

NORTH FORK PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

77 Moose Creek Rd, Polebridge, MT 59928

Secretary Ryan Zinke
Monument Review, MS-1530
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW.
Washington, DC 20240

June 16, 2017

Dear Secretary Zinke:

The North Fork Preservation Association (NFPA) is a conservation organization working to protect the wilderness character, watershed, and wildlife of the North Fork of the Flathead River Valley in Northwest Montana. Our members are strong proponents of public lands.

It is with great concern that we are following the news regarding attacks on our national monuments. We are disheartened to discover that you are not only participating in this, but leading the charge. When you were our Congressman, you stated that you were a Teddy Roosevelt Republican. President Roosevelt would be very displeased with your lack of support for national monuments.

This attack is starting with Bears Ears and will eventually reach our Upper Missouri River Breaks which is one of the 21 monuments being reviewed by Executive Order 13792. An attack on any national monument is an attack on all of them and is a major land grab from the American people. These national monuments were preserved for the American people as a whole and not for special economic interests.

Every national monument being considered under Executive Order 13792 has a history of public debate and discussion and was not hastily approved. National monument proposals get careful scrutiny and years of public debate and participation. To claim otherwise is disingenuous at best.

The Upper Missouri Breaks National Monument here in Montana was designated by President Clinton. If President Trump does not want to leave a conservation legacy in his

A nonprofit corporation dedicated to preserving the integrity of the North Fork of the Flathead Valley on the western edge of Waterton/Glacier International Peace Park.

own name, that is his choice. But undoing the work of both Republican and Democratic Presidents before him is disrespectful to his predecessors and the American people.

We hope that you will recommend that the President retain, without reducing their size, all 21 national monuments, including the Upper Missouri Breaks National Monument, under protected status.

Sincerely,

Debo Powers, NFPA President