and preserve it for current and future generations. The public lands west of Highway 191 are spectacular public lands. Generations to come will benefit from your support in preserving these unique areas.

Respectfully,

David and Theresa Wilson
464 E. Center Street
Moab, Utah 84532

KaLeigh Welch

From: Kiley Miller [moabkiley@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2015 12:56 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Bishops land bill

In regards to Bishops Land bill, please protect our public lands to the fullest extent!!!
And-

(1) Expand the NCA from Alternative 3 to include Tenmile Canyon, Spring Canyon, and the Duma Point / Whitewash area. No potash mines, no SITLA trade-in areas.

(2) Close a small percentage of the motorized routes in the area in order to move toward a better balance between motorized and non-motorized recreation. The most important routes to close are the ones within the inner canyons: Tenmile Wash, Hey Joe (along the Green River), Hell Roaring Canyon, Mineral Canyon.

(3) The County Council should *not* follow the recommendations of the Big Flat Working Group, which was biased in favor of extractive industry and motorized recreation. Wilderness advocates were excluded from the Big Flats Working Group, so the group's recommendations are not a "consensus" in any meaningful sense.

Also-

* Grand County has some of the best scenery and recreational opportunities in the world. It makes no sense to sacrifice these resources for fertilizer (potash) and minor oil deposits.

* The existing road network in the Labyrinth area is heavily biased towards motorized recreation; it is not at all balanced. Closing a small percentage of the motorized routes would move us toward a more fair and balanced travel plan.

* SITLA should trade into existing development, which need not even be in Grand County. SITLA should not trade into scenic areas.

* Wilderness makes sense for the Behind the Rocks and Goldbar areas.

* We have already made the mistake of leasing some of these areas for oil and gas development. Lets not repeat that mistake with potash.

Thank you for your time & please protect our public lands- Kiley Miller Moab Utah

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But the love of wilderness is more than a hunger for what is beyond reach, it is also an expression of loyalty to the Earth, the Earth which bore us and sustains us, the only home we shall ever know, the only paradise we ever need- if only we had the eyes to see. Original sin, the true original sin, is the blind destruction for the sake of greed of this natural paradise which lies all around us- if only we were worthy of it.

-Ed Abbey

-

KaLeigh Welch

From: Marc & Judi [marc_judi@frontiernet.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2015 2:32 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Letter in Favor of Creating a National Conservation Area in the Labyrinth Canyon Area West of Highway 313
Attachments: Letter to Council Members on Establishing a Labyrinth Area NCA .doc; Letter to Council Members on Establishing a Labyrinth Area....pdf

Dear Grand County Council Members,

Attached in both DOC & PDF format is my letter supporting designation of a Labyrinth Canyon / Island in the Sky National Conservation Area as one of the recommendations about public land use in Grand County that you send on to Congressman Bishop.

Thank you for allowing me an opportunity to submit my comments to you.

Sincerely,
Marc Thomas

Marc Thomas & Judi Simon
827 N. Palisade Drive
Moab, UT 84532
435-259-3603 (home)
435-210-0806 (Judi's cell)
435-210-0807 (Marc's cell)

March 5, 2015

Dear Council Members,

I hope that the presentations made to you at the Public Lands Initiative administrative workshop on February 16th have convinced you that a National Conservation Area (NCA) designation is appropriate to manage the multiple-uses and broad spectrum of scientific, cultural, geological, historical, recreational, and scenic values to be found in the Labyrinth Canyon/Island in the Sky Area west of Highway 313. Hopefully, you now believe that the creation of an NCA will be an effective tool in augmenting the national and international visibility of our world-renown public lands, which provide the spiritual and recreational opportunities that attract visitors, retirees, and entrepreneurs bringing new companies and wealth into Grand County.

But managing land for multi-use does not mean allowing every use, if there is concern about negative impacts to its cultural, scenic, and recreational resources, as well as its air and water quality, wildlife, and plant communities. Situated on the doorstep to two national parks, the Labyrinth/I-Sky area, like Arches and Canyonlands, provides amazing scenery and recreation among landscapes filled with paleontological, ecological, and cultural assets. To me, it makes little sense to risk sacrificing these assets in order to mine for potash or expand the number of oil pads beyond what is already there.

From history, we know that if the National Park Service (NPS) had been managing these lands, they would have seen protection from extractive industries, either as Canyonlands National Park was originally conceived or by implementation of Superintendent Walt Dabney's "Canyonlands Completion" proposal from the mid-1990's. In fact, as late as 2004, Department of the Interior Secretary Gale Norton assured the NPS that no oil or gas development would be allowed close to Canyonlands.

Of course, that is not how it has played out. After lying dormant while waiting for horizontal drilling to be perfected, existing oil and gas leases are now being clear cut into development north of Canyonlands and Dead Horse Point, with oil pads, wells, tailings pits, pipelines, and assorted other infrastructure. Because they are existing leases, an NCA will have to grandfather them in, with the hope that in time they can be retired.

As these changes have come on-line, the impacts on air quality, water consumption, land surface disturbance, truck traffic, recreational users, and the viewshed have been laid bare for all to see. Trail Mix, the county's right arm in building the non-motorized trails that maintains our area's competitive edge in attracting non-motorized recreationists, has cited increased truck traffic on Highway 313 and Gemini Bridges Road and oil pad locations that conflict with established bike trails as impacts that need mitigation. Visitors, outfitters, and recreationists have made note of these new conflicts in letters to the editors appearing in our two newspapers and in comments addressed to council members.

These same impacts and conflicts will be seen west of Highway 313 as at least 21 new oil pads are built out along Mineral Point, Spring Canyon Bottom, and Dubinky Well Roads, some near the Lone Mesa and Horsethief campgrounds. The only way, short of a national monument or

national park designation, to put the brakes on additional oil pad creep here is to opt for creating an NCA. Enough is enough in an special area that never should have been made available to the extraction industry in the first place.

When it comes to the four undeveloped potash test sites on BLM land near Spring Canyon Point Road, we're assured that new extraction techniques disturb less surface area, use less and recycle more water, leave a smaller footprint, produce less tailings, and make reclamation a non-issue. What we do know is this is all speculative, none of it has been proven, and we've been chosen as the guinea pig.

What we do know is that water quality can be affected by the release or leeching of slurry brines and contaminants into both surface and process water. We also know that despite what a corporation may say, large volumes of water typically are required to mine and process potash. This water consumption could cause a fall in the level of the area's water table, affecting the surrounding ecosystem, or lead to another contentious battle over Green River water rights, or see even more Moab culinary water trucked in to support potash ore mining and processing.

What we're sure of is that it's our recreation and tourism industry which powers the steady and real growth in personal income and jobs for our residents. It's what protected us from the Great Recession of 2007-09 and continues to be the catalyst for a rural economic boom that won't ever go bust, as long as we avoid developmental impacts that harm habitats and impair access. To me, further oil well or potash mine creep isn't worth the risk. Is it to you?

Councilman Jackson is fond of saying that designating a National Conservation Area means it's a sure bet to be a national park within 10 years. I'm willing to bet that unless much of it is placed inside an NCA, the Labyrinth/ Island in the Sky area west of Highway 313 will in much less time become part of a new national monument designated by the President under the Antiquities Act. Is keeping mining expansion in play worth triggering that action?

An amazing thing happened last November. In an era when corporations and lobbyists generally tell government agencies and politicians what to do, the voters of Grand County stood up and declared that it was in the public interest to chart a new course in managing our area's incredible environmental assets. Protecting the future of Labyrinth Canyon/I-Sky by ensuring it is managed as an NCA would be seen by the public as a significant action taken by you to restore the public trust.

Finally, I want to commend the council for taking the time to make sure all of its citizens' voices were given the chance to be heard, regardless of how much or little public lands protection they favored. It did honor to the ground rules set by Congressman Bishop that for an agreement to be valid, no one wanting a seat at the table should be excluded.

Thank you.

Marc Thomas
827 Palisade Drive
Moab, UT 84532

March 5, 2015

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Thank you.

Marc Thomas
827 Palisade Drive
Moab, UT 84532

KaLeigh Welch

From: Mobad [gomobad@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2015 5:11 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth, Gold Bar Etc

Please do all that is possible to protect the listed sites and areas. I am not able to attend the upcoming meetings in person. I believe those sites are valuable and precious to all who have seen them. Thank You for the ongoing efforts to listen to all parties.

John Hartley

Sent from my iPhone

KaLeigh Welch

From: Lisa Paterson [lpater1@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2015 7:26 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Lands west of 191

Dear County Council Members,

Thank you for all of the work you do on the behalf for county residents.

Please consider the following comments when you make your decision concerning the Bishop Land Bill Initiative recommendations on lands west of 191.

Please protect Spring Canyon, Ten Mile Wash, & White Wash by extending the NCA boundary (Alternative 3) to include these areas. Both Ten Mile Wash and White Wash contain water crucial to wildlife habitat. Ten Mile Wash has a perennial stream and White Wash has many seeps and small springs.

These areas also contain ancient archaeological interests that must be preserved. These wonders include artifacts, rock art, and primitive structures.

Please vote to give wilderness status to Ten Mile Wash, Spring Canyon, Hell Roaring Canyon and Mineral Canyon. Behind the Rocks WSA should be included in wilderness designation.

This area is rare, spectacular, and important to save for future generations. Allowing drilling for oil and potash mining would be a travesty. There are existing potash Preference Right Leases (i.e. leases w/ no termination date) located north of the above proposed wilderness areas. In addition, there are known potash deposits in Lisbon Valley. Creating the suggested wilderness designations will preserve this land and not lockout mineral development. It's a win-win for all parties.

Thank you for your careful consideration as you make these decisions.

Sincerely,

Lisa Paterson

Lisa Paterson Coaching and Rosen Method Bodywork
Gently Held, Deeply Seen
<http://www.lisapatersoncoaching.com/>

KaLeigh Welch

From: janet [jjlondon@xmission.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2015 10:14 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Proposal

Dear Grand County Council Members:

My husband and I moved to Moab permanently as of January 1, 2015. We have been coming to Moab for the past 30 years to enjoy the hiking, biking, scenery and golf and were lucky to have found a place to retire to enjoy the hiking, biking, scenery and golf. Over the years we've been disappointed by the blight of oil/gas wells and the detritus associated with these properties popping up near our national parks and the thought that more oil/gas wells (and detritus), potash mines and even a possible nuclear power plant be part of this sacred land is unfathomable. Moab (Grand County) has some of the most beautiful scenery and recreational opportunities in the world. It makes no sense to sacrifice these resources for fertilizer (potash) and minor oil deposits. We are trusting that you will do the right thing for our future generations and leave a true legacy of clean air, clean energy and pristine wilderness.

Thank you,

Janet Landon

KaLeigh Welch

From: Kathey McNeely [katheymcneely@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2015 10:28 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Congressman Bishop's Public Lands Bill Initiative Proposal

Dear Grand County Council:

1. Regarding last week's meeting, I am not in agreement with your decision to propose an NCA in the LaSals above Castle Valley. It does not fit the description of current NCA s already in Utah, Colorado, Nevada, Idaho, Alaska, and New Mexico (check BLM site listings and descriptions of these NCAs.) "Restrictions vary between these conservation areas, but generally they are not leased or sold under mining laws and motorized vehicles are restricted." They can have building restrictions if private property is included. There are at least 40 private property owners above Castle Creek, and in Willow Basin and Upper Willow Basin. An NCA could, also, restrict or eliminate hunting. It would take away local input and control. Please revisit this proposal and change it to a recreation area, because that's what it is!

2. Please honor the work of the Big Flat Working group. It was composed of a diverse group of vested stakeholders in the area. They worked extremely hard to devise a balanced plan that works for recreation and mineral interests in this area. "In 2014, Grand County received more than \$3.8 million from the oil and gas industry through royalty revenues and mineral bonus revenues. An additional \$780,000 was assessed to Fidelity for property tax. In addition, oil and gas production on school trust lands in our county contributed more than \$6.3 million to the state's school trust fund. An additional \$4.2 million from Federal oil and gas royalties which included production in Grand County, was given to the state's higher education board."

*****We need a balanced economy which includes both recreation and responsible mining/drilling for oil and gas. Both industries are important to our community.

*****We don't need any wilderness in this area. It doesn't fit wilderness descriptions. The working group recommended adequate protection along the river, including a one mile buffer zone of no mineral leasing or development, providing more than adequate protection for the values of scenery and quiet for river users.

*****Do not shut down any motorized or nonmotorized roads or trails. This is a popular front country recreation area used by both.

*****We do not need any wilderness, national conservation areas, or national monuments in this area.

Sincerely,
Kathey McNeely
Local - 3rd generation

KaLeigh Welch

From: Anne Clare Erickson [anneclare.erickson@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 12:29 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: comments on land protection and the Bishop bill

Dear Grand County Council,
Thank you for all the work you do. I am writing to urge you to recommend protection for our incredible and unique land. Please tell Congressman Bishop that preserving our land is the utmost of importance to protect our economy. The long term effects of allowing oil and gas exploration and drilling is not worth sacrificing scenery and experiences that are not possible anywhere else in the world. I support moving to more protection and reducing motorized recreation in some areas such as Hell Roaring Canyon, Mineral Canyon and Hey Joe Wash. I would like to see wilderness in Behind the Rocks.

We all know what we have here in Grand County. Let's not cave in to the wishes of some to sacrifice our world renowned landscape for short term development and destruction. Please show the world and future generations that we are intelligent by protecting our land! Thank you for your time,
Anne Clare Erickson
329 Hillside Dr
Moab Utah 84532
>

KaLeigh Welch

From: Marcy Till [moabmarcy@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 10:17 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net; Marcy Till
Subject: Big Flat/Labyrinth Canyon discussion

Dear Council Members,

As business owners in Grand County that depend on the tourism industry and the people that flock here for that reason, we want to thank you again for putting the time and energy required into making good decisions for the future of Grand County. It is our belief that preserving and protecting the land, water, and air around Moab, throughout Grand County, from heavy industry and its by-products is the greatest investment we can make now for future economic development and long-term assets in Grand County.

We have experienced the Big Flat/ Labyrinth Canyon area as hikers, 4-wheelers, and on horseback. It is an area of beautiful vistas, rock formations, and canyons; habitat for big horn sheep, raptors, and other wildlife; home to archaeological treasures that have yet to be surveyed; and holds countless recreation opportunities. It is also on the much traveled route to Canyonlands National Park and to Dead Horse Point State Park. It is very accessible to Moab and is the most heavily used unprotected public land area in Grand County. Originally it was included in the proposal for Canyonlands National Park. For all the above reasons, it is deserving of land protections against all mining and extraction industries.

We urge you to honor all the people who have spoken in favor of protecting this area from future development. Businesses and the tourism industry depend on this protection. People from all over the world come to Moab (Grand County) to experience the awe of our canyon country's beauty in its natural, pristine state, and oil and gas development, in any of its stages, is NOT compatible with that reality. We risk a decline in our tourism industry if we allow our county to become over-industrialized. Is it worth it? We urge you to create stiff protections in the form of National Conservation Areas, restricting all forms of mining and extraction in the whole area.

Sincerely,
Marcy Till
Tom Till
Owners, Tom Till Gallery, est. 1998

KaLeigh Welch

From: marymoran@frontiernet.net
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 10:34 AM
To: Grand County Council
Subject: Bishop PLI: lands west of 191

Dear Council Members:

Following are our comments for the public lands west of Hwy. 191.

Please prioritize preservation of any perennial water sources, whether spring areas or riparian canyons. These habitats have a higher diversity and density of plants and wildlife than any other in our area. They make up a tiny percentage of land area and are inherently threatened, overused and disturbed. Many are already destroyed or highly disturbed. We need to preserve any that are remaining. Toward that end, please protect Ten Mile Wash and White Wash, by extending the National Conservation Area boundary to include them.

Please extend the County wilderness recommendation to include the canyons on the east edge of the Green River: Ten Mile Wash, Spring Canyon, Hell Roaring Canyon and Mineral Canyon, as well as the Goldbar area and, closest to home, the Behind the Rocks WSA.

Thanks you for your time and effort in this lengthy process. It is so important.

Sincerely,
Mary Moran and Dennis Silva

KaLeigh Welch

From: glen [glen.lathrop@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 10:58 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Bishop Land Bill

Dear Council Members,

Thank you for reviewing the proposals for the Bishop Lands Bill. We can preserve land in Grand County and have development.

I would like to see the Ten Mile wash area preserved. Ten Mile Wash is a rare perennial stream. Perennial streams make up about 2% of public lands in Utah, and yet provide habitat for ~85% of all wildlife species.

I would like to see all of the canyons in this area preserved. Hell Roaring, Mineral, Hey Joe. Thousand of river runners use this area every year. We need to protect this.

And please don't just protect the river corridor. Having drill rigs on the rim is going to ruin any kind of wilderness experience. With horizontal drilling a mile or set back from the rim would not limit oil and gas development.

Also we need to protect the behind the rocks area. This area in other state would be a national park. We must protect it.

Not only do the citizens of Grand County appreciate your time and efforts but so do the citizens of the whole county. This is public land belongs to everyone.

Glen Lathrop

KaLeigh Welch

From: Thea Nordling [theakn@frontiernet.net]
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 2:32 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Another letter regarding Bishop plan
Attachments: County Council Bishop Proposal letter 3.doc

Please see attachment

Re: Public lands west of Hwy. 191.

Dear Council Members:

It is appalling to see so much of the public land west of Highway 191 already scarred by oil, gas, and potash exploration and development. The Big Flat working group's recommendations for this area are heavily biased in favor of mineral extraction and motorized recreation. Please revisit and rewrite these recommendations to offer protection through National Conservation Area or Wilderness designation to the areas that are still unscathed.

Labyrinth Canyon, on the Green River is one of few stretches of river offering a peaceful flat water experience accessible to boaters of all levels of skill. The peaceful ambience of this canyon must be protected.

Ten Mile Wash, White Wash and Spring Canyon are riparian areas important as wildlife habitat, and also have numerous archeological sites that should be protected. Close ORV routes in these canyons and wash bottoms, and also include Hell Roaring Canyon, Mineral Canyon, and Hey Joe along the river.

Ten Mile Wash, Spring Canyon, Hell Roaring Canyon, Mineral Canyon, Goldbar and Behind the Rocks WSA are all worthy of wilderness protection.

The area encompassing the Tombstone, Rainbow Rocks and Secret Spire is highly scenic, geologically interesting, and enjoyed by hikers, equestrians and motorized recreationists. I have personally encountered bighorn sheep in this area. Please recommend some protective designation to prevent industrial development there.

Thank you once again for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Thea Nordling
1996 Highland Drive
Moab UT84532

KaLeigh Welch

From: Ginny Carlson [ginny@wyn.org]
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 2:37 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Workshop #3 -- west of 191

Dear County Council members,

Please add my name to those who favor Alternative 3, with as much additional wilderness and other protection to the public lands as possible.

In addition, I would like to see 10-mile canyon closed to motorized vehicles. 10-Mile contains archeological treasures and it is also a prime riparian area. Please make sure that Behind the Rocks remains protected as wilderness.

Sincerely, Ginny Carlson
3136 Far Country Dr, Moab UT 84532

KaLeigh Welch

From: Gene Ciarus [gciarus@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 3:37 PM
To: KaLeigh Welch
Subject: Bishop Land Bill
Attachments: Cost of Wilderness.pdf; District Court Kimball Decision - Richfield RMP.pdf

As some of you council members have stated they would study the issue before making decision I would like to propose that the Council review the 10th District Court, Judge Kimball ruling and the University of Utah Study about the Cost of Wilderness and compare what has been said by the environmental groups. Namely SUWA, Sahara, Grand Canyon Trust and the rest that is promoting Wilderness and Roadless area. Utah State University also did as study with the same results. Both attachment have been supply to the Council in the past but I'm sure they we not read and I know the two lady council person did not have a chance to review. I believe all the council member should also study the history of Grand County before the lock up the county from multiply use.

Kaleigh can you see that the council member get this. Thank you



THE ECONOMIC COSTS OF WILDERNESS

Brian C. Steed, Ryan M. Yonk, and Randy Simmons

Jon M. Huntsman School of Business, Utah State University

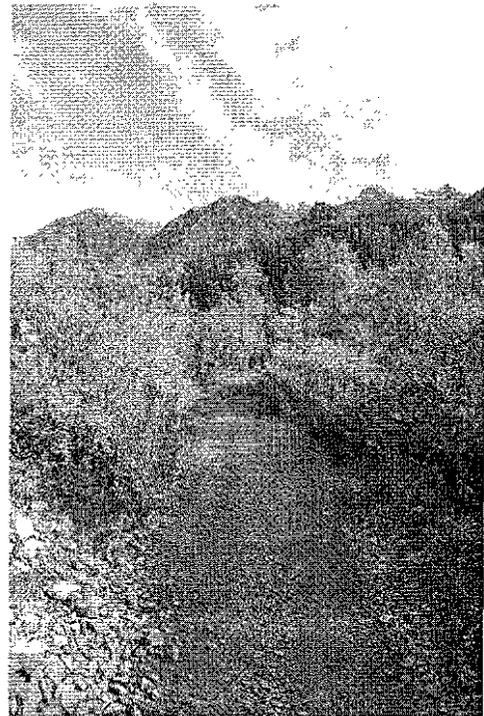
Summary

Wilderness is one of the most contentious issues in American public lands management. Local officials often bemoan Wilderness designations as creating economic hardships by limiting extractive industries, outdoor recreation, and the siting of transportation corridors, water and power lines, and telecommunication facilities. In direct contrast, many environmentalists allege that Wilderness creates economic benefits for local communities through increasing property values and from benefitting the tourism industry. This study explores the economic claims by examining empirical evidence of identifiable differences in the economic conditions of Wilderness and Non-Wilderness Counties.

Some Wilderness can have positive economic impacts but our findings indicate that this is not the general rule. We find that when controlling for other types of federally held land and additional factors impacting economic conditions, federally designated Wilderness negatively impacts local economic conditions. Specifically, we find a significant negative relationship between the presence of Wilderness and county total payroll, county tax receipts, and county average household income. By working together with local communities to address their concerns, environmentalists can help develop balanced policy that genuinely acknowledges the local economic costs associated with Wilderness.

Introduction to Wilderness

Wilderness, so designated pursuant to the Wilderness Act of 1964, is the most restrictive of all federal land-use designations. The Wilderness Act protects areas "untrammeled by man" that have not been developed for other human uses. To preserve wild characteristics, the Wilderness designation prohibits roads, road construction, mechanized travel, and the use of mechanized equipment. Wilderness also impacts extractive industries such as mining, logging, and grazing.¹ The stringent requirements of the Wilderness Act also disallow the construction of telecommunication towers, facilities for power generation, transmission lines, and energy pipelines.





Due to these restrictions, local officials frequently complain that Wilderness harms local economies by limiting the opportunities for economic development. The State of Utah, for instance, recently passed House Joint Resolution 10 which requested that the U.S. Congress not designate any additional Wilderness in Utah. Through a vote by a supermajority of members, the state legislature asserted that Wilderness' limitation of multiple uses causes substantial economic hardship for the state.

Environmentalists counter that the presence of Wilderness actually attracts residents and businesses to nearby communities. Wilderness is claimed to increase property values and create a higher quality of life in those communities. Environmentalists also claim that Wilderness contributes to a healthy tourism industry. The Wilderness Society notes "[d]esignated wilderness areas on public lands generate a range of economic benefits for individuals, communities, and the nation—among them, the attraction and retention of residents and businesses."² The Sonoran Institute similarly finds, "protected natural places are vital economic assets for those local economies in the West that are prospering the most."³ The Sonoran Institute further notes, "Wilderness, National Parks, National Monuments, and other protected public lands, set aside for their wild land characteristics, can and do play an important role in stimulating economic growth—and the more protected, the better."⁴

Despite these differing views, Congress has continued creating Wilderness Areas. There are 759 Wilderness Areas currently in the United States, totaling 109,663,992 Acres (Gorte 2010). Wilderness is managed by four federal agencies: the National Forest Service, the National Park Service, the Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Bureau of Land Management. Wilderness Areas dramatically vary in size from the Pelican Island Wilderness in Florida, which occupies a mere six acres, to the 9,078,675-acre Wrangle Island Wilderness in Alaska. Due to the stringent requirements laying out Wilderness characteristics, the majority of Wilderness Areas are found within largely rural and lightly populated counties within Alaska, California, Colorado, Montana, New Mexico, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, and Washington. Only six states contain no Wilderness: Connecticut, Delaware, Iowa, Kansas, Maryland, and Rhode Island.

Understanding the Economic Impact of Wilderness

To provide better evidence of economic impacts, we use longitudinal statistical analysis over every county in the United States dating back to 1995. The panels each contain measurements of economic conditions taken every five years.⁵ We selected three uniformly applicable variables as proxies for county economic conditions: average household income, total payroll, and total tax receipts. Average household income and total tax receipts are gathered by the U.S. Census Bureau. Total payroll figures are gathered by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Average household income is calculated by dividing the sum of all income of the residents over the age of 18 in each household by number of households. Average household income has the advantage of specifically addressing how individual households are on average affected by Wilderness designation in these counties. It has the disadvantage of being self-reported to the U.S. Census Bureau and, accordingly, may not be as valid as more direct measures.

Total payroll is a broader metric that captures those under the age of 18 and commuters who may live outside but work within a county. Further, it is a measure of the economic situation of individuals rather than households. Total payroll is not a perfect proxy because it does not capture the capital investment, county residents who work outside the county, or most importantly, retirees who do not receive payroll. Nevertheless, the data are readily available and considered a reliable metric for local economic conditions.

County tax receipts present two advantages over the others measures.⁶ First, the data are largely complete; local governments are required by state and federal statute to report tax receipts correctly. These requirements provide some confidence in the data that self-reporting does not provide. Second, tax receipts represent all taxable transactions in the county. This provides a useful metric of economic activity. Tax receipts, however, are not a perfect proxy as there are significant institutional differences across states, regions, and often counties themselves about how, when, and why taxes may be collected.

Although none of our dependent variables is a perfect proxy for economic conditions, taken together, they paint a relatively complete picture of the economic situation. We expect that the presence of Wilderness would have similar effects on each variable.⁷ To ensure that it is the effect of Wilderness and not simply federal land ownership that harms economic conditions we include control variables for each of the federal agencies that manage public land. We also include variables that control for the significant differences among counties. These variables include population, land area, and number of households, birth rate and school enrollment, and infant death rate. Further, we include variables indicated by the economic development literature as likely important in determining outcomes: high school graduates, median household income, poverty rate, crime rate, government employment, unemployment rate, social security recipients.

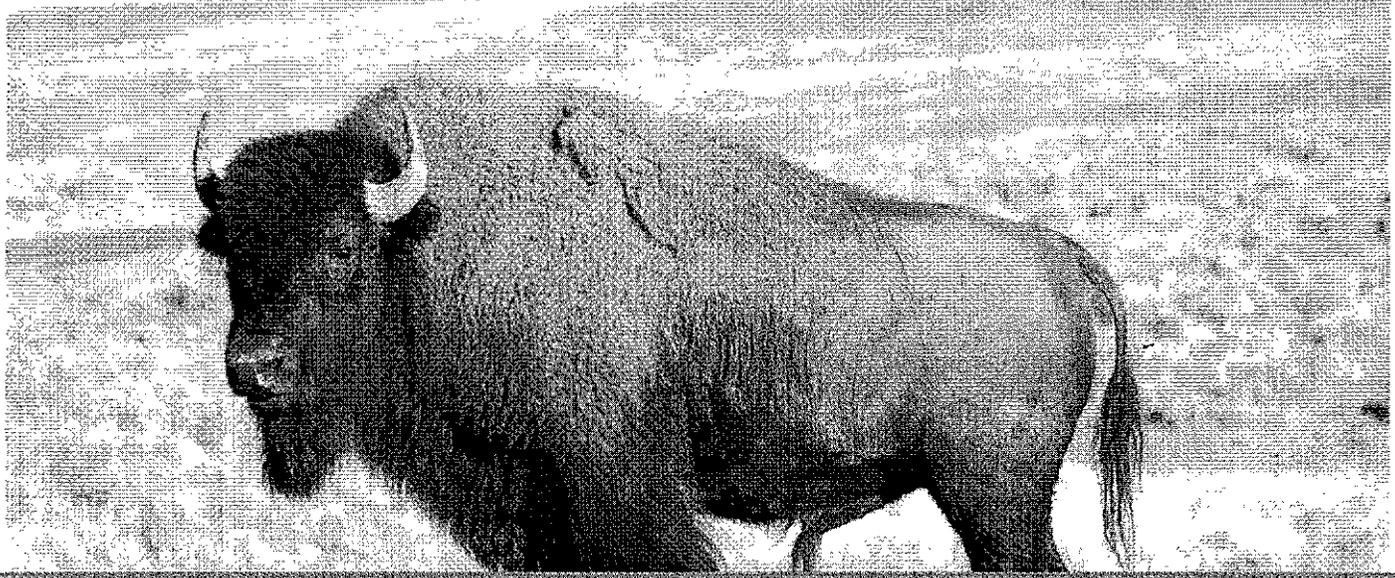
Findings

Controlling for other factors influencing county economic conditions, the Wilderness designation is significantly associated with lower per capita income, lower total payroll, and lower total tax receipts in counties. The estimated impact of Wilderness on county economies is detailed in Table 1 below. Full results of the regression analysis from the three models are contained in Appendix 1.

Table 1: The Economic Impact of Wilderness

Measure of Economic Condition	Economic Impact
Average Household Income	\$-1446.06
Total Payroll	\$-37,500.00
County Tax Receipts	\$-92,910.00

These results indicate that Wilderness impacts both households and counties. Average household income within Wilderness Counties is estimated to be \$1,446.06 less than Non-Wilderness Counties. Total payroll in Wilderness Counties is also estimated to be \$37,500 less than in Non-Wilderness Counties. County Tax Receipts in Wilderness Counties is estimated to be \$92,910 dollars less than in Non-Wilderness Counties.





Analysis and Conclusions

The argument often stated by the environmental community that Wilderness is good for local economies is simply not supported by the data. When comparing Wilderness and Non-Wilderness Counties, Wilderness Counties are at an economic disadvantage to their Non-Wilderness counterparts. Accordingly, if the test for whether or not to designate Wilderness is economic, Wilderness fails. But economics did not underlie the Wilderness Act or any of the Wilderness Areas established since the Act was passed. Wilderness is established for emotional, ecological, and cultural purposes. Our results show that those purposes are accomplished at a cost to local economies.

A variety of factors could lead to the negative relationship between Wilderness and economic conditions. Arguably, areas "untrammelled by man" have less existing economic activity and reducing the potential for future economic development by designating those areas as Wilderness will not, on net, be economically positive. It is also possible that different types of Wilderness may have different implications for economic conditions. As noted, four federal agencies currently manage Wilderness Areas, and different agencies may have different economic impacts on counties. Wilderness within National Parks, for instance, may more effectively attract tourists than Wilderness on Bureau of Land Management or National Forest Service lands.

Finally, it is probable that the location of Wilderness has an impact on the direction and magnitude of its economic impact. Phillips (2004), for instance, found that Wilderness designation in the Green Mountains of Vermont had a positive impact on private land values in that area of Vermont. We should assume that some Wilderness can, in fact, have positive economic impacts, even though our findings indicate that this is not the general rule.

While there may be other legitimate, non-economic reasons for the designation of Wilderness, the tradeoff will likely impose an economic burden on local families and businesses. The benefits and costs from Wilderness are unevenly distributed between local and non-local communities, with local communities incurring a larger burden of the costs. This provides a good reason why local officials often rally against and adamantly oppose Wilderness.

When environmentalists and national agencies consider the creation of Wilderness designations in the future, they should pay attention to the interests of local communities. This paper illustrates the adverse economic costs of Wilderness on local economies. By working together with local communities to address their concerns, environmentalists can help develop balanced policy that genuinely acknowledges the local economic costs associated with Wilderness.

Appendix 1: Regression Results Table

	Model 1 Household Income	Model 2 Total Tax Receipts	Model 3 Total Payroll
Observations	7185	7185	7164
Wald Chi-Square	1.28e+06***	21209.98***	48232.88***
Variables			
Wilderness	-1446.06***	-.37.50**	-92.91*
Percent BLM Land	-3.087	.58	-1.66
Percent Bureau of Reclamation Land	40.97	-2.66	3.84
Percent Department of Defense Land	-148.45***	-3.87***	-21.38**
Percent Forest Service Land	-10.78*	.10	-.06
Percent Fish and Wildlife Land	29.25	1.23	-3.50
Percent National Park Land	-4.24	2.55*	-7.60*
Percent Other Federal Land	.99	2.47	8.96
Percent Tribal Land	16.29	.26	-2.78
Percent Tennessee Valley Authority Land	55.40	-1.50	6.63
Population	.40***	-.002***	.01***
Land Area	-.15***	-.002	-.03***
Percent Male	-.040***	.007***	.006***
Percent White	-3.89	-2.00***	-.82
Birth Rate	-406.41***	-7.94***	7.3
Infant Death Rate	4.05	.05	1.66
School Enrollment	-.14***	.013***	-.007***
High School Graduation Rate	58.17***	1.41**	-.38
Poverty Rate	75.59***	-5.11**	6.83**
Crime Rate	.88***	-.006**	.02**
Unemployment Rate	-.51***	.003	.01**
Median Household Income	.	-.009***	.01**
Constant	-127.37	491.06***	-1100.01***

*P=.10 **P=.05 ***P=.01

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George C. Coggins, Charles F. Wilkinson, and John D. Leshy, *Federal Public Land and Resources Law*, 3rd Ed. (Westbury, New York: The Foundation Press, Inc., 1993).

Ross W. Gorte, "Wilderness: Overview and Statistics," *Congressional Research Service Report for Congress*, January 25, 2010.

S. Phillips, "Windfalls for Wilderness: Land Protections and Land Value in the Green Mountains," PhD Dissertation, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, VA. 1991.

R. Rasker, B. Alexander, J. van den Noort, and R. Carter, *Prosperity in the 21st Century West: The Role of Protected Lands*, The Sonoran Institute, 2004.

The Wilderness Society, "The Economic Benefits of Wilderness: Focus on Property Value Enhancement," *Wilderness Society Science and Policy Brief No. 2*, March, 2004.





ENDNOTES

- 1 Although mining claims were allowed for the first 20 years after the Wilderness Act passed, mining and mineral exploration are now prohibited within Wilderness. Although logging is not expressly proscribed by statutory language of the Act, the restrictions on mechanized travel, mechanized equipment, and road construction generally preclude large-scale logging activity (Coggins 1993). Grazing is expressly allowed in Wilderness Areas, but administrators may make "reasonable regulations" including the reduction of grazing to improve range conditions (see generally H.R. 96-617). In addition to the prohibitory language found in the Wilderness Act, courts have aggressively blocked a variety of activities in Wilderness and areas adjacent to Wilderness. Uses of land surrounding Wilderness often receive more stringent review. The 10th Circuit Court of Appeals, for instance, in 1972 upheld an injunction of logging in an area that approached a Wilderness Area (*Parker v. United States* 448 F.2d 793 cert. denied 405 U.S. 989). Wilderness Areas also often raise review standards under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Under NEPA, land uses near Wilderness Areas may be found to have a more "significant" impact than actions near lands not under federal protection. This may increase the costs associated with county or state activities occurring near Wilderness areas and may change the cost calculus in making governance decisions.
- 2 The Wilderness Society, "The Economic Benefits of Wilderness: Focus on Property Value Enhancement," *Wilderness Society Science and Policy Brief*, no. 2, March 2004, p. 1.
- 3 R. Rasker, B. Alexander, J. van den Noort, and R. Carter, *Prosperity in the 21st Century West: The Role of Protected Lands*, The Sonoran Institute, 2004, p. ii.
- 4 *Ibid.*, p. 1. It is interesting to note that these types of studies almost never account for the opportunity costs of Wilderness Designations. They evaluate the potential benefits of Wilderness without accounting for the lost uses of the land including the value of timber, minerals, and recreation use that are lost because of the Wilderness designation.
- 5 By including evidence over time, we hope to minimize any temporal effects such as changes in the short run versus changes in the long run. Using all counties expands the scope of investigation and enables an examination of whether there are economic differences between Wilderness and Non-Wilderness Counties, while avoiding regional economic phenomena that may be present in individual geographic locations. The Western United States, for instance, has been undergoing a demographic transformation with significant population and land-use transformations throughout the past two decades. By examining all of the United States, we hope to avoid those Western-specific phenomena.
- 6 It could be argued that counties with large amounts of federally held land will have lower tax receipts and appear negatively impacted in terms of tax receipts. Although left alone, this may downwardly bias the results. We have mitigated these outcomes by including other variables within the model such as county size, county population, and percentage of county held by different governmental agencies. By including these variables, the impact of variable county size and variable ownership should be mitigated within the regression coefficients of these variables and should not downwardly bias the wilderness coefficient.
- 7 We use a dummy variable to indicate the presence or absence of Wilderness in each county across time. The Dummy is coded 1 for the presence of Wilderness within a county and 0 when a county contains no Wilderness.

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF UTAH
CENTRAL DIVISION

**SOUTHERN UTAH WILDERNESS
ALLIANCE, et al.,**

Plaintiffs,

v.

MARCILYNN BURKE, et al.,

Defendants,

ENDURING RESOURCES, et al.,

Intervenors-Defendants.

**SOUTHERN UTAH WILDERNESS
ALLIANCE, et al.,**

Plaintiffs,

v.

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF
THE INTERIOR, et al.,**

Defendants,

KANE COUNTY, UTAH, et al.,

Intervenors-Defendants.

**MEMORANDUM DECISION
AND ORDER**

Consolidated Case No. 2:12CV257DAK

Judge Dale A. Kimball

This matter is before the court on Plaintiffs Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance, Natural Resources Defense Council, Wilderness Society, National Parks Conservation Association,

Grand Canyon Trust, Sierra Club, National Trust for Historic Preservation, Center for Native Ecosystems, Utah Rivers Council, and Great Old Broads for Wilderness's challenge to the Bureau of Land Management's ("BLM") Richfield Resource Management Plan ("RMP") and Travel Plan. On July 2, 2013, the court held a hearing on the matter. At the hearing, Plaintiffs were represented by Stephen H.M. Bloch, David T. Garbett, Robin Cooley, and Heidi J. McIntosh, the BLM Defendants were represented by Michael Thorpe, Intervenor-Defendants Trails Preservation Alliance, Colorado Off Highway Vehicle Coalition, and Blue Ribbon Coalition were represented Paul A. Turcke, Intervenor-Defendant XTO Energy was represented by William E. Sparks, Intervenor-Defendant Enduring Resources II was represented by Kathleen Corr Schroder, Intervenor-Defendants State of Utah, Carbon County, Uintah County, Duchesne County, Daggett County, Emery County, and Grand County were represented by Kathy Davis, Intervenor-Defendant San Juan County was represented by Shawn T. Welch, and Intervenor-Defendant SITLA was represented by Thomas Mitchell. The court took the matter under advisement. Having fully considered the briefs submitted by the parties, the administrative record, and the relevant facts and law, the court issues the following Memorandum Decision and Order.

BACKGROUND

Before the court is an appeal of the BLM's 2008 Richfield RMP and Travel Plan. The Federal Land Policy and Management Act ("FLPMA") directs the BLM to prepare land use plans to govern the management of public lands. *See* 43 U.S.C. § 1712(a). FLPMA requires the BLM to manage public lands "under principles of multiple use and sustained yield" and "in a manner that will protect the quality of scientific, scenic, historical, ecological, environmental, air and

atmospheric, water resource, and archaeological values.” *Id.* § 1732(a), § 1701 (a)(8). FLPMA also requires the BLM to “develop, maintain, and, when appropriate, revise land use plans” to govern its management of the public lands. 43 U.S.C. § 1712(a). Accordingly, the BLM is charged with implementing planning decisions that balance various interests and uses.

“‘Multiple use management’ is a deceptively simple term that describes the enormously complicated task of striking a balance among the many competing uses to which land can be put.” *Norton v. Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance*, 542 U.S. 55, 58 (2004). “Sustained yield” refers to the BLM’s duty “to control depleting uses over time, so as to ensure a high level of valuable uses in the future.” *Id.*

The 2008 Richfield RMP governs the management of 2.1 million acres of BLM land in south-central Utah, most of which is located between Capitol Reef National Park, Canyonlands National Park, and the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area. The area includes the Henry Mountains and the Dirty Devil region. The BLM has recognized that more than half of the 2.1 million acres in the planning area are “wilderness-quality” lands, meaning that they are natural areas with “outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation.” The area also contains thousands of archaeological sites.

The BLM conducted public scoping for the Richfield RMP in 2002 and released its draft RMP (“DRMP”) and environmental impact statement (“EIS”) in October 2007. The proposed RMP and final EIS followed in August 2008. After resolving all protests, the BLM issued its Record of Decision (“ROD”) and Approved RMP on October 31, 2008. The ROD approves final BLM decisions regarding off-highway vehicles (“OHVs”), areas of critical environmental concern (“ACECs”), and wild and scenic rivers.

In each land use plan it prepares, the BLM must consider OHV use as one of the multiple uses and designate all public lands covered by the plan as either open, limited, or closed to OHV use. 43 C.F.R. Subpart 8340, 8342. Accordingly, the ROD in this case designates lands within the planning area as open, closed, or limited. Within the 9,980 acres designated as open, OHVs can drive anywhere. No OHV can travel in the 209,900 acres designated as closed. And, within the 1.9 million acres designated as limited, OHVs may only drive on designated routes. Within the 1.9 million limited use acres, the ROD approves the BLM's final decision to designate 4,277 miles of dirt roads and trails crossing the area. The BLM also authorized vehicles to be driven and parked anywhere up to fifty feet on either side of the designated routes and up to 150 feet on either side of routes leading to existing campsites. The route designations are known as the "Travel Plan."

Prior to finalization of the Travel Plan, the majority of the Richfield planning area was open to cross-country travel and generally lacked designated routes. Leading up to the planning process, OHV use significantly increased within the planning area. The result was a network of user-created routes. The Travel Plan formalized these user-created routes by officially designating them for OHV use.

The ROD also approves final designation of two ACECs totaling 2,530 acres. Prior to adoption of the Richfield RMP, the planning area included four ACECs, totaling 14,780 acres. BLM designated these ACECs to protect important values, such as unique badland topography and relict vegetation. During the planning process, the BLM studied an additional sixteen areas totaling 886,810 acres that had important resource values. However, of the more than 900,000 acres of potential and existing ACECs, the BLM ultimately designated only 2 ACECs, consisting

of 2,530 acres.

The ROD also includes recommendations for Congress to designate one river segment, the Fremont Gorge on the Fremont River, for consideration as a “wild and scenic river” under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. There are numerous desert streams that wind their way through the canyons of the Richfield planning area, including the Dirty Devil and its tributaries. The BLM sought instruction from the BLM national office with respect to the designation of intermittent and ephemeral streams. After receiving an instruction memorandum from the national office, the BLM excluded most of the desert streams that were under consideration based on its definition of ephemeral. Therefore, the desert streams were considered ineligible as wild and scenic rivers based on their ephemeral flows.

STANDARD OF REVIEW

Under Section 704 of the APA, this court has jurisdiction to review “final agency action.” 5 U.S.C. § 704. The final agency action at issue in this case is the BLM’s ROD approving the Richfield RMP and Travel Plan. Under Section 706 of the APA, this court must determine whether the BLM’s decision was “arbitrary, capricious, an abuse of discretion, or otherwise not in accordance with law.” 5 U.S.C. § 706(2)(A); *see also Utah Environmental Congress v. Zeiroth*, 190 F. Supp. 2d 1265, 1267-68 (D. Utah 2002). In applying the arbitrary and capricious standard, this court must determine whether the “decision was based on a consideration of the relevant factors and whether there has been a clear error of judgment.” *Citizens to Preserve Overton Park v. Volpe*, 401 U.S. 402, 416 (1971). An “agency’s decision is entitled to a presumption of regularity.” *Olenhouse v. Commodity Credit Corp.*, 42 F.3d 1560, 1574 (10th Cir. 1994).

DISCUSSION

Plaintiffs allege that the BLM violated several laws when it finalized the Richfield RMP and Travel Plan. Specifically, Plaintiffs contend: (1) the BLM violated its own OHV minimization criteria by authorizing OHV routes without minimizing the impacts on soils, vegetation, wildlife, air, water, and cultural resources, 43 C.F.R. § 8342.1(a)-(c); (2) the BLM violated the National Environmental Policy Act (“NEPA”) by failing to take a “hard look” at the environmental impacts of OHVs, 42 U.S.C. § 4332(2)(c); (3) the BLM violated the National Historic Preservation Act (“NHPA”) by failing to take into account the impact of OHV routes on archeological sites, 16 U.S.C. § 470f; (4) the BLM violated Secretarial Order 3226 and NEPA by failing to consider OHV damage in the context of climate change; (5) the BLM violated FLPMA by failing to ensure compliance with federal and state air quality standards, 43 U.S.C. § 1712(c)(8); (6) the BLM violated FLPMA by failing to prioritize designation of ACECs, *id.* § 1712(c)(3); and (7) the BLM violated the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act by eliminating streams from consideration based on its new definition of ephemeral flows, 16 U.S.C. §§ 1273(b), 1286(b).

1. Minimization Criteria

Plaintiffs argue that the BLM failed to apply the required minimization criteria in its preparation of the Travel Plan. BLM regulations require the BLM to minimize the impacts of designated routes on resources such as soils, watersheds, vegetation, air, wildlife, and cultural resources. 43 C.F.R. § 8342.1(a)-(c). However, Plaintiffs contend that the BLM’s decision documents identify only general impacts that may occur and include no discussion or analysis of the specific impacts the designated routes will have to any of the resources identified in the

regulations.

In 1978, the BLM promulgated 43 C.F.R. § 8342.1, which governs the opening of OHV routes within public lands. The regulation provides:

The authorized officer shall designate all public lands as either open, limited, or closed to off-road vehicles. All designations shall be based on the protection of the resources of the public lands, the promotion of the safety of all the users of the public lands, and the minimization of conflicts among various uses of the public lands; and in accordance with the following criteria:

(a) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, air, or other resources of the public lands, and to prevent impairment of wilderness suitability.

(b) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize harassment of wildlife or significant disruption of wildlife habitats. Special attention will be given to protect endangered or threatened species and their habitats.

(c) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize conflicts between off-road vehicle use and other existing or proposed recreational uses of the same or neighboring public lands, and to ensure the compatibility of such uses with existing conditions in populated areas, taking into account noise and other factors.

43 C.F.R. § 8342.1(a)-(c). These criteria are referred to as the “minimization criteria.”

Several courts have recognized that the BLM must apply the minimization criteria when designating routes and provide a discussion of the basis for the conclusion that the route designations at issue minimize impacts in accordance with the regulation. *See, e.g., Wildlands CPR, Inc. v. United States Forest Serv.*, (D. Mont. 2012); *Idaho Conservation League v. Guzman*, 766 F. Supp. 2d 1056, 1068 (D. Idaho 2011); *Ctr. for Biological Diversity v. Bureau of Land Mgmt.*, 746 F. Supp. 2d 1055, 1080 (N.D. Cal. 2009).

In designating 4,277 miles of routes in this case, the BLM did not discuss the

minimization criteria in the ROD, RMP, or any other travel planning documents.

Acknowledging the minimization standards is not the same as applying them. In fact, with respect to impacts to soil, watershed, vegetation, air, and cultural resources, the ROD states that the BLM decided to “[d]esignate routes for motorized use unless significant, undue damage to or disturbance of the soil, wildlife habitat, improvements, cultural or vegetative resources, or other authorized uses of the public land is imminent.” ROD at 125. Allowing routes unless “significant, undue damage” was “imminent” is not the standard required by the minimization criteria. Therefore, there is no evidence in the ROD that the minimization criteria was applied or applied correctly.

Appendix 9 to the RMP, entitled “Travel Management/Route Designation Process,” contains the BLM’s specific designations of routes for OHV use. The document states that the BLM and county employees who worked on the route designations would “[d]esignate existing routes for motorized use unless closed or restricted . . . as appropriate to address specific resource concerns.” PRMP at A9-1. The specific minimization criteria is not listed. And, although Appendix 9 states that various factors were considered, it provides no information about how those factors were used to designate routes or minimize impacts to those resources. As the BLM’s sole discussion of how it designated motorized routes, the Appendix fails to provide any kind of analysis or explanation with respect to the requirement to minimize impacts.

The analysis of the minimization criteria must take place at the route specific level, not in some general sense. *Wildlands CPR*, 2012 WL 1072351, at *14. In this case, the cryptic spreadsheet for each route segment provides inadequate information standing alone and is not discussed or elaborated upon anywhere in the decision documents. There is no way to know how

the BLM used or considered the information it listed on the spreadsheet. Contrary to the BLM's assertion, this is not a case where there appears to be a mere disagreement about which routes were chosen. Rather, the case represents a failure to provide enough information or analysis for someone other than the BLM to know why or how the routes were chosen.

The BLM argues that it complied with the minimization criteria because it closed 345 miles of routes and seasonally closed or imposed width restrictions on 538 miles of routes. However, the discussion of closing these routes does not explain why they were closed or that the closures were to minimize impacts. There is no application of the minimization criteria in connection with the route closures. In addition, the mere fact that there were some route closures does not demonstrate that the minimization criteria was applied. "'Minimize' as used in the regulation does not refer to the number of routes, nor their overall mileage. It refers to the effects of route designations, i.e. the BLM is required to place routes specifically to minimize 'damage' to public resources, 'harassment' and 'disruption' of wildlife and its habitat, and minimize 'conflicts' of uses. Thus, simply because the BLM closed . . . routes evaluated does not, on its own, compel the conclusion that the minimization criteria were applied." *Ctr. for Biological Diversity*, 746 F. Supp. 2d at 1080-81.

The court has reviewed other cases addressing the same issue as is present in this case. Other courts have found efforts by agencies that provided more information and more analysis of the minimization criteria than was done in this case to be insufficient. *See, e.g., Ctr. for Biological Diversity*, 746 F. Supp. 2d at 1078-79; *Idaho Conservation League*, 766 F. Supp. 2d at 1071-72. The cases are directly on point and are persuasive to this court. In this case, because there is no indication that the BLM actually considered or applied the minimization criteria to the

designation of OHV routes, the BLM has failed to meet its regulatory requirements to implement the minimization criteria by examining “the relevant data and articulating a satisfactory explanation for its action.” *See Motor Vehicle Mfrs. Ass’n*, 463 U.S. at 43. The BLM is required to demonstrate proper application of the minimization criteria. Accordingly, the court reverses the BLM’s route designations and finds them contrary to the applicable law.

2. NEPA

Next, Plaintiffs argue that the BLM violated NEPA by failing to take a “hard look” at the full impacts of designating 4,277 miles of motorized routes. NEPA requires the BLM to take a “hard look” at the environmental consequences of its proposed actions. *Robertson v. Methow Valley Citizens Council*, 490 U.S. 332, 350 (1989). NEPA, however, does not mandate particular results, nor does it impose substantive environmental obligations. *Id.* at 350-51. “Although labeled an ‘environmental’ statute, NEPA is in essence a procedural statute; it does ‘not require agencies to elevate environmental concerns over other appropriate considerations.’” *Park Cnty. Res. Council, Inc. v. U.S. Dep’t of Agri.*, 817 F.2d 609, 620 (10th Cir. 1987), *overruled on other grounds*, 956 F.2d 970 (10th Cir. 1992).

Plaintiffs assert that although the BLM generally discusses the sort of theoretical impacts that can result from OHV use at any place and at any time, the BLM has not specifically applied this information to the resources of the Richfield planning area. In *Center for Biological Diversity*, the court held that “what is lacking from the [environmental analysis] is a discussion of how soils would be impacted by the proposed . . . route network. A general discussion of how soils are affected by OHV use . . . does not provide the public with information about how to assess the particular impact of the proposed project.” 746 F. Supp. 2d at 1094. In this case,

the PRMP states rather generally that “the more area open to OHV use, the greater the potential for adverse impacts to soil resources from trampling of vegetation and biological soil crusts, which leads to compaction and accelerated erosion.” The EIS also states that limiting OHVs to existing routes “confines the impacts to areas already disturbed or hardened for vehicle use.” Therefore, the EIS concludes that due to the reduction of some routes, soil impacts under the selected alternative will be reduced from the no action alternative.

The BLM responds, however, that, unlike the minimization criteria, NEPA does not require an individualized route-by-route analysis. *Biodiversity Conservation Alliance v. BLM*, 404 F. Supp. 2d 212, 218 (D.D.C. 2005). Plaintiffs do not contend that NEPA requires a route-by-route analysis. But they do contend that the environmental analysis “should contain some discussion of the particular impacts on soils of the proposed Plan, both with regard to the designated OHV route network, and livestock grazing.” *Ctr. for Biological Diversity*, 746 F. Supp. 2d at 1094.

“NEPA requires federal agencies to examine the environmental effects of a proposed project and, for those actions that will significantly affect the environment, to inform the public in an EIS of the relevant factors that were considered in the decision-making process.” *Id.* (quoting *Natural Res. Def. Council v. U.S. Forest Serv.*, 421 F.3d 797, 811 (9th Cir. 2005)). In this case, the EIS generally discusses the potential impacts of OHV use on the environmental resources in the Richfield area. While the BLM’s discussion of impacts to soils, streams, and cultural resources as a result of OHV use is fairly cursory and fails to explain why such impacts are acceptable, NEPA only requires the BLM to consider the impacts. The discussion sufficiently discusses impacts. NEPA does not mandate a specific outcome and the court finds

no apparent procedural errors. In many respects, the BLM's alleged shortcomings under NEPA echo those Plaintiffs raised under the minimization criteria. The court agrees that while the BLM identifies significant impacts to resources, its only response is that fewer routes are allowed under the new system than the old. The BLM fails to address how those significant impacts to resources will be mitigated in any way other than the fact that some routes are being limited. This shortcoming, however, is better remedied through a proper application of the minimization criteria than it is under the procedural dictates of NEPA. Under NEPA, the BLM addressed the alternatives, discussed the impacts of each alternative, and chose the alternative it deemed most appropriate.

Plaintiffs take specific issue with whether the proper procedure was followed with respect to the 50/150 foot allowances for parking and campsite access. Plaintiffs question whether any analysis was done in connection with these allowances. However, the BLM's evaluation process states that it analyzed the "environmental sensitivity of the areas surrounding the route." Therefore, the court concludes that the BLM's process was sufficient under NEPA.

3. NHPA

Under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act ("NHPA"), federal agencies are prohibited from approving any federal "undertaking" unless the agency takes into account the effects of the undertaking on historic properties that are included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. 16 U.S.C. §§ 470f, 470w(7). There is no dispute that the BLM's approval of the Richfield Travel Plan is an undertaking. As such, the NHPA's implementing regulations require the BLM to "[r]eview existing information on historic properties within [that] area," and "take the steps necessary to identify historic properties within

the area of potential effects.” 36 C.F.R. § 800.4(a)(1)-(2), § 800.4(b). The regulations further require the BLM, in coordination with the State Historic Preservation Office (“SHPO”) and Native American tribes, to determine whether the travel plan would have an “adverse effect” on cultural resources. 36 C.F.R. § 800.5(a).

Plaintiffs argue that the BLM violated the NHPA regulations by failing to make a “reasonable and good faith effort” to identify cultural resources and, consequently, making an unsupported “no adverse impacts” determination under Section 106. Plaintiffs assert that despite the wealth of archeological resources within the Richfield planning area, less than five percent of this area has been inventoried.

Like NEPA, Section 106 is a “stop, look, and listen provision” that requires federal agencies to consider the effects of their actions and programs on historic properties and sacred sites before implementation. *Muckleshoot Indian Tribe v. U.S. Forest Serv.*, 177 F.3d 800, 805 (9th Cir. 1999). Also like NEPA, the NHPA imposes procedural not substantive requirements.

NHPA regulations require the BLM to make a “reasonable and good faith effort to carry out appropriate identification efforts, which may include background research, consultation, oral history interviews, sample field investigation, and field survey” regarding cultural resources. 36 C.F.R. § 800.4(b)(1). The BLM Manual sets out three types of surveys that may be used to identify historic and cultural resources. BLM Manual § 8110. A Class I survey relies on existing information and is “a professionally prepared study that includes a compilation and analysis of all reasonably available cultural resource data and literature, and a management-focused, interpretative, narrative overview, and synthesis of the data.” *Id.* § 8110.2.21.A.1. A Class II survey involves on-the-ground surveying and is a “probabilistic field survey” or “statistically

based sample survey” that “aids in characterizing the probable density, diversity, and distribution of cultural properties in an area.” *Id.* § 8110.2.21.B.1. A Class III survey is an on-the-ground intensive survey of the entire subject area “intended to locate and record all historic properties” and “provides managers and cultural resource specialists with a complete record of cultural properties.” The Class III survey is the most frequently employed method of inventory. *Id.* § 8110.2.21.

In this case, the BLM inventoried four areas that the Richfield RMP designated open to cross-country OHV travel. The BLM relied on existing inventories for the remaining areas. The BLM relied on an agency instruction memorandum to conclude that a Class I “existing information inventory” was sufficient. However, Plaintiffs argue that the BLM’s decision not to conduct additional inventories in the remaining areas was inconsistent with the BLM’s obligation under Section 106 to conduct a good faith inventory of the cultural resources at risk from OHV trail designations. And, without that good faith inventory, there is no valid basis for concluding that the plan had no adverse impacts to cultural resources.

The BLM instruction memorandum “suggests that a Class I survey will suffice when a transportation plan proposes to maintain the status quo, but that a Class III inventory should be used when a plan authorizes new roads or increased traffic on existing roads.” *Montana Wilderness Ass’n v. Connell*, Appeal No. 11-35818, 2013 WL 3927754, Slip Op. 37 (9th Cir. July 31, 2013). The memorandum states that “[p]roposed designations that will not change or will reduce OHV use are unlikely to adversely affect historic properties and will require less intensive identification efforts.” *Id.* However, “[w]here there is a reasonable expectation that a proposed designation will shift, concentrate, or expand travel into areas where historic properties are likely

to be adversely affected, Class III inventory and compliance with section 106 [of the NHPA], focused on areas where adverse effects are likely to occur, is required prior to designation.” *Id.*

Here, the BLM conducted an on-the-ground inventory of the area designated as open. The open area allowed travel to remain essentially unchanged. But, the BLM relied on only a Class I inventory for the area in which OHV use was limited to designated routes. Given that certain areas were closed and certain routes were limited, the BLM contends that the adverse effects on these fewer remaining routes were unlikely.

The closure of several other routes, however, would concentrate travel on the remaining routes and could likely impact cultural resources on the remaining routes. In response to the Colorado Plateau Archeological Alliance’s protest over the PRMP, the BLM acknowledged that “there is some potential to affect sites that may be located on designated routes. There are undoubtedly roads that go through archaeological sites and sometimes there are site features within the roads that are being damaged. Continuing use on those roads may be an adverse effect on any sites located therein.”

The instruction manual suggests that an on-the-ground Class III survey should have been conducted for the designated routes in the limited OHV use area because the designation of fewer routes will shift, concentrate, or expand travel into areas where historic properties exist. The *Montana Wilderness* court similarly held that the RMP in that case, which limited the areas open to travel in comparison to the prior system, would necessarily “concentrate pre-RMP traffic on the remaining designated roads” and, therefore, Class III inventories were required. *Id.* Slip Op. at 42-43.

In *Montana Wilderness*, the court rejected the BLM’s claim that a Class I inventory was

sufficient for an RMP. In that case the court recognized that the Missouri Breaks RMP was not simply a “general land use plan; it also authorizes specific uses including over 400 miles of roads and ways.” *Id.* Slip Op. at 40-41. The same is true here. The Richfield RMP and Travel Plan is not just a general land use plan, it specifically designates 4,277 miles of roads and trails for OHV use. However, less than 5% of the planning area has been inventoried by the BLM. On-the-ground surveys of the designated routes in the limited use area are necessary under the BLM’s instruction memorandum because of the shift and concentration of travel in the area. *See id.* Slip Op. at 41-43. In addition, the BLM’s promise to conduct more intensive surveys of the designated routes in the future was an argument similarly raised and rejected by the *Montana Wilderness* court because future inventories would not alleviate the “threat to historic sites . . . posed by existing authorized uses.” *Id.* Slip Op. at 43.

The BLM contends that it has followed all proper procedures under Section 106 by entering into a programmatic agreement with the Utah SHPO. In 1997, the BLM entered into a national programmatic agreement with the Advisory Council and, according to that agreement, then entered into a State Protocol Agreement with the Utah SHPO for considering cultural resources on BLM-administered lands in Utah. The BLM has also developed a manual and internal guidance memorandum on the NHPA Section 106 process. The BLM contends that it fulfilled its obligations under the NHPA by complying with these regulations, the National Programmatic Agreement, and guidance memorandum. The BLM cites to the implementing regulations, to assert that when an agency has entered a programmatic agreement with the relevant SHPO, that programmatic agreement governs the NHPA Section 106 process and compliance with the programmatic agreement “satisfies the agency’s section 106

responsibilities.” 36 C.F.R. §§ 800.14(b)(2)(iii), 800.3(a)(2).

While the NHPA requires the BLM to consult with the Utah SHPO, its consultation with SHPO merely satisfies the procedural requirement of doing such a consultation. A concurrence from the SHPO does not satisfy the other procedural requirements of NHPA. There is nothing in the NHPA or Section 106 that excuses the BLM’s failure to comply with the other procedures based on a concurrence from the SHPO.

As in *Montana Wilderness*, the court concludes that the BLM’s failure to conduct a Class III survey of the designated routes within the limited OHV use area fails to meet the requirements of NHPA. Because it only conducted a Class I survey, the BLM has not demonstrated that it conducted a reasonable and good faith inventory of the cultural resources present on the designated routes in the limited OHV use area. Therefore, the BLM’s finding that there were likely no adverse affects as a result of the road and trail designations in the limited OHV use area was arbitrary and capricious. Accordingly, the court remands the matter to the BLM to conduct a Class III survey of the designated routes in the limited OHV use area.

4. OHV Impacts and Climate Change

Plaintiffs further argue that the BLM violated NEPA and Secretarial Order 3226 by failing to consider OHV impacts in the context of climate change. In 2001, the Secretary of the Interior issued Secretarial Order 3226, stating that “[t]here is a consensus in the international community that global climate change is occurring and that it should be addressed in governmental decision making.” Secretarial Order 3226 § 1 (Jan. 19, 2001). Accordingly, agencies within the Department of the Interior were required to “consider and analyze potential climate change impacts when undertaking long-range planning exercises . . . [and] when

developing multi-year management plans.” *Id.* § 3. In addition, under NEPA, the BLM must take a “hard look” at the cumulative impacts of OHV use and climate change. 42 U.S.C. § 4332(2)(c); 40 C.F.R. §§ 1508.7, 1508.25(c).

The parties dispute whether Secretarial Order 3226 is enforceable against an agency in this context. The BLM claims that the order is not a substantive rule, whereas Plaintiffs argue that the order has the same force and effect as other rules and regulations issued by the Secretary of the Interior.

However, assuming that the order is enforceable, there is sufficient evidence in the record demonstrating that the BLM complied with the directive to “consider and apply” climate change impacts as a result of OHV use. The EIS in this case identifies the climate changing pollutants at issue, the studies regarding the environmental impacts of those pollutants, and the activities in the Richfield Planning Area that may generate emissions of such climate changing pollutants. The draft EIS and EIS established the existing baseline climate of the Richfield Planning Area. The EIS also examined the potential long-term emissions impacts associated with OHV use and determined them to be minimal. The EIS further found OHV impacts to soil, vegetation, and water resources would be reduced compared to the no-action alternative.

The EIS’ cumulative impacts analysis explains that resource decisions in the RMP combined with past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions could produce cumulative impacts in the planning area. With respect to climate change specifically, the EIS recognized potential impacts to air quality are likely to be varied, that activities in the planning area may generate emissions of climate changing pollutants, and that impacts could occur from wind erosion and fugitive dust. The EIS recognized that management activities in the planning area

may help sequester carbon, such as managing vegetation to favor perennial grasses and increase vegetative cover, which may help build organic carbon in soils and function as “carbon sinks.” The court concludes that this discussion of OHV impacts and climate change pollutants is sufficient for purposes of complying with the directive to consider and analyze the issue of OHV impacts on climate change.

Plaintiffs further argue that the BLM violated NEPA’s mandate that agencies take a “hard look” at OHV impacts in the context of climate change. 42 U.S.C. § 4332(2)(c). To satisfy the “hard look” requirement, an EIS must describe the existing environment that will be affected by the proposal to provide a baseline for comparison. 40 C.F.R. § 1502.15. The EIS must then analyze and disclose any significant impacts of the proposed action and reasonable alternatives. The agency must evaluate those impacts through a “cumulative effects” analysis that addresses “the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency (Federal or non-Federal) or person undertakes such other actions.” 40 C.F.R. §§ 1508.7, 1508.25(c).

The analysis conducted to comply with Secretarial Order 3226 is also sufficient to comply with NEPA’s “hard look” requirement. The BLM identified the existing environment, the affects of the proposal, the alternatives of no change, and conducted a cumulative impacts analysis. Although Plaintiffs do not like the fact that the State BLM provided information to local BLM offices, the information was nonetheless analyzed and considered. In addition, the BLM is limited in its ability to predict specific climate change on a regional and local scale because of a lack of scientific tools designed for such purposes. Accordingly, the court finds that there was no NEPA violation with respect to the BLM’s analysis of OHV use and climate change.

5. Air Quality Standards under FLPMA

Plaintiffs next argue that the Richfield RMP violates FLPMA because it does not ensure compliance with federal air quality standards. FLPMA requires the BLM to ensure that its land use plans “provide for compliance with applicable pollution control laws, including State and Federal air . . . pollution standards or implementation plans.” 43 U.S.C. § 1712(c)(8). Under the Clean Air Act (“CAA”), the United States Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”) establishes National Ambient Air Quality Standards (“NAAQS”) for certain pollutants in order to protect the public health and welfare. *See* 42 U.S.C. §§ 7408, 7409.¹ The two pollutants Plaintiffs address as relevant to this case are fine particulate matter, referred to as “PM2.5” and ground-level ozone under 40 C.F.R. § 50.13 (PM2.5) and § 50.15 (ozone). Plaintiffs argue that the BLM violated FLPMA’s requirements by failing to demonstrate that the OHV use authorized by the RMP and Travel Plan will not result in violations of the NAAQS.

The BLM asserts that it satisfies FLPMA § 1712(c)(8) through its partnership with the State of Utah Division of Air Quality (“UDAQ”), which has delegated authority from the EPA to enforce the CAA. When a geographical zone meets the EPA’s NAAQS, it is considered to be an attainment area. 42 U.S.C. § 7407(d)(1)(A)(ii). Conversely, when a zone fails to meet the NAAQS, it is considered to be a nonattainment area. *Id.* § 7404(d)(1)(A)(i). UDAQ applies and enforces these standards. However, the BLM ensures that all permitted activities in the Richfield planning area reference and comply with the applicable NAAQS.

Plaintiffs contend that the record demonstrates an instance where air quality exceeded the

¹ Utah has incorporated the NAAQS into state law and implements the standards within the state. Utah Code Admin. R. 307-101-1.

NAAQS for PM_{2.5}. However, in this instance, the exceedance did not occur within the Richfield planning area. It occurred in Lindon, Utah, an urban area approximately 40 miles from the closest county line in the Richfield planning area. Therefore, there is no PM_{2.5} exceedance registered in the Richfield planning area. The BLM also relied on UDAQ's 2007 annual air quality report—the last report the BLM could rely on before concluding the RMP planning process—which indicated that there were no nonattainment areas in Utah for PM_{2.5}. Therefore, the Richfield planning area is in an attainment zone. From this base point, the BLM examined whether the impacts of the OHV use allowed under the RMP and Travel Plan would cause an exceedance in the PM_{2.5} NAAQS. The EIS found that “[g]iven the low ambient concentrations that exist in the [Richfield planning area] for some pollutants, it is expected that the increase in emissions of CO, Nox, SO₂, PM₁₀, and PM_{2.5} for the Proposed RMP would not cause concentrations to exceed NAAQS or state ambient air quality standards.” Therefore, Plaintiffs have failed to establish that the BLM violated FLPMA's mandate to provide for compliance with air quality laws.

Plaintiffs also contend that there was a NAAQS exceedance with respect to ozone. Plaintiffs contend that the three-year average of ozone levels in Canyonlands and Zion National Park show elevated ozone levels, but the BLM asserts that Plaintiffs' calculations are incorrect. The ozone level is not exceeded when applying the applicable NAAQS standard, which looks at whether the three-year average of the annual fourth-highest daily maximum eight-hour average is less than or equal to .075 ppm. In addition, while the Zion monitoring station registered an ozone exceedance, it is 150 miles from the Richfield planning area. Whereas the Canyonlands monitoring station, which is in the Richfield planning area, never registered an ozone

exceedance. There is no basis for combining the Zion and Canyonlands data.

Plaintiffs claim that the BLM violated FLPMA § 1712(c)(8) because it acknowledged that certain emissions in the Richfield planning area will increase over time. However, as found above, there is no exceedance of air quality standards to date in the Richfield planning area. Therefore, the question is whether the BLM properly analyzed whether upward trends in pollutants were adequately analyzed.

In analyzing potential air quality impacts in the EIS, the BLM implemented a qualitative emission comparison approach to study each proposed alternative. “[E]missions calculations were based upon the best available engineering data and assumptions; on air, visibility, and atmospheric deposition data; on emission inventory procedures; and on professional and scientific judgment.” Emissions were calculated for activities such as resource extraction, grazing, and OHV use using a 15-year time period. The BLM determined that the “range of total emissions is minor and the difference between the alternatives is not significant.” Again, the BLM also concluded, based on its calculations, that “the increase in CO, Nox, SO₂, PM₁₀, and PM_{2.5} emissions from any alternative would not cause the concentrations to exceed NAAQS or state ambient air quality standards.”

The court concludes that Plaintiffs have not provided any evidence or arguments to refute the BLM’s conclusion that the Richfield planning area would comply with all air quality standards. Therefore, the court finds no violation of FLPMA § 1712(c)(8) with respect to air quality.

6. FLPMA and Areas of Critical Environmental Concern

Plaintiffs further argue that the BLM violated FLPMA by failing to prioritize the

designation of Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (“ACECs”). When developing land use plans, FLPMA requires the BLM to “give priority to the designation and protection of areas of critical environmental concern.” 43 U.S.C. § 1712(c)(3). FLPMA defines ACECs as “areas within public lands where special management attention is required . . . to protect and prevent irreparable damage to important historic, cultural, or scenic values, fish and wildlife resources or other natural systems or processes, or to protect life and safety from natural hazards.” *Id.* § 1702(a). A potential ACEC must have: (1) “relevance,” meaning it possesses “a significant historic, cultural, or scenic value [or] a fish or wildlife resource or other natural system or process,” and (2) “importance,” meaning the relevant values, resources or processes have “substantial significance.” 43 C.F.R. § 1610.7-2(a); BLM Manual § 1613.11.

The priority afforded ACECs reflects Congress’ intent to elevate the designation and protection of ACECs over BLM’s default management for “multiple use.” *Id.* § 1732(a). However, FLPMA states that the “identification of [ACECs] shall not, of itself, change or prevent change of the management or use of public lands.” *Id.* § 1711(a).

In this case, prior to adopting the Richfield RMP, the BLM had previously designated four ACECs totaling 14,780 acres. During the Richfield RMP planning process, 26 potential ACECs were nominated for designation and the BLM assembled a team to evaluate those areas in accordance with the guidance in 43 C.F.R. § 1610.7-2 and the BLM Manual § 1613. The team prepared a 150-page report analyzing each area. Based on these evaluations, 16 of the potential 26 ACECs were carried forward for further designation consideration in the EIS. The sixteen areas, totaling 886,810 acres, were identified as meeting the relevance and importance criteria for ACEC designation. The BLM, in the EIS, then considered these areas under each proposed

management alternative in the DRMP. In addition to the EIS, the ROD identified each ACEC under consideration and provided an explanation as to how the “relevant and important” values would be protected under management prescriptions other than ACECs. The BLM ultimately designated only 2 ACECs covering just 2,530 acres.

The BLM’s decision, therefore, dramatically cut the acreage of even existing ACECs. The BLM stated that it did not designate more ACECs because “standard management” under the RMP would provide adequate protection. Plaintiffs argue that the BLM’s actions demonstrate that priority was not given to the designation of ACECs. In contrast, the BLM argues that it prioritized those areas for consideration under the standards and ensured that they were adequately protected through ACEC designations or other management prescriptions and that is all that is required under FLPMA. The court concludes that the general process the BLM employed to determine ACECs did not violate FLPMA.

Plaintiffs, however, also specifically challenge whether the BLM complied with FLPMA’s mandate to provide special management attention under an ACEC for the Henry Mountains, Badlands, and Dirty Devil potential ACECs. The BLM argues, that these potential ACECs were analyzed and considered in accordance with FLPMA just like the many other potential ACECs.

First, the 45% of the potential Henry Mountains ACEC contains land already designated as a Wilderness Study Area (“WSA”) and 55% of the land is protected by OHV restrictions, Visual Resource Management Class II designation, and other seasonal/spatial restrictions. While the BLM describes how the WSA management designation will protect all relevant and important values in that part of the ACEC, it makes no assertion for how the remaining area in

the potential ACEC is protected by its resource management classifications. The BLM's analysis of the area actually supports the designation of the area as an ACEC and runs contrary to the BLM's ultimate designations.

The BLM also argues that it can mitigate harm caused by potential future coal mining through the NEPA process. However, the availability of a future NEPA review for specific projects does not relieve the BLM of its current obligation to comply with FLPMA in its planning process.

The decision not to designate the Henry Mountains as an ACEC appears to be arbitrary and capricious because it did not result from an application of the standards in FLPMA to the area in question. The BLM's original preferred alternative in the DRMP included designation of the Henry Mountains ACEC. However, as a result of the national BLM office's concern that the counties were not "on board" with that designation, the field office received "management direction" to remove the Henry Mountains ACEC designation. This management decision gave no analysis in connection with the required FLPMA standards; rather, it appears to be based on political concerns. Such a basis for the decision does not comply with FLPMA. Accordingly, the court finds that the BLM's decision with respect to the Henry Mountains ACEC was arbitrary and capricious and contrary to law.

Next, the potential Badlands ACEC comprises 90,000 acres, including 7,700 acres that were previously designated as an ACEC. Plaintiffs argue that the BLM decided not to designate the area as an ACEC out of a desire to keep the area open for OHV use rather than the required directive to determine whether special management was required. BLM's chosen alternative, however, reduced open OHV acres from 40,000 to 8,000. The BLM explained its decisions with

respect to OHV use in connection with the resource values at issue. While Plaintiffs disagree with whether the BLM's ultimate determination is proper, the BLM complied with FLPMA by limiting OHV use, and tying its decision to the required considerations of the relevant and important resource values in the area. Therefore, the court finds no FLPMA violation with respect to the potential Badlands ACEC.

Plaintiffs also object to the BLM's failure to designate the potential Dirty Devil ACEC because of the OHV use allowed in the area. Again, however, the BLM considered the resource values of the area and limited OHV use in the area. The BLM closed 51% of the area to OHV use and allowed limited designated routes within 49% of the area. Because the BLM considered the impact of OHV use on the resource values of the area and applied the required FLPMA criteria, the court finds no FLPMA violation in the BLM's decision not to designate the Dirty Devil ACEC.

7. Wild and Scenic Rivers Act Designation

Finally, Plaintiffs contend that the BLM violated the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act ("WSRA") by eliminating eligible river segments based on their alleged ephemeral flows. The WSRA protects "free-flowing" rivers and streams with "outstandingly remarkable . . . values . . . for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations." 16 U.S.C. § 1271. In connection with the RMP planning process, the WSRA required the BLM to take a two-step process to evaluate whether rivers within the planing area qualify as potential wild and scenic rivers. *Id.* at § 1276(d)(1). First, the BLM must determine which river segments are "eligible" for consideration and, then, must determine which "eligible" segments are "suitable" for wild and scenic designation. *Id.* §§ 1273(a), (b), 1275(a). The BLM is charged with managing eligible

and suitable rivers to protect their free-flowing nature and outstandingly remarkable values. *Id.* § 1283(a).

A river segment is “eligible” if it is: (1) “free-flowing,” and (2) possesses one or more “outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, geologic, fish, and wildlife, historic, cultural, or other similar values.” *Id.* §§ 1271, 1273(b). The WSRA defines “free-flowing” as “existing or flowing in natural condition without impoundment, diversion, straightening, rip-rapping, or other modification of the waterway.” *Id.* § 1286(b).

In this case, the BLM evaluated 304 drainages and determined that twelve river segments were “eligible” for inclusion and only one segment was “suitable” for wild and scenic designation. Plaintiffs argue that the BLM erroneously disqualified several river segments from being eligible for consideration based solely on the alleged ephemeral nature of their flows. Specifically, Plaintiffs assert that the BLM recognized that the streams in Happy Canyon, Big Hollow, Fiddler Cove Canyon, Horseshoe Canyon, and Buck and Pasture Canyon are free of man-made barricades, exist in their natural condition, and possess outstandingly remarkable values. The only issue is whether these rivers were ineligible for consideration based solely on the claim that their flows are ephemeral.

