



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

July 7, 2017

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

Dear Secretary Zinke:

California is home to six National Monuments under review pursuant to the April 12, 2017 Executive Order—Berryessa Snow Mountain, Carrizo Plain, Giant Sequoia, Mojave Trails, San Gabriel Mountains, and Sand to Snow. Each of these represents the culmination of a careful process of review and public input spanning many years. Once designated, a National Monument becomes part of our national heritage and the birthright of all future Americans.

Certain National Monuments in California have been studied and shown to have economic benefits greater than the combined costs of maintenance and foregone benefits of private development. But their value is more than economic. Beyond the benefits to local communities, the enhancement of biodiversity and the cultural, aesthetic and even spiritual value of preserving these lands is incalculable. With the impacts of a changing climate, their fundamental importance will only grow.

For these reasons, I'm writing to oppose revoking the designation or changing the boundaries of the state's National Monuments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edmund G. Brown, Jr.", written over a large, stylized "E" that loops around the name.

Edmund G. Brown, Jr.