

FOIA MARKER

This is not a textual record. This is used as an administrative marker by the William J. Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

Collection/Record Group: Clinton Presidential Records
Subgroup/Office of Origin: Counsel Office
Series/Staff Member: Bridget McGovern; Brad Winter
Subseries:

OA/ID Number: 18584
FolderID:

Folder Title:
Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument [Folder 1]: [3]

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
S	105	6	6	3

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR:Elliot J. Diringer (CN=Elliot J. Diringer/OU=CEQ/O=EOP [CEQ])

CREATION DATE/TIME:24-NOV-1999 14:42:27.00

SUBJECT:: draft guidance on Babbitt story

TO:Michele Ballantyne (CN=Michele Ballantyne/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [WHO])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

michele - here's our suggested guidance on the babbitt/monuments stories.
unless there's objection, i'll get back to USA Today using this guidance.

----- Forwarded by Elliot J. Diringer/CEQ/EOP on 11/24/99
01:23 PM -----

Elliot J. Diringer
11/22/99 05:57:47 PM
Record Type: Record

To: George T. Frampton/CEQ/EOP@EOP, Linda Lance/CEQ/EOP@EOP,
Kymberly M. Escobar/CEQ/EOP@EOP
cc:
Subject: draft guidance on Babbitt story

Protecting our nation's natural legacy is one of the President's top priorities. That's why he fought so hard to secure \$651 million for his Lands Legacy initiative in the new budget. Secretary Babbitt, in his travels around the country, has identified a number of areas that may warrant additional protection and he is exploring ways that protection might be provided. As yet, he has made no formal recommendations to the President.

Does the President plan to designate any new monuments?

Before making that kind of decision, the President would want to review the recommendations of Secretary Babbitt and other senior advisors. At the moment there are no proposals or recommendations before the President.

Is Secretary Babbitt acting on instructions from the President?

The Secretary is well aware of the President's strong commitment to protecting important natural and historic sites.

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR:Tim_Ahern@ios.doi.gov (Tim_Ahern@ios.doi.gov [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:11-JAN-2000 15:45:51.00

SUBJECT:: Re: NBC Nitely News - monuments

TO:Kymberly M. Escobar (CN=Kymberly M. Escobar/OU=CEQ/O=EOP [CEQ])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

sorry. yes, she does. fax is 212-664-6044.

Kymberly_M._Escobar@ceq.eop.gov on 01/11/2000 03:29:59 PM

To: Tim Ahern/OCO/OS/DOI@DOI

cc:

Subject: Re: NBC Nitely News - monuments

I never heard back from you on Bit's fax number. Does she no need the maps?

(Embedded

image moved Tim_Ahern@ios.doi.gov
to file: 01/11/2000 03:30:25 PM
PIC12162.PCX)

Record Type: Record

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR:Mail Delivery Subsystem <MAILER-DAEMON@ramsconi.worldweb.net> (Mail Delivery Subsystem

CREATION DATE/TIME:14-DEC-1999 21:40:15.00

SUBJECT.: Warning: could not send message for past 4 hours

TO:Kymberly M. Escobar (CN=Kymberly M. Escobar/OU=CEQ/O=EOP [CEQ])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

```
*****
**      THIS IS A WARNING MESSAGE ONLY      **
**  YOU DO NOT NEED TO RESEND YOUR MESSAGE  **
*****
```

The original message was received at Tue, 14 Dec 1999 17:37:12 -0500
from eop253.eop.gov [198.137.241.53]

----- The following addresses had transient non-fatal errors -----
<prafle@tu.org>

----- Transcript of session follows -----

prafle: Over quota

<prafle@tu.org>... Deferred

Warning: message still undelivered after 4 hours

Will keep trying until message is 1 day, 8 hours old

- attl.unkReturn-path: <Kymberly_M._Escobar@ceq.eop.gov>

Received: from eop2.eop.gov (eop253.eop.gov [198.137.241.53]) by
ramsconi.worldweb.net (8.8.8/8.8.8) with SMTP id RAA12465 for
<prafle@tu.org>; Tue, 14 Dec 1999 17:37:12 -0500

Received: from mhub1.eop.gov ([198.137.241.4]) by EOP.GOV (PMDF V5.2-32
#41140) with SMTP id <01JJHYWXX0S08WWYNY@EOP.GOV> for prafle@tu.org; Tue,
14 Dec 1999 16:50:00 EST

Received: from lngate3.eop.gov ([165.119.3.232]) by mhub.eop.gov (PMDF
V5.2-32 #34437) with SMTP id <01JJHYW5TE1C8ZDXTS@mhub.eop.gov>; Tue, 14
Dec 1999 16:49:18 -0500 (EST)

Received: by lngate3.eop.gov (Lotus SMTP MTA SMTP v4.6 (462.2 9-3-1997)) id
85256847.0077F011 ; Tue, 14 Dec 1999 16:50:02 -0500

