

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

August 18, 2017

Secretary Ryan Zinke
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Zinke,

As elected officials from California serving diverse communities benefitting from monuments at the congressional, state, and local levels, we write to invite you to listen to the residents of California and unequivocally safeguard the seven California National Monuments currently under your review by declaring a recommendation of no change, as you have done already for several other monuments. We also urge you to visit these monuments prior to submitting your final recommendations on August 24, 2017.

Throughout the national monument review comment period, Californians repeatedly requested that you come to visit the places under review and meet the communities who have for years enjoyed these lands and worked to protect them, keep them in public hands, and keep them accessible. These invitations have thus far gone unanswered. Today, on behalf of our residents, we invite you once more to visit our state, meet face to face with the communities who love and protect our treasured landscapes before making a recommendation that might reduce or revoke monument status.

As the state with the largest population, the largest economy, and the most national monuments under your review, Californians have much to lose by any changes to these designations, for which communities have invested a great deal of time, energy, passion, and resources, and are now generating vital economic benefits. According to a recent report by the Outdoor Industry Association, the recreation economy in California alone, fueled by places like the national monuments under review, generates nearly 700,000 jobs, over \$30 billion in wages, over \$6 billion in state and local taxes that go right back into our communities, and \$92 billion in spending, all of which help keep the U.S. economy strong.

Californians overwhelmingly supported the original designations of these monuments, and continue to overwhelmingly support preserving our national monuments as they were designated. Diverse communities and key stakeholders including veterans, Native American tribes, faith groups, small businesses, hunters and anglers, water agencies, outdoor enthusiasts, and many others have taken part in open, public processes - as mandated by law and faithfully executed - to voice their support. They have compellingly shared their unique perspectives and provided data and information to justify why each national monument is indeed worthy of protection, and what each of these special landscapes mean to them.

We again urge you to safeguard California's National Monuments - Berryessa Snow Mountain, Carrizo Plain, San Gabriel Mountains, Giant Sequoia, Cascade-Siskiyou, Mojave Trails, and Sand

to Snow - as designated, and to visit the state in order to see these national treasures through the eyes of the people who have dedicated themselves to their protection.

Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,



JUDY CHU

United States Representative



DIANNE FEINSTEIN

United States Senator



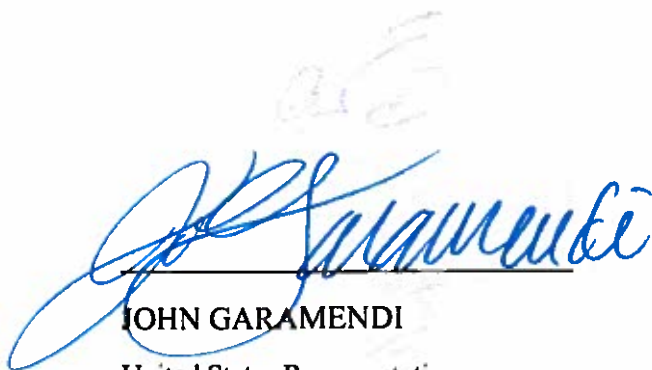
KAMALA D. HARRIS

United States Senator



GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

United States Representative



JOHN GARAMENDI

United States Representative



SALUD O. CARBAJAL

United States Representative



JARED HUFFMAN

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WILLIAM W. MONNING

California Senate Majority Leader
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ANTHONY PORTANTINO

California State Senator, 25th District



CATHARINE BAKER

California Assembly Member, 16th District



HANNAH-BETH JACKSON

California State Senator, 19th District



BEN ALLEN

California State Senator, 26th District



HEIDI HARMON

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JOAN HARTMANN

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Santa Barbara County Supervisor, 1st District