

STATEMENT

The CONSERVATION for ECONOMIC GROWTH COALITION

Re: Trump Action on Bears Ears, Grand Staircase, etc.

Today’s action by the Trump Administration officially makes the protection of our public lands nothing more than a political football. It shreds the great American legacy of the Antiquities Act, puts millions of acres of public lands at risk, and sells out the American people who depend on these public lands for recreation.

This misguided decision will impede economic growth and thriving high-growth companies in the American west, whose high-quality employment strategies depend on reliable, certain access to the recreational opportunities that our national monuments afford. As our companies consider where to build new or expand existing facilities, they can no longer depend with any certainty on a particular location’s recreational access, because some politicians may later decide to change the map for partisan reasons, just as Trump and Zinke have done today.