Date: Tue, 14 Dec 1999 16:48:14 -0500

From: Kymberly_M._Escobar@ceq.eop.gov

Subject: Fact Sheets on Four Proposed Monuments

To: jmoody@defenders.org, adamk@alaska.org, mcarroll@boo.net,
djohnson@planning.org, kmckeggie@planning.org, jelder@cgb.org,
pschwartz@cleanwater.org, herbettel@coopamerica.org,
rlieberman@defenders.org, kgoldman@defenders.org, jmehta@defenders.org,
gclouser@defenders.org, bsmith@earthjustice.org, tturner@earthjustice.org,
bevans@defenders.org, allison_cobb@edf.org, swan@edf.org, arlie@ems.org,
chris@ems.org, jcoifman@ems.org, kristin@ems.org, lisa@fenton.com,
ccuff@foe.org, brandon@ozone.org, cisber@msn.com, rfeather@defenders.org,
debbie@iwl.org, mnudel@alta.org, lisa_wade@lcv.org, alyson_mccoll@lcv.org,
sbrackett@mineralpolicy.org, jbianchi@audubon.org, pplumart@audubon.org,
rhoppe@audubon.org, dking@environet.org, akavanagh@environet.org,
edickson@environet.org, campusnews@msn.com, juher@npca.org,
bhandler@npca.org, mcnitt@nwf.org, paintl@nwf.org, melissa@nrcanet.org,
lparris@nrdc.org, enegin@nrdc.org, rwillis@nrdc.org, cclusen@nrdc.org,
sglekas@nrdc.org, ametrick@nrdc.org, sharonp@igc.org, henson@publiced
center.org, kim.haddow@sierraclub.org, allen.mattison@sierraclub.org,
cmccue@selcva.org, prafle@tu.org, natalie@2020vision.org, lizh@pirg.org,

dc@worc.org, ben_beach@twc.org, gisele_mcauliffe@twc.org,
jerry_greenberg@twc.org, sue_lomenzo@twc.org, lee.poston@wwfus.org,
vparis@dccmc.org, westrake@bellatlantic.net, b-team@ewg3.ewg.org
Message-id: <85256847.0077B922.02@lmgate3.eop.gov>

MIME-version: 1.0

Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

X-Lotus-FromDomain: EOP

Proposed Grand Canyon?Parashant National Monument

Location:

The proposed monument is located on the Colorado Plateau in northwestern Arizona, within the drainage of the Colorado River. It borders Grand Canyon National Park to the south, the state of Nevada to the west, and encompasses a portion of Lake Mead National Recreation Area.

Description:

The proposed monument's remote open, undeveloped area and engaging scenery is located on the edge of one the most beautiful places on earth--the Grand Canyon. This 1,017,000 acres of federal land (superscript: 1) 804,000 acres are owned by the Bureau of Land Management and 213,000 acres are in the Lake Mead National Recreation Area. 18,000 acres of private land and 22,000 acres of state land are also located within the boundary. (superscript: 1) is a scientific treasure holding many of the same values that have long been protected in Grand Canyon National Park. Deep canyons, mountains, and lonely buttes testify to the power of geological forces and provide colorful vistas. Its Paleozoic and Mesozoic sedimentary rock layers are relatively undeformed and unobscured by vegetation, providing a unique view into the geologic history of the Colorado Plateau. The proposed monument encompasses the lower portion of the Shivwits Plateau. Much of the proposed boundary follows the divide between the Grand Canyon and the Virgin River drainage to the north. The Shivwits Plateau (which is bounded by the Grand Wash Cliffs to the west and by the Hurricane Cliffs to the east) is a part of the larger Colorado Plateau of the region. To the south are the Parashant, Whitmore, and Andrus canyons. The Shivwits Plateau forms an important watershed for the Colorado River and the Grand Canyon. Beyond the phenomenal geological resources, the proposed monument contains countless biological, archeological, and historical resources. This area will be increasingly threatened by potential mineral development and by intensive recreational use from fast growing urban areas in the region.

Management:

The federal lands within the proposed monument are managed by the Department of the Interior through the National Park Service (NPS, within the boundaries of the Lake Mead National Recreation Area) and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). This arrangement would continue, but would be subject to the overriding purposes of protecting the scientific and historic objects for which the monument was created. Currently permitted livestock grazing, hunting, fishing, and similar activities would generally not be affected, nor would the designation affect state or private property or other valid existing rights such as water rights.

Process:

President Teddy Roosevelt first set aside a portion of what is

now the Grand Canyon National Park under the Antiquities Act in 1908.

In 1919, Congress converted the Grand Canyon National Monument to a national park. Additional lands were made national monuments by Presidential Proclamation in 1932 and 1969. Congress enlarged the Park in 1975 to include these lands, but that Act left open whether several drainages north of the Grand Canyon should be protected and directed that the Secretary of the Interior study and issue a report on these lands. Most of the studied lands are included within the proposed monument.

In November 1998, Secretary Babbitt went to Northern Arizona and began a dialogue that has included two more visits, two large public meetings, and more than 59 other meetings with concerned local governments, tribes and other groups regarding the future of these lands. Congressman Bob Stump introduced a bill (H.R. 2795) that would actually have lowered protections in existing law, thus allowing the degradation of these lands in perpetuity. Senator Kyl also introduced legislation on this subject (S. 1560), but no hearings have been held on it.