The BLM asserts that its preliminary determinations of eligibility were informed by the BLM Manual § 8351, which it claims does not state whether ephemeral river segments are eligible for determination. Plaintiffs, however, contend that the BLM Manual demonstrates that the WSRA imposes no minimum flow requirement for a river to be free-flowing. Plaintiffs rely on the following guidance in the manual: “A river need not be ‘boatable or floatable’ in order to be eligible. . . . [T]he volume of flow is sufficient if it is enough to maintain the outstandingly

remarkable values identified within the segment. Rivers with intermittent flows exist within the [National Wild and Scenic River System], and rivers representative of desert ecosystems having outstanding ecological or other values, should be considered.” BLM Manual § 8351.31(B)(1).

Because this guidance refers only to intermittent rivers, the BLM’s Utah State Director sought clarification from the BLM’s National Landscape Conservation System Director on when a river is “free-flowing” and whether intermittent or ephemeral water courses are eligible for WSRA designation. That request resulted in the BLM’s June 2004 issuance of Instruction Memorandum (“IM”) 2004-196. IM 2004-196 explains that an eligible river segment “should contain regular and predictable flows (even though intermittent, seasonal, or interrupted). This flow should derive from naturally occurring circumstances, e.g. aquifer, recharge, seasonal melting from snow or ice, normal precipitation, instream flow from spillways or upstream facilities.” Furthermore, the IM states “[c]aution is advised in applying the free-flow criterion to water courses that only flow during flash floods or unpredictable events. The segment should not be ephemeral (flow lasting a few days out of a year).”

Based on the eligibility criteria and IM 2004-196, the BLM deemed 6 river segments ineligible based on its determination that they were ephemeral. The BLM defined ephemeral as a “[d]ry wash flowing water only during or immediately after a storm with little or no evidence of riparian vegetation.” By contrast, it defined intermittent streams as having “[f]lowing water in at least part of the segment most of the year and evidence of riparian vegetation.”

The parties dispute whether the BLM’s criteria is consistent with the WSRA’s statutory language defining free-flowing. Plaintiffs argue that the BLM’s criteria is contrary to the WSRA’s broad definition of free-flowing, which does not speak to how or when the stream

exists. Plaintiffs assert that there is no need to add a minimum flow requirement when the statute does not contain one. *See U.S. Magnesium, LLC v. EPA*, 690 F.3d 1157, 1164 (10th Cir. 2012) (“If the statute is clear, we apply its plain meaning and the inquiry ends.”).

However, the BLM contends that the WSRA is undeniably silent on whether “free flowing” includes water courses that only flow for a short duration following unpredictable weather events and there is nothing in the plain language of the WSRA’s definition of free-flowing that requires it to include ephemeral river segments. The Supreme Court has made clear that when a “statute is silent or ambiguous with respect to the specific issue, the reviewing court must defer to the agency’s construction of the statute so long as it is reasonable. *Mineral Policy Ctr. v. Norton*, 292 F. Supp. 2d 30, 37 (D.D.C. 2003) (citing *Chevron, U.S.A., Inc. v. NRDC*, 467 U.S. 837, 843 (1984)).

In this case, because of the silence with respect to ephemeral river segments in both the WSRA and the BLM Manual, the BLM asked its national headquarters for clarification as to the inclusion of intermittent and ephemeral river segments. The national headquarters determined that rivers with intermittent or seasonal flows should be eligible but ephemeral segments, where the flow lasts for only a few days out of the year, are not eligible. The court cannot conclude that this interpretation was unreasonable. “*Chevron* and its progeny make clear that “[w]hen a challenge to an agency construction of a statutory provision, fairly conceptualized, really centers on the wisdom of the agency’s policy, rather than whether it is a reasonable choice within a gap left open by Congress, the challenge must fail.” *Id.* at 37 (quoting *Chevron*, 467 U.S. at 866). If the construction is reasonable, *Chevron* requires the court to accept the construction, ““even if the agency’s reading differs from what the court believes is the best statutory interpretation.””

Rivera-Barrientos v. Holder, 666 F.3d 641, 645 (10th Cir. 2012). Although the court may not have interpreted free-flowing in the same manner, it cannot conclude that the BLM's interpretation was unreasonable.

Plaintiffs also argue that the BLM's position on ephemeral river segments is not entitled to deference because it constitutes a dramatic and unexplained change in policy. However, the BLM did not change policy with respect to intermittent rivers. It only clarified its policy on ephemeral rivers. The BLM studied these ephemeral rivers in its process of determining which segments were eligible for inclusion. This initial effort does not demonstrate a shift in policy. Rather, the effort caused the local BLM to inquire as to appropriate policy from its national office. The national BLM issued IM 2004-196 as a "Clarification of Policy" that could be used as guidance by local BLM offices nationwide. IM 2004-196 specifically states that it is not a change in policy. The BLM did not have a prior position on the inclusion of ephemeral river segments. The statement of Doug Thurman—"I think things have changed"—is only his opinion. The statement does not demonstrate that the whole agency made an actual policy change. It is also consistent with the fact that the local BLM was now faced with implementing the clarifications on ephemeral rivers. Therefore, the court finds no basis for concluding that the BLM inappropriately changed its policy with respect to ephemeral rivers.

Specifically, Plaintiffs also ask this court to review whether the BLM appropriately applied its definitions of ephemeral and intermittent to the specifically challenged rivers in this case. Based on the guidance it received in IM 2004-196, the local BLM defined an ephemeral river as a "[d]ry wash flowing water only during or immediately after a storm with little or no evidence of riparian vegetation" and an intermittent stream as having "[f]lowing water in at least

part of the segment most of the year and evidence of riparian vegetation.”²

Plaintiffs point out that while the BLM characterized these specific streams as dry washes that flow only in response to storms and generally lack riparian vegetation, there is record evidence to the contrary. Before the BLM made its final determinations, several detailed comments were presented to the BLM by Steve Allen, who had traveled the areas on foot. The French Spring Fork of Happy Canyon is described as having perennial springs that are host to a diverse number of plants, trees, and flowers. The spring areas in Buck and Pasture Canyons have substantial riparian habitats near their mouths leading to the Dirty Devil River, lined with reeds, willows, rushes and cottonwood trees, that are used by ducks in spring migration. Another record citation describes the canyons as having “riparian areas that are choked with vegetation.” Fiddler Cove Canyon has small seeps and ephemeral springs supporting cottonwood trees, and several large potholes that provide habitat for mammals. Also, during the spring, the Red Benches area of Fiddler Cove Canyon is carpeted with sego lilies.

The BLM’s notes of these areas state that Fiddler Cover Canyon has only ephemeral flows. The evidence provided by Steve Allen, although quite detailed, does not conclusively show that the Fiddler Cove Canyon has enough flow to be considered intermittent. Therefore, the court finds no basis for reversing the BLM’s decision on Fiddler Cove Canyon.

The BLM’s notes from Happy Canyon state that a member of the staff went up the

² The court questions whether the BLM’s definition of intermittent complies with the instruction given in IM 2004-196. The requirement that an intermittent river have flowing water “most of the year” is a higher standard than the IM’s acceptance of a seasonal river. In addition, the definition appears to leave a “no man’s land” between an ephemeral river that only last for a few days after a weather event and a river that runs most of the year. The practical application of these divergent definitions with respect to desert streams in particular appears unworkable.

canyon several miles but did not see any riparian vegetation or intermittent flow. The BLM also looked at aerial photographs, which it claims shows that the canyon is dry. However, intermittent flows may only be seasonal, and the BLM does not state what time of year the photographs were taken. In addition, the evidence from the BLM and the evidence submitted to the BLM by Steve Allen contrast significantly with respect to the criteria the BLM used. In the BLM's Wild and Scenic River Eligibility and Tentative Classification Report, the new evidence from Steve Allen was referenced by the BLM with respect to Buck and Pasture Canyons but not with respect to Happy Canyon. See RICH044634-5. The evidence from Steve Allen is based on his on-the-ground analysis, which the court finds more helpful than aerial photographs. And, the evidence specifically states that there are perennial springs. Such information would support a finding that the springs are intermittent rather than the result of random storms. In addition, Allen specifically describes riparian vegetation. Both these pieces of information would support a finding that Happy Canyon is intermittent rather than ephemeral and eligible for consideration as a wild and scenic river. The information from Steve Allen, however, does not appear to have been analyzed by the BLM in making its final decisions.

Given that the information relates specifically to the criteria developed by the BLM, the BLM should at least consider and analyze it. The court is not determining that Happy Canyon qualifies as a wild and scenic river. Rather, the court is requesting the BLM to re-evaluate the information provided to it and make a fully informed and reasoned consideration of whether Happy Canyon is eligible and suitable as a wild and scenic river. Without such analysis and consideration of information in its possession, the present determination appears to be arbitrary and capricious.

In addition, with respect to Buck and Pasture Canyon, the BLM's consideration of Steve Allen's comments lacks any substantive analysis. Unlike Happy Canyon, the BLM does recognize the fact that Steve Allen provided new information. However, the new information it recognizes is only a section where Allen provides his opinion that the BLM "missed the boat with not recommending these canyons." The inclusion of only that opinion misses the boat with respect to the substantively important comments Allen provided with respect to whether the canyons met the eligibility criteria. Both canyons have areas at the mouths of the canyons with springs and riparian vegetation such as reeds, willows, and rushes. Ducks also frequent the areas during spring migration, which supports a conclusion that water is present at least seasonally. This evidence is not discussed by the BLM. However, such evidence could support a finding that the spring areas of both canyons qualify as intermittent rather than ephemeral streams. Again, the court is not determining that the areas, in fact, qualify as wild and scenic rivers. Only that the record shows a lack of consideration or analysis of information directly relating to the criteria put in place by the BLM for determining ephemeral or intermittent streams. As determined above with respect to Happy Canyon, the court concludes that the BLM should reevaluate the spring areas of Buck and Pasture Canyons for eligibility and suitability under the WSRA.

CONCLUSION

The court reverses and affirms the Richfield RMP and Travel Plan as discussed above. The court concludes that: (1) the BLM's failed to apply the minimization criteria in its preparation of the Travel Plan; (2) the BLM complied with NEPA's "hard look" requirement with respect to the impacts of OHVs; (3) the BLM violated the NHPA by failing to take into account the impact of OHV routes on archeological sites; (4) the BLM sufficiently considered the

impacts of OHVs in the context of climate change; (5) the BLM complied with FLPMA with respect to air quality standards; (6) the BLM generally complied with prioritizing ACECs, with the specific exception of the proposed Henry Mountains ACEC; (7) the BLM generally complied with the WSRA in its implementation of eligibility criteria and its determinations of eligible and suitable rivers, with the specific exceptions of Happy Canyon and Buck and Pasture Canyons spring areas.

The court grants the Federal Defendants' request that the court permit an opportunity for further briefing on the proper scope of remedies. The parties shall file simultaneous briefs on the proper remedies as a result of this decision by December 6, 2013. The parties may then file simultaneous reply memoranda by January 10, 2014. The court does not anticipate holding oral argument on the remedies issue.

DATED this 4th day of November, 2013.

BY THE COURT:


DALE A. KIMBALL
United States District Judge

KaLeigh Welch

From: Pete Gross [orcabay@sisna.com]
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 4:05 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon and surrounding areas

Dear Council:

I have done a number of river trips with several different friends who are outfitters in Labyrinth Canyon. On one occasion, we did a canoe trip with a group of underprivileged middle school kids from Los Angeles, some who had never been out of the city. The last night of the trip, each one shared his/her experience. They spoke with more eloquence than I've heard in 37 years of guiding. Mostly, they spoke of the solitude.

One boy spoke about how profoundly moved he was by the incredible silence of the canyons and music that seemed to emanate from the canyon walls. He spoke about how violated he felt by the noise of a single motorcycle roaring up and down a dirt road paralleling the river as we floated between Hey Joe and Spring Canyons. He could see himself riding such a motorcycle at home in the city, proclaiming to everyone within earshot how "cool" he was. Now, the irritating whine of one motorcycle echoing off the canyon walls drove him to anger bordering on rage. He likened it to listening to a chainsaw in a cathedral.

Yet, what he said that night was not a rare reaction to the incredible silence of the canyons. It's a common refrain. Others may not state it so eloquently, but for more than 35 years, I've heard people speak as frequently about the sounds as they do of the stunning scenery. Many are amazed when they can hear a conversation one-quarter mile away. They're stunned when motorcycles, ATVs, and helicopters shatter the solitude.

At any given time, several groups comprising upwards of a hundred people might float a section of Labyrinth Canyon, separated from each other by days and miles scarcely aware of each other's presence, sometimes even floating past another group in camp unnoticed. By contrast, a single motorcyclist can repeatedly roar past and leave behind its unwelcome audio imprint upon dozens of people in a matter of minutes.

The one thing that universally irritates everyone, the one thing that only a deaf person can ignore, is the echoing crescendo of noise that drowns out the natural sounds of birds and cicadas and gurgling water until it fades into the distance and the sounds of the canyon return to fill the void. One of the most common reasons people call the police is to complain about a noisy neighbor. Everyone understands the annoyance of a screaming baby in a theater. Where it's unregulated, motorized use literally drives away non-motorized use as the few expel the many, and the concept of multiple-use allows the achievement of the lowest common denominator.

Just as responsible smokers can appreciate smoke-free environments as much as non-smokers, responsible motorized vehicle operators appreciate places where they can enjoy quiet and solitude.

Please support closure to motorized traffic the small percentage of routes that literally amplify their impact in the Labyrinth Canyon drainages including Tenmile Wash, Hey Joe Canyon, Spring Canyon, Hell Roaring Canyon, and, most of all, the river corridor itself. Let's say no to chainsaws in cathedrals.

Additionally, please support protection of our irreplaceable, world class scenic resources from temporary extraction for short term gain at the expense of our greatest economic engine, tourism.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and all of the work you have put into addressing public lands issues.

Sincerely,

Pete Gross
853 Mountain View Drive
Moab, UT 84532

KaLeigh Welch

From: Susan Wheaton [entrada@frontiernet.net]
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 11:13 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Workshop 3 - west of 191

Dear County Council Members,

Please add my name to the list who prefer Alternative 3, with as much additional wilderness and other protection to the public lands as possible.

I've lived here since 1971 Moab is my home. I have watched the increasing detrimental use of public lands for a long time. I fear for our future if we allow these areas to be overwhelmed by all of us in the name of tourism, extraction, recreation, multiple use, you name it.

Sincerely,

Susan Wheaton
2215 Munsey Drive
Moab, UT84532

KaLeigh Welch

From: Stella Ann Lightfoot [stellaann@outlook.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 07, 2015 5:12 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net

Members of the Grand County Council:

I am writing to ask you to honor the work of the Big Flat Working group. What they came up with is a balanced plan that represents both recreational interests and mineral interests. Both sides realize that there is no need for any type of wilderness designation in this area. The working group recommended a more than adequate buffer zone along the river of one mile with no mineral leasing or development. Nothing in this area qualifies as "wilderness". The buffer zone provides peace and quiet for those using the river and allows the county to maintain the mineral interests that are so economically important to the county. I don't want to see any trails or roads, motorized or non-motorized, closed down in this area. I would also like to see a significant area identified for a SITLA trade in for development of oil, gas and potash. This will be of benefit to the county economically.

Respectfully, Stella Lightfoot

Sent from Windows Mail

KaLeigh Welch

From: walther435 . [nancy.oneal.walther@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 07, 2015 6:53 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: PROTECT OUR WILDERNESS

PROTECT OUR WILDERNESS and especially our sacred places like the Labyrinth Canyon, such a gift to us. Do NOT allow it to be hurt or ruined so few make a buck or take a joy ride. Grand Cty. needs to step up, protect and help our beautiful canyonlands from this abuse!

Sincerely,
Nancy and Ricky Oneal

KaLeigh Welch

From: Kate Finneran [kaitliffinneran@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 07, 2015 6:59 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Please protect Labyrinth Canyon

Dear Grand County Council,

Please consider protecting Labyrinth Canyon as Wilderness, and please protect the side canyons from off road vehicle use.

Thanks for all that you are doing.

Kate Anderson
530 Bowen Circle
Moab UT 84532

KaLeigh Welch

From: Celia F Alario [celiaalario@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 07, 2015 10:54 PM
To: Council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: PLEASE do all you can to protect Labrynth Canyon

Greetings again council,

I know you are going to discuss Labrynth Canyon on Monday and ask you do all you can to maximize protection of that area, for our recreation and for the importance of the area!

PLEASE do the right thing!

-Celia Alario
1181 Wagner Avenue
Moab UT 84532

KaLeigh Welch

From: Misty Adams [movingwest2008@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 07, 2015 11:13 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net; Rob.Bishop@mail.house.gov; Jason.Chafetz@mail.house.gov
Cc: Fred.Ferguson@mail.house.gov; Scott.Parker@mail.house.gov;
Melissa.Subbotin@mail.house.gov; Wade.Garrett@mail.house.gov;
Jennifer.Scott@mail.house.gov; Casey.Snyder@mail.house.gov;
Colton.Miles@mail.house.gov; garyherbert@utah.gov; jasonharding@utah.gov;
mikemower@utah.gov; kathleenclarke@utah.gov; codystewart@utah.gov;
alanmatheson@utah.gov; dthinkins@le.utah.gov
Subject: Recommendations for Big Flat area, Grand County, Utah

Dear Grand County Council and Representative Bob Bishop and Jason Chafetz,

We are writing to you to give our opinions on the upcoming County Council meeting regarding the counties proposals focusing on the Big Flat area of Grand County.

First and foremost we would request that you honor the work of the Big Flat Working Group. It was composed of a wide variety of the vested stakeholders in the area that worked very hard to craft a balanced plan for the area that worked for preservation, recreation, and mineral interests.

Secondly, please do not designate any wilderness in this section as this is an area of our most popular front country with large amounts of recreation and mineral development, and in all reality contains no wilderness type lands. One point that we would like to make is just because an area is beautiful, scenic, or out of the way, should not necessarily qualify it as a Wilderness Area. A perfect example of this is the Green River Corridor. There are several roads along the banks of the Green River including Hey Joe Canyon Trail, 10 Mile Wash, and Mineral Bottom. All these roads should be left open to allow others, besides rafters, to be able to access, and enjoy this area.

When you choose to designate Wilderness you take away the opportunity for those unable to hike, walk, or successfully navigate a multi-day rafting trip from seeing these areas; this essentially disallows an entire segment of our population from enjoying their public lands. Also, those people seeking "solitude" will have ample opportunity once they get downstream from mineral bottom, at that point they will essentially be completely on their own until they reach Lake Powell. We can't see how seeing an occasional off road vehicle or Mountain Bike could, or would be a detriment to their trip. We do support the Working Groups Recommendation to include a one mile buffer zone of no mineral leasing or development. This should provide more than adequate protection of scenery, and the desired quiet of river users.

Third, the BLMs 2008 Resource Management Plan does an excellent job of providing guidance on what types of activities are appropriate for this area, and as a result no new Wilderness, National Conservation Areas, or even Nation Recreation Area should be designated. Current BLM regulations are more than sufficient in this heavily visited area. Under no circumstances do we support any motorized or non-motorized roads or trails being shut down in this area.

Lastly, we want to see a significant area identified for a SITLA trade to provide for development of oil, gas, and potash resources. These will provided needed, full-time, year round, benefited positions that will promote the local economy, and provide good jobs for our local citizens. We feel that the oil and gas industry, as well as the potash extraction companies have proven they can extract their resources with minimal long term impact upon the environment while still being able to be profitable.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

David and Misty Adams, Moab - Utah

KaLeigh Welch

From: Susie Harrington [susie@withgala.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 08, 2015 5:18 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Bishop Planning process

Dear Grand County Council,

In your upcoming recommendations, please request that that Labyrinth canyon be designated as wilderness!!

This stretch of canyon is on par with our National Parks. I alternate river trips on this section and the lower Stillwater section. In addition to local use, many people come from out of town to specifically float this section of river - it is a gem that we need to protect.

The river corridor is used extensively by many non-motorized recreationists who are there for the beauty, the silence, and the pristine environment. The river riparian area is a prime and rare habitat in our dry desert. Please do everything you can to protect this precious resource.

That means designating the area as Wilderness and eliminating off-road use in the side canyons that impact the river experience for people and wildlife: Hey Joe, Ten Mile Wash, Dead Cow and Hell Roaring Canyons.

Please know these protections mean everything to our economy and to our quality of life, and even more importantly in the long run, to the legacy we leave long after we are gone.

Thank you for your work serving our community.
Susie Harrington
900 Kane Creek
Moab

KaLeigh Welch

From: Ashley Anderson [c.ashley.anderson@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 08, 2015 5:45 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Lands Bill Recommendations

Dear Councilmembers,

I encourage you to recommend Labyrinth Canyon be designated as federally protected Wilderness during your discussion of Bishop's lands bill. And please work to protect Labyrinth's side canyons from off-road vehicle use.

Yes, I value the solitude and quiet of roadless areas. But I also love to ride off-road vehicles (especially motorcycles). I know that I could spend a lifetime exploring areas that are already in use and never see it all. With growing numbers of engines and motors making their way deeper and deeper into our backyard, its simply a matter of responsible management that we establish areas that preserve not only the land itself, but the soundscape as well.

Thank you for your service.

Ashley Anderson
530 Bowen Circle
Moab, UT 84532

•Sent from my phone
801.652.2971•

KaLeigh Welch

From: Dee Rowland [rowland.dee@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 08, 2015 7:42 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Regarding Labyrinth Canyon

Dear Council Members,

We have had the incredible experience of twice paddling and floating through Labyrinth Canyon with our children and grandchildren. The last time was to celebrate my 70th birthday. The scenery is breath-taking and the quiet is to be treasured. The ripple of the water and the occasional bird songs bring such peace.

Thankfully, there were no motorized vessels. And there is no need for them since it is not strenuous to go downstream. In addition to my 77 year-old husband, we had a couple in their late 80's along on one trip.

Please include this canyon in your wilderness proposal. It is one of Utah's very special places.

Thanks for considering,
Dee (& John) Rowland
2474 Nantucket
SLC, UT 84121

KaLeigh Welch

From: Michael Peck [colorcountry@frontiernet.net]
Sent: Sunday, March 08, 2015 7:58 PM
To: Grand County Council
Subject: Labyrinth canyon

Grand County Council,

I am writing to all of you to ask for you to save one of the most beautiful stretches of boating in Grand County. Please protect Labyrinth canyon as Wilderness, and protect the side canyons from off road vehicle use. Noise can ruin the experience of floating on a raft on the water. Ask anyone who goes boating on the daily what the most distracting part of the whole experience is and they will say the sound of the cars driving on the road.

Michael Peck
Castle Valley

KaLeigh Welch

From: Glen Richardson [gerengr@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 08, 2015 8:33 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net; Rob.Bishop@mail.house.gov;
Jason.Chafetz@mail.house.gov; rguson@mail.house.gov; Scott.Parker@mail.house.gov;
Melissa.Subbotin@mail.house.gov; Wade.Garrett@mail.house.gov;
Jennifer.Scott@mail.house.gov; Casey.Snyder@mail.house.gov;
Colton.Miles@mail.house.gov; garyherbert@utah.gov; jasonharding@utah.gov;
mikemower@utah.gov; kathleenclarke@utah.gov; codystewart@utah.gov;
alanmatheson@utah.gov; dthinkins@le.utah.gov
Subject: Land Use

Dear Council Members and Representatives:

As you consider land use recommendations for the Moab area I would simply ask that you respect the wishes of the entire population. We are clearly a diverse community with opinions and desires as diverse as we are as a people.

In my opinion it would be wrong to represent the wishes of any single faction while ignoring the others. It appears to me that compromise will be required on all side for the end solution to be equitable. While I am certain that with compromise will come dissatisfaction, better that conflicting parties each give a little than for one to "win" while all others "lose".

While the majority has the power to force their position, in our form of government all of the people are to be represented.

Thank you for your service.

Glen Richardson
A concerned citizen

KaLeigh Welch

From: drtsqri@frontiernet.net
Sent: Sunday, March 08, 2015 8:37 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Cc: Rob.Bishop@mail.house.gov; Jason.Chafetz@mail.house.gov
Subject: Public Lands Workshop, Big Flat Area

Dear Grand County Council,

I would like to express my feelings on how important the 4WD roads and trails in the Big Flat area are to me and my family, and the thousands of 4WD recreationists that use these routes on an annual basis. Please honor the countless hours of work put forth by both the recent Big Flat Working Group, and the BLM in preparation of the 2008 RMP. The current management plan provides both environmental protection, as well as access for motorized and non-motorized recreation and resource development. Further restrictions, especially Wilderness designations, would threaten the recreation experience of many local residents as well as visitors, and would be a severe blow to the local economy.

Sincerely,

Jeff Stevens

President, Moab Friends-For-Wheelin'

351 E Coronado Lane

Moab, Utah

KaLeigh Welch

From: Serena Supplee [serena@serenasupplee.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 08, 2015 9:18 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protect Labyrinth Canyon!

Please protect Labyrinth Canyon.
Make it wilderness!
Keep it special for generations to come.
Thank-you,
Serena Supplee

KaLeigh Welch

From: arowland@gmail.com
Sent: Sunday, March 08, 2015 10:44 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon Wilderness

Dear Commissioners,

Please consider wilderness designation for Labyrinth Canyon and the side canyons surrounding it.

I am a resident of northern Utah, but consider that location one of the most precious of any I have visited in our state. We made several canoe trips with my family when my son and nieces and nephews were very small, since the slow-moving shallow water and quiet, sandy beaches were perfect for toddlers and small children. My senior parents and their friends accompanied us. That was the beginning of our children's love of southern Utah and the joy of human-powered recreation.

We still remember seeing a group of college-aged kayakers powering by late at night; doing the stretch of river we covered in three leisurely days in one high-energy day and night. We also met a group from Spore loading up their boats for a camping trip with many developmentally and physically disabled young people.

How amazing that people from such a diverse ranges of ages and physical abilities all found a wonderful place to enjoy the outdoors far from the commotion of the city.

I can't even imagine how degraded the experience and environment would have been if motorized recreation were allowed in that area.

Please help preserve that environment so future generations can have those memories.

Thank you for all you do.

Amy Rowland
586 N Center St.
Salt Lake City, UT 84103

KaLeigh Welch

From: Kimberly Call [kcbountyboyz452@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 09, 2015 6:45 AM
To: undisclosed-recipients:
Subject: PLI Debate

- Grand County Council and Utah Congressmen,

"If there is any backbone at all in Congress, there should be a rush to repeal the Antiquities Act. President (Obama) continues

to use it to thumb

his nose at Congress, and ignore the Constitution. Our founders had a reason for specifying that Congress — not the president — manage federal lands. That reason is to ensure that the consent of the governed empower land management decisions." Henry Lamb, 2000

Of course, in Grand County, the PLI argument has never been an 'us against them' debate relative to the recreation industry vs. the extraction industry. The argument, as I see it, is against encroachment by an overreaching administration and our inability to create local solutions to these debates because we don't own any land in the county to speak of. Our fight has been, all along, with an administration thousands and thousands of miles away who is holding an outdated law over our heads as we try to have civil discussions in our county and try to solve problems locally. My question to the council and our congressmenIs the recreation industry willing to join the battle against this administration to recover our rights to the land and, subsequently, our rights to solve our differences in our own way, on a local level? As it is right now, it doesn't matter how much Grand County talks, argues, fights, concedes, or dreamsit doesn't matter how many meetings we hold or how many maps we look at because all decisions are made for us thousands and thousands of miles away. That is the one unifying thought that should motivate everyone in this county.

-  I can add a P.S. to the above.....what I've seen of the recreation/environmental industry's behavior in the debates resembles that of a spoiled child: they are trying to save their 'toys' (recreation amenities) while everyone else's are being taken away so they run to 'daddy' (govt) and tell him he needs to 'protect' (NCA's, NRA's, wilderness, monuments) them. Their selfish behavior is going to hurt our kids and grandkids for generations while they protect their bottom line for today. imo

KaLeigh Welch

From: saxonsharpe [saxonsharpe@frontier.com]
Sent: Monday, March 09, 2015 7:31 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: letter: today's meeting on Public Lands Bill

Grand County Council,

I support the Council's current actions on reassessing land use designations and extending the public comment period for Congressman Bishop's Proposed Public Lands Bill for Southeastern Utah. I encourage you to protect Labyrinth Canyon. This is a unique area which includes archaeological sites and should be designated wilderness. Off-road vehicles should be prohibited in the river corridor as well as in Labyrinth's side canyons: Hey Joe, Ten Mile Wash, Dead Cow, and route into Hell Roaring Canyon.

The greater Big Flat Area is the visual entrance to Island in the Sky and Deadhorse Point. After the mining boom busts, please make sure that this area can be reclaimed to its former open and wild look. I firmly believe that Grand County should protect these special places for future generations by keeping them wild and quiet.

Thank you for your hard work.

Saxon Sharpe
2726 Calle Puentes Rd.
Moab, UT 84532

Saxon Sharpe
saxonsharpe@frontier.com
(435) 259-6839 home
(775) 530-1157 cell

KaLeigh Welch

From: Rolf [rolfom@frontiernet.net]
Sent: Monday, March 09, 2015 9:23 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Cyn

Plz protect Labyrinth canyon as wilderness & it's side canyons from off road vehicles. Thank U very much for all your hard work ! Rolf Hebenstreit

ROLF :)))

KaLeigh Welch

From: nfpowell@frontiernet.net
Sent: Monday, March 09, 2015 9:29 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: LABYRINTH CANYON

PLEASE PROTECT LABYRINTH CANYON AS WILDERNESS & PROTECT ITS SIDE CANYONS FROM OFF ROAD VEHICLES. THANK YOU , NAN POWELL

Sent from my iPad

KaLeigh Welch

From: Ruth Dillon [rdillon@grandcountyutah.net]
Sent: Monday, March 09, 2015 2:32 PM
To: Chris Baird; Elizabeth Tubbs; Jaylyn Hawks; Ken Ballantyne ; 'Lynn Jackson'; Mary McGann; Rory Paxman
Cc: Diana Carroll; KaLeigh Welch
Subject: FW: Labyrinth Letter
Attachments: River Company Letter To Council.pdf

From: Don [<mailto:don@canyonvoyages.com>]
Sent: Monday, March 9, 2015 11:51 AM
To: rdillon@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: FW: Labyrinth Letter

Hi Ruth,

I wanted to send this last week but forgot. I hope it can still be included in a future County Council packet.

Thank You,

Don

Don Oblak
Canyon Voyages Adventure Co.
435-259-6007
email: don@canyonvoyages.com
website: <http://canyonvoyages.com/>

Living well requires an adventurous spirit!

March 3, 2015

Grand County Council
125 East Center Street
Moab, UT 84532

Dear Council Members,

We are writing to urge you to protect Labyrinth Canyon as wilderness from Ruby Ranch to the take out at Mineral Bottom.

As owners and operators of river guiding and outfitting businesses here in Moab, we interact firsthand with the thousands of visitors who come from across the country and around the world to float Labyrinth Canyon. There is virtually no other place like it, not only in Utah, but anywhere in the world — a place where families with young children can spend a week floating through the deep canyon without encountering a single rapid.

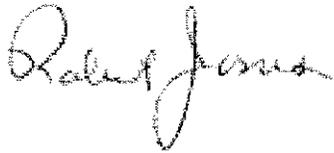
Unfortunately, and increasingly, our clients are encountering the sounds and dust clouds from off-road vehicles in the canyon. As a matter of balance, and in consideration of the over 4,000 miles of dirt routes open elsewhere in Grand County, we believe it is common sense to protect the river corridor from this use.

This conflict between river use and off road vehicles occurs in the three places. Most problematic is the Hey Joe Canyon route. This 8 mile stretch of ORV route along the river is incompatible with the quiet, wilderness experience that our customers expect along the 45-mile stretch of river in Labyrinth. We also recommend protecting the canyon just upstream from Trin Alcove, where dirt bikes reach the river via the “Dead Cow/The Tubes” route, and upstream from the Mineral Bottom take out, where the Hell Roaring Canyon ORV route follows the river upstream into Hell Roaring Canyon.

Of the four major canyons entering Labyrinth Canyon on the Grand County side, two would remain open to motorized use under our recommendation: Mineral Canyon and Spring Canyon. The Hey Joe route, as a compromise, could remain open to the river but not alongside it (and can serve as an alternate take out or put in when needed). It is important to note that off road vehicles would still be able to access the river at several points upstream from Ruby Ranch, as well as down stream from Mineral Bottom along the White Rim Trail, while preserving the wilderness experience for rafters in Labyrinth Canyon.

On behalf of our clients and our employees, we strongly urge you to protect Labyrinth Canyon as one of the true wilderness jewels of the American West.

Sincerely,



Robert Jones
Tag-A-Long Expeditions



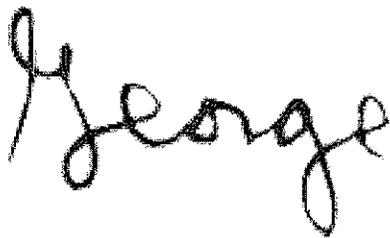
Don Oblak
Canyon Voyages Adventure Co.



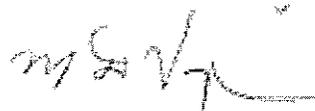
Theresa Butler
Moab Rafting and Canoe Company



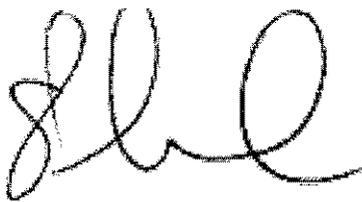
Becky Van Horsen
Splore



George Wendt
O.A.R.S.



Darren Vaughan
Tex's Riverways



Steve Creech
Outward Bound



Ean Flanagan
Red River Adventures



Dave Montgomery
Operations Manager
Canyonlands Field Institute

KaLeigh Welch

From: Audrey Graham [graham4grand@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, March 09, 2015 5:40 PM
To: Ruth
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon area

Dear County Council, We are writing to thank you for the full and public process (with careful map work and review) regarding the Bishop Lands Bill.

We wish to support the inclusion of the Labyrinth Canyon area, including various side canyons as wilderness. We have been lucky enough to make a few trips into this area and found the quiet stunning. If there are roads along the tops of the cliffs which end in viewpoints in a few areas, that is fine and not too disruptive. What IS unnecessarily disruptive is roads along the river or along the cliff lines which parallel the river. These result in long, loud, echoing motor vehicles which disturb wildlife and mar the whole area, especially when large groups of dirt bikes buzz up and down the shoreline. Please take this into consideration when drawing lines on the maps. We've really noticed this along the Colorado River in Ruby Canyon especially. In addition, we fully support the areas just East of Moab as wilderness, as well as the areas in the Books and Eastern Grand County. We feel that forwarding this plan will help all of us move on with management and the ability to plan for the future. Thank you so very much for taking on this large project with open minds and tons of time!

Respectfully, Tim and Audrey Graham, Moab

KaLeigh Welch

From: Marc & Judi [marc_judi@frontiernet.net]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 12:04 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Wilderness Designation vs. NSO Stipulation
Attachments: Please_Revisit_Designating_Wilderness_for_the_Side_Canyons_in_the_Labyrinth_Area.doc

Dear Council Members,

Attached please review my comments following Monday's work session on the Bishop Public Lands Initiative. I ask that you take a second look at designating some wilderness surrounding the four major canyons just north of Canyonlands National Park rather than creating large tracts of land with NSO stipulations, which contradicts the original purpose of an NSO.

Sincerely,

Marc Thomas
827 N. Palisade Drive
Moab, UT 84532
435-259-3603 (home)
435-210-0807 (mobile)

March 9, 2015

Dear Council Members,

My ask today is that you revisit whether or not to designate wilderness areas around the four major canyons north of Canyonlands National Park feeding into the Green River.

History shows us that "no surface occupancy" (NSO) stipulations are not reliable protection for sensitive areas. Unfortunately, the managing agency tendency is to scrap the barrier of an NSO upon request, particularly once a lease has been issued and pressure applied. Furthermore, the original intent of an NSO stipulation was to prevent disturbances to specific small areas, such as ranger stations or developed campgrounds, not to set up large, unbroken tracts of land with NSO restrictions.

In addition, the managing agency can use the cover of an NSO stipulation as a tool to avoid an environmental impact statement (EIS) when issuing multiple leases in or near wilderness quality areas. Management in such a manner not only violates the spirit of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), but also bypasses any comprehensive analysis of the cumulative impacts of oil and gas development activities, fragments the decision-making process to make it easier for a "finding of no significant impact" (FONSI), and sets the stage for significant and irreversible impacts.

Based on comments made on Monday by council members Liz Tubbs and Jaylyn Hawks, their preference would have been for wilderness to be designated around Ten Mile Canyon, Spring Canyon, Hell Roaring Canyon, and Mineral Canyon. The notes left behind by council member Mary McGann indicated that she too favored the establishment of wilderness areas. I believe that had she been present, the issue of wilderness protection would have been aired more fully.

Council member Chris Baird, while expressing a preference for the stronger protection afforded by a wilderness designation, felt that an NSO stipulation was a necessary tradeoff to get support for closing Ten Mile Wash to motorized vehicles. I submit that council members Tubbs, Hawks, and McGann would have recommended closing the wash as a road even if they had earlier voted in favor of more wilderness.

The tradeoff was also unnecessary because much of the Labyrinth Canyon area will remain open to existing and future mineral leasing, the amount of wilderness proposed by the environmental community was already being scaled back, and wherever wilderness was being recommended elsewhere in the county, the fate of most lesser roads was tied to future negotiations, rather than being automatically closed.

If you are serious about not triggering the presidential designation of a national monument in the Labyrinth Canyon area before January 20, 2017, then it behooves you to recommend establishing wilderness areas around 10 Mile Canyon, Spring Canyon, Hell Roaring Canyon, and Mineral Canyon. An NSO stipulation is inappropriate for such large tracts of land, for the reasons cited above, unless you are more interested in taking the easy way out than in confronting energy and environment conflicts directly.

I appreciate that by now all of you are weary of the many hours you've spent gathering input and drawing up recommendations for Congressman Bishop's Public Lands Initiative. That being said, please take the time to look once more at whether or not you believe the lands surrounding these four sensitive canyons are worthy of wilderness protection rather than a more ambiguous, less reliable NSO stipulation.

Thank you.

Marc Thomas
827 Palisade Drive
Moab, Utah 84532

KaLeigh Welch

From: Wayne Bennett [waynelbennett@charter.net]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 9:59 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Seasonal Closure to Hey Joe Canyon Jeep Trail

I understand that you are considering a recommendation to close the Hey Joe Canyon Jeep trail to motorized traffic from just after Jeep Safari until November 1st.

As a Regular Canyonlands visitor who travels 800 miles each way just to enjoy your beautiful scenery from your Jeep trails I strongly oppose this closure. The light 4WD traffic on this trail will not interfere with rafters enjoyment of their experience anymore than the rafters will interfere with the 4WD enthusiasts experience. Please leave this and the other Jeep trails in your beautiful county for everyone to enjoy.

Thanks,

Wayne Bennett
Grand Island, Nebraska

KaLeigh Welch

From: Dean Phelps [dphelps_39@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 10:12 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Land use

I understand that you are considering a recommendation to close the Hey Joe Canyon Jeep trail to motorized traffic from just after Jeep Safari until November 1st.

As a Regular Canyonlands visitor who travels 205 miles each way just to enjoy your beautiful scenery from your Jeep trails I strongly oppose this closure. The light 4WD traffic on this trail will not interfere with rafters enjoyment of their experience anymore than the rafters will interfere with the 4WD enthusiasts experience. Please leave this and the other Jeep trails in your beautiful county for everyone to enjoy. I have been coming down there since I was a teen and now I have a grandkid that enjoys jeeping therefore I want to see this area remain open so he can enjoy it as much as I have over the years

Thanks,
Dean Phelps

American Fork, Utah

Sent from my iPhone

KaLeigh Welch

From: SPF LLC [uvkills@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 10:28 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: HEY JOE

Dear Politicians,

On July 4th 2000 our son (Toby) was conceived on a beautiful and special day in Hey Joe. It has been our right and ritual to visit this sacred place every 4th of July since. Please let us continue our tradition.

Thanks in advance for your consideration

Greg James
Grand Junction co.

KaLeigh Welch

From: Malcolm Plessinger [malcolmpless@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 10:31 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Hey Joe Canyon Closure

I understand that you are considering a recommendation to close the Hey Joe Canyon Jeep trail to motorized traffic from just after Jeep Safari until November 1st.

As a Regular Canyonlands visitor who travels 900 miles each way just to enjoy your beautiful scenery from your Jeep trails I strongly oppose this closure. The light 4WD traffic on this trail will not interfere with rafters enjoyment of their experience anymore than the rafters will interfere with the 4WD enthusiasts experience. Please leave this and the other Jeep trails in your beautiful county for everyone to enjoy.

Thanks,

Malcolm Plessinger
Folsom, CA

KaLeigh Welch

From: Scott McNamara [scott.mcnamara1@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 10:58 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Hey Joe Canyon

Hello -

I am writing in regards to the proposed closure of Hey Joe Canyon to 4 wheel drive vehicles.

I make an annual trip to Moab with many friends (from Portland, OR) every year. I know thousands of others do as well.

Off road travel is just as important an economic value as rafting and other forms of recreation.

Please keep HJ canyon open for generations to come

Scott McNamara

KaLeigh Welch

From: Clay Kelly [ckelly7114@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 11:03 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Hey Joe Canyon

Greetings,

It's my understanding that you may be considering a closure or partial closure to the Hey Joe Canyon area and the 4x4 trails to motorized vehicles.

My wife, two daughters, and I thoroughly enjoy the 4 wheel drive roads, the beautiful scenery, and year round accessibility provided by these areas. My sister who passed away at the age of 40 was handicapped from years of having Lupus, could not access these and other wildlife areas by foot and therefore relied on her Jeep to satisfy her love of nature and the outdoors. Closing or restricting access to these areas by motorized vehicles would severely impact those like her who don't have the ability to hike or walk long distances or over rough terrain.

My family has been active 4 wheelers for well over 20 years, involved in Jeep clubs, abide by tread-lightly and have a very high respect for the trails and access to such wonderful areas they provide.

I strongly oppose this closure or partial closure of these areas. I would ask that you allow these trails to remain open year-round for all to enjoy, not just select groups.

Thank you for your time,

Clay Kelly
Malcolm, Nebraska

KaLeigh Welch

From: Doug Reynolds [doug@reynoldsfamily.net]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 11:19 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Hey Joe Canyon

Hi Grand County Council,

I am writing about the issue before you for temporary closure of Hey Joe Canyon. We visit Moab at least once every year and this is one of our favorite areas to visit. We only visit in the warm months, and love it there.

In no way does our being on this trail affect anyone on the river or anywhere else. We are quiet, and tread lightly.

Any closure is unnecessary and unfounded. The reasons listed for the consideration are unreasonable and unfounded. Our right to be on the trail is as strong as those to be on the river, and I believe we are less intrusive. A seasonal closure makes no sense when most can enjoy the trail.

Thank you for hearing my voice and I hope to see you soon in Hey Joe Canyon

Doug Reynolds

Sent from my Verizon Wireless 4G LTE smartphone

KaLeigh Welch

From: Tyler Arter [offroader25@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 12:14 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Land Closure

It has been brought to my attention that there is land use bill being discussed that, if approved, would limit public access to public lands. Specifically the Hey Joe Canyon Jeep trail. I would be very disappointed to see any land access limited to anyone, for any reason. Closing land to certain groups prevents everyone from enjoying the land. Please fight to keep out access to all the land in Utah.

Thank you for your time
Tyler Arter

KaLeigh Welch

From: Lark Plessinger [apless1@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 12:28 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Hey Joe Canyon

Hello,

I understand you are considering closing motorized access to Hey Joe Canyon from Nov 1 through the week after the Easter Jeep Safari. I live in Pennsylvania and travel the 2,000 miles west at least once a year to ride my fourwheeler on your amazing trails and see the beautiful scenery. These trips are often after Jeep Safari when the weather is much nicer. I strongly oppose this change to the access of Hey Joe Canyon. It is one of my favorite trails, and this new access rule would hinder my ability to visit there. Thank you for your consideration.

Kind regards,
Lark Plessinger

KaLeigh Welch

From: Derek Reese [dred327@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 12:32 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Limited trail use in Moab, specifically Hey Joe Canyon

My name is Derek Reese and I have recently joined a four wheel drive club in Colorado. This has been get to go out and feel like I am accomplishing something with working with my vehicle and focusing on something other than my injuries and getting away from the hustle of city life which so often triggers my PTSD. I have yet to make it to Moab, as I said I have just recently started into this hobby, but have heard nothing but great things of the trails and the people that enjoy the trails. Closing just one trail to limited use or no use will greatly affect the four wheel drive community. I strongly urge you to reconsider any closures, partial or otherwise. These trails are important to old and young alike. I am an in-betweener so to speak, and have children that I want to share my experiences with, and show them the proper way to enjoy the wilderness and trails. Trail closures take away from family outings, and also take away from the enjoyment to the outdoors. From what I have read, the closure is for Hey Joe Canyon for winter use only so rafters may enjoy this area in the summer. This hardly seems fair. Possible winter conditions could make this trail impassable for use or even dangerous due to winter conditions such as snow and/or ice.

As a future user of the trails in Moab, for trails here in my state of Colorado, and use of trails in any state of our nation, again, I urge you to reconsider closures of any trails open to the public.

Thank you for your time.
Respectfully,
Derek Reese
dred327@gmail.com

KaLeigh Welch

From: Jeff Bates [skyriverranch@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 12:46 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Hey Joe Canyon Jeep Trail

Grand County Council, I hear a lot of talk about user conflict, as an excuse to close motorized routes. The amount of road and trail closure in the Moab area is causing conflict at this point. People are angry, and it is getting worse. Playing favorites to one group or another, looks bad to the public, because they figure there is a money trail leading under the table. I know better, but there is not a group that is "better" than the others, because we are all just people. Please consider, "no action" as the right thing to do on Hey Joe Canyon, and keep this historically used trail open to motorized traffic, year round.

Jeff Bates
VP Grand Mesa Jeep Club
Grand Junction, Co.

KaLeigh Welch

From: Doug Thorson [DThorson@cachesheriff.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 2:26 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Hey Joe Canyon

To the Grand County Council,

As an avid off roader and frequent visitor to the Moab area, I wish to express my concern with a proposal to close the "Hey Joe Canyon Trail" for the summer months. It is my understanding that the proposal is to leave it open during the winter months and closed during the summer.

Driving that canyon during the winter months with ice and snow is dangerous and possibly deadly. Accidents during that time period could prove very costly and hazardous to the rescuers. The trail is very scenic and pleasant to drive when the weather is warm and I personally do not wish to see it closed at all.

I am asking that any attempts to close the trail be stopped. A lot of the influx of money to the Moab area comes from off road recreation and if trails start closing down then there will be a negative financial impact to the city and county.

I speak not only for myself but the offroad clubs that I travel with.

Thank you

Douglas Thorson
Cache County Utah

KaLeigh Welch

From: Trena Harrison [trenah@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 7:14 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Land Grab

As a local resident, I think its sickening to know that the majority of our County Council Members are voting to shut down our beloved Moab (Grand County).

If you think your helping to preserve Moab by giving something to the Land Bill, your wrong. So stop. How do you sleep at night. Do you not question anything you are doing. If you continue, Moab will become a ghost town.

You have basically taken all of our rights away. We attend the workshops, and are asked to not speak or give our opinion. We are told that we can have our voices on the March 17th meeting. My question is....if the majority of residents oppose what you have done so far, are you going to go back to the "drawing board" and start over?? You better is all I can say, it only fair!

I oppose you giving up any land. Why do you feel the need to give ANY land to this bill? What extreme group are you trying to satisfy? Because from my view, a Grand County Resident, your certainly trying very hard to NOT satisfy what's good for me or my family, that live, work, play in this County.

Our beautiful Scenery is what put Moab on the Map. If you think, locking it up in Wilderness will attract many, you are wrong. Very wrong!!

Let it be said, that when Moab becomes a ghost town, its on YOUR shoulders. Wake up, and do what is right for the residents...not whats good for these Environmental Groups.

Have a Great Day!

Sincerely,
Trena Harrison
(435)259-6430

KaLeigh Welch

From: Jordan Steele [jordan.steele.42@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 7:55 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Land closures

My name is Jordan Steele, and I live in Price Utah. As an avid outdoor enthusiast, my family and I frequent Grand County and surrounding areas for much of our outdoor recreation. I have heard that the county is proposing to close hey joe canyon for certain parts of the year. I just want to voice my opinion on the matter. The more land that is closed to the users, the less the users will come to the area. The more off-road trails that are closed, the more impact there will be on the rest of the trails to compensate for the closed trails. If the remaining trails that are open start to become crowded, the off-road enthusiasts could stop coming to the area all together, which is not good for the economy of Moab. We also like to hike, mountain bike, and river raft. I feel it is unfortunate that all land use groups cannot get along. Why should one group feel that they're experience is any more important that anyone else's. We all want to experience the beauties of this land, and who's to say which way is the correct way to do that. I also feel that hey joe canyon has a lot of historical value to the area, and the off-road trail is the best way to access that rich history. That's how to miners got there, and that's how most people have gotten there who have seen and experienced the area.

My family loves moab, so let's please keep it open and accessible.

Jordan Steele
537 Homestead Blvd
Price, Utah 84501
435-650-8365

KaLeigh Welch

From: Van Codner [vancodnermoto@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 8:01 PM
To: Council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Land bill

PLEASE DO NOT CLOSE 10 MILE WASH!!! We have been using that area for many many years. This is unacceptable!!!! ENOUGH OF THE LAND GRAB. Multiple use is good for everyone. There is plenty of wilderness already!!! STOP IT!!!

KaLeigh Welch

From: Brad [bmower777@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 8:14 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Hey Joe Canyon Closure and other potential closures

To the Grand County Council,

I am writing in disappointment from the recent news that I've heard regarding the potential closure of Hey Joe Canyon, Ten Mile Canyon, and other potential closures. I desire to make my voice heard that I'm totally against this as it certainly infringes on my right to access the land using the existing roads and trails. I understand that they Hey Joe Canyon closure may only be from November to the week after the Jeep rally, however the time it is open is very cold and undesirable. On the flip side, why don't we leave this trail open during all periods other than November to a week after the Jeep rally? How would the rafters like that? As a rafter also, I think we know that answer.

FYI, I am an advocate for all types of recreation. I regularly enjoy hiking, mountain biking, an occasional rafting opportunity down the Green River, and also many OHV recreational opportunities too. I am disappointed to say that some of my friends are anti-OHV. With this, I get into many discussions about OHVs on the roads and trails. Disappointing to me, these friends are less tolerant of the OHV folks than any of my OHV friends are of them. This doesn't stop me from enjoying every type of recreational opportunity available to me. However, I would hope the Council can find it reasonable to leave Moab open to all types of recreation without snubbing anyone. There is room for every one of us.. As there must be tolerance amongst the Gay/Lesbian and Hetrosexual folks, there must be tolerance amongst those of every type of recreation.

I'm absolutely serious about a not snubbing anyone from accessing our lands. Moab and the surrounding land is deemed incredible by everyone I know. Limiting use to anyone suggests a bias against the groups that are constrained. As it's unfair to be intolerant of the LGBT folks, it's unfair to be intolerant of any recreational group.

Moab is a great place to recreate no matter what a persons preference is. Let's promote all types of recreation by not limiting how people choose to do so. I'm tolerant and a lover of all types of recreation and people. I request that the Grand County Council also show their respect for all types of recreation and people by declining this and any future closure to ANY specific group. We all live together in a nice way or we don't. Please show and prove your tolerance by voting against the closure in question.

Respectfully,

Brad Mower

KaLeigh Welch

From: Jerichokid [jerichokid903x@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 8:52 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Enough is enough

Please leave any and all roads and trails in and around joe canyon and ten mile canyon open to the public. No one enjoys this area more than the off-road community. Thousands of families enjoy this area every year. The best memories I have from my childhood is riding my dirtbike in this area with my father. I currently live in Alabama. One day I want the opportunity to come home and take my 2 sons down the 10 mile wash. Don't take this opportunity from me.. You really have no right to do so. This is Gods land he gave to all of us. We deserve to be able to see it and enjoy it.

Sent from my iPhone

KaLeigh Welch

From: robert martin [rlmartin76@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 12:29 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net; Rob.Bishop@mail.house.gov;
Jason.Chafetz@mail.house.gov; rguson@mail.house.gov; Scott.Parker@mail.house.gov;
Melissa.Subbotin@mail.house.gov; Wade.Garrett@mail.house.gov;
Jennifer.Scott@mail.house.gov; Casey.Snyder@mail.house.gov;
Colton.Miles@mail.house.gov; garyherbert@utah.gov; jasonharding@utah.gov;
mikemower@utah.gov; kathleenclarke@utah.gov; codystewart@utah.gov;
alanmatheson@utah.gov; dhinkins@le.utah.gov
Subject: Big Flat Area of Grand County

Dear Grand County Council and Representative Bob Bishop and Jason Chafetz,

I am writing to you to provide our opinions on the upcoming County Council meeting regarding the counties proposals focusing on the Big Flat area of Grand County.

First and foremost, I request that you honor the work of the Big Flat Working Group. The group is composed of a wide variety of the vested stakeholders in the area that worked very hard to craft a balanced plan for the area that worked for preservation, recreation, and mineral interests.

Secondly, please do not designate any wilderness in this section as this is an area of our most popular front country with large amounts of recreation and mineral development, and in all reality contains no wilderness type characteristics. One point that I would like to make is just because an area is beautiful, scenic, or out of the way, does not necessarily qualify it as a Wilderness Area. A perfect example of this is the Green River Corridor. There are several roads along the banks of the Green River including Hey Joe Canyon Trail, 10 Mile Wash, and Mineral Bottom. All these roads should be left open to multiple users and allow others, besides rafters, to be able to access, and enjoy this area.

Wilderness designations take away the opportunity for those unable to hike, walk, or successfully navigate a multi-day rafting trip from experiencing these areas; this act essentially disallows an entire segment of our population from enjoying their public lands. Furthermore, those people seeking "solitude" will have ample opportunity once they get downstream from mineral bottom, at that point they will essentially be completely on their own until they reach Glen Canyon NRA. I am not able to understand how the glimpse of an occasional off road vehicle or mountain bike would be a detriment to one's trip. We do support the Working Groups Recommendation to include a one mile buffer zone of no mineral leasing or development. This should provide more than adequate protection of scenery, and the desired quiet of river users.

Third, the BLMs 2008 Resource Management Plan does an excellent job of providing guidance on what types of activities are appropriate for this area, and as a result no new Wilderness, National Conservation Areas, or even Nation Recreation Area should be designated. Current BLM regulations are more than sufficient in this heavily visited area. Under no circumstances do I support any motorized or non-motorized roads or trails being shut down in this area.

Lastly, we want to see a significant area identified for a SITLA trade to provide for development of oil, gas, and potash resources. These will provided needed, full-time, year round, benefited positions that will promote the local economy, and provide good jobs for our local citizens. I feel that the oil and gas industry, as well as the potash extraction companies have proven they can extract their resources with minimal long term impact

KaLeigh Welch

From: robert martin [rlmartin76@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 12:16 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Hey Joe Canyon

Grand County Council:

I have learned that the council is considering a recommendation to close the Hey Joe Canyon Jeep trail to motorized traffic from just after Jeep Safari until November 1st.

I am a long-time regular Canyonlands visitor who routinely travels 500 miles each way just to enjoy the beautiful scenery and amazing driving from Jeep trails. I strongly oppose the proposed closure. This trail sees very light 4WD traffic and should not interfere with rafters enjoyment of their experience anymore than the rafters will interfere with the 4WD enthusiasts experience. The road down into Hey Joe Canyon is covered in snow and ice making the road impassable most years during the months of November-March. Please leave this and the other Jeep trails in your beautiful county for everyone including future generations to enjoy.

Thanks,

Robert Martin
Steamboat Springs, CO

upon the environment while still being able to be profitable.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Robert Martin

KaLeigh Welch

From: Cagle, James C DLA CIV AVIATION [James.Cagle@dla.mil]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 6:53 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Proposed closure of Hey Joe Canyon

I am writing in regards to the proposed closure of Hey Joe Canyon to 4 wheel drive vehicles from April through November.

I think this is a mistake. Such a secluded scenic drive should be the right of all people willing to make it.

I personally visit the area twice per year with my son (usually in late May and early October) and Hey Joe Canyon is the first place we like to visit.

Please keep the trail open for future generations to enjoy.

Thank you,
James Cagle.

KaLeigh Welch

From: ber & charlotte knight [charber@frontiernet.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 8:37 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Hey Joe Canyon

Dear Council Members,

I have been alerted to proposals that aim to restrict motorized vehicle access to the "Hey Joe Canyon Trail." I have led several Jeep Safari trips on that trail over the years. But it is not only a Jeep Safari trip. My family and many others have often driven that road (including work parties to remove rocks that have fallen from the cliffs).

The road travels along the river about eight-and-a-half miles in the bottom of Labyrinth Canyon between Spring Canyon and Hey Joe Canyon, then runs a short distance up Hey Joe Canyon. I can testify that it is a wonderful trip -- by land, air, or river (yes, even a power boat). It passes views of the pinched "knot" of Bowknot Bend and fascinating cliffs. There is historic interest. Even before the Powell expeditions, Denis Julien left a (hard-to-find) inscription, and ambitious river boaters left an optimistic "Launch Marguerite" (1909, I believe) painted on a rock wall. More recently, uranium miners left relics. The carcass of a bulldozer that must have built the road is near a mine adit at the mouth of the subject canyon. Up the canyon are two more obvious adits, a huge junked air compressor, and a Dodge truck. A cabin and shed have since crumbled away. One can find a small concrete pad that anchored a cable that went to the top of the canyon. There is a foot trail to the canyon rim that hardy bikers carry their cycles on.

We enjoy waving to the occasionally seen paddlers enjoying the river. We hope they enjoy, or at least tolerate, other forms of recreation when they occasionally see some of us on the short road, which is about 12 percent of the river distance between Green River State Park and the Mineral Bottom take-out. Boaters who want a more secluded experience can choose to go upstream to float Gray or Desolation Canyon, or go downstream to Stillwater or even Cataract Canyon.

Ber Knight, Moab

KaLeigh Welch

From: Jamison Wiggins [wigginsjamison@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 9:35 AM
To: Council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: No road closures!

Dear council,

There is no need to close down 10 mile wash, nor hey joe, or any road in that fact. My family has been here for 50+ years and we use those trails every year! 10 mile wash is one of the best trails to use in Moab, let alone the whole state! You should be ashamed of the decisions of closing roads down. People from all over come to enjoy and multiple use our lands, what you're doing by shutting down access is making this town lose business. Keep the roads open the public to enjoy and use. Quit acting like you have to shut something down just because you made it into office. I no longer consider any part of the council (except Lynn Jackson and Rory) as locals, more like outsiders trying to do what's best for SUWA. Listen to the local people, we do not want to shut down any more roads! Another thing, have the council meetings when the working class can attend instead of 9 in the morning when we're all at work.

Thank you,
Jamison Wiggins

KaLeigh Welch

From: Mary Pareta [mcpareta@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 9:45 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Access to public lands

Hi! I'm writing with concern to proposed changes to public land use. My husband and I first traveled to Moab in 2010 as a "bucket list" trip. We fell in love with the area and have made the 3000 km (one way) trip every year to take part in Easter Jeep Safari. Our love of the area and the event has led several of our friends to make the trip with us. We stay in Moab for 12 days, spending money on hotel, food, gas, souvenirs, jeep parts, etc. This is the highlight of our year and we start counting down the days to next year's event the minute we get home. While I respect the intent of the proposed changes, I feel this is the wrong way to accomplish your goals. I would like to point out how impressed I am with the Red Rock 4 Wheelers emphasis on preserving the lands we travel through and their tread lightly commitment. At the start of each trail we are educated on the fragility of the environment we are travelling in and how important it is to respect the land. Every participant is given a large garbage bag and encouraged to pack out everything, EVERYTHING!, we bring in as well as to pick up other people's trash while we're at it. They are committed to trail rehabilitation and maintenance and encourage others to help out.

I am passionate about education versus punishment both in Moab and here at home where we actively take part in guarding the environment. Closing public roads will not solve the issues you are experiencing. Discriminating against one group for the sake of others encourages divisive behaviour. It's better if we all work together to protect the environment and leave a legacy for the next generation. Barring motorized vehicles from these public areas will exclude people like myself from seeing a beautiful, wild country, learning about your wonderful area, as I am not able to hike for long distances or ride a bicycle for any distance. It makes me very sad to think there are people in Moab who would deny me the experience of being out in the canyons and mountains. Moab is like no where else I have been and I can honestly say I get a wonderful feeling of arriving home as we drive into town. How sad that there are others who would put their sense of entitlement before mine. We need to work together to protect, not point fingers and exclude. Thank you for taking the time to listen to my opinions and feelings.

Mary Pareta
Morrison, ON, Canada
519-841-1538

KaLeigh Welch

From: Mobad [gomobad@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 9:34 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

I am writing to urge the council to provide as much protection to Labyrinth Canyon. ATV and commercial use in that area has diminished the quietness and tranquility we all we all desire. I encourage the Council to conduct real hearings to get honest input from a diverse cross section if the residents as to use of these areas. The bottom line though is protection from increasing development and ATV USE has degraded the deserts quite areas. Please protect theses areas.

John Hartley

Sent from my iPhone

KaLeigh Welch

From: William Love [sombra@frontiernet.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 11:25 AM
To: Kaleigh welch
Cc: Lance Porter; Ann Marie
Subject: Ten Mile Canyon Road
Attachments: IMG_0022.JPG

Please Distribute

This is the ATV road in Ten Mile Canyon that needs to be closed by the Bishop Proposal. The riparian area is fouled by oil and gas. The BLM does not do a good job in protecting their resources.

Bill love



05/17/2012 10:28

KaLeigh Welch

From: M.Karen Buchanan [matategirl@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 12:16 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Moab voter

Council you are suppose to be on the citizens sides,not these big box environmental groups such as SUWA, SEIRRA CLUB, NATURES CONSERVENCY...No shutting down 10 MILE CANYON, OR HEY JOE CANYON... you people have not been here all your lives and now your here you want to shut it down for any one else.....

KaLeigh Welch

From: William Love [sombra@frontiernet.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 1:47 PM
To: Kaleigh welch
Subject: Hells Roaring is Driven

The last time, six years ago, I was in Hells Roaring the motorcycles had driven up canyon all the way to the pour over near Dubinky Wells Road. They had created a new road by driving cross country up the canyon. The canyon has magnificent paintings, arch and nature spring in the upper portion. There are two trails from the top into the canyon. Lynn is wrong that the canyon is not driven.

The

KaLeigh Welch

From: Don [don@canyonvoyages.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 1:50 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Cc: 'Jane Butter'
Subject: Green River-Labyrinth Cyn use

Dear Council Members,

I have been asked to provide information regarding river use in Labyrinth Canyon. Because of its "wilderness" feel and relatively easy access, Labyrinth has become one of the most popular multi-day river sections in Grand County and the state. River use happens year round, with light shoulder season use occurring in March and November. The main river season is April through October with thousands of canoeists, kayakers and rafters floating Labyrinth each month. The spring (April, May, early June and fall (September and October) are the busiest. (The BLM has use figures based on commercial and private use permits.)

I hope this information is helpful in your planning. Recreational use has grown throughout Grand County, unfortunately within the walls of a river canyon motor noise is amplified and travels for many miles. By having some basic limits/restrictions where non-motorized and motorized interact this unique resource can be shared.

Respectfully,

Don Oblak

Don Oblak
Canyon Voyages Adventure Co.
435-259-6007
email: don@canyonvoyages.com
website: <http://canyonvoyages.com/>

Living well requires an adventurous spirit!

KaLeigh Welch

From: Steve Jackson [jack@jacksonian.org]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 2:25 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Hey Joe Canyon Seasonal Closure

I'm writing to you about proposed plans to institute a seasonal closure for motorized access in Hey Joe Canyon. I'm a frequent visitor to your county for motorized recreation and have enjoyed this specific route several times. Although I am not a resident, I'm a local taxpayer through the purchase of food, lodging, fuel, and other items. Please reconsider changes in access to this historic route. Thanks for reading.

Steve Jackson
Pleasant Grove, UT 84062
801-376-3332

KaLeigh Welch

From: Rita [rbb1o32@live.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 2:31 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Wilderness

Please designate labyrinth canyon as wilderness!
Protect arches view of la sal mts & designate as wilderness!
Designate roadless areas within NCA!
Close infrequently used roads in grand county!
Tourists come to ut for the views & quite! Please remember money that is generated through
tourist industry is money that stays in Utah!
Rita b booth
Huntsville ut

Sent from my iPhone

KaLeigh Welch

From: John Tudor [jmt1309@msn.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 2:38 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

Please help eto protect the river and canyon from noise and trash pollution by keeping it wild and wilderness designation. We need places to get away from the rat race and enjoy some nature. Don't forget tourists and naturalists are significant income producers.

John M. Tudor, Jr., M.D.
508-563-5505

KaLeigh Welch

From: nicolec@xmission.com
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 2:43 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Please protect Labyrinth Canyon

Dear Grand County Council,

I am a resident of Escalante, Utah and have been traveling to Moab for over 20 years with my family to enjoy the rivers, canyons, parks (and grocery store!). On behalf of the millions of visitors like me that come for the quiet beauty, I ask you to protect Labyrinth Canyon.

Please designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. Please reconsider you recommendation of no wilderness for Labyrinth Canyon.

Please keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and ?Dead Cow/The Tubes.? River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn?t have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!

Please protect the Arches view shed by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of Arches National Park.

Please designate areas to be managed as roadless areas within the NCA, following the "Daggett County" model that has already been approved by our Congressional delegation.

Please close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!

Please designate wilderness in the La Sal mountains. Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service Wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The council should recommended protecting the mountains that frame Delicate Arch as wilderness.

Sincerely,
Nicole Croft
Escalante, Utah
435-201-0693

KaLeigh Welch

From: Ann Pelo [annpelo@msn.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 2:53 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative

Dear Grand County Councilmembers,

I live outside Seattle, in the land of grey skies, abundant rain, and lush green growth. I love it here, but my heart's home is the red rock desert. I first visited Utah ten years ago, for the Canyonlands Half Marathon in Moab; that's when my heart cracked open to the red-walled canyons and the eternal sky over them. Since that first visit, I've spent many months in Southeast Utah, using Moab as my jumping off point for backpacking and river running. I'm in Moab three or four times a year, and relish it for the beauty of the wild lands surrounding it.

As you make your recommendations to Representative Bishop as part of the Public Lands Initiative, I urge you to act on behalf of the wilderness around Moab, including Labyrinth Canyon. Please designate Labyrinth Canyon as wilderness – it's a gem of a wild place. Close the Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and Dead Cow ATV/jeep trails that run along the Green River. Consider expanding the National Conservation Area outside of Arches, and managing areas within it as roadless areas. And please – designate wilderness in the glorious La Sal mountains, which grace the view from Delicate Arch.

It's crass to talk about money in a conversation about wild lands and wild rivers, but I'll do it. People like me visit Moab and spend a lot of money there (and in Monticello, and Bluff, and other places where we provision ourselves for our outdoors journeys). That'll stop if the region becomes even more damaged by ATV use, resource extraction, and industrial development. We just won't go to your region. We'll move our recreation and our dollars elsewhere.

Please act on behalf of the wild lands and the people who turn to them, now and in the future, for recreation and solace. The Bishop Public Lands Initiative is a prime opportunity to act solidly and with vision.

Thank you,

Ann Pelo
410 N. First Street
Montesano, WA 98563

KaLeigh Welch

From: Fran Sheets [fran.sheets@Colorado.EDU]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:13 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Grand Gulch

Dear Council members,

I know I am not from your area but I LOVE your corner of the country. I am proudest of being an American when I see how we protect our special areas unlike so much of the world I have seen. I hope you, too, understand how special your area is and I hope you preserve it so your grand children and mine can enjoy it as well.

Think of the future and let's leave some of the wilderness for the coming generations to know and love as we do.

Thank you for your time,

Fran Sheets

Boulder, Co.

KaLeigh Welch

From: Steve Skinner [steve@kdnk.org]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:17 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Green River and Colorado River

Dear Council - Thank you so much for your service to the community.

I am a very big proponent and supporter of protecting Labyrinth and Stillwater on the Green. These areas are sacred to me and many others. There is no other experience like visiting this silent, magical, unique sanctuary.

If it could be preserved as it is or even improved upon by keeping the motorized vehicles away, I and all the other wildlife down there would greatly appreciate it.

It takes courage to resist encroachment. Please be brave!

Thanks very much for your consideration.

Steve Skinner

--

Steve Skinner
General Manager, KDNK
P.O. Box 1388
Carbondale, CO 81623
(970) 963-0139
www.kdnk.org
Please consider membership in KDNK.

KaLeigh Welch

From: Art Lipson [art@wifunds.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:18 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: I'm a Moab visitor

I've visited Moab a number of times. Most recently last month.

I strongly support SUWA's positions on quiet and wilderness and believe that the Council should follow them including:

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!

Thank you,

Art Lipson
8011 Dazzling View Circle
Cottonwood Heights, UT 84121

KaLeigh Welch

From: Maura Hahnenberger [maurahahn@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:19 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon Area

Dear council members,

I am a multi-recreationalist who cherishes the areas around the Green River for their beauty, geologic wonder, and cultural heritage. As you move forward with recommendations for lands around the Green River and Labyrinth Canyon, I hope that you do all you can to protect and maintain the wilderness character of these lands.

I am a scientist, artist, and recreationist, and there are few areas of our country left that have the type of unique resources that the Green River and Labyrinth Canyon have. I have boated, hiked, and been educated in these lands, and I would like this wilderness experience to be conserved for people in the future.

I hope that you will do all you can to preserve the wilderness characteristics and impressive recreational and spiritual resources of these lands as you move forward with your recommendations.

Thanks,
Maura Hahnenberger, PhD

--

Maura Hahnenberger, PhD
Geosciences Department
Salt Lake Community College
<http://hahnenberger.weebly.com>
@DrMaura_Science

KaLeigh Welch

From: Chyako Hashimoto [chyakopot@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:20 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Wilderness protection for Labyrinth Canyon

Dear Council,

Moab and Labyrinth Canyon in particular needs true wilderness protection and that quiet places need to be protected now and for future generations.

In your meeting on Monday, please consider the following:

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. It is one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

Thank you for your consideration.

Best Regards,

Chyako Hashimoto

KaLeigh Welch

From: Jarvis, Nancy [nancy.jarvis@aruplab.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:21 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon wilderness

Hello,

I am asking the council to please designate Labyrinth Canyon as a Wilderness area, and close ATV and jeep trails that are near the river. Good stewardship of land requires ideals of Balance and Vision, where Jems like Labyrinth are protected and reserved for all generations, while other more open areas can be used for ATV trails. So much of our beautiful Utah and the ancient heritage spots are in precarious positions of being lost or disrupted by the oil and gas industry and ORV use. Please take this marvelous canyon area and preserve it forever from these fates.

Thank you for protecting my beautiful Utah.

*Best Regards,
Nancy*

Nancy Jarvis / Client Relation Training/ ARUP Laboratories/ Nancy.Jarvis@aruplab.com/ Pbone: 800-242-2787 x2859

KaLeigh Welch

From: Kathleen Metcalf [krmetcalf@me.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:21 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness

Grand County Council-

**Please designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness!
Keep the river corridor quiet by closing the ATV and jeep trails that run down the river.**

I believe that Labyrinth Canyon needs true wilderness protection by closing the routes within the boundaries of the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness area on the eastern side of Grand County.

Please create some balance and close these routes to protect the quiet areas around the Moab area.

**thank you-
Kathleen Metcalf
krmetcalf@me.com**

KaLeigh Welch

From: Les Holden [holden.les@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:21 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Designate Labyrinth Canyon wilderness.

Please designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes

--

Fair Winds and Following Seas
Les Holden

435-251-9475(W)
435-773-0962(C)
801-601-9163(F)
holden.les@gmail.com
KG7BOL

KaLeigh Welch

From: James Ratzloff [james.ratzloff@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:23 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Wilderness for Labyrinth Canyon

Please designate Labyrinth Canyon as Wilderness.

I visit the Moab area every year and like wilderness without the sound of ATV's and Motorcycles.

Thank You.

James Ratzloff
Wheat Ridge, Colorado

KaLeigh Welch

From: KWJEFFERY [kwjeffery@comcast.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:24 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Noisy ATVs

Greetings!

When I come to visit Moab, I stay in Greenriver because Moab is too noisy! Don't make it worse.

Kirk W. Jeffery
Salt Lake City, Utah

KaLeigh Welch

From: fred goodsell [fgoodsell@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:25 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Land use plan

As a lover of Utah and visitor to your area I request that you make Labyrinth Canyon a Wilderness area. It is more than worthy of that protection and will draw tourists for generations if preserved. Thank you for your consideration.
Fred Goodsell

KaLeigh Welch

From: Beth Blattenberger [bblatten@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:25 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: labyrinth canyon

Dear Council,

Labyrinth Canyon is one of the most special places in the entire U.S. Please protect it by giving it wilderness designation and by closing Hey Joe, Hell Roaring and Dead Cow/The Tubes to motorized use. Infrequently used routes in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness should also be closed to ATVs. I love to experience wilderness with only the sounds of nature. Please protect this treasure.

Thank you for your attention.

Beth Blattenberger
981 Windsor St
Salt Lake City, UT 84105

KaLeigh Welch

From: Lee Sheppard [leesheppard@q.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:26 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

Sent from my iPhone

KaLeigh Welch

From: rubrpoet@infowest.com
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:28 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: "Public Lands Initiative" bill comments

Dear Grand County Council,

Please enter the below comments into the record of the "Public Lands Initiative" bill hearings.

Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.

- **Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- **Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

I thank you for your time and efforts on behalf of the land.

Sincerely,

Barry Sochat

PO Box 1011

Rockville, Ut 84763

KaLeigh Welch

From: Royal Laybourn [royal@roaringforkbuilding.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:28 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Wilderness Designation for Labyrinth Canyon

Please add my families voice to designate the ENTIRE Labyrinth Canyon as Wilderness
Thanks Royal

Royal Laybourn
Roaring Fork Building Specialties
40 Sunset Drive Suite #2
Basalt Co 81621
970-927-9847

KaLeigh Welch

From: tc b [canyonraven@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:31 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Council Support for Green River

As a LONG time user (40+ years) of the Green River, Colorado "Grand" River waterways with non-powered boats, I urge the Council to:

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness ... it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth should not have to listen to motorcycles along the banks of the Green River.**
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs.**

Thank you for your consideration and MY pledge of continued patronage of Grand County businesses.

Tom Bunn
Utah Resident

KaLeigh Welch

From: Nick Landrum [desire4home@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:31 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labrynth Canyon

I am a frequent visitor to the areas around Moab and have floated the Green River Labrynth/Stillwater canyons. I feel a deep respect for the land and the quiet solitude of floating through this unique and spectacular piece of God's creation is a great gift. I think areas should be set aside for motorized recreation while fossil fuels are still viable, but please please not in this river corridor. It's not just Utah or the United States, but worldwide, there is no comparable float trip. It needs your protection. Please don't exploit it for short term gain.

Thank you,
Nick Landrum
2525 S. Washington St.
Denver CO. 80210

KaLeigh Welch

From: Valerie Merges [merges@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:31 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public lands Initiative Bill

- I live in Northern Utah, but every chance I get I come down to southern Utah to hike and climb. I do not use ATVs or other off road motorized vehicles, although I sometimes enjoy biking.
- • I want to add my voice to those urging you to protect Labyrinth Canyon as wilderness. The off road vehicles seem to be everywhere these days. The negative changes I've seen in the landscape due to ORV in the last 20 years is staggering. We need some areas where we can still enjoy quiet and solitude without ATV trails.
- • Thank you for your consideration.

--

Valerie Merges
Layton Utah

KaLeigh Welch

From: Coley Phyllis [p.coley@utah.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:32 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative

every year my family comes from around the country to enjoy our beautiful scenery. Labyrinth Canyon is one of our favorites. It is clearly deserving of wilderness status! In addition to the scenery, the quiet is part of the magic of our wild places. ATV access ruins this. Labyrinth and other proposed wilderness sites should be closed to ATV access. There are thousands of miles of access, so closing key ones for wilderness seem like a reasonable compromise.

Phyllis Coley, Distinguished Professor
Department of Biology, University of Utah
257 South 1400 East, Salt Lake City, UT 84112 coley@biology.utah.edu; 801-581-7088;
www.biology.utah.edu/coley/

KaLeigh Welch

From: Wayne Roberts [robertsw@emeriti.suu.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:38 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

I, for one, feel that it is important to designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness, and to keep it in as pristine condition as possible. This world is getting overrun with people and their machines, and once the pristine nature is lost it is nigh impossible to restore it: Besides damage to the physical environment, interest groups develop that rely on access to the area. And unfortunately, it takes a small percentage of users to destroy what needs to be protected.

