

The Honorable John Thune  
Senate Majority Leader

The Honorable Chuck Schumer  
Senate Minority Leader

The Honorable Mike Johnson  
Speaker of the House

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries  
House Minority Leader

**RE: Please Oppose Attacks on Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument through the use of the Congressional Review Act (S.J.Res.109/H.J.Res.151)**

Dear Senators and Members of Congress,

On behalf of the 125 undersigned organizations and our millions of members, **we respectfully urge you to oppose S.J.Res.109/H.J.Res.151 which would use the Congressional Review Act (CRA) to overturn the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument Management Plan.**

The plan was finalized after more than two years of analysis and robust local, national, and Tribal engagement. It provides a science-based framework for stewarding one of the nation’s most extraordinary public landscapes. **Using the CRA to rescind the plan would not only dismantle that framework,** it would also prohibit the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) from issuing any future plan that is “substantially the same,” creating management chaos and ensuring years of uncertainty and conflict for stakeholders.

This is the first attempt to use the CRA to attack a national monument, setting a dangerous precedent for eroding longstanding conservation protections and recreational opportunities at Grand Staircase-Escalante and other national monuments.

**Combined with the unprecedented assault on Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness, the escalation of attacks on the nation’s wildest public lands is reaching unthinkable and deeply unpopular levels.**

Americans across the political spectrum cherish their public lands, especially national monuments like the Grand Staircase-Escalante. **Polling shows that 75 percent of Utah voters support the President’s authority to designate national monuments, and three in four Utah voters—including a majority of Republicans—want to keep Grand Staircase-Escalante protected as a monument.**<sup>1</sup> Region-wide, polling shows that 89

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<sup>1</sup> New Bridge Strategy. (2024, December 12–18). *Utah statewide survey: Key findings* (Utah National Monuments Survey). Grand Canyon Trust. Available at

percent of Western voters oppose reducing or removing national monument protections, up from 80 percent in 2017 polls.<sup>2</sup> **Attempts to weaponize the CRA against Grand Staircase-Escalante fly in the face of this strong, bipartisan public support for national monuments.**

For nearly 30 years, Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument has protected globally significant geology, world-class paleontological resources, diverse wildlife habitat, and irreplaceable cultural sites. At the same time, the monument forms the backbone of local economies through outdoor recreation, scientific research, and tourism. A 2026 report on the economics of the monument confirms that it plays an outsized role in supporting real per capita income of local residents, as well as overall employment in the region.<sup>3</sup>

In 2025, six Tribal Nations—the Hopi Tribe, the Navajo Nation, the Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians, the Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah, the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, and the Zuni Tribe—formed the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument Inter-Tribal Coalition to advocate for the conservation of their aboriginal lands and for the continued protection and preservation of the cultural and ecological resources within the monument. The current management plan reflects close collaboration with these Tribal Nations.

If these CRA resolutions succeed, it would sow confusion and uncertainty over management of the irreplaceable cultural, historic, and scientific resources that Grand Staircase-Escalante protects. Undoing the plan will jeopardize cultural sites and ecological values, undermine long-term scientific research, and **erode the quality of life and economic stability that nearby communities have built around these protected public lands.**<sup>4</sup>

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<https://www.grandcanyontrust.org/sites/default/files/resources/Utah-National-Monuments-Survey-December-2024.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> Colorado College State of the Rockies Project. (2024, January 3–17). *2025 Conservation in the West Poll: National press release*. Colorado College. Available at

<https://www.coloradocollege.edu/other/stateoftherockies/conservationinthewest/2025-poll-data/CC%20Poll%202025%20-%20National%20Press%20Release.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> Headwaters Economics. (2026). *Economic performance of communities near national monuments*.

Bozeman, MT: Headwaters Economics. Available at <https://headwaterseconomics.org/public-lands/economic-performance-national-monuments/>.

<sup>4</sup> Headwaters Economics. (2017). *Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument and local economics*.