Proposed California Coastal National Monument

Location:

The proposed monument would include all the islands, rocks, exposed reefs, and pinnacles above the high water mark owned by the U.S. Government along the 840 mile California coast, extending out for 12 miles. (Because of the scattered small bits of land involved, acreage cannot be readily calculated and is not meaningful.) Islands, rocks, exposed reefs, and pinnacles already appropriated or reserved for other purposes would not be affected.

Description:

The proposed monument is a biological treasure. A crucial part of the fragile coastal ecosystem, the islands, rocks, exposed reefs, and pinnacles off the California coast are part of the nearshore ocean zone that begins just off shore and ends at the boundary between the continental shelf and the continental slope. The proposed monument contains many geologic formations that provide unique habitat for biota, such as sensitive feeding and nesting habitat for an estimated 200,000 breeding seabirds, including gulls, the endangered California least tern, and the brown pelican. Development of the mainland has forced seabirds that once fed and nested in the shoreline ecosystem to retreat to the proposed monument. There is also forage and breeding habitat for several mammal species such as the threatened southern sea otter. Future economic or commercial development as well as some recreational use threaten the objects of the proposed monument.

Management:

The federal lands in the area are currently under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in the Department of the Interior. After a monument designation, management would continue under the BLM's existing authorities for the predominant purpose of protecting the objects for which the monument was created. Currently California State Department of Fish and Game manages the area under a Memorandum of Understanding with the BLM. This arrangement could continue (with any necessary revisions to the MOU) following the establishment of the proposed monument. The proposed monument would not enlarge or diminish

state or federal regulatory authority over fishing, oil and gas

development, or other uses of adjacent waters.

Process:

Proposals to protect the California coastline have generally been met with wide acceptance. In June 1999, Congressman Sam Farr of Monterey, California, introduced, for the second time, a bill (H.R. 2277) to designate these islands, rocks, exposed reefs, and pinnacles off the coast of California as wilderness. No hearings have been held on this bill. In September 1999, Secretary Babbitt, accompanied by Congressman Farr as well as state and community leaders, visited the coastline to discuss protection for the rocks and islands including possible designation as a national monument.

###

Proposed Agua Fria National Monument

Location:

The proposed monument is located in central Arizona approximately forty miles north of central Phoenix. The 71,100 acres of federal land comprise two mesas: Perry Mesa and the adjacent, smaller Black Mesa -- the public land to the north of these mesas, and the canyon of the Agua Fria River. Elevations range from 600 feet above sea level along the Agua Fria Canyon to about 4,300 feet in the northern hills.

Description:

The proposed monument contains one of the most significant systems of late prehistoric sites in the American Southwest. Its ancient ruins offer insights into the lives of those who long ago inhabited this part of the desert southwest. At least 450 prehistoric sites are known to exist within the proposed monument, and there are likely many more. Many intact petroglyph sites within the proposed monument contain rock art symbols pecked into the surfaces of boulders and cliff faces. The area also holds an extraordinary record of prehistoric agricultural features, including extensive terraces bounded by lines of rocks and other types of landscape modifications. In addition to its rich record of human history, the proposed monument contains other objects of scientific interest: a diversity of vegetative communities, a wide array of sensitive wildlife species, and native fish. The area, vital open space on the northern edge of the rapidly expanding Phoenix urban area, has already suffered from extensive vandalism.

Management:

The proposed monument would continue to be managed by the Bureau of Land Management for the predominant purpose of protecting the objects for which the monument was created. Currently permitted livestock grazing, hunting, fishing, and similar activities would generally not be affected, nor would private property within the boundary (1,440 acres) or other valid existing rights such as water rights.

Process:

Secretary Babbitt initiated a process in July 1999 to solicit public input and advice about the future management and protection of the Agua Fria region, meeting with leading archeologists, Arizona State officials, and staff from the Arizona delegation. Three public openhouses were held in nearby communities in September 1999 specifically to discuss the area's possible designation as a national

monument.

In October 1999, the Bureau of Land Management forwarded to the Secretary a report of the meeting discussions and an assessment of future management.

###

Pinnacles National Monument Proposed Expansion

Location:

Only 65 miles from San Jose, California, Pinnacles National Monument is about halfway between Hollister and King City, California.

Description:

Pinnacles National Monument was created by President Theodore Roosevelt in 1908 to protect Pinnacle Rocks and the series of caves underlying them, both of scientific interest. Two primary drainage channels cut water gaps through these rocks which were roofed over as large rocks spilled off the adjacent cliffs, slid down the slopes, and became wedged in the tops of gaps to form the talus caves of the monument.

The proposed boundary enlargement is vital to the continued preservation of Pinnacles National Monument's resources. In addition to containing pieces of the same faults that have created the tremendous geological formations throughout the monument, the expansion lands hold some of the headwaters of the monument basin. Over millions of years, flash floods and currents of streams have helped to sculpt the geological features of the monument. The expansion lands also hold important habitat for raptors (such as prairie falcons, golden eagles, and red-tailed hawks), amphibians, and reptiles. The area is threatened by exurban development and by watershed degradation.