I enjoy Moab and the environs, and visit it at least a couple times per year, and really wish to see the area protected.

Thank you.

Wayne A Roberts, Jr., PhD
Cedar City, UT 84720

KaLeigh Welch

From: landrovie@yahoo.com
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:39 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

- Please consider the following points:
 -
 - Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.

- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**

- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

Thank you, Connor Hansell

Sent from my Verizon Wireless 4G LTE Smartphone

KaLeigh Welch

From: Dan Miller [dmiller@brwcouncil.org]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:40 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative

Dear Grand County Council,

I can only guess how contentious public lands issues are in your county and how this Public Lands Initiative process must have brought out strong emotions from all sides. I want to thank you for your willingness to review the issues and consider my comments.

I currently volunteer for the Bear River Watershed Council and in the past our organization has documented motorized impacts to the US National Forest in Northern Utah. After reviewing local conditions it was evident that natural resources were being seriously impacted. Water and soil degradation along with impacts to wildlife habitat were obvious and the problem growing.

With this in mind, protection for pristine areas and an active and aggressive effort to roll back off road use where inappropriate is essential for the future of our public lands. Especially sensitive areas which there are many in Grand County. As our culture speeds off into the future, we all need places to find peace and quiet. With the growing population and interest in public lands, these special places are becoming less and less available. We look to you to protect these places for our future and our sanity.

Please take a serious look at the proposals and use these tools to help preserve what remains from our past and save for our future.

With regards,
Dan Miller
293 East Main St.
Richmond, UT 84333

KaLeigh Welch

From: Lauren Wood [lauren.holidayriver@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:41 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protections for Labrinth Canyon

Dear Grand County Council Members,

Holiday River Expeditions would like to strongly recommend that Grand County designate wilderness protections around the Green River through Labyrinth Canyon and close all jeep and ATV trails that impact its view and sound-shed. As a rating outfitter running this canyon, it is imperative for us to have such wild qualities for our guest who are a renewable source of economic stimulus and revenue assuming we keep the places they love to visit free from intrusion.

For these same reasons we believe our guests, who place a premium on un-inhibited wilderness, deserve a myriad of places to go and explore wildness without the intrusion of ATV's and Off Road Vehicles. We therefore ask that all infrequently used routs in current proposed wilderness be closed.

Thank you for your attention and please consider protecting this and other wild places as you look towards finalizing plans in the Bishop Process.

~ Holiday River Expeditions

--
Lauren Wood
Trip Director
Holiday River Expeditions
www.BikeRaft.com
800-624-6323 Fax 801-266-1448



KaLeigh Welch

From: Kirk Nichols [Kirk.Nichols@health.utah.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:42 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Land Use Planning

Good day Grand County Council,

I come from an old Utah family, my brother was born in San Juan County though my parents moved north before I was born. I resided in MOAB in the late 1970's. I currently sit on the Big Cottonwood Community Council where I cope with wilderness designations within our boundaries. Wilderness protection does make it harder to develop water sources, fight fires near our homes, and to develop our private properties. Over all though, the Wilderness designation has been beneficial for the hunting, fishing, hiking residents and visitors, and to our property values.

I return often to our southern counties as well. Labyrinth Canyon is a favorite canoeing location for my family; please include wilderness designation in your Public Lands Initiative recommendations with Representative Rob Bishop. A few select places like Labyrinth Canyon should be visited without the mechanical noise of ATV engines.

Thanks for the designations,

Kirk Nichols

Kirk Nichols, PhD.c.

kirk.nichols@health.utah.edu

College of Health, University of Utah

Department of Parks, Recreation, and Tourism

Big Cottonwood Community Council

President Evergreen HOA

KaLeigh Welch

From: Steve [steve@roostersbrewingco.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:42 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: ATVs

Dear Council,

As a trail runner and outdoor enthusiast who visits Moab regularly, I urge you to designate more rather than less area devoted to motorless access. I go to Moab to get away from the noise of the world, and nothing kills that like the whining of an ATV/ORV.

Thank you for time and attention.

Sincerely,
Steve Kirkland
Ogden, UT

KaLeigh Welch

From: aurelie.kapusta@gmail.com on behalf of Aurelie K [4urelie.K@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:44 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: "Public Lands Initiative" bill - for Monday 16th

Dear Grand Council,

I am living in Salt Lake City, and absolutely adore the fact that there are so many breathtaking areas around it. However, these areas need to be protected from us imprinting on it the debris of our civilisation, and classified as wilderness.

I wish that the Labyrinth Canyon would be classified as true wilderness, as it is one the crown jewel of wilderness in the American West.

I wish that people enjoying this area could do it without hearing motorcycles or cars whining along the river.

Thanks you for reading this,

Hopefully the voice of people willing to protect such beautiful areas can be heard and represented at this meeting.

Best regards,

Aurelie Kapusta

KaLeigh Welch

From: vocabularious@xmission.com
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:45 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Request for protection of Labyrinth Canyon
Attachments: the folks at Sandune arch.jpg

Dear Grand County Council Members,

My name is Ellen Parrish and I live in Salt Lake City, Utah. I vacation in Grand County and stay in and around Moab every single year. And so do hundreds of my best friends and relatives. I've been visiting the area my whole life and my 90-year-old parents (see attached photo of them from Arches National Park last spring) have both spent their favorite vacations in the area. I was raised believing that the wild areas of Utah were precious, scarce resources. I still think so.

Wilderness is the gift that keeps on giving. Grand County should do everything in its power to preserve the pristine lands within your borders. For that reason, I strongly urge, even beg you to

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

I am heading your way in May with a dozen of my favorite, desert-loving, desert-protecting, quiet-craving hiking friends for a week of blissful nature encounters and hiking. We will be bringing our tourist dollars with us.

Thank you for making the right choices that protect our precious natural resources.

Respectfully,

Ellen Parrish
751 Browning Ave
SLC, UT 84105



← BRUEN ARCH
KAND DUNE ARCH →

KaLeigh Welch

From: Chad Bradford [chadlbradford@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:47 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Moab and ATVS

Council,

Sorry to be so brief about something that concerns me greatly. Please consider the protection of the wild, quiet areas around Moab. So much of the area is already inundated with ATVs. Reduction in the amount of area that is currently off limits would detract from the wonderful experiences my family has had in the region.

Thank you for your consideration,
Chad Bradford
Salt Lake City

KaLeigh Welch

From: Liz Lewis [lizzielewis@comcast.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:48 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Moab and Labyrinth Canyon

Dear Councilors-

From the neighboring state of Colorado I am pleading with you to preserve these areas for now and the future. There is nothing else like them, nothing else that comes close to deserving the name "Planet Moab" in all its uniqueness and beauty. Close trails to motor traffic, keep oil and gas interests away, designate Labyrinth Canyon a wilderness area and you will earn the earth's gratitude and mine.

Thank you,
Elizabeth Lewis
Colo. Spgs, CO
Green River canoer and Moab fan

KaLeigh Welch

From: Ashley Bembenek [abembenek@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:50 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Cc: SUWA -- Ray Bloxham; SUWA - Mathew Gross
Subject: Public Lands Initiative Bill

Council Persons,

I would like to submit my comments on the Public Lands Initiative Bill. As a neighbor from western Colorado and a native to northern Utah, the Moab area is near and dear to my heart. I love recreating in the southern Utah desert, my passions include biking, climbing, rafting, and hiking. While I support motorized use in certain areas, I feel that motorized use is beginning to change the character of the Moab area. Therefore I urge you to increase the amount of area designated for quiet uses and wilderness. In particular, please preserve the outstanding beauty and solitude of Labyrinth Canyon by designating it as a wilderness area.

Thank you for considering my comments. Respectfully,

Ashley Bembenek

Ashley Bembenek
Soil and Water Scientist
Alpine Environmental Consultants LLC
abembenek@yahoo.com
(970) 251-0029

KaLeigh Welch

From: Jordan Harmer [harmerj@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:50 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

Dear Council,

As a lover of wilderness, Moab, and a resident of Utah, I urge you to do the following:

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!

Thank you!

KaLeigh Welch

From: Steve McIntosh [steve@stevemcintosh.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:50 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Cc: Tehya McIntosh
Subject: Protect Grand County from ORVs!

Dear Grand County Council,

We live in Castle Valley most of the time. Wilderness protection is our greatest political concern.

We urge you to take the recommendations of SUWA and restrict motorized ORV use wherever possible.

The oil development on The Island in the Sky is something we also oppose.

Grand County should be preserved as is.

Thank you

Steve and Tehya McIntosh
346 Taylor Lane, Castle Valley UT 84532

KaLeigh Welch

From: Waid [grannygear@waidreynolds.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:51 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public lands recommendations

Dear Grand County Council Members:

There has already been far too much environmental degradation caused by rampant off-road activity in the Moab region. Labyrinth Canyon and the Moab area badly need protection from the overwhelming masses of noisy, polluting, dust-raising, erosion-causing off-road vehicles -- primarily ATVs and motorcycles -- that will eventually ruin virtually every square inch of territory they are allowed to access.

I strongly urge you to make the following important recommendations...

Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness;

Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." (River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to be bombarded by the roar of ATVs and dirt bikes speeding along the banks of the Green River);

Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!

Thank you for your consideration of these important issues.

Sincerely,

Waid Reynolds

4983 Bonita Bay Drive

St. George, Utah 84790

KaLeigh Welch

From: Nancy Pitblado [npitblado@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:53 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon and Moab sites protection

Dear Grand County Council Members:

Moab — and Labyrinth Canyon in particular — needs true wilderness protection and that quiet places need to be protected now and for future generations.

Here's what I hope you will recommend on Monday:

Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.

Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!

Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. You have already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Nancy Pitblado
1807 N 2050 E
North Logan, UT 84341
Npitblado@gmail.com

KaLeigh Welch

From: Marion Lennberg [pmlennberg@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:53 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

Moab — and Labyrinth Canyon in particular — needs true wilderness protection and that **quiet places need to be protected now and for future generations.**

Here's what the Grand County Council should do on Monday:

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

**Thank You
Marion Lennberg**

KaLeigh Welch

From: Timo Morrison [timomorrison@msn.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:53 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon wilderness...Yes!

Dear Grand County Council,

Please consider designating labyrinth canyon as wilderness. There are not many places left that offer this type of expertise and solitude. Please protect it.

Thank you,

Tim Morrison

Conifer, Colorado

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S/E 5 ACTIVE™, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

KaLeigh Welch

From: Steven Viavant [viavant@google.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:55 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Grand County land use recommendations

Hi Council members.

I have been a Grand County taxpayer for forty years, and continue to own property in the county, on which I intend to retire some day soon. In the past, I earned my living taking tourists on river trips through Labyrinth and Cataract Canyons - an activity that forms a big part of the tourism-based underpinnings of our economy. Labyrinth Canyon is one of the most beautiful, quiet, and awesome areas in this our four-corners region. I believe that we have been entrusted with an almost sacred task, of protecting and preserving that beauty and that quiet, and passing it on unimpaired to the generations that will come after us. You as Council members have a special burden in that regard, a burden which I sincerely thank you for taking on.

Please work towards preserving this beauty for the future. Recommend that Labyrinth Canyon be designated a protected wilderness, and that motorized ATV trails be closed where they impinge on the silence of floating the river. It is just the right thing to do for our children's children, and their children's children.

thank you

Steven Viavant

CVRR Lot 149, Grand County Utah (owner, not resident)

KaLeigh Welch

From: Danny Sadleir [d.sadleir@aggiemail.usu.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:56 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Hayduke lives!

I won't talk your ear off, but you need to do what's right on this one. I know the ORV crowd is breathing down your neck trying to sway you in what I think is the wrong direction. But maybe I'm wrong? Maybe we should just rape and pillige all of the beautiful places for oil and gas and let ATV's run rampid everywhere. Let it all burn! Thanks for listening to my sarcasim, but do what's right this time.

--
Danny

KaLeigh Welch

From: Clee Sealing [sealingc@acsol.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:56 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative bill

I live in FRuita, CO, very close to Moab and Labyrinth Canyon and if ever an area deserved real wilderness protection the Labyrinth Canyon area does. There is a steady change in the demographic structure of the American population. We are going through a "bubble" of the Baby Boomers with the associated ATV bubble. I know because at 75 I'm in that group but I also know what the coming younger people are like. Moab needs to look to future. Twenty years out seems like a long ways away but I can tell you it will arrive faster than you think and when it does Moab will rue the day they destroyed their options with ATV use. Plan ahead, keep places wild, decades from now you can always make changes but if the areas are damaged beyond repair you've closed the door.

Clee Sealing
1670 N 1/2 Road
Fruita, CO 81521
sealingc@acsol.net
970-858-9659

KaLeigh Welch

From: John R Saccardi [john.r.saccardi@seagate.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 3:57 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Wilderness designation for Labyrinth Canyon

March 11, 2015

Dear Grand County Council,

I have been a hiking and rafting in the Moab area regularly for over 35 years. I stay in local hotels and eat at the local restaurants with my wife and children. There are many places I have visited repeatedly. One such place is Labyrinth Canyon. Please accept my following comments as you put the finishing touches on your recommendation to Rep. Bishop as part of the "Public Lands Initiative" bill:

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

Thank you for your time and attention.

Best regards,

John Saccardi
Broomfield, Colorado

KaLeigh Welch

From: Renee Van Buren [Renee.VanBuren@uvu.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 4:00 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: comments on public lands initiative bill

Dear Representatives,

I am a Utah native that has spent much time in the red rocks of Utah's deserts. I am also a plant ecologist and have critical concerns about the quality of our environment as we place more pressure on natural habitats due to our own recreational pleasure. Please consider the following:

1. Labyrinth canyon should be designated as wilderness!
2. Close the river corridor in labyrinth canyon to ATV and jeep trails. There should be some places that others can enjoy aspects of the landscape without the sound and pollution of motorized vehicles. Additionally, animals, including pollinators should have significant refuges from this disturbance!
3. Follow the council recommendations to protect proposed wilderness areas AND the access routes within the boundaries.

I love this state! I love the desert! And I also know the significant impacts that our activities have on the integrity of these systems. Please help protect these systems so that generations to come can have the same quality experiences I have found in the quiet, calm, and peace of the desert!

Thank you

Renee Van Buren
315 S. OakRidge Circle
Woodland Hills UT 84563

KaLeigh Welch

From: Hale, Ana [Hale_a@fortlewis.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 4:04 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labrynth Canyon

Categories: COMPLETE, NEXT AGENDA

Please keep Labrynth Canyon wild- for the sake of people and wildlife of all sorts.

Keep it *wild*, keep it pristine and keep it quiet- a place of tranquility and beauty and peace.

Please close roads to ATV access to the Green. There are so many places where motorized vehicles can go in southern Utah; please leave some areas off-limits.

Thank you,

Ana Hale
Durango, Colorado

KaLeigh Welch

From: Robert Bond [gandrbond@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 4:07 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative Bill

Categories: COMPLETE, NEXT AGENDA

Dear Grand County Council:

We have been visiting Grand County for many decades. It is a crown jewel of a place in the United States.

We are deeply concerned, however, about the extreme increase in the number of visitors and land usage. The land is sacred to us and we wish as much could be preserved as possible. We truly HOPE THAT LABYRINTH CANYON CAN BE DESIGNATED AS TRUE WILDERNESS!! Once the land is turned over to heavy usage it can be ruined forever.

Please keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." Rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the noisy motorized vehicles.

Please close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!

THERE ARE SO MANY PLACES WHERE ATVs AND JEEPS CAN RIDE. WE FEEL THERE SHOULD BE MORE AREAS PRESERVED FOR THOSE WHO TREASURE QUIET ACTIVITIES AND NATURE STUDY!!

Thank you,

Robert and Georgene Bond
Salt Lake City

KaLeigh Welch

From: Peggy Hackney [pjhackney@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 4:09 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon - Moab

Categories: COMPLETE, NEXT AGENDA

Dear Council,

As I am sure you know, the wilderness lands of Utah are spectacular, and need special protection for generations to come. In particular, Labyrinth Canyon should be preserved as a silent area to be enjoyed without the whine of ATVs and motorcycles!! Please realize that the land belongs to all of us and should be available now and in the future!

My family and I live in Ivins, UT, but make frequent trips to Moab to relish the natural beauty of the area. Prioritize Preservation, Please!

Sincerely,
Peggy Hackney

--
Peggy Hackney
Integrated Movement Studies, President
Core Faculty Laban/Bartenieff Certificate Program U. of Utah
Registered Somatic Movement Therapist
707-738-0764

KaLeigh Welch

From: Karen Shaw [kshaw@xmission.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 4:09 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

Categories: COMPLETE, NEXT AGENDA

Dear Grand County Council,

I am extremely interested in your votes and the outcomes they will bring. I want your votes to represent protection for our environment. I am hoping the Grand County Council will vote to protect Labyrinth Canyon. As a long time resident of Utah and a frequent visitor to southern Utah I want Labyrinth Canyon to be a tranquil place to visit where I can hear the sounds of nature. While floating down the Green River I, along with many generations to come, want to enjoy the natural sounds the environment provides and not those of high-pitched/man-made motorized vehicles. This can easily be accomplished by closing Hell Roaring, Hey Joe, and The Tubes ATV/jeep trails. There are so many other places these motorized vehicles can go to enjoy their rides - a boater must have the river. Labyrinth Canyon must be designated as a wilderness area. I don't understand how it cannot.

I do appreciate the fact you have recommended wilderness protection for the Westwater-Beaver Creek area. But, you have stopped a little too short. I think you need to take the next step and close the infrequently used routes that exist in this area. By closing these minimally used trails you confirm the status you are recommending - wilderness. Please preserve the sounds of nature.

Kind Regards,
Karen J. Shaw
kshaw@xmission.com
1355 Red Hawk Trail
Park City, UT 84098
435-649-7787 (home)
801-541-9059 (cell)

KaLeigh Welch

From: Eric Billmeyer [ebillmey@uccs.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 4:10 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative comment

Categories: COMPLETE, NEXT AGENDA

Dear Grand County Commission Members,

I am writing to urge you to designate the Labyrinth Canyon area as wilderness. As an avid canoe enthusiast I have been in that area dozens of times over the years. The degradation that I have witnessed over the last 5 years due to irresponsible ATV use is very troublesome. New "trails" have sprouted up and previously untouched areas now have been damaged. The peace and solitude along that amazing stretch of the Green River is disappearing. I have spent thousands of dollars in the Moab area over the years, dining, staying in lodging, and visiting the local establishments. If this opportunity to recommend protection for Labyrinth Canyon is lost then I and many others who I know that are canoe enthusiasts may no longer visit the Moab area. Again please consider providing wilderness protection for the Labyrinth Canyon area. Thank you.

Eric Billmeyer

Eric Billmeyer, Instructor
Department of Geography & Environmental Studies University of Colorado Colorado Springs COB
2041
719-255-8102

KaLeigh Welch

From: Trudi Wilkes [trudi325@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 4:11 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon needs to be Protected

Categories: COMPLETE, NEXT AGENDA

Dear Council,

While I am not a resident of Utah, I travel there when I can. Utah attracts people from all over the world because its beauty and fragile, unique environment.

You have the opportunity to keep the treasure you have not only for the people who live there, but also for the others who travel long distances to see your home.

Please do what you can to make Labyrinth Canyon a protected Wilderness.

Best,
Trudi Sorensen
Avon, Colorado

KaLeigh Welch

From: Jenny Badewitz [jbadewitz85@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 4:14 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Please Keep Laby Wild!

Categories: COMPLETE, NEXT AGENDA

Dear Grand County Council,

My name is Jenny Badewitz and I was born and raised in UT. Its wild places make it the most unique state in the country, and I say that with experience and honesty. No other state has the unique beauty Utah possesses, and we must work to keep it that way. Building it up and bombarding it with ATV traffic will destroy the tranquility it offers and create eye sores gutted with ATV and jeep trails that disrupt this pristine landscape.

Please designate Labyrinth Canyon a true wilderness, keep the river corridor ATV-free and close less traveled routes so they too don't become eye and ear sores. Be the example this country needs in taking control of your lands and preserving them the way God intended us to.

I appreciate your work and your willingness to be open to the interests of your fellow states-women.

Sincerely,
Jenny Badewitz

7006 South Derek Hollow Cove
Midvale, UT 84047

KaLeigh Welch

From: Pat Watts [patwatts2002@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 4:14 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Areas open to ATVs

Categories: COMPLETE, NEXT AGENDA

Please limit areas where ATVs are allowed. They have use of so many areas already and are such a disrupting issue when we are trying to enjoy the wilderness. We enjoy going to the Wasatch canyons and many areas in Moab. There is nothing more annoying than a loud, annoying motor vehicle racing through, what we believe should be a quiet area. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Pat & John Watts
585 LaSalle Dr.
Murray, UT 84123

KaLeigh Welch

From: Mobad [gomobad@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 4:00 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

Categories: NEXT AGENDA

I am up dating my comments on Labyrinth Canyon. After further review I believe LABYRINTH CANYON should receive WILDERNESS STATUS. Don't pull this compromise stuff and play into Industrializing CANYONLANDS et al. Barely hidden agendas are driving this push to continue to use water and resources that belong to the public. Additionally this development and lack of protection will hurt our Golden Goose. TOURISM AND ADVENTURE JOHN HARTLEY!

Sent from my iPhone

KaLeigh Welch

From: Alan Mueller [redrockwilderness@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 4:18 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Recommendations to Rep. Bishop's Public Lands Initiative

Categories: NEXT AGENDA

Dear Council Members,

I am writing this letter to ask for your help in protecting wild places in Grand County. I ask that you recommend Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness, and that you support closure of the ATV/jeep trails that run down to the river. Finally, I ask that you close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness within Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness area.

My wife and I have called Utah home for over 25 years, having moved here from the Midwest. During that time, we have had some wonderful trips in Utah's wild places, including rafting trips down Lodore Canyon and Labyrinth Canyon, and extended backpacking trips in the Uinta Mountains and in southern Utah's redrock country. Unfortunately, my wife has MS and has been confined to a wheelchair for over 10 years now. In spite of this, we both continue to value wilderness and quiet, untrampled spaces even though we are no longer able to journey into such unspoiled wilderness ourselves. We believe with every fiber of our souls that we need to leave wild places to our future generations so that they can enjoy the same experiences, sometimes very spiritual in nature, that we did in our younger and healthier days. You have an opportunity to help make this a reality. Together, we urge you to support the wild places in your home county, and to work together with Rep. Bishop to ensure their survival.

Thank you,

Alan Mueller
Linda Artman
2510 Skyline Drive
Salt Lake City, UT 84108

KaLeigh Welch

From: Jennifer and Dan [Larkspur@magnoliaroad.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 4:24 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon and the Moab Area

Categories: NEXT AGENDA

Dear Council Members,

My husband and I visit the Moab Area and the surrounding deserts and canyons every year, two or three times if we can make it. We have always loved the quiet and solitude of our remote activities. Yet, every year we arrive with our hearts in our throats for fear of finding our special places destroyed by off-road and ATV activity.

I admit to copying the following points from an email --- forgive me, I have little time.

- **Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.** At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- **Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet** by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- **Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County**, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

Please protect Labyrinth Canyon! Set it aside as wilderness so that future generations of Americans can enjoy it in peace and quiet.

Best,
Jennifer Stewart
Nederland, Colorado

KaLeigh Welch

From: Bob Sessions [sessions.bob@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 4:25 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon protection

Categories: NEXT AGENDA

To the Council:

While we live in Iowa, my wife and I feel like Utah, and the Moab area, are a second home as we visit often and are so in love with the landscape and waterways. We love to hike throughout the Arches and surrounding area, and rafting the Green River is one of our favorite activities. Part of what makes our experiences there so wonderful are the silence and solitude that add to the joys brought by the beauty of the land and river. Having to share such experiences with ATVs would compromise greatly our enjoyment of being there and probably would spell the end of our stays in your area.

Thus we urge the council to:

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and “Dead Cow/The Tubes.” **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn’t have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- Protect the Arches view shed by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of Arches National Park.
- Designate areas to be managed as roadless areas within the NCA, following the “Daggett County” model that has already been approved by our Congressional delegation.
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**
- Designate wilderness in the La Sal mountains. Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service Wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The council should recommended protecting the mountains that frame Delicate Arch as wilderness.

We thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this important matter.

Robert Sessions
Lori Erickson

KaLeigh Welch

From: Leonora Midgley [leonora.midgley@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 4:25 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Recommendations for "Public Lands Initiative" bill

Categories: NEXT AGENDA

Dear Councilors,

My family and I have recreated in the Moab area for some 30+ years. Moab, and Labyrinth Canyon in particular needs true wilderness protection and quiet places need to be protected now and for future generations. Many of my friends take their children there as well, and other friends take PTSD patients there as therapy. As such, I make the following recommendations:

--Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. It is one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.

--Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing all ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river. The sounds of motorcycles and ATVs are extremely damaging to the wilderness experience.

--Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, particularly in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. Not only do these areas need protection but visitors to the Moab area should be able to find quiet and get away from roads and the sound of motorized vehicles.

Protecting wild Utah is critical to Utah tourism and recreation, and for ensuring the existence of wilderness to provide recreational opportunities for future generations.

Thank you,

Leonora P. Midgley
3296 Daybreaker Dr.
Park City, Ut 84098

KaLeigh Welch

From: Liz Muller [mullerliz@comcast.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 4:31 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Quiet areas

Categories: NEXT AGENDA

Please, not every area needs to be open to motorized traffic. You have control over some of the most beautiful country in the US. Please be good guardians and protect it for generations to come

Sent from my iPhone

KaLeigh Welch

From: Susan Kaercher [kaercher@comcast.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 4:33 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Please Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness

Categories: NEXT AGENDA

As a frequent visitor to Moab, I think there needs to be areas where one can get away from the noise of ATVs.

Please;

-Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.

-Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes."

-Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County.

Thank you.

Susan Kaercher

Salt Lake city resident

KaLeigh Welch

From: Dan Murray [danmurraybv@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 4:34 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: save Labyrinth Canyon

Categories: NEXT AGENDA

please

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

we have spent much time in moab and enjoy they are are peaceable places

dan, mike, steve and liz murray

719 966 9111

115 windwalker rd

buena vista, co 81211

KaLeigh Welch

From: Michael MOE [MMOE@westech-inc.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 4:35 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative Bill

Categories: NEXT AGENDA

Dear Council Members,

I am writing you to voice my support for keeping/establishing wild spaces in the Moab area. My family and I are frequent visitors to the area and love the ability to remove ourselves from noise and congestion. I certainly am appreciative of others desires to recreate with ATV's and have no problem with it, we often camp in those areas. But I also see value in maintaining land separate from these and other disruptive influences. The wild and beautiful lands of Utah play a large part in our family's vacations and enjoyment. My 7 year old daughter has told me multiple times when down there that it's better than Disneyland and that's a pretty solid testimonial! Please preserve and/or expand them to the best of your ability. Thank you for your efforts.

Sincerely,

Michael Moe

Project Manager | T: 801.290.5724 C: 801.842.7704
mmoe@westech-inc.com | westech-inc.com

WESTECH

KaLeigh Welch

From: CClark [dr_carolyn@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 4:34 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Please protect Labyrinth Canyon and other quiet places in Utah

Categories: NEXT AGENDA

Dear Grand County Council:

Sometimes I just need to find a place to get away from the NOISE and SMELL of motors. I need this for my sanity. There are a lot of other people with this same need. Therefore, it is essential to preserve some of the beautiful places around the magical area of Moab, so they will not be overrun by motorized vehicles.

- Designate the charming Labyrinth Cyn as a full wilderness. It is a unique ecosystem that needs to be protected for future generations, so they can have some feel for what life used to be like before places were overrun. It is a gem.
- There are three ORV routes that should be closed (Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes"). Motorized vehicles on these routes detract greatly from the experience of rafters who are trying to peacefully enjoy nature.
- Check for ORV routes that are not used frequently. Please close them to further motorized use. That is one painless way to preserve more quiet areas for the many of us who need quiet in our lives.

Thank you,
Carolyn Clark

KaLeigh Welch

From: Ruth M Van Dyke [rvandyke@binghamton.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 4:44 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: please protect Labyrinth Canyon

I'm writing to express my support for the following actions on Monday:

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

Peace, quiet & solitude are just as much part of our rights on public lands as any other kind of recreational activity.

Ruth M. Van Dyke
Cortez, Colorado & Binghamton, NY

KaLeigh Welch

From: Katey Buster [kateynaturelady@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 4:42 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: PLEASE consider we visitors who want QUIET areas without vehicle noise!!!

PLEASE consider keeping the Labyrinth Canyon river corridor QUIET without jeep roads leading into it!

PLEASE consider closing little used routes in all wild areas to off road vehicles. Grand County has TONS of land for ORV's!! I may stop coming to the Moab area and go other places so I can hike trails where I don't always hear the whine of motors!!

THANK YOU,

K. M. Buster
Grand Junction, Co. 81506

KaLeigh Welch

From: bob.beaudoin@gmail.com on behalf of Bob Beaudoin [bob.beaudoin@ucs.org]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 4:46 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Quite Places

Moab — and Labyrinth Canyon in particular — needs true wilderness protection and that **quiet places need to be protected now and for future generations.**

Bob Beaudoin
Murray, UT 84107

KaLeigh Welch

From: Debbie Kelly [deb.kelly@comcast.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 4:48 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

Council members,

Please consider the following recommendations:

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

Thanks,

Debbie Kelly

Frequent visitor to Moab

KaLeigh Welch

From: Matt [matty@xmission.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 4:48 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

Grand County Council,

You have an opportunity to preserve the magnificent natural beauty that Moab is famous for. Please be conscious and aware of the surroundings that will be destroyed.

If you let it be destroyed and ruin the gifts of the area, you will regret it and have to answer to all the generations that follow. You have been given a gift that can not be replaced nor replicated. Think about that.

Once destroyed, the ATV's, Jeeps, tourists, etc. will all go away.

I realize the financial aspect of economic growth and revenue potential but the downside is much worse. You have treasures that must be preserved.

Thank you,
Matt Yeates

KaLeigh Welch

From: anna keeling [annalouisek@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 4:49 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Cc: alerts@suwa.org
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

To whom it may concern

As part of the Public Lands Initiative bill, I am writing to recommend that Moab — and Labyrinth Canyon in particular — needs true wilderness protection and that **quiet places need to be protected now and for future generations.**
My particular recommendations:

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes."**River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

Thank you for ensuring that my recommendations are heard as the Public Lands Initiative Bill goes to Rep Rob Bishop.

Yours sincerely,
Anna Keeling
IFMGA Mountain Guide
annalouisek@gmail.com
USA:
3821 South Ash Circle
Salt Lake City, UT 84109
801 652 6637

KaLeigh Welch

From: Linn DeNesti [linndenesti@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 4:49 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Comments on Public Lands Initiative

Dear Grand County Council Members,

My thinking is aligned on the side of preservation of the scenic and culturally significant resources of our grand county.

Having canoed in Labyrinth Canyon, I cannot imagine it not being protected and designated as wilderness. It is a gem beyond compare. When I was there the sound of off road vehicles put a damper on the experience of solitude and isolation. There are so few places where vehicle noise is absent. Please do all you can to eliminate access to the river by vehicles, except at Mineral Bottom, of course!

It makes complete sense to propose wilderness areas in our watershed in the La Sal Mountains. I don't understand why this is not in the plan. Water, CLEAN water, is essential to all and its origins need some protection.

Our favorite backyard places are also at risk. Please extent the view shed of Arches National Park, or better yet, extend the borders of the park to encompass more natural boundaries. It's bad enough that the plateau on the way to Dead Horse Point and I-SKY is already riddled with drilling...don't let this happen to our nearby jewel.

Please do all you can to help Grand County email just that. Grand. For us who live here, for the millions who come to see how fortunate we are. I understand that livelihoods are at risk, but the extractive industries bring filth and very temporary funding. Boom and bust is not a plan for a sustainable future. Allowing off road vehicles in even MORE places is not sustainable as well.

Thank you for your service.

Respectfully,

Linn DeNesti
PO Box 1029
Moab UT 84532
206-226-6995

KaLeigh Welch

From: jimarbo [jimarbo@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 4:57 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: pending GCC letter to Representative Bishop

Dear Grand County Council:

I have become aware of the pending vehicular travel restrictions if approved by the Council, would further be the Councils recommendation to Rep. Bishop.

I want to inform you that on behalf of my friends and family, we are opposed to any closures affecting in anyway, access to 10 Mile Cyn, Hey Joe Cyn and/or any of the 100 + miles of off pavement routes within your jurisdiction, slated for closure or travel restrictions

Supporting of such limitations is counter to what serves the best interest of the publics access and ability to recreate.

Please inform Rep. Bishop the councils recommendation is No Closures and/or Restrictions.

Sincerely,

Jim Arbogast
1578 N 3775 W
Cedar City, UT

KaLeigh Welch

From: Chris Case [chrisjustincase@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 4:59 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protect Labyrinth Canyon

I understand that this Monday, the Grand County Council in Moab, Utah, is going to be putting the finishing touches on its recommendations to Representative Rob Bishop as part of the "Public Lands Initiative" bill.

Here is what I think the Grand County Council should do:

- 1) Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- 2) Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River.
- 3) Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs.

Thanks very much for your time.

Chris Case

--
www.chriscasephoto.com
Instagram: @chrisjustincase

KaLeigh Welch

From: Brendan Hurst [bhurst8677@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 5:00 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Advocating for wilderness areas near Moab
Attachments: IMG_0016.JPG

Dear Grand County Council Members:

I am writing today to request that you include wilderness areas in your Public Lands Initiative (PLI) recommendation to Rep. Bishop. As someone who has a deep respect and affinity for Red Rock country, and who has visited dozens of times over the past 25 years, I am saddened by many of the recent decisions affecting public land in SE Utah (more oil and gas development near Island In The Sky; approved ATV routes near Indian Creek; and the illegal travel in nearby San Juan County's Recapture Canyon, to name a few). I believe that, through your PLI proposal, you have a significant opportunity to change this trend, and protect the dwindling wilderness-quality land in your county.

I believe wilderness is essential to Grand County's future. Recreation and tourism have played a large role in Grand County's success in recent decades. One of the greatest draws for visitors such as myself is the seclusion and serenity found only in your fiery canyons. Labyrinth Canyon, in particular, defies description, and deserves wilderness protection. Preserving this gem's quiet beauty, and forever safeguarding it from motorized travel, further development, and excessive traffic, should be a priority of any plan for public land. This includes closing Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and Dead Cow/The Tubes off-road trails. SE Utah has literally thousands of miles of other OHV routes - closing those would not make a big difference in the routes available nearby, but would establish Labyrinth Canyon and the river corridor as a world-class destination for wilderness lovers such as myself.

Moab and Grand County have a well-established reputation for adventure. However, as crowds increase, and backcountry use grows, there are fewer and fewer places free from the drone of jeeps and OHVs, and fewer still are the places that are free of such roads, and yet reasonably close to area visitors. The council could do much to change this by designating roadless areas in the National Conservation Area east of Arches NP, and by closing rarely-used routes in all proposed wilderness. I would also advocate designating wilderness in the beautiful La Sals. It is absolutely essential that people still have places to find solitude when visiting Grand County. All people, even locally, have a choice of destinations when travelling, and it would be a shame if myself and others could no longer count Grand County as a place to find both peace and untrammelled beauty. I want to continue to have every reason to choose SE Utah when deciding which place offers a welcome reprieve from the chaos of everyday life.

I offer this perspective as someone who would dearly love to live there; and who chooses to spend the few vacation days, and relatively little discretionary income I possess, happily exploring Grand County's scenic environs. And I write this as someone from Ohio who, decades ago, fell in love with the entrancing silence of the high desert and canyon country. For further proof, you need look only at my Ohio license plate: "Moab" (see attached).

Thank you for considering my viewpoint. I have faith that you will appreciate and acknowledge input from myself and countless other canyon devotees by including wilderness in your PLI proposal.

Sincerely,

Brendan R. Hurst
3731 Mountview Rd
Columbus, OH 43220
bhurst8677@yahoo.com

KaLeigh Welch

From: Linda Thompson [lindahartneythompson@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 5:01 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative Bill

I and my family have camped and hiked in the areas around Moab for decades. These areas need protection now and for future generations. I'd like to be able to take my grandchildren to the same beautiful, quiet places that I took my children.

In particular, I support designating Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. There isn't another canyon like it in this country - it's one of the crown jewels of the West. I also urge you to keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing the 3 jeep trails that run down to the river (the Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and DeadCow/The Tubes trails). I not only hate hearing the sound of engines in magnificent areas that would otherwise be peaceful and quiet, but I also will choose other areas for my recreation (and to spend my money) to avoid this type of noise. Also, please close all infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the County.

Not all of the visitors to Moab come there to hear the sounds of ATVs and motorbikes. I'm one of those who will think twice before visiting Moab if I can't count on the QUIET enjoyment of those spectacular areas.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

KaLeigh Welch

From: John Moeller [johnwmoeller@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 5:01 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: preservation

Its time for rural Utah to leap into the 21st century. Like it or not, your grandchildren are going to be more closely involved with tourism and showing off their beautiful area to the world than to any short termeconomy being touted by your present political leaders

KaLeigh Welch

From: Stephen Keen [stephen.keen@comcast.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 5:04 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: My opinion

The back country is becoming noisier and noisier every time I visit. Please limit atv access and preserve some semblance of wilderness experience, what's left. There are few quiet spaces left in the world and atv's ruin the experience for many visitors. Steve keen. Salt Lake City.

KaLeigh Welch

From: Sterling Farr [gon2farr@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 5:05 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Feedback on wilderness protection/Public Lands Initiative bill

Dear Grand County Council members,

I am concerned about the recommendations that are likely to come out of your deliberations regarding Rob Bishop's Public Lands Initiative bill. I feel strongly that wilderness protection should be granted to Labrynth Canyon specifically, and that generally, the Grand County Council should consider the needs of future generations as it makes these important decisions.

The value of wilderness is, I think, underestimated by most in our state. Solitude and natural beauty are what draws an endless stream of tourists to the Moab area, and other wild places in Utah. If we think only for the short term, and only consider the desires of people who want to use our precious wild lands for oil/gas exploration, mineral extraction, off road vehicles, motorcycles and the like, we risk cutting off the income stream that tourists generate. Once we put these lands at risk by failing to protect them adequately, we will never get them back. And that is a shame to be avoided at all costs.

I support the following specifically:

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness designation for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!

I hope you'll consider the future (100, 200, even 500 years from now) as you make your recommendations about Congressman Bishop's bill.

Best Regards,

Sterling Farr

KaLeigh Welch

From: Caroline Williams [cwilliams@usabasketball.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 5:06 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Plea from a person who loves your area

Dear Moab Town Council:

I am absolutely in love with your area of the country. I get there as much as I can, which admittedly at three to four times a year isn't nearly enough. That said, when I'm there I love hiking and biking without having to deal with the noise of ATVs ruining a perfectly good hike or bike. Additionally, I think it's a darn shame the amount said ATVs trample the lands, killing desert plants that take many years to come back (if they come back to life at all) and frightening the little critters.

Please, please, please do not bow to well-paid lobbyists. Have some self-respect and do what's right with the beautiful lands around your amazing gem of a town. There are plenty of places for people with these ORVs/ATVs can use without having to ruin even more of the pristine canyon lands area.

Won't you please:

Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.

Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes."

Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County.

Thank you in advance.

Sincerely,
Caroline Williams
Colorado Springs

KaLeigh Welch

From: FIONA KING [fiona@wildblue.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 5:08 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protect Labyrinth Canyon

- Moab — and Labyrinth Canyon in particular — needs true wilderness protection - these **quiet places need to be protected now and for future generations.**
- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

As a frequent visitor to this area I request that you take these above recommendations into account. Future generations will thank you and so will I!

Sincerely,
Fiona King

KaLeigh Welch

From: erica smith [ericaleighsmith1@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 5:09 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: public lands initiative bill

Dear Grand County Council,

Moab — and Labyrinth Canyon in particular — needs true wilderness protection and that **quiet places need to be protected now and for future generations.**

Here's what the Grand County Council should do on Monday:

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

Thank You,

Erica Smith

KaLeigh Welch

From: Dave Taylor [behcun@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 5:11 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative bill

Dear Council members,

I struggle with several medical conditions that make it impossible for me to hike into some areas on foot. OHV use is not a devastating influence on the wild, esp. when it is managed by designated trail use. I rely on alternative means of transport, such as OHV use, to encounter such areas. Please do not deny me the opportunities listed below. All three issues are political in nature, not biological. As such, it's not about preserving or destroying the wilderness, it's about representing people vs. representing the minority viewpoint. In this country, we ought to be representing the people as follows:

- 1) Please do not recommend Labyrinth Canyon as wilderness.
- 2) Do not close down the ATV and jeep trails that run by the river, particularly "Hey Joe", "Hell Roaring" and "Dead Cow/The Tubes". There is no reason that only river rafters should be the only ones who get to enjoy this area, there is no unique divinity that is destroyed by someone on a chartered river cruise noticing a 1970 Honda Trail 90 by the riverside.
- 3) Do not close the infrequently used routes, esp. in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. Utility and possibility of use should be the consideration of opening/closing roads, not the frequency of use. There is far too many historical treasure in the backcountry to prohibit those of us w/ impairments from visiting them. There are already countless locations (and times!) where visitors to Moab can avoid the sounds of ATVs.

Thank you for your consideration.

KaLeigh Welch

From: Sptsman4@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 5:12 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Trail closures and proposed wilderness areas

Dear Grand County Council members,

I totally agree with the guidelines as proposed by SUWA, to include:

Here's what the Grand County Council should do on Monday:

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- **Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

Thank you for your consideration and the protection of pristine lands for current and future generations.

Larry Muench
1566 Sunview Dr
Ogden, UT

KaLeigh Welch

From: GENE GERSTNER [checkerspot@msn.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 5:17 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Wilderness: Not as wild as you think

Dear Councilmember, San Rafael Swell, Zion's backcountry, up on the Paunsagunt, no matter the place you seek for privacy, solitude, quite, you run into people, seeking the same thing. It is bound to get worse, so preserving out of the way country for those who like to wander, and wander without the roar of helicopters, motorcycles or ORV's breaking the silence is essential. So please, protect Labyrinth Canyon for the growing numbers of us who need the respite from urban life. Sincerely, Gene Gerstner

KaLeigh Welch

From: Diana Larson [larson.dianajeane@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 5:19 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative

I am writing to encourage you, the Grand County Council, to protect and preserve the delicate lands in the Moab area. We live in Provo and visit the Moab area about twice a year, as it is one of our favorite outdoor/wilderness areas in Utah. I have growing concern that the lands in this area will be damaged beyond repair at the price of "more money."

Tourists will stop coming to this pristine area should there be deterioration of the lands, including roads being overused by way of ATV and other off roading. I am not against ATV or off roading but the access areas need to be in more controlled areas that are not as fragile as these areas, including Labyrinth Canyon and areas close to the river. I fear increased ATV/off roading in these areas will cause irreversible erosion. This will lessen tourism.

The beauty of the Moab area, not just Arches, but the thousand of acres around Moab should be enough to build more tourism and thus increase the financial health of the area without damage to the environment.

Thank you for reading this email.

Diana Larson, registered voter
Provo, Utah

--

IN GOD WE TRUST

KaLeigh Welch

From: monsensgu@infowest.com
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 5:19 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Need to keep Labyrinth Canyon true wilderness

Categories: NEXT AGENDA

Grand County Council:

Please designate Labyrinth Canyon as a true wilderness and ensure quiet areas for hikers, backpackers, and river rafters. Much of the wilderness experience involves quiet enjoyment without jeeps and ATVs. Closing some roads and jeep trails may be needed. When multiple roads and trails get to the same destination, not all of them should accommodate motorized vehicles. I own a jeep and enjoy 4-wheeling, but there are places where I like hiking without noise--Moab and Canyonlands are places that I like to see protected from motorized traffic.

Please ensure there are places within Moab where visitors can enjoy quiet time in natural environments. Many of the trails and roads in existing wilderness areas are being used by mining and drilling operations and motorized travel creating dust and noise that prevents the peaceful enjoyment of nature's beauty unaltered by human hands.

I urge you to preserve these precious landscapes for current and future generations. I realize your job is balancing needs and requests from many different and sometimes opposing points of view. Please remember that once wilderness is destroyed, it will never exist again.

Save Utah's wilderness areas for future generations to enjoy. God created these areas. Let's not let man destroy them in one generation.

Thank you.

Karen L. Monsen

St. George, UT

KaLeigh Welch

From: Moab Solutions [moab_solutions@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 5:19 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Please protect the lands around Moab

Dear County Council,

To say you hold the fate of the future in your hands is not an understatement. Even casual study reveals that the impacts the destruction of our lands is causing the health of the planet are catastrophic. Please do everything you can to preserve and protect the fragile and heartbreakingly beautiful lands we are lucky enough to be surrounded by, for our sake, our children's sake and all the life that relies on healthy habitat.

Specifically, I ask you to consider the following:

Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. Labyrinth Canyon is one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West. The Council should designate as wilderness all areas it is proposing as "No Surface Occupancy."

Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes" in addition to Ten Mile Wash. It is quite unsettling to hear the sounds of ATVs and other off-road vehicles in special areas like these.

Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek wilderness. You have already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, now we need to close routes within the boundaries. There places where locals and visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs is becoming harder and harder to find, and more eagerly sought after!

Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains. The La Sals are getting overused, sickly, and tired! We need to help this critical area recover and thrive. While every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service Wilderness, the Grand County Council has recommended zero. Please recommend protecting the mountains that form our watershed. Our life!

Protect the Arches view shed by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area 4 miles east of Arches National Park. I have a hard time traveling many places I once enjoyed visiting because of the horrific sight of pipelines, and oil rigs. Please, please, please, don't destroy in a few decades what has been a gift to humans since time out of mind.

Designate the Fisher Towers and Mary Jane areas with the proposed National Conservation Area to be managed as **roadless areas**, following the Daggett County model and as already approved by our Congressional delegation.

I appreciate so very much your time and attention to this email.

Sincerely,

Sara Melnicoff
Moab Solutions
www.moab-solutions.org
PO Box 1549
Moab, UT 84532
435.259.0910 or 435.401.4685

KaLeigh Welch

From: charlene love [lovecha@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 5:19 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Grand County Council:Urgent responsibility

Dear Grand County Council,

My husband and I just bought our first home in Moab fall of 2014. We've both been coming to Moab for over 20years because we love wilderness, wide open spaces, quiet places to hike, river trips and to remember the beauty of GOD. Please do the things we need to do to maintain the level of wilderness, peace, beauty and pristine quality of life we have chosen for our retirement home. These are areas we wish to explore, river trip in with our kids, and backpack, hike and experience without the noise of RAZORS, JEEPS, and ATV's all over the place.

Noise pollution is real, and these types of vehicles bring more than noise, they bring in trash, and tear up wilderness areas, disturb animals that are sensitive to noise and create an environment of mechanisms that we do not want more of in our county. For us, wilderness is our place to connect with God, our church, our temple, the Lord's creation, a gift to all humanity, unbiased. Please let it be that for people from all over the world to experience. We ask you to please pass these requests in favor of LESS machinery, noise and ATV's in our county.

Thank you sincerely,
Charlene and Peter Nicholson
2112 Buena Vista Drive
Moab, Utah 84532

Here's what the Grand County Council should do on Monday:

- **Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.** At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West. The Council should designate as wilderness all areas it is proposing as "No Surface Occupancy."
- **Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet** by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes" in addition to Ten Mile Wash. River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!
- **Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek wilderness.** The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. There should be places where locals and visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!

- Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains. Every other county in the PU process has recommended new Forest Service Wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The Council should recommended protecting the mountains that form our watershed.
- Protect the Arches view shed by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of Arches National Park.
- Designate the Fisher Towers and Mary Jane areas with the proposed NCA to be managed as roadless areas, following the Daggett County model and as already approved by our Congressional delegation.

KaLeigh Welch

From: malcompbell@gmail.com on behalf of Malcolm Campbell [archit@pobox.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 5:23 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net

Please support the protection of Labyrinth Canyon and:

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

Malcolm Campbell
3981 S. 500 E. Salt Lake City, UT 84107
801-680-2303

KaLeigh Welch

From: Corinne Halls [corinne.halls@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 5:24 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth

Please designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. I've canoed that stretch and it would have been ruined by ATVs and motorcycles.

Thank you,

Corinne Halls

KaLeigh Welch

From: Kevin Moss [moss.kevin@outlook.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 5:28 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Moab plan

Dear Council Members,

Our family visits Moab at least three times a year. We stay downtown then get a early start for a day hike. It is the quiet and vast majesty of your area that draws us.

Likewise I bring business associates at least twice a year. Living in the city they are awestruck.

Without exception it is the scenery and the serenity that brings them back with their families.

I hope you will preserve what you have. They say familiarity breeds contempt ... I cannot believe it will be so with you. Your backyard is more than an obstacle course. Our family and friends fervently hope you will protect your "pearl of great price."

Respectfully,
Kevin Moss
Bountiful, UT

Sent from my iPhone

KaLeigh Welch

From: Richard Cummins [rcumminslaw@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 5:31 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net

Hello

My name is Richard Cummins and I own a condo at 415 Williams Way. I spend time here and in Colorado. I love Moab; it is one of the special places on this planet and I fervently believe that we must do everything we can to preserve the aesthetics and beauty of our little slice of this planet.

I was married here last September at Park Ave in Arches. I had friends who came from various parts of this country and could not believe how beautiful Moab is.

Let's keep it that way-it's very special!!

Thank you.

Richard

Sent from my iPhone

KaLeigh Welch

From: David Curtis [mntwest@me.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 5:36 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Wilderness

I wanted to voice my support of keeping existing ATV and jeep routes open, while protecting wilderness areas that do not have existing routes allready.

Thx,
Dave Curtis

Sent from my iPhone

KaLeigh Welch

From: steiner@chem.utah.edu
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 5:43 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Grand County PLIB

Committee Members,

As you decide the future of public lands in your county please consider the need for some "peaceful" zones. For example the Labyrinth Canyon river corridor should be a wild and scenic river designation with some buffer from motorized traffic on the shore. If closing some of the ATV/motorcycle routes entirely is too big a stretch closing them to motorcycles would at least curtail the whine of engines on the river corridor. Closing lesser used motorized routes around proposed wilderness areas would also give a buffer to wilderness areas.

The PLIB is a very worthwhile exercise to insure that all users get fair treatment.

Thank you
Richard Steiner

KaLeigh Welch

From: jim boyd [beckrd125@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 5:45 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Changes to land use

As a member of the tourist industry, I find myself constantly balancing the needs of different groups. How well I do this determines how successful I am. You are in a position no different than mine. You must seek to balance the needs of different groups, both of whom will be required to insure your economic success. Lose one or the other, and your growth will be far less than it should or could be. I go to Moab and Grand County to enjoy the peace and QUIET. After a days and weeks dealing with the public, I just want peace and QUIET. The best way to create a balance that keeps people like me coming is:

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

Thank you for your consideration.

Jim Boyd
Helper, Utah

KaLeigh Welch

From: Alicia Angelo [aangelo.12@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 5:56 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protecting wilderness in Grand County

To Grand County Council,

Recently I learned that you are preparing a plan to submit as part of Utah Representative Bishop's Public Lands Initiative. I was very disappointed to hear that there may not be any proposed new wilderness areas in Grand County. I find this very surprising in light of the importance of travel and tourism to the area, and the increased use of public land for resource extraction. Creating wilderness spaces amidst this change is essential to keeping Grand County a destination of choice for people who value quiet time outdoors.

My family and I enjoy coming to the Moab area for the many hiking and camping options available. It seems that, in the last few years, there has been more off-road travel. While I think these recreational users have a right to their own enjoyment, there's no doubt that ATVs and jeeps create noise which drowns out the calming sound of the Colorado, the wind in the canyons and draws, and the native birds and animals that call these places home. Given this, I feel strongly that the Council should take a step to earmark some land expanses for wilderness. You will thereby save fragile, pristine lands for the quiet enjoyment of future travelers.

There are several areas that I think deserve special attention, including Labyrinth Canyon, the areas adjacent to Arches and Canyonlands, and the flanks of the magnificent La Sal mountains. There will always be pressure to further expand, to develop, and to extract, but there is a limited opportunity to protect land through wilderness. The Public Lands Initiative process offers just such a chance. I think it is only fair to balance the lands open to mining, drilling, and ATVs, with lands set aside to remain as they are and, hopefully, always will be. Our country already has such a small percentage of land as wilderness, and Utah has less than many states (like Florida) - despite its size and incomparable beauty. It is well-known that Utah's congressional delegation already leans heavily in favor of industry and development. Your actions in favor of wilderness would serve as a meaningful counterweight to this bias.

It is my hope that the Council will remember that the elemental attraction of the area is the land itself. Once despoiled, it will never be the same, and visitors such as myself will seek out other places instead. I hope Grand County avoids this potential fate by saving some land for Wilderness. I doubt you will be sorry.

Thank you,

Alicia Angelo
2128 Canterbury Rd
Akron, OH 44333
aangelo.12@hotmail.com

KaLeigh Welch

From: Bob Speiser [pinyonsmoke@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 5:57 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: wilderness protection

To the Council:

I strongly support SUWA's recommendations for wilderness protection in Labyrinth Canyon and more generally for the Moab area. Specifically, I would like the Council to endorse these three goals:

- To designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- To keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- To close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

My wife and I are frequent visitors in southern Utah, to hike and sometimes run the rivers. Like many others, we love this area for its wilderness values, and want those values carefully preserved for future generations.

Respectfully,
Bob Speiser

3321 E Chaundra Av
Salt Lake City, UT 84124
801 278-0326

KaLeigh Welch

From: Kevin Proescholdt [kevin-jean@msn.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 5:57 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative

Dear Grand County Council Members,

My name is Kevin Proescholdt, and I live in Minneapolis, Minnesota. But I visit Moab and Grand County and love the public lands in the county, and particularly the wild undeveloped lands in the county. I understand that Grand County will be finalizing its recommendations for Rep. Bishop's Public Lands Initiative soon. I urge Grand County to do the following:

- Please designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. It is one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Please keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes."
- Please protect the Arches view shed by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of Arches National Park.
- Please designate areas to be managed as roadless areas within the NCA, following the "Daggett County" model that has already been approved by the Utah Congressional delegation.
- Please close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!
- Please designate wilderness in the La Sal mountains. Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service Wilderness. The council should recommended protecting the mountains that frame Delicate Arch as wilderness.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment, and thank you for protecting Grand County's fabulous wildlands!

Sincerely,

Kevin Proescholdt
2833 43rd Ave. S.
Minneapolis, MN 55406

KaLeigh Welch

From: jgoodhouk [jgoodhouk@comcast.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 6:03 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

Greetings,

Labyrinth Canyon is one of the crown jewels of wilderness please protect this as true wilderness. Please close Hey Joe, Hell Roaring and Dead Cow / the tubes to ATV jeep travel. When individuals are on the river we don't want to listen to the whine of two cycle engines along the banks of the Green River. Please close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater - Beavercreek proposed wilderness on the east side of Grand Country.

There need to be places where visitors to the Moab area can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs. Quiet is an amazing and a very valuable resource.

Sincerely,

Judith Gooding

Sent from my Verizon Wireless 4G LTE smartphone

KaLeigh Welch

From: Lrinoz@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 6:03 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Concerned Colorado Neighbor

Council Members,

Living close to the Colorado-Utah border affords me and my partner John the opportunity as retirees to spend a great deal of time in the Moab/Labyrinth area.

My visits are rarely a day but usually a series of days or up to a week so it includes staying in your hotels, purchasing gas and food, purchasing hiking gear and clothing, etc. Economically, my partner John and I would be a community's best friend by continually returning to visit and promoting your area.

I have been fortunate to have lived in Australia, Japan, the Philippines, and England. As a result, I have a great number of international visitors coming to see me. Heading to the Moab and surrounding area is always a guaranteed trip with my international guests.

If I don't travel there with my international guests, then I send them there on their own. Their FACEBOOK/social media posts only serve to bring you more visitors. Stunning quiet wilderness is the attraction.

Most trips have afforded my local friends and international guests, the opportunity to see some amazing scenery and not be disturbed by the noise/dust of RTVs. Like me, they love the beauty of the wilderness and lack of noise.

My most recent international visitors heading that directions left my house only two days ago. Their daily posts on Facebook of amazing Utah wilderness (canyons/river coordinators, etc.) allow me to enjoy their quiet adventures and realize the huge impact they have on future tourist travel to Moab and surrounding areas.

My international guests and local Colorado friends cherish the "quiet" wilderness and urge you to protect it. It's what brings each of us to the Moab area and the surrounding areas like Labyrinth Canyon and beyond and causes us to return.

Your Colorado Neighbor,

Linda Reeves
Grand Junction
lrinoz@aol.com

KaLeigh Welch

From: Rob MM [robmm76@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 6:08 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: RE: Urgent: Protect Labyrinth Canyon and the Moab area!

Grand County Council,

I am a frequent visitor to Moab. I value the wilderness and would prefer that destruction by roads, trails, and commercial development be excluded. Such uses should be limited to places where they do not detract from the pristine natural beauty and peacefulness of these special places.

Specifically, you should

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon, one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West, as true wilderness.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes."
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close abused routes within the boundaries.

Sincerely,
Rob McKinnie
Salt Lake City, UT 84116

KaLeigh Welch

From: Heather Baines [heather.baines@outlook.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 6:18 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Designate Labyrinth Canyon *wilderness*

Dear Grand County Council Members,

I urge you to designate Labyrinth Canyon as a true **wilderness area**.

Moab — and Labyrinth Canyon in particular — needs true wilderness protection and that **quiet places need to be protected now and for future generations**.

This Monday, please:

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as **true wilderness**. This area is one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and “Dead Cow/The Tubes.” **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn’t have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

Thank you for your continued efforts in keeping our wild places wild, quiet, and true wilderness.

Yours,

Heather Baines

KaLeigh Welch

From: Rose Chilcoat [frankcoat1@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 6:21 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Grand County needs wilderness protections!

Dear Grand County Councilmembers,

I live in Durango, Colorado where I've been privileged to have gainful employment and to raise my two amazing sons. Part of the blessing of living here is our proximity to some of our nation's most wild and wonderful public lands. The red rock desert of southern Utah is in our backyard – Moab is a weekend destination, the lands and waters around it our spring break backpacking adventures and summer raft trips that created memories to last a lifetime. The silent wild canyons and rivers are where my children learned to disconnect from technology and to listen to the sounds of nature. It is where they honed their skills as competent outdoors people. They learned to respect the land, their family and other people. They learned the geology, the botany and the history of place. Their roots in this landscape are deep. My youngest son's first full sentence was, "When go hike slickrock again?"

I grew up in the east - in the Baltimore/Washington D.C. megalopolis - and upon arriving in the Four Corners Region in 1980 for a summer job with the Forest Service realized I had found my home – the place that makes me feel alive and whole. This land is what feeds my soul, soothes my spirit, gives me joy and provides me with adventure and fun. I came from a place where it is nearly impossible to escape from people, noise, lights and development. Contrast that with the wild public lands of southern Utah – I had found Nirvana! Over the past thirty-five years I've beat a path from Durango to red rock country every chance I get.

As I've loved this land so do many others. Things have changed since my first time driving through sleepy run-down Moab on the way to raft Cataract Canyon. Moab and its surrounding red rock wonderland have been discovered. It has been exploited. It is changing, and not always for the better! It is for this reason I implore you to act on behalf of the wilderness you are blessed with in Grand County as you make your recommendations to Representative Bishop as part of the Public Lands Initiative.

Please designate Labyrinth Canyon as wilderness -- it's a gem of a wild place. It is the epitome of wilderness. Help keep it truly wild. Close the Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and Dead Cow ATV/jeep trails that run along the Green River. The last thing river runners want to experience when on a wild river is the whine and grind of motors from shore! There are other places for motorized recreation...only one Green River!

I also beg you to please expand the National Conservation Area outside of Arches and designate areas within it as roadless. Too many people are driving too many places. Pristine viewsheds and quiet zones away from

motors are essential. There needs to be wilderness too in the amazing La Sal mountains that are in your backyard. I ask you to please keep some of it wild!

Highly protected public lands actually improve the economics of adjacent communities. Wilderness is a sustainable resource and is not subject to resource depletion or the vagaries of commodity markets. People choose to visit beautiful wild places and spend money while doing so. When regions become industrialized and chopped up by roads the public stops using those areas. The regions south of Durango where my family used to explore are places we no longer go because of the oil and gas development. I pray areas around Moab won't someday be added to that list of undesirable places. You can act now to ensure that won't happen!

Thank you,

Rose Chilcoat

2914 Junction St

Durango, CO 81301

KaLeigh Welch

From: dtsp3@comcast.net
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 6:24 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protect Labyrinth Canyon

Council Members;

I have been a frequent visitor to Grand Co., for the last 30 years. I have enjoyed many aspects of Moab and the surrounding areas, I have rafted the rivers, hiked, driven and enjoyed the solitude. I would like to support whole heartily saving, protecting and designating Labyrinth Canyon as TRUE WILDERNESS!!

That means closing Jeep and ATV trails that go to the river; those trails by name are Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, Dead Cow/The Tubes.

It is inappropriate for ATV's, Motorcycles and Jeeps to interrupt the solitude of an area like Labyrinth Canyon. A river experience should be void of that kind of level of noise, dust and disruption.

The future of Moab is in visitors and tourist dollars, deciding to protect these priceless wilderness areas is a win-win situation for visitors and locals.

Thank you
Dori Pratt
P.O. Box 680256
Park City, Utah
84068

KaLeigh Welch

From: Mark Lusch [mlusch@hughes.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 6:25 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

This place is special. Please don't screw it up for future generations. It needs real protection. Also, we support more wilderness along the Green River corridor. We don't travel to these special areas to hear ATV noise.

M&L

KaLeigh Welch

From: Darrin Wells [darrinwells1@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 6:28 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: letter against the land grab going on in Grand County

Dear Council Members;

The recommendations this Council is making are far beyond a balanced approach for Grand County relative to the Public Lands Initiative proposed by Congressman Bishop. Apparently this is what a land plan looks like when the Sierra Club, SUWA and the Grand Canyon Trust are in the majority of a County Council. There is nothing resembling balance with the massive lands lock ups you've proposed for wilderness, National Conservation Areas, National Recreation Areas, and watershed protection zones.

These will ultimately lead to loss of access with road and trail closures, and loss of access for other types of natural resource development so important to the long term health and diversity of our economy. Our economy and history were built on access to and use of all our resources. The roads built into our county are the very basis of our thriving recreation and tourism economy. It's difficult to understand why you now think restricting this access will be good for that economy.

Recommending wilderness in the eastern Bookcliffs, over areas of existing leases and roads in the middle of decade's old producing oil and gas fields, defies logic. Recommending wilderness in the entire eastern section of our county, which will shut down roads and trails used by the grazing industry for the last 150 years, and more recently by recreationists, defies logic. Recommending watershed protection areas without any hint of current or future threats to that watershed, defies logic. Recommending hundreds of thousands of acres for a National Conservation Area on all county lands east of Moab, which would straddle lands managed by two separate federal land management agencies, defies logic. Recommending hundreds of thousands of acres for a National Recreation Area in the western portion of our county, resulting in the shutting down a popular Jeep Safari route, and a trail in Ten Mile Canyon which has been used for hundreds of years with no apparent destruction of the canyon, defies logic.

So again, it's very apparent the majority of you are in fact not working for the benefit of all the citizens in this County, but rather just those citizens who work for and volunteer for the three extreme environmental organizations that seem to be in control of this County. This is a farce and an insult to the residents who have lived and worked here for generations. This will not go unnoticed. This could very well result in recall petitions, and boycotts of any businesses in the County who support such extreme measures.

We will now be forced to work with our legislative delegation and the Governor's office to bring some modicum of balance to what goes into the final Congressional proposal since it's apparent you're no longer working for the citizens of Grand County. We recognize the beauty of our lands and the value of our recreation and tourism industry and understand the need for a reasonable amount of conservation of some of the unroaded areas. But you've chosen to go far beyond that, to a point where it's highly likely there will be long-term effects on that industry by severely limiting access into areas our tourists come to see. And this in addition to virtually destroying our ability to access, use and supplement our economy with the responsible use of our other natural resources. You should be ashamed.

Sincerely,
Darrin Wells
Grand County Resident

KaLeigh Welch

From: Walter Speirs [wspeirs@bresnan.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 6:32 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: labyrinth Canyon

please save and conserve labyrinth Canyon

Walt Speirs from Grand Junction Colorado and Salt Lake City

KaLeigh Welch

From: Walter Speirs [wspeirs@bresnan.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 6:35 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: labyrinth Canyon

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

Walt

KaLeigh Welch

From: S. Fleming [susaflem@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 6:46 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net.
Cc: susaflem@aol.com
Subject: Public Lands Initiative Bill

Dear Moab Council-- Please make these recommendations to Representative Rob Bishop as part of the Public Lands Initiative Bill:

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council
- recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

Sincerely,

Susan F. Fleming
PO Box 58858
SLC Utah 84158

KaLeigh Welch

From: Heinrichsdorff@comcast.net
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 6:46 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

Dear Sirs:

We are writing to implore you to designate Labyrinth Canyon as wilderness. This is wild country that we have often hiked with delight at its scenic and wilderness characteristics, one of the richest wilderness areas of the Southwest.

We have also rafted the Green River many times. Please close the three jeep and ATV trails that run down to the river so that rafters can enjoy wild country without hearing motorcycle whining.

Because there are so few wilderness areas remaining, it is urgent to preserve those that we still treasure.

Thank you for considering our request.

Gernot and Ava Heinrichsdorff

KaLeigh Welch

From: Meghan Gauger [meghangauger@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 6:52 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protect Labyrinth Canyon!

Dear Grand County Councilmembers,

I live in Wisconsin, but I have spent a great deal of time working in and visiting southern Utah's redrock country over the past thirteen years. I'm writing to you to let you know just how important the wild places in southern Utah are to me as an American, and how deserving these places are of our protection.

As you make your recommendations to Representative Bishop as part of the Public Lands Initiative, I urge you to act on behalf of the wilderness around Moab, including Labyrinth Canyon. Please designate Labyrinth Canyon as wilderness! This area is a crown jewel of the American West. Please close the Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and Dead Cow ATV/jeep trails that run along the Green River. Even my husband, who is a motorcycle enthusiast, believes some areas should be preserved for listening to nature, not motors. Please consider expanding the National Conservation Area outside of Arches, and please designate areas to be managed as roadless areas within the National Conservation Area, following the Daggett County model already approved by Utah's Congressional delegation. And please close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially the Westwater-Beaver Creek area.

The first time I came to Utah, I fell in love with the breathtaking beauty and unmatched solitude I found there. Ever since then, whenever I tell folks back home about how marvelous Utah's natural beauty is, people inevitably want to come back with me to visit. That means not only do they bring their appreciation of the landscape, but they bring their dollars to the state and local economy. I have brought countless friends to Utah, and look forward to bringing more, but only if the wild places are preserved.

Please act on behalf of the wild lands and the people who turn to them, now and in the future, for recreation and solace. The Bishop Public Lands Initiative is a prime opportunity to be bold, visionary, and to protect these exceptional lands not just for us, but for those who come after us.

Thank you,
Meghan Gauger
Lake Mills, WI

KaLeigh Welch

From: John Domingue [jdomingu@earthlink.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 6:56 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

Friends, I am a long time visitor and lover of southeast Utah. The peace of the river through Labyrinth Canyon should not be broken by the sound of ATV's and dirt bikes. As I understand it these folks have plenty of areas in which to ride. I hope you will recommend wilderness protection for it.

Respectfully

John Domingue
3246 S Corona
Englewood, CO 80113

jdomingu@earthlink.net

KaLeigh Welch

From: jill christensen [jillgeeceetoo@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 6:55 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Moab & Labyrinth Canyon need Protection!!!!!!

TO The Grand County Council: Moab — and Labyrinth Canyon in particular — need true wilderness protection; **quiet places like these wild areas need to be protected now and for future generations.**

On Monday, The Grand County Council should:

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

Sincerely, -

Jill and Jerry Christensen
1665 Sherman Ave
SLC, UT 84105

KaLeigh Welch

From: JEFFREY HOLLY BEVAN [cologman@msn.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 6:55 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labrynth Canyon Protection

To Whom It May Concern,

As an outdoor enthusiast and frequent visitor to Utah's majestic wild lands I wholeheartedly support giving wilderness protection to Labrynth Canyon. This would include closing existing ORV tracks accessing the area. This area is a national treasure and needs to be protected completely for future generations pleasure.

Cordially,
Jeff Bevan
Nathrop, CO

KaLeigh Welch

From: Audrey Harty [audreyh.arty@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 6:59 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Grand County Council

Dear Council,

Moab — and Labyrinth Canyon in particular — needs true wilderness protection and that **quiet places need to be protected now and for future generations.**

Here's what the Grand County Council should do on Monday:

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

Thanks For listening,
Your tourist and fan, Audrey Harty

KaLeigh Welch

From: Sara Michl [smichl@Colorado.EDU]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 7:00 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Please PROTECT Grand County!

Dear Council members:

Grand County's financial and natural jewels are its wondrous natural areas. Please protect Labyrinth Canyon. Please close little used routes throughout ALL proposed wilderness in the county.

ATV and jeep routes destroy your crown jewels, the natural jewels that will continue to provide a livelihood for Moab business people far into the future.

Your grandchildren and their grandchildren will thank you for helping to protect these jewels, and for preserving a crucial foundation for Moab's economic health for years to come.

Sincerely,
Sara Michl
A former and ever loyal Utahn

KaLeigh Welch

From: mfderr@xmission.com
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 7:00 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Save Labyrinth Canyon

Powers that be;

Labyrinth canyon is precious and needs to be saved for all future generations.
Please leave it the way nature made it.

Mike and Gaelyn Derr
SLC, UT 84105
mfderr@xmission.com

KaLeigh Welch

From: Cameo [cameo.torres@aggiemail.usu.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 8:03 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative

Dear Council Members,

When I was just a small girl my family and I were out exploring this beautiful country we are so blessed to live in, that I've been blessed to have been born and raised in, and I have this memory of a high switch backed road that wound down to the river. I didn't know where we were, where we were going, or what we would find but I did know that I was mesmerized by the scenery, the high narrow road, and the fact that my Dad was expressing to my mom how my Grandpa used to "drive a drill rig down this road." I asked my Dad what an drill rig was, when he explained that it was a really big truck I couldn't fathom a "semi" (because as a little girl, that's what all "really big trucks" were) driving down this high dirt road.

Later, when I was in my early twenties my husband and I were out exploring Mineral bottom. Again I was mesmerized and as we started down Mineral bottom, I made the connection with that memory and this road, so I relayed the history to my husband, Only now I knew just what a drill rig was, and I was better able to appreciate that memory. And I always smile going down that road because I remember my family as it was when I was just a girl, and I always think of my grandpa.

On another occasion my Mom and Stepdad took my husband and I on four wheelers to explore Hey Joe mine. I have many, many memories of exploring old abandoned mines, and was taught how to be both cautious and appreciative of these sites. You see my Dad is a miner. He was (has been) a uranium miner for many years, he worked at Rio Algom until the uranium industry went bust in the late 80's. After that my dad traveled to find work but my mother, brother, and I stayed in Moab. My parents taught me a high level of love and respect for our land. And I've seen all the changes as Moab turned to tourism to stay alive. I've watched as the town grew, and as the various areas have changed.... I remember playing on the banks of Big Bend before all the designated camping spots and bathrooms were installed. And while I see there is a lot of good to many of the changes that have occurred, I keep wondering at what point do we, the people who live here, raise our families here, make our memories here all year round, when do we get considered? Why are we the ones locked out of our special spots? Why are we told that we damage our land and do not know how to treat it? Because I can assure you no one, NO ONE, loves our home more than we do.

Rafters want solitude? Well I want to be able to access my home when I would like to. I would like to drive my son and daughter down Mineral bottom road and tell them, "you know you're great grandpa used to drive a drill rig down this road".

And as you can see I do not see industry as the worst evil to the land. I see that if it is done right it can be a great asset to the Moab residents. As a girl my dad had to travel around to find work, my parents saw it better to let us kids keep a stable home so we stayed with my mother, but I remember dearly missing my father. And if Moab stays on this track of closing things off for "solitude" or for "wilderness", how long before we residents are forced to leave because we can no longer afford to stay? And it isn't just industry this effects, what about the tourist industry? Are we only considering rafters now? What about our other tour guides? Are we to take money away from these residents, away from their families, for a handful of people seeking solitude? Look around! There is acres, upon acres, upon acres that are unaccessible to motorized vehicles, to be had for solitude and are already "wilderness" they do not need the formal designation, our back country is vast. Again, when do we, the residents, get considered? So I ask you, please consider us now, and leave our lands open and accessible by saying no to the Public Lands Initiative.

Thank you,

KaLeigh Welch

From: Suzie Ellison [suzielevaellison@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 7:04 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net

Dear council members:

I'm writing to ask that you please designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. It richly deserves this protection and honor.

Please Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." We river rafters in Labyrinth, as well as backpackers, etc. shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!

Please close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. I know you have already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but you also need to close routes within the boundaries. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!

Thanks so much for your serious attention to this very important matter.

--

Suzie Ellison
7859 So. Nantucket Drive
Salt Lake City, UT 84121

suzielevaellison@gmail.com
aarfpetcare.com

KaLeigh Welch

From: Fred Adler [dendroicap@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 7:10 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Wilderness protection

Dear Grand County Council,

Thanks for taking the time to read this note from a Utah resident who wishes to protect the precious lands we are privileged to oversee and to share with people from around the world. Please designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness to give it the permanent protection it needs, and close the three jeep trails that are unfortunately polluting the area with noise and habitat destruction. Finally, please protect the proposed wilderness in Grand County by closing any little-used routes within the boundaries.

The future of our state, both its environmental health and its appeal to visitors from around the state, the nation and the world, depends on preserving. ATVs are precisely what we want to avoid to make sure that Moab retains its reputation as a national view.

sincerely,
Fred Adler
1452 Michigan Avenue
Salt Lake City, UT

KaLeigh Welch

From: Leanne D'Andrea [elates@comcast.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 7:16 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth

Dear Council,

The Moab area is a very busy place, with so many wanting to enjoy its unique and singular beautiful places. As you consider your recommendations for the Public Lands Initiative Bill, remember that ATVs and motorcycles make noise and tear up land. There can be other areas away from Labirynt Canyon and the Green River designated for this use, which does not pollute land or air or create noise for those wanting a quiet experiences that The Green River offers. Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. You will be protecting a jewel for future generations; a unique place that is easily destroyed without official designation.

Sincerely,

Leanne D'Andrea
elates@comcast.net

KaLeigh Welch

From: Robert Carty [robertcarty77@comcast.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 7:18 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness

Dear Council Members,

I am extremely amazed by the beautiful country of southeastern Utah. Please try to keep the country as natural and wild as possible. There are so few places left that can give one a humbling and yet inspiring feeling of oneness. The sacredness of life. Labyrinth Canyon is one of these places. And an accessible place...for those who make the effort. It should be designated as wilderness, and maybe keep the atv from leaving it's noise pollution. Let the river sing in its natural voice. If you have ever read "The Canyons Of The Colorado" by John Wesley Powell, maybe it can help explain the need for the wondrous Colorado Plateau To remain as natural and in it's own state as much as possible.

Kind Regards,
Robert Carty

KaLeigh Welch

From: Sisterdox@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 7:23 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Moab planning

As a frequent visitor to Moab, I seek a peaceful environment in which to recreate. It is most disturbing to hear such loud reminders of civilization when one is seeking comfort from nature. There are other places that bikers and motorized vehicles can ride and, on the flip side, there should be places of natural beauty that are free from noise pollution. I am in total agreement with the following statements.

River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!

There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this issue. It is important to all of us who love nature and Moab.

Sincerely,
Helen A. Wilson
Saint George, UT

KaLeigh Welch

From: Sh6r6v4t9@aol.com
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 7:24 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Fwd: (no subject)

From: Sh6r6v4t9@aol.com
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Sent: 3/11/2015 7:22:25 P.M. Mountain Daylight Time
Subj: (no subject)

Please protect Moab and Labyrinth Canyon for future generations. Give Labyrinth Canyon wilderness designation . Close the atv and Jeep roads Hey Joe, Hell Roaring and Dead Cow/the Tubes. Thank You. Rabbi Howard Hoffman

KaLeigh Welch

From: ~RY~ [rymoran@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 7:31 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Recommendations to Representative Rob Bishop

To: Council Members

From: Ry Moran, Salt Lake City, 801-876-0290, and hoping to relocate to southern Utah

Subject: Recommendations to Representative Rob Bishop

We need to make Labyrinth Canyon a true wilderness. We need to close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County (it is not a sin to desire to be free of ATV noise for a little while).