Bozeman, MT: Headwaters Economics. Available at <https://headwaterseconomics.org/wp-content/uploads/Escalante.pdf>  
[headwaterseconomics](https://headwaterseconomics.org)

**The CRA was never meant to be a blunt instrument to attack public lands, including national monuments. Employing it this way will destabilize land management nationwide, erode public trust, and throw collaboration and long-range planning for public lands into chaos. We urge you to reject resolutions of disapproval that target the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument Management Plan and to stand with Tribal Nations, Western communities, and Americans of all political backgrounds who want these lands protected, well managed, and secure for generations to come.**

**Please vote NO on S.J.Res.109/H.J.Res.151 and oppose attacks on Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument.**

Sincerely,

Alaska Wilderness League Action  
Allegheny-Blue Ridge Alliance (ABRA)  
American Bird Conservancy  
Archaeology Southwest  
Arizona Trail Association  
Basin and Range Watch  
Best Friends Animal Rescue  
Bikepacking Roots  
Black Diamond Equipment  
BLU Educational Foundation  
Bozeman Birders  
C4 Evergreen  
CactusToCloud Institute  
California Native Plant Society  
Californians for Western Wilderness  
CalWild  
Center for Biological Diversity  
Center for Progressive Reform  
Coalition to Protect America's National Parks  
Colorado Public Lands Advocacy & Conservation Expertise (CO-PLACE), LLC  
Conservation Colorado  
Conservation Lands Foundation  
Conservatives for Responsible Stewardship  
Creation Justice Ministries  
DarkSky International

Defenders of Wildlife  
Dolores River Boating Advocates  
Earthjustice  
EarthKeepers 360  
Earthworks  
EcoFlight  
Endangered Habitats League  
Endangered Species Coalition  
Environment America  
Environmental Action  
Environmental Protection Information Center (EPIC)  
EPIC (Environmental Protection Information Center)  
Forests Forever  
Fort Ord Recreation Trails (FORT) Friends  
Friends of Avi Kwa Ame National Monument  
Friends of Basin & Range National Monument  
Friends of Big Morongo Canyon Preserve  
Friends of Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument  
Friends of Nevada Wilderness  
Friends of Rio Grande Del Norte  
Friends of the Amargosa Basin  
Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness  
Friends of the Earth Action  
Friends of the Inyo  
Friends of the Lost Coast  
Glen Canyon Institute  
Grand Canyon Trust  
Great Old Broads for Wilderness  
Green Climate  
GreenLatinos  
Kids for Saving Earth  
Las Cruces Green Chamber of Commerce  
Latino Outdoors  
League of Conservation Voters  
Minnesota Division Izaak Walton League of America  
Mountain Mamas  
Mt. Madonna Challenge  
MtnBio

National Parks Conservation Association  
Native American Land Conservancy  
Native Voters Alliance NV  
Native Womens Wilderness  
Natural Resources Defense Council  
Nature for All  
NCCCA  
New Mexico Wild  
Next 100 Coalition  
Northeastern Minnesotans for Wilderness  
Oregon Wild  
Partnership for Policy Integrity  
Patagonia  
Presbyterians for Earth Care  
Project Eleven Hundred  
Protect Our Winters  
Resource Renewal Institute  
RESTORE: The North Woods  
Rewilding Institute  
Rocky Mountain Wild  
Sage Steppe Wild  
San Luis Valley Ecosystem Council  
Save Our Canyons  
Save Red Rock  
Sempervirens Fund  
Sheep Mountain Alliance  
Sierra Club  
Sierra Club Utah Chapter  
Sierra Nevada Alliance  
Soda Mountain Wilderness Council  
Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance  
Standing Trees  
Stewardship Utah  
Sugar Pine Foundation  
SW Utah Great Old Broads for Wilderness  
Taos Fly Shop  
The National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS)  
The Ocean Project

The Wilderness Society  
The Wildlands Conservancy  
Trail Access Project  
Tuleyome  
Union of Concerned Scientists  
Unite for Parks  
Utah Mountain Lion Conservation  
Utah Physicians for a Healthy Environment  
Vet Voice Foundation  
Virginia Wilderness Committee  
Washington Wild  
Weber County League of Women Voters  
Wellspring Spa  
Western Environmental Law Center  
Western Slope Conservation Center  
Western Watersheds Project  
Western Wildlife Conservancy  
Wild Connections  
Wild Hope  
Wild Montana  
WildEarth Guardians  
Wilderness Workshop  
Winter Wildlands Alliance  
Women of Bears Ears