Management:

The 7,960 acres of adjacent public lands would be transferred from the Bureau of Land Management to the National Park Service and managed under the same laws and regulations that apply to the rest of the monument. Wilderness Study Areas in the expansion lands would continue to be managed in accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act. Although 2,850 acres of private land are inside the expansion boundary, the private land owners will be unaffected by the designation unless they choose to sell, in which case the lands would become part of the monument.

Process:

Pinnacles was originally designated by President Theodore Roosevelt in 1908, consisting of 2,060 acres, and was expanded five times by subsequent Presidents and once by Congress. This proposed expansion -- discussed at length in local communities in recent years -- would bring important pieces of adjacent public land into Pinnacles National Monument. An expansion, along with wilderness designation, has on two occasions been proposed by Congressman Sam Farr of Monterey, California. No committee hearings have been held on his bill (H.R. 2279). Secretary Babbitt visited Pinnacles National Monument and the adjacent public lands in October 1999 to discuss the expansion proposal with private ranchers and other landowners, and community and environmental leaders.

###

===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====
ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:

Reporting-MTA: dns; ramsconi.worldweb.net
Arrival-Date: Tue, 14 Dec 1999 17:37:12 -0500

Original-Recipient: rfc822;prafle@tu.org
Final-Recipient: RFC822; <prafle@tu.org>
Action: delayed
Status: 4.2.0
Last-Attempt-Date: Tue, 14 Dec 1999 21:37:53 -0500
Will-Retry-Until: Thu, 16 Dec 1999 01:37:12 -0500

===== END ATTACHMENT 1 =====

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR:Mail Delivery Subsystem <MAILER-DAEMON@router.eesi.org> (Mail Delivery Subsystem <MAILER-DAEMON@router.eesi.org>)

CREATION DATE/TIME:12-JAN-1999 13:55:25.00

SUBJECT:: Returned mail: User unknown

TO:Michael V. Terrell (CN=Michael V. Terrell/OU=CEQ/O=EOP [CEQ])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

The original message was received at Tue, 12 Jan 1999 13:47:22 -0500
from gatekeeper.eop.gov [198.137.241.3]

----- The following addresses had delivery problems -----
mike (unrecoverable error)
(expanded from: ":include:/etc/eesi/pubs.list")

----- Transcript of session follows -----
550 /etc/eesi/pubs.list: line 2: mike... User unknown

----- Original message follows -----
Return-path: Michael_V._Terrell@ceq.eop.gov
Received: from gatekeeper.eop.gov (gatekeeper.eop.gov [198.137.241.3]) by
router.eesi.org (8.6.11/8.6.9) with SMTP id NAA01855 for <pubs@eesi.org>;
Tue, 12 Jan 1999 13:47:22 -0500
Received: from lngate3.eop.gov by gatekeeper.eop.gov;
(5.65v3.2/1.1.8.2/170ct95-0424PM) id AA05513; Tue, 12 Jan 1999 13:50:32
-0500
Received: by lngate3.eop.gov(Lotus SMTP MTA SMTP v4.6 (462.2 9-3-1997))
id 852566F7.00678071 ; Tue, 12 Jan 1999 13:50:30 -0500
Date: Tue, 12 Jan 1999 13:48:22 -0500
From: Michael_V._Terrell@ceq.eop.gov
Subject: President Clinton and Vice President: A Historic Commitment to
Preserving Our Lands
To: Helvarg@aol.com, cpope@cq.com, pubs@eesi.org, carey@mh.com,
scook@nationaljournal.com, greenwre@apn.com, cushman@nytimes.com,
mkriz@njdc.com, jnielsen@npr.org, dick_thompson@timemagazine.com,
warrickj@washpost.com, JHebert@ap.org, twatson@usatoday.com, Jo
hn_Fialka%8626695%fax@oa.eop.gov, Art_Pine%8871963%fax@oa.eop.gov,
Vicki_Allen%8988490%fax@oa.eop.gov, christy_george@opb.org,
associated_press%7369699%fax@oa.eop.gov, reuters%8988401%fax@oa.eop.gov,
upi%8988064%fax@oa.eop.gov, upi_2%8988057%fax@oa.eop.gov,
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CNN_Political%5152853%fax@oa.eop.gov, CNN_desk%5152239%fax@oa.eop.gov,
hotmail@njdc.com, Katie McGinty <mcginty@teri.res.in>,
johnsonb@stanford.edu, Lepatko@eenews.net, mgfrodlnicom.com,
sborenstein@krwashington.com
Message-id: <852566F7.00672D82.00@lngate3.eop.gov>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT
X-Lotus-FromDomain: EOP

PRESIDENT CLINTON AND VICE PRESIDENT GORE:
A HISTORIC COMMITMENT TO PRESERVING OUR LANDS
January 12, 1999

Today, at the National Arboretum in Washington, D.C., President Clinton and

Vice President Gore announce a \$1 billion Lands Legacy Initiative -- the largest one-year investment ever in the protection of America's land resources. This FY 2000 budget proposal -- a 125-percent increase over FY 1999 -- expands federal efforts to save America's natural treasures and provides significant new resources to states and communities to protect local green spaces. To sustain these efforts in the new century, the President commits to work with Congress to create a permanent funding stream beginning in FY 2001. In addition, the President calls on Congress to extend permanent wilderness protection to more than 5 million acres within 17 national parks and monuments. This landmark initiative charts a new conservation vision for the 21st century, preserving irreplaceable pieces of our natural legacy within easy reach of every citizen.