KaLeigh Welch

From: Mimi Pribble Scott [ramamama2@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 7:38 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labryinth Canyon

Please delegate as Wilderness to preserve the beauty for generations to come

--

Mimi Pribble Scott CMT, RYT
970-564-0100 and 970-560-2890
www.amrityoga.org/mimipribblescott

"You are the creator. Whatever you think, that is what you create. and that is what you become"
Yogi Amrit Desai

KaLeigh Welch

From: Harvey Halpern [hhalpern1@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 7:39 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protect Moab's Wildlands

Dear People,

I first came to Moab by accident in 1974. Needless to say, the immense beauty and quiet wilderness that surrounded Moab 40 years ago acted as a magnet on me. I've returned to Utah nearly 40 times since then, often coming twice a year. I come for the beauty and the chance to experience solitude. PLEASE recommend designating the incredible Labyrinth Canyon as Wilderness. Those of us rafting or canoeing should not have to hear the roar of ORV's. To that end please close Hey Joe, Hell Roaring and Dead Cow ATV trails to motorized vehicles.

Please also act to protect the view shed of Arches national Park. - designate Wilderness in the La Sals and expand the proposed National Conservation Area 4 miles east of the Park.

Thank you for striving to bring me back year after to year to the wonder that is Moab and Canyon Country.

Sincerely,

Harvey Halpern
73 Tremont St
Cambridge, MA 02139

KaLeigh Welch

From: Nancy Klusman [odusty12002@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 7:43 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: wilderness

We come to your area at least once a year to enjoy the beauty and solitude. We would NOT enjoy sharing it with ORV's and hope you'll decide against their intrusion in this lovely place.

Bill & Nancy Klusman
Park City, UT

KaLeigh Welch

From: Nan Dalton [nan.dalton@icloud.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 7:43 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Noise pollution

I am writing to you because you may be making some important decisions regarding Labyrinth Canyon soon.

I took my first trip to Moab and surrounding areas in my early 20s and was astounded at the beauty of the area. For the last 30 years of my life I have chosen to return there again and again. I am a hiker because I love to inspect the plants, flowers, rocks and wildlife, and to gaze at the incredible blue skies and awesome vistas. One of the things I treasure most is the incredible sound of nature. The silence is deafening. You can almost hear God speaking. In my humble opinion.

Please don't take the gift of silence away from this noise polluted world. I urge you to keep motorized vehicles out of this treasured (and sacred to me) wilderness.

Respectfully yours,

Nan Dalton
Salt Lake City

Sent from my iPad

KaLeigh Welch

From: Kathy Slaughter [katslaughter@msn.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 7:45 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

On Monday please make the following recommendations to Representative Rob Bishop as part of the "Public Lands Initiative" bill.

Moab is the playground for many, many people in the Grand Junction, CO area. Moab, and Labyrinth Canyon in particular — needs true wilderness protection. **Quiet places need to be protected now and for future generations.**

Here's what the Grand County Council should do on Monday:

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. It is one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs**

When I head west to Moab and Labyrinth Canyon, I am longing for a desert experience -- the beauty and isolation that these areas are known for. Please keep them wild and improve the experience for future generations.

Kathy Slaughter
2990 1/2 Red Willow Drive
Grand Junction, CO 81504
512-228-228

KaLeigh Welch

From: Don Wilkerson [wilky@xmission.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 7:58 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative bill

Dear Council Members:

Please designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.

Please keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing 3 ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river.

Please close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County.

Thank you for considering these requests.

Sincerely,

Don Wilkerson
5780 Waterbury Way
Salt Lake City, UT 84121

KaLeigh Welch

From: Ellen And Adam [tschida@interfold.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 8:04 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Wilderness in garland county

Dear council,

I love the canyon country, and enjoy the fine businesses in Moab. I would spend more time and money there if there were more quiet places, free of the sounds of motors in the vicinity.

Please encourage protection of labyrinth canyon.

Ellen Tschida
635 Gillaspie Dr
Boulder CO 80305

KaLeigh Welch

From: Karl Jorgensen [kjorgens@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 8:05 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

Please protect the labyrinth canyon as wilderness, My family and friends have paddled through this spectacular canyon many times, it would be so much nicer to not have to hear atv and motorcycle engines roaring and echoing off the canyon walls, drowning the sounds of the canyon wren.

Thank you,

Karl

KaLeigh Welch

From: Dowellv [dowellv@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 8:08 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Forest service wilderness in Grand County

Dear Council members:

First, thank you for the important work you do balancing the needs and interests of your county, our state, as well as taxpayers and visitors from around the world.

Second, I am a 64-year old Utah native. Two weeks ago I had the opportunity to show my California son and his girlfriend the rich country in Arches NP--their idea, and the first time for both. We spent two days hiking, scrambling, strolling, watching, listening, snacking, just being together in those breathtaking, enormous vistas. I have not talked so little and yet felt so close to two people in my life.

Finally and most importantly, to protect and preserve areas like this in Grand County is an awesome responsibility--and opportunity. Roadless areas free from motorized vehicles cannot be created; they can only be saved. Uninterrupted views across dozens of miles of wild lands inspire and renew the human strengths our crowded cities are slowly eating away. I strongly encourage you to preserve what we still can so my son's children can one day experience the same humbling and moving beauty as I did with their dad. Thank you.

Most sincerely,
Valoree Dowell
Salt Lake City

Sent from my iPhone

KaLeigh Welch

From: Nick Lawman [nicknronia@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 8:13 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Wilderness designations

Please designate these beautiful areas as True Wilderness. Your council is in a position to save these areas from future destruction by your thoughtful destinations, and preserve our wilderness for now and forever. Please do not give in to those who would wreak havoc on one of the last vestiges of such pristine beauty and save it for future generations to marvel at. True Wilderness designation for Labyrinth canyon and river corridor, PLEASE Close the following trails to vehicle use:
HEY JOE, HELL ROARING, and DEAD COW / THE TUBES

Thank you on behalf of future generations Nick Lewman and Family

Sent from my iPad

KaLeigh Welch

From: Gordon D. Howe [gordon3218@fullsignal.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 8:15 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Keep Labyrinth Canyon open to OHVs

A short note to express my desire to retain motorized access as it has been in the past in Labyrinth Canyon as well as Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." I have been visiting these areas by Jeep occasionally for more than 40 years and would like to continue to do so. There is plenty of wilderness in South East Utah, as I visit it too.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincere regards,

Gordon Howe
298 Overland Drive
Jamestown, Colorado. 80455

KaLeigh Welch

From: Melanie [mtsoelberg@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 8:15 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Moab area

Dear Council Members,

As a frequent and lifelong visitor of your fabulous county, I would like to request that you help keep the areas around Moab amazing for all the visitors who love it there. First of all, please designate the incredible Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. There are so few places like it in the world, it would be a tragedy to allow it to be despoiled. Most importantly, please close the ATV trails that run down to the Green River. River rafters, hikers, and all nature lovers go to Moab to get away from the noise and bustle of city life-- they should not have to endure the roar of dirt-bikes and 4-wheelers along the banks of the Green River. Because there should be many areas where visitors can find peace and solitude near Moab, please also close down any infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness areas of Grand County.

You are so lucky to live in one of the most beautiful places in the world. Please go down in history as the council who helped keep Grand County a truly grand place to visit.

Sincerely,
Melanie Soelberg
4502 S Gilead Way
Salt Lake City, UT 84124

KaLeigh Welch

From: Alyssum Cohen [aljcohen@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 8:18 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protect Labyrinth Canyon and the La Sals

Dear Grand County Council,

I strongly encourage you to designate Labyrinth Canyon and riverway as true wilderness. It is such a special area, that I and many others enjoy visiting. Please help to maintain its serenity. Likewise the La Sal mountains are an amazing gem for this red rock canyon area. Please protect them and designate wilderness in those mountains outside of Moab. There are so many unique plants and animals and clean water that should be protected throughout this region. Thank you, and please think of all of us visitors when making your decisions on Monday.

Alyssum Cohen
Alta, Ut

KaLeigh Welch

From: Kathryn Jackson [kj_moab@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 8:24 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Cc: Fred.Ferguson@house.mail.gov,wade.garrett@house.mail.gov,kasey.snider@house.mail.gov
; dthinkins@le.utah.gov
Subject: The Farce of The Grand County Councils Public Lands Recommendations

SUWA, Grand Canyon Trust and The Sierra Club now rule Grand County by controlling a majority of votes on the County Council. These groups bought the votes with money, lies, and misinformation. The Kingmakers in this trio have purchased three new seats and control the Chair as well. No longer will residents in Grand County be heard if their views differ from these huge environmental groups. If you believe in a diversified economy there is no longer room for you in Grand County is the message the big three have their minions shouting to any form of media that will print or post. Protect, shut down, lock up, lock out every acre available in this County. They preach no development of any type unless it is development of a new National Park or a new wilderness designation.

Paid members of the big three are now writing letters attacking tourism for bringing too many folks to this area, attacking oil and gas for being unsightly, helicopters for creating too much noise and new businesses for changing the character of their newly found Nirvana. The message from the Kingmakers is let our new council hear your concerns so they can shut down any of that nasty progress.

Let there be no mistake, the recommendations you receive from the Grand County Council do not represent the views of long term conservative voters of this community. While the rest of the counties involved with this land bill effort are working to present the views of their citizens, we in Grand County have been hijacked. I sincerely hope you will take this into account as this effort moves forward in Congress.

Thank you,
Kathryn Jackson
35 year Grand County resident, lifelong resident and Seventh generation Utahan.

Sent from my iPad

KaLeigh Welch

From: Lisa Cenicerros [lisacenicerros@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 8:25 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Why national special interest groups and not your own constituents?

I have to assume that because I have not seen an email from the Council acknowledging my most recent email, that it was not received and so I will send it again. This message was originally sent via email on February 28, 2015.

I will not go quietly. I will fight every step of the way with every breath that I take. I am angry. I am not just angry, I am furious and outraged! Take note. This will not be the last that you hear from me.

To The New "Progressives" Sitting On The Council:

You have made it next to impossible for the residents that you supposedly represent to have any say on what the council ultimately recommends for the Bishop Land Initiative. Everyone knows that national and regional special interest groups paid for your campaign(s) and that you are now giving those national groups preference over the **RESIDENTS** that you were elected to represent.

Why is it that only one citizen and less than a handful of previously established local groups were allowed to present during the course of these workshops? (The Nature Conservancy, Public Land Solutions, The Pew Charitable Trusts, Grand Canyon Trust Utah, Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance, Sierra Club, National Parks Conservation Association, Moabites for Front-Country Conservation, Friends of the Book Cliffs and Beyond, Island in the Sky Working Group, Castle Valley & Moab Watersheds, Grand County Conservation District, Red Rock 4-Wheelers, Moab Friends for Wheeling, Moab Trails Alliance, Ride with Respect, and Curtis Wells) The "rules" that you created for presenting at the workshops are intimidating and made it impossible for regular citizens like myself to make a presentation and let my voice be heard. The 9 am scheduled time of these "workshops" deliberately gave preference to certain council members' schedules and purposely excluded working residents. It is our council members' duty to "work" for the **RESIDENTS** of Grand County, not national and regional special interest groups! **RESIDENTS** schedules should be of more importance! Residents' opinions should be the only opinions that the Grand County Council is concerned with!

At least the last Council asked to hear from Grand County residents. In fact, they specifically did not allow input from these national groups for a very simple reason; they wanted to hear from those who live here and would be most impacted by these congressional decisions. All of these national groups have opportunity and have had ample opportunity to present their input directly to the Congressmen and their representatives.

Our Council already heard from Grand County residents, and that input is now being ignored in favor of letting national environmental groups dictate what Grand County recommends to the Congress.

This is a deceptively and atrociously "orchestrated process" for "our" input into what **OUR** elected Council officials will recommend to the Congressmen. This will be presented to the Congressmen as "what Grand County residents want," when in fact it is not what Grand County **RESIDENTS** want at all!!! It's what national environmental groups want! The sitting council has lost all credibility. I am outraged! I am absolutely furious!

Furthermore, I do not support any wilderness designations on the western slope of the LaSal Mountains. Even though there may be small discrete areas of 5000 acres with no roads, the concept of wilderness in an area that is front country for our community and receives so much use, is illogical and flies in the face of the true character of wilderness. Additional wilderness on the north end of the LaSal's, congruent with our county's 1999 recommendation for the Beaver Creek drainage, is the only reasonable area for consideration of wilderness that would involve Forest Service lands.

I do not support creation of a special land designation watershed zone. We all want clean water. Current management plans of both BLM and the US Forest Service for this area provide more than adequate protection for our watershed, both eliminating industrial uses in the watershed. A special designation will ultimately lead to future restrictions on roads and trails, grazing, vegetation management to reduce fuels loads and potential for catastrophic wildfire, and impacts to development of private inholdings in this area.

We do not need any further expansion of Arches National Park. We appreciate our park and support it, but making it bigger serves no useful purpose. Arches NP has expanded at least six times in the past. Every time it's expanded, the park immediately starts looking for new areas to expand to. When does it stop? People come to Arches NP to view the arches, they do not care how big the park is. And again, BLM management plans on lands adjacent to the park provide protections that are adequate to protect the viewshed of Arches while still allowing for proper types of development.

I do not support the creation of any National Conservation Areas on any of these lands. NCA's are another type of designation that will ultimately result in long-term loss of roads and trail closures, and impacts to private land holdings. I support protection of our river corridors along the Colorado and Dolores rivers, but limited to the actual river corridors.

I would like to have a reasonable expectation of a balanced set of recommendations to our Congressmen on this issue coming from our Council. Creating layer upon layer of special land management designations and wilderness is anything but balanced, ultimately resulting in loss of any opportunity for responsible use of other natural resources in our area in addition to recreation and tourism.

Respectfully,

Lisa Ceniceros

KaLeigh Welch

From: John Knoblock [johnhknoblock@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 8:26 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon Wilderness Now

Council Members:

Please designate Labyrinth Canyon as Wilderness Area or as a Non-Motorized Area. This historic canyon is too quiet to allow motor vehicle access. Please!

Thank you-

*John Knoblock
801-274-0566
801-884-8987 cell
4475 S. Zarahemla Dr.
SLC UT 84124*

KaLeigh Welch

From: Ann Vernon [annfrickvernon@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 8:26 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Moab and surrounding lands

Dear Council,

For years we have traveled to Moab and the surrounding Canyonlands for the great peace, awesome vistas, the natural silence and a pure American wilderness experience. We can find this no where else in the West. What a most special place on the planet you must consider. I urge you to take great CARE to protect this experience like none other in the US. We must keep the mining and drilling industries out, they have forever changed places like Colorado and the front range. Labyrinth Canyon should be maintained as wilderness and the ATV and jeep trails there should be dismantled. The uniqueness is in the silence and the being of the rock cliffs as they have been for eons.

Thank you, Ann Vernon, PO Box 20620, Estes Park, Co. 80511

KaLeigh Welch

From: Donna M Jacobs [dmj528@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 8:27 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative Bill

Dear Grand County Council Members:

As a Utah hiker, camper, 4-wheeler, photographer, and unabashed Moab lover, I ask you to consider:

Protecting the indescribable wild beauty of southern Utah's geology, biology, botany; land, water, air, and skies (in Labyrinth Canyon);

Preserving the land by eliminating riverside trails (Green River banks); and

Closing rarely used access routes in the proposed wilderness of the eastern side of the county (particularly Westwater-Beaver Creek).

Within Utah's state borders, we are blessed with the abundant beauty of water-nurtured mountain vegetation and animals; the stark beauty of red rock formations with desert-nurtured plant and animal life. In southeastern Utah, we are blessed with a view of abstract beauty from our vantage on high, and from below, we are blessed in the natural landscape surrounding our bodies and senses. Devoid of smoke, exhaust, engine noises, sand raised and soil eroded by spinning tires, we are able to enjoy Utah's peace, solitude, and stunning beauty (just be careful of scorpions and cliff edges). I know you know first hand my description of Utah. Heck, you likely know it better and can describe it better too. Because we know what we have experienced, I ask you to please protect and preserve your corner of our glorious Utah. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Donna Jacobs

KaLeigh Welch

From: Rodney K Dalton [basicdrillingllc@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 8:31 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Concerned Member of Grand County Dist 1&9

As a member of district 1 & 9, I stand against everything my representative is doing.

The recommendations this Council is making are far beyond a balanced approach for Grand County relative to the Public Lands Initiative proposed by Congressman Bishop. Apparently this is what a land plan looks like when the Sierra Club, SUWA and the Grand Canyon Trust are in the majority of a County Council. There is nothing resembling balance with the massive lands lock ups you've proposed for wilderness, National Conservation Areas, National Recreation Areas, and watershed protection zones.

These will ultimately lead to loss of access with road and trail closures, and loss of access for other types of natural resource development so important to the long term health and diversity of our economy. Our economy and history were built on access to and use of all our resources. The roads built into our county are the very basis of our thriving recreation and tourism economy. It's difficult to understand why you now think restricting this access will be good for that economy.

Recommending wilderness in the eastern Bookcliffs, over areas of existing leases and roads in the middle of decade's old producing oil and gas fields, defies logic. Recommending wilderness in the entire eastern section of our county, which will shut down roads and trails used by the grazing industry for the last 150 years, and more recently by recreationists, defies logic. Recommending watershed protection areas without any hint of current or future threats to that watershed, defies logic. Recommending hundreds of thousands of acres for a National Conservation Area on all county lands east of Moab, which would straddle lands managed by two separate federal land management agencies, defies logic. Recommending hundreds of thousands of acres for a National Recreation Area in the western portion of our county, resulting in the shutting down a popular Jeep Safari route, and a trail in Ten Mile Canyon which has been used for hundreds of years with no apparent destruction of the canyon, defies logic.

So again, it's very apparent the majority of you are in fact not working for the benefit of all the citizens in this County, but rather just those citizens who work for and volunteer for the three extreme environmental organizations that seem to be in control of this County. This is a farce and an insult to the residents who have lived and worked here for generations. This will not go unnoticed. This could very well result in recall petitions, and boycotts of any businesses in the County who support such extreme measures.

We will now be forced to work with our legislative delegation and the Governor's office to bring some modicum of balance to what goes into the final Congressional proposal since it's apparent you're no longer working for the citizens of Grand County. We recognize the beauty of our lands and the value of our recreation and tourism industry and understand the need for a reasonable amount of conservation of some of the unroaded areas. But you've chosen to go far beyond that, to a point where it's highly likely there will be long-term effects on that industry by severely limiting access into areas our tourists come to see. And this in addition to virtually destroying our ability to access, use and supplement our economy with the responsible use of our other natural resources. You should be ashamed.

Concerned member of Grand County
- Rodney K Dalton

KaLeigh Welch

From: Kimberly Call [kcbountyboyz452@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 8:33 PM
To: undisclosed-recipients:
Subject: Grand County PLI Debate

Hello, Council and Congressmen.....

Some of us in Grand County are relative newcomers....transplants. Like me. I've never lived more than a year or two in one place, all my life, until I moved to this community. Now I can say I have 'roots' because I've lived here for more than twenty years and all my children, with the exception of the two still enrolled, have graduated from Grand County High School. For me, living in Grand County has been a new experience where I've watched other families' children grow up alongside mine. And I've watched those same kids start families of their own.

Unfortunately, those kids that I watch haven't been able to come back 'home' to begin their lives. They can't make a living here. In fact, it is a struggle for anyone to make the kind of living in this county where one can raise a family. I know that from personal experience. My husband, because we've chosen for me to stay at home to raise our children, has been compelled to work three and four jobs at a time to pay taxes, insurance, and for the high cost of food and fuel in this relatively isolated 'tourist town'. We've learned where the best thrift shops are to buy clothes for our kids and where to find discounted groceries....when gas is cheap, we travel out of Grand County to shop because it pays to go elsewhere to buy necessities for raising our family. And, to be honest, I've never seen all the sights nor visited the parks I hear people talking about, who've come from around the world to explore because I can't afford to go see them....I can't take the time away from scraping together a meager subsistence on the little wages we earn here. The people who come to recreate in our county must make alot more than we do or they couldn't afford to come here! And they must make, elsewhere, alot more than our kids could make here if they (our kids) wanted to come back home to live.

What continues to amaze me, as I've lived here these past twenty+ years, is the anti-prosperity mentality that seems to pervade some groups who've come into Grand County, not to live and invest in the community but to dictate policy to achieve their own 'agenda', an agenda, if pursued to it's completion, would bankrupt our county and force founding families out of the community they and many before them have built. These special interest groups....SUWA, Grand Canyon Trust, Sierra Club and the many, many environmental groups....are parasitic in the way they suck the life out of this town in the name of 'conservation, preservation, wilderness, NRA's, NCA's', giving nothing back but driving out any way to increase a tax base or pay for the many amenities and infrastructure the recreators enjoy here. These groups paralyze profits with lawsuits and lock-ups to the point where there can be no diversity in our economy....diversity that is desperately needed in order for teachers, families, our children to be able to come home to build this community.

This new county council, if the indicators are accurate, are going to submit a proposal to Congressmen Bishop and Chaffetz that will perpetuate the anti-prosperity agenda. They will propose more land grabs and wilderness, even support the creation of a monument in our area. They will want to control the water on the LaSals and all the recreation in this valley, if they can. They will eliminate resource development and the extraction industry and mining and grazing. They want everything their way or not at all. Why can't they leave things alone? Most everyone who lives here and is investing their very lives into this county likes things the way they are! Why aren't our congressmen fighting to keep things as they are here, fighting to repeal the Antiquities Act, taking the battle out of our county and to the White House? Our congressmen should stop making deals with these special interest groups and act like statesmen.

Thanks for your time....

Kim Call
Moab, Utah

KaLeigh Welch

From: Stasi York [stasi@growingmamas.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 8:39 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Quiet is important.

We have fallen in love with the wilderness that is the lands surrounding Moab. Our family- parents, kids, and grandparents, love hiking, mountain biking, and rafting.

Please,

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

Thank you so much for listening-

The York Family

KaLeigh Welch

From: Randy Rupp [randy.rupp@comcast.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 8:44 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Please protect Labyrinth Canyon

Council Members:

I have visited Labyrinth Canyon and the Red Rocks area many times. Please recognize the beauty and wonderful resource that you have. Please protect it as a wilderness area.

Thank you,
Randy Rupp

KaLeigh Welch

From: Chris Ward [zwiebelspaetzle@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 8:50 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

As an outdoors enthusiast and frequent visitor to the Moab area, I'd love to see the following recommendations from SUWA put forth regarding Labyrinth Canyon

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

Thanks,
Chris Ward
858 Montague Ave
Salt Lake City, UT 84104

KaLeigh Welch

From: dennis oreilly [dsjeep72@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 8:54 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: No wilderness closures

Dear Grand County Council and Representative Bob Bishop and Jason Chafetz,

We are writing to you to give our opinions on the upcoming County Council meeting regarding the counties proposals focusing on the Big Flat area of Grand County.

First and foremost we would request that you honor the work of the Big Flat Working Group. It was composed of a wide variety of the vested stakeholders in the area that worked very hard to craft a balanced plan for the area that worked for preservation, recreation, and mineral interests.

Secondly, please do not designate any wilderness in this section as this is an area of our most popular front country with large amounts of recreation and mineral development, and in all reality contains no wilderness type lands. One point that we would like to make is just because an area is beautiful, scenic, or out of the way, should not necessarily qualify it as a Wilderness Area. A perfect example of this is the Green River Corridor. There are several roads along the banks of the Green River including Hey Joe Canyon Trail, 10 Mile Wash, and Mineral Bottom. All these roads should be left open to allow others, besides rafters, to be able to access, and enjoy this area.

When you choose to designate Wilderness you take away the opportunity for those unable to hike, walk, or successfully navigate a multi-day rafting trip from seeing these areas; this essentially disallows an entire segment of our population from enjoying their public lands. Also, those people seeking "solitude" will have ample opportunity once they get downstream from mineral bottom, at that point they will essentially be completely on their own until they reach Lake Powell. We can't see how seeing an occasional off road vehicle or Mountain Bike could, or would be a detriment to their trip. We do support the Working Groups Recommendation to include a one mile buffer zone of no mineral leasing or development. This should provide more than adequate protection of scenery, and the desired quiet of river users.

Third, the BLMs 2008 Resource Management Plan does an excellent job of providing guidance on what types of activities are appropriate for this area, and as a result no new Wilderness, National Conservation Areas, or even Nation Recreation Area should be designated. Current BLM regulations are more than sufficient in this heavily visited area. Under no circumstances do we support any motorized or non-motorized roads or trails being shut down in this area.

Lastly, we want to see a significant area identified for a SITLA trade to provide for development of oil, gas, and potash resources. These will provided needed, full-time, year round, benefited positions that will promote the local economy, and provide good jobs for our local citizens. We feel that the oil and gas industry, as well as the potash extraction companies have proven they can extract their resources with minimal long term impact upon the environment while still being able to be profitable.

Thank you for your time and consideration, Dennis O'Reilly, Moab - Utah

KaLeigh Welch

From: kent green [kentgreenmoab@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 8:59 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: NO road closures please

To Grand County Council

It saddens me to think that you folks are in the business of closing roads and not even considering the thoughts and inputs of Moab and county residents. Let's look at the big picture here. The road to Hey Joe Canyon is an access to the Green River and a well established road for many many years. You say the river runners want solitude along that stretch of river you are only 5 miles above Mineral Canyon take out or put in for rafters and a air strip and along the White Rim area are you going to close the White Rim stretch that goes along the river also? Hey Joe Canyon road has only 3 miles of road along the side of the river why shut something down to people who visit the area in off road vehicles and OHV use. Is it because we chose to recreation a different way than you or they do so we are being punished for a different way of thinking? The same goes to 10 mile wash area why close the road down to folks who has an opportunity to see the Green River and the canyon area in a 4x4 so again being punished for our way to do recreation in a different manner not all of us can hike or mt bike because of physical conditions. you are locking out people who come to see our beautiful land who again can only use a 4x4 to access these areas because of physical ability ..I ask you have you done a impact study on the amount of damage the mt bike dose to this area? I can tell you that it is far worse than a 4x4 impact wise I am not against mt,biking but what is good for one should be good for all ..you have a personal agenda your personal feeling are in the way of seeing whats best for our community. what about folks in the tourist business who have permits in that area to do tours what will you tell them so sad so sorry?? are you going to reimburse them for the loss of income that pay for there family needs or do you even care? what about people who get hurt in these areas who pays for that how will you get them out since the roads are close you say oh the search and rescue can go get them but remember the roads need to be maintain to keep our rescue people safe right so why close the road just to satisfy only a few who do not live here.why are organizations allowed to comment on our land who dont even live here it should be only grand county residents only ..is it that you made promises to environmentalist groups who funded your campaign to get elected to county council and now your obligated to do what they want? I am against closing roads let us use the ones e have now so that all people can enjoy them not just the few selected ones. kent green

KaLeigh Welch

From: Sandy Dorr [sandydorr@bresnan.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 9:00 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

Dear Grand County Council Members,

Hello. I live in Grand Junction, and frequent Moab, and the canyons near it, both on a professional and personal basis. As a visit who brings groups of women writers to stay around Moab for retreats, I urge you to designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness; keep the river corridor quiet by closing ATV and jeep trails -- we as a group would never hike or go near the canyon with the roar of ATV's or jeeps on it -- and to please close the lesser-ussed roads in all proposed wilderness areas in Grand County.

Thank you and good luck with your decisions. It's beautiful country, and I hope to keep returning to it.

Sincerely,

Sandra Dorr

Owner, Women's Wilderness Writing

www.sandradorr.com

2529 Grand Overlook Drive

G.J., Co 81507



This email is free from viruses and malware because [avast! Antivirus](#) protection is active.

KaLeigh Welch

From: Mike Nederhouser [neder.sail@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 9:04 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Comments on Public Lands Bill

My name is Mike Nederhouser and I wanted to voice my opinion on the Public Lands Bill that is being put together for a future vote. I have been going to Moab for years and love the unique qualities of the landscape. Please keep certain areas as Wilderness and away from ATV's-such as Labyrinth Canyon. Too many places in the Moab area are set up for off roading and adrenaline style sports. Please keep this area quiet and wild!! Thank you for your consideration Mike Nederhouser Cell 891-880-3317

Sent from my iPhone

KaLeigh Welch

From: Russell Hurlbut [russhurlbut@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 9:05 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: True Wilderness Protection

The whole Moab area is so unique and beautiful. It deserves true wilderness protection.

For example, I believe you should do the following.

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

Please don't let the ATV crowd determine the future of the Moab area. They seem to have no respect for the area nor respect for future generations.

Thank you very much,

Russell Hurlbut
St George, Utah

KaLeigh Welch

From: Gary Fuller [gary@highergroundutah.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 9:15 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness

Please consider the ramifications of NOT protecting Labyrinth Canyon as Wilderness!

Thank you,

Gary Fuller

Salt Lake City, Utah 84108
801-631-2040 Cell
801-533-0244 Fax

KaLeigh Welch

From: Susie Johnston [susallenj@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 9:19 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Loving Moab

I grew up in Moab. I hate how it's changed but let's face it, it's not going back to what it was. I want to protect the land too but shutting down roads and designating huge swaths of land as wilderness areas doesn't work. All that does is keep people that are not physically fit, that are old, that are infirm, that are too young, etc. etc. from being able to enjoy these lands. It's discouraging to me that a new County Council that raged against the old County Council from being one sided would be so overwhelmingly one sided. There must be a way that the two sides of this issue can come together and reach agreement. Obviously, neither side is completely right. That means that you new members of the council are not completely right either and it would be nice if you would take the time to listen to the other side. People's lives, their jobs, and their enjoyment of the place they live in are at risk.

Having hundreds of thousands of acres for a National Conservation Area on all county lands east of Moab, between lands managed by two separate federal land management agencies is idiotic. Wanting hundreds of thousands of acres for a National Recreation Area in the western portion of our county, resulting in the shutting down of a popular Jeep Safari route and a trail in Ten Mile Canyon which has been used for hundreds of years with no apparent destruction of the canyon is completely ridiculous. So really, how many people boat down Labyrinth Canyon every year? I mean, come on, who are you pandering to? This area is for EVERYONE!!! Not just boaters, not just hikers, not just jeepers, not just bikers...I'm sure you get my point.

I would like to ask the County Council to listen to all the people in our County as that is who you are supposed to represent. Some of you were upset with the last council and claimed that they didn't listen to all sides. You act like you have a mandate to do what you want to do because you won the election. Most of you didn't win by many votes, which means that there is a large group of people that don't see things the way you do and apparently you don't care any more than you thought the old council cared about you. Where's the bipartisanship behavior? When are you going to listen to all sides and make fair decisions?

My dad grew up here. He will be 90 years old the end of this month. How is he going to be able to see some of these places that he grew up loving? How will you be able to see them when you're 90? Thanks for listening...

Susie Johnston

KaLeigh Welch

From: Tim Yanacheck [tyanacheck@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 9:26 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Dear Members of this Honorable Council:

I am writing from my home in Wisconsin. I am in the late stages of planning my annual visit to your beautiful landscape. Every year since 1998, I have visited many sites within Grand County, for recreation. I am primarily a dayhiker or backpacker, depending on whatever plan I put together. Moab has been my headquarters each year.

I am writing respectfully to urge the Council to do what you can to protect more of Grand County as a unique place for quietude, inspiration, and God's natural beauty. That's what my family and I come to your area for. (I am very happy to get out of Wisconsin 3 or 4 weeks a year to go for some peace and quiet in Utah; if I wanted to be exposed to motor noise instead of peace and quiet, I'd stay in Wisconsin: a very pretty place, for sure, but pestered with ATV's in the woods and motorboats on the lakes, not to mention the snowmobiles 3 or 4 months out of the year. It's not too late for Wisconsin to reclaim some of its natural past, but we don't anything here comparable to what you lucky folks have in your part of this great country.) Please throw your support behind "wilderness" designations for Labyrinth Canyon and in the La Sal Mountains.

I'm sure you know there are other actions you can take to preserve and expand roadless areas, too. I'd love to look you up someday soon and shake your hand in gratitude. I hope that will be this summer.

Yours truly,

Tim Yanacheck
5734 County Road D
Oregon, WI 53575

KaLeigh Welch

From: Tim Carlin [wtcpro@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 9:32 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

As an outdoor educator and consummate desert canyon backpacker, Labyrinth Canyon represents a place of solitude and wilderness experience that is vital to protect for generations to come. I currently have three children under age 7, who I hope can enjoy some of the amazing desert backpacking and rafting I've enjoyed without the constant disruption of motorized vehicles.

With all the current motorized access already available in Moab, what is the council's current perspective on the advantages of designating this area open use?

Sincerely,

Tim Carlin

Sent from my iPad

KaLeigh Welch

From: Belinda Ledbetter [moabelinda@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 9:33 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

Please recommend wilderness status for Labyrinth Canyon and keep it a place of quiet by closing the surrounding ATV and Jeep trails. We need quiet places for rafting and hiking.

Belinda Ledbetter

KaLeigh Welch

From: philip castle [15pcast15@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 9:35 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative

I commend all the individuals who have worked so hard and cooperatively to bring this bill to fruition; what a wonderful accomplishment! I also believe that there should be places, Labyrinth Canyon in particular, where visitors to Moab can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs. Please close the routes necessary to provide this solitude.

Thank you.

KaLeigh Welch

From: davidwilk@gmail.com on behalf of David Wilk [dave@lanewilkfamily.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 9:35 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Preserve wild moab

I believe that all land users should have their space and this includes the non-motorized visitors to moab. Please designate labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.

Thanks, David wilk

KaLeigh Welch

From: Aron Ralston [captainfunhog@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 9:43 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Please protect Labyrinth Canyon

To The Grand County Council:

As a frequent visitor to your region who has had the great pleasure of rafting Labyrinth Canyon, I'm writing to urge you to protect that river corridor and its precious wilderness. Please do everything in your power to support Congressional designation of Labyrinth Canyon as Wilderness, and keep it pristine until our federal government takes action. I'm aware that at your Council meeting last week, you recommended a 'no wilderness for Labyrinth' resolution. This flies in the face of its character and celebrated position as the epitome of desert-riparian wilderness. It is a national treasure and needs our stewardship to pass it on to future generations.

I further ask your support to close the ATV/jeep routes that run through sections of Hell Roaring, Dead Cow, and Hey Joe Canyons. Having hiked Hell Roaring and seen that sections of these 'routes' are not even trails, as well as having experienced the noise of revving motorbikes carrying down to the Green River (where it disrupts the experience of quiet recreationalists on the water), I agree with those who view motorized uses in these canyons as highly inappropriate.

As well, I urge you to shut down the disused motorized routes in your county that threaten proposed wilderness areas, particularly in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness out east. You've already recommended these areas as deserving of wilderness designation. Please take the step of closing motorized routes within the boundaries of these proposed regions. Visitors to Grand County -- and residents alike -- need places to get away from the noise of civilization and enjoy the sounds of nature without interruption by ATVs.

Sincerely,
Aron Ralston
Author, Adventurer, and Subject of '127 Hours'
928 Mapleton Ave.
Boulder, CO 80304

KaLeigh Welch

From: Gizial Livingston [allen_l_livingston@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 9:45 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon and ATV trails

To Whom it May Concern:

As a visitor to Moab on a regular basis, I appreciate the beauty and serenity that can be found in the myriad canyons surrounding the area; however, an ever increasing number of ORV's and ATV's are causing a great deal of noise pollution, trail erosion, destruction of cryptobiotic soils, and the marring of a wilderness experience. Labyrinth canyon in particular should be designated as wilderness and the ATV routes on its rim should be closed. Literally thousands of miles of ORV and ATV trails exist within Utah's Colorado Plateau. Closing some of these routes will lessen the environmental impact on sensitive species and allow those like myself to once again enjoy tranquility without listening to the whine of engines crisscrossing the country side. In addition, little used ATV routes on the borders of all wilderness areas within Grand County should also be closed.

Visitors to Moab who hike should have the same opportunity to enjoy a true wilderness experience as those who prefer motorized travel. Lately it seems that the majority of trails now in the area are frequented by motor vehicles. Closing these trails will not affect the ATV or ORV crowd since, as mentioned earlier, there is an abundance of trails they can use. Do what's best for Moab and designate Labyrinth Canyon as wilderness and close trails on the borders of designated and proposed wilderness areas.

Sincerely,

Allen Livingston
box 419
37 w center street
Huntington, Utah
84528
435-687-9508

KaLeigh Welch

From: Carleton DeTar [detar@physics.utah.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 10:07 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Council Recommendations for the Bishop Public Lands Initiative Bill

Dear Grand County Councillors,

We are Utah residents and a frequent visitors to Utah's canyon country, including scenic places in Grand County. We are 68 and 69 years old and still avid backpackers. Our adult children and their families also seek wilderness experiences in Grand County.

We understand the Council will be considering recommendations for wilderness designation and management to be included in Rob Bishop's Public Lands Initiative bill. We want to thank you for considering our comments.

Essentially, we are strongly in favor of wilderness designation.

(1) Labyrinth Canyon should be give wilderness protection. This is a spectacular place with opportunities for true quiet and solitude.

Rafters should not have to listen to the whine of ATVs. Roads running down into the canyon (Hey Joe Canyon Trail, Hell Roaring Rim Trail, Dead Cow/The Tubes trail and the Ten-Mile Wash Trail should be closed to motorized traffic.

(2) Please, also, close little-used routes in all proposed wilderness areas in Grand County, including in the Westwater-Beaver Creek wilderness.

Thank you,
Carleton DeTar
Laurel Casjens

KaLeigh Welch

From: Helen Sadik-Macdonald [helousa853211@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 10:55 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protect Labyrinth Canyon

Dear Moab City Council Members,

Please prevent environmental damage caused by motorized vehicles and protect Labyrinth Canyon! Protect your land for wildlife and foot traffic and keep your fragile desert the international destination it is. Tourism reaps benefits for years and years - why risk destroying it? We all know how damaging trails and two tracks are and how wide they become when they are churned into sand. Be proud of the majesty that draws visitors to your area and save it for future generations.

--

Helen Macdonald, Salt Lake City

KaLeigh Welch

From: Ian Wade [ianwade@adventuresafety.org]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 10:57 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Bishop Bill Recommendations

Dear Grand Count Council

As a frequent visitor to Moab over the last four decades I hope you will consider including the SUWA recommendations in your proposal on the Public Lands Initiative

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

Many Thanks,

IAN WADE
2846 COBBLEMOOR LANE
SANDY UT 84093-1916
USA

MOBILE: +1 801 560 1287

E-MAIL: IANWADE@ADVENTURESAFETY.ORG

KaLeigh Welch

From: Bev Wolf [Bev_Wolf@Comcast.net]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 11:32 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Please protect Labyrinth Canyon and the Moab area

To the Grand County Council:

I am writing you on behalf of myself and my husband, as Michigan residents who dearly love the wilderness of Utah. My husband and I first visited the National Parks in 1991 and then expanded our visits to surrounding wilderness.

These public lands are a treasure not only to our nation, but internationally as well. Every time we visit we run into tour groups from around the world; every time we talk to some of those visitors - from Italy, Japan, France, Germany, South Korea and others - they always say that they are there in Utah for the spectacular red rock wilderness and archaeological wonders because there is no other place like it in the world.

We are asking that you recognize the spectacular Labyrinth Canyon as the true and magnificent wilderness that it is. It deserves to be a place of solitude for all to enjoy, not despoiled by the whine of motorcycles and ATVs along the banks of the Green River.

We are asking that you follow the 'Daggett County model' and designate areas to be managed as roadless areas in the National Conservation Area and to expand the proposed National Conservation area several miles east of Arches. Additionally, we urge you to close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, particularly the eastern side of the county where the Westwater-Beaver Creek has been proposed as wilderness. There are over 17,000 miles of ATV trails in southeastern Utah, almost certainly more than any ATVer would ever use.

The La Sal mountains also deserve to have a wilderness designation. We admire them from Arches, from Dead Horse State Park, and the beautiful wilderness to the east of Moab. When the La Sals first come into view from along the Colorado River while driving down 128 from the Interstate to Moab, our breath is always taken away by the sheer, unadulterated beauty of that landscape.

Again, as Michiganders and two of the millions of 'owners' of federal public land, we most sincerely and urgently request that you protect Labyrinth Canyon and the Moab area. Not only do people from all over the country come as tourists to these special places, but from all over the world. All visitors bring economic benefits with them - to outfitters, restaurants, hotels and motels, etc.

We expect that you want your children's children and their children's children to be able to share in the beauty, the archaeological treasures, and the solitude of these special public places. Please take the appropriate protective actions.

Thank you for your consideration.

Beverly and David Wolf
3800 Reseda Ct
Waterford, MI 48329

-

KaLeigh Welch

From: HOWARD COOK [desrivrat@msn.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2015 11:33 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth canyon

Council members,

PLEASE designate Labyrinth canyon as a true wilderness and keep the river corridor quite and in its natural state.

I have done numerous float trips down Cataract canyon and the beautiful scenery and solitude in Labyrinth canyon are unparalleled anywhere in the west!!!

Do the right thing and protect the canyon for future generations with wilderness designation and protection!

Thank you,

Howard Cook. SLC

Sent from my iPhone

KaLeigh Welch

From: Greg West [gregory.i.west@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 12:02 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Please keep Moab reasonable

Council Members,

I love visiting and recreating in and around Moab and Labyrinth Canyon. I feel that Moab is already a too overrun with motorized vehicles. It's enough of a deterrent to me that I would visit Moab more often if there were less ATV traffic. Moab is already incredible popular, and noisy, and will no doubt continue to becoming increasingly so. It is important for us to take steps now to limit ATV use in select areas, so that non-motorized users have a few more options for peace and quite. There's already an incredible amount of land and trails available to ATVs around and outside of Moab.

-Please designate Labyrinth Canyon as Wilderness.

-Please close ATV and jeep trails in the canyon that run down to the river. The noisy machines really ruin the experience for so many around the area.

-Please close infrequently used routes in the proposed Grand County wilderness area.

Thank you,
Greg West
Salt Lake City, UT

KaLeigh Welch

From: Bernhard Schweitzer [B.Schweitzer@t-online.de]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 12:58 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth canyon

dear members of the council

as a longtime and moretimes vistitor of your great natural Region please:

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth – despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.

- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and “Dead Cow/The Tubes.” River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!

- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!

hope you will take care for this incredibla landscape and please protect it and don`t let it be destroyed by stupid noise and trash making ATVS

your sincerly

Bernhard Schweitzer

www.puzzlewood.de

KaLeigh Welch

From: Patrick [patricksewell_1@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 3:06 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Stop and Think...

Dear Councilmen,

Please consider the splendor, beauty, and natural utility of this wonderful place before you senselessly put it on the chopping block for special interest groups who constantly salivate at the chance to make a quick buck off its natural resources... Some things are worth their weight in gold, and last time I checked, red rock and river ways are worth way more than natural gas.... Do the right thing here. Your soul, your children, this planet, our rivers, and our way of life will thank you...

Sincerely,
Pat Sewell

PS- Please don't let us down!

PPS- Seriously, please don't let us down....

KaLeigh Welch

From: Jim Bricker [pivot777777@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 4:45 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Keeping Moab and Labyrinth Canyon

Dear Grand County Council members:

My wife and I visit Moab and Labyrinth canyon often and have grown to love the area as no other. This area needs true wilderness protection and that quiet places need to be protected for future generations. Please keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down the river. Also please designate Labyrinth Canyon, one of the crown jewels of wilderness, as true wilderness.

Sincerely, Jim Bricker, Cheboygan, Michigan

KaLeigh Welch

From: Robert E. Rutkowski [r_e_rutkowski@att.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 5:43 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: "Public Lands Initiative" bill

Grand County Council, Moab, Utah
council@grandcountyutah.net

Re: "Public Lands Initiative" bill

This Monday, March 16th, the Council in Moab, Utah is going to be putting the finishing touches on its recommendations to Representative Rob Bishop as part of the "Public Lands Initiative" bill.

What they decide is going to have a direct impact on what Moab is like in the years to come.

Moab — and Labyrinth Canyon in particular — need true wilderness protection. Quiet places need to be protected now and for future generations.

Here's what the Grand County Council should do:

Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West. The Council should designate as wilderness all areas it is proposing as "No Surface Occupancy."

Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes" in addition to Ten Mile Wash. River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!

Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek wilderness. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. There should be places where locals and visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!

Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains. Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service Wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The Council should recommended protecting the mountains that form our watershed.

Protect the Arches view shed by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of Arches National Park.

Designate the Fisher Towers and Mary Jane areas with the proposed NCA to be managed as roadless areas, following the Daggett County model and as already approved by our Congressional delegation.

The ORV lobby is already bombarding the Council with emails from around the region. The Council needs to create some balance by closing routes and protecting the quiet areas of Moab!

Thank you for the opportunity to bring these remarks to your attention.

Yours sincerely,
Robert E. Rutkowski

2527 Faxon Court
Topeka, Kansas 66605-2086, USA
P/F: 1 785 379-9671
E-mail: r_e_rutkowski@att.net

KaLeigh Welch

From: Torsten Lyon [torstenlyon@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 7:02 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Recommendations for the "Public Lands Initiative" bill

As a frequent visitor to Moab and the surrounding areas, I urge you to please recommend full Wilderness protection for Labyrinth Canyon. This canyon is special and its attraction for non-motorized recreation (and associated long term source of tourism) can be secured only through Wilderness protection.

I feel that it is particularly important to close existing ATV and jeep trails that access the river: Dead Cow, Hell Roaring and Hey Joe.

Thank you.
Torsten Lyon

KaLeigh Welch

From: Kristi and Mark [zephyr@xmission.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 7:12 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public lands initiative bill

Hello,

We live to your north in Summit County and love to visit your area. We are hikers, campers, bikers, and river runners.

Moab — and Labyrinth Canyon in particular — needs true wilderness protection and that **quiet places need to be protected now and for future generations**. Please consider these recommendations.....

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. You have already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but please close routes within the boundaries. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

Thanks very much for taking the time to read this

Mark Saurer and Kristi Jahn
Park City UT

KaLeigh Welch

From: Larry Ribnick [larry704@sopris.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 7:36 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: "Public Lands Initiative" bill

Dear Grand County Council:

I am a frequent visitor of Moab and the surrounding natural areas. I would hope you would recommend to Representative Rob Bishop to keep these areas worth visiting by:

- Designating Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keeping the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- Closing infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

Thank you for considering these recommendations to keep Moab a destination for many folks like myself.

Sincerely,

Larry Ribnick
38741 Indian Head Lane
Crawford, CO 81415
970-921-5370
larry704@sopris.net

"The good life is one inspired by love and guided by knowledge." --Bertrand Russell

KaLeigh Welch

From: JULIE MCKOWN [juliemckown@msn.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 8:01 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Cyn, Stillwater

Please leave it alone. Don't buckle to money, once it's gone you won't get it back.

Julie McKown
Flanigan's Villas
Zion Nat. Park
Springdale UT
435-632-0798
info@FlanigansVillas.com

KaLeigh Welch

From: A Keller: Keltek [Akeller@keltektool.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 8:19 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Please protect Labyrinth Canyon

Dear Council,

We are leaving roads and human development on our lands at an alarming rate that will guarantee that future generations won't have the quality of life that we have. We need to go out of our way to completely protect very special places from our own human damage!

Labyrinth Canyon should have wilderness protection! We shouldn't feel that we are entitled to use motorized vehicles everywhere they can go!

Thank you!
Annette Keller

Annette Keller
AKeller@KeltekTool.com
Keltek Specialty Tool Design & Mfr., Inc.
Phone: 970-925-4039
FAX: 970-925-6929

KaLeigh Welch

From: Mimi Pritchett-Louiso [lakotaravenstar@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 8:22 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net

Why do humans feel the need to destroy ecosystems for all other living beings? Greed.

I don't know why you feel the need to mess with mother nature. I go recharge in the Canyonlands. I live near the greatest canyon of all in AZ. I can't imagine ATV and noise that scares nature and rattles my brain. I go for resplendent beauty and the quiet to hear nature. There is nothing more disgusting than to see potash at Dead Horse.

Leave sacred places alone. Nature needs to be protected and not exploited. I wished I was John Muir where I could have seen thousands more giant Sequoias than exist today. I'm pissed what loggers did a century ago. Let's not do the same to future generations in Canyonlands. And NO Fracking!

KaLeigh Welch

From: Mikel Love [mikelfrancisco@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 8:28 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: labrynth caynon

My family has been long time lovers of the winderness areas surrounding the the Moab area. I hold a speacial place in my heart for the labrynth caynon area. I urge you to designate this area as a true wilderness area and not allow pwered vehicles. The peace, solitude, and sheer awe-inspiring beauty of the utah desert are somehow changed, not for the better, when you hear the engine roaring and are left with a quaff of fumes in your face. Please vote to preserve this amazing place by keeping powered vehicles out of the area.

Mikel Love
Durango, CO

KaLeigh Welch

From: Carol Mayer [mtwcarol440@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 8:36 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: PLI

Next week you will be finalizing your recommendations for Rep. Bishop's Public Land Initiative. As a resident of Grand County, I want to appraise you of my desires for that recommendation:

- 1) Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.
- 2) Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river.
- 3) Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek wilderness.
- 4) Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.
- 5) Protect the Arches view shet by expanding the proposed NCA 4 miles east of Arches National Park.
- 6) Designate the Fisher Towers and Mary Jane areas with the proposed NCA to be managed as roadless areas.

Thank-you,
Carol Mayer
444 Rosetree Lane
Moab

KaLeigh Welch

From: Randy Smith [rs.captgravity@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 8:40 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Moab and Labyrinth

Please designate Wilderness protection. We need quiet times once in awhile. Thank you , Randy

Sent from my iPad

KaLeigh Welch

From: Lee Gelatt [leegelatt@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 8:41 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protect Labyrinth Canyon

Dear Grand County Council,

I frequently travel to your county to recreate and I hope you vote to protect the quiet beauty there.

Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." Those of us who use the river in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!

Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County.

Thank you,
Lee Gelatt
Grand Junction, CO

KaLeigh Welch

From: Mike Cockrell [boilerman1234@me.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 8:48 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Re: Public Lands Initiative, Rep. Bishop

Council Members,

I have travelled around Utah for many years, exploring the quiet resources found on public lands.

I frequently spend my recreation money in Utah towns, supporting the local communities.

On Monday March 16, 2015 meeting I urge you to support quiet use of public lands by recommending designation of Labyrinth Canyon as Wilderness -- this canyon still retains characteristics that warrant this recommendation.

I urge you to keep Labyrinth Canyon corridor quiet by closing motorized trails to the Green River.

I also request you support closing of various motorized trails in all proposed Wilderness throughout Grand County, in particular those within Westwater Beaver Creek proposed wilderness.

I believe Quiet Recreation the best opportunity for economic sustainability in the long-term for communities in Grand County.

Thank you for your consideration,

Mike Cockrell
Silverthorne CO

KaLeigh Welch

From: David Kizer [dkizer21@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 8:51 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

Dear Grand County Council,

I am writing to encourage you to preserve Labyrinth Canyon from ATV usage. As a frequent visitor to Grand County and rafter of Labyrinth Canyon I understand the beauty of the area. It would be such a shame to have the noise of ATV use along Labyrinth Canyon continue. Grand County already boasts a large network of ATV use areas, Labyrinth Canyon should be excluded from this activity. Below are some additional points on the matter. Please let me know how you vote on the issue.

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

KaLeigh Welch

From: Dick Walter [dickwalter56@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 8:55 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Grand County Bishop Process

3/12/15

Dear Council;

I believe you have been doing a great job, but have fallen short in a couple areas.

In Labryinth:

— Designate the areas it is calling "NSOs" as true wilderness. They are not the same thing. The road density in the Labyrinth area is way too high. Designating wilderness here would close a small percentage of the unused or redundant roads and move us toward a more balanced travel plan.

— Prohibit potash leasing and development. Scenery and recreation should take precedence over fertilizer.

--Close the roads along the river, cherry stem some of the jeep routes to the river.

East of 191:

— Expand the NCA to protect the Arches view shed. This means moving the NCA boundary about four miles to the east.

— Designate areas to be managed as roadless areas within the NCA, following Daggett County model and as already approved by our Congressional delegation

— Designate Class Bs and cherry stem popular class D roads, and close the rest. Class D roads are usually unmaintained routes that are mostly relicts left from old mining exploration or old seismic explorations.

There needs to be some quiet places where we can go to get away from roads and vehicle noise. I believe the biggest threat here is the industrialization with potash and oil development. The noise, traffic and pollution associated with this far outweighs jeep travel.

Thank you for your consideration.

Dick Walter

Canyonlands Backcounty Horsemen

KaLeigh Welch

From: Mark Broughton [mbroughton@xmission.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 9:02 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Green River Corridor

Dear Grand County Council Members

When you consider wilderness plans for areas along the Green River and Colorado River in Grand County I hope you will agree that this area is especially dear and rare to many people of many nationalities but most especially to Utahans and that the area should be protected in a manner that preserves it in the most natural state will be best for all. I would prefer to see more wilderness in Souther Utah to insure quiet natural areas.

Sent from my iPad
Mark Broughton

KaLeigh Welch

From: SkiCopMtn@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 9:08 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: PLEASE protect the peace and quiet of the Grand County and the Moab area

Dear Council Member,

PLEASE protect the peace and quiet of the Grand County and the Moab area!

So much of our wilderness has already been ruined by development, drilling, pollution, and logging.
Enough is enough!

The wilderness is supposed to be a place of peace and quiet for us, and the wildlife which live in it!

The animals are running out of places to live and be safe. Our wildlife are under threat from so many angles. They desperately need to be protected, mainly from humans.

Life is hard enough for people, let alone the animals.

Can't we please offer them some much needed help?!

PLEASE save the Grand County and the Moab area wilderness for all future generations before it is permanently ruined. Some damage cannot be undone!

The Grand County Council should do the following on Monday:

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
JAKE HODIE
Aspen, Colorado

KaLeigh Welch

From: John Anderson [john@appmagic.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 9:14 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Recommendations for the "Public Lands Initiative" bill

Hi:

I love the Moab area and want to encourage you to preserve the area against overuse.

I'd like to recommend that you designate Labyrinth Canyon as wilderness for the benefit of future generations.

Also, you should close ATV trails that run into the river.

Thanks,
John Anderson

KaLeigh Welch

From: ellen jenkins [ellenjenkins@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 9:16 AM
To: Council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: wilderness

Please keep something for everyone in grand county.this includes labyrinth canyon the best for the river people. Between atvs and oil rigs there is plenty of space used so I want some space to seek out quiet and solitude and some land needs to be preserved for the future generations. Atvs get more all of the time so preserving smaller part els as wilderness seems the right thing to do
Ellen Jenkins

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

KaLeigh Welch

From: Daniel Carolan [dmcarolan@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 9:22 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

To Whom it May Concern-

I support designation of wilderness areas in places like Labyrinth Canyon to protect the fragility and beauty of Utah's great deserts, and for the enjoyment and benefit of the citizens of the U.S. This means limiting motorized activity. I am a frequent visitor to Moab and think it much better use, aesthetically and economically, to preserve these areas. Thank you.

--

Daniel Carolan
North Logan, UT

KaLeigh Welch

From: Ron Singleton [ronpaul44@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 9:26 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

As a regular Moab area visitor from western Colorado, I am a man who deeply values the solace and solitude of the few wild and quiet places remaining in the west. Labyrinth Canyon deserves wilderness designation and the three jeep/ATV trails: Hey Joe, He'll Roaring, and Dead Cow, should be closed to motorized traffic. Thank you for your consideration.

Ron Singleton
Delta, Colorado

Sent from my iPad

KaLeigh Welch

From: D Kewman [dkewman@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 9:31 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Please recommend that Labyrinth Canyon be designated Wilderness

Dear Grand County Council: I am a senior citizen and visitor to your beautiful area who hikes, stays in motels and visits your wonderful restaurants. I hope that you will recommend that wilderness be desegated in the La Sal Mountains, particularly Labyrinth Canyon. These sacred places are meant to be enjoyed in quiet and solitude. Close the infrequently used roads and restrict vehicle use so that we can continue to enjoy them as our ancestors did. Sincerely, Don

--

Don Kewman PhD, ABPP
12960 Woolman Lane
Nevada City, CA 95959
530-272-3736

KaLeigh Welch

From: pmbsumek@comcast.net
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 9:33 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Wilderness

Please designate and protect wilderness in Southern Utah.

Designate **Labrynth Canyon** as true wilderness

CLose Trails to ATV transportaion : **Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, Dead Cow**

Preserve **Westwater** as Wilderness

We as citizens of the great state of Utah, our children and grandchildren are grateful for your consideration and vote that protects our beautiful lands

Regards

Peter/Maria Bsumek
2325 Nantucket Drive
Salt Lake City, Utah 84121

KaLeigh Welch

From: PHILIP FEIGIN [walkerfeigin@msn.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 9:35 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Comments on "Public Lands Initiative"

I am writing to share my views of the "Public Lands Initiative" bill.

I live to spend my free time the unique wild places of the Southwest, including Moab and its stunning Labyrinth Canyon. This Canyon needs true wilderness protection. These special quiet places need to be protected now and for future generations. It is a Crown Jewel in Utah's great outdoor spaces and will attract much more tourism dollars as a wilderness.

I also ask that you:

- close the three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: River rafters in Labyrinth should not have to listen to the whine of or smell the motorcycles along the banks of the Green River.
- protect the Arches viewscape by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of Arches National Park.
- designate areas to be managed as roadless areas within the NCA, following the "Daggett County" model that has already been approved by Utah's Congressional delegation.
- close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds and smells of ATVs.
- designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains. Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service Wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero.
- protect the mountains that frame Delicate Arch as wilderness.

Thank you for considering my views.

Barbara Walker

Morrison, Colorado

KaLeigh Welch

From: mary martin [mnm503@icloud.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 9:41 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

I am asking you to take action to protect this area. I work seasonally at Zion National Park.

I'm in Moab now visiting Arches and Canyonlands. I have been here two days - this is my third. Not enough time to truly appreciate the majestic beauty surrounding me. I will return here with more time. I am a hiker and definitely see the need to protect this amazing area.
Mary Nancy Martin

KaLeigh Welch

From: Chris Roberts [chris.roberts@nebo.edu]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 9:45 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Plans for Labyrinth Canyon

Dear Members of the Grand County Council,

As a river runner and a frequent visitor to Grand County I would like to add my endorsement to designating Labyrinth Canyon as wilderness. I am a volunteer leader with Wilderness Volunteers and I am actually leading an alternative spring break for university students from the Chicago area from March 21 through March 28 into Labyrinth Canyon. We will be going down river with BLM personnel to work on a trail that gets a lot of use and needs some help. Part of the reason my family, friends and I run rivers is to get away from all the noise and business of normal life and to dwell in the silence and quiet sounds of nature. We don't enjoy the sounds of ATV's that come down close to the river. Off road vehicles have thousands of miles of trails dedicated for their use; they don't need to run their vehicles in areas such as Labyrinth Canyon. I would hope that as you deliberate on this matter that you will recognize the importance of serving all citizens and that there are many of us who love southern Utah for its beauty and not just for a chance to run our ATVs all over.

Thank you for considering my, and others like me, point of view on this matter.

Chris Roberts
Springville, Utah

KaLeigh Welch

From: Clint Nagel [clint_nagel@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 9:45 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protection of the Greater Canyonland ecosystem

My wife and I have been to Utah many times. It is not only a beautiful state, but a state that offers a spiritual component which is locked up within its landforms. There is no where like it, perhaps on earth. You folks have the potential to help preserve these scenic vistas and lands for future generations. And these are generations which will keep coming to vacation, play and get lost in the history and spirituality of the canyons and mountains. Trust me when I say that these lands will continue to be your "calling card" to Utah.

As a result you have an opportunity to get this right. Therefore I urge you to:

- 1.) designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness,
- 2.) close the three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes."
- 3.) protect the Arches viewscape by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of Arches National Park.
- 4.) designate areas to be managed as roadless areas within the NCA, following the "Daggett County" model that has already been approved by your Congressional delegation.
- 5.) close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county.
- 6.) Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains. These mountains offer a spectacular setting to Delicate Arch as well as many other features of Arches National Park as well as the area as a whole. The fact that Grand County Council has recommended no lands as wilderness really offers a short sided approach. Other counties in this process have recommended wilderness protection, so there is a need and a desire.

My wife and I will be back to your beautiful state again, Lord willing so please make it worth our while to come visit.

KaLeigh Welch

From: Ramona Holt [ramona@christmasforest.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 9:47 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: save Labyrinth Canyon

Please designate Labyrinth Canyon as wilderness. It is important to save and protect this canyon area.

All the Best,
Ramona

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1-800-637-9627
<http://www.christmasforest.com>



If you do not wish to receive further mailings from Christmas Forest, please reply with the word STOP in the subject. We will honor your request immediately.

KaLeigh Welch

From: Donita ENRIGHT [donitaenright@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 9:48 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Grand county Council actions

here's what the Grand County Council needs to do on Monday:

Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.

At last week's council meeting, the council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth -- despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.

Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet

Close the three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!

Protect the Arches viewscape by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of Arches National Park.

Designate areas to be managed as roadless areas within the NCA, following the "Daggett County" model that has already been approved by our Congressional delegation.

Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!

Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.

Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service Wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The council should recommended protecting the mountains that frame Delicate Arch as wilderness

Thank you, Donita Enright

Concerned hiker and skier

KaLeigh Welch

From: ramona@ornaments.com
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 9:49 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

Please save and protect the Labyrinth Canyon by designating it as wilderness.

Best regards!

Ramona



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If you do not wish to receive further mailings from Ornaments.com, please reply with the word STOP in the subject. we will honor your request immediately.

KaLeigh Welch

From: DAVID PROFFITT [david_proffitt@mac.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 9:49 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protect Labyrinth Canyon

As a hiker, camper, rafter and frequent visitor to Moab, I ask you preserve the peace of Labyrinth Canyon by providing it with real wilderness protection. OHV use in the canyon is not compatible with the experience that so many come to Moab for. (Need I mention the money that people spend while seeking solitude and taking in the splendor of Grand County's wild landscapes?) There are plenty of other places for OHV use in Grand County. They don't need access everywhere.

This is a decision you get to make only one chance to get right. Once a place is ruined, it is ruined forever.

Sincerely,

David Proffitt
Salt Lake City

KaLeigh Welch

From: Rebecca M Summer [becsummer@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 9:50 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

We live in western New Mexico not far from Moab. We are frequent hikers and bicyclers that frequent the Moab area. Please know that you have a very special place or true wilderness and beauty. Please preserve Labyrinth Canyon, a unique place.

Please know that quiet places need to be protected now and for future generations.

Thank you

Rebecca M Summer
Richard Ducotey
Silver City, NM

KaLeigh Welch

From: Bob Brister [bbrister@wildearthguardians.org]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 9:52 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

Dear Council members,

I live Salt Lake City but travel to Grand County frequently for recreation in your wonderful landscape. I am disappointed that you have not recommended wilderness designation for Labyrinth Canyon and La Sal Mountain. Wilderness, de facto or designated, is what draws me and many tourists to spend money in Grand County. Don't kill the goose that lays the golden egg. The more protected landscape you have the better.

Sincerely,

Bob Brister

Salt Lake City, UT



This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.

www.avast.com

KaLeigh Welch

From: diane nowicki [dianenow2004@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 9:54 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness

My greatest hope and prayer: Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.

Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet

Close the three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!

Protect the Arches viewscape by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of Arches National Park.

Designate areas to be managed as roadless areas within the NCA, following the "Daggett County" model that has already been approved by our Congressional delegation.

Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!

Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.

Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service Wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The council should recommended protecting the mountains that frame Delicate Arch as wilderness.

Thank you. I don't live in Moab, but it's my soul's true home, and I wish for the preservation of Labyrinth Canyon as I do for the future health and happiness of Moab's residents. Respectfully, Diane Nowicki

KaLeigh Welch

From: Gary Grappo [grappoga2@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 9:59 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Please Protect Labyrinth Canyon and the Great Spectacles of Grand County

Dear Council Members:

This Monday, the Grand County Council will meet to decide the fate of Labyrinth Canyon and other extraordinarily unique areas of the Moab region. I am writing to urge you to protect these special places, designating them as protected wilderness areas that would be off-limits to motorized vehicles.

Specifically, I am asking that you:

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. It is one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing the ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have their experience spoiled by the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River.
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. I commend the Council for already recommending protecting these areas as wilderness, but routes within the boundaries should be closed as well. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and escape the roads and the sounds of ATVs.

I live in neighboring Colorado but visit the Moab region 2-3 times a year. (And I spend a fair amount of money when I do!) Moab is special not only for me but for the millions of other backpackers, campers, hikers, rafters and just sightseers who come from all over the world to see what cannot be seen anywhere else, the stunning and irreplaceable Red Rocks country of Moab.

As someone who has lived in more than a dozen countries around the world, I am proud that we, more than any other nation in the world, decide to protect and preserve the many unique areas of natural beauty with which we are blessed and that help define America. Places like Labyrinth as well as others in Grand County rank with the Grand Canyon, Yellowstone, Yosemite, the Smoky Mountains and the other gems of America. It is truly one of America's great natural treasures. I ask that you please preserve and protect it for us and the millions who will come after us.

Respectfully,

GARY A. GRAPPO
AMBASSADOR (RETIRED)
970-485-1699

KaLeigh Welch

From: Peter Mackie [petermackie@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 9:59 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protect Labyrinth Canyon

Grand County Council: I am not a Utah citizen. I am a Colorado citizen who has visited your area many times in my life and would like you all to know that I strongly support protection of Labyrinth Canyon, including designation of the area as wilderness. You should know that I support similar protections in my home state only for areas that must be preserved.

I will continue to support efforts to protect special areas such as Labyrinth Canyon and continue to visit your state as long as such areas are protected. Thank you.

Peter Mackie

KaLeigh Welch

From: Vicky Ramakka [vickyr@gobrainstorm.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 10:01 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Coming to Moab this May

To Grand County Council,

I have visited Moab and Arches National Park several times over the last 30 years. The town has changed tremendously and it must be a challenge for Grand County leaders to guide its growth and future. The main thing I encourage is to keep much of the area's natural beauty. Make the most spectacular areas, such as Labyrinth Canyon, a place for quiet hiking. Arches is my favorite place to visit above all my travels to other continents. Keep its viewscape by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area. This is essential to keeping Arches National Park a destination for world travelers.

It is important to designate areas for OHV use, as a range of recreational opportunities is important to support the economic development of Grant County. However, there are other locations in the United States that cater to OHV usage. There is only one area with the scenic resources of Grant County to attract hikers and mountain bikers. Limit areas for OHV use with their concurrent noise and greater impact on the land. Keep Gand County's greatest asset unique in order to maintain its attractiveness for quiet-seeking recreationists for decades to come.

Thank you for your consideration,

Vicky Ramakka
#69 Road 2785
Aztec, New Mexico 87410
505-334-6140
vickyr@gobrainstorm.net

Let your capital be simplicity and contentment. - Henry David Thoreau, naturalist and author (1817-1862).

KaLeigh Welch

From: John Higgins [jwhiggins62@comcast.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 10:02 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

Dear Council members,

A few years ago my wife and I rented a canoe and spent 5 days slowly cruising from Green River, Ut to Mineral Bottom, through Labyrinth Canyon. We used this trip to celebrate a wedding anniversary. It was the perfect escape, with delightful camping, interesting side trips and rejuvenating peacefulness. That is except for a few ATV's whining along an old river-side mining road.

This section of river may not be as exciting or as spectacular as others, but it requires a low level of skill and fitness to access by canoe, and is one of the few places to really get away from the noise of civilization in Utah. Your best efforts to protect and preserve this area, and to have it accessible only by human powered vehicles (mountain bikes, watercraft) or on foot would be greatly appreciated by many.

Sincerely

John Higgins, Ut.

KaLeigh Welch

From: Lynne McGee [lmcgeeis@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 10:11 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: PLI bill

As one who cherishes time spent in the out of doors, I urge you to consider the following;

Designate Labyrinth Canyon a wilderness area

Keep the river corridor there quiet by closing ATV and Jeep trails

Designate the area that frames Delicate Arch a wilderness area.

Thank you,

Lynne McGee

KaLeigh Welch

From: Stanley Prueitt [PrueittSD@ldschurch.org]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 10:12 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Serious misleading concern

Greetings,

I am concerned about a very misleading initiative and marketing campaign (posters and such) that shows Monster Trucks destroying Areas like Fisher Tower. Those areas are not motorized already and this misleading propaganda from a more radical environmental group tries to pontificate on protection of an area with gross over hyperization and sensationalism. I hope that the council can see through this rouse and realize their true agenda is more about control and denial of the people to public lands and parks than real environmental protection.

Trust me on this, I am the president of a Wildlife Refuge and I care about our environment, but I know we need to balance protection in moderation with the rights of access of the people to enjoy our lands. There are better approaches than closing or banning people from these areas. Allowing people to access these areas with reasonable OHV and Jeeps, or bikes, or by foot allows true access to all both physically fit and handicapped, old and young.

Please don't fall for this ignorant hype, it make those of us who are real stewards of the environment look bad.

Thank you,

Stan Prueitt

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KaLeigh Welch

From: MB McAfee [mbmcafee@fone.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 10:12 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Keeping places beautiful

Hello!

You all have the possibility of keeping the landscapes around Moab quiet, wild, and always and forever attractive. Think about it. Quiet landscapes where people can go, away from noise clutter and maybe even out of internet range....this is what is attractive about the splendid places in Grand County. Please take care with your decision. I am 75 and I've roamed the areas in Grand County since the uranium days of the 40s. I still get to some glorious places on my own two feet. The Labyrinth Canyon corridor is a precious place. Go there. Be still. Be careful.

MB McAfee

KaLeigh Welch

From: Sheryl Krohne [krohnes@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 10:14 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Wilderness protection for areas around Moab and labyrinth canyon

Dear Council Members,

Please recommend wilderness protection for Labyrinth Canyon. It is a beautiful area, and if not protected it will be ruined. Dry areas like this can't recover from ORV abuse. We visit Moab and hike, mountain bike and canoe and love the Green River. We come every other year and spend lots of tourist dollars there. We also ride with Western Spirit bike company, and appreciate the beauty and quiet of trails around Moab. Please, please protect this area for quiet sports and for future generations. Arches is one of our most beloved parks, and the area around Arches should be protected as a buffer, and to maintain the beauty. Hiking has high value, and there are plenty of other places to drive jeeps and ATVs.

Thank-you for your consideration,
Sincerely, Sheryl and Dave Krohne
15717 n. Hazard rd.
Spokane, WA. 99208

"Keep on Running"

KaLeigh Welch

From: Lanna Smith [lannalee@bresnan.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 10:14 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: quiet please

There are just some places so wonderful that buzzing engines should not intrude. Everyone has the right to enjoy the beauty and silence that is special to that area, but no one group has the right to destroy that special experience for the rest of us. I also am concerned for erosion and permanent damage to fragile soils. Please keep Moab area safe. Thank you.

Lanna L Smith
Grand Junction, CO

KaLeigh Welch

From: Jay Peery [jay@skratchlabs.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 10:15 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

Dear Grand County Council:

I grew up in the Pacific NW, but my family has roots in Utah that go back 5 generations. My first visit to the Moab area was 42 years ago as a wide-eyed 8 year old. What I found there, and in the rest of Southern Utah was a relatively unspoiled and magical recreation wonderland worthy of all of the superlatives used to describe it.

Over the last 4 decades, I visited the area over and over again - most years several times. In that time I have witnessed a huge increase in recreational use, resource extraction and development that has progressively degraded the experience of visiting. For this reason, I now think twice about coming to the area - and feel a growing sense of urgency to support action around protecting what few wild places remain there in as natural a state as possible.

From my perspective, access to natural areas on foot or by boat is the most sustainable and desirable use of the resources you manage. Increasing access for resource extraction, cyclists, ORVs, Jeeps and other off road vehicles is short sighted - and the most effective way to degrade and eventually destroy the precious natural resource you have.

I would encourage you to take the long view and work hard to designate as much of your area as wilderness - this would create visitation and bring dollars to your economy in perpetuity.

Thanks for listening,

Sincerely,

JP

Jay Peery | Vice President, Sales
Skratch Labs, LLC
Cell - 520 591 3432
Skratch Customer Service - 800 735 8904
2885 Wilderness Place, Unit B
Boulder, CO 80301

skratch
LABS

KaLeigh Welch

From: Jan Zehner [janz@rockisland.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 10:19 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

Dear Grand County Council Members:

Please protect Labyrinth Canyon's natural state by protecting the area from the intrusive noise of ATVs and motorcycles. Visitors should be able to enjoy this beautiful area in its peaceful glory.

Thank you,

Jan Zehner
Ogden, UT

KaLeigh Welch

From: Rebecca Wallace [rebeccawallace38@msn.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 10:21 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Please protect the Moab area natural beauty

Dear Grand County Council members,

Please consider the following recommendations at your Monday meeting. Moab needs to protect these beautiful areas so they can remain unspoiled and continue to attract tourists from all over the world. My family and I travel from SLC to Moab at least twice a year and spend 3 or 4 days because of the natural beauty there...please preserve it.

— Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. It is one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.

— Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**

— Protect the Arches view shed by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of Arches National Park.

— Designate areas to be managed as roadless areas within the NCA, following the "Daggett County" model that has already been approved by our Congressional delegation.

— Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

— Designate wilderness in the La Sal mountains. Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service Wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The council should recommended protecting the mountains that frame Delicate Arch as wilderness.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Wallace
rebeccawallace38@msn.com

KaLeigh Welch

From: Dianna Moore [dlmoor2@coastaccess.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 10:21 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: re: Moab & wilderness

Dear Council Members:

With the increase in population, noise, cities, vehicles of all kinds, places where people pay to experience nature and quiet in such a stunning setting as you have will NOT come to see and hear ORV's tearing up the land. The sandstone erodes with the ORV's, then blows away in the wind, or ends up in the river....which will destroy the river as it fills with the silt...then everybody loses.

Please keep the noise, pollution, and crowds separate from the river-rafters, hikers, and those who appreciate silence and beautiful scenery. It would be nice to maintain the beauty for many generations to come; they will NEED it!

I was fortunate to have parents who recognized the importance of leaving natural places in good condition, and the Moab area was just one of the places we spent quality family time enjoying the beautiful state of Utah. It is your duty to protect the treasures you have been given to oversee.

Thank you for your attention,
Dianna Moore
Ocean Shores, Wa.

KaLeigh Welch

From: , [earthford@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 10:27 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labrinth Canyon

Please,

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

Karl Ford

KaLeigh Welch

From: Jacquie [jbslc60@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 10:29 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Keep Moab and Labyrinth canyon magnificent and wild

Dear Grand County Council Members,

As a citizen of Utah and a frequent river rafter and visitor to Moab, I urge you to protect Labyrinth Canyon and help keep it wild and beautiful. Please close the ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river, so that the beautiful wilderness is not marred by the whine and roar of motored vehicles.

Please also close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County. We need to ensure quiet space for Moab visitors who come to experience the profound silence and beauty of our wonderful land.

Sincerely,
Jacquie Bernard
943 Lake St.
Salt Lake City, UT 84105

KaLeigh Welch

From: bill fiero [bill_fiero@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 10:32 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

My master's thesis was centered at Upheaval Dome in Canyonlands. I explored the geology of the region to conduct thesis research. Then my first job as an oil exploration geologist was mapping southeast Utah before Lake Powell inundated Glen Canyon.

My intimate relationship with that beautiful pristine country has remained with me all my life. Please recommend to the federal government that this land be protected as wilderness so all in the future will have the experience of this marvelous and unique gift to all of us. Protect it from the unnecessary development of resources that are mined or extracted elsewhere in areas of less scenic value.

That land belongs to all of us -- past, present and future. You have a responsibility to protect it for us.

Thank you.

Sincerely --Dr. Bill Fiero

KaLeigh Welch

From: Eliza Wilson [lizawilson@earthlink.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 10:33 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Please protect the wild areas around Moab

Dear Council

Please protect the wild areas around Moab. As an avid hiker and artist I would love to see Labyrinth Canyon designated wilderness as well as the La Sal Mountains.

Please keep the wild areas wild without roads and mines.

Thank you,

Liza Wilson

Box 132

Hailey, ID 83333

lizawilson@earthlink.net

KaLeigh Welch

From: Meinhold Dorothy [dmconsultingllc@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 10:34 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: MOAB

DO NOT take away access to and the quiet joy of these beautiful wilderness areas!!!! Moab and the Labyrinth Canyon needs true wilderness protection and these quite places need to be protected now and for future generations.

Do the right thing for THE PEOPLE.

Dorothy Meinhold
Park City UT

KaLeigh Welch

From: Sam Mix [Sam@ospreypacks.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 10:37 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative Bill Input

Respected Members of the Grand Council;

Monday, March 16, is a big day and I wanted to weigh in on the issue to let you know that we feel that Moab, and Labyrinth Canyon in particular, needs true wilderness protection and that these vital, quiet places need to be protected now and for future generations.

Below are my suggestions for what the Grand Council should do on Monday.

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs.

I appreciate your considerations and time in this matter and wish you all the best in this process.

Sam Mix
Conduit of Corporate Outreach
Osprey Packs Inc.
115 W. Progress
Cortez, CO, 81321
970-529-7059

The BIRD is the WORD!

KaLeigh Welch

From: Karolyn Snow [karolynsnow1@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 10:37 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Wilderness

Dear Council Members,

We are frequent visitors to the beautiful lands of Utah. You have a unique state with some of the of the most spectacular sights and most delicate soil in the United States. I urge you to take the brave step, in the face of pressure from the motorized use lobby, to protect Labyrinth Canyon, close unused roads and designate wilderness in Grand County. This land is irreplaceable and motorized users have other, less damaging options. Desert is not appropriate for grazing and ATVs.

