STATE CAPITOL P.O. BOX 942849 SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0016 (916) 319-2016 FAX (916) 319-2116

DISTRICT OFFICE
2440 CAMINO RAMON, SUITE 345
SAN RAMON, CA 94583
(925) 328-1515
FAX (925) 328-1514





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VICE CHAIR: HIGHER EDUCATION
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JOINT LEGISLATIVE AUDIT

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

Jordan Cunningham Assembly, 35th District

Sharm Quirk-Silva

Sharon Quirk Silva Assembly, 55 District

Raul Bocane tra
Assembly, 39th District

Shirley Weber Assembly, 79th District D 7 9 Cecelia Aguiar-Gurry Assemblywoman, 4th District

Timothy Grayson
Assembly, 14th District

Bill Quisk AD20

Bill Quirk Assembly, 20th District

Tom Daly Assembly, 69th District

Laura Friedman Assembly, 43rd District

Ash Kalra Richard Bloom Assembly, 50th District Assembly, 27th District David Chiu Chris Holden Assembly, 41st District Assembly, 17th District AD 64 new & Kubid M ke Gipson Assembly, 64th District Blanca E. Rubio Assembly, 48th District OBG Morena Gonzalez Fletcher Assembly, 80th District Adam Gray Assembly, 21st District Eloise Gómez Rejes Assemblyman, 58th District Assembly, 47th District

Fodd Gloria

Assembly, 78th District

Jacqui Irwin

Assembly, 44th District

Mentfinde AT66 Patrick O'Donnell Al Muratsuchi Assembly, 70th District Assembly, 66th District Reginald Byron Jones Sawyer, Sr. Assembly, 59th District Assembly, 31st District Assembly, 8th District As embly, 9th District Adrin Nazarian Assembly, 46th District Jim Wood Assembly, 2nd District Kevin McCarty hilip Y. Ting Assembly, 19th District Assembly, 7th District ADU Freddie Rodriguez Assembly, 52nd District ose Médina Assembly, 61st District Kansen Chu Sabrina Cervantes Assembly, 60th District

Assembly, 25th District



Matthew Dababneh Assembly, 45th District

Autumn Burke Assembly, 62nd District

Rudy Salas, Jr. Assembly, 32th District

Joell	Lock
Bill Dodd	
Senate, 3 rd District	

Danle a	Post
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Dante Acosta Assembly, 28th District

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Marc Steinorth Assembly, 40th District

Miguel Santiago Assembly, 53rd District

Marc Berman

Assembly, 24th District

Brian Maienschein Assembly, 77th District