Saving America's Natural Treasures. At the start of this century, President Theodore Roosevelt called on Americans to save the best of our natural endowment for all time. His legacy is seen across the country, in our parks, our forests, and our wildlife refuges. President Clinton has continued to fulfill this vision by protecting Yellowstone Park from mining, creating a 1.7 million-acre national monument in Utah's spectacular red-rock country, and forging a historic agreement to save ancient California redwoods. The Lands Legacy Initiative expands these efforts with \$442 million for federal land acquisitions. Priorities include:

- Mojave Desert - Acquiring 450,000 acres within and around Mojave and Joshua Tree National Parks.
- New England Forests - Acquiring additional land within national forests and wildlife refuges in Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire and New York.
- Everglades - Acquiring lands critical to ongoing federal-state restoration efforts.
- Lewis and Clark Trail - Protecting the explorers' historic route along the Missouri River.
- Civil War Battlefields - Acquiring lands within Gettysburg, Antietam and other battlegrounds.

Protecting our Parks. In addition, the President is calling on Congress to grant permanent wilderness protection to over 5 million acres within the backcountry of Yellowstone, Grand Teton, Glacier, Great Smoky Mountains, Cumberland Gap and 12 other national parks and monuments, giving these lands the highest level of federal protection available.

A Conservation Vision for the 21st Century. A new century poses new conservation challenges.

Beyond saving America's "crown jewels," we must work as well to preserve natural wonders in our very backyards that grow scarcer every day. Protecting local green spaces helps improve air and water quality, sustain wildlife, provide families with places to play and relax, and make our communities more livable. Lands Legacy, to be coordinated with the Livability Agenda announced yesterday by Vice President Gore, provides \$588 million to state and local governments, private land trusts, and other nonprofit groups for:

- Land Acquisition Grants - \$150 million in matching grants for land or easements for urban parks, greenways, outdoor recreation, wetlands, and wildlife habitat.
- Planning Grants and Loans - \$50 million in matching grants for open space planning, and \$10 million to support \$50 million in low-interest loans to rural areas for "smart growth" planning and development.
- Farmland Protection - \$50 million for easements on threatened farmland and

open space.

Urban Parks and Forests - \$40 million to maintain and expand urban and community forests, and \$4 million to renovate parks in distressed urban neighborhoods.

Forest and Wildlife Protection - \$50 million for easements to protect critical forest habitat, and \$80 million for habitat conservation plans to protect endangered species.

Protecting our Oceans and Coasts. Lands Legacy includes funds for federal and state efforts to protect ocean and coastal resources: \$29 million to expand and protect national marine sanctuaries; \$90 million to states to protect and restore coastlands; \$19 million to states for estuary protections; and \$45 million to restore coral reefs, fisheries and marine habitats.

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RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR:Paul Bledsoe (CN=Paul Bledsoe/OU=WHCCTF/O=EOP [WHCCTF])

CREATION DATE/TIME:14-DEC-1999 17:01:16.00

SUBJECT:: Fact Sheets on Four Proposed Monuments

TO:Sadamske@usbr.gov (Sadamske@usbr.gov @ inet [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

----- Forwarded by Paul Bledsoe/WHCCTF/EOP on 12/14/99
05:00 PM -----

Kymberly M. Escobar
12/14/99 04:48:14 PM
Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message
cc:
Subject: Fact Sheets on Four Proposed Monuments

Proposed Grand Canyon)Parashant National Monument

Location:

The proposed monument is located on the Colorado Plateau in northwestern Arizona, within the drainage of the Colorado River. It borders Grand Canyon National Park to the south, the state of Nevada to the west, and encompasses a portion of Lake Mead National Recreation Area.

Description:

The proposed monument ,s remote open, undeveloped area and engaging scenery is located on the edge of one the most beautiful places on earth)the Grand Canyon. This 1,017,000 acres of federal land 1 804,000 acres are owned by the Bureau of Land Management and 213,000 acres are in the Lake Mead National Recreation Area. 18,000 acres of private land and 22,000 acres of state land are also located with in the boundary. 1 is a scientific treasure holding many of the same values that have long been protected in Grand Canyon National Park. Deep canyons, mountains, and lonely buttes testify to the power of geological forces and provide colorful vistas. Its Paleozoic and Mesozoic sedimentary rock layers are relatively undeformed and unobscured by vegetation, providing a unique view into the geologic history of the Colorado Plateau. The proposed monument encompasses the lower portion of the Shivwits Plateau. Much of the proposed boundary follows the divide between the Grand Canyon and the Virgin River drainage to the north. The Shivwits Plateau (which is bounded by the Grand Wash Cliffs to the west and by the Hurricane Cliffs to the east) is a part of the larger Colorado Plateau of the region. To the south are the Parashant, Whitmore, and Andrus canyons. The Shivwits Plateau forms an important watershed for the Colorado River and the Grand Canyon. Beyond the phenomenal geological resources, the proposed monument contains countless biological, archeological, and historical resources. This area will be increasingly threatened by potential mineral development and by intensive recreational use from fast growing urban areas in the region.