Sincerely,
Karolyn Snow

Sent from my iPad

KaLeigh Welch

From: sja6@comcast.net
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 10:38 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: MOAB

To Whom It May Concern:

Someone needs to use long range planning and keep/return Moab--and Labyrinth Canyon in particular--to a true wilderness. Act like our forefathers who set up state/national parks for the good of all. And add to that the elimination of off road vehicles. Someone needs to have the backbone to keep the lands pristine with minimal human intervention, certainly not human intervention on machines.

Thank you for listening.

Sue Anderson

KaLeigh Welch

From: donna_bilak@comcast.net
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 10:40 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon Wilderness

Dear Council,

I and my family love hiking and backpacking around Moab in Grand County.

It is a place where we can unwind and unplug and detox our souls.

I hope to share this incredible country with my grandchildren. As the population in Utah doubles by 2050, it is time NOW to protect this incredible landscape from destruction, noise and pollution caused by motorized vehicles and additional development. Please act on the following:

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes."
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Donna Bilak

KaLeigh Welch

From: Suez Jacobson [suezijacobson@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 10:41 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Your Chance

To: Grand County Council

From: Susan Jacobson

Date: March 12, 2015

Re: Your chance to create a legacy

It's not every day that people have the opportunity to make a difference not just for today, but for generations and ages to come. Your chance is Monday, thanks to Rob Bishop. I grew up in Utah, a descendant of pioneers on my mother's side. Living in the Salt Lake Valley, most of my wild time as a child was spent in the Wasatch and Uinta mountains. But then in the spring of 1973, after a long winter in Alta, I ventured into the red rock country and found the wonder.

You have the chance to preserve that wonder, to keep this opportunity for awe among Utah's red rocks. You can choose to preserve Labyrinth Canyon as wilderness so that generations to come may stand in the wind, humbled by the vast and the delicate, the booming and the stillness, experience the vast spans and the towers reflected in the river and the seemingly flimsy petals of the cactus that defy the harsh environment to return year after year, the rolling, raging thunder juxtaposed against the skitter of a beetle through the hot sand on a quiet morning. You can turn back the threat to this magic. Please do it.

Follow the lead of your counterparts in Daggett County who realized that special Utah lands need protection. Please preserve the quiet awe by closing the ATV trails down to the river, Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and Dead Cow/The Tubes. Please expand the NCA four miles east of Arches to protect the iconic Utah view of Delicate Arch framing the La Sals. And go one step further, by designating wilderness in the La Sal mountains – the respite from the desert heat in the scorching summers. Please save some quiet space, some roadless, machineless wonder. This is an opportunity for the ages. Take it. Create a legacy of protection. Preserve what Utah license plates show is the premium value of the land.

Thanks for listening.

--

"Wilderness holds an original presence giving expression to that which we lack, the losses we long to recover, the absences we seek to fill. Wilderness revives the memory of unity. Through its protection, we can find faith in our humanity." Terry Tempest Williams

KaLeigh Welch

From: Scott Pankratz [scott.pankratz@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 10:43 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Monday's meeting; Labyrinth and money

Dear Moab City Council,

I worked as a river guide in Moab in 1992 and 1993. In 2002 I started a business in Moab and worked part time at HMK elementary school. I now live in Montana, but my family and I return for a couple weeks every year to bike, raft, and spend money in town.

I urge you to support protection of the natural assets that bring tourists to your town and surrounding areas. The solitude and beauty of river corridors like Labyrinth do not exist anywhere else on earth, and as wilderness it's a resource that will forever give back to the economy, attracting visitors and residents alike. Please recommend wilderness designation for Labyrinth Canyon. Please keep the corridor quiet by closing the ATV and jeep trails that run down Hey Joe, hell Roaring and Dead Cow. I encourage you to also close all ATV and jeep routes that are within proposed wilderness areas in Grand County. We've got lots of jeep roads, many of which I use with my family, or on my mountain bike, it's a balanced use. We should have places where visitors and residents can also find quiet and peacefulness in God's country.

Thank you in advance for your consideration, and your dedication to the people and landscape of Grand County, and I look forward to my next visit.

Scott Pankratz

KaLeigh Welch

From: Leila Shultz [l.shultz@usu.edu]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 10:54 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: support for protection of land in Grand County

Dear Council:

The red rock landscape in Grand County draws visitors from around the world. "Ecotourism" is an economic boon to Utah, one I hope our legislators can encourage with positive news for the proposals to protect vistas and promote peaceful (quiet) retreats in the areas surrounding Arches and Deadhorse Point. We Utahns can be proud of this heritage.

Please vote 'yes' for wilderness protection.

Leila Shultz, Research Professor Emeritus

Department of Wildland Resources

Utah State University

Logan, UT 84322-5230 435-232-2989 (cell)

[Sagebrush guide](#) [Atlas of Utah Plants](#)

KaLeigh Welch

From: Jan Wood [janwooddesign@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 11:08 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

Special places need protection, please protect this beautiful little canyon.

Sincerely , Jan Wood

Sent from my iPad

KaLeigh Welch

From: Mark [marcus_344@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 11:09 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Please Protect Wilderness

Dear Council,

Utah is a state with one of the last remaining true wilderness areas in the world and we need to preserve it!

I have hiked and paddled thru southern Utah for years bringing friends and family from different parts of the country and world to experience these vast unspoiled and quiet lands. I have paddled Labyrinth Canyon which i feel deserves true wilderness protection.

Wilderness and Quiet places are good for the soul, (and Economy) please protect them!

Thank you for all your work on the council and considering my thoughts,

Sincerely,
Mark Barone
Utah

KaLeigh Welch

From: Frontier Customer [theresaw@frontiernet.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 11:08 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Quiet is "an exceedingly rare and increasingly threatened commodity"

Dear Council Members,

We are again writing to ask for protection of our public lands west of Highway 191. This time we want to raise the flag to ask you to defend quiet places. Imagine Big Flat and Labyrinth Canyon and ask yourselves, "Have I ever had the opportunity to hear 'silence absolute'?" And then ask yourself, "What if I never can?"

In an essay by Brad Dimmock called, The Sound of Silence: Historical Perspectives on Natural Quiet at Grand Canyon he writes:

Today, absolute silence is an exceedingly rare and increasingly threatened commodity... The ongoing loss of natural quiet is significant for all of us and for future generations...

Further development of oil and potash and increased motorized travel in the lands west of Highway 191 would result in multiple levels of additional degradation of our public lands.

To preserve places where natural quiet can be found, and for all the reasons previously stated, we implore you to protect these unique and threatened areas.

Respectfully,

Theresa and David Wilson
464 E. Center Street
Moab, Utah 84532

.....
email from March 5, 2015:

Thank you, Council Members, for considering our input.

We fully support these comments concerning the Bishop Public Lands Initiative and the Lands West of Highway 191:

- Please do not endorse the Big Flat working group's recommendations. The recommendations need a much closer look concerning mineral extraction and motorized recreation.
- Protect Ten Mile Wash, White Wash and Spring Canyon, by extending the NCA boundary (Alternative 3) to include these areas. Ten Mile Wash is a rare perennial stream in the desert, and White Wash has numerous seeps and small springs. Perennial streams make up 2% of public lands in Utah, and provide habitat for ~85% of all wildlife species. These areas have irreplaceable ancient archaeological structures, artifacts, and rock art.
- Close a small fraction of the off-road vehicle routes in this area to move towards a better balance of recreational opportunities. The critical ORV routes to close, which are generally in canyons and wash

bottoms, include: Ten Mile, White Wash, Hell Roaring Canyon, Mineral Canyon, Hey Joe along the river, and the little-used jeep trail north of Long Canyon and south of Day Canyon.

- Extend the County's wilderness proposal to include Ten Mile Wash, Spring Canyon, Hell Roaring Canyon and Mineral Canyon - similar to the BLM's No Surface Occupancy designation areas (2008 Resource Mgmt. Plan); extend wilderness protection to the Goldbar area and Behind the Rocks WSA
- The Big Flat/Labyrinth Canyon area is an area of beautiful vistas and rock formations, canyons; habitat for big horn sheep, raptors, and other wildlife; archeological treasures that have yet to be surveyed; and countless recreation opportunities. It is also on the much traveled route to Canyonlands National Park and to Dead Horse Point State Park. It is very accessible to Moab and is the most heavily used unprotected public land area in Grand County. Originally it was included in the proposal for Canyonlands National Park. For all these reasons, it is deserving of land protections from all mining and extraction industries.

The public lands west of Hwy. 191 include some of the most outstanding canyons in Grand County. This area contains ancient archaeological artifacts, wildlife habitat and beautiful calm-water boating on the Green River in Labyrinth Canyon. This is not an appropriate place for mining potash for fertilizer, or expanding leasing for oil and gas speculation.

Your time and advocacy in this Public Lands process is most appreciated. Please consider the long-term importance of this area and preserve it for current and future generations. The public lands west of Highway 191 are spectacular public lands. Generations to come will benefit from your support in preserving these unique areas.

Respectfully,

David and Theresa Wilson
464 E. Center Street
Moab, Utah 84532

KaLeigh Welch

From: Dorothy Duff [duffsdales@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 11:12 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Utah's beauty

We travel to Utah near every fall (Hovenweep, White Pockets many smaller canyons etc) , and continue to come back because there is so much more to see. We do some car camping and stay in motels but on our hikes we appreciate the quiet experience. It saddens us to see riparian areas with huge motorized tracks through them. Also the roar of motor bikes and atvs really disrupts our experience
Please protect these quiet places

Dorothy & Will Duff
Active Retirees in New Mexico

--

Dorothy & Will Duff
duffsdales@gmail.com

"They tried to bury us. They did not know we were seeds" Mexican Proverb
" A culture is no better than its woods" W. H. Auden

KaLeigh Welch

From: Jean Lown [jean.lown@usu.edu]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 11:21 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Keep Labyrinth Canyon NON-motorized

Dear Grand County Council:

When we first moved to Logan, Utah in 1982 one of our first adventures was to explore Moab and canoe Labyrinth & Stillwater Canyons to the Confluence. This is still one of our most memorable wild land/river trips.

Labyrinth Canyon needs wilderness protection to be protected now and for future generations. Please act to protect Labyrinth Canyon as one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.

Keep the Green river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes. River users shouldn't have to endure the noise of motorcycles along the banks of the river! My husband and I own two BMW dual sport motorcycles and enjoy exploring dirt roads but Labyrinth Canyon is NOT the place for motorized travel!

Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs! You may think that motorized visitors spend more money in the county but by turning away and turning off the vast majority of non-motorized users, you will be losing tourist revenue.

Sincerely,

Jean M. Lown
10 Heritage Cove
Logan, UT 84321

KaLeigh Welch

From: Wilsonwelding_performance [Wilsonwelding_performance@Hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 11:26 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: No road closures

Dear Grand County Council and Representative Bob Bishop and Jason Chafetz,

We are writing to you to give our opinions on the upcoming County Council meeting regarding the counties proposals focusing on the Big Flat area of Grand County.

First and foremost we would request that you honor the work of the Big Flat Working Group. It was composed of a wide variety of the vested stakeholders in the area that worked very hard to craft a balanced plan for the area that worked for preservation, recreation, and mineral interests.

Secondly, please do not designate any wilderness in this section as this is an area of our most popular front country with large amounts of recreation and mineral development, and in all reality contains no wilderness type lands. One point that we would like to make is just because an area is beautiful, scenic, or out of the way, should not necessarily qualify it as a Wilderness Area. A perfect example of this is the Green River Corridor. There are several roads along the banks of the Green River including Hey Joe Canyon Trail, 10 Mile Wash, and Mineral Bottom. All these roads should be left open to allow others, besides rafters, to be able to access, and enjoy this area.

When you choose to designate Wilderness you take away the opportunity for those unable to hike, walk, or successfully navigate a multi-day rafting trip from seeing these areas; this essentially disallows an entire segment of our population from enjoying their public lands. Also, those people seeking "solitude" will have ample opportunity once they get downstream from mineral bottom, at that point they will essentially be completely on their own until they reach Lake Powell. We can't see how seeing an occasional off road vehicle or Mountain Bike could, or would be a detriment to their trip. We do support the Working Groups Recommendation to include a one mile buffer zone of no mineral leasing or development. This should provide more than adequate protection of scenery, and the desired quiet of river users.

Third, the BLMs 2008 Resource Management Plan does an excellent job of providing guidance on what types of activities are appropriate for this area, and as a result no new Wilderness, National Conservation Areas, or even Nation Recreation Area should be designated. Current BLM regulations are more than sufficient in this heavily visited area. Under no circumstances do we support any motorized or non-motorized roads or trails being shut down in this area.

Lastly, we want to see a significant area identified for a SITLA trade to provide for development of oil, gas, and potash resources. These will provided needed, full-time, year round, benefited positions that will promote the local economy, and provide good jobs for our local citizens. We feel that the oil and gas industry, as well as the potash extraction companies have proven they can extract their resources with minimal long term impact upon the environment while still being able to be profitable.

Thank you for your time and consideration, Ben Wilson, Moab - Utah

KaLeigh Welch

From: Camisha Sawtelle [camisha@sawlawmt.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 11:27 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: ATV free canyons

Greetings Grand County Council,

I am writing regarding ATV use of areas around Moab. I grew up in Utah. Although we are now a day's drive away, my family enjoys our yearly visits to your beautiful canyon country. I want to urge you to do your part to protect areas of Grand County to be free from ATV and Jeep trails. Although I understand the need for multiple use, we need to keep the few remaining quiet areas free from the roar of ATVs. I want to encourage you do your part to designate Labyrinth Canyon as a wilderness and to close infrequently used ATV trails on all proposed wilderness areas.

Thanks for all the work you do,

Camisha Sawtelle
Sawtelle Law Firm PLLC
309 Wisconsin Avenue
PO Box 5117
Whitefish, MT 59937
406 730-1399
camisha@sawlawmt.com
www.sawlawmt.com

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KaLeigh Welch

From: Gen Anderson [genanderson@earthlink.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 11:30 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labrynth Canyon

Hi!

I spend a lot of my travel and tourist dollars in Utah, especially in the Canyonlands and Moab area. I will be heading there again in May for a couple of weeks.

The intense sound of ATV's and off road vehicles is very disturbing to me and I assume to the wildlife in the area. I feel pushed farther and farther away from the businesses and hotels of Moab when I have to travel farther away to get away from the noise of ATVs.

Please leave some quite space for large number of us who come to hear the birds, coyotes and the sound of our own footsteps. In particular, keep Labryrinth Canyon a designated wilderness area and quiet space.

Thank you.

Gen Anderson
Producer, Host & Activist
310.717.7812
twitter@genanderson

www.changethemenu.org
www.gensguiltlessgourmet.com
www.facebook.com/SciFineDining

Studio 10 North
Location for Film, Photography &
Studio Kitchen in downtown Los Angeles

KaLeigh Welch

From: xcskicouple@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 11:33 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Fwd: Your upcoming decisions - wilderness protections

-----Original Message-----

From: xcskicouple <xcskicouple@aol.com>
To: council <council@grandcountyutah.net>
Sent: Thu, Mar 12, 2015 1:29 pm
Subject: Your upcoming decisions - wilderness protections

Dear Council Members,

My wife, Nancy, and I live in one of America's beautiful places--northwest lower peninsula Michigan. The Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore is nearby. But many years ago we discovered Moab and Grand County. Nothing compares to the scenic beauty of Redrock Country. One of America's outstanding road trips begins at Arches National Park and winds its way to Zion National Park. We call it the "A to Z Trail."

The truth be known, you sit on some of the finest wild areas in America. That is why we keep coming back to enjoy places like the Green River valley, the La Sal Mountains, the San Rafael Swell, Labyrinth Canyon, and slickrock areas outside of Arches NP. You see, we love to hike, white water raft, mountain bike, and explore wild, quiet areas that are like no others we have found.

Protecting these wild places is your responsibility. We are aware of the potential threats from mining, oil, gas, and ATV interests. Should they gain expanded access to the areas we love, the damage they will do cannot be undone. They will spoil fragile ecosystems that are the very reason we come to recreate in Grand County.

So as you deliberate on important decisions that would be part of Rep. Rob Bishop's "Grand Bargain" we urge you to protect as much wilderness as possible. That is the wise long-term decision for Grand County and its many businesses that serve the growing outdoor community.

We want to keep coming back to your county--again & again. We want to bring our young adult children and their spouses. Please do the right thing and protect the beautiful, God-given scenic wonders that mean so much to many Americans.

Most sincerely,

John & Nancy Morris
4275 Paper Birch Lane
Traverse City, MI 49686
(xcskicouple@aol.com)

KaLeigh Welch

From: Kiley Miller [moabkiley@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 11:34 AM
To: Grand County Council
Subject: Bishops land bill

I just want to remind the council that the regions BIGGEST user group are the quiet users. Hikers, walkers, climbers, mountain bikers, and boaters not the ohv crowd, not the scenic flight tourists. This from the link below- The report highlights hiking as the most common activity on public lands, with mountain biking and sightseeing ranking second and third, respectively.

http://www.moabtimes.com/view/full_story/16272520/article-Report--Public-lands-play-vital-role-in-Grand's-economy?instance=home_news_right

So when y'all are considering what to keep open or closed remember that our big bread and butter in tourism are the quiet users and they deserve their peace in the back country. I've lived here for over 17 years and have seen this place go crazy in terms of ohv and extraction impacts . Noise noise noise is now commonplace in the back country and it irritates me to no end because Im out there trying to be as quiet and respectful to the wildness as I possibly can, hoping that I'll be blessed with no engines no noise. As a climber I get intimate with the land and it means so much to me to be able to have peace. I go into the canyons and into the back of beyond and have watched the destruction, have seen the huge impacts and have heard more and more noise impacts and it breaks my heart. I keep being told that I as a quiet user need to keep making concessions to compromise but its me who keeps loosing not the motorized users nor the extraction industry its me who's having my right to silence taken away It's me who has to watch the destruction of the land which I revere so much. The root of my spirituality is reverence for nature. So I ask you to protect the land, the rivers and all the wildlife that calls it home. This place is not ours to cut up, sell off and destroy it is a home to an entire ecosystem of living creatures that has a right to live unmolested by humans. So do the right thing and protect it all, not for future generations of humans but for the wildlife and nature that calls it home.

Below are but a few things that the council should do, but the council should go even further to protect the land.

– Designate the areas it is calling “NSOs” as true wilderness. They are not the same thing. The road density in the Labyrinth area is way too high. Designating wilderness here would close a small percentage of the unused or redundant roads and move us toward a more balanced travel plan.

– Prohibit potash leasing and development. Scenery and recreation should take precedence over fertilizer.

– Close an old mining route to Hey Joe along the river for the entire year.

– Close Hell Roaring to motorized use.

– Close the upper portion of Mineral Canyon to motorized use.

–Close the “Dead Cow/Tubes” motorcycle route, to protect the quiet of the river corridor.

---Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek wilderness.

The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. There should be places where locals and visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!

- Expand the NCA to protect the Arches view shed. This means moving the NCA boundary about four miles to the east.

- Designate areas to be managed as roadless areas within the NCA, following Daggett County model and as already approved by our Congressional delegation

- Designate Class Bs and cherry stem popular class D roads, and close the rest. Class D roads are usually unmaintained routes that are mostly relicts left from old mining exploration or old seismic explorations. If they ever receive any maintenance it must come from the county general fund and not from the county's portion of gas taxes. The routes have little or no legal basis.

- Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains. Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service Wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The Council should recommended protecting the mountains that form our watershed.

- Designate the Fisher Towers and Mary Jane areas with the proposed NCA to be managed as roadless areas.

The council seems reluctant to close class D routes in wilderness, but you need to do it. There are plenty of places to jeep and ride ATVs in Grand County. There needs to be some quiet places where we can go to get away from roads and vehicle noise.

Please protect the land and protect quiet users- Kiley Miller Moab

--

But the love of wilderness is more than a hunger for what is beyond reach, it is also an expression of loyalty to the Earth, the Earth which bore us and sustains us, the only home we shall ever know, the only paradise we ever need- if only we had the eyes to see. Original sin, the true original sin, is the blind destruction for the sake of greed of this natural paradise which lies all around us- if only we were worthy of it.

-Ed Abbey

KaLeigh Welch

From: Mary Moorehead [mmtax@cmconline.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 11:35 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Wilderness protection for Labyrinth Canyon

Dear Council:

I have been hiking and backpacking in the areas around Moab for many years and urge you to take whatever steps necessary to protect the area. Please designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness, keep motorized vehicles out of the area and do whatever you can to protect all proposed wilderness. The peace and quiet and beauty of these areas is precious.

Thank you.

*Mary Moorehead
MM Tax and Accounting
2989 W. 4th Avenue
Durango, CO 81301
970-403-3111*

KaLeigh Welch

From: Jill Murray [jillbmurray@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 11:36 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Give voice to our wilder-ness for us

Please, please, please, the wilderness is in your hands, your voices, your votes. May she live wild in our hearts, unscarred under the feet of our grandchildren, her music sing in the ears of our great grandchildren, laid out in all her glory before the eyes of our great, great grandchildren.

Thank-you for the work you have taken on for the earth during these critical times!

Appreciatively, Jill B.Murray

KaLeigh Welch

From: Heath Weaver [hbweaver@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 11:50 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

Grand County Council,

In your meeting next Monday, March 16, please vote to give Labyrinth Canyon true wilderness protection. Wild, quiet places such as Labyrinth Canyon need to be protected now and for future generations. As a Utahn, I often visit the canyon country around Moab for its rugged, quiet landscapes. On Monday, I ask that you do the following:

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. It is one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River.
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs.

Sincerely,

Heath Weaver
Mendon, Utah

KaLeigh Welch

From: Tilton, Timothy A. [tilton@indiana.edu]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 11:53 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: public lands plan

Folks,

I live in Bloomington, IN, but have visited Moab and Grand County frequently. It's one of my favorite spots. I love the canyon country. I'm a hiker and backpacker and a partisan of unspoiled nature. I hope you will advocate as much wilderness as possible in your plan, particularly the Labyrinth Canyon area. In general, I support the positions espoused by the Great Old Broads.

I too spent some time in county government, two years as a county councilman, eight years as commissioner (supervisor). I spent eight years on the county plan commission, four as president. Believe me, I know how difficult these land use decisions are. I believe there is a strong case for being as preservationist as possible. I think it will be possible to move away from the restrictive uses, even wilderness, but once you spoil things, you can't go back.

Thanks for your consideration,
Tim Tilton

KaLeigh Welch

From: Billy Jack Simpson [billyjack@mac.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 11:58 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Please Do Not Do This.

Please do not Do this.

County Council is recommending that Hey Joe Canyon only be open from November 1 through the week after Jeep Safari. This is supposedly to "avoid user conflict with rafters seeking solitude in the Labyrinth Canyon of the Green River.

Regards,

Billy Jack Simpson
Senior FileMaker Developer
Direct Line 832-592-7470
Cell Phone 832-851-4705

KaLeigh Welch

From: Kathleen Burnham [burnhamk155@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 11:59 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Utah's Wild Places

Dear Council Members:

Moab . . . and Labyrinth Canyon in particular . . . needs true wilderness protection. Quiet places like these need to be protected now and especially for future generations.

Please . . . designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. You have, in the past, recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth, despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.

Please . . . keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet. Close the three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and Dead Cow/The Tubes. River rafters in Labyrinth should not have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River. People go to the river to get away from the noise of modern civilization. People go to wilderness places for the same reason. For the quiet. For the sounds that are only available to them at these places, and for the absence of all other sounds.

Please . . . protect the Arches viewscape by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of Arches National Park.

Please . . . designate areas to be managed as roadless areas within the NCA, following the "Daggett County" model that has already been approved by the Congressional delegation.

Please . . . close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sound of ATV's!

Please . . . designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains. Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service Wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The council should recommend protecting the mountains that frame Delicate Arch as wilderness.

Please . . . consider what wilderness means. Limit the intrusive sounds that ATV's and motorcycles bring to these places (along with the often accompanying disrespect and lack of reverence of their riders) and help ensure that their quiet beauty will be unscathed for generations to come.

Thank you,

Kathleen Burnham
Felton, CA

KaLeigh Welch

From: mdecook8@gmail.com
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 12:01 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Wilderness

Hi, I like to visit & spend time in the wildlands around Moab. I go there to enjoy the wild viewscapes & the natural quiet. Please protect as much of the land as possible as wilderness. My family also shops, eats, & stays in Motels in Moab. We visit Utah because of the wildlands & quiet recreation.

Thank-you, Mike DeCook

KaLeigh Welch

From: Jinny Moore [jinnymoore@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 12:05 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Moab and surrounding area

We love to visit Moab, to camp, fish, hike, and spend our money. It's truly a one-in-a-million location in the four corners that can be counted on to offer some peace and spiritual refreshment.

I urge you to designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. Keep the river corridor quiet and close ATV and jeep trails. (most of them illegal!! and annoying.)

Don't let the noisy ones overwhelm you too!!!

Sincerely,
Virginia Moore
Mancos, CO

KaLeigh Welch

From: Eileen Vestal [eileen.vestal@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 12:34 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon protection

Dear Council Members---I am urging you to vote to protect Labyrinth Canyon as a wilderness area. It is a gorgeous and wild place, and until recently, quiet. My last hike there was destroyed by off-road vehicles throwing up dust, smelling like gasoline, and so noisy I couldn't hear myself think. There are countless areas designated for ORVs so they should not encroach on the quiet, wild, and peaceful ones. Sincerely, Eileen Vestal (I am a teacher in Salt Lake City who loves the red rock country).

KaLeigh Welch

From: K Brooks [kbrooks@cybermesa.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 12:37 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Moab and Labyrinth Canyon

Dear Grand County Council members,

I write this message from your neighbor to the south, New Mexico. For many years I worked at the University of Utah during which time I became enamored with the canyonlands of southern Utah. Although I retired to a beautiful desert/mountain area I still need, frequently, to savor the rich red-rock country around Moab. It is my favorite runaway place and I do it several times a year.

I cannot urge you enough as you make your recommendations to Representative Bishop and his Public Lands Initiative that you adamantly act to protect the wilderness around Moab and Labyrinth Canyon-especially designating Labyrinth Canyon as a wilderness. Also, keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and Jeep trails that run down to the river. Protect Arches by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area and close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County. Finally designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains-if you have ever experienced the beautiful fields of iris and other mountain flora in early June you will not let this land go unprotected!

As I write this I am drawn by memory to the wonderful areas around Arches, the breath taking drive over the La Sal mountains and the snow covered rims of the red-rock in December. If this area becomes damaged by drilling, ATV use, and industrial development it will no longer be a place for me to find solace and beauty and I will no longer spend money on lodging in Moab and Bluff, eating at my various favorite spots in the area and investing in art, books and native wares in several special places in Moab and Bluff. I know that I am not the only New Mexican that regularly visits the area but all of us would have other options if this land is destroyed.

In addition to my travel to the area I regularly support my two adult children and now my grandchildren's travel to the area. I introduced them to Moab many years ago and my grandson, now a young adult with his first job, thinks of it as his main vacation area in the years ahead. This lands needs to be preserved for their future and their children's future - I urge you to use this opportunity to do so!

Sincerely,

Kathryn H. Brooks
1400 Paseo Norteno
Santa Fe, NM 87507

KaLeigh Welch

From: Marty Pool [martinpool@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 12:38 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth-Stillwater Wilderness

Dear Grand County Council Members,

We are all aware that the major challenge of public land regulation is how to fairly balance the desires of all users. Everyone has a right to enjoy our public lands. There are times, though, when paths cross and the use and enjoyment by some members infringes on the enjoyment of others. The greater Canyonlands area is enormous. Off-road vehicles already have miles and miles and miles in which to explore and enjoy. The Colorado River before the confluence is open to motorize boats. It is only fair that there be an area free of motorized traffic for users that wish to have that experience. Labyrinth-Stillwater canyons should be that area.

As a commercial river guide, I understand the role motorized travel plays in the outdoors. We would not be able to run 3-day Cataract Canyon trips (Potash to North Wash) without motors. But I also understand that the noise from these motors pollutes the quiet solitude for other recreators. I enjoy the opportunity to run stretches of river in other parts of the country that ban the use of motorized travel. Canyonlands should offer an opportunity for that experience for those that seek it. Everyone must be given their fair piece of the wonderful Canyonlands pie.

Thank you,
Marty Pool
UT Whitewater Captain's/Guide License Holder

KaLeigh Welch

From: grant wilson [grantcorvair@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 12:41 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protecting our lands for the future.

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**
- **We need to protect what wilderness we have left so future generations of Americans can continue to enjoy these beautiful and fragile lands before they are completely ruined by offroad abuse.**
- **Thank you**
- **Grant Wilson**
-

KaLeigh Welch

From: Meghan L Eames [meghan.eames@redbutte.utah.edu]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 1:03 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protect the Labyrinth!

Dear Grand County Council,

I am writing just a brief email to encourage you to protect the wild lands of Moab, particularly Labyrinth Canyon. As a Utah resident and a lover of Moab, it is astounding to me that anyone would not offer true wilderness protection to the area. It is such a unique, beautiful, wild area, home of the most prevalent image in Utah iconography, and deserves to be extended the maximum protection as a region, not just arbitrarily defined borders of the Canyonlands and Arches National Parks. We are stewards of our environment, as I am reminded regularly working at a public garden and preserve, and it is essential that we maintain our wild and quiet places not just for our own enjoyment now, but for all the generations still to come. I urge you to be stewards, protectors, and provide true wilderness protection to Moab, and the Labyrinth Canyon area in particular. Thank you for your time.

Meghan Eames
Volunteer Coordinator
Red Butte Garden and Arboretum
300 Wakara Way, Salt Lake City, UT 84108
Tele- 801-585-5688, Fax- 801-587-5887

KaLeigh Welch

From: Martha Munezhi [munezhim@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 1:10 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Moab and the Labyrinth Canyon needs true wilderness

Good day,

I would be disheartened if there is no wilderness for Labyrinth Canyon, the Green River and other places in Moab. I came to the US in 2011 from Zimbabwe and one of the treasures that the country has lies right in our backyards in the desert areas, national parks, rivers and other natural landscapes in Utah. I have travelled to 20 different states in the US and each time I travel, I miss Utah because it's now my home and I have made friends that I consider family. Beyond all my life pursuits and friendships I find true beauty, balance, peace and solace in Utah's nature. I love love love the fact that I can go to breathtaking places like Capitol Reef, Goblin Valley, Moab and many other similar nature preserves to disconnect from the world and interact with nature peacefully.

If Labyrinth canyon and other places in Moab are not wilderness areas, humans especially individuals who use off-highway vehicles (OHVs) will disturb the ecosystem; they will destroy the few places that are the only escape from city life for people like me and a million others and most importantly future generations.

I still want to sing praises about how nature is preserved in Moab to anyone who can listen and I would love to invite other people to come and see Utah's majestic wonders for themselves. Future generations should not be robbed of these natural wonders.

All I am saying is:

Moab and the Labyrinth Canyon needs true wilderness protection and quiet places need to be protected now and for future generations.

Sincerely,
Martha

KaLeigh Welch

From: Anne Cambridge [ACambridge@pusdatsa.org]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 1:20 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Cc: Jordan
Subject: Please preserve the quiet space.
Attachments: C1154572-4907-4029-B410-6A9FADE4B7FF[2].jpg

Good day to you Grand County Council,

I am writing you from northern Arizona to let you know that I visit your area at least 2-3 times a year and I love hiking around the beauty that you have up there! I really hope that you will consider preserving the quiet spaces there for all of us to enjoy. I have heard that you are meeting about what to designate as wilderness etc. please consider the many people who visit your area as you make these important decisions. I would like to recommend the following:

*Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.

*Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." Please don't make us listen to the whine of motorcycles while on the Green River!

*Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries.

We really do need to think about where we are headed, there should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs! I think there are plenty of trails for ATV lovers, let us two legged creatures, who love to use our feet, walk in the quiet, please, please consider my plea!! My brother Jordan and I are avid hikers and really value the designated wilderness in this four state area. Please help us!! We need your help, not only for us, but for our future generations (I have four children of my own and two recent teen boys, who need some space and quiet)

Thank you for your consideration!!

– Anne Cambridge, Pinon High School Library "Unlimited Possibilities @ your library"

[cid:766A554B-9213-4F96-884F-6641903F32EB]

KaLeigh Welch

From: Monica Welch [moniwelch51@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 1:21 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Moab!!

To the Grand County council,

We visited Utah just a short 5 years ago. We spent time in Arches, around Moab, the Canyonlands and many other scenic areas. We spent a lot of money on lodging and food, and hiked in your glorious environs! What a trip! However, when we came through again this year, we were shocked at the development and increased numbers of people dotting the landscapes/viewsapes. I am concerned about the lack of protection in beautiful places so numerous in your county, such as Labyrinth Canyon and La Sal Mountains. The closure of roads in proposed Wilderness areas would decrease damage in these areas that, you know, will take millennia to heal in this desert environment. It is great that more people are discovering and exploring in Utah, but this provides even more reason to protect it from inevitable scarring and degradement due to unwitting overuse and abuse.

Please vote to protect that which is so fragile and precious, so that those who come after us will still have something to treasure and enjoy.

Thanks so much for listening.

Monica Welch
Bend, Oregon

KaLeigh Welch

From: judith s. engelberg [judy4244@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 1:23 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon and other actions

this is to urge you on monday to take the following actions:

Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.

At last week's council meeting, the council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth -- despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.

Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet

Close the three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!

Protect the Arches viewscape by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of Arches National Park.

Designate areas to be managed as roadless areas within the NCA, following the "Daggett County" model that has already been approved by our Congressional delegation.

Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!

Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.

Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service Wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The council should recommended protecting the mountains that frame Delicate Arch as wilderness.

Thank you

Judy Engelberg
Chevy Chase, Maryland

KaLeigh Welch

From: BJ [bryce84108@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 1:30 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon Protection

Grand County Council,

I am a Utah resident and a frequent visitor to Grand County. I have been through Labyrinth Canyon, in particular, several times.

I encourage you to implement the following policies for the management of Labyrinth Canyon:

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness, as it is one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

Thank you,
Bryce Jones
369 E 900 S #291
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111

KaLeigh Welch

From: James Kay Photography LLC [jim@jameskay.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 1:33 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

Dear Council Members:

My family, friends, and I visit Moab on a regular basis. We live in Salt Lake and float the Green River through Labyrinth Canyon every year. Labyrinth offers one of the most magnificent wild river trips on earth. While I also enjoy my 4WD vehicle, this corridor along the Green is one of the few remaining places in the Moab region where one can temporarily escape the noise of ORVs.

I would ask you to please consider wilderness status for this section of river by closing ORV access to the river corridor via Hey Joe and Hell Roaring canyons. There are countless thousands of miles of existing ORV routes where we can all drive our vehicles across BLM land and within Canyonlands National Park.

Protecting Labyrinth Canyon as wilderness would be a small gesture towards insuring that future generations will have someplace to go where they can escape the noise and fumes of our technological rat race.

Thank You,

James Kay
Salt Lake City

KaLeigh Welch

From: Eric Lombard [ericlombard@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 1:55 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Wilderness in Grand County

Dear Grand County Council,

I live in a southern suburb of Chicago. There are 12 million people within an hour of my house. The nearest wild original natural area that has not been paved, or plowed, or mined, or built on is a hour away in Michigan: Warren Woods plotting out at just over 300 acres. That's it. In fact, it is the only wilderness area left in all of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin. Think about that. Think what we have lost. That is not to say that there aren't beautiful natural places left here, there are, but none, save our 300 acres approximate a natural wilderness.

In southeast Utah you are blessed with a bountiful gift of wilderness. Places that astonish. Places that are achingly beautiful. Places that infold you in silence and where you can hear your heartbeat. Places that give you peace for as long as you care to savor it. You can walk out your door into it. I can fly or drive there and walk into it, and my life is made better every day here just for knowing it is there.

We have come to think of San Juan and Grand Counties as significant family treasures since our fist vacation there 30 years ago. We visit every year, some of us multiple times. Our base is a small house in Monticello that we also open to friends so they can enjoy the red rocks. Alone and in groups we have climbed the La Sals, hiked up Salt Creek, walked into Dark Canyon, rafted and kayaked the river, hiked into Horseshoe Canyon, visited Arches, Dead Horse, and the Shafer Trail: all of them multiple times.

You are in a position to contribute to an agreement as to how these wild lands will be conserved as a natural resource for your grandchildren: In fact, conserved for the grandchildren of all Americans since these public lands belong to all of us. This is a significant responsibility and I know that it must weigh heavily on you. As you deliberate I urge you to remember the millions of Americans who come to your wonderful county for its amazing rocks, restorative natural beauty, and peace. And I urge you to also remember the 300 acres in Michigan that are all that remain of the natural wilderness that was once here and that is now gone because we were not lucky enough to have had the choice to preserve more of it.

Respectfully,
Eric Lombard
19160 Pierce Ct
Homewood, IL 60430

For:
Richard Lombard
Jacqueline Lombard
Mary Lombard
Stefan Lombard
Johanna Lombard
Hazel Squire Lombard
Astrid Squire Lombard
Shannon Squire
Robert Lombard
Jillian Lombard

Jackie Lombard
Maggie Lombard
Alan Colvin
Kris Lombard Colvin
Elizabeth Colvin Allen
Danny Allen
Heather Colvin Schaff
Jennifer Colvin Rowe
Alyssa Rowe
Ashleigh Rowe
Tyler Rowe
and the many friends who have walked on the rocks with us

Eric Lombard
Homewood, IL
[rericlombard at gmail.com](mailto:rericlombard@gmail.com)
elombard at uchicago.edu



KaLeigh Welch

From: Skip [canyonwren53@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 1:56 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

40 years ago I floated through Labyrinth Canyon. It was quiet but for the birds, the rippling of the water and an occasional breeze. The friend whose boat I was in yodeled and the walls yodeled back to us. The time I spent there was magic. It changed my life.

Usage of the river and corridor are getting out of control. The People are relinquishing that control to the young inexperienced "faster, louder" kids. Please close the atv trails that impinge on the serenity of the river and other special places in Utah. The thing that kept and keeps me returning to Utah for vacations is the quiet, space and feeling of wilderness. Thank you. Helen Mitas

KaLeigh Welch

From: Janice Shepherd [a.and.j.shepherd@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 1:56 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protect wild places around Moab.

Hi,

While I live in Grand Junction I am a frequent visitor to Moab. What brings me to Moab is the opportunities to enjoy quiet places for hiking with my family and friends. Whenever we are in the area we stop at one of the restaurants to enjoy an after-hike meal. Near Christmas we schedule a shorter morning only hike so we can spend the afternoon Christmas shopping in downtown Moab.

Protecting areas such as the area east of Arches National park is very important to me as that is one of the areas we enjoy hiking in. Please support expanding the proposed NCA to go at least 4 miles east of Arches National Monument.

When we hike we look for areas that will get us away from the sounds of motors and engines. Yes, there should be places for Jeeps and ATVs to go but please recognize the largest numbers of your visitors are looking for quiet areas with natural sounds. Closing infrequently used roads will not affect those seeking to enjoy their Jeeps and ATVs but can be a great benefit to those of us looking for birds, wildlife and natural sounds.

Reducing the number of dirt roads will also help reduce the amount of dust that ends up on the snow on the Grand Mesa. Dirt on snow leads to early spring run-off which exacerbates the problems with our drought conditions.

I am part of several hiking groups here in Grand Junction that number well over 700 members in all. Please protect wild areas so we will continue to be drawn to the greater Moab area.

Sincerely,
Janice Shepherd

KaLeigh Welch

From: Nancy Terrill [ncterrill@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 1:57 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public lands initiative bill

Dear Council for Grand County,

I am writing as a western Colorado resident who greatly enjoys hiking the desert canyon areas around eastern Utah. Moab — and Labyrinth Canyon in particular — needs true wilderness protection and that quiet places need to be protected now and for future generations. Peaceful and quiet enjoyment of these majestic canyons is a very important shared value for many of us hikers.

I urge you to vote as follows on Monday:

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes". River rafters shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River.
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!

Thank you for considering my comments and for voting to protect the wilderness quality of these canyons.

Best regards,
Nancy

KaLeigh Welch

From: Anne Heise [aheise2u@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 1:57 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: quiet wilderness for Utah!

Dear Council members,

Your country will always be near my heart even though I now live in Michigan. I have never forgotten my experiences at Arches and Canyonlands, where I once worked as a ranger.

You are in God's country and there is no place on the planet like it!

I urge you to do everything you can to protect the wild and quiet nature of the canyons, the wilderness of the La Sals, and the beauty of Arches.

This not only protects the health of the country, it preserves the long-term economic health of your towns, because visitors will continue to find a true wilderness experience when they come to visit.

Anne Heise
1117 Brooks St.
Ann Arbor MI 48103

KaLeigh Welch

From: Marilyn Guy [guy.marilyn@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 1:58 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: recommendations

To all on the council, I am writing from Colorado to encourage you to provide as much protection as possible to the beautiful lands that surround Moab. Over 30 years I have visited and worked in the canyon country and watched the changes. These lands are a precious treasure for the whole nation and the easing of restrictions around access have turned them into just another playground. All the easy access via all the motorized vehicles brings an intrusion upon what makes these lands so special. We need to protect these lands not allow them to be trampled under tires and ever increasing impacts resulting in the loss of such a precious gift. I would like to include the rivers in this plea, as I have floated on them for over 40 years. Please care enough to stop these losses. Just an FYI for you. I find it very difficult to go back to Moab anymore because it breaks my heart to see the abuse. Thank you for your time, Marilyn Guy Lafayette, Colorado

KaLeigh Welch

From: Paul Bindel [paul.bindel@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 2:00 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net

Dear Grand County Council Representatives,

I am writing as someone who has visited Moab multiple times per year when I lived in Northern Arizona. Currently, I live in Denver, and I hope to return to Moab this year with friends. Some of the most meaningful moments in my life have been spent in the state and federal lands surrounding Moab--from meditative hikes in Canyonlands to botany identification in the Manti-La Sal National Forest. The conditions that surround these lands--natural sounds, wide, colorful vistas, and biodiverse flora and fauna--are indispensable from the many memories I have in these places.

On hearing that your council plays a significant role in the process guiding Representative Rob Bishop's legislation, I urge you to consider the following:

- **Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.** Every other county in the PLJ process has recommended new Forest Service wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The council must recommend wilderness protection for the mountains that frame Delicate Arch and provide clean drinking water to Moab and Castle Valley.
- **Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.** At last week's council meeting, the council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth Canyon — despite it being the only flat water redrock wilderness river run in the American West.
- **Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails** that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and “Dead Cow/The Tubes.” The serene wilderness experience of river runners in Labyrinth should be protected from the roar of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River.
- **Protect the views of Arches National Park** by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the National Park.
- **Designate areas to be managed as “roadless areas” within the proposed NCA** following the “Daggett County model” already approved by Utah's Congressional delegation.
- **Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County,** especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of off-road vehicles.

Thank you very much for your time and work at ensuring Utah's public lands are sustainable for the long term. I am grateful for your service.

Sincerely,

Paul Bindel

KaLeigh Welch

From: Pamela Keeley [fierygoldenraven@gassmannconsulting.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 2:02 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Moab area

Dear Council members,

An old friend of mine from Australia just visited this area. Their own country has a lot of empty space and beautiful areas but they were in awe of the landscape that they saw. Please remember that our landmarks are our cathedrals. You may visit Europe to see the grand spectacles of historical buildings. But in our country people come to see the grand spectacles that God built. Please keep them in the dignity and reverence that they deserve.

God Bless,

Sam Gassmann

KaLeigh Welch

From: Barbara Bernhardt [solituderd@sanjuanlive.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 2:02 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Greater Canyonlands

Dear Grand County Council Members,

I understand you are working on a recommendation to Rob Bishop regarding a legislation proposal for the Greater Canyonlands area.

As a frequent visitor to the Greater Canyonlands area who is NOT a motorized off-road vehicle enthusiast, I am hopeful that your recommendations will not ask Representative Bishop to advocate for greater access of off-road motorized traffic into the limited quiet areas of Grand County.

As a long-time visitor (since the mid 1980's) to Grand County, I know that if off-road motorized vehicle traffic continues to be allowed to encroach on the few quiet areas I visit in your area, I will no longer come to Moab and spend my money there.

Please be sure your recommendation contains the following recommendations:

Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.

At last week's council meeting, the council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth -- despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.

Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet

Close the three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!

Protect the Arches viewscape by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of Arches National Park.

Designate areas to be managed as roadless areas within the NCA, following the "Daggett County" model that has already been approved by our Congressional delegation.

Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!

Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.

Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service Wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The council should recommended protecting the mountains that frame Delicate Arch as wilderness.

It is the very unparalleled beauty of Grand County which has attracted so many people to Moab. Yet, the more high-intensity user demands for more and more territory over which to roam stands to ruin the very appeal of the area for so many others. Please follow a reasoned and balanced approach in your recommendations so that these last quiet areas remain so into the future.

Sincerely,

Barbara Bernhardt
20409 Solitude Road
Montrose, CO 81403

KaLeigh Welch

From: Kendall Van Horssen [kjvh516@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 2:03 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protect Southern Utah!!!!

To everyone in Grand County,

Surely you know what value our redrock wilderness provides the state of Utah in tourism dollars. The protected areas in Grand County and elsewhere in the state need more protection from those willing to spoil the view/silence/serenity the area provides.

I got engaged down in Canyonlands, I got married along the Colorado River, I travel to Moab and the surrounding area several times a year, and I want to continue going down to Moab with my future family. It won't take much to protect the area from those that want to spoil this breathtaking area, but the actions that you take will last longer than you or I or our kids and their kids. Let's make sure that EVERYONE can come to Moab and enjoy what's already being protected and all the areas surrounding it.

Please make the following happen:

- **Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.** Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The council must recommend wilderness protection for the mountains that frame Delicate Arch and provide clean drinking water to Moab and Castle Valley.
- **Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.** At last week's council meeting, the council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth Canyon — despite it being the only flat water redrock wilderness river run in the American West.
- **Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails** that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." The serene wilderness experience of river runners in Labyrinth should be protected from the roar of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River.
- **Protect the views of Arches National Park** by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the National Park.
- **Designate areas to be managed as "roadless areas" within the proposed NCA** following the "Daggett County model" already approved by Utah's Congressional delegation.
- **Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County,** especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of off-road vehicles.

Thank you for listening.

Kendall Van Horssen

KaLeigh Welch

From: JoLynn Jarboe [jollynn234@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 2:08 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: labrynth Canyon

As a wilderness advocate and user I urge the council to:

Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.

it is one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.

Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet

Close the three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!

Protect the Arches viewscape *by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of Arches National Park.*

Designate areas to be managed as roadless areas within the NCA, *following the "Daggett County" model that has already been approved by our Congressional delegation.*

Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, *especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!*

Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.

Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service Wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The council should recommended protecting the mountains that frame Delicate Arch as wilderness.

JoLynn Jarboe
jollynn234@yahoo.com

KaLeigh Welch

From: JANE KRETCHMAN [jmkretchman@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 2:09 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

I put my vote for keeping the canyons of (Labyrinth and Stillwater) the Green River as a Wilderness Protection...so that we can enjoy the quiet and pristine beauty of of Wild Utah.

Jane Baker
801-824-1446

KaLeigh Welch

From: louise eutropius [leutropi@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 2:10 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Greater Canyonlands

Dear Council Members,

Greater Canyonlands, an area which I have loved since my first rip through Utah in 1972, is one of the crown jewels in our nation and as a person who moved here from Washington state many years ago I urge you to consider the ramifications of not protecting it's unique beauty and "wildness" for us all, to enjoy now and for generations to come.

Utah is unique, with it's stunning landscape and vistas. We attract people from all over the world, many from population dense European countries- countries that do not have wilderness areas such as found here- we have geography found nowhere else in the world.

One of my fondest moments in canoeing through Labryinth Canyon, a trip made every Memorial Day weekend for many a year. I felt I was out in the wilderness, it was so quite and beautiful. Now, the jeeps and ATVs make that world much less remote (and quite). As such, I implore you to designate Labryinth Canyon on Monday as a true wilderness area, close the jeep and ATV trails that run down to the Green River and run along it's banks.

My relatives from the Netherlands, who have traveled all over the world, could not believe the diversity of landscape in Grand County. It really is a "grand" county and we should honor that by closing infrequently used routes to motorized traffic in all proposed wilderness areas, expand the National Conservation Area 4 miles east of Arches to protect those incredible vistas, and designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains, that frame not only Delicate Arch but my favorite camping spot in Boulder.

I believe your affirmative vote is an unparalleled opportunity to protect these quite places for all of us as well as those who will proceed us in the generations to come.

Thank you.

Louise Eutropius
269 N Street
SLC, UT 84103

KaLeigh Welch

From: Todd Brown [brown.todd.a@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 2:11 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Wilderness protections

Dear Council,

I'm a resident of Telluride, CO, and a frequent visitor to the Moab area. As much as everyone else, I enjoy getting outside in the awe-inspiring landscape, whether its 4-wheeling, bicycling, hiking, or running the rivers. Each activity has its advocates, and its unique benefits and enjoyments, and I'd like to recommend that you try to maintain quiet and remote places among the areas open to motorized traffic. Specifically, please consider:

- Designating wilderness in the La Sal Mountains. The council should recommend wilderness protection for the mountains that frame Delicate Arch and provide clean drinking water to Moab and Castle Valley.
- Designating Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. It is the only flat water red rock wilderness river run in the American West.
- Keeping the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." The serene wilderness experience of river runners in Labyrinth should be protected from the roar of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River. While its not Labyrinth, I recall bicycling the White Rim years ago, and being dismayed on the climb out of Potato Bottom by the proliferation of noisy and smelly trail motorcycles.
- Protecting the views of Arches National Park by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the National Park.
- Designating areas to be managed as "roadless areas" within the proposed NCA following the "Daggett County model" already approved by Utah's Congressional delegation.
- Closing infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of off-road vehicles.

Thank you.

--
Todd Brown

KaLeigh Welch

From: Darcey Brown [darcey@frontiernet.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 2:11 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Bishop Plan

Dear Council-

When you make a decision about our public lands please remember that many groups that recently appeared before you with plans came with good faith compromises that are now being further compromised in response to pressure from a "conservative" campaign based on deception and misinformation. Despite many articles and letters explaining what a monument and/or conservation area is, many in the community either intentionally or out of ignorance keep referring to "Washington locking up the lands" and "denying access" to the public. Neither a monument nor a conservation area does either. The Grand Staircase Monument is 95% grazed and has a mine on it and is full of ATV routes. There are a number of Conservation Areas that are so weak on conservation they are almost a misnomer. And as far as wilderness, so far there has been very little proposed. Many of us feel that the Redrock Wilderness Act should have been the starting point- not these watered down giveaway plans to the extraction and motorized interests. Once the lands are gone, they're gone. The motorized people you are hearing from may be loud- literally and figuratively- but most didn't vote for you in the last election and won't again no matter how many compromises you make. Please listen to the majority of your constituents and the millions of American asking for protection of their lands. Thank you.

Darcey Brown
2931 E. Bench Rd
Moab, UT 84532
435-259-6118
435-260-2373

KaLeigh Welch

From: RICHARD SYLVESTER [RCSYLVES1@MSN.COM]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 2:12 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: "Public Lands Initiative"

Moab needs **true wilderness protection** and that **quiet places need to be protected now and for future generations.**

Please

- **Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.** Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The council must recommend wilderness protection for the mountains that frame Delicate Arch and provide clean drinking water to Moab and Castle Valley.
- **Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.** At last week's council meeting, the council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth Canyon — despite it being the only flat water redrock wilderness river run in the American West.
- **Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails** that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." The serene wilderness experience of river runners in Labyrinth should be protected from the roar of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River.
- **Protect the views of Arches National Park** by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the National Park.
- **Designate areas to be managed as "roadless areas" within the proposed NCA** following the "Daggett County model" already approved by Utah's Congressional delegation.
- **Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County**, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of off-road vehicles.

This is one of my favorite places in the world and I visit it as often as I can.

Thank you

Richard Sylvester
3089 Comanche Dr
Walsenburg, Co. 81089



This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.
www.avast.com

KaLeigh Welch

From: Greg Booth [gregabooth@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 2:14 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Grand County Council:

Dear Sirs:

Island In The Sky and the Green and Colorado canyons that form it are a special place for myself my family and our friends. We have spent many days/weeks/months hiking, biking and boating these beautiful places

PLEASE consider the true wilderness quality of Labyrinth canyon.

Thank you,
Gregory A Booth DDS
10,300E 200 So
Huntsville, Utah

KaLeigh Welch

From: Theresa Vitolo [theresa.m.vitolo@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 2:20 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Wilderness Preservation

Please consider the natural and fragile ecosystems of Moab, Utah in your recommendations to Rep. Rob Bishop.

I advocate for protection of these areas by requesting the following:

- **Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.**
- **Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.**
- **Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails.**
- **Protect the views of Arches National Park by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the National Park.**
- **Designate areas to be managed as “roadless areas” within the proposed NCA following the “Daggett County model”.**
- **Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County.**

These resources are not replaceable, once damaged. Their beauty lies in their majestic starkness, offering insight into the beauty once throughout the United States, now lost forever in many areas.

KaLeigh Welch

From: Errin Walker [errinwalker@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 2:24 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protect Wildlands - please.

Please consider these items.

- **Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.** Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The council must recommend wilderness protection for the mountains that frame Delicate Arch and provide clean drinking water to Moab and Castle Valley.
- **Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.** At last week's council meeting, the council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth Canyon — despite it being the only flat water redrock wilderness river run in the American West.
- **Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails** that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and “Dead Cow/The Tubes.” The serene wilderness experience of river runners in Labyrinth should be protected from the roar of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River.
- **Protect the views of Arches National Park** by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the National Park.
- **Designate areas to be managed as “roadless areas” within the proposed NCA** following the “Daggett County model” already approved by Utah's Congressional delegation.
- **Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County**, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of off-road vehicles.

Thanks,
Errin Walker
Montezuma County, Colorado

KaLeigh Welch

From: Liz Thomas [moablizard72@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 2:30 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Comments for Grand County - Bishop PLI Process

Dear County Council,

I have followed the Council's PLI workshop discussions and appreciate the time and effort you have committed to the process thus far.

Although your intentions might have been to make balanced recommendations to Rep. Bishop, your draft recommendations have, thus far, been far from balanced. Specifically, the Council's PLI draft recommendations have been weighted very heavily in favor of one type of recreation -- motorized recreation, and have been weighted heavily in favor of oil, gas and potash development.

The public lands in Grand County constitute a world-class attraction. Although there might be small oil, gas and potash deposits that could be exploited for personal gains by a few, the mining and drilling of these resources will never make the U.S. energy independent. Supporting the exploitation and development of these relatively insignificant mineral deposits and supporting motorized vehicle use in nearly every canyon west of Hwy. 191 has a disproportionately large and long-term impact on our world-class scenery, clean air, dark skies, and robs a large majority of recreationists and visitors of quiet areas in which to get away from the ever-present engine and equipment noise of everyday life.

I urge you to improve your recommendations for a few special places to accommodate non-motorized locals and visitors alike, and to preserve special areas from the long-lasting impacts of energy and fertilizer development.

West of Hwy. 191:

- Provide on-the-ground protections for the outstanding canyons that are tributaries to the Green River, including Mineral Canyon and Hell Roaring Canyons. Specifically, in addition to closing the off-road vehicle route in Ten Mile Wash, the little-used off-road vehicle routes in the **canyon bottoms of Hell Roaring and Mineral canyons** (NOT the Mineral Bottom Road) **should be closed** in order to provide a refuge for big horn sheep and recreationists seeking quiet places.
- In order to preserve the quiet boating experience in Labyrinth Canyon, the Council should recommend that the old mining trail to the Hey Joe mine and the Dead Cow/Tubes motorcycle route along the Green River be closed to motor vehicles.
- I urge the Council to recommend Wilderness rather than its proposed NSO (no surface occupancy) recommendation for the canyons and mesas in the Labyrinth area. The road density in the Labyrinth area is too high. Designating wilderness here would close a small percentage of the unused or redundant trails and be a move towards a more balanced travel plan. Wilderness designation is a statutory designation with known management criteria. To the best of my knowledge, there is no precedent for legislating NSO. Although the Council

might perceive these two designations to be similar, there is no guarantee. For the sake of certainty, recommend the area as wilderness and close several unnecessary and little-used routes.

- Recommend no potash development west of the Blue Hills road, and specifically in the Ten Mile Wash area. This area is too scenic and highly-valued by recreationists to sacrifice for fertilizer mining and development.

East of Hwy 191:

- I urge you to protect the viewshed of Arches Nat'l Park by expanding the NCA boundary to the NE of the Park by approximately 4 miles.
- Recommend that the Fisher Towers and Mary Jane areas within the proposed NCA be managed as roadless areas, following the Daggett County model which has been approved by Congressmen Bishop and Chaffetz.

Westwater/Beaver Creek/LaSal Mountains:

- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Dolores Triangle-Beaver Creek wilderness areas. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but the Council should recommend closure of little used routes within the boundaries. There should be places where users can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of motors.
- Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains. Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service Wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The Council should recommended protecting the mountains that form our watershed.

I appreciate your consideration of my concerns.

Sincerely,
Liz Thomas

Liz Thomas
PO Box 321
3291 Juniper Drive
moablizard72@gmail.com

KaLeigh Welch

From: Lynne Avery [tw_mama@comcast.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 2:41 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Wilderness Areas Around Moab and Arches National Park

To the members of the Grand County Council.

As a concerned citizen and lover of the natural grandeur surrounding Moab, I am writing to beseech the Grand County Council to urge Representative Rob Bishop to protect and preserve the quiet places in this beautiful land for the current generations and for the generations to come. In putting forth your recommendations to Representative Bishop regarding the pending "Public Lands Initiative" legislation, please include the following:

- **Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.** Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. It is essential that the council reverse its current stance and recommend wilderness protection for the mountains that frame Delicate Arch and provide clean drinking water to Moab and Castle Valley.
- **Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.** At last week's council meeting, the council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth Canyon — despite it being the only flat water redrock wilderness river run in the American West. Again, I ask that the council reverse its current stance and recommend that Labyrinth Canyon be designated as a wilderness area.
- **Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes."** The serene wilderness experience of river runners in Labyrinth should be protected from the roar of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River. Although many users of these trails may feel that it's their inalienable right to go wherever they please, this type of use causes incalculable damage to wilderness environments.
- **Protect the views of Arches National Park by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the National Park.** Arches National Park is a national treasure. As such it needs to be protected from encroachment by development.
- **Designate areas to be managed as "roadless areas" within the proposed NCA following the "Daggett County model" already approved by Utah's Congressional delegation.**
- **Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county.** There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of off-road vehicles.

Thank you.
Lynne Avery

If it can be solved, there's no need to worry, and if it can't be solved, worry is of no use. —
Dalai Lama

KaLeigh Welch

From: Dan Reed [dreed@jaywalkerlodge.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 3:13 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Moab

I am writing in support of keeping the Moab area a wilderness area. It is increasingly becoming a racetrack for off road vehicles. The Lasals, Labyrinth Canyon, and other undesignated wilderness areas need protection. There need to be places where experiencing the outdoors requires a good pair of hiking boots, a sleeping bag, and some stamina. Not an ATV. Please ensure the quiet solitude of nature remains a reality in Moab. Thanks, Dan Reed Carbondale, Co.

KaLeigh Welch

From: Ted Bright [trbright@earthlink.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 3:21 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative

Dear Council Members,

In your recommendations to Representative Rob Bishop, as part of your participation in the Public Lands Initiative, I strongly urge you to promote as much protection as possible for Labyrinth Canyon, including the designation of Labyrinth Canyon as a wilderness area and the closure of ATV/motorcycle/Jeep trails that run down to and along the river in Labyrinth Canyon. My wife and I have run that stretch of the Green river many times, and the noise from vehicles for quite some distance up and down the river near the mouths of Hey Joe and Hell Roaring Canyon have been very disturbing on a number of occasions. Our river corridors are limited. Boats won't float anywhere but on the water. Boats can't just "go somewhere else" to avoid the noise of recreational vehicles. With the hundreds of miles of ATV trails available elsewhere in Grand County, surely it isn't necessary to disturb the peace and solitude that river runners seek by leaving these riverside trails open to motorized vehicles.

I appreciate your consideration of my comments.

Ted Bright
Castle Valley, UT

KaLeigh Welch

From: Greg and Amy [gnesiosgibbs@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 3:26 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative

As a person who has visited and spent time in the Moab area for over 40 years and who was a resident of the area in the early 70s, I write to express my concerns over the Public Lands Initiative you will soon be dealing with. Since 1971 I have seen Moab turn from a quiet, charming little community into a noisy, overdeveloped, overcrowded mess. The town has bent over backward to accomodate motorized use of the area. The time has come to reflect and protect the values that originally drew visitors to the area. Please consider designating wilderness areas in the La Sal Mountains to protect the gorgeous viewshed that dominates the town. Consider the same type of protection for Labyrinth Canyon. Please seriously consider more roadless areas where visitors can enjoy quiet recreation and the sublime beauty of Grand County and close off infrequently used motorized routes. I assure you this can only have a positive economic impact as there are many of my friends and associates who have forsaken the Moab area over the years for more amenable locations. These people and many others will return if these kinds of experiences are made available. Moab cannot afford to continue promoting chaotic, noisy, and damaging activities and expect to sustain traditional tourism. Not only does this kind of thinking drive away many visitors, it continues to degrade the quality of life of those folks who live and work in the Moab area.

I thank you for your time and consideration.

Greg Gnesios
Grand Junction, Colorado

KaLeigh Welch

From: Stanley Kitchen [stanleygkitchen@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 3:26 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative

As a citizen of the state of Utah and a visitor to your wonderful county, please consider the following recommendations to ensure that Grand County remains the great place that it is and to preserve those qualities for generations to come.

- **Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.** Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The council must recommend wilderness protection for the mountains that frame Delicate Arch and provide clean drinking water to Moab and Castle Valley.
- **Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.** At last week's council meeting, the council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth Canyon — despite it being the only flat water redrock wilderness river run in the American West.
- **Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails** that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." The serene wilderness experience of river runners in Labyrinth should be protected from the roar of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River.
- **Protect the views of Arches National Park** by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the National Park.
- **Designate areas to be managed as "roadless areas" within the proposed NCA** following the "Daggett County model" already approved by Utah's Congressional delegation.
- **Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County**, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of off-road vehicles.

Thank you for your consideration.

Stan Kitchen

KaLeigh Welch

From: Lauren Swain [video@mindseyeworld.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 3:29 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Keep Utah on my vacation \$ list

To whom it may concern,

Because I love visiting Utah wildlands and spending my vacation dollars in Utah on the way there and the way back, here's what the Grand County Council should do on Monday:

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

Thank you,

Lauren L. Swain
3277 Raleigh St.
Denver, CO 80212

KaLeigh Welch

From: Mark Williamson [lakewoodhouse@mac.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 3:33 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative

Dear Council-

I understand that you are finishing up your recommendations for Rep Rob Bishop regarding the Public Lands Initiative. I would like to strongly encourage you to support wilderness protections. My concerns are listed below, in no particular order.

- 1) I would very much expect to see support for designation of wilderness in teh La Sal Mountains. To date this council has recommended none, and I feel that is an oversight that should be corrected. Now it the time.
- 2) Please protect the views of Arches National Park. They are irreplaceable and a true treasure that you are fortunate to have so close to you. I understand you can expand a proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the National Park to accomplish this. Please do so.
- 3) With respect to noise, a very serious concern, close seldom used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County. Folks (like myself) who value quiet in the great outdoors should be able to find it and keep the river corridor in Labyrinth Canyon quiet by closing ATV and jeep trails. This is no place for motorized vehicles
- 4) And speaking of Labyrinth Canyon, this canyon should be designated as wilderness. It is the only flat water wilderness river in red rock country that I am aware of and worthy.

I hope you will take positive actions on these items and protect the quality of places that are special, treasures and the reason that many come to the Moab area, year after year (30+ for me).

Mark Williamson
Loveland, Colorado
lakewoodhouse@mac.com

KaLeigh Welch

From: Lisa Cenicerros [lisacenicerros@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 3:35 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Live and Let Live
Attachments: Shafer Trail history.pdf

To the Grand County Council:

I hope this makes you squirm. I hope my words keep you awake at night. I have every right to live my life as I see fit and I have no idea why you new "progressives" (domestic terrorists in my humble opinion, try as I might to come up with a different descriptive term, this was what fit the actions of those who are trying to annihilate my way of life) think that you can make decisions for me better than I can make decisions for myself. Take your good intentions and shove it! The road to Hell is paved with "good intentions".

I vehemently oppose ANY new designations of wilderness, wilderness study areas, national monuments, road closures, OHV restrictions, or otherwise anywhere in Grand and San Juan Counties. You new council members owe it to your constituents, and not just the constituents that elected you, to keep an open mind and consider both sides of this heated issue. Unfortunately, you represent all of us, and not just those who elected you. But that's the way it is. You have an obligation to ALL citizens to approach every decision you make on behalf of Grand County with an open mind, selfless intentions, and selfless motives.

There are so many people in this world that have a disability in some form or another. And so many that have various injuries and cannot take advantage of seeing our backyard while hiking, biking, rafting, or other non-motorized means. That leaves the option of motorized exploration for these folks. I include myself in the above mentioned "injury" group. I suffered a severe break (I spiral fractured my right tibia & fibula and shattered my right ankle) on March 16, 2010. I've done everything that my doctors have advised and I have completed physical therapy. But, alas, my leg will never be the same. It's not reliable like it once was; what I once took for granted. It is weak and shaky and gives out on me without warning. Sometimes, I can get out and hike short distances, but those times are few and far between. It is much easier and much less painful for me to enjoy my backyard while traveling in a vehicle. While I do like to get out and go hiking, it's not always realistic for me and for many others with debilitating injuries and diseases who are much worse off than I am. So, I ask you this: why would you deny access to our beautiful backyard to those that have disabilities? This idea of declaring more "wilderness" (give me a break!?) and "national monuments" and only allowing access to certain types of users is discriminatory, self-serving, and short-sighted. Shame on you!

I am a sixth-generation resident of Moab and Grand County. My family settled this area, including San Juan County, where my grandmother, Zella Madolyn Evans Knight, was born and raised. Her mother was a Christensen. My children are seventh-generation residents of this community. We are not transplants. We built this town. We grazed this land. We planted the fields. We built the roads. We worked in the mines. We hauled the ore. We worked in the service industry. We have been the stewards of this area for over 150 years. This is OUR, I repeat, THIS IS OUR COMMUNITY!!!

We, as in my family, are in this for the long haul and not some hedonistic, idealized, bull shit. We settled this land, we ranched and we farmed, and then we mined and drove the ore trucks. My great grandparents, Bud and Elfleda Barker Walker, owned the land that Red Rock Elementary School,

Rotary Park, and Walker Subdivision are built on. Their farm house stood where the Red Rock office once was. My grandma and my aunties played in Mill Creek and caught frogs and generally raised Hell.

My great-great grandparents, Mark and Ida Beeson Walker, owned that little white house over on 5th West and 4th North and the orchard surrounding it. My great grandpa Bud helped transform the Shaffer Trail from a sheep herders trail into a mining road. My grandpa Hardwater Knight and his brother, Nate, also worked to transform the rugged switch-back trail, among many other trails, into mining roads. They did it when no one else would. (see the attached PDF of an article published by Sam Taylor, another of my distant relatives, in the Times-Independent in 2007.) My uncle, Nate, was paralyzed in a mining accident in the early '60's, leaving my aunt, Peggy, to raise their family and make ends meet. My grandpa Hardwater and my dad, Robert Knight, hauled ore and worked in the mines together until the uranium boom collapsed in the early '80's. It was a tough life, but we have all worked hard and we are proud of our hard work and the community that we have built. We may not have everything, but we have everything in our family.

My great grandfather, Clarence Tangreen, was a sheep herder. My grandfather, Kay Tangreen, has been a welder, mechanic, and truck driver his whole life until his back finally gave out on him. My grandma, Judy Walker Tangreen, worked in the Assessors Office for decades.

My grandmother, Madolyn Evans Knight, and my aunties, Jeri Ann White (Merald, White's Ranch in Spanish Valley), Kathryn, and Helen, have all waited tables, serving first movie stars and miners, and later tourists, their entire lives. My cousins and I have all worked our fingers to the bone and broken our backs waiting tables in this town. It's a hard living. And it's even harder when you're now only here as a slave to the hedonistic pleasures of interlopers. As a kid I spent summers at White's Ranch, my cousins and I played for hours in the creek along the north side of the Ranch. We explored and swam and drove the four-wheeler and "helped" irrigate and hiked and used our imaginations. This is our home.

My great (or maybe great-great) aunt, Helen M. Knight was the first female Principal (in the U.S. if I remember correctly), and I believe, later, Superintendent of Grand County. HMK Elementary School is named for her. My great aunt, Elsie Knight Leech, ran the school cafeteria until she retired in the late 80's. I believe that everyone who went through our local school system during Aunt Elsie's tenor with Grand County School District fondly remembers her cinnamon rolls.

When I was a kid, when my parents, grand parents, great grandparents, great great grandparents were kids, these are the places that we visited when we had a rare free moment to enjoy. We spent Easter Sunday visiting the places that the sheep herders and miners discovered and wanted to share with their families. We took a picnic and explored God's country. We respected the land that provides for us. We listened to our parents and grandparents tell us stories about the good 'ole days. Why would you want to take that from me? Why would you take that away from my kids? This is my history. This is my heritage. And you want to tell me that I can't pass this legacy on to my kids? Who the Hell do you think you are!?! This is my life. This is my town. These are my memories. This is my history. This is my heritage.

We are proud of the struggles that we have overcome. We have remained here through the good times and the lean.

And after all of that, after all of that and then some, we are taken for granted and continually disrespected. You have no perspective in respect to the founding families of this community. You interlopers have now moved in and want to tell us that our way of life isn't good enough; that your

way is better, you know better than all of us, and that we are just stupid rednecks. Now you want to tell us that we can no longer have access to the places that we built, the places that we settled and carved a life out of?!

Who the Hell do you think you are to tell me how to live my life? We are not trying to keep you out, though in hindsight, maybe we should have. We welcomed you with open arms. We are not trying to tell you that you can't ride your bikes on the trails that we built. We're not trying to tell you that you can't ride your rafts down the river that has irrigated our lands. We are not trying to tell you that you can't hike anywhere you damn well please in our backyard. So why do you think it's okay to tell us where we can and cannot go? Let us be and leave our access to our backyard alone! We're not trying to keep you out, so why are you trying to keep us out?

The Grand County Council should NOT recommend the closure of established roads and trails on public lands for the Public Lands Initiative. These roads and trails are important to the long-term health and diversity of our economy, as well as contribute to the outdoor lifestyle county residents have enjoyed for decades.

Our county council needs to support its citizens and taxpayers by recommending that existing roads remain open and allowing for multiple-use on public lands. Listen to the people who live here. Listen to the people who are working hard to raise their families here and create a future for their children. DO NOT listen to the voices of wealthy, national environmental groups ahead of your own citizens.

Enough is enough! Get it through your thick skulls! You can't legislate others into accepting your ideals. What is idyllic to you is most definitely not idyllic to me. Your way is not the only way. And yet my story, my desire for open access for everyone and multiple use on our lands, the stories and ideals of my cousins and friends, are all falling of deaf ears. I am extremely disappointed in the conduct of this new council. I am, for the first time in my life, ashamed of our County representatives.

I will not go quietly. I won't give up. I will never give up. I will fight with every breath that I take. This is MY home.

Lisa Knight Cenicerros
6th Generation Resident of Moab, Grand County, Utah

The Way Sam Remembers It . . .

The Shafer Trail

Submitted in The Times-Independent 22 Feb 2007 by Sam Taylor



Shafer Trail picture taken in 2008

The Shafer Trail in the Island in the Sky District of C National Park is one of the Canyonland park's most popular attractions. Looking down from The Neck, just south of the entrance of the district, is awe-inspiring; seeing the many switchbacks, some carved from solid sandstone, makes your spine tremble. In actuality, the road is a lot better to drive on than it looks from the bottom or top. It had to be. Built during the uranium boom by a partnership of uranium claim owners, hundreds of tons of high-grade uranium ore from claims above the White Rim were hauled up over that road.

This week I was visited by Moab resident Robert Mohler, probably the last remaining member of that partnership, who took the time to write about the building of the Shafer Trail. I want to share that little bit of history with our readers and visitors. Bob wrote:

"I enjoy your travels down memory lane and it brings me to a point of one of my own travels - namely the Shafer Trail.

"I have heard all kinds of stories on who built the road, and since I am the only one left of the original group I would like to set the record straight.

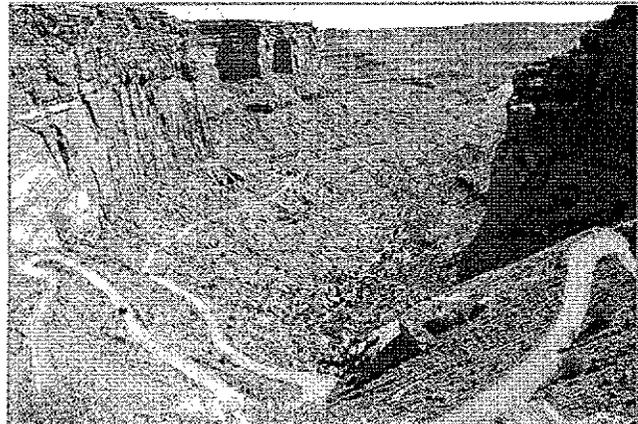
"The Chinle and Shinarump formations run for miles along the river, but there was no way to transport ore from any of the claims. Nick Murphy, my brother Dick, and I went to the Atomic Energy Commission in Grand Junction and asked for help in improving the trail to a road. They politely declined, but with a tongue-in-cheek attitude, said they would give us permission to do it ourselves.

"So we came home and started discussions on who we could get to do the project. Felix Murphy, Nick's brother, said he didn't think the Knight brothers were busy so we talked to them. Nate and Hardwater (as he was called) liked the challenge but had one stipulation: they would have to receive some "bean money" while doing the work. So

money became the first order of business. Nick was the main financial contributor, Dick and I put in what we could afford, and the rest came from local business-men, individuals and utility companies.

"Felix started the work with a TD 24 bulldozer that was almost as big as a house. I will never forget the first day when I looked over the edge and wondered if we were in our right minds.

"Other miners contributed some day labor but the main builders of the Shafer Trail were Nate and Hardwater Knight along with Felix Murphy doing the cat work. Howard Shields (a local plumbing contractor) was our treasurer and disbursing officer.



Shafer Trail picture also taken in 2008

"The road was finally down, the only problem, we had to back up on some of the switchbacks to negotiate the turns, too big a problem for hauling ore. Being undaunted by now, we went back to the AEC and asked if they would widen the switchbacks and improve the road where needed. We were greatly surprised when they readily agreed to do so ... The man in charge of that department, shook our hands and congratulated us on a job well done. He didn't think we could do it. I wish I could remember all the people who gave us help along the way.

"The Shafer Trail has become a rather important part of our tourist attractions. I often wonder why no one has ever thought of putting up a plaque in honor of the hardy pioneers who built it. First it was a game trail, the Shafer brothers improved it for a stock trail. Three sets of brothers, along with Howard Shields, improved it to a road trail.

"Perhaps it should be called 'The Trail of the Brothers.' That has an old Spanish ring." Bob Mohler, now approaching 89 years old, moved back to Moab when he retired, and is now comfortably living in Loveridge Subdivision. I first met Bob and Dick Mohler in 1950. Bob covered sports for The Times-Independent. That is when I was a senior in high school, and our football team went undefeated until the state championship game which we lost to Millard High School. His son, John moved back home in the late 1980s, and works here today in the accounting department at Allen Memorial Hospital. His other son, Robert is a rocket scientist with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration in Houston, Texas. He and his wife, however, have purchased real estate

in Moab and plan to move here when they retire. Bob's daughter, Diane graduated from Grand High School and the University of Utah. She and her husband both teach in Angel Fire, N.M., and each year they bring a group of their students to Moab to camp out at Dead Horse Point and learn about the history and geology of the area.

I hope our readers enjoy this little snippet of Moab history as much as I enjoyed visiting with my friend of 57 years, Robert Mohler, last week.

KaLeigh Welch

From: Betsy Goodman [bgoodman12@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 3:38 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

To Grand County Council Members:

I am an avid older hiker, and have long enjoyed the beauty of Labyrinth Canyon and surrounding areas. I urge you to protect the areas under consideration with true wilderness protection. These pristine quiet places need people with foresight to protect them for future generations to enjoy.

Specifically:

1. The river corridor needs to be quiet. There are lots of places to ride an ATV or bike, but not here! People floating down the river should not have to listen to motorized vehicles along the banks of the green river.
2. Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness, as it is a rare gem and deserves protection.
3. Expend the proposed NCA 4 miles east of Arches Park in order to protect Arches views. Tourists visit because of this splendor.
4. Protect the La Sal mountains that frame the Delicate Arch as wilderness.
5. Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county, so that there is a place where Moab visitors can get away from the roads and sounds of ATV's.

