July 10, 2017

Honorable Ryan Zinke, Secretary of the Interior
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Zinke,

In regard to the U.S. Department of the Interior’s assessment of certain National Monuments designated or expanded since 1996, as directed by Executive Order 13792, this letter affirms our support for California’s National Parks and Monuments, some of which have been designated under the Antiquities Act of 1906.

California is home to a wide array of beautiful and diverse National Parks and National Monuments that millions of visitors from all around the world explore every year. They are an economic driver to many regions throughout the state. Outdoor recreation in California alone generates $85 billion in annual consumer spending, 730,000 jobs, and approximately $6.7 billion in state and local tax revenue. Since President Theodore Roosevelt signed into law the Antiquities Act, presidents from both political parties have used the Act to designate a total of 157 national monuments, thereby safeguarding and preserving some of our country’s most valuable natural treasures for all Americans to enjoy.

In addition to this letter, on June 13, 2017, the California Legislature approved Assembly Joint Resolution 15 (Chapter 85, California Statutes of 2017). This measure expressed California’s strong support to continue protecting our national monuments. After bipartisan passage through both houses of the California Legislature, AJR 15 was transmitted to the President and Vice President of the United States, and to the Secretaries of the United States Departments of the Interior and Agriculture.

While you review the concerns raised in other regions of the country, we urge you to preserve and protect these treasures, including these monuments currently under review in the Golden State:
1. Berryessa Snow Mountain
2. Carrizo Plain
3. Giant Sequoia
4. Mojave Trails
5. Sand to Snow
6. San Gabriel Mountains
7. Cascade Siskiyou

Sincerely,

Catharine B. Baker
Assembly, 16th District

Cecelia Aguiar-Curry
Assemblywoman, 4th District

Jordan Cunningham
Assembly, 35th District

Timothy Grayson
Assembly, 14th District

Sharon Quirk-Silva
Assembly, 65th District

Bill Quirk
Assembly, 20th District

Raul Bocanegra
Assembly, 39th District

Tom Daly
Assembly, 69th District

Shirley Weber
Assembly, 79th District

Laura Friedman
Assembly, 43rd District
Ash Kalra
Assembly, 27th District

Richard Bloom
Assembly, 50th District

David Chiu
Assembly, 17th District

Chris Holden
Assembly, 41st District

Blanca E. Rubio
Assembly, 48th District

Mike Gipson
Assembly, 64th District

Adam Gray
Assembly, 21st District

Lorena Gonzalez Fletcher
Assembly, 80th District

Cristina Garcia
Assemblyman, 58th District

Eloise Gomez Reyes
Assembly, 47th District

Jacqui Irwin
Assembly, 44th District

Todd Gloria
Assembly, 78th District

Sites WSIP application support letter, page 2
Matthew Dababneh  
Assembly, 45th District

Rudy Salas, Jr.  
Assembly, 32nd District

Dante Acosta  
Assembly, 28th District

Marc Steinorth  
Assembly, 40th District

Marc Berman  
Assembly, 24th District

Autumn Burke  
Assembly, 62nd District

Bill Dodd  
Senate, 3rd District

Chad Mayes  
Assembly Minority Leader, 42nd District

Miguel Santiago  
Assembly, 53rd District

Brian Maienschein  
Assembly, 77th District