Management:

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Process:

President Teddy Roosevelt first set aside a portion of what is now the Grand Canyon National Park under the Antiquities Act in 1908. In 1919, Congress converted the Grand Canyon National Monument to a national park. Additional lands were made national monuments by Presidential Proclamation in 1932 and 1969. Congress enlarged the Park in 1975 to include these lands, but that Act left open whether several drainages north of the Grand Canyon should be protected and directed that the Secretary of the Interior study and issue a report on these lands. Most of the studied lands are included within the proposed monument.

In November 1998, Secretary Babbitt went to Northern Arizona and began a dialogue that has included two more visits, two large public meetings, and more than 59 other meetings with concerned local governments, tribes and other groups regarding the future of these lands. Congressman Bob Stump introduced a bill (H.R. 2795) that would actually have lowered protections in existing law, thus allowing the degradation of these lands in perpetuity. Senator Kyl also introduced legislation on this subject (S. 1560), but no hearings have been held on it.

###

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Description:

The proposed monument is a biological treasure. A crucial part of the fragile coastal ecosystem, the islands, rocks, exposed reefs, and pinnacles off the California coast are part of the nearshore ocean zone that begins just off shore and ends at the boundary between the continental shelf and the continental slope. The proposed monument contains many geologic formations that provide unique habitat for biota, such as sensitive feeding and nesting habitat for an estimated 200,000 breeding seabirds, including gulls, the endangered California least tern, and the brown pelican. Development of the mainland has forced seabirds that once fed and nested in the shoreline ecosystem to retreat to the proposed monument. There is also forage and breeding habitat for several mammal species such as the threatened southern sea otter. Future economic or commercial development as well as some recreational use threaten the

objects of the proposed monument.

Management:

The federal lands in the area are currently under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in the Department of the Interior. After a monument designation, management would continue under the BLM's existing authorities for the predominant purpose of protecting the objects for which the monument was created. Currently California State Department of Fish and Game manages the area under a Memorandum of Understanding with the BLM. This arrangement could continue (with any necessary revisions to the MOU) following the establishment of the proposed monument. The proposed monument would not enlarge or diminish state or federal regulatory authority over fishing, oil and gas development, or other uses of adjacent waters.

Process:

Proposals to protect the California coastline have generally been met with wide

acceptance. In June 1999, Congressman Sam Farr of Monterey, California, introduced, for the second time, a bill (H.R. 2277) to designate these islands, rocks, exposed reefs, and pinnacles off the coast of California as wilderness. No hearings have been held on this bill. In September 1999, Secretary Babbitt, accompanied by Congressman Farr as well as state and community leaders, visited the coastline to discuss protection for the rocks and islands including possible designation as a national monument.

###

Proposed Agua Fria National Monument

Location:

The proposed monument is located in central Arizona approximately forty miles north of central Phoenix. The 71,100 acres of federal land comprise two mesas: Perry Mesa and the adjacent, smaller Black Mesa -- the public land to the north of these mesas, and the canyon of the Agua Fria River. Elevations range from 600 feet above sea level along the Agua Fria Canyon to about 4,300 feet in the northern hills.

Description:

The proposed monument contains one of the most significant systems of late prehistoric sites in the American Southwest. Its ancient ruins offer insights into the lives of those who long ago inhabited this part of the desert southwest. At least 450 prehistoric sites are known to exist within the proposed monument, and there are likely many more. Many intact petroglyph sites within the proposed monument contain rock art symbols pecked into the surfaces of boulders and cliff faces. The area also holds an extraordinary record of prehistoric agricultural features, including extensive terraces bounded by lines of rocks and other types of landscape modifications. In addition to its rich record of human history, the proposed monument contains other objects of scientific interest: a diversity of vegetative communities, a wide array of sensitive wildlife species, and native fish. The area, vital open space on the northern edge of the rapidly expanding Phoenix urban area, has already suffered from extensive vandalism.

Management:

The proposed monument would continue to be managed by the Bureau of Land Management for the predominant purpose of protecting the

objects for which the monument was created. Currently permitted livestock

the \$35 million be used to protect the following sites:

COLORADO

Gunnison Basin) The \$2.5 million proposed today would allow the Bureau of Land Management to acquire property contiguous to the Gunnison National Forest that faces development pressure from nearby Crested Butte. This acquisition would help preserve critical elk and Bighorn sheep habitat, communities of threatened and endangered species and scenic views.