Sincerely,
Mary E. Goodman, M.S. ED., senior hiker

KaLeigh Welch

From: Sally Whitehead [swhitehead@lizardhead.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 3:38 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Please add protection for wilderness

As a Colorado resident I am fortunate to be able to visit Moab every fall and spring to enjoy its amazing hiking trails. On March 16th please protect the wilderness you have for the quiet beauty and amazing vistas. It is a special special place that deserves protection. Thank you. Sally Whitehead
Trout Lake, Colorado

KaLeigh Welch

From: Charlie Ayers [charlie.ayers@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 3:44 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net

I am writing to encourage you to support wilderness designation for Labyrinth Canyon, and to support closing ATV trails to the river in the canyon.

I floated that canyon by canoe 27 yrs ago, and was married outside of Moab in 1991; subsequent visits have lead me to believe that the preponderance of ATV routes and use will soon make solitude in the area very hard to find.

Charles Ayers
Holladay UT

KaLeigh Welch

From: Michael Peck [colorcountry@frontiernet.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 3:44 PM
To: Grand County Council
Subject: Public Lands Initiative

Dear Grand County Council,

There seems to be a complete polarization in our government from the federal, state, and local levels. When I attended the Grand County Council Workshop I heard a woman speak for the off-road vehicle group. She stated flatly that she would not be happy if there were any road closures to orv's or jeep trails. Listening to her speak I become aware that we are time and time again lacking of any willingness to work together. In essence both sides are shooting themselves in the foot and appearing to each other as if both were totally ignorant. Anyone who's ever gone into the LaSal Mountains, Behind the Rocks, or hiking anywhere in red rock country to be by themselves, to think quietly. know how disturbing it is to hear the many jeeps, orv's or dirt bikes come driving by. On the other side of the coin, if you've ever ridden a dirt bike, or driven a jeep, you realize how you do not hear the noise of your vehicle. It's all part of the experience. One only has to look at the maps to see there are enough trails for both kinds of activity. There doesn't have to be animosity on either side just some common respect for the different types of experience each wants to have. Multiple use does not mean having jeeps, hikers, and dirt bikes using the same trail at the same time while negotiating around oil wells and pipelines.

We need to designate wilderness in the LaSal Mountains, after all it is the Moab and Castle Valley designated aquifer recharge area. Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. I urge you to designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. The serene wilderness experience of river runners in Labyrinth should be protected from the roar of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River and by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." Please protect the views of Arches National Park by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the National Park. Designate "roadless Area" within the proposed NCA following the "Daggett County model" using the legal boiler plate language already approved by our Congressional delegation. Please recommend the closure of infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, including the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of off-road vehicles. If not, we will effectively kill the goose who lays the golden egg "tourism" and rob ourselves and future generations..

Michael Peck
Castle Valley, Utah

KaLeigh Welch

From: Caroline Johnson [cjohnson@bresnan.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 3:45 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: NCA and wilderness

Dear Council –As frequent visitors to Grand County, we feel strongly that the following should be included in the current proposals for your county:

- 1) Wilderness protection for the La Sal Mountains, insuring resource protection including clean water
- 2) Protection for Labyrinth Canyon on the Green River. This is such a special unique place
- 3) Follow the Daggett County model for managing “roadless” areas within the NCA.
- 4) Close infrequently used routes to ATVs in all proposed wilderness in Grand County. Maintain some areas for quiet recreation and protection of soil, water and scenic resources.

Thank you for your consideration.

Caroline Johnson, Durango, Colorado

KaLeigh Welch

From: Davey Garbett [daveygarbett@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 3:45 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Please Support the Protection of Public Lands

Dear County Council,

I am writing to ask that you support significant public land protection in Grand County as part of Rep. Rob Bishop's public lands initiative.

I visit Grand County a number of times each year to enjoy the remarkable public lands in your county. It is the lands and their wild, natural status that draw me to the county.

Recently, I floated down Labyrinth Canyon. It is a remarkable place that I plan to visit again soon with my young daughter. I hope that you will protect this area as wilderness and prevent it from being impacted by oil and gas development and off-road vehicle use. When I floated the river, a group of motorcycles drove along the banks one day. This ruined the canyon experience. There are plenty of places for motorcycles to visit in Grand County but there is only one quiet river canyon system appropriate for families and people with no background in river travel. Please preserve Labyrinth Canyon as wilderness.

I also ask that you protect the La Sal Mountains as wilderness. The La Sals are probably one of the two most iconic ranges in the state. They are an obvious candidate for wilderness protection. Every time I visit Arches I am amazed by the fact that the backdrop to much of its beauty (in particular, the background of Delicate Arch) is unprotected. Please rectify this problem by protecting the areas adjacent to Arches as wilderness as well.

I understand that the county council has recommended large areas along the Colorado River, upstream of and around Moab, for a national conservation area designation. I hope that you will follow the example of Utah's only other designated national conservation areas in Washington County and make most of the areas inside off limits to vehicle travel.

Finally, please abandon county claims to infrequently-used and unnecessary vehicle routes in the county. While you certainly have a visible and active off-road economy, most visitors to Grand County prefer to enjoy the remarkable setting by other means. Vehicle proliferation detracts from the experience of most visitors. Closing some routes will not seriously impair your off-road visitation and it will guarantee that you may rely on your natural beauty to draw visitors for decades to come.

Sincerely,
David Garbett

KaLeigh Welch

From: Anne McKibbin [anne.d.mckibbin@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 3:49 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Please protect Labyrinth Canyon

Hello,

I'm writing to ask the Council to protect Labyrinth Canyon as wilderness. I live in Chicago, IL and travel to southern Utah for vacations. I'll actually be there next week for a hiking trip in the Moab area. Please protect his magnificent area for quiet recreation and posterity.

Thank you,

Anne McKibbin
312-927-5546

KaLeigh Welch

From: Madison Hartshorn [madshart@me.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 3:53 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Keep Moab Wild

Hello there,

I get emails from the Grand Canyon Trust after getting an amazing once in a life time chance to work with them. I live in Colorado and I love to visit Utah for its pure beauty, stillness and the amazing rock climbing. I am not well versed in the current efforts to protect this beautiful part of our country. However I have been informed that very soon your group will be making decisions that will effect the land for years to come.

If I can speak at all to this subject, I urge you to think with your hearts. First think of the land, its beauty and natural balance is nothing we as humans could hope to duplicate. Once we upset this balance there is no easy going back. People should still be able to enjoy the land and see its greatness and yet by reducing many senseless social and AV trails we will be able to preserve the land for many more years. I am sure you are trying to consider all sides in this situation and yet the most important side, nature's, does not have a voice.

Use your hearts.

Madison

KaLeigh Welch

From: Jacob Schmidt [jacobrschmidt@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 3:56 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Moab

To whom it may concern,

I am a concerned citizen who loves Moab and Labyrinth Canyon in particular. My dad has taken us multiple times when my siblings and I were children and we loved it! It was so quiet, peaceful and calm. A perfect place to commune with nature and appreciate the beauty Utah has to offer. Allowing motorized vehicles would ruin this experience! It would be much better for it to be designated as wilderness area. I would love for my children to be able to enjoy what I was able to as a child. This world is full of loud, noisy places and experiences. This doesn't need to become another one. Please consider my opinion and that of my immediate and extended family in making this decision. I know we are not the only ones out there who enjoy the serenity of nature! Thank you so much for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,
Amy Schmidt

KaLeigh Welch

From: rob ingle [ringlefish@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 3:57 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protect our land

- **esignate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.** Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The council must recommend wilderness protection for the mountains that frame Delicate Arch and provide clean drinking water to Moab and Castle Valley.
- **Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.** At last week's council meeting, the council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth Canyon — despite it being the only flat water redrock wilderness river run in the American West.
- **Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river:** Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and “Dead Cow/The Tubes.” The serene wilderness experience of river runners in Labyrinth should be protected from the roar of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River.
- **Protect the views of Arches National Park** by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the National Park.
- **Designate areas to be managed as “roadless areas” within the proposed NCA** following the “Daggett County model” already approved by Utah's Congressional delegation.
- **Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County,** especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of off-road vehicles.

Please do all of the above,
Rob Ingle park city utah

KaLeigh Welch

From: Michal Rosenoer [michal.rosenoer@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 4:00 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protect Moab and Utah's public lands

Hello Grand County Council,

I'm writing today as someone that loves Utah's wild places - please protect them. Specifically, please do the following:

- **Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.**
- **Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness**
- **Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails - Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes."**
- **Protect the views of Arches National Park** by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the National Park.
- **Designate areas to be managed as "roadless areas" within the proposed NCA** following the "Daggett County model" already approved by Utah's Congressional delegation.
- **Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County**, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county

I want to continue being able to enjoy the lands around Moab with quiet use now and into the future. Please treat the land with respect.

Thanks,
Michal Rosenoer

3049 East 6th Ave
Durango, CO 81301

From: shayne@aspenprana.com
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 4:07 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Moab
Attachments: ATT02038.txt



Hello Friend,

This Monday, March 16th, the Grand County Council in Moab, Utah will put the finishing touches on its recommendations to Representative Rob Bishop as part of the "Public Lands Initiative" legislation.



What they decide will directly impact what Moab is like in the years to come. Please take a moment to email the Council at council@grandcountyutah.net.

The Grand County Council needs to hear directly from people like you who love and visit Moab. Tell them that Moab needs true wilderness protection and that quiet places need to be protected now and for future generations.

Here's what the Grand County Council needs to do on Monday. Please include the following in your email to the Council:

- **Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.** Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The council must recommend wilderness protection for the mountains that frame Delicate Arch and provide clean drinking water to Moab and Castle Valley.
- **Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.** At last week's council meeting, the council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth Canyon — despite it being the only flat water redrock wilderness river run in the American West.
- **Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails** that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." The serene wilderness experience of river runners in Labyrinth should be protected from the roar of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River.
- **Protect the views of Arches National Park** by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the National Park.
- **Designate areas to be managed as "roadless areas" within the proposed NCA** following the "Daggett County model" already approved by Utah's Congressional delegation.
- **Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County,** especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can

find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of off-road vehicles.

The off-road vehicle lobby is already bombarding the council with emails The Council needs to hear from visitors like you that they need to create some balance by closing routes and protecting the quiet areas of Moab.

When it comes to your experience in Grand County and the Moab area, this may be the most important email you ever write. Again, please take just a moment to email the Council at council@grandcountyutah.net.

Thank you for taking action.

Sincerely,

Tim D. Peterson
Utah Wildlands Program Director

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[View this email in your Web browser](#)

KaLeigh Welch

From: win blevins [win.blevins@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 4:08 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Moab and its environs

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN--

Moab needs protection of its wild lands. Its beauty is irreplaceable.

That said, Canyonlands and Cedar Mesa need the same, and even more urgently.

Win Blevins
author of more than thirty books
member, Western Western Hall of Fame

She spoke the most dangerous of all words. "Yes."

from the novel Moonlight Water

KaLeigh Welch

From: Fred Schoenbrunn [Fred.Schoenbrunn@FLSmidth.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 4:14 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

Dear Grand County Council

Open spaces are critical to both our Utah and our American culture. The special places we have left need to be protected to avoid ruining them for both the present and future generations. I had the good fortune to take a canoe trip through Labyrinth Canyon last fall. Having seen the spectacular beauty of the area, I support closing most of it (specifically, areas more than about 20 miles outside of Green River) off to motorized off road access. I support and participate in motorized access in many areas of our backcountry, but believe there is space for both motorized and non-motorized recreation. Labyrinth is one of the premier flat water river trips in the country, and there are very few other places that can rival it in a variety of ways. Please, help protect the scenic beauty of our country and limit motorized access there.

Fred Schoenbrunn
Cottonwood Heights, Utah

KaLeigh Welch

From: Eric Stro [estrohacker@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 4:16 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Wilderness in the La Sal Mountains

I'm writing to encourage you to designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains in your upcoming decisions.

- Every other county in the PLJ process has recommended new Forest Service wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The council must recommend wilderness protection for the mountains that frame Delicate Arch and provide clean drinking water to Moab and Castle Valley.
- **Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.** At last week's council meeting, the council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth Canyon — despite it being the only flat water redrock wilderness river run in the American West.
- **Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails** that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and “Dead Cow/The Tubes.” The serene wilderness experience of river runners in Labyrinth should be protected from the roar of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River.
- **Protect the views of Arches National Park** by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the National Park.
- **Designate areas to be managed as “roadless areas” within the proposed NCA** following the “Daggett County model” already approved by Utah's Congressional delegation.
- **Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County**, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of off-road vehicles.

I'm a frequent visitor to the Moab area and hope you truly consider these honest and sincere recommendations.

Regards,

Eric Strohacker

KaLeigh Welch

From: Megan Wilder [mhouseweart@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 4:17 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protect more wilderness with the Public Lands Initiative

Moab needs **true wilderness protection** and that **quiet places need to be protected now and for future generations.**

Here's what the Grand County Council needs to do on Monday:

- **Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.** Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The council must recommend wilderness protection for the mountains that frame Delicate Arch and provide clean drinking water to Moab and Castle Valley.
- **Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.** At last week's council meeting, the council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth Canyon — despite it being the only flat water redrock wilderness river run in the American West.
- **Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails** that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." The serene wilderness experience of river runners in Labyrinth should be protected from the roar of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River.
- **Protect the views of Arches National Park** by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the National Park.
- **Designate areas to be managed as "roadless areas" within the proposed NCA** following the "Daggett County model" already approved by Utah's Congressional delegation.
- **Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County,** especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of off-road vehicles.

I visit Moab frequently and want it to be protected and preserved for future non-mototized users. Thanks,
Megan Wilder

KaLeigh Welch

From: Barb Zinn [barbzinn@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 4:20 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Bishop PLI Process Comments

Dear County Council,

I feel that the Council's PLI draft recommendations favor motorized recreation and oil, gas and potash development to the detriment of the beauty, wildness, solitude and quiet of our exceptional public lands. We need to set aside more areas for non-motorized use that are free from energy and fertilizer development impacts.

Close motorized routes in the bottoms of Green River tributary canyons, including Ten Mile Wash, Hell Roaring and Mineral canyons. Also end motorized routes along the Green River above Mineral Bottom. Designate wilderness in the Labyrinth area canyons and mesas. Do not allow potash development west of the Blue Hills road. Protect Arches NP view shed by extending the NCA boundary to the NE by 4 miles. Manage the Fisher Towers/Mary Jane Canyon area as roadless. Close little-used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County. And designate wilderness in the La Sals! Aside from its obvious wilderness values, it is OUR WATERSHED, and needs the utmost protection!!

Thanks for listening.

Sincerely,

Barb Zinn
460 Rosetree
Moab, UT 84532
barbzinn@gmail.com

KaLeigh Welch

From: Valerie Hess [hess.valerie@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 4:25 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Please save these wilderness areas.

Dear Council,

I am supportive of the Grand Canyon Trust's attempts to save these areas:

- **Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.** Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The council must recommend wilderness protection for the mountains that frame Delicate Arch and provide clean drinking water to Moab and Castle Valley.
- **Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.** At last week's council meeting, the council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth Canyon — despite it being the only flat water redrock wilderness river run in the American West.
- **Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails** that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and “Dead Cow/The Tubes.” The serene wilderness experience of river runners in Labyrinth should be protected from the roar of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River.
- **Protect the views of Arches National Park** by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the National Park.
- **Designate areas to be managed as “roadless areas” within the proposed NCA** following the “Daggett County model” already approved by Utah's Congressional delegation.
- **Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County**, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of off-road vehicles.

Please save these priceless treasures for future generations to enjoy.

Thank you.
Valerie Hess
10 Chautauqua Park
Boulder, CO 80302
(303) 442-2895

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Everyone wants to be transformed, but nobody wants to change.

Frederica Matthews-Green

www.valeriehess.com

KaLeigh Welch

From: Katie Pappas [kpappas56@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 4:26 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public lands initiative

Dear council members,

My family and I have been visiting the Moab area regularly for 30+ years. We love the area and even purchased 5 acres along the Green River north of Labyrinth Canyon.

We have floated the Green from Green River to Mineral Bottom. It was an incredible wilderness experience. Over the years there has been a huge increase in the number of ATV/ORV trails throughout southeastern Utah, some resulting in severe degradation of very pristine areas. One track in the wrong place impacts the area for years, if not decades. Although my family and I prefer hiking, biking, rafting and backpacking, I understand that not everyone can or wants to see the area that way. There are numerous trails available to them.

I feel that far too many areas have already been sacrificed for motorized recreation. More areas, including Labyrinth Canyon should be preserved in their natural state with only the sounds of nature. Once these areas are sacrificed, they are gone. Please use care in your decisions so future generations can enjoy this unique area.

Respectfully,

Katie Pappas and family

424 K St

Salt Lake City/

Hastings Road

Green River

Utah

801-532-3651

KaLeigh Welch

From: tomdanny1@inbox.lv
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 4:26 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth canyon

Please preserve Labyrinth Canyon and all the wilderness around Moab for future generations.

We camped, hiked, took pictures and had great fun as a family and with friends, in the area. Motorized vehicles have many roads and plenty of other places to rump around. We like nature in its NATURAL state: quiet and disturbed only by the elements. We respect everybody's rights to enjoy the beauty of southern Utah but NOT their right to spoil it for others with noise and pollution from ATVs and motorized engines. There are ways to share this beauty without conflict.

Thank you for your help,

Anny Lefebvre

Tom Dickman

Elizabeth Dickman

Samuel Dickman

KaLeigh Welch

From: Cathy Sherwood [maplesugar1@icloud.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 4:31 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Please protect greater Canyonlands

Dear Grand County Council, I am writing as a local property owner and as a person concerned about the future of the Greater Canyonlands and Moab area. My husband and I started visiting the National Parks, Monuments and Public lands in this area on vacations almost 30 years ago. Eventually our love of this Red Rock landscape spurred us to buy a house in Castle Valley so we could spend more time there and eventually retire there.

We have spent countless hours hiking, backpacking, camping and rafting in these scenic areas in Grand County and are extremely concerned as they become more threatened.

I strongly urge the Grand County council to:

- designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. This incredible area deserves protection
- keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet. Everyone should have an equal right to experience nature. The whine of motorcycles and ATV/jeepers on Hey Joe, Hell Roaring and Dead Cow/The Tubes, disturb not only the wilderness experience, but also, as was recently proven in a National Park Study, the delicate ecosystem of the area.
- protect the Arches and expand the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the park. If not only to enhance the wilderness, Arches is the crown jewel of Moab, which brings in eco tourism dollars more than any other area.
- designate areas to be managed as roadless areas within the NCA and close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County (especially Westwater-Beaver creek proposed wilderness). As a hiker, I repeatedly see areas that have been torn up, cryptobiotic soil destroyed and total disregard of land and habitat by thoughtless jeepers and ATV enthusiasts. Continuation of this destructive behavior will prevent tourists from returning and result in revenue loss for many of the area businesses.
- designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains. These beautiful mountains frame Arches and many of our local monuments. This area is used by outdoor enthusiasts for biking, hiking, skiing, snow shoeing, camping....Grand County needs to protect them and should be playing a leading role with the other counties. Instead Grand County has taken no action.

It is important for Grand County to move forward positively to preserve its natural areas. Short sighted monetary rewards should not cloud the judgement of the county. Without more protection, Grand County will eventually cease to exist as we all know and love it and the town will die as resource extraction is exhausted and leaves the area.

Sincerely,
Cathy Sherwood
42 Rim Shadow
Castle Valley, UT

KaLeigh Welch

From: Craig & Ramona Sorenson [silversage@scinternet.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 4:43 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Grand County's Future

Grand County Council,

We have taken canoes down Labyrinth Canyon and hiked in many areas of Grand County. The scenery, nature, beauty, song birds, wildlife and solitude are what I remember most about our experiences and are the greatest treasures you have. Please protect these Wilderness experiences. We support the following plan for this area:

Moab needs **true wilderness protection** and that **quiet places need to be protected now and for future generations.**

- **Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.** Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The council must recommend wilderness protection for the mountains that frame Delicate Arch and provide clean drinking water to Moab and Castle Valley.
- **Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.** At last week's council meeting, the council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth Canyon — despite it being the only flat water redrock wilderness river run in the American West.
- **Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails** that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." The serene wilderness experience of river runners in Labyrinth should be protected from the roar of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River.
- **Protect the views of Arches National Park** by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the National Park.
- **Designate areas to be managed as "roadless areas" within the proposed NCA** following the "Daggett County model" already approved by Utah's Congressional delegation.
- **Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County,** especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of off-road vehicles.

Sincerely,
Craig & Ramona Sorenson
silversage@scinternet.net
435-826-4897

KaLeigh Welch

From: Joe Gordon McPhee [jgmcphee8750@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 5:16 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Comment Re Public Lands Initiative

Dear Grand County Council:

I am writing to you regarding the Public Lands Initiative. I live in San Miguel County CO. and am a frequent visitor to the Moab area.

I deeply love your landscape and every time I ski in Telluride I look out from the top of the ski area towards the LaSals with great fondness. However, this Winter the La Sals have been frequently obscured by air pollution, and I know there are several causes for this, but it is still discouraging to not be able to view this magnificent range of mountains. I do believe that the La Sals should be designated wilderness area. They are wild and it is so nice to visit a quiet place like this.

Of course there are other wonderful places nearby as well. I had the good fortune a few years ago to get a private guided tour of parts of Arches National Park which the public rarely gets to see. It was a very hot summer day, and my only regret is that I didn't bring enough water with me, but my guide shared his water. The views of this park should be preserved. It is truly a magical area.

Labyrinth Canyon should be designated as wilderness and ATV's and off road vehicles should be kept out. This is a wonderful place to visit, and the quiet is an important part of the experience, maybe even a more important part than the visuals because there seem to be fewer and fewer quiet places to visit each year. Quietness is important and it is getting so hard to get away from all the noise surrounding us. I believe quietness regenerates the spirit, and allows us to really relax and give our overloaded senses a rest.

So, please do what is the right thing for our generation and future generations: Keep this wonderful country you live in as pristine as possible and free from all of man's noisy gadgets, so that we can actually enjoy this beautiful landscape unmolested by man's contraptions. Keep Grand County Grand.

Thank you for your consideration

Gordon McPhee

P.O. Box 1861

Telluride, CO 81435

KaLeigh Welch

From: Mary M Sealing [sealings@acsol.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 5:20 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative

To Whom It May Concern:

We are native Coloradans who divide our outdoor recreation time and dollars between the Colorado Rockies and the Utah desert. Our entire focus is on wilderness recreation... we will do anything to find quiet trails and to avoid impacts from motorized recreationists.

As you consider your input to the Public Lands Initiative, please defend the wilderness around Moab. We urge you to designate Labyrinth Canyon as Wilderness and to close the Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and Dead Cow motorized trails... they detract immeasurably from the recreational experience on the Green. We also urge you to expand the National Conservation Area near Arches and include roadless areas within it. And the wild areas in the La Sals deserve the highest levels of protection, both for their intrinsic values and for the views from the redrocks areas.

The contiguous US is already 95% developed or open to development. The concept of "balance" as it relates to the last best places in our wilderness heritage is deeply flawed. To continue to "balance" conflicting uses in that last 5% shows a failure of vision that our descendants will judge harshly. It is by default the responsibility of those with land management authority to find the courage to say "No More" to the continual drive for growth... growth that is unsustainable in a finite system. Please use your responsibility wisely and with a focus on larger systems and processes, and the future.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this terribly important decision. We will look forward to hearing your response.

Mary Sealing
1670 N 1/2 Road
Fruita, CO 81521
970-858-9659

KaLeigh Welch

From: Cristina Harmon [crisharmon@comcast.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 5:31 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative

I am writing in regard to the Grand County recommendations on Representative Rob Bishop's Public Lands Initiative. I live in Steamboat Springs, Colorado but regularly visit Grand County and the Moab area to enjoy hiking, camping, canyoneering, river rafting and other activities. The pristine beauty of the area brings me back year after year and I encourage the Grand County Commissioners to take the initiative to protect the La Sals, Labyrinth Canyon and the Westwater area as wilderness areas. Visitors such as myself that value a wilderness experience are a sustainable industry for Moab and Grand County.

I support the following as advocated by the Grand Canyon Trust and Great Old Broads for Wilderness:

- **Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.** Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The council must recommend wilderness protection for the mountains that frame Delicate Arch and provide clean drinking water to Moab and Castle Valley.
- **Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.** At last week's council meeting, the council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth Canyon — despite it being the only flat water redrock wilderness river run in the American West.
- **Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails** that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." The serene wilderness experience of river runners in Labyrinth should be protected from the roar of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River.
- **Protect the views of Arches National Park** by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the National Park.
- **Designate areas to be managed as "roadless areas" within the proposed NCA** following the "Daggett County model" already approved by Utah's Congressional delegation.
- **Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County**, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of off-road vehicles.

Thank you for considering my comments and taking bold action to protect the wilderness characteristics of these areas of Grand County.

Cristina Harmon
PO Box 771850
Steamboat Springs, CO 80477
970-846-0247
crisharmon@comcast.net

KaLeigh Welch

From: kristen henry [khenzg@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 5:31 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Message from Kristen Henry re: Representative Bob Bishop's "Public Lands Initiative" legislation

Dear Grand County council,

As a frequent visitor to Moab and its surrounding areas, I am writing to urge you to take the necessary steps to increase protection for the spectacular lands that are located in Grand County. In your recommendations to Rep. Bishop as part of the Public Lands Initiative, you have a unique opportunity to designate wilderness areas in the La Sal mountains and Labyrinth Canyon.

As an avid hiker, I truly appreciate visiting beautiful places that are quiet and removed from the noise and intrusion of jeeps and ATV's. I realize your challenge in finding a balance between various users, such as 4 wheelers, mountain bikers, hikers, etc., but it is important to provide protection to wilderness quality areas by closing them off to motorized vehicles.

I also urge you to protect the views of Arches National Park by recommending expansion of the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) to the east of the park. It is extremely important to designate roadless areas within the NCA.

Moab and the surrounding, truly spectacular places in Grand County attract visitors from all over the world, as well as the United States. Please do everything that you can to protect and preserve these incredible places that are unlike any place else on earth.

Thank you for taking the time to read my comments.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen Henry
525 W. Hallam St.
Aspen, CO 81611
khenzg@yahoo.com

KaLeigh Welch

From: jimfrederick@centurytel.net
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 5:46 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labryrith Canyon Wilderness Area

To Council:

The Moab area is a one of a kind desert landscape that should be protected on all levels. The serenity of the canyons and the rivers that meander through them should be held in the highest regard for the sake of preservation, with the intent to protect these awe inspiring areas from the development and destructive forces of off road vehicles.

I first laid eyes upon the area forty years ago. I was a Midwestern young adult that was overwhelmed by the beauty and serenity of the region. Sitting on a ledge overlooking the Book Cliffs was almost a spiritual experience, as was travelling along the Green River with all its canyons and vistas. It would be similar to going to an art show, with the only difference being the artist's medium. It has taken thousands, possibly even millions of years to etch the canyons, arches, spires and rivers that we so passionately refer to as Red Rock Country. There are millions of acres around the country, and in Utah that do not hold the pristine beauty of the Red Rock region that could be used for off-roading and similar forms of recreation. It makes little sense to use a land so beautiful for ATV's and dirt bikes. Once this fragile landscape is denigrated by the top soil disruption, the destruction of natural habitat and other perils associated with inappropriate use, the region will have been changed forever.

There is a huge difference in the damage done by foot traffic and damage done by off-roaders. Please make a wise decision that will guarantee the ecological survival of Labyrinth Canyon, and the region in general, that will preserve this area now, and for generations to come.

Respectfully,

Jim Frederick

Crowley Colorado
719-468-7595

KaLeigh Welch

From: Clint Christensen [nobackyard@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 5:46 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net

As a regular visitor to the Moab area, and one who has spent significant time on the Green River, I wanted to get my two cents in on the land use issues currently being considered. You have an important opportunity to preserve some beautiful places. I'd be most grateful if you would consider the following:

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as wilderness.
- Close Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and Dead Cow/The Tubes ATV and jeep trails.
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County.

Thanks for your consideration.

Clint Christensen

KaLeigh Welch

From: Jo Jones [jojones.co@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 6:12 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protect Moab!

Dear Council,

Moab is a one of a kind gem. Please do everything to protect Moab and give it wilderness protection.

You can never get it back once it's gone. Look at Glen Canyon. Don't make that mistake.

Sincerely,

Jo Jones, DVM

--

Jo Jones, DVM
100 Village Lane
Carbondale, CO
O-970-424-1368
C-970-596-3701
jojones.co@gmail.com

KaLeigh Welch

From: Shelby Robinson [sheerobin@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 6:23 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: protect wilderness in Grand county

Hi Grand County Council,

I have spent many incredible Spring break vacations with my daughter in & around Moab over the years. I am always deeply moved by the incredible beauty & variety of landscapes. There are so many places that deserve to be protected from roads & ATVs:

- **Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.** Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The council must recommend wilderness protection for the mountains that frame Delicate Arch and provide clean drinking water to Moab and Castle Valley.
- **Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.** At last week's council meeting, the council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth Canyon — despite it being the only flat water redrock wilderness river run in the American West.
- **Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails** that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and “Dead Cow/The Tubes.” The serene wilderness experience of river runners in Labyrinth should be protected from the roar of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River.
- **Protect the views of Arches National Park** by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the National Park.
- **Designate areas to be managed as “roadless areas” within the proposed NCA** following the “Daggett County model” already approved by Utah's Congressional delegation.
- **Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County,** especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of off-road vehicles.

Keep these places in the Moab area quiet wilderness areas & protect them so my family can have the same experience as my daughter & I for generations to come.

Thanks you,
Shelby Robinson
Ft. Collins, CO

KaLeigh Welch

From: Nancy Smith [snancy327@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 6:27 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protect your assets

Do not settle for short term benefits. Protect, treasure, and SAVE from noise, erosion the beauty and peace of Grand County. We need places we can savor the wonders of Creation. The many weeks spent in your area are treasured memories.

Most sincerely,
Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Smith
5651 Mountain View
Yorba Linda, CA 92886

Sent from my iPad

KaLeigh Welch

From: Mindy Hendrix [mindyh08@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 6:30 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

I'm writing as a concerned user of the Green River near Moab especially in Labyrinth Canyon. Some of my greatest memories of my childhood are the serenity of rafting Labyrinth Canyon. That serenity is nearly non-existent these days with the constant stream of ATV's and dirt bikes driving the road along the river. These vehicles destroy the land and the peacefulness of nature. They are often driven by a "party-type" crowd that parties noisily late into the night in the camping areas, disrupting other campers and often leaving litter including beer cans lying around. This is not the atmosphere Utah wants to provide to the many tourists who go to Moab to enjoy nature especially in a county that relies heavily on tourists for revenue. Please protect these wilderness areas so we can enjoy the solitude and peace that can only be found in nature.

Sincerely,
Melinda Hendrix

KaLeigh Welch

From: Amy Garcia [arizonamy@outlook.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 6:39 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Grand County Public Lands Initiative

Dear Grand Council Members,

About a month ago I finally made the move out West from my home state of Minnesota. You see, I'd been wanting to move ever since my first trip to Moab in 2006, when I graduated college and got the chance to venture to there. It took awhile, but I am now a whole day closer living next to a desert preserve in Phoenix and so envious of your position because the actions you take today can ensure the majesty of the desert landscapes surrounding the Moab area are preserved forever - a true legacy you can leave. I urge you to designate Labyrinth Canyon at a minimum, as wilderness, and designate wilderness in the La Sal mountains. These are areas I have yet to be in and to be able to enjoy them as such, without nearby noise, is priceless. I wish the planners in Phoenix had done the same as living next to the preserve is marred by the noise of the nearby freeway. You can accomplish as much in Labyrinth by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." You should also protect the Arches view shed by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of Arches National Park and designate areas to be managed as roadless areas within the NCA, following the "Daggett County" model that has already been approved by our Congressional delegation. Every other county in the Public Lands Initiative process has recommended new Forest Service Wilderness, but the Grand County Council has yet to recommend any and yet it contains some of the most worthy! There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs! In our fastly developing world, this truly is priceless, as I worry that generations to come will have no idea what solitude is like. But in landscapes like the Moab area, it can be measured in the billions of dollars spent by visitors like myself who come seeking it in these places.

Please do your part to ensure these places are protected for our enjoyment and for others yet to come and experience them in their natural state. I hope to discover that I did not make my move too late to enjoy these areas unencumbered and I'm only a day's drive away now! Thank you for your time and work on this very important matter. I truly appreciate it.

Sincerely,

Amy Garcia
Phoenix, AZ

KaLeigh Welch

From: Andrea [andrewasserman2@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 6:47 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protect Moab

Moab needs true wilderness protection and that quiet places need to be protected now and for future generations.

KaLeigh Welch

From: Leila Bruno [leilabruno@earthlink.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 7:26 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: protection for public lands

Dear Council Members,

I have been coming into UT since 1987, and we still come a few times a year because of the amazing beauty of the natural landscape. We urge you to put limits on excessive use in the six public lands areas listed below.

1. La Sal Mountains Wilderness. Collaborate with the Forest Service on recommending new wilderness for designation.

2. Labyrinth Canyon Wilderness. I live in CO and I've floated the Green and we're getting ready to do it again because it is so beautiful and so very unusual -- it's the only flat water redrock wilderness river run in the American West, so we come back again and again.

3. Put an end to noise pollution in the Labyrinth river corridor in Labyrinth Close the three ATV/jeep trails -- these are NOT compatible with why we come to float this river every year. Close Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes."

4. Protect the views of Arches National Park by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the National Park.

5. Designate areas to be managed as "roadless areas" within the proposed NCA following the "Daggett County model" already approved by Utah's Congressional delegation.

6. Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. One of the main reasons we visit UT 2-3 times a year is so that we can get out into places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of off-road vehicles.

Thank you for using your wisdom and knowledge to protect what is left of our natural treasures in UT.

Sincerely,
Leila Bruno

2960 20th St
Boulder, CO 80304
307-399-5869

KaLeigh Welch

From: SUSAN PEIRCE [speirce@prodigy.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 7:28 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: "Public Lands Initiative" legislation

- **Moab and Grand County are rare wilderness jewels in this ever increasing industrialized nation. Please protect them:**
 -
 -
- **Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.** Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The council must recommend wilderness protection for the mountains that frame Delicate Arch and provide clean drinking water to Moab and Castle Valley.
- **Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.** At last week's council meeting, the council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth Canyon — despite it being the only flat water redrock wilderness river run in the American West.
- **Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails** that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." The serene wilderness experience of river runners in Labyrinth should be protected from the roar of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River.
- **Protect the views of Arches National Park** by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the National Park.
- **Designate areas to be managed as "roadless areas" within the proposed NCA** following the "Daggett County model" already approved by Utah's Congressional delegation.
- **Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County,** especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of off-road vehicles.

Thank you,

Susan and Roger Peirce
Lyons, CO 80540-8434 USA

KaLeigh Welch

From: Debbie Young [debyoung31@comcast.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 7:59 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Bishop Public Lands Initiative

Dear Grand County Councilmembers,

We fell in love with the Moab area about 3 years ago. We were introduced to the beauty as we drove along route 128 coming from Grand Junction, we couldn't believe what we were seeing.

We are from New Jersey, visit often and have brought many of our friends to Moab to experience the majestic views, the solitude on the rivers and the ultimate quiet on back country hikes.

The places you can go and hear your soul.

This land is magical and needs full protection, if we want to hear motors and see development we can surely stay in Jersey.

We can go up to the White Mountains of New Hampshire and raft on the river there, it's lovely. Sure we don't want to make that choice but it's easier to get to and if we aren't going to get the solitude we're looking for along the Green River and our other favorite wilderness areas it will be a very viable choice.

We understand that voices need to be heard so the Grand County Council knows that these lands are important not just to citizens of Grand County, but those of us as far away as New Jersey, and as you know from all over the world.

Please include plans for the expansion of the National Conservation area outside of Arches. Please close ATV trails in Westwater-Beaver Creek. Please keep the river quiet and designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. These are a few of the important areas that are in desperate need of protection.

There is so very much at stake here. Please listen to those of us that leave our hearts in the Moab area every time leave.

We are counting on you to use the Bishop Public Lands Initiative to protect these public lands for all of America.

Sincerely,
Debbie & Jim Young

24 McCatharn Rd.
Lebanon NJ
08833

KaLeigh Welch

From: Thomas Mader [tmader84@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 6:09 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Bishop Public Lands Bill

Dear County Council:

I have attended two of the council meetings. I think you have done a fine job in hearing quite a spectrum of opinions regarding the Public Lands Initiative Bill. I would like to state that although I have listened to and understand the feelings of others, I strongly support setting aside as much Wilderness as possible in Grand County. I have been hiking this country for nearly 60 years. I have seen folks come here from all over the world. The reason they come here is to see untouched, spectacular country. They don't come here to see oil and gas wells or potash mines. Once an area is trashed by the extraction industry you can't go back and repair the damage. It is permanently finished as a tourist attraction. The Labyrinth Canyon area should be designated as Wilderness. Also, the ATV and jeep trails that exist along the river should be closed because they detract from the pristine nature of the area. In addition, I feel strongly that the Westwater-Beaver Creek area should be wilderness and the ATV routes within the area should be closed.

Sincerely,
Tom Mader

KaLeigh Welch

From: Jeri Peirce [jlp113@msn.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 8:15 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: "Public Lands Initiative" Bill

To the Grand County Council:

For over 25 years, we have explored, camped in, and loved the Moab area. We've rafted both the Colorado and the Green and we've hiked extensively throughout the area. My family has camped many times both in the area's National Parks and in commercial campgrounds in Moab itself. We've even been known to alter our route to other destinations just so we could drive through Moab and its spectacular surroundings, eat at one of our favorite restaurants, and check out the latest at Back of Beyond Books!

As lovers of your area, we have become more and more distressed with how motorized vehicles are taking over and destroying the beloved landscapes in the Moab and surrounding areas; and that is our motivation for writing this letter to the Council. As you finalize your recommendations to Representative Rob Bishop regarding the "Public Lands Initiative" bill, we want to offer our comments.

We would ask that the Council:

- designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness;
- close the 3 ATV trails that run to the river in Labyrinth so rafters can enjoy the quiet;
- protect the Arches viewscape by expanding the NCA east of Arches N.P.;
- close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially the proposed Westwater-Beaver Creek area;
- recommend the designation of new Forest Service Wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.

We feel very strongly that the world needs more quiet places and that these remaining places need to be protected now and for future generations. My husband and myself have lately begun to search elsewhere for places in which we can experience solitude, wilderness, and hiking and camping in lands un-marred by the noise and destruction of motorized vehicles. It is vitally important to so many

outdoor-lovers such as ourselves that Moab - and especially Labyrinth Canyon - receive true wilderness protection.

Thank you for taking the time to read this email and considering our comments.

Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Peirce
9921 U.S. Hwy 34, #72
Grand Lake, CO 80447
jlp113@msn.com

KaLeigh Welch

From: Teresa Audesirk [terry.audesirk@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 8:35 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protecting Utah's Tourism

In your upcoming recommendations to Representative Rob Bishop as part of the "Public Lands Initiative" legislation, please take into account tourists like me for whom the quiet beauty of Utah is precious and priceless. It will be impossible to restore once it is lost, and protecting it is the most important thing you can do to protect Utah's reputation as an unspoiled tourist destination.

Please designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains that frame Delicate Arch and provide clean drinking water to Moab and Castle Valley.

- **Please designate wilderness for Labyrinth Canyon**, the only flat water redrock wilderness river run in the American West.

- **Please close 3**

ATV and jeep trails

along the Labyrinth Canyon corridor There are plenty of places for this type of recreation already.

- **P**

lease p

rotect the views of Arches National Park by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the National Park.

- **Please d**

esignate areas to be managed as "roadless areas" within the proposed NCA following the "Daggett County model" already approved by Utah's Congressional delegation.

- **Please c**

lose infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of off-road vehicles.

- Sincerely,

- Teresa Audesirk

- (a Utah tourist seeking peace)

-

KaLeigh Welch

From: marymoran@frontiernet.net
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 8:47 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Bishop PLI

Dear Council Members,

We have written comments for the three subareas being considered in the Bishop PLI. As you consider them altogether at your next meeting, we just ask that you remember that quiet is as important to some as motors are to others, and if we want to maintain our quality lifestyle for residents, as well as our recreation economy here in Grand County, we need to consider both groups. Road sounds carry long distances, and disturbance tends to spread out from road corridors. Any cherrystem class D roads that are not popular should be closed, now, before they too, are too popular to close.

If we promote energy development and mining in the midst of our world-class scenery, we risk losing our long-term economy, tourism. While tourism may wax and wane with economic conditions, it will not boom and bust, as energy and mining always do.

I will not repeat the requests of our previous letters, but wanted to remind you of your varied constituency and the risks to the long-term quality of life and economy of our town. We support protecting public lands in Grand County to the maximum amount possible.

Sincerely,
Mary Moran and Dennis Silva
471 Loveridge Dr
Moab, UT 84532

KaLeigh Welch

From: jmbg@aol.com Jean Genasci [jmbg@aol.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 8:53 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Cc: jmbg@aol.com
Subject: Comments...

To Council Members:

From:
Jean Genasci and James Genasci
3091 Mill Vista Rd Unit 1601
Highlands Ranch, CO 80129
303-471-5339 [H]
jmbg@aol.com [Jean]

Subject: Protection of wilderness areas

Our daughter has taken several backpacking trips in Utah, including in the area being discussed...

She is most enthusiastic about protecting these sensitive areas, and suggests the following actions:

- Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.
- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails
- Protect the views of Arches National Park
- Designate areas to be managed as "roadless areas" within the proposed NCA
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County

Our family members are all strong stewards of wilderness areas, and we urge support for the above actions.

KaLeigh Welch

From: polly.hough@comcast.net
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 9:07 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: An urgent request from one who loves Grand County's treasures

Dear Council Members,

I understand that you will soon be voting on what areas you think worthy of wilderness designation in your county.

As one who has enjoyed Arches and other red rock country around Grand County, I care about the special spiritual quality of the pristine, protected parts, and even Moab itself, hoping it can retain its special western flavor. My father was a friend of Charlie Steen and took him and other uranium developers around the world visiting mines.

He said, when I moved to Utah, now you can enjoy some of the best country God ever created and a very special people of it. Exploring your county was first on my list. It's changed so much since then and I fear the wilderness quality will be lost, even as the Colorado River is endangered by dangerous run-offs into it and drought.

Please do what you can to preserve this area, and Labyrinth Canyon which I have not yet explored but hope to soon. Our grandchildren will thank you or suffer for our lack of foresight. Salt Lake City, where I must live, becomes more crowded and polluted every day. We need the peace and purity of our red rock country that is in your hands.

Very Sincerely,

Polly Hough 602 East 3610 South, Salt Lake City, UT 84106 801-918-4569

KaLeigh Welch

From: Matthew Nelson [avocadofarmer@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 9:16 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

Hello,

I'm a frequent visitor to the Moab area and feel compelled to write in regards to the future of it's natural areas. It is my request that the Labyrinth Canyon area be designated as Wilderness. By making this designation, you can save a treasured part of the West from a future full of noise, air pollution and unnecessary traffic. We are bombarded with all of these things in our daily lives and seek out these special places to escape. Tearing around in OHV's is the antithesis of this experience. So many of the other areas around Moab are already open to OHV use, surely all of that traffic will flow elsewhere without concern.

Each time I return to Moab I seek out areas as far away from OHV traffic as possible. By designating more space as Wilderness you are taking a great step towards an equitable land use scenario. Please save these special, quiet places for my children.

Thank you for your concern,

Matt Nelson

KaLeigh Welch

From: Beth Booton [beth.booton@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 9:19 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Wilderness protection

I believe that wilderness is critical to human lives. Please vote on Monday 3/16 to designate Labyrinth Canyon as wilderness and to restrict jeep traffic into the Labyrinth section of the Green River . Also please vote to designate wilderness in the La Sal mountains, protect views of Arches, close unused routes in wilderness areas in Grand County, promote NCA wilderness areas to be managed like the Daggett county model. Preservation of these unique wild areas should be part of the future of Utah if tourist money is to continue to flow into Utah.

I boat, hike and bike multiple times in your county every year and I hope to continue to do so!

Beth Booton
1007 sumac Dr
Logan, Utah
Beth.booton@gmail.com
(435) 760-1708
Sent from my iPad

KaLeigh Welch

From: Michele Page [mapage25@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 9:39 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protection for one of the most beautiful places in Utah

Dear Council,

I travel to Moab from my home in Salt Lake City several times each year. Since my children were small, we have hiked in Arches National Park and many other beautiful places in and around Moab. We own a second home in Moab and love the beauty of the area. Please keep this area pristine for my children, their children, and many generations to come. Please do not allow ATV's or motorcycles to ruin the experience of hiking in this beautiful area. Keep the areas by the river quiet, protect the Arches view shed by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area 4 miles east of Arches National Park. Please designate in the La Sal Mountains.

I know you all love this area as much as I do. Please help to protect it.

Respectfully,

--
Michele Page
Salt Lake City

KaLeigh Welch

From: Daniela Lemaich [ddanielia.mt@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 9:40 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: upcoming meeting

Grand County Council,

I am writing as a homeowner in Moab and a frequent visitor. I pay taxes in Grand county and hope to live there more permanately in the future. My home is in Idaho as my family and I are river outfitters. I am concerned about some of the land use issues around Moab. I believe there is a place for everyone to have their needs met with public lands. I myself ride dirt bikes and love it. However, I believe there are places that should be off limits and a wilderness character maintained. Labyrinth Canyon is one of those places. River Corridors are unique places and fragile environments. There are too few places already where quiet and remoteness are valued. Please implement measure to protect the areas around Moab from being trashed. Too many areas are already over-run and once these places are gone...they are gone. It is shameful that people can not respect the amazing areas around Moab and practice restraint. However, it seems as though protection is the only way to monitor these places. Again, i believe in certain places for off-road recreation...and other places to remain pristine. Labryinth Canyon as well as the La Sals are unique places that deserve wilderness protections.

Thank you for your time and consideration,
Danielia Kotler

Danielia Kotler
ddanielia.mt@gmail.com
S.O.A.R. Northwest River Co.
www.northwestriver.com

KaLeigh Welch

From: Eileen Warner [ejswarner@me.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 9:53 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Moab

1. Please keep Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.
2. Please close the jeep trails that run down to the river in Labyrinth quiet.
3. Please protect the Arches views cape by expanding the NCA 4 miles east of Arches National Park
4. Please designate roadless areas in the NCA 5. Please close infrequently used routes in all wilderness areas.
6. Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.

I live in Grand Junction, CO and we love Moab for its quiet and beauty. Don't destroy this please!!! People visit your area for the beauty and solitude and quiet. You have such a treasure right in your backyard. Don't exploit it as it will not turn out well in the long run.

Thank you,
Eileen Warner
GJ, CO

KaLeigh Welch

From: Steve Thomas [stevethomas@bigplanet.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 9:58 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Good Work! .. and please continue....

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Please designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. This is one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.

Please keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river. River rafters need to have the experience of the Green River! Not modern technology and noisy ATVs!

And I'm delighted that you have already recommended closing infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. However, please close routes within the boundaries. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!

Stephen Thomas
Murray Utah
435-729-0836

st

KaLeigh Welch

From: cynthia j bias [cynthia@karmacollects.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 10:00 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Cc: cynthia j bias
Subject: In Support of Environmental Protections for Moab and Labyrinth Canyon

Greetings Distinguished Council Members

We love the Moab area and come down many times a year and we were just planning an upcoming weekend at the end of the month and I thought I should let you know that I am in favor of environmental protections for Moab and Labyrinth Canyon. The first time I came down to Moab upon moving to Utah nearly a decade ago...seeing the iconic "postcard" arches took my breathe away, and they still do. We frequently camp along the Green and there is nothing like waking up near the river and seeing jaw dropping red rock walls first thing in the morning. We revisit popular hikes, and love to venture to those few do, and continue to find undiscovered to us places. Nothing puts the ills and atrocities of society and in the world in perspective like communing with nature. My father a career soldier took us out in it from the time we could walk and taught us to revere it, enjoy it and ensure it was part of our ways of life. Nothing makes me prouder as an American than to know that we take pride in our natural lands, wildernesses and protect them for now and future generations.

With gratitude
Cynthia Bias-Thompson

cynthia j bias
cynthia@karmacollects.com

It's only with the heart that one can see rightly; what's most important is invisible to the eye. -The Little Prince

What the caterpillar calls the end of the world the master calls a butterfly. -Richard Bach

KaLeigh Welch

From: Matt Vukin [mvukin@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 10:18 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: upcoming council meeting

Dear Grand Count Council,

I am a resident of Utah and moved here in 2005 for ongoing work as a physician in Salt Lake City. Part of the reason I moved to Utah was because of the access to pristine wilderness areas unadulterated by energy development, agriculture, or other destructive processes. These areas are shrinking in number across the country (and world arguably) and need protection. The challenge in arguing for their protection is that there is only tourism to argue financially for their future but the other most compelling reasons less tangible. Though they can't be easily accounted for on a ledger, anyone who has visited Moab or any of the tremendous wilderness areas of the west can appreciate how it feels to experience the majesty and grandeur of such spaces. These are the spaces that inspire people to become scientists, inspire writers seeking reflection and solitude, and our children to explore outside of the strip malls which are taking over our urban landscapes.

In the spirit of my above comments, I support SUWA's stance on how to manage the Labyrinth Canyon area - with the most conservative protection possible, limiting ATV traffic especially in the river corridor, and closing little used routes into the area. Once these areas are opened with little restriction they will not be closed back off without having suffered much destruction and significant noise pollution for 'non motorized visitors'. I say this as a dual sport motorcycle rider. There are plenty of places for me to ride already - we don't need to destroy any more wilderness. I have significant concerns about the long term ecological impacts on the fragile dessert as well if increased ATV traffic is permitted.

Thank you for hearing my concerns as a Utah resident.

Matt Vukin MD
801-574-7142

KaLeigh Welch

From: Jennifer Lair [lair@xmission.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 10:23 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Points for the "Public Lands Initiative" legislation

Dear Grand County Council,

I live in Salt Lake City, but I worked as a river guide in Moab and Green River for years and I grew up camping and backpacking in the Moab area. These days I bring my children down to Moab to visit Arches and Canyonlands regularly. Last fall of 2014, as part of the Environmental Humanities Graduate Program at the University of Utah, I was privileged with 13 other students to spend time with some of the amazing local people who used Moab, Arches, and Canyonlands as our classroom. We met Walt Dabney at Dead Horse Point, watched the sunset from Grandview Point, followed Karla VanderZanden to the Needles Overlook and then to Heidi Redd's house at the Dugout Ranch. We joined Rory Tyler who showed us the petroglyphs south of town in Mill Creek, we hiked to Delicate Arch with Terry Tempest Williams, we saw two weird movies at the MARC and enjoyed lively discussions with the locals who came to see the movies. We watched a rainbow stretch across Castle Valley from Terry's house. We drank a lot of beer at Eddie McStiff's and celebrated Halloween at Woody's. I personally waited on the doorstep for the Love Muffin Café to open every morning so I could study. We stayed in a dive of a motel that was full of spiders. I had the pleasure of watching people who had come from other parts of the country to be a part of this program discover the wonder and majesty that is the Colorado Plateau around Moab and the surrounding region. No one goes home the same.

The landscapes around Moab are unique and they are already being impacted by the extraction industry. I was shocked to see a drilling rig on the road to Dead Horse Point, and another one apparently under construction. What a blight. In terms of ensuring the viewscapes for the future, the council should recommend wilderness protection for the Forest Service lands in the La Sal mountains in order to safeguard the iconic view from Delicate Arch and the rest of the park. In terms of securing Moab's water supply, one would think it was in the best interest of its citizens to protect their watershed. The proposed National Conservation Area should be expanded an additional four miles east of the park as well in order to protect the viewscape from Devil's Garden to the east.

I once shepherded a group of high school students, a clueless chemistry teacher, and a basketball coach in canoes down the Labyrinth section of the Green. It was mid-April and it snowed, there was no current, and we loved every minute of it. That experience of solitude is so hard to find in today's world, and anywhere it still has a hold must be protected. Labyrinth Canyon should be designated as wilderness to ensure the experience of floating the flatwater through the incredible sandstone canyon can be enjoyed in peace now and for those to come. Thus, the three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river, "Hey Joe," Hell Roaring," and "Dead Cow/ The Tubes," should be closed. The river corridor should be protected from noise and dust.

The Council should take care to designate areas in the proposed National Conservation Area as "roadless areas" akin to the Daggett County Model which shows foresight. Additionally, the Council should recommend that all infrequently used routes should be closed in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness to the east. These are wild places where one could choose to lose oneself to get away from the constant drone and dust of jeeps and ORVs.

It would be wise for the Grand County Council to take into account the critical nature of the wilderness draw of the region to the economy. So many tourists live in places where there are no iconic vistas stretching a hundred miles in each direction, where you can see three incredible snow-capped ranges from a high plateau and look down into a seemingly infinite canyon where two rivers meet. The exquisite landscape you call home is a national treasure and your best resource for the future. Pin your hopes for Grand County on the benefits that will accrue to you and generations to come by protecting the natural environment that is an irreplaceable resource. Peace and wilderness will become priceless assets to Grand County's economic and environmental future. Protect these lands now, please.

Sincerely- Jennifer Beck Lair

KaLeigh Welch

From: JOLANA VANKOVA [jolanavaneck@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 10:43 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative - public comment from former frequent visitors

Dear Council members,

We used visit your area for years, and we marveled at the gifts your county was handed to by Nature. We used to stay at your hotel, only occasionally camping when the weather was just great for enjoying the outdoors at night. We ate in your restaurants ...we bought stuff in your stores.

However several years ago we stopped coming. Why? Too many ATVs with their customary noise all over the place. People don't come to you from bigger cities to find the SAME NOISE in Moab !!!! We met many people who have had that same experience.

Please take a good look at your maps, and actually walk in those areas - and hear that noise. There need to be NOISE FREE areas, and then separate areas where the ATV crowd can just rip. The two really don't mix.

These are our suggestions:

- **Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.** Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service wilderness why not Grand County?. Wilderness protection is necessary for the mountains that frame Delicate Arch and that provide clean drinking water to Moab and Castle Valley.
- **Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.** Why? It is the only flat water redrock wilderness river run in the American West;
- **Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails** that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." The unique serene wilderness experience of river runners in Labyrinth should be protected from the roar of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River. ATV's and Jeeps "really really love to ride" pretty much everywhere. They need to realize that thousands of people are getting AWAY FROM NOISE of where they live. These **peaceful experience seeing folks bring MONEY to your county.** Yes they do. Remember that, when you are listening to the noise-thrill seeking crowd.
- Other smart counties that proposed wilderness areas might be soon harvesting your visitors - be smart and follow their lead.
- **Protect the views of Arches National Park** - Expand the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the National Park. It needs to create a buffer for the unique treasure that brings millions of visitors to your neighborhood from all over the world. If the unprotected arches start collapsing, who will come to look at fallen arches? Again, please be proactive.
- **Designate areas to be managed as "roadless areas" within the proposed NCA** following the "Daggett County model" already approved by Utah's Congressional delegation.
- **Please close some infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County,** especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. **There should finally be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of off-road vehicles.**

Thanks you for listening to input of people such as ourselves, as many would love to start visiting again if these wise changes could be made.

Jolana Vanek and Richard Thorpe,
PO Box 1555, 100 West Colorado Avenue,
Telluride , Colorado 81435
jolanavanek@yahoo.com

KaLeigh Welch

From: Greg Davidson [gregda@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 10:45 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: public lands initiative

Dear Grand County Council,

I am a frequent visitor to the Moab area. I spend 4-5 weeks a year mtn. biking and running the rivers in the area. I've been using this area since the mid 1980's and appreciate the natural beauty it has to offer. Please consider the following in your recommendations:

Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains. Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The council must recommend wilderness protection for the mountains that frame Delicate Arch and provide clean drinking water to Moab and Castle Valley

Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's council meeting, the council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth Canyon — despite it being the only flat water redrock wilderness river run in the American West.

Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." The serene wilderness experience of river runners in Labyrinth should be protected from the roar of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River.

Protect the views of Arches National Park by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the National Park.

Designate areas to be managed as "roadless areas" within the proposed NCA following the "Daggett County model" already approved by Utah's Congressional delegation

Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of off-road vehicles.

I feel these actions would help preserve the beauty of this area for generations to come. We owe it to our children, grandchildren, and all future generations to preserve these areas so they can enjoy them in the same manner in which we do.

Thank you very much,

Greg Davidson
970.620.0552
Walden, CO

KaLeigh Welch

From: Ginny Carlson [ginny@wyn.org]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 10:56 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: please support the quiet users too

Dear County Council members,

I find to very unsettling to see that the current recommendations are not balanced, but are heavily tilted toward the motorized user and the extractive industry. Remember once it is developed it can't be undone.

I am a hiker and canoe paddler. I have been down the Green and after a couple days of thinking it was just us and the river we ended having to listen to a series of motorcycles on the Hey Joe route with their loud exhaust noise bouncing off the canyon walls. Let's compromise and close this trail along the river to Hey Joe. There are lots of places to view the river and this is not one of them. The view of the river is obscured by the trees and brush. Let's keep one of the longest still water canoeing rivers quiet for everyone.

Grand County is a gorgeous place with world class scenery. Let's keep it that way.

I support the following:

1. west of 191

- close 10 mile canyon to motorized use
- close the spur road into the bottom of Mineral Canyon
- close the river portion of the road to Hey Joe

- no potash development

2. east of 191

- protect the view shed of Arches by including dry mesa in a protected area

Wilderness designation should be included for all existing WSA in Grand County

Sincerely,

Ginny Carlson, 3136 Far country Moab, UT 84532

KaLeigh Welch

From: Deb Walter [debwalter56@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 11:25 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Bishop PLI

Dear County Council Members,

In regards to the Bishop Public Lands Initiative, I think there are areas that still need protection. I urge you to consider these points when making final decisions.

First, the La Sals need to be designated Wilderness in order to protect our watershed.

Second, protect Labyrinth Canyon and the canyons that feed into it to the fullest extent with Wilderness designation.

Third, protect all the areas west of 191 and south of I-70 with either Wilderness designation or National Conservation Area designation. Do not allow future oil and gas development or potash anywhere. Support the BLM in their decisions for protection as regards to the upcoming Master Leasing Plan for this area. No new leasing and no potash exploration or development. That is the bottom line.

Considerations to think about. Grand County is at a crossroads, and what we decide today will determine what Moab and Grand County will be like in 50 or 100 years. These decisions are quality of life decisions. Do we want to preserve the lands for the health and well being of soils, plants, wildlife, water quality, air quality, night skies as well as for a recreation mecca? Do we want to attract retirees and professionals to our community to make it sound and diversified? Or do we want to give in to the pressures of corporate extractive industries and the few in our community who work for them? Do we want to give these industries access to enormous tracts of land to destroy? If so, why, when it will mean we will lose options for a strong and healthy community?

People come here to experience in awe the spectacular landscapes, with the stillness of nature, as well as to be a part of the wonderful community of Moab. My husband and I have come here for the past 25 years, and there was no question as to where we wanted to retire. We love Moab, and we urge the council to be strong and think of this long lasting decision you are making. Long after we are all gone, the legacy of your decision will continue.

I encourage you with every bone in my body to do the right thing. Protect our watershed with a Wilderness designation for the La Sals. Protect Labyrinth Canyon and the canyons that feed into it with Wilderness designations, and create NCA's for the remaining areas to make sure that no more oil and gas leases are available for sale and that no potash exploration permits or mining leases are available for sale in the Big Flat or Labyrinth Canyon areas, anywhere. What has been destroyed out there is truly heartbreaking.

Thank you for taking these thoughts into consideration.

Sincerely,
Deb Walter
4100 Easy St.
Moab, UT 84532

KaLeigh Welch

From: Kirk Robinson [krk.rbnsn@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 11:32 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: wildlands protection

I first visited Moab in 1973, and over the years have explored many places in Grand County, yet have only scratched the surface of this wonderful landscape – a landscape that is special above nearly all others. What makes it special is not just the unique rock formations, the river and the Native American rock art, but the clear skies, unmarred vistas and the quiet. Let's keep it that way. I believe that the long-term good of Moab, Grand County, and the surrounding lands lies in protecting large areas of it from development. The landscape in SE Utah is spectacular and unique. It deserves our respect. In turn, it will fuel a stable economy on into the future. Please insist on wilderness protection for a significant portion of the LaSal Mountains and for Labyrinth Canyon (one of the most beautiful places in creation), and limit motor boats and other motorized water craft, as well as ATVs, Jeeps and the like to places they are now allowed. I support the recommendations of the Grand Canyon Trust.

Sincerely,

Kirk C Robinson
1021 Downington Ave.
Salt Lake City, U
84105

KaLeigh Welch

From: Jeff Feldman [muleypoint@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 5:36 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Wilderness

Here's what the Grand County Council should do on Monday:

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

This is an area I visit once a year. I spend money at hotels and restaurants. I go with a group of hikers from St. George, UT so we usually go with 9/10 couples.

We go for the wilderness experience. Keep the ATV's away from those areas that should be quiet. Find a place but not in the these special areas.

Jeff Feldman
St. George, UT 84378

KaLeigh Welch

From: Robbin Clark [dclark1@woh.rr.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 5:50 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Land Initiative

Dear Grand County Council,

We are writing as outsiders who love Grand county. Our "discovery" of the Moab area was more than 20 years ago. It was love at first sight when we drove down Hwy. 128 for the first time. We've come back to the area time and time again and are seriously considering Moab as a place to settle in retirement, which will be in the next few years. We realize that we have a different perspective on the area since we're not 4-wheeler or Jeep enthusiasts, but feel strongly that the wildness and serenity that come with the wild spaces in Grand county, and beyond, need preservation; they are the beauty and the attraction of the area and certainly what draws us back time and time again. We implore you to consider protections to the vistas from Arches, for the La Sal's, and one of the last great wilderness areas of the west-Labyrinth Canyon.

Thank you for your consideration.

Dan and Robbin Clark
Delphos, Ohio

KaLeigh Welch

From: Art [avsvac@rcn.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 6:03 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protect wild lands.

To whom :

My partner and I have traveled from eastern Pa. to visit southern Utah for the past ten years.

We've hiked the canyons, kayaked and toured. There is no more beautiful landscape on earth.

Most recently we've noticed a change in air quality and evidence of incursion from entities extracting natural resources.

We urge you to make responsible efforts to preserve this environment. Once lost it cannot be regained.

Thank you.

Art Shelly.

KaLeigh Welch

From: john brewer [johnbfound@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 6:07 AM
To: Council
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon Wilderness

Council Members:

As a resident of Moab I implore you to insist on wilderness designation for Labyrinth Canyon on the Green River. Labyrinth Canyon offers a unique recreational opportunity as it is a major western U.S. river that is canoeable, allowing access to thousands of people who don't have whitewater experience. It also is geologically unique with massive Wingate cliffs that rise directly from the river. All ORV routes should be closed into the river corridor. There are hundreds of miles of ORV routes in Grand County providing practically endless recreational opportunities for this user group, there is only one Labyrinth Canyon. Also all ORV access into other potential wilderness areas in Grand County should be closed.

We have an opportunity to keep Grand County the world class destination that it is. If we give the lands the highest protection we can we will insure that visitors will continue to come well into the future and stay longer during there visit. Wilderness protection makes economic sense in Grand County.

Sincerely,
John Brewer
463 Tusher St.
Moab, UT

KaLeigh Welch

From: Brian Edginton [edge@edginton.net]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 6:57 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Recommendations on the Public Lands Initiative Bill
Attachments: signature.asc

Council,

I have been enjoying Moab and the surrounding area as a visitor and sometimes resident for more than 50 years. I have seen an amazing transformation over the years, but the tradition of keeping the area protected and pristine has always appeared to be a priority.

As you consider recommendations on this bill I would encourage you to continue to protect and shepherd the land. I believe you should give important consideration to the Labyrinth Canyon and designate it as a true wilderness area. This would include closing three (Dead Cow, Hell Roaring and Hey Joe) of the ATV and jeep trails the descend to the river. It is important to keep the music of the river untainted by modern, man-made noise.

I would also ask that you consider closing all infrequently used routes in the proposed wilderness areas that allow or promote motorized vehicle use. There are thousands of acres of land that can be used for motorized recreation that doesn't impinge on the principle of the wilderness designation.

Thanks for your consideration of these thoughts and I wish you luck in keeping the land protected and primitive.

Brian Edginton
West Jordan, UT

KaLeigh Welch

From: Shannon Mullins [shannon.mullins@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 7:17 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Please!! Don't Ruin Moab

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

Shannon Mullins

KaLeigh Welch

From: Linda Bunk [thebunks@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 7:24 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative Bill

Dear Council,

I love your beautiful Grand County. I first experienced the uniqueness of the Moab area in 1985 ~ much has changed since then but I still find areas with peaceful surroundings. You hold the future of these lands in your hands and I am writing to implore you to remember those of us who come not only for the beauty but also for serenity. Balance is the key word in your decision making ~ please remember many of your visitors come for solitude, consider more areas for quiet activities which do not destroy the land. More wilderness, more quiet river corridors, protect the Labyrinth Canyon ~ PLEASE.

Sincerely,

Linda Bunk

KaLeigh Welch

From: judith sellers [julu_44@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 8:17 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: FW: regarding the Public Lands Initiative bill

From: julu_44@hotmail.com
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: regarding the Public Lands Initiative bill
Date: Thu, 12 Mar 2015 23:39:44 -0600

To the Grand County Council Members:

I'm writing as a Coloradan that cares about protecting the natural landscapes of Utah because I enjoy them and visit them often and want to make sure they stay protected for future generations to enjoy as well.

The area around Moab has changed dramatically in the last 20 years. In particular, I'm concerned about the wide-spread and unregulated use of ATVs and jeeps in areas that used to be quiet and unscarred. In this moment, I am asking you to designate the Labyrinth Canyon as a wilderness area and close three vehicle trails: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring and Dead Cow/The Tubes. Not doing so would cause a great loss of solitude that can be found there.

Other routes that concern me are those that exist in the Westwater-Beaver Creek area. I appreciate that the council is proposing to protect it as a wilderness and feel strongly that this can only be done effectively if these infrequently used routes are closed.

You have the power to make decisions for all of us and it is my hope you consider the great treasury that we have in these beautiful places. Please help keep them well cared for.

Thank you,
Judith Sellers
Boulder, CO

KaLeigh Welch

From: Dick & Jan Scar [Scars@RockyMountains.net]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 8:22 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Roadless and Quiet Areas near Moab

Dear Council Members:

We have traveled to Moab many times for hiking and mountain biking. We came to Moab for a quiet experience. We co-founded the Quiet Use Coalition. We urge you to close little-used routes in all proposed Wilderness in Grand County, especially the Westwater-Beaver Creek area on the eastern side of the county. Take action to keep the river corridor in Labyrinth Canyon quiet. The best way to do that is to get Labyrinth Canyon declared a Wilderness Area. Protect the Arches viewscape by expanding the proposed NCA four miles east of Arches National Park. Support Wilderness designation for National Forest in the La Sal Mountains.

We will appreciate your consideration of our comments.

Dick & Jan Scar
Box 717
Buena Vista, CO 81211

KaLeigh Welch

From: Kate Bentham Britz [kate.bentham@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 8:27 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

To Whom It May Concern:

I hope the decision makers weighing in on Labyrinth Canyon choose to save it. Countless times I have sought the solitude in the midst of it's beauty. I drive from Durango and spend a night or two in Moab and explore this mighty, awe-inspiring region to my heart's content. These lands have been placed in your hands for safe-keeping. Please don't violate our trust.

Best regards,
Kathleen Bentham Britz
Durango, CO

--

KaLeigh Welch

From: Kristen Colvin [klcteach@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 8:31 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net

Dear Grand County Council,

I am originally from the historically preserved town of Williamsburg, Virginia, and now live in a small town in Illinois, just across the river from St. Louis. A little more than 30 years ago my parents began visiting Utah, their vacations there grew longer and longer until they finally bought a small house and stayed there a good part of the year. We began our love affair with the wilderness of Utah with visits to them and have continued to come soak up the beauty and peace as often as we can. Their great grandchildren now ask each year if we are going to Utah. What a gift.

We have come to think of San Juan and Grand Counties as significant family treasures since our first vacation. Someone from our family visits every year, some of us multiple times. Our base is a small house in Monticello that is also open to friends so they can enjoy the red rocks. Alone and in groups we have climbed the La Sals, hiked up Salt Creek, walked into Dark Canyon, rafted and kayaked the river, hiked into Horseshoe Canyon, visited Arches, Dead Horse, and the Shafer Trail: all of them multiple times.

In Williamsburg, because of diligent efforts of a group of people, I and countless visitors have learned to appreciate the beginnings of our country. In southeast Utah you are blessed to give us another part of our country, spots that are achingly beautiful, places that astonish, and places that wrap you in a silence that is almost impossible to find anywhere else.

You are in a position to contribute to an agreement as to how these wild lands will be conserved as a natural resource for your grandchildren, my grandchildren, and their grandchildren. This is a significant responsibility and I know that it must weigh heavily on you. As you deliberate I urge you to remember the millions of Americans who come to your wonderful county for its amazing rocks, restorative natural beauty, and peace.

Sincerely,
Kristen Colvin

For:
Jennifer Rowe
Alyssa Rowe
Ashleigh Rowe
Tyler Rowe
Heather Schauf
Adam Schauf
Elizabeth Allen
Danny Allen

KaLeigh Welch

From: Ges X [ges8ges@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 8:34 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Bishop PLI Process

Dear County Council,

First I want to say how much I appreciate all the work that each of you are doing on the process.

While I understand the need for balanced use of the public lands in Grand County, I am in favor of as much protection for the environment as possible. I believe the long term health of Grand County both in terms of economics and environment are tied to the area's natural beauty and the tourism that goes along with that. The trend for tourism over the decades that I have lived and worked here makes that abundantly clear. Short term profit from destructive extractive industries, no matter how attractive in the short run, are not where the best prospects for Grand County's future lies.

A few specifics:

- I favor wilderness designation for the Labyrinth corridor. No potash development in this area; it is far too valuable as a scenic and recreation area. Restrict motorized use along the corridor to the extent possible.
- Protect the areas around Arches National Park in order to preserve the views. The viewshed around Arches is still relatively uncluttered and those views are a good part of the experience of the park.
- The La Sal mountains will always be mostly multiple use, but there should be some designated wilderness in these beautiful mountains.
- Manage the Fisher Towers/Mary Jane areas (within the NCA) as roadless.
- Close class D roads in wilderness/proposed wilderness areas. Postponing these closures will only make it more difficult and controversial in the future.

Thanks for listening,

Glenn Sherrill
3166 Juniper Drive
Moab, UT 84532

KaLeigh Welch

From: genanderson@earthlink.net
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 8:39 AM
To: Council
Subject: Re: RE: Labrynth Canyon

I apologize for this automatic reply to your email.

To control spam, I now allow incoming messages only from senders I have approved beforehand.

If you would like to be added to my list of approved senders, please fill out the short request form (see link below). Once I approve you, I will receive your original message in my inbox. You do not need to resend your message. I apologize for this one-time inconvenience.

Click the link below to fill out the request:

<https://webmail.pas.earthlink.net/wam/addme?a=genanderson@earthlink.net&id=11e4-c98e-be7f1e24-9b85-00144f9dd154>

KaLeigh Welch

From: Gene Ciarus [glciarus@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 8:45 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands
Attachments: Conservation Busiensses v3(1).pdf

I'm sending this attachment which was drafted by Commissioner Darin Bushman from Piute County one of the Counties that was effected by Judge Kimball ruling. As it appears the majority of the council has aligned themselves with the environmental contingences and NGO's that have made it a point to influence the council with half-truths and outright lies. I would suggest, that you members who have little **OR NO** experience and are actually concerned about the county and its citizens, to contact Commissioner Darin from Piute, Allen Gardner from Washington County, Jeff Horrocks from Emery County and Dirk Clayson or Doug Heaton from Kane County or at least Mark Ward of Utah Association of Counties and get to the truth of the public lands and road issues. From what I have seen and read this council is about to do a grave injustice to the citizens of Grand County, Grand County business and Schools as well as the County itself. There are members of this council who have pledged, and I'll it again, they will study the issues thoroughly before the made their decision. Quit lessoning to these Environmental Groups and their associated members and do your homework before you cast your vote.

Gene L. Ciarus

READ THE ATTACHMENT AND RESEARCH THE TRUTH

Do Environmentalists think Federal Management of Public Lands is Good or Bad?

Environmental organizations have made a business of suing the Federal Government over its mismanagement of public lands. A simple Google® search will reveal pages of litigation against the Federal Government for mismanagement of public lands. However, a strange turn of events has unfolded in the last 12 months as the transfer of public lands movement has gained traction in the west. These same organizations that have continuously attacked federal management techniques, are the first to stand up and say the states cannot manage the public lands. One has to wonder, why the sudden about face? Over the years we have heard accusation after accusation presented by these “conservationist organizations” how bad the Federal Government manages public lands.

Shortly after the adoption of the Richfield BLM Land Use plan the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance filed suit against the BLM. Judge Kimball ultimately agreed with SUWA and sent the BLM back to the drawing board. Steve Bloch, Legal Director from SUWA stated “this landmark decision is a resounding rejection of the BLM’s mismanagement of Utah’s Stunning public lands.” David Garbett a SUWA staff attorney went on to say “Utah’s remarkable public lands deserve better than what they are getting from the BLM.” Nada Culver, Senior Counsel for the Wilderness Society stated, “This decision sends an irrefutable message to the BLM about the need for responsible management of the 11 million acres of public lands covered by all 6 challenged plans.” Yet, strangely enough, these organizations are the first to step forward and say the western states can’t manage the public lands – only the Federal Government can do this.

One has to wonder if there may not be ulterior motives with these “conservationist organizations.” Why would organizations like SUWA be so dead set against moving these lands out of federal mismanagement and into the control of the respective states, when they make it very evident they are 100% against the way the Federal Government is managing these lands? I suggest a potential motive. It’s about money! To this point I have referred to these groups as “conservation organizations,” however, I think it would be better to call them the “conservation industry”.

The “conservation industry” makes money by suing the Federal Government over its mismanagement of public lands! Properly managed lands are not in the best interests of the “conservation industry”.

The Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA) authorizes the payment of attorney’s fees and costs for legal action against the United States. Taxpayer money is used to pay the “conservation industry” if they prevail on any technicality in their lawsuits against the Federal Government. Sadly, the “conservation industry” has lost its way. In an effort to protect the land, animals, and environment, they are functioning as massive lawsuit machines and **you, the taxpayer, are paying the bill.** If the lands in the west were transferred to the respective states, a significant funding source of the “conservation industry” would virtually dry up, as there is no state EAJA law where they can recover their legal fees.

So ask yourself again, “Why are organizations like SUWA suddenly fans of the federal land management?” when they have accused them for decades of the worst kind of

mismanagement. Did they suddenly discover that these federal agencies are good public land managers? I doubt this is the case. What they likely discovered is that filing lawsuits against state and local governments doesn't line their pockets the way it does when they sue the Feds:

Darin Bushman
Piute County Commissioner

KaLeigh Welch

From: Robert O'Brien [bobrien1944@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 8:48 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

Dear Councilors,

I am away from Moab at the moment. But I hear that people are weighing in on protection and non-protection for Labyrinth Canyon. You, of course, have much information on the issues and I sat through some of the excellent presentations in the recent workshops that were designed not to be just this is what I want statements. I hear now that there are all sorts of e-mails being sent that are more of the this is what I want and I use this road variety rather than the (from my perspective) more reasoned presentations on what areas could be closed, which open, which leased, and economic impact arguments.

So I will weigh in on what I want. I have canoed the Green River five times from above the Canyonlands National Park to the Confluence. I would like to see the maximum protections for the area. That is likely wilderness for many areas. We need road access to the river at some points for allowing floating down the river and camping by the river, but we do not need roads that go along the river for miles which is what currently exists. It should be treated like a wild and scenic river. So that is my push as a Grand County citizen. Now you have the difficult problem of putting this push and others and your own judgements into policy.

This river is an amazing place and I hope you will give it the highest protection.

Thanks for your work.

Bob O'Brien
Castle Valley

KaLeigh Welch

From: Lionel P Trepanier [lioneltrepanier@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 8:47 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Hi Grand County! I love you! Your wilderness. Your solitude. Please don't go away!

To: Grand County Council
<council@grandcountyutah.net>

Re: Our remote public lands

Hi Grand County!

I love you!

Your wilderness. Your solitude.

Please don't go away!

I beseech you -- protect your wild areas.

I'm coming back. About April 20th , I will visit for a week again.

I want to walk again in solitude in Labyrinth Canyon. Please protect this place.

The Book Cliffs are fantastic like no other place for wildlife in Utah. Please protect the Book Cliffs!

My last visit to the La Sal mountains was also super.

But please designate a big wilderness area in the La Sals to protect this true value.

And close as many roads as you possibly can. The ATVs drive me away.

Thanks Grand County!

Your Lover,

~Lionel

Lionel Trepanier
2339 w 9435 s
South Jordan UT 84095

KaLeigh Welch

From: djw23@frontiernet.net
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 9:05 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Quiet is "an exceedingly rare and increasingly threatened commodity"

Council Members,

We would like to be sure that both of our voices are heard on the Public Lands issue.