Silver Mountain) In a joint partnership with the local community, \$5 million would be used by the Forest Service to acquire lands located near Telluride. This acquisition would provide protection of wildlife habitat and alpine ecosystems and would preserve valuable public recreational resources and open spaces. The historic Alta Townsite would also be preserved and managed under the agreement.

FLORIDA

Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge) The FY 2000 Appropriations Act includes \$2 million for the Fish and Wildlife Service to acquire land for Pelican Island. And additional \$4.6 million proposed today would allow the Service to acquire two key tracts to protect the Island ,s historic and scenic values from escalating residential development.

GEORGIA

Martin Luther King, Jr., National Historic Site) Funding of \$3.5 million would provide a significant down payment toward acquisition of properties surrounding the birth home and burial place of Martin Luther King Jr., including the King Center. The King family intends to donate the birth home and burial to the Park Service upon completion of the other acquisitions.

HAWAII

Hakalau Forest National Wildlife Refuge) The \$1.6 million proposal would allow the Fish and Wildlife Service to acquire a portion of the McCandless Ranch, which supports the last remaining wild population of the alala, or Hawaiian crow. This acquisition would increase the Service ,s ability to control alien species and manage the native plants and animal populations.

IDAHO

Sawtooth National Recreation Area) FY 2000 Appropriations Act includes \$1 million for the Forest Service to make easement acquisitions for critical habitat of threatened and endangered fish species, like bull trout and Chinook salmon. The additional \$1 million proposed today would help move the Service towards acquiring the remaining \$7.5 million of high priority land just east of Boise.

Minnesota

Chippewa National Forest) Located in northern Minnesota, the Chippewa National Forest has a boundary that overlaps with the Leech Lake Reservation. The \$550,000 proposed today would allow the Forest Service to complete acquisition of a 146-acre tract on the shoreline of Leech Lake, allowing a large span of the lakeshore to remain untouched by encroaching development and protecting wetlands and white cedar swamps.

Superior National Forest) Funding of \$500,000 would allow the Forest Service to acquire a key lake front property for recreation and resource protection. This parcel features Native America burial sites, proposed Wild and Scenic River lands and wilderness entry points.

NORTH CAROLINA

Lake Logan) FY 2000 Appropriations Act includes \$1 million for the Forest Service to acquire portions of a tract within the Pisgah National Forest. The additional \$125 million proposed today would allow purchase of more of this tract, which adjoins the Shining Rock Wilderness near the base of Cold Mountain. Preserving these undeveloped lands would protect wilderness and fish and wildlife habitat.

TENNESSEE

Gulf Tract) FY 2000 Appropriations Act includes \$3.5 million for the acquisition of this tract, which is four miles from the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and borders six miles of the Appalachian Trail. An additional \$1 million proposed today would allow the Forest Service to complete the acquisition.

Stones River National Battlefield) FY 2000 Appropriations Act includes \$1.5 million for the National Park Service to purchase land within the national battlefield. The \$2.8 million Title VI request would be used to complete all necessary land acquisition within the current boundary of the national battlefield.

UTAH

Bonneville Shoreline Trail) FY 2000 Appropriations Act includes \$750,000 for the Forest Service to complete the Bonneville Shoreline Trail to serve as an artery for access to other trails and provide urban recreation to more than a million people in the Salt Lake area. An additional \$1million proposed today would allow the complete acquisition of the Harvey property and continued land purchases along the urban interface.

Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument) Funding of \$2 million proposed today would allow the Bureau of Land Management to acquire the & Johnson Lakes 8 property, the largest private inholding within the monument , s boundary, further protecting this land from development and protecting the numerous resources the property contains.

VIRGINIA

Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania County Battlefield Memorial National Military Park) FY 2000 Appropriations Act includes \$2 million for the National Park Service to acquire several of the nine tracts of private land within the national park. An additional \$1 million proposed today would allow the Service to acquire more of these lands.

VIRGIN ISLANDS

Virgin Islands National Park) Funding of \$1.5 million would be used by the National Park Service toward acquisition of property known as Estate Maho Bay within the park boundary. The funds would allow the NPS to further protect park resources.

WASHINGTON

Mountains to Sound Greenway I-90 Plum Creek Land) FY 2000 Appropriations Act includes \$2.5 million to allow the Forest Service to begin acquiring lands from the Plum Creek Company as part of a greenway along the I-90 corridor near Seattle. An additional \$3.7 million proposed today would allow the Forest Service to improve public access to existing public land and enhance management of the fragile ecosystem, which supports several threatened and endangered species.

WYOMING

Royal Teton Ranch) Funding of \$500,000 would be used to retire grazing permits from willing sellers on the recently acquired Royal Teton Ranch, just outside Yellowstone National Park, ensuring additional winter range for Yellowstone bison.

MULTI STATE

Chattooga Wild & Scenic Ecosystem) The Chattooga Wild and Scenic River, flowing through North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia, is one of the Forest Service ,s most popular recreation destinations in the South. Funding of \$1 million would allow acquisition of critical land to protect unique plant communities and provide habitat for threatened and endangered species.