Subject: Quiet is "an exceedingly rare and increasingly threatened commodity"

Dear Council Members,

We are again writing to ask for protection of our public lands west of Highway 191. This time we want to raise the flag to ask you to defend quiet places. Imagine Big Flat and Labyrinth Canyon and ask yourselves, "Have I ever had the opportunity to hear 'silence absolute'?" And then ask yourself, "What if I never can?"

In an essay by Brad Dimmock called, The Sound of Silence: Historical Perspectives on Natural Quiet at Grand Canyon he writes:

Today, absolute silence is an exceedingly rare and increasingly threatened commodity... The ongoing loss of natural quiet is significant for all of us and for future generations...

Further development of oil and potash and increased motorized travel in the lands west of Highway 191 would result in multiple levels of additional degradation of our public lands.

To preserve places where natural quiet can be found, and for all the reasons previously stated, we implore you to protect these unique and threatened areas.

Respectfully,

Theresa and David Wilson
464 E. Center Street
Moab, Utah 84532

.....email from March 5, 2015:

Thank you, Council Members, for considering our input.

We fully support these comments concerning the Bishop Public Lands Initiative and the Lands West of Highway 191:

- Please do not endorse the Big Flat working group's recommendations. The recommendations need a much closer look concerning mineral extraction and motorized recreation.

- Protect Ten Mile Wash, White Wash and Spring Canyon, by extending the NCA boundary (Alternative 3) to include these areas. Ten Mile Wash is a rare perennial stream in the desert, and White Wash has numerous seeps and small springs. Perennial streams make up 2% of public lands in Utah, and provide habitat for ~85% of all wildlife species. These areas have irreplaceable ancient archaeological structures, artifacts, and rock art.

- Close a small fraction of the off-road vehicle routes in this area to move towards a better balance of recreational opportunities. The critical ORV routes to close, which are generally in canyons and wash bottoms, include: Ten Mile, White Wash, Hell Roaring Canyon, Mineral Canyon, Hey Joe along the river, and the little-used jeep trail north of Long Canyon and south of Day Canyon.

- Extend the County's wilderness proposal to include Ten Mile Wash, Spring Canyon, Hell Roaring Canyon and Mineral Canyon - similar to the BLM's No Surface Occupancy designation areas (2008 Resource Mgmt. Plan); extend wilderness protection to the Goldbar area and Behind the Rocks WSA

- The Big Flat/Labyrinth Canyon area is an area of beautiful vistas and rock formations, canyons; habitat for big horn sheep, raptors, and other wildlife; archeological treasures that have yet to be surveyed; and countless recreation opportunities. It is also on the much traveled route to Canyonlands National Park and to Dead Horse Point State Park. It is very accessible to Moab and is the most heavily used unprotected public land area in Grand County. Originally it was included in the proposal for Canyonlands National Park. For all these reasons, it is deserving of land protections from all mining and extraction industries.

The public lands west of Hwy. 191 include some of the most outstanding canyons in Grand County. This area contains ancient archaeological artifacts, wildlife habitat and beautiful calm-water boating on the Green River in Labyrinth Canyon. This is not an appropriate place for mining potash for fertilizer, or expanding leasing for oil and gas speculation.

Your time and advocacy in this Public Lands process is most appreciated. Please consider the long-term importance of this area and preserve it for current and future generations. The public lands west of Highway 191 are spectacular public lands. Generations to come will benefit from your support in preserving these unique areas.

Respectfully,
David and Theresa Wilson
464 E. Center Street
Moab, Utah 84532

KaLeigh Welch

From: Doug & Jan Parker [highdesertmtn@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 9:08 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protect the Moab area

We ask that you include these followings suggestions in your Plan. They are critical to maintaining the Moab area as one of the best places in America for recreation without pollution, noise and wilderness abuse.

-Deisgnate wilderness in the La Sal mountains to protect clean water.

-Designate Labyrinth Canyon as a true wilderness area.

-Close the Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and Dead Cow/The Tubes ATV/jeep trails to protect the are and eliminate excessive noise and damage from rampant ATV/jeep use.

-Expand the National Conservation Area four miles east of Arches to protect the Park.

-Follow the approved Daggett model in the NCA for designation of roadless areas.

- Close infrequently used ATV/jeep roads in the east side of the county. These do not need to be maintained and remain open. They are a source of noise, pollution and environmental damage that can easily be eliminated.

Thank you for your action.

Doug & Jan Parker

KaLeigh Welch

From: LoAnne Barnes [loannelj@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 9:13 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative

Dear Grand Co. Council Members,

One of the biggest sources of income to Grand County will be visitors from US and round the world. To not protect this unique landscape would be short sighted! As a resident of Utah I often have friend want me to take them to Arches and surrounding canyons.

Areas that I would like you to consider including in the land bill are:

LaSal Mountains - need wilderness designation. If big game is flourish for hunters it will be necessary to designate wilderness on the mountain. And I would think Moab's water supply is from the LaSal Mt.???

Labyrinth Canyon is a jewel and needs wilderness protection. No where else in the world can one travel a quiet river in the red rock country.

NCA designation is a good way to protect lands and think that some NCA around Arches and Westwater area should be enlarged.

Moab already has many trails and jamborees activities for ATV & 4 wheel drive people. You need to consider people with other interests who will be visiting the Grand County.

The decisions you will make will influence your children's and grandchildren s future. We should do more to protect this unique landscape for them. We have had the great gift of growomg up enjoying these stunning landscapes! For that to happen the landscapes must be protected.

Sincerely,

LoAnne Barnes

KaLeigh Welch

From: Patt Snow [pattsnow@att.net]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 9:18 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Moab

Please keep Moab wild and pristine. All Americans for generations to come should be able to enjoy such beauty. It feeds the soul and inspires awe in our hearts. We can never have enough of that. Our connection to nature's wild beauty is so important to our country's survival.

Thanx!!!

Patt Snow

Charlotte, NC 28205

KaLeigh Welch

From: Edwin Schlapfer [edschlapfer@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 9:19 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: "Public Lands Initiative" legislation

Dear Grand County Council Members,

I am a regular user of your beautiful county. As you know there is very diverse use of this area, but the "Public Lands Initiative" needs to have the items listed below worked in, otherwise we go way too far in one direction.

Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains. Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The council must recommend wilderness protection for the mountains that frame Delicate Arch and provide clean drinking water to Moab and Castle Valley. Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's council meeting, the council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth Canyon – despite it being the only flat water redrock wilderness river run in the American West. Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." The serene wilderness experience of river runners in Labyrinth should be protected from the roar of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River. Protect the views of Arches National Park by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the National Park. Designate areas to be managed as "roadless areas" within the proposed NCA following the "Daggett County model" already approved by Utah's Congressional delegation. Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of off-road vehicles.

Keep a balance by incorporating these recommendations.

Thank you,

Edwin Schlapfer

KaLeigh Welch

From: carla tuke [tukiefive@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 9:22 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protect Moab and Labyrinth Canyon

Dear Grand County Council,

As a long time visitor to Moab and Grand county, which I hope to continue to be, I'm writing to ask for your help in protecting Moab — and Labyrinth Canyon in particular — which needs true wilderness protection.

Quiet places need to be protected now and for future generations.

Please Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. It was sad to hear at last week's Council meeting, that the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — **disturbing because it is one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.** Also the river corridor in Labyrinth should be kept quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters and others who enjoy Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River! Thank you for recommending protecting of the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness** on the eastern side of Grand County, ensure that this will happen with the Closure of infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially within the boundaries. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs! There is nothing more disturbing than being out in these pristine wild lands and being bombarded motorized vehicles and noise. There is a time and place for everything and there are plenty on places for ATVs, But not here!**

Thank you for protecting these lands for us all,

Have a Great Day!

Carla D. Tuke

KaLeigh Welch

From: Ronald Schell [ronald.schell@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 9:34 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protect the Reasons I visit Utah: Solitude and Natural Beauty

I live in Madison, WI but visit Southeast Utah almost every year. I do so because of the natural beauty and solitude of the redrock country.

Please protect the wilderness features of Grand County that make it special. If ATV noise, pollution, and oil and gas development despoil your incomparable part of the world, I would, sadly, no longer have a reason to visit.

Specifically, as you develop a wilderness proposal for Grand County, please protect Labyrinth Canyon as wilderness, without river access by motorized vehicles that destroy solitude and damage the land. I can travel on the Madison belt-line and hear auto noise and inhale fumes. I can visit the Wisconsin State Fair and partake in a carnival ride. Every out-of-state visitor to your beautiful part of the world has plenty of access to noise, pollution, mechanized entertainments, and ruined landscapes. Utah is different and worth protecting. That difference can be translated into a sustainable economy and local jobs that last beyond the last oil boom or entertainment fad.

I urge you to also enhance the attractiveness of Grand County by rolling back ATV access to infrequently-used routes and designate as large an area as possible as road-less (including all of the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness). The impact of ATV use in terms of noise and pollution goes far beyond the routes they travel. There are plenty of places to responsibly use ATVs in Utah and every other state in the nation.

Protecting the viewshed of Arches National Park by expanding the National Conservation Area east of the Park and designating new wilderness in the La Sal Mountains would also enhance the qualities that make Utah special.

On Monday, the Grand County Commissioners will be making decisions that will reverberate for many years. I know you have a difficult job and are under tremendous pressure from well-financed opposition to wilderness. I hope you can find the courage--and it will take courage--to make decisions based on ethics and foresight and reverence for the gifts Nature has provided. Decisions made with those guiding principles are not ones you will regret.

Sincerely,

Ronald Schell

—
Ronald Schell
310 N. Hillside Terrace
Madison, WI 53705
(608) 233-1973

KaLeigh Welch

From: Susan Hand [oasis@kanab.net]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 9:37 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Please Protect Labyrinth Canyon

Greetings,

I am a citizen of southern Utah very concerned about the fate of Labyrinth Canyon and surrounding areas. I encourage you to recommend increased protections for the landscapes of Grand County to Representative Rob Bishop.

I have been visiting the Moab area since the late 1970's. In those days, my pals and I didn't think much about the need to protect what would become some of our favorite haunts--it all seemed so remote, pristine, and quiet. Everything has changed, and the brilliant landscapes of Grand County face further impacts as the years tick by. We need a long-term vision to position the national treasures of the region as such--and protect them for future generations.

Labyrinth Canyon and the La Sal Mountains are worthy of wilderness designation. ATV and 4x4 travel is not appropriate in Labyrinth's river corridor. The quiet that it could offer to visitors is already a precious commodity in our busy world and will become more so.

Indeed, I urge you to recommend to Representative Bishop that we identify and close the motorized routes which are infrequently used through any and all proposed wilderness in Grand County. I would also encourage you to support expansion of the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) east of Arches National park, as well as designation of roadless areas within the NCA; Arches is a small park, and the surrounding area needs to provide a buffer zone.

In short, I hope you will place a premium on the pristine veiwscapes and the quiet that once defined the west. These are the resources that, once sacrificed, can never be reclaimed--but which more and more people seek. The world is getting smaller, and we ought to recognize and protect the remnant wild places.

Thank you for considering my concerns.

Susan Hand
435 S 100 East
Kanab, Utah 84741

KaLeigh Welch

From: Molly Galetto [mbg4321@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 9:47 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: "Public Lands Initiative" legislation

Dear Grand County Council Members,

I am a regular user of your beautiful county. As you know there is very diverse use of this area, but the "Public Lands Initiative" needs to have the items listed below worked in, otherwise we go way too far in one direction.

Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains. Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The council must recommend wilderness protection for the mountains that frame Delicate Arch and provide clean drinking water to Moab and Castle Valley. Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's council meeting, the council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth Canyon — despite it being the only flat water redrock wilderness river run in the American West. Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." The serene wilderness experience of river runners in Labyrinth should be protected from the roar of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River. Protect the views of Arches National Park by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the National Park. Designate areas to be managed as "roadless areas" within the proposed NCA following the "Daggett County model" already approved by Utah's Congressional delegation. Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of off-road vehicles.

Keep a balance by incorporating these recommendations.

Thank you,

Molly Galetto
mbg4321@gmail.com

Love where you live!



KaLeigh Welch

From: Wendy Hoff [wendyhoff@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 9:46 AM
To: Grand County Council
Subject: Labyrinth & the Public Lands Initiative

Please protect the Labyrinth Canyon area as Wilderness. There are already too many roads criss-crossing the area, it can still be enjoyed from the cushy comfort of a OHV as certainly most roads would still remain open. This area's beauty and quiet and animals need to be preserved. Please don't allow any potash development in the area. To rip up the land for a few jobs is ridiculous, save it for future generations.

Wendy Hoff
Moab, UT

KaLeigh Welch

From: Clint McKnight [cmcknight@bresnan.net]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 9:50 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

Dear Grand County Council Members,

I'm writing to ask that the Council recommend designating Labyrinth Canyon as Wilderness. Only the protections offered by Wilderness designation will ensure the qualities of Labyrinth are not lost to ever-increasing motorized visitors.

I'd also like to ask that Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and Dead Cow/The Tubes jeep/ATV trails be closed to motorized use. Please also close motorized routes within the Westwater/Beaver Creek proposed wilderness area. There should be more areas around Moab where visitors can experience the desert without the whine of ATVs and motorcycles.

I understand that these are not easy positions to take, that you must find balance in your efforts at wise stewardship of public lands around Moab. It will take foresight and courage to limit motorized recreation. But anyone who has lived in or visited this magnificent, fragile region over the past 30 years as I have, knows how our human impacts have altered both the landscape and the experience of being here.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best regards,
Clint McKnight
Durango, CO

KaLeigh Welch

From: Susan Bakke [susan.bakke.b3@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 10:14 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

Dear Council,

As a lover and user of quiet, wild places in the U.S., I strongly advocate for wilderness protection for Labyrinth Canyon. I have hiked in several of the National Parks and surrounding areas of meditative beauty in Utah over the years, and know it as a place I can go to refresh my spirit. Stillness in the river canyons is critical to that experience. And, of course, while I'm there, I spend my tourist dollars in Moab and other communities I pass through.

I urge you to support the following:

1. Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.
2. Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing the jeep trails that run down to the river.
3. Protect the Arches views by expanding the proposed Nat'l Conservation Area 4 miles east of Arches Nat. Park.
4. Designate areas to be managed as roadless areas within the NCA, following the Daggett County model.
5. Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county.
6. Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.

Thank you for considering my letter when you meet on Monday to complete the Public Lands Initiative bill. I hope, as a visitor to the amazing natural features of the state of Utah, my voice counts.

Sincerely,

Susan Bakke
Lacey, WA

KaLeigh Welch

From: Susan Summers [cssummers@earthlink.net]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 10:21 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

Dear Council Members,

I am writing to urge you to preserve Labyrinth Canyon by designating it a wilderness area.

People visit Moab for the variety of experiences they may enjoy there—including being away from the noise that civilization brings—crowds, and motorized vehicles. We don't ask that every place be made a refuge, but that those of us who seek refuge may still find them in Utah.

We have noticed recently since my husband's cancer has recurred that we both pine for the quiet areas around Moab to help us remember happiness and to restore our reserves. What is the value of this kind of experience? It is beyond value.

I hope that you will preserve the true value of these lands by protecting them.

Drs. Susan and Clarke Summers

KaLeigh Welch

From: Craig Bigler [craigbigler@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 10:32 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Balance the noise in the mountains

Dear Council Members,

Your effort for compromise on land use designations is a commendable, wonderful beginning. But, please do more than just balance use, please balance the human impacts.

While it is possible, in the Moab area, to briefly get away from the sight of roads, it is now almost impossible to get away from the noise generated by motorized recreation, even in WSAs.

Do not be fooled by claims that old people need more road access to scenic areas. That access already exists.

What we old people need is the opportunity to find peace and quiet. Solitude has become the most precious, and hardest to find experience one can hope for.

This is especially true in the La Sal Mountains during the summer. Hikers go there for the cool air and solitude. But, more and more, the roads are trails of dust and noise that cannot be escaped except by hiking above timberline, and not always then.

Others have specified for you the places where solitude can still be found. Please heed their recommendations.

Most of all, please balance the human impacts with full consideration for that most human need: peace and quiet.

Thank you for all the progress you have made in just a couple of months, keep up the good work.

Sincerely,

Craig Bigler
Susan Jamieson

KaLeigh Welch

From: Algonquin Peak [boreas3989@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 10:38 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative

To Grand County Council,

My name is Cliff Bove and me and my wife Pearl would like you to accept our suggestions regarding land management on public lands in Grand County.

We own a small place in Castle Valley and have been enjoying the wonderful landscape in Grand County for years. Soon, we hope to retire there for we found it to be a great place for not only the wild and the rugged but for the beautiful people as well! We don't ride ATV's, but do passive adventurous and body building and mind building recreation such as backpacking, skiing, snow shoeing, mountain biking, river kayaking, hunting (though I never hunted in Utah) and fishing.

I love Mary Jane's Canyon. I literally hike east from our place past Castle Rock and access this beautiful winding canyon. It is spectacular as well as challenging. I've spent many overnight trips there and have even seen a puma on the slopes near Adobe Mesa. We support wilderness designation for Mary Jane's Canyon.

Adobe Mesa has been a favorite of mine too. Canyons are great to hike in but so are Mesa tops!! I've backpacked this entire mesa and what spectacular vistas! The La Sals , Castle Valley, Mary Jane Canyon , Colorado River, Fisher Mesa and the beautiful sky, especially at night! We recommend status to protect the Adobe Mesa and the La Sals as wilderness or at least withdraw the area from entry to oil and gas development, mining, additional roads and Off Road Vehicles. I can say the exact same for Fisher Mesa's attributes too.

Water is the most important resource in Grand County and I urge measures to protect watersheds that supply Moab and Castle Valley. From the tops of the La Sals, to the bench lands and canyons, I urge protection of entire watersheds from Off Road Vehicles and mining and oil and gas entry. Also, Wild and Scenic River designation for the Colorado River is appropriate to protect this national gem.

Fisher Towers and it's surrounding canyons deserve wilderness designation and protection against Off Road Vehicles and Mining and oil and gas development.

We are pleased to hear about abolishing the Book Cliffs Highway, this area is worthy of wilderness protection too.

In addition, we support wilderness designation , or at least protection of land, surrounding Canyon Lands National Park from mining, oil and gas and mining development, roads and Off Road Vehicles.

Labyrinth Canyon should be recommended for wilderness designation as well. No Off Road Vehicles in Hell Roaring, Hey Joe and Dead Cows Canyon. Ride your motorbike on U.S Route 191, it's very exhilarating!! Also, the West Water Canyon/ Beaver Creek need to be off limits to Off Road Vehicles.

Native American artifacts abound in Grand County as well as other important antiquities, efforts need to be employed to protect these sites . This can be accomplished by closing many routes to ATV's and abolishing cross country ATV usage. A thief will use an ATV, not a kayak or backpack to carry out an artifact!!

In conclusion, the public lands of Grand County contain many attributes deserving of protection from Off Road Vehicles, mining, roads, and oil and gas development. Whether it's Native American artifacts, watersheds, wilderness, solitude, recreation, scenic vistas , humpback chub or birds! We hope the Public Lands Initiative will truly put forth meaningful ideas to protect public lands from the ravages of Off Road Vehicle use and the many faces industrialization.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment!

Sincerely, Clifford and Pearl Bove

KaLeigh Welch

From: lisar lisar [lisar@bajabb.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 11:00 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative - citizen comment

Dear Grand County Council Members,

You have a critical decision before you. Visitors looking for a quiet, serene experience in the beauty of Moab are crucial to the future of this grand area. Once it's gone, it's gone. I realize that the off road lobby has a strong voice (and loud!). Perhaps a citizen such as I who feels that "quiet times" are very special opportunities is out of step in this modern and noisy world which surrounds us during most of our activities. Albert Einstein once said, "The answer comes when you're eating an apple." I take that to mean that the greatest insights possible to humans come while engaged in some simple, quiet activity. Citizens of this nation and the world who visit beautiful Moab need special places where they can be refreshed to do the important work needed to make a better nation and world. Yes, it's that important! Therefore, as we near a critical point in your decision making concerning the Public Lands Initiative, and given that off roaders have plenty of places already to enjoy their activity and the accompanying noise, I ask that the following be included:

Please recommend wilderness protection for the mountains that frame Delicate Arch and provide clean drinking water to Moab and Castle Valley.

- **Labyrinth Canyon**, the only flat water redrock wilderness river run in the American West, needs your protection.
- **Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails** that run down to the river.
- **Protect the views of Arches National Park** by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the National Park.
- **Designate areas to be managed as "roadless areas" within the proposed NCA** following the "Daggett County model" already approved by Utah's Congressional delegation.
- **Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County**, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of off-road vehicles.

You are the keepers of one of the grandest areas on the face of this Earth. Can't you keep it special for now and future generations?

Sincerely,

Lisa Rutherford
Ivins, Utah

KaLeigh Welch

From: Carina Dillon [divacarina@msn.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 11:04 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Wilderness Recommendations

Dear County Council Members:

My family lives in Tooele, UT and enjoys recreating in Grand County. You have the most amazing arches, canyons, rivers and mountains! We enjoy the serenity and beautiful vistas, and our experiences elsewhere in the state have been marred by ATV riders and development. We know that most riders are responsible (not sure if I can say the same for developers), but there are too many that aren't, and they ruin it for everyone else. I would like to see a wilderness/conservation "buffer zone" around Arches and other areas so that development doesn't encroach on the whole experience.

Other concerned individuals have suggested the following recommendations to pass on to Rep. Bishop:

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. It is the only flat water redrock wilderness river run in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." The serene wilderness experience of river runners in Labyrinth should be protected from the roar of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River.
- Protect the views of Arches National Park by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the National Park.
- Designate areas to be managed as "roadless areas" within the proposed NCA following the "Daggett County model" already approved by Utah's Congressional delegation.
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of off-road vehicles.
- Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains: This is necessary for the protection for the mountains that frame Delicate Arch and to provide clean drinking water to Moab and Castle Valley.

Thank you for your consideration!

Sincerely,
Carina Dillon
Tooele, UT

KaLeigh Welch

From: Tyler Ward [tylereward@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 11:17 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Wilderness designation for the Public Lands Initiative

Dear Grand County Councilmembers,

I live in Torrey, UT and frequent the Moab area, backpacking, hiking, camping, river running, climbing, and even exploring your endless back roads on my motorcycle. My family takes an annual trip down Labyrinth Canyon to explore and enjoy its splendor. It has become a place for us to reconnect with ourselves, each other, and a wild and inspiring landscape. It is truly a magical place.

When you make your recommendations to Representative Bishop as part of the Public Lands Initiative, please consider designating Labyrinth Canyon as Wilderness so generations from now will be able to experience its beauty and solitude as we do today. Close the Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and Dead Cow ATV/jeep trails that run along the Green River. There are already hundreds of miles of ATV routes around the Moab area and the ones in Labyrinth Canyon are unnecessary. Consider expanding the National Conservation Area outside of Arches, and manage areas within it as roadless. And please -- designate wilderness in the La Sal mountains.

There are a myriad of reasons to designate, protect, and promote Wilderness. Wild and untrammled land contributes to cleaner water and air *and* healthier people. Wilderness areas are the ecological cores that land managers use to promote whole and functioning ecosystems and the diverse biological populations that inhabit them. Designated Wilderness areas are the acknowledgement that all life has the right to exist and interact unencumbered by human development and impact. They are a place to learn and educate. And, of course, long after the boom and bust of the extractive industries like gas, oil, and uranium, Wilderness will still provide economic revenue from generations of recreationalists and tourists... and without the public bill for cleanup and containment.

Please take this opportunity to protect this resource and invest in your future. Our future.

Thank you,

Tyler Ward

248 N 300 W

Torrey, UT 84775

KaLeigh Welch

From: susie@deserthdharma.org
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 11:40 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: PLI

Dear Grand County Council;

I have lived in Grand County for almost 20 years, and enjoy hiking, biking, and canoeing in our beautiful public lands. I greatly appreciate the work you are doing on the Public Lands Initiative. As you finalize your recommendations I request that you:

- Expand the NCA from Alternative 3 to include Tenmile Canyon, Spring Canyon, and the Duma Point / Whitewash area. Please exclude potash mining and SITLA trade in areas for this zone.
- Close a fraction of the motorized routes in the area in order to move toward a real balance between motorized and quiet recreation. Especially important to close are the ones within the inner canyons: Tenmile Wash, Hey Joe (along the Green River), Hell Roaring Canyon, Mineral Canyon. I frequently canoe Labyrinth, and would really appreciate it if this fabulous area could be designated wilderness, and kept quiet.
- Please free yourself from the recommendations of the Big Flat Working Group, which was biased in favor of extractive industry and motorized recreation. Wilderness advocates were excluded from the Big Flats Working Group, and the group's recommendations are not a "consensus" in any meaningful sense. They certainly don't reflect my interests.
- Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains. Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. Please recommend wilderness protection for the mountains that provide our clean drinking water.

Thank you again for your work, and consideration,

Susie Harrington

KaLeigh Welch

From: Kalen Jones [kalen@withgaia.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 12:01 PM
To: Council
Subject: Public Lands Initiative comment
Attachments: PLI KJ 140313.pdf

Hello;

Please consider the attached comments on the PLI process.

Thank you!

Kalen

Kalen Jones
With Gaia Design
(435) 259-7073

Grand County Council
125 East Center St.
Moab, UT 84532

March 13, 2015

Re: PLI

Dear Council Members;

Thank you for your thoughtful work on the Public Lands Initiative. I have lived in Grand County for 24 years, in large part because of the incredible opportunities for quiet recreation, and our clean air and water. As you finalize your recommendations please do all you can to protect these great aspects of our county. I would especially appreciate it if you would:

- Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains. Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service wilderness. Please recommend wilderness protection for the mountains that provide our clean drinking water and amazing summer hiking.
- Please expand the NCA from Alternative 3 to include Tenmile Canyon, Spring Canyon, and the Duma Point / Whitewash area. Please exclude potash mining and SITLA trade in areas for this zone.
- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as wilderness. I've floated Labyrinth many times; it is the only flat-water redrock wilderness river run in the American West, and the scenery and serenity are well deserving of this protection.
- Please keep the Green River corridor quiet by closing some short deadend ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, Tenmile Wash, Hell Roaring Canyon, Mineral Canyon and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." The serene experience of myself and other river runners in Labyrinth and Stillwater should be protected from the roar of motors along the banks of the Green River.
- Protect the views of Arches National Park by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the National Park.
- Please designate areas to be managed as "roadless areas" within the proposed NCA following the "Daggett County model" already approved by our Congressional delegation.
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of off-road vehicles.

Again, thank you for what I imagine are many hours spent on this issue, and your consideration of my comments,



Kalen Jones
900 Kane Creek Blvd.
Moab, UT 84532

KaLeigh Welch

From: Chris Wilkins [chris_wilkins@bresnan.net]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 12:08 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: I support wilderness and quiet wild places in Grand County

Hello –

I have been visiting Moab and Grand County multiple times a year since 1993 to bike, hike, explore, or float on the rivers. It is probably my favorite place in the world for outdoor activities.

I would like the Grand County Council to **make a serious commitment to wilderness and non-motorized recreation activities as part of the Public Lands Initiative legislation.** Specifically, I request that you:

- **Designate wilderness areas in the La Sal Mountains**, that iconic symbol of Moab and the surrounding area.
- **Designate Labyrinth Canyon on the Green River as true wilderness.** I have rowed and paddled Labyrinth many times, and I feel that it is clearly worthy of wilderness protection. As part of this protection, you should **move to close the three jeep roads that allow vehicle access to the river** and destroy the natural experience of floating it.
- **Expand the proposed National Conservation Area 4 miles east of Arches NP** and designate areas within the NCA to be managed as roadless areas following the Daggett County model. Arches is the first and sometimes only impression of canyon country for many visitors, and the views from the park should be protected.
- **Close infrequently used motorized routes in all proposed wilderness areas in Grand County.** There are already plenty of places for motorized recreation in Grand County, and we need to preserve areas for quiet, non-motorized recreation.

My view - that more wild lands around Moab should be protected and managed to support non-motorized recreation - is shared by everyone that I know. All of us love Grand County, but have been negatively affected by expanded off-road vehicle use. **Please commit to true wilderness protection and the steps that I outline above so that we can continue to visit Grand County and contribute to its economy for years to come.**

Thank you for your consideration.
Chris Wilkins

KaLeigh Welch

From: l-jnews@comcast.net
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 12:16 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Recommendations - Public Lands Initiative

Dear Grand County Council Members,

I'm one of many Utahans who have grown to have a heartfelt concern for and connection with the Red Rock Wilderness and the variety of adventures that are available in Southern Utah. Several times a year I travel from my home in the Salt Lake City area to enjoy what I've known in the past as quiet, serene, and unique country around Moab, Canyonlands, Arches, the Manti - La Sal, Dark Canyon, the Green and Colorado rivers, and so much more. Frequently I'm with a few others who are looking forward to the chance to slow down life and just be in the country that helps give meaning and purpose to all we do. The area is simply a gift to be treasured!

My understanding is that you're about to make your recommendations to Representative Rob Bishop's Public Lands Initiative. My sincere hope is that you will strongly consider providing wilderness protection for much of the area around Moab, specifically including Labyrinth Canyon. It is simply unique and needs to be preserved for our generation as well as those to follow. As you examine the choices and look at the benefits gained from the pleasure the land gives, my hope is that you'll also close ATV and Jeep/4-wheel drive access to the river corridor at Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and Dead Cow trails. The experience of being on the water or along the sides of the river are marred more and more often by the noise and intrusion caused by these modes of travel and there are so many other areas set aside for these vehicles.

My appreciation for your consideration of these issues. My primary worry is for the loss of what I've known as a place to heal and rejuvenate, both for myself and others. If this country should lose this aspect of its character, my friends and I will simply need to look elsewhere, and this will be a further loss for many.

Thank you for your time,
Tom Laabs-Johnson
Sandy, Utah

KaLeigh Welch

From: Fred Swanson [fbswan32@msn.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 12:20 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative

Sirs,

As one who often travels to Grand County to make use of federal public lands, I hope that you will keep an open mind about wilderness designations in your deliberations on Representative Bishop's Public Lands Initiative. In particular, the Green River corridor through Labyrinth Canyon would make an excellent candidate for wilderness designation. This is one of the few rivers in the West which can be easily run with a canoe, and my wife and I have enjoyed many trips there with our family and friends. We typically engage a local outfitter for canoe rentals and shuttles.

We seek a quiet setting away from motor vehicles for our trips. In recent years, however, we have been disturbed by more and more motorcycles and other off-road vehicles using the river corridor from access points near Dellenbaugh Butte, Hey Joe Canyon, and Tenmile Canyon. I realize that motorized users wish to have access to these areas, but it constitutes a real conflict for those of us who prefer nature's quiet. The bikes often veer off of the main tracks, and we have seen too many instances of vegetation and soils needlessly ripped up.

There are many places in Grand County where ATV, jeep and motorcycle users can pursue their sport, but Labyrinth Canyon is a truly special place which deserves the protection afforded by wilderness designation. Its designation would be a positive asset for tourism and economic activity in Grand County, and I hope that you can see fit to recommend this and other deserving areas to Rep. Bishop.

Sincerely,

Frederick H. Swanson
32 Silver Oak Rd.
Salt Lake City, UT 84108

KaLeigh Welch

From: Ann Wechsler [annwechsler@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 12:21 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon protection

To the Grand County Council members:

Although I live in Seattle now, I spent 34 years in Utah enjoying its amazing front country, back country, and innumerable special places that I have hoped would eventually receive Wilderness designation. Labyrinth Canyon is one of those places. I floated it in an oar rig following the great flood of 1983 that impacted the entire state. That trip was a wake-up call to me to begin studying the need for places that rise to, and satisfy, the prescriptions of the 1964 Wilderness Act.

Just recently, I had the opportunity to visit many senators and representatives in Washington, D.C., with constituents from Utah and many other states, to lobby for America's Red Rock Wilderness Act (to be reintroduced by Senator Durbin and Representative Lowenthal this Spring). Labyrinth Canyon kept coming up in the discussions as the example of incomparable wilderness that only Utah can boast. It needs no litany of its magnificent qualities to you who are so fortunate to live in Grand County. But in 1983, I was so taken with the immense stretch of solitude, wildness, and utter beauty that I could never anticipate any erosion of its wilderness character.

Today, threats to the canyon are abundant and we, and our children who will inherit America's public lands, deserve an opportunity to experience them as we have. All of our public lands are an investment in the future. I hope you in Grand County, and those who live in the communities that punctuate the redrock country of southern Utah, will grant that one long wild and sinuous corridor, and the grand views above it, the highest protection it deserves, that of Wilderness.

Thank you,

Ann Wechsler
835 NE 100th St.
Seattle, WA, 98125

KaLeigh Welch

From: Lorena Lucille [lorenalucille@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 12:27 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Moab needs true wilderness protection!

Grand County Council,

I visited Moab for the first time this February with 10 friends. We hiked and explored **beautiful, quiet, unspoiled wilderness.**

I now want to take my daughter. I remember seeing the **solution mining pools owned by Texasgulf Inc. that blemished the horizon** at Dead Horse Point and wonder what other things will **threaten the ecological health of the Moab wilderness and spoil the beauty of this area** for my daughter in the future.

- I want to see the Grand County Council designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.
- Close the ATV and jeep trails to Dead Cow/The Tubes, Hey Joe, and the beautiful Hell Roaring Canyon that I visited this winter.
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County.

Please protect the Moab wilderness for me and my children.

Lorena Lucille Oczkowski

KaLeigh Welch

From: Susan Crosby [canyon.wren@icloud.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 12:30 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

Maybe the decision to defoliate the Salt Cedar along the Green River bosque in Labyrinth Canyon was over your head there at Grand County. Who knows, someday it may regrow with willow and cottonwood. 40 years ? Meantime what I see is an AstroTurf thick carpet of returning salt cedar seedlings....how much money ended up in whose pockets for that program? Last summer my wife and I enjoyed our river trip from Ruby Ranch to Mineral Bottom accompanied by an oil slick and dead fish courtesy of the well head disaster in White Wash Over the years we have witnessed a steady degradation of Labyrinth Canyon to the point of no longer caring to plan what once was the high point of our summer and or fall....5 nights camping and 6 days canoeing in such a beautiful, quiet remnant of canyon river country. If you guys can't see your way clear to recommend the Labyrinth for wilderness designation, may God burn you.

KaLeigh Welch

From: Laura Moorefield [lmoorefield@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 12:32 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Comments for Monday, March 16, Grand County Council meeting

Dear Grand County Council,

I live in Durango, CO and my family and friends frequently visit (and spend money in) Moab and the surrounding region. I treasure this area for its amazing landscape, and the plants and animals that reside here. A critical part of this area's beauty is quiet. There is really nothing like desert quiet. While I understand that some people visit this region to drive jeeps, ATVs, and motorbikes, many many others of us feel strongly that the wilderness of this region is its true value, and that areas need to be protected. We camp, hike, bike, and boat to get away from the noise, roads and motors that are everywhere in our daily lives.

- **Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.** At last week's council meeting, the council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth Canyon — despite it being the only flat water red rock wilderness river run in the American West. This is a very special stretch of river. Please protect it for the future.
- **Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails** that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." The serene wilderness experience of non-motorized river runners in Labyrinth is really impacted by the roar of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River. There are already so few places where people can get away from the noise of engines—please preserve this one.
- **Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.** Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service wilderness, but the Grand County Council has not recommended any. The council must recommend wilderness protection for the mountains that frame Delicate Arch and provide clean drinking water to Moab and Castle Valley.
- **Protect the views of Arches National Park** by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the National Park.
- **Designate areas to be managed as "roadless areas" within the proposed NCA** following the "Daggett County model" already approved by Utah's Congressional delegation.
- **Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County,** especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of off-road vehicles.

Thank you,

Laura

Laura Moorefield
970 903 3044

KaLeigh Welch

From: Carol and Jerry [hikerswe@msn.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 1:00 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Recommendation for the Public lands Initiative

As a hiker and biker familiar with the areas around Moab, UT, I would like to see the following supported in upcoming legislation:

Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.

Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.

Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes."

Protect the views of Arches National Park by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the National Park.

Designate areas to be managed as "road less areas" within the proposed NCA

Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county.

Thank you,

Jerry E. Sims

Arvada, Co

KaLeigh Welch

From: Susan Saul [susan103saul@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 1:26 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protect Greater Canyonlands wild places

I have visited Moab several times, staying in the community for a week or more while purchasing food, gas and other items in support of my recreational visits to surrounding wildlands.

I treasure quiet places where I can enjoy the canyonlands country away from the noise, dust and disturbance of ATVs, jeeps and other off-road vehicles. I support the closure of infrequently used vehicle routes in proposed wilderness in Grand County.

Further, I support protection of the Arches National Park viewscape by expanding the proposed National Conservation area to the east of the park. I also support wilderness designation for the La Sal Mountains, which are such a prominent landscape viewed from the park. I have taken many photographs of Delicate Arch with the snow-capped La Sal Mountains as the backdrop.

I support designation of Labyrinth Canyon as wilderness. A return visit to Moab to float the Green River is on my wish list. I have heard of the geological and archeological wonders of Labyrinth Canyon and its recreational assets are featured in guidebooks. It is a boaters' paradise, available to all skill levels, since 50 miles are unbroken by rapids or waterfalls. I support protection of both sides of the canyon and the side canyons that contain irreplaceable galleries of rock art. I look forward to experiencing this Utah treasure with only the sounds of wind and birds and water lapping against watercraft.

Susan Saul
Vancouver, Washington

KaLeigh Welch

From: helensbigelow@aol.com
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 2:16 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Wilderness protection for moab

Please protect the moab area for All people. Thank you.

Sent from my iPad

KaLeigh Welch

From: Krishna Sinha [sinha_krishna@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 2:23 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Save the Labyrinth Canyon!

Dear Grand County Council Members,

This email is to make a request for preserving and designating the Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness area. Labyrinth Canyon is one of the jewels of wilderness in the American West, which attracts many visitors to enjoy this magnificent and peaceful canyon.

Keeping this canyon away from ATV and other vehicles, would have many long term financial and environmental benefits as well. Tourists visit this canyon to escape the hustle and bustle of city living, noise and carbon pollution, and in general, the fast pace of life. They want to enjoy a clean, quiet, serene environment and solitude. Not keeping this beautiful place as wilderness area, would drive many tourists away from this canyon, which would have devastating effect on the local economy. I personally would not come to this canyon if ATV and all other vehicles would be allowed to buzz through. I hope you would consider all the negative consequences (long and short-term) of not declaring Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness area, and take wise decision to preserve this canyon for many generations to enjoy.

Thanks!

Arati Sinha

KaLeigh Welch

From: Ray Ivins [rivins@cardaccess-inc.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 2:40 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Keep Moab Natural

I am writing to encourage you to please designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. Please consider all of the people that travel to Moab for clean recreation. I am a Utah resident that visits Moab at least twice a year. I enjoy the scenic beauty and rugged out of doors. Please keep as much of the nature beauty as possible by keeping ATV's out of Labyrinth Canyon.

Thank you,

Ray Ivins
Highland, Utah

KaLeigh Welch

From: Marcia Hadenfeldt [farout@frontiernet.net]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 2:50 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: March16th decision

Dear Council members,

I'm a San Juan county resident and business owner in Bluff. I urge you to take any action possible to create more needed wilderness in your area. More buffer areas excluding off-road vehicles could be very beneficial to the health of your residents and long term viability of tourism.

Sincerely,

Vaughn Hadenfeldt
650 East Mulberry
Bluff, Utah 84512

KaLeigh Welch

From: Marcia Williams [marcia.e.williams@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 3:27 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Recommendations for Representative Bishop regarding the Public Lands Initiative bill

To the Grand County Council:

I write today as a lover of Utah, especially the areas surrounding Moab, its red rock country and of wilderness to implore you to make the following recommendations to Representative Bishop within the "Public Lands Initiative" (PLI) bill:

- **Designate Labyrinth Canyon as wilderness.** Not in name only while eviscerating the meaning of the term with diminishing conditions and exceptions. True wilderness. No roads. No motorized anything. Quiet. Nature in charge. Humans as visiting elements.
- **Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet.** On Christmas Day, friends and I snow shoed on Lolo Pass in western Montana. It was quiet and peaceful, until the sounds of snowmobiles from some distance shattered the quietude and reverie. We need to leave some spaces in our country for quiet. Not just for humans but also for the other creatures which call them home. This is certainly analogous to the Labyrinth river corridor which should offer quiet to all comers.
- **Protect the Arches viewscape** by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area four miles east of Arches National Park.
- **Close infrequently used routes** in all proposed wilderness in Grand County.
- **Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.** Certainly Grand County does not want to be known as the only county in the entire PLI process not to recommend wilderness? At a minimum, the mountains which frame Delicate Arch should be designated as wilderness.

I fell in love with the Moab area during my first visit in 2011 and was most recently through there last week. Please take these actions to keep it special.

Thank you.

Marcia Williams
PO Box 8268
Missoula, MT 59807-8268
615.525.7258
marcia.e.williams@gmail.com

KaLeigh Welch

From: anazazi1@preciscom.net
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 3:39 PM
To: Council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Request for council consideration

As a resident of Grand county, Utah I strongly request that the County Council to recommend that:

Labyrinth Canyon be designated as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.

Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!

Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!

J. Lance Parker, Ph.D
3686 Spanish Valley Drive P1
Moab, Utah 84532
435-259-0163

KaLeigh Welch

From: Dave Kelly [davidkelly1@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 3:44 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative

Dear Council Members,

As a member of the Utah community that frequents the amazing terrain in your county I am hoping to have my opinion heard as you give recommendations to Representative Bishop. I am in support of designating wilderness in the La Sal Mountains. I am also strongly in favor of protecting both sides of Labyrinth Canyon as wilderness. This should include closing access to the canyon on the east side to ATV travel. I also believe that the area on the east side of Gray Canyon should be offered further wilderness protection.

Thank you,
Dave Kelly
davidkelly1@hotmail.com

KaLeigh Welch

From: Deborah Paulson [deborah.paulson@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 3:55 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative

Dear Grand County Council,

My husband and I have been a frequent visitors to southeastern Utah and Grand County for over 25 years. We have eaten and stayed in Moab many times. We now live much closer and get over to your canyon country several times a year.

One of the main attributes that makes SE Utah a very special place and draws us there is the remote and wild country. Before we moved to Southwestern Colorado, we would drive 8 hours on a long weekend to get to SE Utah not just for the gorgeous unblemished vistas, but also to escape the noise and hectic nature our lives.

We seek areas for quiet recreation, mainly hiking and backpacking, and as vehicles use has increased over the years, we find ourselves avoiding more and more places. Whether paddling down the river or hiking into a canyon, the sound of engines significantly mars the experience. Thus, I ask you to protect valuable wilderness areas like Labyrinth Canyon with wilderness designation. Keep your river corridor quiet and remote, and protected more areas as roadless.

Thank you for your consideration of the many quiet visitors such as us, who come and go less noticed perhaps than those hauling trailers with vehicles. The quiet and spectacular public lands of SE Utah are one of our country's treasures that has enriched our lives immensely, and I urge you to do all you can to protect the wilderness qualities of the these lands.

Deborah Paulson
7852 CR 203
Durango, CO 81301

KaLeigh Welch

From: David McLean [mclean777@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 4:01 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Fwd: Comments on the Bishop PLI

Thank you, Grand County Council, for all the hard work you are putting into the Bishop PLI effort. This is a great opportunity to make our local views heard.

And thank you all for accepting the challenge of “compromise” which is essential to a good recommendation for Grand County. But it appears that compromise has gone too far in terms of preserving some of our precious land for the benefit of all those who come after us. Specifically, Labyrinth Canyon and its feeder canyons, as well as our watershed, should be protected as wilderness.

These areas deserve the wilderness designation on their own right, but even more important, they need to be protected from extraction (whether it be oil, gas, potash) as well as the unregulated off-road users.

Please step up to the plate and preserve these areas for us and our future generations as wilderness.

Thank you,

Kay McLean

Moab

KaLeigh Welch

From: Rebecca Hunter [hunterrah@hotmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 4:25 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protect Labyrinth Canyon

Dear Moab Grand County Council Members:

As a lifelong hiker in our nation's wilderness areas, member of both the Sierra Club and Audubon, I encourage you to take a position with regard to Moab, and especially Labyrinth Canyon, that will ensure its status as a wilderness area for generations to come. Because once a compromise is made to allow inroads into the area that violate its roadless and quiet character, it will be impossible to reverse.

Yours in the interest of environmental welfare,
Rebecca Hunter

KaLeigh Welch

From: johannavarner@gmail.com on behalf of Johanna Varner [johanna.varner@utah.edu]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 4:50 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protection request for quiet areas around Moab

Dear Grand County Council,

I am writing to ask you to consider closing routes and protecting the quiet areas of Moab. As a frequent visitor to Moab, I believe that the area needs true wilderness protection. I also believe that quiet places need to be protected now and for future generations.

Specifically, I am asking you to consider the following:

- **Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.** Please consider protecting the mountains that frame Delicate Arch and provide clean drinking water to Moab and Castle Valley.
- **Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.** This is the only flat water redrock wilderness river run in the American West.
- **Protect the views of Arches National Park** by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the National Park.
- **Designate areas to be managed as “roadless areas” within the proposed NCA** following the “Daggett County model” already approved by Utah's Congressional delegation.
- **Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County,** especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of off-road vehicles.

Finally, as an ecologist, I am happy to provide additional information about the ecological effects of ORV's on Utah's delicate desert environment. Protecting biodiversity and species habitat in these areas can provide essential ecosystem services, such as protection against erosion and protection against zoonotic diseases such as hantavirus.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Johanna Varner

--

Johanna Varner
PhD Candidate, Biology
University of Utah
Twitter: [@johannavarner](https://twitter.com/johannavarner)
Web: johannavarner.weebly.com

KaLeigh Welch

From: Casey Sanders [caseysanders@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 4:51 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protect labyrinth canyon

I have never been much of a rafter, or watersports guy until one weekend, bad weather in the unitas forced us to find alternative plans. That was when I fell in love with labyrinth canyon. I have been coming back for years to experience the quiet solitude this holy place provides. This place has amazing recreational opportunities and is my go to spring or fall retreat for the whole family. Everyone who has floated the canyon with me agrees, this place needs to be protected!

I especially urge you to:

- **Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.** At last week's council meeting, the council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth Canyon — despite it being the only flat water redrock wilderness river run in the American West.
- **Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails** that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." The serene wilderness experience of river runners in Labyrinth should be protected from the roar of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River.

I appreciate your time and look forward to hearing from you.

Thanks,

--

Casey Sanders
p. 801.347.9784

KaLeigh Welch

From: Georgette Theotig [gtheotig@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 4:53 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

Dear Grand Council Members,

I am writing from California, where I live. My purpose in writing to you today is to strongly urge your SUPPORT of Wilderness Designation for Labyrinth Canyon as part of Representative Rob Bishop's "Public Lands Initiative" bill.

My connection to Moab and Labyrinth Canyon goes back to 1987, when I first visited this beautiful corner of Utah for a kayak trip down the Green River. After 8 days of paddling down the Green River, including the magnificent Labyrinth Canyon, we spent a few days relaxing in Moab. Since 1987, I have been to both the Green River and Moab several times, returning because of the highly scenic lands in this part of Utah. I urge the Grand County Council to support wilderness designation of Labyrinth Canyon for the following reasons:

1. KEEP THE LABYRINTH RIVER CORRIDOR QUIET - This unique and very scenic part of the Green River deserves the highest protection from noise and dust pollution. I support closure of the tree ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes". River rafter, kayakers, and canoeists shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River! What a shame to allow this incompatible intrusion into a quiet and beautiful place, in the name of "recreation".
2. PROTECT THE ARCHES VIEWSCAPE - I urge your support of expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of Arches National Park. Arches National Park is not only a Utah treasure, it belongs to the world. Every year, thousands of visitors come to experience this magnificent area. Do your part to keep it protected for future generations to enjoy as we have.
3. DESIGNATE AREAS TO BE MANAGED AS ROADLESS AREAS WITHIN THE NCA - Please follow the "Daggett County" model that has already been approved by the Congressional delegation.
4. CLOSE INFREQUENTLY USED ROUTES IN ALL PROPOSED WILDERNESS IN GRAND COUNTY - I especially refer to the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There must be places where Moab visitors can experience quiet and avoid all the sounds and sights of ORV activity, such as noisy ATVs.
5. DESIGNATE WILDERNESS IN THE LA SAL MOUNTAINS - Every other county in the Public Land Initiative process has recommended new Forest Service Wilderness. However, and unfortunately, the Grand County Council has recommended NOTHING. The Council must recommend protecting that frame the famous Delicate Arch as wilderness.

Last, I ask that you seriously consider the legacy that your board leaves behind. Will future generations shake their heads in disgust or praise the decisions that you have made? Think about what you are leaving behind and the grand landscape of Utah that deserves to be protected for all time.

Sincerely,
Georgette Theotig
Tehachapi, CA

KaLeigh Welch

From: Ruth Dillon [rdillon@grandcountyutah.net]
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 9:40 AM
To: Elizabeth Tubbs
Cc: KaLeigh Welch
Subject: PILT Letter for State Legislature Signature

Hi Liz,
Just ran across this sample PILT letter (from NaCo- National Assn of Counties) urging counties to have their representatives sign. After a cursory review of it, I think it could wait until the April council meeting to have a letter signed by you addressed to our state reps that urges them to sign this form letter:

<http://www.naco.org/legislation/policies/Documents/Public%20Lands/HANDOUT%20PILT%20House%20Letter%203.11.2015%20Signers.pdf>

I'll ask KaLeigh to place it on the 4/7 agenda as a placeholder.

Have a lovely weekend! Take good care of the Grand County Council Chair! And that Justice Court Judge too!

Best!

Ruth

Ruth Dillon
Council Administrator
Grand County Council
125 E. Center St.
Moab, UT 84532
(435) 259-1347
New email: rdillon@grandcountyutah.net

KaLeigh Welch

From: een248@isp.com
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 5:20 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: utah's wild places

Hello, Council Members,

I have enjoyed many trips to Utah's scenic wonderlands. I would very much like to continue to do so.

Please:

Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.

Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet

Protect the Arches viewscape by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of Arches National Park.

Designate areas to be managed as roadless areas within the NCA, following the "Daggett County" model that has already been approved by our Congressional delegation.

Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!

Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.

Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service Wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The council should recommended protecting the mountains that frame Delicate Arch as wilderness.

Please get onboard.

Thank you, Effie Neth

KaLeigh Welch

From: Thea Nordling [theakn@frontiernet.net]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 5:41 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Bishop Plan Comments
Attachments: County Council Bishop proposal letter 4.doc

Please see attachment

Thank you,

Thea Nordling

KaLeigh Welch

From: Paul Beebe [pwb1049@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 7:40 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labryinth Canyon

Dear People,

My daughter and I canoed Labyrinth Canyon a few years ago. I had heard that this stretch of Green River was the finest desert canoe float in the West. I can say from personal experience that it and the canyon lived up to its billing. Please protect this wonderful area as wilderness. It is irreplaceable. I am planning another float this year – in large part because it is a de facto wilderness. But as we all know, unless permanent protections are afforded, the motorized noise crowd will someday gain a foothold on the river and surrounding area. I hope that never happens. Please use your elected office to stand up for Labyrinth (and Stillwater). Support it as wilderness.

Paul Beebe
pwb1049@yahoo.com
7186 S. Macintosh Lane
Salt Lake City, Utah
84121

KaLeigh Welch

From: Jerome Walker [jeromewalker@me.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 8:14 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protection of Labyrinth Canyon

Dear Council Members,

I am a retired physician from Atlanta, GA, now living in Missoula, MT. I've been visiting the Moab area since 1994 and, as a serious photographer, find it forever captivating. Twice during the past year I've arranged to spend time in Moab so that I could visit and photograph the special places there. One of my good friends has recommended to me that I canoe the Green River down as far as the confluence, which he did some years ago with his family, and this is a trip that I plan to take in the near future. I hope that on Monday you will see fit to recommend that Labyrinth Canyon, which I understand is one of the premier wild places in the west, be designated as a wilderness area. To create a true wilderness experience there, I understand that it would be necessary to keep the river quiet by closing the three ATV and jeep trails that run from the canyon rim down to the river. Rafters in Labyrinth Canyon shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles or ATV's as they proceed along the Green River.

Arches National Park is a special and unique place also, treasured by visitors from all around the world, and a place that my late wife Melissa wrote about at length in her book Living on Wilderness Time, published by the Univ. of Va. Press. The Arches viewscape should be protected by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NSA) 4 miles east of the park. The La Sal Mountains provide a dramatic backdrop to the area around Moab, and in my view should also be protected as a new Forest Service Wilderness. Not all the land around Moab should be opened to motorized recreation. It's also important to have some areas where quiet and solitude can be found, and wilderness designations are the best way to accomplish this.

Jerome Walker

KaLeigh Welch

From: CenturyLink Customer [mdmcgregor@q.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 8:24 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: land designation and management

I am an infrequent but interested visitor to the Moab and Green River areas and have been a river recreationist on the Westwater segment of the Colorado for several years. It would be nice to have whatever areas that qualify as wilderness in the Westwater area and also the Labyrinth Canyon section of the Green designated as wilderness. I'm unfamiliar with the inroads or routes that contact the Green River there but if they are not real roads and not publicly & commercially useful, they could be considered for closure. A shortage of quiet areas is slowly growing in the area in general. Though I have not boated the Labyrinth segment, it has the advantage of being beginner suitable and is attractive as a relatively safe trip. Thanks for maintaining the Mineral Bottom area as a place of access.

KaLeigh Welch

From: JimDisinger [jim.disinger@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, March 13, 2015 10:05 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Moab wilderness

I'd like to comment on your vote on Monday. I've spent many years and thousands of dollars around Moab simply because of the usual and wilderness character.

I'd like you to:

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

Jim Disinger

KaLeigh Welch

From: Jennifer Perry [jennifer.perry2@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 7:19 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative Legislation Recommendations

Dear Grand County Council,

Please keep one of the most special areas in the country protected for future generations!

- **Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.**
- **Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.**
- **Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails** that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and “Dead Cow/The Tubes.”
- **Protect the views of Arches National Park** by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the National Park.
- **Designate areas to be managed as “roadless areas” within the proposed NCA** following the “Daggett County model” already approved by Utah's Congressional delegation.
- **Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County**, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county.

Thanks!

Jen Perry

KaLeigh Welch

From: Jerry Davis [j.v.davis@att.net]
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 7:23 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

We implore you to save Labyrinth Canyon. It is so important to have these quiet and serene places in Utah. These beautiful and pristine areas are special and need to stay the way they have been for centuries.

Please don't give away the canyon as the world needs these fantastic areas.

Quietness is more important nowadays for the world.

Please do what is right.

KaLeigh Welch

From: Steve R [cedarmesa@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 8:29 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative

Dear Council members,

I understand the Council is to be making recommendations soon about the use of public lands near Moab, particularly Labyrinth Canyon and environs. As a frequent visitor to this area, a former resident of Utah, and graduate of Utah State University, I feel strongly about protecting these areas in their natural state.

These areas are becoming more and more rare in southern Utah - where natural sounds still can be experienced and enjoyed. I am not one to advocate for the wholesale banning of vehicular use on the public lands of southern Utah, but I feel a balance must be struck, where both motorized and quiet recreation can exist, but without the one cancelling out the other.

I would respectfully urge the Council to seriously consider recommending the following:

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness;
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth Canyon quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river (Hey Joe, Hell Roaring and Dead Cow/The Tubes; and
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness.

Thank you,

Steve Ryder
Wheat Ridge, CO

KaLeigh Welch

From: Thomas Lewis [lewistl@live.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 9:09 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Wilderness protection for Labyrinth Canyon

Dear Grand County Council:

For the past several years, one of our very favorite travel destinations has been the Moab area. My wife and I, along with several friends, are hikers from Pennsylvania who have come to appreciate the wildness and the quiet that the spectacular landscape around Moab has to offer.

In order to maintain that quiet and wildness for future generations to enjoy, we ask you to please consider the following when you make your recommendations to Representative Rob Bishop to be included in the "Public Lands Initiative" bill:

1. Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. It is certainly one of the crown jewels of the American west.
2. Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing the 3 ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river. I'm referring to "Hey Joe", "Hellroaring", and "Dead Cow/The Tubes".
3. Protect the Arches viewscape by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area 4 east of Arches Nat'l park.
4. Designate areas to be managed as roadless areas within the NCA, following the "Daggett County" model.
5. Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County.
6. Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains. The mountains that frame Delicate Arch should be protected as wilderness.

Thank you for your consideration of these recommendations.

Sincerely,
Thomas L. Lewis
PO Box 541
Huntingdon, PA 16652

KaLeigh Welch

From: constance lynn [constancelynn@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 9:35 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: letter to the council

Dear Council Members:

In regards to the Public Lands Initiative I'd like to submit the following:

- **Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.** Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The council must recommend wilderness protection for the mountains that frame Delicate Arch and provide clean drinking water to Moab and Castle Valley.
- **Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.** At last week's council meeting, the council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth Canyon — despite it being the only flat water redrock wilderness river run in the American West.
- **Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails** that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." The serene wilderness experience of river runners and wild life in Labyrinth should be protected from the roar of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River.
- **Protect the views of Arches National Park** by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the National Park.
- **Designate areas to be managed as "roadless areas" within the proposed NCA** following the "Daggett County model" already approved by Utah's Congressional delegation.
- **Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County,** especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors and wild life can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of off-road vehicles.

Thank you for your consideration.

Constance Lynn

KaLeigh Welch

From: Lisa Paterson [lpater1@hotmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 9:41 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Bishop Land Initiative thoughts

Dear County Council Members,

I'm writing to offer specific requests as you consider your decisions on the Bishops Land Initiative.

There are fewer and fewer truly quiet places in Grand County. I do not ask that all of Grand County become wilderness, but I ask that there be a better balance. Thus far the County Council has voted to keep open 100% of Jeep Safari routes.

The County Council has voted to protect only 32% of America's Redrock Wilderness Act wilderness in Grand County south of I-70.

The county has acted to protect 0% of Labyrinth Canyon as wilderness.

As Lynn Jackson noted in his recent op-ed piece in this week's Times Independent, we are more than heavily dependent upon recreation and tourism dollars. People do not come here to see oil rigs. Many people come here for the vast views and silence and solitude. And of course, there are people who come here to ride their motorized vehicles. We have plenty of land set aside now for motorized vehicles. It's important to preserve more silence, more quiet places. And it's extremely important not to sacrifice our lands that draw people from throughout the entire world for boom and bust oil and potash extractive businesses.

Therefore I recommend the following:

**Close an old mining route to Hey Joe along the river for the entire year.

** Close Hell Roaring to motorized use.

**Close the upper portion of Mineral Canyon to motorized use.

**Close the “Dead Cow/Tubes” motorcycle route, to protect the quiet of the river corridor.

**Create wilderness along Labyrinth Canyon as well as protection to the Green River corridor canyon rims rather than its proposed NSO (no surface occupancy) recommendation for the canyons and mesas in the Labyrinth area. The road density in the Labyrinth area is too high.

Designating wilderness here would close a small percentage of the unused or redundant trails and be a move towards a more balanced travel plan.

Wilderness designation is a statutory designation with known management criteria. There is NO precedent for legislating NSO. Although the Council might perceive these two designations to be similar, there is no guarantee.

For the sake of certainty, recommend the area as wilderness and close several unnecessary and little-used routes.

**Protect the viewshed of Arches Nat'l Park by expanding the NCA boundary to the NE of the park by approximately 4 miles.

Thank you for your consideration of these recommendations.

Sincerely,

Lisa Paterson

Lisa Paterson Coaching and Rosen Method Bodywork
Gently Held, Deeply Seen
<http://www.lisapatersoncoaching.com/>

KaLeigh Welch

From: stranger [stranger@xmission.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 10:40 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Your Monday meeting

Expires: Thursday, September 10, 2015 12:00 AM

Dear members of the council;

I was recently informed you'll be making some decisions with regard to protection of Labyrinth Canyon.

I would ask you do all you can to protect it in its natural state.

Simply put, Labyrinth Canyon has become one of the most important places in the natural world for me.

I have floated it on at least four occasions. The peace and serenity of a flat water river trip is a big draw. The ease of the trip allowed me to float it solo for five days once, a much needed respite in some beautiful wild country. The positive impact that trip had on my personal life is nearly immeasurable. I think you need to consider things like this in your deliberations on what the best uses of the canyon are. There are not many places left with these qualities and I feel we need to protect what we have left.

I have also floated it with my wife, and with a group of friends. The last time I floated it, it was to bring a close friend down on his last river trip as he was fighting a losing battle with cancer. Again, the mellowness of the trip allowed his participation, something a trip down Cataract Canyon or Desolation Canyon wouldn't do.

Here's his picture.



He's the man on the right and his name was Steve Paull. He lived in Oakley, Utah, but for many years, he and his wife had 15 acres in Castle Valley near Round Mountain, where he built a geodesic dome. He too, loved the Moab region and Labyrinth Canyon.

He and his wife would almost annually utilize Tex's Riverways to do a canoe trip from Mineral to the confluence, where they were picked up by Tex's people. They'd stay at the Rustic Inn, as I have done on many occasions, and patronize the local restaurants.

Make no mistake that the draw of the beauty and serenity of Labyrinth has a positive effect on the economy of Moab. That serenity will pay off for years to come if it can be retained. Hopefully you won't impact it with inappropriate actions that may jeopardize that draw. As Tex's Riverways website says, "The Green River offers what is considered by many to be the premier calm water canoe and sea kayak trip in America ." I hope that can be said well into the future.

While that may explain the floating attraction, the canyon also holds an attraction that has led me to exploring the area numerous times in my 4WD truck. I have been to many of the overlooks in the area such as Trin Alcove and Ten Mile Canyon.

I've explored both sides of the Green River and Labyrinth Canyon and I can tell you of a personal experience with motorcycles in Ten Mile Canyon. We were sitting on an overlook admiring the beauty but an annoying sound was in the air. Before long we figured out the sound was from motorcycles or ATV's in Ten Mile. It's one thing to have that in an appropriate area, but in a close-walled canyon system, the sound traveled far, not only up and down the canyon, but also above. We heard it for quite a while. I believe in a variety of uses and means to enjoy the backcountry, but when

one person's motor can impact so much and for so long, I don't think that is appropriate. And if there are river campers at the mouth of Ten Mile, I sure wouldn't want motorbikes noisily riding into my campsite. I've been impacted by motor vehicles while on river trips before, like south of Mineral Bottom where vehicles ride on the White Rim Trail. But that momentary intrusion, though a shock to the idea of solitude, is a far cry from bikes droning on in Ten Mile.

I hope you will do what you can to protect the forests and deserts of the area for generations to come.

Thank you for your consideration.

G Schmidt
PO Box 526156
SLC, Utah 84152

KaLeigh Welch

From: Chloe Hollis [chloemaria82@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 10:54 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Designate Labyrinth Canyon True Wilderness

Dear members of Grand County Council,

As a resident of Moab I strongly believe that Moab, and Labyrinth Canyon in particular, needs true wilderness protection. Quiet places need to be protected now and for future generations. On Monday the Grand County Council should:

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. It is one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West and should be protected.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes."
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but routes within the boundaries also need to be closed. There should be places where Moab residents and visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!

Please act now to protect our lands for all Americans to enjoy, not just a specific group of off-road enthusiasts!

Sincerely,
Chloe Hollis

KaLeigh Welch

From: Gail Troy [gailtroy@icloud.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 11:15 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Don't ruin things

Please:

Designate Labyrinth Canyon as wilderness

Keep the river canyon quiet

Protect the Arches viewscape

Designate roadless areas as often as possible

Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness

Designate wilderness in the La Sal mountains

Sent from my iPhone

KaLeigh Welch

From: j godbey [mondocanejg@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 11:21 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Council recommendations re public lands

As a resident of Montezuma County, Colorado and a frequent non-motorized recreation enthusiast on the public land surrounding Moab, I take very seriously deliberations regarding wilderness designations. I would ask you to urge wilderness protection for both the La Sal Mountains and Labyrinth Canyon on the Green River. Limiting motorized access to the river corridor would promote the wilderness virtues of "peace and quiet"; qualities unavailable if motors are permitted to continue in and around the river corridor. Please consider maximum protection from the tyranny of obnoxious motorized excursions. Thank you

J. Godbey
10592 Road BB
Pleasant View, CO. 81331
mondocanejg@gmail.com

KaLeigh Welch

From: Mark Thompson [mark@phoenixrecycling.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 11:44 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative

Grand County Council,

I live in Durango, CO and visit Moab about 4 times per year. I have a 4x4 vehicle and think that there is definitely a place for off-road activities. I support designated off-road routes as another way to allow people to experience an enjoy Moab's majestic landscape.

I also recognize that off-road vehicles have a significant impact on other users and must be closely managed for the benefit of everyone. I strongly encourage you to recommend the following actions to preserve the ability of all users to enjoy Moab.

- **Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.** Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The council must recommend wilderness protection for the mountains that frame Delicate Arch and provide clean drinking water to Moab and Castle Valley.
- **Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.** At last week's council meeting, the council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth Canyon — despite it being the only flat water redrock wilderness river run in the American West.
- **Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails** that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." The serene wilderness experience of river runners in Labyrinth should be protected from the roar of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River.
- **Protect the views of Arches National Park** by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the National Park.
- **Designate areas to be managed as "roadless areas" within the proposed NCA** following the "Daggett County model" already approved by Utah's Congressional delegation.
- **Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County,** especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of off-road vehicles.

Sincerely,

Mark Thompson

209 Alamo St

Durango, CO 81301

KaLeigh Welch

From: Barbara Allen [barbaraallen2@icloud.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 11:55 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative Bill

Dear Council:

I live in Eastern US but I have visited Moab and SE Utah every year for the past 35 years. The public lands are the draw for me to spend time in Utah.

1. I believe you should designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness as it is one of the crown jewels of the wilderness in the West.

2. **Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet**

Close the three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River! I just canoed the Green River last Spring.

3. **Protect the Arches viewscape** by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of Arches National Park. I have visited Arches several times of the years and hiked there also. It is a wonderful jewel.

4. **Designate areas to be managed as roadless areas within the NCA**, following the "Daggett County" model that has already been approved by the Congressional delegation.

4. **Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County**, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!

5. **Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.**

Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service Wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The council should recommended protecting the mountains that frame Delicate Arch as wilderness.

Thank you for allowing me to comment.

Barbara Allen
4816 Petersburg Rd.
Knoxville, TN 37921

KaLeigh Welch

From: Barbara Allen [barbaraallen2@icloud.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 11:55 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
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1. I believe you should designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness as it is one of the crown jewels of the wilderness in the West.

2. Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet

Close the three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River! I just canoed the Green River last Spring.

3. **Protect the Arches viewscape** by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of Arches National Park. I have visited Arches several times of the years and hiked there also. It is a wonderful jewel.

4. **Designate areas to be managed as roadless areas within the NCA**, following the "Daggett County" model that has already been approved by the Congressional delegation.

4. **Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County**, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!

5. **Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.**

Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service Wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The council should recommended protecting the mountains that frame Delicate Arch as wilderness.

Thank you for allowing me to comment.

Barbara Allen
4816 Petersburg Rd.
Knoxville, TN 37921

KaLeigh Welch

From: Jordan [jcolton@hotmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 12:04 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protecting Utah's beautiful spaces

Grand County Council,

I've recently learned that you will be meeting soon to decide on recommendations for the Public Lands Initiative bill. I would strongly urge you to consider making recommendations for protecting special areas in Grand County, particularly Labyrinth Canyon and Beaver Creek as wilderness. I frequently visit the Moab area and am continually amazed at what a beautiful place it is. I've gone there to hike, raft, camp, ride on jeep and ATV trails and explore many parts of your well-named county. It can be a very exciting, busy place which I enjoy, but sometimes I, like many others, need to get away from all the noise and bustle and take in peaceful, serene places. This is where creating wilderness comes in. I know in Utah that wilderness can often be a dirty word, but I think most rational people could agree that setting aside deserving places (some of the most beautiful, unique places in the country in this case) to be preserved for all now and in the future is a good idea. It's important to have a balance and it is obvious when visiting Moab that there are already plentiful places to take jeeps and ATVs. Those who want to recreate that way should have places to do so, but conversely so too should those who desire tranquility and preserving iconic places for future generations.

I hope you can make good decisions about our public lands in your county, decisions that can have lasting (hopefully positive) impacts on the area for decades to come. They will certainly affect countless people, many far outside your boundaries who come from all over the world to enjoy Moab's spectacular places.

Thank you for your consideration on these important matters.

Sincerely,
Jordan Colton
Logan, UT

KaLeigh Welch

From: Judy Peel [juderlynn@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 12:05 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative bill

Dear Grand County Council,

I urge you to protect some quiet places near Moab in the following ways:

- 1) Expand the proposed NCA 4 miles east of Arches National Park.
- 2) Within the NCA, designate areas to be managed as roadless areas.
- 3) Designate Labyrinth Canyon as wilderness.

Sent from my iPhone (as if you care)

KaLeigh Welch

From: diane huffine [dianehuffine@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 12:12 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative legislation

- **Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.** Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The council must recommend wilderness protection for the mountains that frame Delicate Arch and provide clean drinking water to Moab and Castle Valley.
- **Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.** At last week's council meeting, the council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth Canyon — despite it being the only flat water redrock wilderness river run in the American West.
- **Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails** that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." The serene wilderness experience of river runners in Labyrinth should be protected from the roar of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River.
- **Protect the views of Arches National Park** by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the National Park.
- **Designate areas to be managed as "roadless areas" within the proposed NCA** following the "Daggett County model" already approved by Utah's Congressional delegation.
- **Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County**, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of off-road vehicles.

Thank you.

KaLeigh Welch

From: Bill and Savannah Furman [sfurman@mindspring.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 1:02 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Moab

Though I live in Missouri, I've visited the West many times, and have a particular fondness for Moab and the Labyrinth area. I hope you will, on Monday:

Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.

Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet

Protect the Arches viewscape *by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of Arches National Park. The Appalachian Trail Conservancy works diligently to protect the view from the Trail; you can do no less.*

Designate areas to be managed as roadless areas within the NCA, *following the "Daggett County" model that has already been approved by your Congressional delegation.*

Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, *especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs! It's harder and harder to find quiet; don't add to the problem.*

Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.

Thank you for your consideration.

Savannah Furman

KaLeigh Welch

From: Brad Fraley [brad1956@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 2:31 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: "Public Lands Initiative" bill

To Grand County Council,

I believe quiet places need to be protected now and for future generations.

Please:

Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.

Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river.

Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County.

Thank you for your consideration,

Brad Fraley
SLC, UT

KaLeigh Welch

From: Eve Tallman [evetallman@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 3:32 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands considerations

Dear Council Members:

I am a long-time Moab resident, and I enjoy the vast Grand County back country regularly; it is an essential element to the quality of life for many people who call Grand County home. Labyrinth, Hell Roaring, and nearby canyons are special places and deserve to be conserved. Please consider the following recommendations to ensure peace and quiet in these few pockets of the county that are threatened by noise, pollution, savage recreationalists, industrialization, and over-use.

I look forward to hearing that the council will support wilderness and quiet recreation in its final recommendation on Tuesday, March 17th.

— Designate the areas you are calling “NSOs” as true wilderness. Designating wilderness here would close a small percentage of the unused or redundant roads and move us toward a more balanced travel plan.

— Prohibit potash leasing and development. Scenery and recreation should take precedence over fertilizer.

— Close an old mining route to Hey Joe along the river for the entire year.

— Close Hell Roaring to motorized use.

— Close the upper portion of Mineral Canyon to motorized use.

—Close the “Dead Cow/Tubes” motorcycle route, to protect the quiet of the river corridor.

East of 191:

— Expand the NCA to protect the Arches view shed. This means moving the NCA boundary about four miles to the east.

— Designate areas to be managed as roadless areas within the NCA.

— Designate Class Bs and cherry stem popular class D roads, and close the rest.

Thank you for your hard work on this important matter,
Eve Tallman
Moab voter

KaLeigh Welch

From: Kermit Williams [kermit.donna@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 5:00 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: protection needed at Labyrinth Canyon, Arches, and other proposed wilderness areas

To the members of the Grand County Council:

Although we live in Oregon, we often visit the Moab area and spend a week or so hiking in the many National Parks and lands close-by. We want to express our views about protecting many of the areas around Moab through wilderness designation, including Labyrinth Canyon, and closing the ATV and jeep trails that are nearby. We want you to expand the NCA 4 miles east of Arches, and designate these areas as roadless areas.

We both have been hiking for over 40 years of our lives, and not only enjoy the beauty of the landscapes on our hikes, but the solitude. We will be robbed of that experience if routes used in proposed wilderness areas continue to be open to ATV's and motorcycles.

We have learned that the Grand Co. Council has recommended no new Forest Service Wilderness. We ask that you recommend protecting the mountains that frame Delicate Arch as wilderness. We have devoted many trips to visiting these areas on foot, and want it protected.

In our combined total miles hiked (over 15,000 miles), we have witnessed the devastation of the environment from OHV's. We have attended seminars by naturalists and ecologists who present photographic documentation of this lasting damage from erosion, to destruction of riparian areas, to spread of noxious weeds. Please do your part by keeping this destruction away from special areas.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Harris
Dwane K. Williams

KaLeigh Welch

From: Paul Siegler [psiegler1@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 5:32 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

Labyrinth Canyon should be declared a wilderness. I have done river trips through it, and consider it to be one of the exceptional natural areas of Grand County. Also, the jeep trails to the river should be closed, as jeeps create a lot of noise in the canyon.

Thank you
Paul Siegler

KaLeigh Welch

From: dlnh@comcast.net
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 7:06 PM
To: Council@grandcountyutah.net

years to come. Please take a moment to email the Council at council@grandcountyutah.net.

The Grand County Council needs to hear directly from people like you who love and visit Moab. Tell them that Moab needs true wilderness protection and that quiet places need to be protected now and for future generations.

Here's what the Grand County Council needs to do on Monday. Please include the following in your email to the Council:

Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains. Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The council must recommend wilderness protection for the mountains that frame Delicate Arch and provide clean drinking water to Moab and Castle Valley.

Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's council meeting, the council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth Canyon – despite it being the only flat water redrock wilderness river run in the American West.

Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." The serene wilderness experience of river runners in Labyrinth should be protected from the roar of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River.

Protect the views of Arches National Park by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the National Park.

Designate areas to be managed as "roadless areas" within the proposed NCA following the "Daggett County model" already approved by Utah's Congressional delegation.

Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of off-road vehicles.

The off-road vehicle lobby is already bombarding theyq council with emails. The Council needs to hear from visitors like you that they need to create some balance by closing routes and protecting the quiet areas of Moab.

KaLeigh Welch

From: Shawna Off [shawnaoff@gmail.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 7:51 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Please preserve Grand county beauty

Dear Grand County Council – I am writing to request that you pay close attention to keeping wilderness as wilderness and protect areas that should be wilderness for future and current generations. I.e. keep Moab and surrounding areas as quiet and peaceful as possible. Labyrinth Canyon and The LaSalle's should have wilderness set aside for all to enjoy without the noise of motor vehicles. The river Corredor of labyrinth should be protected from excessive motor vehicle access roads. Preserve the view of arches by expanding the NCA, and close off roads rarely used in this area., all of these need protected. I encourage you to close off rarely used and abandoned roads from ATV use.

We must preserve this this amazing beautiful country and to be stewards for our future ancestors, please please please.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

--
~Shawna~
beefbison.com
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| | |

KaLeigh Welch

From: Lydia Garvey [wolfhowlmama@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 8:12 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protect the Labyrinth!

I strongly urge you to:

1. Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.

At last week's council meeting, the council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth -- despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West,

2. Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet

Close the three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!,

3. Protect the Arches viewscape by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of Arches National Park,

4. Designate areas to be managed as roadless areas within the NCA, following the "Daggett County" model that has already been approved by our Congressional delegation,

5. Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!, And

6. Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.

Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service Wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The council should recommended protecting the mountains that frame Delicate Arch as wilderness.

Do your job- Protect Our Public lands, waters, wildlife, future & health!

It's highly inappropriate to allow ATV destruction.

Your attention to this most urgent matter would be much appreciated by all present & future generations of all species.

Thank you

Lydia Garvey Public Health Nurse
429 S 24th st
Clinton OK 73601

KaLeigh Welch

From: Clif Koontz [cliftonkoontz@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, March 14, 2015 10:05 PM
To: kballantyne1@grandcountyutah.net; jhawks@grandcountyutah.net;
etubbs@grandcountyutah.net; trooperball@hotmail.com; cbaird@grandcountyutah.net;
rpaxman@grandcountyutah.net; mmcann@grandcountyutah.net;
ljackson@grandcountyutah.net
Cc: kaleighwelch@grandcountyutah.net; rdillon@grandcountyutah.net;
dcarroll@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: White Wash / Dee Pass recreation area

Council Members,

Halfway through March, I'm sure you are getting bombarded with opinions about the Public Lands Initiative. I would just like to clarify a couple points about the expanded version of a White Wash / Dee Pass recreation area.

First, the boundary crossed Tenmile Canyon by following the Midway Road over to the route that's a half-mile west of Trail Canyon. (On the Big Flat map from last October, note where the southwest boundary of the pink area crosses Tenmile Canyon.) Decades ago, the Trail Canyon route was part of a motorcycle race course.

In 2010, BLM closed the lower (northern) part of the Trail Canyon route due to a legal threat from the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance. When Jerry Spangler surveyed Tenmile Canyon at the request of SUWA, he found lithic scatter across the route. Due to its context of being in a canyon with alcoves and cultural artifacts of more significance, Mr. Spangler argued that the lithic scatter was eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Regardless of the site's actual eligibility, the Trail Canyon route could be relocated to avoid the lithic scatter.

Rerouting and reopening the route west of Trail Canyon would allow motorcyclists to reconnect Tenmile Point and Spring Canyon Point by getting across Tenmile Canyon. It could even allow 4WD vehicles to go across Tenmile, since only the middle of the Trail Canyon route is not a road. The middle is mostly slickrock, and could easily be widened. Connecting the Trail Canyon to Midway routes requires following less than 1 mile of Tenmile Canyon. In other words, of the fifteen-mile route from Dripping Spring to the Green River, connecting Trail Canyon to Midway requires using roughly 5% of the Tenmile Canyon route. This 5% segment tends to be less muddy than the area further up Tenmile Canyon. As with the rest of Tenmile, this segment has received very little trail work. However I think that the segment from Trail Canyon to Midway could be managed pretty well without perpetuating the kind of mess that you may have seen in past.

My point is that the expanded White Wash / Dee Pass boundary crosses Tenmile Canyon in a deliberate location, which should be considered when you discuss the county's proposal for that area.

Second, the expanded White Wash / Dee Pass recreation area could certainly have the option for SITLA to trade in. After all, RWR has developed a strong working relationship with SITLA in other areas. Nevertheless, the intention should be on paper. I would appreciate if the county's proposal establishes an expectation for SITLA when trading into a recreation area. For example, the county's proposal could state that SITLA should continue to accommodate OHV trails, and to coordinate with OHV representatives when developing its land.

Finally, this point could apply to an expanded Utah Rims recreation area as proposed by BRC and endorsed by RwR. The larger Utah Rims could allow limited industrial development such as new leasing, oil wells, and even SITLA trade in, especially for the area north of Interstate 70. As with White Wash / Dee Pass, it just needs to clarify the expectation that SITLA should include OHV recreation along with its other land uses.

Please keep these points in mind as you firm up a proposal to Rep. Bishop. Thanks to all of you.

Sincerely, Clif

executive director
Ride with Respect
435-259-8334 land
201-741-0361 cell

KaLeigh Welch

From: Giblin, Billy [bgiblin@nexant.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 1:36 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative bill

Hello,

I have visited Moab and southern Utah since 1987, worked in southern Utah since 1993, and lived in Moab on and off from 2002-2008.

Moab and Labyrinth Canyon need true wilderness protection and these valuable quiet places need to be protected now and for future generations.

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as wilderness. I understand that at your recent meeting the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth Canyon. Please reconsider that recommendation and designate Labyrinth Canyon as wilderness.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes."
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County.
- Close infrequently used routes in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. Please preserve these rare places for Moab visitors to find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!

Thank you for your consideration.

Billy Giblin
900 Bitner Rd #C13
Park City, UT 84098
828-337-7702

KaLeigh Welch

From: susan selbin [sselbin@hotmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 5:50 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protect Labyrinth Canyon and other areas

Dear Councilors:

Labyrinth Canyon and other areas are Utah treasures. I understand that this Monday, March 16th, you will be putting the finishing touches on recommendations to Representative Rob Bishop as part of the "Public Lands Initiative" bill. This will have a direct impact on what Moab is like in the years to come.

I ask that you consider the following for the benefit of Utah residents and visitors to your lovely lands:

- Establish Labyrinth Canyon and the mountains that frame Delicate Arch as wilderness.
- Close 3 ATV/jeep trails that run along the Green River: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring and Dead Cow/The Tubes.
- Designate roadless areas within the NCA, following the "Daggett County" model.
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek area.
- Protect the Arches viewscape by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area 4 miles each of Arches National Park.

I hope that you will take appropriate action to protect these areas.

Thank you.

Susan Selbin

Former resident of St. George, Utah

KaLeigh Welch

From: David Harrison [harrirad@yahoo.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 7:55 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative

Dear Grand County Council,

I first visited the Moab region in the 1970's when I convinced my parents to take a family trip to Arches and Canyonlands National Parks from our home in Chicago. I fell in love with the spectacular red rock landscapes and have been back to visit regularly to hike, camp, and enjoy a truly special part of the world.

As you make recommendations to Representative Bishop as part of the Public Lands Initiative, I encourage you to protect wilderness values that attract me and countless other people to the region every year. Labyrinth Canyon is one of the real jewels of the American West, and deserves to be protected as true wilderness. Arches National Park is another gem that draws people from around the world. I urge you to protect the views from within Arches by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area four miles to the east of the national park and by designating wilderness in the La Sal Mountains that form the iconic backdrop for Delicate Arch. Finally, it is vital that there be places where visitors to Moab can find natural quiet and get away from the sound of ATVs. Closing infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness, would help toward this end. Rafters in Labyrinth Canyon should not have their experience marred by the whine of motorcycles. The river corridor in Labyrinth Canyon should be kept quiet by closing the Hell Roaring, Hey Joe, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes" jeep trails.

Thank you for considering my input.

David Harrison, MD
585 Washington Street S
Salem, OR 97302

KaLeigh Welch

From: Bill Rivers [billrivers@earthlink.net]
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 8:38 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Keep ORVs out of Labyrinth and Stillwater Canyons.

I enjoy coming over to the Moab area to canoe, mountain bike and hike. I only want to go to areas where muscle power is required in a serene, quiet and non-polluted environment. I will quit coming if the experience is going to be spoiled by ORVs. I believe that they have plenty of other places to go already.

Bill Rivers
4011 Florentine Drive
Longmont, CO 80503

KaLeigh Welch

From: Grace Gordon [ggordon4781@hotmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 9:06 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative

Dear Grand County Council,

I live in Durango, CO and visit Moab about 2 times per year. I do not have a 4x4 vehicle, but I support designated off-road routes as another way to allow people to experience and enjoy Moab's majestic landscape. I realize that off-road vehicles have a significant impact on other users and must be closely managed for the benefit of everyone. I strongly encourage you to recommend the following actions to preserve the ability of **all** users to enjoy Moab.

- **Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.** Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The council must recommend wilderness protection for the mountains that frame Delicate Arch and provide clean drinking water to Moab and Castle Valley.
- **Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.** At last week's council meeting, the council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth Canyon — despite it being the only flat water redrock wilderness river run in the American West.
- **Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails** that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." The serene wilderness experience of river runners in Labyrinth should be protected from the roar of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River.
- **Protect the views of Arches National Park** by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the National Park.
- **Designate areas to be managed as "roadless areas" within the proposed NCA** following the "Daggett County model" already approved by Utah's Congressional delegation.
- **Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County**, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of off-road vehicles.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Grace Gordon

756 Horse Gulch Loop

Durango, CO 81301

KaLeigh Welch

From: Susan deVall [sdev.cv@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 9:25 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Bishop Lands proposals

To the County Council,

I'll keep this short.

I am in favor of designating Labyrinth Canyon a Wilderness area. I have boated this section several times.

Also parts of the La Sal Mountains should be Wilderness. I am a back country hiker and have seen the impacts from motorized travel and the huge number of mountain bikers.

Let's close Ten Mile Canyon to motorized travel. I have hiked it. It is badly torn up by ORVs.

This is no way to treat a rare and fragile desert riparian area.

Fisher Towers and Negro Bill Canyons are huge tourist attractions. They deserve protection as NCAs.

Respectfully,
Sue deVall
84532

KaLeigh Welch

From: Philip Joachim [philzjoachim@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 11:01 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: wilderness !!!! please consider that the natural beauty of this part of the Green River should be preserved as a QUIET place of beauty

KaLeigh Welch

From: Karen Matheson Thrower [karen@mathesondesign.net]
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 11:17 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Cc: susan@greatoldbroads.org
Subject: Protect Greater Canyonlands

Dear Grand County Council,

The greater Moab area is my second home; I grew up in Salt Lake City and have spent countless hours in the Redrock country. Every year, my family journeys to Southern Utah for our vacation. These lands renew us and have a sacred quality. Because of our love of this area, many of our Oregon friends have visited Moab.

I'm writing to urge you to protect Labyrinth Canyon and the river corridor in particular. The use of ORVs in Utah's canyons is dismaying; we have observed and documented great damage caused to this precious resource. Along with the landscape, irreplaceable archaeological features are at great risk. This area exceeds wilderness qualifications and should be designated as such.

For Utah's wild places,

Karen Matheson Thrower
2896 NW 53rd Drive
Portland, OR 97210
503 | 880 | 5851
mathesondesign.net

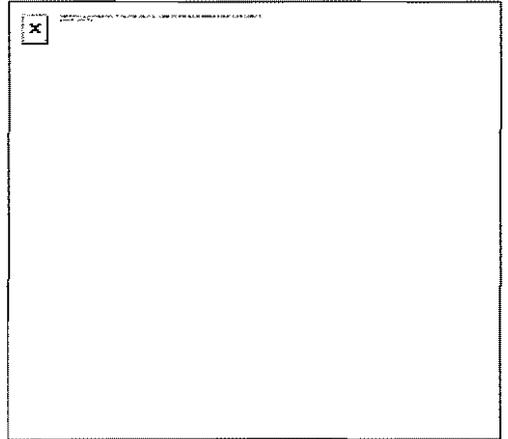
KaLeigh Welch

From: Roxy Whalley [roxywrites2@live.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 11:51 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: March 16th Meeting of Grand County Council

Dear Grand County Council,

With reference to the March 16th meeting of the Grand County Council in Moab, Utah when they are going to be putting the finishing touches on its recommendations to Representative Rob Bishop as part of the "Public Lands Initiative" bill.

I wish to express my support of the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance, and their suggestions below of what should be done to protect certain areas in the Moab area.



I am a nature lover, photographer, writer and hiker. I spend months at a time in the desert surrounding the Moab area. I am respectful of the land, and of others who are camping in the same areas. I seek solitude and silence, and the company of nature and its wildlife. I love to explore the canyons and seek out their natural beauty. When the road ends, I put on my hiking boots, and I walk. When I leave the dirt road behind I don't expect to hear the sound of OHV's coming down a trail, driving over slickrock off road, or sometimes down a canyon that motorized vehicles have been banned from. (OHV's will actually tear down fences or find ways around them) I don't expect to see OHV tire tracks cutting through the sand, the cryptobiotic soil, and crushing all the plants in their path. When OHV's trails expand further and further into the wilderness, it is inevitable that some of them will break the rules and go off trail. I see it repeatedly, and it breaks my heart.

When I am sitting in a canyon listening to a wren sing, and a group of OHV's are within a mile or three or sometimes even ten-miles of my spot, I can hear them. Frankly, it ruins my day, my hike, my serenity. If it disturbs me, it has to disturb the wildlife.

I know that OHV riders have the right to share the land the same as anyone else, but when I hike, I do not disturb them the way they disturb my silence, and the silence of others who are there for similar reasons. My footsteps carefully placed, do not do nearly as much damage. As more and more trails are built for OHV's, I find I have to drive further and further into the desert to find solitude. Everyone has the right to share public lands, but what of those who seek quiet. Don't they have the right to silence?

And when I'm camping and a group of OHV's decide to camp nearby, my camping experience is pretty much ruined. They often drive by repeatedly, tearing up and down the road at all hours, churning up clouds of dust, and the noise can be unbearable.

We need to set aside areas wilderness areas that are preserved for the future. Areas that are of such beauty as Labyrinth Canyon, and areas with waterways need to be protected from noise pollution, gasoline pollution, and the other types of pollution that often come with motorized vehicles, such as trash, beer cans, cigarette butts and so on. There are plenty of OHV trails in Utah, Utah does not need even ONE more, and many of those that are already established need to be removed, or turned into hiking trails.

Here's what I'm in support of Grand County Council doing on Monday:

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River! Nor should hikers and lovers of nature.**
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

Thank you for hearing my input on this, I hope you will do the right thing. Way too much of the desert has been ruined already, please let's save what there is left.

Regards,
Roxy Whalley
RoxyWrites2@live.com

This email has also been signed by Norman Kirk, who is a Moab resident, and retired National Park Ranger

KaLeigh Welch

From: Mary Westerlund [westmmjs2@hotmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 12:10 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protect the Greater Canyonlands areas

I live in Albuquerque, NM and visit Moab at least once a year, and often twice, when I come there for the Canyonlands and The Other Half running races held in Moab. Friends and I always have stayed in Moab several days longer than necessary to just run the races because we enjoy hiking in the beautiful and peacefully quiet wild areas around Moab. We prefer to be there rather than other less peaceful and quiet places we could visit on our way back to Albuquerque.

I'm writing to encourage you to continue to protect the Greater Canyonlands Area by:

1. making Labyrinth Canyon a true Wilderness Area-I've visited that beautifully peaceful setting and was awed by its beauty,
2. keeping areas near the rivers as quiet and peaceful as possible by NOT allowing ORVs and dirt bikes to go there and ruin the pristine beauty of the area. There are other places where these noisy toys can be used- maybe give them some more dry, dirty hills and valleys to scramble around and create their noise and air pollution.
3. expanding the NCA east of Arches and closing unused roads east of Moab in the Westwater area. Keep roads in the NCA closed to maintain the sense of peace that exists there.

Your work to maintain the pristine beauty around the Moab area will surely create a wonderful place for visitors to keep coming to enjoy quiet and peaceful settings that are becoming rare in other parts of the country.

Thank you!
Mary Westerlund

KaLeigh Welch

From: William Love [sombra@frontiernet.net]
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 12:43 PM
To: Kaleigh welch; city-council@moabcity.org
Cc: bransel@blm.gov; abrand@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Leave Sand Flats Alone

Please Distribute

The County should not control or own Sand Flats. If the County owns Sand Flats, the style of management can change every two or four years depending on the ideology of the Council.

Our prior council would probably have allowed oil wells in or next to the area. The current council probably would not. The area needs a consistent management philosophy and not a management philosophy that can change from year to year.

This is one of the premier tourist attractions in our area and the largest area close to town where families have the opportunity to camp and recreate. Local Counties do not have the discipline to tell the extraction industries or developers no, and should not own public lands.

Bill love
2871 E Bench Rd
Moab, Utah 84532

KaLeigh Welch

From: WSSRIOS@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 1:36 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net; Marty@centennialcanoe.com
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

Dear Grand County Council,

I am a professional river guide that has been guiding commercial canoe trips down Labyrinth Canyon for over 20 years. Besides the sublime visual beauty that this stretch of the Colorado River (first pioneered in 1869 by John Wesley Powell), there is the quiet solitude that only a multi day river trip can provide.

Labyrinth Canyon is widely acknowledged as one of the finest multi day river (canoe, kayak, raft) trips in North America. I'm sure it brings thousands of boaters to the Moab area each year. It is essentially a unique resource and the allowing (and PROMOTION) of off road use to loud ATV's and motorcycles seriously undercuts its experience. There are MANY other off road opportunities all around Moab that already exist.

Please consider providing Labyrinth Canyon the protection it needs and deserves.

Sincerely,

Ward S Sear

Head Guide, Centennial Canoe Outfitters

KaLeigh Welch

From: Karen Robinson [sombra@frontiernet.net]
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 2:10 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protect Layrinth Canyon

Grand County Council
council@grandcountyutah.net

Labyrinth Canyon IS (mostly) a wilderness. Make it official. It's an incredible multi-day paddle in a beautiful place with great hiking. With its flat water it's a superb place to take novice paddlers, or whitewater paddlers who want a change of pace with outstanding scenery. We've taken a few trips with both, and they all were thrilled with the experience.

The area needs to be a designated wilderness and protected from loud and disturbing noise. Close the three trails that run down to and/or along the river.

Labyrinth Canyon is a special area that needs protection from mineral extraction and roads. Please request its designation as a wilderness area.

The area around Fisher Towers and Mary Jane Canyon should be a National Conservation Area. National Recreation Area does not offer enough protection. Canyon Rims NRA, that area around Hatch Point, looks like a disaster area. Roads are crisscrossing across the landscape rampantly; thumper trucks have enlarged existing roads with their huge tires and stance, helicopters are making the place unbearably noisy. They haven't even drilled for wells yet. NRA is no protection at all. Take a drive up there and have a look.

Karen Robinson
2871 E Bench Rd
Moab, Utah 84532



This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.
www.avast.com

KaLeigh Welch

From: jbpechmann@comcast.net
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 2:15 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

Greetings,

It has come to my attention that the Grand County Council is meeting tomorrow, Monday, March 15, to finalize recommendations for the Labyrinth Canyon area. I hope you all have had a chance to visit this area personally to experience the world class spectacular scenery. However, it is not just the scenery which makes Labyrinth so special. It is one of the few places left where we can escape our crowded modern society and truly experience the natural world - not just for an hour or two, but for several days. That is why I have led Girl Scout canoe trips in Labyrinth Canyon for the past 10 years, and hope to continue doing so for many years to come. Giving young people a chance to experience the beauty of nature while learning self reliance, teamwork, and how to survive without a smartphone is only possible in a place like Labyrinth. Please recommend that Labyrinth Canyon be preserved as wilderness, as it truly deserves.

Thank you,

Judy Pechmann
Salt Lake City, Utah

PS I could remind you of the importance of preservation of natural areas to Grand County's economy, but I'm sure you know that and will take it into consideration.

KaLeigh Welch

From: ryan anderson [kumquatry@hotmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 3:21 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: For Grand County Council Consideration

Dear Council Members,

Thank you for your work on the convoluted Public Lands Issues. Americans all, as Public Lands stakeholders should appreciate all of the time and consideration you have given to this process; I do.

As a career Teacher of nearly four decades, half of which have been here in Moab, I am acutely aware of the value of the solitude and quiet respite provided by a wilderness experience...it positively changes peoples lives ...children and adults. I have witnessed it also as both a professional guide during my summer jobs and as a private guide with friends and family in these areas surrounding Moab...Our Public Lands.

I thank you for closing Ten Mile, I ask for our future that you re-consider and change your vote on Labyrinth Canyon from "Conservation" to "Wilderness" designation to allow for the quiet solitude that River Corridor and associated canyons provide for visitors hiking, biking, and running the River through Labyrinth Canyon.

I ask from my heart from all of my experiences and for others' who have benefited from these natural environs that you protect a legacy for our shared future by designating as "Wilderness" the other areas being considered today. Furthermore I ask you to consider giving "set-backs" from Canyon edges any areas already scheduled for development.

Thank you...sincerely,

Ryan Anderson

KaLeigh Welch

From: Chris and Carol Yoder [chris.yoder@mdsierra.org]
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 3:33 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: My 93 year old Mother and Grand County Natural Values - Rep. Bishops Public Land Initiative

To the Grand County Council:

When I asked my 93 year old mother what she most wanted to do that she had not yet had a chance to do..... she wanted to visit the red rock country in Utah.

That's how we ended up in Moab for several days a couple of years ago. Granted, she was too old to walk long distances but it was the mystique of iconic views and natural values that brought us there. Not the prospect of racing ORVs.

I for sure will be back ... and it's not to hear the sound of ORVs pounding through the canyons.

And, I the eyes of my teenage grandchildren light up when I talk about their great grannie's trip. The hook is set, they've taken the bait. Please don't foul the stream before they get there.

You've got a great thing going there in Grand County. Be a shame if anything happened to it.

Be a greater shame if you did it to yourselves.

Please support protection for the natural values entrusted to your stewardship. When responding to Representative Bishop's Public Land's Initiative I hope that you will recommend Labyrinth Canyon be designated as Wilderness. I also hope that you will support land use plans that provide for substantial ORV free zones so that when I come again to visit I can do so in the quiet that God created rather than the noise of man. You can't put a heavy metal band and a string quartette on the same stage at the same time and call it multiple use. The same applies to ORVs.

Chris Yoder
5701 Rusk Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21215

KaLeigh Welch

From: Gail Richardson [envirogail@q.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 3:36 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Comment: We support protecting Greater Canyonlands!

Grand County Council:

We have been enjoying quiet recreation in So. UT for 35 years, whether hiking, backpacking, exploring prehistoric sites or canoeing down the Green River. We love So. UT! We love your County landscapes; they are unique in the world and must be protected for future generations. We cannot stress how important it is to us to be out of range of the noise and smell of motors; we want to be "far from the madding crowd." Unfortunately there are increasingly fewer places where one can truly be free of civilization. But there must be places like this for experiencing solitude and the grandeur of nature. We implore you to protect what you have and not to allow it to be degraded by careless motorized recreation. We urge you to recommend the following:

Designate Labyrinth Canyon as wilderness; our 4 trips down the Green River in the footsteps of John Wesley Powell for 2-3 weeks each have been extraordinary. Please preserve the quality of this experience by keeping the river corridor quiet. ATV whines and smell do not belong here.

The Arches viewscape is amazing and must be protected by expanding the NCA 4 miles east of Arches. People come to your region to see these national parks and your pristine public lands. Do not degrade them!

Please follow the Daggett County model in designating areas as roadless. Again, the importance of having pristine roadless areas cannot be emphasized too much.

Please close infrequently used routes in proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in Westwater and Beaver Creek proposed wilderness.

Finally, please designate wilderness in the La Sals, which frame Delicate Arch, one of the natural wonders of the world.

You owe it to future generations of both residents and visitors to preserve your iconic landscapes, soundscapes, clean air and water. Wild country cannot be made; it can only be made less wild. That is what motors do. We urge you to take into account the strong feelings all folks have for the land and to remember that you have a responsibility to be fair to everyone, not just to certain special interests. Thank you for listening and for doing the right thing.

Sincerely,

Gail and John Richardson
5263 Cimмерon Drive
Bozeman, MT 59715

KaLeigh Welch

From: Joan Woodward [justjoan@bresnan.net]
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 4:44 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

Grand County Council:

Hi,

I am a resident of Grand Junction who spends many days each year enjoying the beauty and peace afforded by the landscapes in SouthEastern Utah. These landscapes are, in fact, one of the reasons my husband and I moved to Grand Junction 15 years ago.

It has come to my attention that areas in and around Labyrinth Canyon are currently not adequately protected and are subject to further incursions. Labyrinth Canyon deserves Wilderness protection to insure that it be maintained for quiet use for future generations. The river corridor must be spared the erosion that atv use can occasion, as well as the noise that atvs cause. There is more than enough land for atv use available in this part of Utah without including this river corridor. In the same vein, infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness areas in Grand County should be closed

The Arches view shed is spectacular, and should not be desecrated by nearby development. A National Conservation Area should be imposed four miles east of the Park's boundary.

Finally, the La Sal Mountains provide a spectacular backdrop to Arches, and they are beautiful in and of themselves. I have camped and hiked in the La Sals and found them unique in their beauty. Please recommend that all or part of them be placed in Wilderness status.

Ultimately, the fate of federal lands lies within the federal government to be managed in the best interest of all the people of the United States. The Grand County Council has an important advisory role to place, but I urge you to recognize the importance of your decisions to the country at large. From an economic standpoint on a local basis, the tourism brought in by creating Wilderness areas and protecting fragile lands certainly offsets any loss of economic benefit from other uses.

Thank you for considering my views.

Sincerely,

Joan Woodward

KaLeigh Welch

From: charlene russell [cmountainspirit@hotmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 6:04 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Our Wilderness

I am asking that you keep balance by closing routes and protecting the quiet areas of Moab. Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. You should designate as wilderness all areas it is proposing as "No Surface occupancy." Until battery operated quiet motorcycles and ATVs are invented, keep the river corridor in Labyrinth (Hey Joe,, Hell Roaring, and "dead Cow/The Tubes trails closed in addition to Ten mile wash. River rafters shouldn't have to listen to the whine and roar of ATVs and motorcycles. If they want to play in the water, the banks of the Green River, they could bring their mountain bikes along and pedal to the water.

Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek wilderness.

Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains. Other counties have recommended new Forest Service Wilderness, but the Grand County Council has not recommended anything to protect the mountains that give us water.

Again I urge you to protect Arches view shed by expanding the National Conservation Area four , or more, miles east of Arches National Park

Designate the Fisher Towers and Mary Jane areas with the proposed National Conservation Area to be managed as road less areas.

I came here because of what it was and, for the most part, still is. My friends and relatives come here to visit for the same reason. Please protect it.

Sincerely,
Charlene Russell
Moab, UT 84532

KaLeigh Welch

From: Mike Painter [mike@caluwild.org]
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 6:39 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Comments regarding the Public Land Initiative Recommendations

March 16, 2015

Ladies & Gentlemen---

I am writing on behalf of the more than 800 members and supporters of Californians for Western Wilderness (CalUWild), a citizens organization dedicated to encouraging and facilitating citizen participation in legislative and administrative actions affecting wilderness and other public lands in the West. Our members use and enjoy the public lands in Utah and all over the West.

I was disappointed to hear that the Grand County Council has so far recommended no wilderness in its work on Rep. Rob Bishop's Public Lands Initiative.

I have been visiting Utah almost every year since 1986, and I find this very troubling. Grand County contains some of the most spectacular scenery in the state (and in fact, the West). The landscape deserves protection so that people can enjoy it via quiet activities such as hiking, rafting and canoeing, photography, and more.

Quiet recreation is becoming an increasing proportion of Moab and Grand County's economy. If it is not available, people will stop visiting.

We therefore join other groups and citizens in urging recommendations for wilderness designations around Labyrinth Canyon on the Green River—including the closure of the Dead Cow & The Tubes, Hell Roaring, and Hey Joe routes—as well as a recommendation for the LaSal Mountains.

Please recommend further closure of other less-frequently used motorized routes in other proposed wilderness areas such as Westwater.

Also, the National Conservation area proposed around Arches National Park should be expanded so that views from the Park are better protected.

My early trips to Utah greatly influenced my life, such that I founded CalUWild, dedicated to preserving public lands across the West. I have personally brought members of my family and friends to Utah to explore the landscape, and have helped numerous other family members and friends (some from overseas) plan their own trips. All of them have come away breathtaken from their trips of discovery. None can believe that the landscape they've seen has so little protection from exploitation and damage.

Now is your chance to help rectify that situation, and I urge you to make the best of this opportunity.

Sincerely,
Michael J. Painter, Coordinator

=====
Michael J. Painter
Coordinator
Californians for Western Wilderness
P.O. Box 210474
San Francisco, CA 94121-0474
415-752-3911
mike@caluwild.org
<http://www.caluwild.org>
=====

KaLeigh Welch

From: Nina Ross [nina@johnross.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 7:15 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: wilderness

Dear Grand County Council,

I am a resident of Moab and am very interested in the Public Lands Initiative bill. My family and I moved here in 2009 specifically for the quiet wild areas south eastern Utah has.

Please designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and Dead Cow/The Tubes.

There is already SO MUCH land in south east Utah open to off road motorized vehicles that this area should be preserved as quiet and as an area for "treading lightly" on by humans.

Please also close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County.

Humans need peace and quiet and so does nature where humans haven't already transformed the landscape into something completely unrecognizable. In a fragile land scape like the arid west, that change can very well be permanent.

Thank you for time and attention in reading my thoughts.

Sincerely,
Nina Ross, RN

--

Nina Ross
3282 Vallejo Circle nina@johnross.com
Moab, UT 84532 801-359-5957

KaLeigh Welch

From: John Ross [johnross@johnross.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 7:36 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands initiative

Dear Grand County Council Members,

I am writing in regards to the proposed "Public Lands Initiative Bill". I would sincerely appreciate it if you would consider designating Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness and keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes."

Sincerely,

John Ross

--

John Ross, Ph.D., P.E.	Voice: 801-359-5957
John Ross & Associates, LLC	Fax: 801-931-2020
3282 East Vallejo Circle	e-mail: johnross@johnross.com
Moab, Utah 84532	web: www.johnross.com

KaLeigh Welch

From: Jerry Smith [onejerrysmith@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 7:42 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Bishop Land Initiative

From: Jerry Smith

2322 Hwy 6 & 50 #51

Grand Junction, CO 81505

To: Grand County Council

125 E Center Street

Moab, UT 84532

council@grandcountyutah.net

Re: Bishop Land Initiative

Dear Council members;

As a frequent visitor to the Moab area, I write to dispel and dispute the emotional cries for more designated Wilderness in your local area.

As the Director of Environmental Affairs for the United Four Wheel Drive Associations (an International organization), a Board of Directors member of the Colorado Off Highway Vehicle Coalition (COHVCO), Board of Directors member of the Grand Mesa Jeep Club of Mesa County, Colorado, and member of several other motorized sports entities, I represent thousands of motorized recreationists, many who have and will be frequenting and supporting the Moab area economy ONLY if we continue to have motorized access to roads and trails as we do presently.

There are several arguments we can present to dispute the areas of the proposed "Red Rocks Wilderness Act". Some of these arguments include:

- Much, if not most of the acreage in the areas in question DO NOT QUALIFY as potential designated Wilderness.
- Millions of Moab area tourist dollars hang in the balance if this sham Wilderness is enacted.
- Wilderness designation will do absolutely NOTHING to alleviate area dust storms
- Wilderness designation will NOT enhance area water quality. (In fact, quite the opposite)
- Taking more public lands out of "Multiple Use" has no added economic value to the Moab economy.
- Public land management agencies are fully capable of properly protecting any and all public land without congressional Wilderness designation.
- Southern Utah presently has millions of acres of designated Wilderness.
- Southern Utah presently has millions of acres of National Parks with the majority of those acres inaccessible to motorized uses.
- Southern Utah presently has millions of acres of National Monuments with the majority of those acres inaccessible to motorized uses.
- Many other heavily restricted designated areas also exist.

➤ A *WARNING* to the Grand County Council Members: Even though you are being promised future unobstructed county desired items in lieu of support for the designation of these Wilderness designations, be aware that if you allow the Wilderness to be supported and passed as Congressman Bishop's Initiative proposes, when the time comes to acquire the counties promised desires, historically speaking, the Wilderness proponents will use every method possible to fight those acquisitions thereby reneging on all current promises associated with this initiative. If the acquisitions are to be, they will cost exponentially more in litigation.

Let's look at these item.

“Much, if not most of the acreage in the areas in question do NOT QUALIFY as potential designated Wilderness.” and “Millions of Moab area tourist dollars hang in the balance if this sham Wilderness is enacted.”

These lands have been studied several times under the Wilderness Act for “Wilderness Quality” and failed. As you are no doubt aware, there are many roads, trails, and other man made intrusions such as mines and related equipment, buildings, and water containment sites.

Physically, nothing has changed. These items have not disappeared! The fact that some relaxation of definitions and inventory changes in the BLM field office that no longer identify some of these features changes nothing.

“Citizens Groups” do NOT *decide* what areas have “Wilderness Qualities”, they can only *suggest* or *ask* that an area be studied for such. These “Citizens Groups” consist of very radical “Preservationist” interests that have proven to desire only

one thing... that being the total preservation of ALL public lands and restrictions on private lands that preclude any development.

Our organizations support a multiple use management of public lands. Our land management agencies are fully capable of protecting what needs protection only on lands without strict designations.

Please carefully consider the ramifications to the Moab economy if these continued efforts to designate Wilderness, National Parks, National Monuments, and any of the other entities used to lock-up public lands. If you take away the ability of 4x4 vehicles, ATVs, UTVs, Motorcycles, Bicycles, and even river rafting due to heavily restricted designations (Wild and Scenic Rivers), and include no further commercial mineral exploration, Moab will become another ghost town.

“Wilderness designation will do absolutely NOTHING to alleviate area dust storms.” and “Wilderness designation will NOT enhance area water quality. (In fact, quite the opposite)”.

Contrary to the rhetoric you no doubt have been barraged with, motorized use of roads and trails on public lands is NOT the main, or even a minor cause of area dust and erosion.

First, consider that the roads and trails used are less than 1% of the entire acreage. Can 1% of the area logically produce the amounts of dust experienced?

Second, these dust storms have existed long before the wheel came into reality. Proof is in western Colorado where weight from the dust collapsed salt domes in the Paradox and Sinbad Valleys long before that first wheel.

Third, motorized sports enthusiasts have voluntarily mitigated much of the destructive natural erosion that occurs in order to maintain passage on affected trails. Forests, canyonlands, and deserts all suffer natural erosion. Those trails will physically remain for hundreds of years... with or without that maintenance. Theoretically your choice.

“Taking more public lands out of “Multiple Use” has no added economic value to the Moab economy.”

Multiple studies have been done on whether or not Wilderness designation is an economic benefit to a local economy. In the ones I have studied, the outcome seems to largely depend on the sponsors behind the studies. Statistics can be swayed easily.

Logically, on a given area, does having both motorized and non-motorized use or having the singular use of hiking (and possibly equestrian) use going to draw more or fewer users?

And then there is the quality of the user. Does your average Wilderness only user spend like other user groups? We submit “Not even close!” Ask local businesses how many tents and other camping equipment do they sell versus how many Wilderness advocates bring their own equipment? And if they are camping, how many motel rooms are full and food service tables sit empty?

The average Wilderness user is younger and without family to support. They are often also in lesser paying employment that precludes them from heavy spending habits.

“Public land management agencies are fully capable of properly protecting any and all public land without congressional Wilderness designation.”

Consider this; under Wilderness and other heavily restricted designations, land managers are also very limited in what uses they can and cannot allow. Under multiple use designations, many options are afforded management. But under the multiple use option, they may still protect that which requires protection while still having the option for other uses as well.

“Southern Utah presently has millions of acres of designated Wilderness.”, “Southern Utah presently has millions of acres of National Parks with the majority of those acres inaccessible to motorized uses.”, “Southern Utah presently has millions of acres of National Monuments with the majority of those acres inaccessible to motorized uses.”, and “Southern Utah has many thousands of other heavily restricted acres.”

With all of these heavily restricted acres within a day’s drive where anyone who desires the “quiet” and “solitude” that so called “quiet users” value, why would it be necessary for more of this type of management?

In heavily restricted or multiple use areas, if “quiet users” cannot find a quiet place, we suggest their true desire is to cause conflict, NOT seek solitude.

Ask these “quiet users” how many of them usually venture into the quiet and serenity together and the answer is often 2 to 10 or more. How quiet is any group of 2 to 10 people? Even the ones who only “walk their dogs” engage the dog’s behavior often. And what of the dogs affect on wildlife?

“A WARNING to the Grand County Council Members: Even though you are - being promised future unobstructed county desired items in lieu of support for the designation of these Wilderness designations, be aware that if you allow the Wilderness to be supported and passed as Congressman Bishop’s

Initiative proposes, when the time comes to acquire the counties promised desires, historically speaking, the Wilderness proponents will use every method possible to fight those acquisitions thereby reneging on all current promises associated with this initiative. If the acquisitions are to be, they will cost exponentially more in litigation.”

Our strong recommendations to this council is to procure YOUR desires BEFORE ever supporting one square inch of Wilderness.

Our even stronger recommendations would be to not support further Wilderness as they are economically and physically not desirable. Consider that there are thousands of acres in other areas of Utah that are being proposed for Wilderness if this initiative is passed.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this issue. If we may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Jerry Smith

--
Happy Trails to you.
Director of Environmental Affairs - United Four Wheel Drive Associations
BoD - Colorado Off-Highway Vehicle Coalition (COHVCO)

KaLeigh Welch

From: David McLean [mclean777@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 8:32 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Bishop PLI

I fell compelled to send along a note from a friend who is an annual visitor from France. Philippe Schuler spends several weeks in this area each summer and is a contributor to the book "Photographing the Southwest".

"I sincerely hope that you and your friends will succeed defending all that make Utah a so nice and special place against the oil, gas and potash extraction industries that will destroy nature and waste the landscape to make as much profit as possible, that's a shame. But it is difficult to stay optimistic when I read "Legislative resolution: Drilling is 'best use' for Cedar Mesa and San Rafael Swell"...."

--

Dave McLean

KaLeigh Welch

From: Kathryn Fitzgerald [klrfitzgerald@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 8:33 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Grand County Wilderness

Please designate Labyrinth County as true wilderness. This area needs to be preserved to protect the future of tourism in Moab, as well as to protect the wilderness quality land it encompasses.

Kathryn Fitzgerald
Wilderness visitor

KaLeigh Welch

From: Shaun Moon [srmoon@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 9:34 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Doing a tough job

Hello County Council Folks,

As you are all working with Representative Bishop on the Public Land Initiative, I imagine you folks have a pretty tough job balancing many different considerations that inform making land use recommendations.

While I'm likely to advocate for more wilderness protections and designations, I believe motorized recreation provides opportunities to others to experience the wonders of our wild places. I also believe that these places are much more valuable for the long term as engines in the tourism economy that they would ever be as resources that might be exploited, spoiled and then abandoned.

I want to thank you for your service and dedication to Grand County, to the State of Utah and to the folks we host in our beautiful state year-in and year-out as visitors. And I'm sending on all my good will and wishes for good discernment and wisdom as you inform our shared future.

Best,
Shaun Moon
Salt Lake City

KaLeigh Welch

From: James Thompson [james.thompson@jordandistrict.org]
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 10:25 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Grand Count Wilderness

Dear Members of the Grand County Council,

My purpose in writing to all of you is to express my wishes/views concerning the wilderness-quality lands that could be considered as part of Representative Rob Bishop's "Public Lands Initiative" congressional bill.

Let me first say, that I'm a 5th-generation Utahn, and that I've been frequently visiting many places in Grand County since childhood--with my parents and siblings when I was younger--and now with my own children and grandchildren.

In addition to visiting the well-known national and state parks, (i.e. Arches, Canyonlands, Deadhorse Point, etc.), we have also explored numerous other locations--many of which are truly wild and unroaded--i.e. Labyrinth Canyon on river runs--complete with side canyon day-hikes, like Hellroaring Canyon; other canyons and mesas in the "between-the-rivers" area north of the present Canyonlands National Park boundary--i.e. Tenmile Creek Canyon, middle Seven Mile Canyon between US Highway 191 and Arches National park, Culvert and Gold Bar Canyons just north of the Potash Road; and finally, the areas surrounding Fisher Towers, including the canyons of Beaver Creek.

Additionally, I want to say that I think it's important to close the river corridor of Labrynth Canyon of the Green River to 4-wheel drive vehicles and other such "off-highway" toys (i.e. motorcycles and ATV's). There such routes that ought to be closed are those that run partially up Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and the "Dead Cow/The Tubes." River rafters really shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River.

Finally, I want to recommend the closure of in frequently-used routes in all proposed wilderness areas in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek area. Granted, the Moab area boasts numerous open-motorized vehicles routes, that already are quite popular. But being both a motorized user (with my 2007 Toyota 4WD Sequoia), as well as a kayaker/rafter, as well as a hiker--I really think there should be places around Moab where visitors can find quiet.

Thank you so much for your attention.

Sincerely,

James W. Thompson
3801 Viking Road
Salt Lake City, Utah 84109
home phone: (801) 272-3683
cell: (801) 671-4690

KaLeigh Welch

From: Peter Gatch [peter@bhhsutah.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 15, 2015 11:26 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Grand County Council March 16 "Public Lands Initiative" Meeting

Dear Grand County Council,

I am writing in regards to designating Labyrinth Canyon as a true wilderness area. My wife and I are property owners in Moab and visit the town about twelve times a year. It is our escape and Shangri-la. We especially enjoy hiking the area's many spectacular trails. We respect that Moab's many diverse outdoor enthusiasts include "off roaders". However, we have noticed that over the last 23 years of visiting Moab that off road vehicles have become more predominant and more impactful on the outdoor experience. The balance of outdoor usage between hikers, rock climbers, Mt. bikers, rafters, and mechanized off road vehicle users seems with each passing year to be more skewed towards the off road mechanized vehicle user. In an ever hectic, crazy, technological, developed world - I need, my wife needs and I think people now and in the future will always need and be drawn to places of incredible beauty, peace and quiet and clean air. The world isn't making anymore solitude and once you loose it, good luck getting it back.

Also, with the legislature's passage of SB258 making all terrain vehicles street legal, ATV impacts will continue to grow in Moab.

In conclusion, I hope you keep Labyrinth Canyon wild and protect other areas from being overrun by off road vehicles. My wife and I have used a Moab rafting company to float the Grand Canyon and another trip through Cataract Canyon. Someday we want to float through Labyrinth Canyon and hope to enjoy another experience of solitude.

Sincerely,
Peter Gatch

P.S. Of course there is the is also the ever rapidly growing impacts of the extractive industries on the landscapes in the area but I guess that's a topic for another day...

KaLeigh Welch

From: Lisa N [mystic.sphinx@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 2:57 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative

Hello, the beautiful scenery of Grand County is very, very special and needs to be legally protected and preserved. I support all recommendations by the Grand Canyon Trust.

Please designate more areas in the LaSalles and Labyrinth as wilderness and true wilderness.

Silence is golden. Please close select roads to motorized vehicles. We don't need the noise from these vehicles driven by lazy, shallow humans out for a thrill or out to make a buck. Nor do we need the environment impact/damage done by them.

I have been visiting the Moab area for 30+ years and want to see it pristine forever.

Sincerely,
Lisa Nerio
Member Grand Canyon Trust

KaLeigh Welch

From: lborojocolorado@juno.com
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 6:18 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Bill

Dear Grand County Council,

Thanks for all the challenging work you do for this process. I have expressed my concerns before but I want to make sure you are aware of my concerns for the future of our public lands that will greatly be affected by you're upcoming recommendations to Bishop's bill.

I support the most protection option for wilderness quality lands in Grand and San Juan Counties. I have lived and worked here for 30 years. I am an archaeologist a river guide and have worked for federal land managing agencies and for the oil and gas industry. We have a unique opportunity to get a handle on the various factors that are having increasing adverse effects to not only natural resources as wilderness quality lands but also cultural resources in Grand County. Some ask why do we need more restrictions and protection, we have been using these roads, etc for ever. The answer is that there have been many changes here in last 15-20 years, there are many more people! and now we have the ATV and off road phenomenon which allows people to have huge impacts. Even if we impose some new restrictions, designate more wilderness areas, etc, NOW, we still will be highly challenged to protect the scenic values and opportunities for solitude, that we are famous for.

Labyrinth Canyon needs to be designated wilderness with a sufficient corridor width to keep development away from the viewshed. Roads such as the road to Hell Roaring Canyon need to be closed. The D. Julien inscription site here continues to be vandalized by ATV visitors. The integrity of this site is being adversely effected. BLM is not willing to do the right thing which is to close this road. I have visited this site several times in the last year. designating the corridor as wilderness will help BLM fulfill its responsibilities to the American people.

The same problem occurs in Ten Mile Wash. The road down from Dripping Springs should be closed to vehicles. The road is a natural resource disaster. Every time a new flash flood comes down the road is washed out and folks find new routes around creating much damage to the fragile riparian area. Running heavy equipment down there to fix road is not an option. The arch sites down there are also threatened. ATVs and riparian and cultural resources do not go together! I spent a six month season doing cultural resource inventory in Ten Mile. Most of the damage down there is done by a few bad apples who run amuck in spring and fall. They can't seem to stay on designated routes. They use the trail as a race track! The rest of the year hardly anyone goes there. The best way to protect the canyon is to close the road.

Arches Park, especially the northeast side needs a buffer to protect the view shed. No one wants to see oil and gas wells out there. We need to make up for the fact that when this park and Canyonlands were first designated, politics prevented the boundaries from being sensibly drawn to protect the resource

The Fisher Tower area is also suffering from the same issues with roads and damage to resources. We need to close some of the existing roads We need to have some places to visit without hearing the reving of motors. There are plenty (hundreds of miles)of existing routes for motorized recreation. Lets protect what remaining pristine ares remain.

Sincerely,

Michael Wolfe
228 Aspen Ave
Moab, Utah 8532

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KaLeigh Welch

From: Patrick Dengate [patrickdengate@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 6:49 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

To the Grand County Council:

I am writing to relay to you some comments on Rep. Bishop's Public Lands Initiative (PLI), and to urge you to designate some areas in your region wilderness as part of the PLI. In spite of the Moab area having been seemingly overrun in recent years by motorized four-wheeled tourists, there DOES still remain quiet, peaceful, and beautiful parcels where hikers, rafters, and natural inhabitants still want to be. How is it that, of all the counties involved in the PLI, your county has not so far proposed a **single** area as wilderness? Surely, places such as Labyrinth Canyon, The LasSals, and the area immediately to the east of Arches NP, *at the very least*, deserve protection from the noise of ATVs and eyesore of ruts and torn up vegetation.

Like most of the other visitors to your beautiful county, I come from far away. I hope this makes you proud, not suspicious or resentful. I don't come to encounter ATVs at every turn (nor the many others I know who go there), which has been the trend. I truly think that if you come down strongly on the side of motorized tourists and remain hostile to wilderness, you are, essentially, putting all of your economic eggs into a single basket. It's a risky strategy with regards to an important base of your local economy, and one that everyone will regret in the not-too-distant future.

Sincerely,

PATRICK DENGATE

436 W. Maplehurst St.
Ferndale, MI 48220-1206
248-398-2251

Paintings & Woodcuts: www.patrickdengate.com

KaLeigh Welch

From: Dave Stolfa [dave@stolfa.net]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 7:05 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Wilderness Designation, etc.

County council members,

I am a Grand County resident and have been for 15 years. I believe we need to ask for a lot of protection of federal land in the so-called Bishop Initiative if we don't want to kill off tourism in our beautiful redrock country. I believe oil and gas, oil shale, and potash are very real extractive industries that will decimate the landscape. I don't want our countryside looking like the Uintah Basin with rigs every 1/4 mile dotting the landscape.

I voted in the last county election for those I felt would protect the land. I don't believe the prior council was doing so. I also don't believe these industries bring jobs to the area except perhaps potash. Oil, gas, and shale bring in experts from elsewhere for a short time not locals. Locals may get hired to build fences and drain porta-potties.

I have watched the WSO's stand for so many years with no action. It's time to give this county a say and create Wilderness areas from most of them. NSO designation is just a short term designation that does not have the protection of Wilderness. I don't want to have to keep fighting to protect the same piece of land many times. One loss and it's gone! The extractive industry understands that.

I would like to see:

1. Make NSO's true wilderness. Give them real lasting protection.
2. Prohibit potash development (we don't have the water to use for this nor for oil shale).
3. Close the upper portion of Mineral Canyon to motorized use.
4. Close Hell Roaring to motorized use.
5. Close the river route to Hey Joe Canyon.
6. Expand the NCA to protect the Arches NP view shed.

David Stolfa

KaLeigh Welch

From: Sue Greiner [suegreiner@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 7:56 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative

Dear Grand County Council,

Grand County is one of my favorite places. You are blessed with some of the most beautiful landscape on the planet. I love backpacking in the mountains and camping in Arches National Park, Castle Valley and Canyonlands. I also love to float the canyons, and Labyrinth Canyon is the most beautiful of all.

I am writing to urge you to takes steps to preserve your wilderness and roadless areas immediately, as part of the Public Lands Initiative. Your most pristine areas are in danger of being overrun by motorized recreational vehicles. Please designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains. In doing so you will preserve a national treasure and clean water for Castle Valley and Moab.

Labyrinth Canyon is unique. Its winding, glassy course holds an incredible array of colors in every possible shade of pink and purple at sunset and sunrise, and is the home of desert ecosystems that are becoming harder and harder to find. It is one of the country's most special places. Please designate it as wilderness, for our grandchildren's children to enjoy. There are many places in Utah where ATVs and jeeps can play. Please keep Labyrinth pristine from their destruction.

For the same reason, I urge you to create more roadless areas in Grand County, so that you can preserve outdoor experiences that don't have to include the noise and dust of recreational vehicles. The National Conservation Area near Arches and the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness would be excellent places to do this.

You have a wonderful opportunity right now as you prepare the Public Lands Initiative, to ensure a wider variety of outdoor experiences in Grand County, and to keep it among the most spectacular places in the west, by preserving the NON-motorized experience. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Susan Greiner
PO Box 1550
Buena Vista, CO 81211
719-395-8895

KaLeigh Welch

From: Apple Computer [julie.taberman@verizon.net]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 8:14 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: LABYRINTH CANYON

Dear Council Members,

We write to you today in support of designating Labyrinth Canyon as a wilderness area. We are almost annual visitors to southern Utah from Boston. We come every March or April to visit the wild places to soak and restore our souls in the natural beauty of the canyons. It seems to us like a lot of the Moab area is already available to motor sports. As hikers and backpackers (who go back to Moab for hotels and restaurants every few days) we want to see the delicate ecosystems in this area better protected and preserved for our children's children to enjoy.

Please protect the quiet places like Labyrinth Canyon and the NCA area near Arches NP. They are becoming more scarce and endangered with every passing year. These are treasures to be preserved that will continue to benefit your economy due to eco tourism for as long as they are intact.

Thank you,
Julie Taberman
Richard Horsley
19 Park Lane
Boston, MA 02130

KaLeigh Welch

From: Michael or Jody Zur [ziggy_zur@msn.com]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 8:29 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands

Dear Council Members,

First of all I would like to thank you for all your hard work on the land issues.

I am a mother of four and grandmother of 3 (so far). I live in the Salt Lake Valley where I am constantly amazed at the continual and ever expanding growth. At times when the traffic and sprawl of the city begin to wear on my psyche, I dream of heading towards the beauty and solitude of Canyonlands. The trips I have taken both with children and without have been a rejuvenation of my soul. My fear that this will change if the designation of the area is conservation and not wilderness.

Please! Please! do not ease the protections on this amazingly beautiful land. We need to save and protect it for many generations to come. Not just for Utah but for the entire world. When out hiking or just sitting by a river, I hear languages from all over. Canyonlands, the river corridor and other public areas are destinations that are on the top of so many peoples lists to visit. It makes me so proud of our state when I hear from people from all over the world that it is some of the most spectacular scenery they have ever seen. They too have said it brings peace and beauty to their lives.

I ask you with all my heart to protect this precious land.

Thank you,

Jody Zur

KaLeigh Welch

From: Bookcliff Rattlers [bookcliffrattlersmc@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 8:56 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative

Dear Grand County Council

I write you in regard to the Southern Utah Wilderness alliance attempt to restrict the use of more public land to a select few. I am speaking of Labyrinth Canyon. This is a unique riding experience that is not duplicated any were else in southern Utah. Considering how much of the river has no OHV riding near it, the sound of few OHVs over lapping with a few rafters should not be a good enough reason to close a prime riding location. The OHV community advocates balanced conservation, not whole sale closer of public land.

Sincerely,

Bookcliff Rattlers Motorcycle Club
www.Bookcliffrattlersmc.com

KaLeigh Welch

From: Larry Witt [larryconniewitt@msn.com]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 9:17 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands

All,
Thanks for bringing balance to the Grand County proposal to Bishop's initiative. The prior three options started at the most exploited/extractive and went downhill from there. Other possibilities:

One common thread among other Counties is to include Forest Service lands in their proposals. We should do the same for the LaSals.

BLM protected lands options run from the prior Council's minimalist approach to the Greater Canyonlands vision. Pick something in between. (Or go all the way).

Thanks for considering my suggestions.

Larry Witt
Moab, UT

KaLeigh Welch

From: Moabkiley [moabkiley@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 9:58 AM
To: GC Council Email
Subject: Public lands and land grabs

Public lands should continue to stay under the management of the federal government, not turned over to the state or county. The state and county are not in any way qualified to manage our public lands. Areas like Sand Flats for instance are benefiting from being managed by the county and the BLM.

Kiley Miller
Moab Utah

KaLeigh Welch

From: Marty Genereux [marty@centennialcanoe.com]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 10:00 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

Dear Council,

As a commercial outfitter on the Green River, I'd like to preserve the solitude it offers. Please consider the restriction or elimination of motorized vehicles in and around Labyrinth Canyon. Many of our clients come from the city where white noise is a constant. Adding this same noise to the back country would be a shame. Further, you might agree that motorized vehicles don't exactly enhance the scenery (environmental damage) but rather detract from it.

Best,

Marty Genereux, Pres. CCO, Inc.

--

Our 30-Year Anniversary

Marty Genereux

Centennial Canoe Outfitters, Inc.

PO Box 3365 / Centennial, CO 80161

PH 720-283-0553 / Fax 303-347-8296

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What can I expect on a trip?

KaLeigh Welch

From: Thatcher Vagts [thatcherv@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 10:28 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

Dear Council-

Thank you all for your hard work and significant time commitment to the organization and management of our community. I appreciate that you all have taken on a very challenging role.

I realize that I am coming late to the discussion of the PLI. I hope you will have time to consider my opinions and desires for the future of our county.

I moved to Moab because of the vast and exciting public lands that surround this town and I have stayed because of the public lands. I am here participating in community organizations, working, owning a home, raising a family, and (of course) paying taxes. Any implication by others in this debate that there are not local county residents who work hard, pay taxes and enjoy the wilderness value of public lands is patently false - I work and socialize with these people each and every day. We are all making a genuine contribution to Grand County and we are here because of the wilderness.

For me and my family the value of public lands is the quiet and the scenery. We aspire to enjoy with wilderness without impacting others. Almost every year we take a trip through Labyrinth Canyon by boat and it is a truly amazing experience. Our trips have been impacted by increasing traffic and noise from motorized vehicles. The impact is profound - a boat full of people can be just a mile ahead or a mile behind and we never know it, but one or two motorcycles can be heard for miles and miles.

I hope you can find a way to reduce and certainly to not increase the motorized traffic in this area.

I currently work The Synergy Company as the Director of Research and Development and in this position I have the opportunity to travel all over the world and this makes it so incredibly apparent what a treasure we have in Grand County - there is no place like this. Further, I host colleagues from around the world and all are taken with Moab and the surrounding area, but this is not news - we all know about this treasure.

Before working at Synergy I drove shuttles to and from Labyrinth Canyon for Tex's Riverways. Each and every day customers raved about Labyrinth Canyon and the most frequent comments were this: it is so quiet! it is so beautiful! The quiet is part of the beauty. These customers contribute to our economy on each trip they make and each story they tell about the magic of the Canyonlands.

Labyrinth Canyon offers genuine benefit to our county as a Wilderness Area and it should be protected as such.

Sincerely,

Thatcher Vagts
436 Ute Circle
Moab, UT 84532

Phone: 435-260-0192

KaLeigh Welch

From: Nathan Gilbert [nathan.gilbert@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 10:49 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains!

Dear Grand County Council,

I am a frequent visitor to Grand County -- I love to hike, camp and jeep and I am in favor of the following:

- * Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.
- * Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails
- * Protect the views of Arches National Park by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the National Park.
- * Designate areas to be managed as "roadless areas" within the proposed NCA following the "Daggett County model" already approved by Utah's Congressional delegation.
- * Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county.

Thank you,
Nathan Gilbert
1913 S West Temple
SLC, UT 84115

KaLeigh Welch

From: Cris Jackson [jackson.cris@rocketmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 11:03 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

Dear Grand County Council,

I received notice that changes may be in the works for altering the usage of Labyrinth Canyon. Please do not allow the use of motorized vehicles to spoil the sublime experience that the area provides to its users as it currently stands.

"Land, then, is not merely soil; it is a fountain of energy flowing through a circuit of soils, plants and animals."

- **Aldo Leopold**

Co-founder, The Wilderness Society

As a career teacher I educate my students to "do what is right for future generations" not to make decisions that can have adverse effects on other people, animals, soils and waters. Please do the right thing and DO NOT allow motorized vehicles into this unspoiled wilderness.

Respectfully,
Cris Jackson
918 904 7199

KaLeigh Welch

From: Julia Gumper [julia@centennialcanoe.com]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 11:05 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: motorized vehicles in Labyrinth Canyon

Dear Council,

I am the co-owner of Centennial Canoe Outfitters, Inc., a 30-year old company that has been guiding commercial canoe trips on the Green River through Labyrinth Canyon since 1985. Many of our trips spend a "layover" day camped in the same spot for 2 nights so we can take a day to hike through the peaceful and beautiful canyon. I would request that you help keep the solitude & protect the fragile desert environment surrounding this spectacular canyon. Also, as part of the essence of our trips, the silence of the wilderness is what people enjoy most on their canoe trips. Please consider the elimination of motorized vehicles in and around Labyrinth Canyon.

Gravely Concerned,

Julia Gumper

Centennial Canoe Outfitters Inc.

--

Julia Gumper

Centennial Canoe Outfitters, Inc.

PO Box 3365 / Centennial, CO 80161

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What to Expect on a Trip ~ 30th Anniversary Centennial Canoe

KaLeigh Welch

From: Alex Wesson [risecabin@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 11:12 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Please protect the special landscapes of Grand County

Dear Grand County Council,

Your County is indeed Grand. It holds some of the most beautiful and sensitive landscapes in the region. I frequently travel from Durango, CO to Moab and the SE UT for recreation in the wildlands of Grand and San Juan Counties. Please understand how special your backyard is for so many people, all over the world. Your recreation and tourism economy is the wave of the future and I hope that you make the right choices to preserve this income stream for your community, as well as the lands that make it all possible.

With that in mind, please consider the following recommendations:

- **Designate wilderness in the La Sal Mountains.** Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The council must recommend wilderness protection for the mountains that frame Delicate Arch and provide clean drinking water to Moab and Castle Valley.
- **Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.** At last week's council meeting, the council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth Canyon — despite it being the only flat water redrock wilderness river run in the American West.
- **Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails** that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." The serene wilderness experience of river runners in Labyrinth should be protected from the roar of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River.
- **Protect the views of Arches National Park** by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of the National Park.
- **Designate areas to be managed as "roadless areas" within the proposed NCA** following the "Daggett County model" already approved by Utah's Congressional delegation.
- **Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County**, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of off-road vehicles.

Thank you very much,

Alex Wesson

Durango, CO

KaLeigh Welch

From: Randy Hertzman [hertzman@alum.mit.edu]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 11:14 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Comments on Public Land Initiatives bill

Sirs and Madams,

I am a commercial river guide. For almost 20 years, I have been guiding canoe trips through Labyrinth Canyon on the Green River. Over the past decade or so, I have observed an increasing frequency of jeep and ATV traffic along the river corridor, including one ATV party several years ago that crashed, off-trail, right through the campsite where my group was camped for the night, without a word of apology or even an acknowledgment of our existence!

Commercial and private river traffic brings a lot of people and a lot of dollars to Grand County -- our customers stay at Moab hotels and eat at Moab restaurants before and after their trips, and they come back to the Moab area again and again. They come for the wilderness experience, not the roar of OHV and jeep traffic along the river, with the associated noise and air pollution, litter, and trail damage.

There are so many trails in Grand County that are open to jeep and OHV use. Please consider protecting the wildness quality of the Green by recommending that Labyrinth Canyon be closed to OHV traffic.

Thanks for your time.

Sincerely,
Randall Hertzman
441 Eagle Pass
Durango, CO 81301

KaLeigh Welch

From: Lawson LeGate [lawson.legate@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 12:02 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Wilderness recommendation for Grand County

Dear Council members,

For decades my family and I have been frequent visitors to Grand County. We place a very high value on our wild land experiences, including in the currently undesignated wilderness-quality public lands in the county. I am urging you to recommend wilderness protection for these lands.

In particular, I hope you will recommend wilderness protection for the following areas:

Labyrinth Canyon -- I have floated this gentle stretch of river twice. Unlike Westwater or Cataract Canyons, Labyrinth can be floated in a canoe. No special whitewater skills are required. The trails running down to the canyon should be closed to motor vehicles.

La Sal Mountains -- I have backpacked and hiked in the La Sals which first came to my attention in the pages of Edward Abbey's *Desert Solitaire*. All qualifying lands within the La Sals should be designated as wilderness.

National Conservation Area -- Not only should the NCA be expanded up to four miles east of Arches National Park, but roadless lands within the NCA should be protected as such. I have personally explored the Dome Plateau area east of the park.

Finally, my family and many residents of the Wasatch Front visit Grand County with the expectation that we can enjoy a wilderness experience in the slick rock country free from the sound and stress of motorized vehicles. I would greatly appreciate it if the Grand County Council would recommend that motorized vehicles be banned from lightly used trails within all roadless areas.

My family and I look forward to continuing to visit Grand County in the years to come and to experience the peace and wonder offered by the wilderness-quality lands of this beautiful country.

Thank you for taking my comments into consideration.

Lawson LeGate
1954 East 900 South
Salt Lake City, Utah 84108

KaLeigh Welch

From: Pam Fitz [Pam.Fitz@dh.com]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 12:22 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Comments on Public Land Initiatives Bill - please read

Dear Members of the County Council for Grand County in Utah,

I am a professional working a corporate job; I am a river/outdoor person (private trips and professional guide, both), who has been enjoying wild areas in Utah for over 30 years, including running Labyrinth section of the Colorado River many times. The multi-day river trip down Labyrinth Canyon can be summed up in a quiet desert solitude experience like no other we can enjoy, no matter who we are, any day of the week.

This spectacular section of river is a well-known reason to keep this area unique and allowable for NON motorized vehicles that vibrate and echo into the river canyons. MOAB has so many offerings already for motorized vehicles – why add more??? **How many more rivers will MOAB and Grand County, Utah, have in the coming years compared to trail offerings???**

There are MANY other off road opportunities all around Moab that already exist. I am writing to oppose allowing off road vehicles in this space.

Let's preserve the river corridors we have and the experience of the river runner, who bring much to the economic region in the Moab area and Grand County. Thank you for your consideration.

Pam Fitz, River Runner

Pam Fitz
Solutions Consultant
m: 303-670-8233
e: pam.fitz@dh.com


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KaLeigh Welch

From: Scott Sanderson [swarriston@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 12:26 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net; Cindy Appel
Subject: Moab Preservation

Dear Folks:

I live in New Jersey and have been fortunate enough to have visited the Moab area numerous times since 2000.

As one who lives/endures in the most-densely populated States in the country -- I urge you strongly to keep Moab — and Labyrinth Canyon in particular — protected from development and/or recreational exploitation -- it's vitally important for both people and wildlife that quiet places be protected now and for future generations.

I hope you'll do the wise and right thing. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Scott Sanderson
Oaklyn, NJ

KaLeigh Welch

From: Mobad [gomobad@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 10:49 AM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Sand Flats

I am writing to object L Jacksons latest tea party idea to take control of the Sand Flats and other public lands from the Feds. This is a half baked idea that is not in anyone's best interest save some special interest groups. Don't let them into any more back pockets than they already have squeezed into. A take over of this responsibility would be expensive at best. DON'T LET THESE LOCAL CLIVE BUNDYS TAKE OVER PUBLIC LANDS !!!!

John Hartley

Sent from my iPhone

KaLeigh Welch

From: K. L. Naiman [klnaiman@earthlink.net]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 12:37 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative Bill and Labyrinth Canyon

Labyrinth Canyon in particular – needs true wilderness protection and that **quiet places need to be protected now and for future generations.**

The Grand County Council needs to do the following:

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week’s Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth – despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and “Dead Cow/The Tubes.” **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn’t have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

Sincerely,

Karen L. Naiman

KaLeigh Welch

From: Patty Ewing [jhriver@wyoming.com]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 12:57 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Labyrinth Canyon

Grand County Council
Moab, UT

Dear Council Members:

Our family first was introduced to the Moab area when Canyonlands National Park was established in the 1964, by a friend who was a ranger that first year.. The first three of four years of the park, we had wonderful trips into the back country via 4-wheel drive. Subsequently, twice a year, we bike with the same group of friends in the Moab area, and especially on the White Rim Trail. Additionally, we have, over the years, floated the Colorado and the Green several times.

As you consider the magical places surrounding Moab, please add our comments to protect the area. We support Labyrinth Canyon becoming a Wilderness area and keeping the river corridor by closing roads which go to the river; close roads which are not used much to protect the area; expand protection of the iconic viewscape of Arches with the NCR; and since the LaSals are so close and so beautiful, please support the New Forest Service wilderness proposal.

Your area the so beautiful, and enjoyed by so many people. For future generations, please take visionary steps to continue the high level of protection it deserves.

Thank you very much.

Patty and Frank Ewing
jhriver@wyoming.com
Jackson, WY 83001

KaLeigh Welch

From: Tom Price [tom@allpowerlabs.com]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 1:07 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Wilderness proposal

Please accept this additional voice in support of preserving Labyrinth Canyon as a wilderness area, off limits to ATVs, protecting the Arches view shed, and closing Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness to ATVs.

-Lifelong Utahan, temporarily transplanted to California.

Tom Price
801-712-5371

KaLeigh Welch

From: Thomas Rampton [rampton@blacktail-enterprises.com]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 1:25 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Wilderness and Roadless Lands

I want wilderness designated in the La Sal Mountains and in Labyrinth Canyons, and in the case of Labyrinth, roads down to it (such as Hell Roaring Canyon) closed. Certain other roads that are little-used should also be closed throughout your area.

I am the author of a river guidebook to Labyrinth Canyon, and of similar books about other rivers.

Thomas Rampton

KaLeigh Welch

From: Leigh A. Bernacchi [labernacchi@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 2:39 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Moab-Area Wilderness

Dear Grand County Council members,

Thank you for your leadership. As a former Utahn and frequent visitor to the Moab area, I would like to request that the Labyrinth Canyon needs protection. I have visited your national and state parks, spent time camping along the river, rafted the Green and Colorado rivers, and I even ran a half-marathon there: It's an amazing place to be and it's peace and wildness are the greatest reasons to visit.

Please consider protecting these areas by recommending wilderness designations to Representative Bishop on the following topics:

- Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes."
- Protect the Arches view shed by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of Arches National Park. It's the reason people continue to come back to Arches--the mystery and views. It's truly a spiritual, ecological and beautiful place.
- Designate areas to be managed as roadless areas within the NCA, following the "Daggett County" model.
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs. As a walker, biker, hiker, birdwatcher, the distraction of motors ruins the experience for me. I can hear them a long way away and a long way after they have passed. Please preserve some spaces like this.

Thank you for your consideration and time. I await your decisions, and I hope they reflect your conscience.

Best,
Leigh Bernacchi

--
Leigh Bernacchi, PhD
Education and Communication Coordinator



University of Idaho

KaLeigh Welch

From: Laura Davis [loadave@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 2:52 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Pulic Lands bill

I really enjoy visiting Moab and the surrounding National Parks and wilderness areas. Please designate these areas for non-atv.

Here's what the Grand County Council should do on Monday:

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's Council meeting, the Council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of Grand County. The Council has already recommended protecting these areas as wilderness, but they need to close routes within the boundaries. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

Thanks!

Laura Davis

KaLeigh Welch

From: Nancy Kurtz [nancystarjive@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 4:07 PM
To: Grand County
Cc: Andrea Brand
Subject: Please do not remove Sand Flats from federal jurisdiction

To the Council,

I live on the East side of town just over the ridge from Lion's Back and Sand Flats is our wonderland of choice, especially in winter, when it's less inundated. It's one of the great treasures, Mill & Rill to Bill, mountains to Portal, 360's all around and a wealth of areas still available to foot travelers, many of them at the moment blessedly out of the way of the ATV crowd.

The Slickrock Trail, for one, is a poster child for how different forms of recreation can co-exist. Notably ATV's are off this trail, Lord knows they have enough routes of their own right on its edges.

Grand already benefits from its arrangement with the BLM. Co-sponsorship guarantees support - left on its own, the County could easily be overburdened with myriad budgetary considerations, including costs of road maintenance, increasingly a need with more and more vehicles, etc., etc. The co-sponsorship with BLM was always a great idea. It works to have oversight of separate management, with the political scene, and priorities, fluctuating with each and every election.

We have got to nip in the bud this thinking that participation by the federal government is a problem by definition. Surely, we the people already own our federal lands to the extent that we "own" anything in Grand County. This is one place our tax dollars go that we can feel good about.

If Grand County is having trouble getting timely approvals and input from BLM, then that is an operational difficulty that needs to be addressed. But this is a perilously radical way to deal with that --

The County Council already has a lot on its plate. We need you to focus on things that have been neglected. Every wild card takes up precious time.

Thank you for your kind attention,

Sincerely,

Nancy Kurtz
139 Arches Drive

Nancy Kurtz
nancystarjive@gmail.com
435-259-0734

KaLeigh Welch

From: Rose Moonwater [rzmoon@cruzio.com]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 4:17 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Grand County Council

Dear Council Members:

I am a visitor to Moab and surrounding areas and also a property owner in Grand County. Moab, and Labyrinth Canyon in particular, needs true wilderness protection and quiet places need to be protected now and for future generations.

Also, I am asking you as council members to protect the Arches view shed by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of Arches National Park and to designate wilderness in the La Sal mountains. Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service Wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The council should recommended protecting the mountains that frame Delicate Arch as wilderness.

These are areas we return to over and over, for the beauty and the quiet. The quality of these lands deserve more protection.

Thank you,
Rose Z. Moonwater
103 Pace Lane
Castle Valley, UT 84532

KaLeigh Welch

From: Angela Werneke [awerneke@earthlink.net]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 4:34 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Designate Labyrinth Canyon as wilderness

Dear Grand County Council,

I am writing as a visitor to the Moab area and southeastern Utah for more than 40 years. What you have in Grand County is a precious natural and geologic treasure. It is priceless and should be protected for future generations.

I urge you to:

- Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's council meeting, the council recommended no wilderness for Labyrinth, despite its being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.
- Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and Dead Cow / The Tubes. River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!
- Protect the Arches view shed by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of Arches National Park.
- Designate areas to be managed as roadless areas within the NCA, following the "Daggett County" model that has already been approved by our Congressional delegation.
- Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!
- Designate wilderness in the La Sal mountains. Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service Wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended none. The council should recommended protecting the mountains that frame Delicate Arch as wilderness.

Future generations will thank you for protecting this treasure for posterity. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Angela Werneke
RIVER LIGHT MEDIA
awerneke@earthlink.net
riverlightmedia.com
3466 Cerrillos Road J1
Santa Fe, NM 87507-3014
505.988.2099

KaLeigh Welch

From: Thomas Wylie [twylie0966@me.com]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 4:44 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Grand County Wild Places

I am a former Moabite and still a frequent visitor to the canyon country. I only just learned of this issue or matter, but here is my input. Wild places like Labyrinth Canyon, which I have rafted, are important to Grand County and to the thousands upon thousands who come to the area as visitors. If the wild is compromised or destroyed, what does Moab really have? Not much. Arches National Park is a GREAT park that I visit often. Surely it has a place in the hearts of Moabites. You can't preserve the park experience there unless you also protect the views looking out from the park.

I support the following:

— Designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness. At last week's council meeting, the council recommended *no* wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.

— Keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing three ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**

— Protect the Arches view shed by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of Arches National Park.

— Designate areas to be managed as roadless areas within the NCA, following the "Daggett County" model that has already been approved by our Congressional delegation.

— Close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

— Designate wilderness in the La Sal mountains. Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service Wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The council should recommended protecting the mountains that frame Delicate Arch as wilderness.

Sincerely,

Thomas C. Wylie

6845 S. Dexter Street

Centennial, Colorado 80122

KaLeigh Welch

From: Rechei, Eric [rechei@coloradomesa.edu]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 5:27 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Protect wild places

Grand County Council. The where ever possible keep the area around Moab wild. Wildlife need wild places. Those tourists to Moab come to see wildlife so protect wild places and habitat. Restrict OHV use. Close illegal roads. Help wildlife by creating wild places. Thanks Eric Rechei.

KaLeigh Welch

From: accurrie@gmail.com on behalf of Andrew Currie [andrew@currie.com]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 5:43 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Please protect the wilderness and quiet public lands near Moab

I am a frequent visitor to Moab and have been for 25 years. I usually stay a week. The only reason i come to Moab is to hike the beautiful, pristine, quiet, unique Nature areas near Moab. Please add these protections so our children and grandchildren can enjoy and cherish these unique Nature areas as we have.

*** Please designate Labyrinth Canyon as true wilderness.** At last week's council meeting, the council recommended *no* wilderness for Labyrinth — despite it being one of the crown jewels of wilderness in the American West.

Please keep the river corridor in Labyrinth quiet by closing 3 ATV and jeep trails that run down to the river: Hey Joe, Hell Roaring, and "Dead Cow/The Tubes." **River rafters in Labyrinth shouldn't have to listen to the whine of motorcycles along the banks of the Green River!**

Please Protect the Arches NP viewshed **by expanding the proposed National Conservation Area (NCA) 4 miles east of Arches National Park.**

Please designate areas to be managed as roadless areas within the NCA, following the "Daggett County" model that has already been approved by your Congressional delegation.

Please close infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness on the eastern side of the county. **There should be places where Moab visitors can find quiet and get away from roads and the sounds of ATVs!**

Finally, **please designate wilderness in the La Sal mountains.** Every other county in the PLI process has recommended new Forest Service Wilderness, but the Grand County Council has recommended zero. The council should recommended protecting the mountains that frame Delicate Arch as wilderness.

Thank you for considering my comments. I look forward to hearing good news about these protections!

Andrew Currie, Impact investor
www.andrewcurrie.info
andrew@currie.com / 303.910.2284 / Boulder, CO USA

KaLeigh Welch

From: Craig Gasser [craiggasser@qwestoffice.net]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 5:52 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Public Lands Initiative Bill

To Whom It May Concern:

As one who has enjoyed visiting and recreating in the Moab area, I strongly ask that you draft recommendations that make conservation a priority by designating Labyrinth Canyon as wilderness and closing infrequently used routes in all the proposed wilderness areas in Grand County.

Thanks you,
Craig R. Gasser
3441 S. 100 E.
Bountiful, UT 84010

KaLeigh Welch

From: Tamara Brennan [tamonearth@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 5:53 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Why I hope you Protect Wildlands around Moab

Best wishes,

I am writing because I care very much about the wilderness qualities in the lands around Moab. I lived for 20 years in Durango, a choice my husband and I made BECAUSE we wanted to be near the red rock country where the canyon wren sings. I have probably slept outdoors in that country some 60 nights total if not more over the years. I've been through a lot of it, quietly, reverently, because it is the place on Earth that renews my soul. I need to know that there are more parts yet to be discovered for me.

I now live in Central America. But on my walls are photos from my "cathedral" --- Arches, Canyonlands, some off canyons that most people don't travel into. I've rafted and hiked, gotten lost, found my way out again, and dreamed and loved that land. I have well used topos in the bookcase and there's a jar of red sand from the Fiery Furnace on my altar. Yes, I live in the Sierra at the Mex/Guatemala border but my soul has a piece of sage covered canyon country in it. I am not the only one.

Off road machines just don't belong there. They don't. I am a skier so I know what it is like to feel the thrill of speed and bumps. But I go without creating noise, smoke or damaging the experience for others, frightening wildlife.

There are things that are so rare and dramatically beautiful that they should not be defiled in any way. I find my way to that feeling I get when there by just closing my eyes. The idea of ATMS and such there makes me think of the Biker Bar built at the base of Bear Butte, sacred land to 6 tribes.

Please do all you can to protect this sanctuary from ATMS and all other inappropriate and intrusive recreation. It belongs to no one, it belongs to itself, that it exists in it's wild state is something I need for my own peace of mind. It is a matter of respect for the Earth.

Thank you for listening.

Tamara Brennan, Ph.D.

KaLeigh Welch

From: whereintheworldisbryan@gmail.com on behalf of Bryan Long [BryanLong1@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 9:12 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: Please Protect Labyrinth Canyon

Dear members of the Grand County Council,

As a photographer who has had the pleasure of visiting Labyrinth Canyon, I'm writing to urge you to protect this unique river area and the surrounding wilderness. I urge the council to do everything in its power to support Congressional designation of Labyrinth Canyon as Wilderness. This region is a pristine riparian corridor of rich ecological diversity and an excellent example of desert wilderness.

I was disappointed to hear that the Council recommended a 'no wilderness for Labyrinth' resolution at the meeting 2 weeks ago. This resolution does not fit with the current wilderness quality of the region. Indeed, this is one of the last, best wild places and is facing imminent threats from development. Specifically, the ATV/jeep routes that run through sections of Dead Cow, Hell Roaring, and Hey Joe Canyons have numerous illegal bandit trails, and I ask that you do everything in your power to close these regions to motorized use. The Council has already recommended the Westwater-Beaver Creek for wilderness designation. Please close motorized routes within the boundaries of these proposed regions.

As stewards of the land, it is our responsibility to protect these incredible, wild places so that future generations can continue to enjoy the untrammelled characteristics of these special places.

Sincerely,
Bryan Long
Teacher at the Aspen Community School
Small Business Owner
www.PeakAestheticProductions.com

KaLeigh Welch

From: Travis Winn [traviswinn@lastdescents.com]
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2015 10:15 PM
To: council@grandcountyutah.net
Subject: A message from China

Dear Grand County Council,

I grew up the Colorado Utah border and the wild lands around Moab had a deep impact who I've become as an adult. Now I run a whitewater rafting company in western China, and work to help the Chinese protect their wild lands.

I can tell you from all of my world travels that wilderness is priceless. It's easy to develop things in our hi tech society, but once the line has slipped it's impossible for things to become pristine once again. Grand County holds some of the greatest wild places on planet earth. Please keep them that way, please hold the line.

Please designate Labyrinth Canyon as wilderness. Please close the ATV and jeep trails that run down to the Green River. Please close all of the infrequently used routes in all proposed wilderness in Grand County, especially in the Westwater-Beaver Creek proposed wilderness.

I promise you, you won't regret it, and the world will treasure your county for generations to come.

Regards,

Travis Winn
Last Descents River Expeditions