###

Proposed California Coastal National Monument

Location:

The proposed monument would include all the islands, rocks, exposed reefs, and pinnacles above the high water mark owned by the U.S. Government along the 840 mile California coast, extending out for 12 miles. (Because of the scattered small bits of land involved, acreage cannot be readily calculated and is not meaningful.) Islands, rocks, exposed reefs, and pinnacles already appropriated or reserved for other purposes would not be affected.

Description:

The proposed monument is a biological treasure. A crucial part of the fragile coastal ecosystem, the islands, rocks, exposed reefs, and pinnacles off the California coast are part of the nearshore ocean zone that begins just off shore and ends at the boundary between the continental shelf and the continental slope. The proposed monument contains many geologic formations that provide unique habitat for biota, such as sensitive feeding and nesting habitat for an estimated 200,000 breeding seabirds, including gulls, the endangered California least tern, and the brown pelican. Development of the mainland has forced seabirds that once fed and nested in the shoreline ecosystem to retreat to the proposed monument. There is also forage and breeding habitat for several mammal species such as the threatened southern sea otter. Future economic or commercial development as well as some recreational use threaten the objects of the proposed monument.

Management:

The federal lands in the area are currently under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in the Department of the Interior. After a monument designation, management would continue under the BLM ,s existing authorities for the predominant purpose of protecting the objects for which the monument was created. Currently

California State Department of Fish and Game manages the area under a

Memorandum of Understanding with the BLM. This arrangement could continue (with any necessary revisions to the MOU) following the establishment of the proposed monument. The proposed monument would not enlarge or diminish state or federal regulatory authority over fishing, oil and gas development, or other uses of adjacent waters.

Process:

Proposals to protect the California coastline have generally been met with wide acceptance. In June 1999, Congressman Sam Farr of Monterey, California, introduced, for the second time, a bill (H.R. 2277) to designate these islands, rocks, exposed reefs, and pinnacles off the coast of California as wilderness. No hearings have been held on this bill. In September 1999, Secretary Babbitt, accompanied by Congressman Farr as well as state and community leaders, visited the coastline to discuss protection for the rocks and islands including possible designation as a national monument.

###

Proposed Agua Fria National Monument

Location:

The proposed monument is located in central Arizona approximately forty miles north of central Phoenix. The 71,100 acres of federal land comprise two mesas (Perry Mesa and the adjacent, smaller Black Mesa) the public land to the north of these mesas, and the canyon of the Agua Fria River. Elevations range from 600 feet above sea level along the Agua Fria Canyon to about 4,300 feet in the northern hills.

Description:

The proposed monument contains one of the most significant systems of late prehistoric sites in the American Southwest. Its ancient ruins offer insights into the lives of those who long ago inhabited this part of the desert southwest. At least 450 prehistoric sites are known to exist within the proposed monument, and there are likely many more. Many intact petroglyph sites within the proposed monument contain rock art symbols pecked into the surfaces of boulders and cliff faces. The area also holds an extraordinary record of prehistoric agricultural features, including extensive terraces bounded by lines of rocks and other types of landscape modifications. In addition to its rich record of human history, the proposed monument contains other objects of scientific interest: a diversity of vegetative communities, a wide array of sensitive wildlife species, and native fish. The area, vital open space on the northern edge of the rapidly expanding Phoenix urban area, has already suffered from extensive vandalism.

Management:

The proposed monument would continue to be managed by the Bureau of Land Management for the predominant purpose of protecting the objects for which the monument was created. Currently permitted livestock grazing, hunting, fishing, and similar activities would generally not be affected, nor would private property within the boundary (1,440 acres) or other valid existing rights such as water rights.

Process:

Secretary Babbitt initiated a process in July 1999 to solicit public input and advice about the future management and protection of the Agua Fria region, meeting with leading archeologists, Arizona State

officials, and staff from the Arizona delegation. Three public open

houses were held in nearby communities in September 1999 specifically to discuss the area ,s possible designation as a national monument. In October 1999, the Bureau of Land Management forwarded to the Secretary a report of the meeting discussions and an assessment of future management.

###

Pinnacles National Monument Proposed Expansion

Location:

Only 65 miles from San Jose, California, Pinnacles National Monument is about halfway between Hollister and King City, California.

Description:

Pinnacles National Monument was created by President Theodore Roosevelt in 1908 to protect Pinnacle Rocks and the series of caves underlying them, both of scientific interest. Two primary drainage channels cut water gaps through these rocks which were roofed over as large rocks spilled off the adjacent cliffs, slid down the slopes, and became wedged in the tops of gaps to form the talus caves of the monument.

The proposed boundary enlargement is vital to the continued preservation of Pinnacles National Monument ,s resources. In addition to containing pieces of the same faults that have created the tremendous geological formations throughout the monument, the expansion lands hold some of the headwaters of the monument basin. Over millions of years, flash floods and currents of streams have helped to sculpt the geological features of the monument. The expansion lands also hold important habitat for raptors (such as prairie falcons, golden eagles, and red-tailed hawks), amphibians, and reptiles. The area is threatened by exurban development and by watershed degradation.

Management:

The 7,960 acres of adjacent public lands would be transferred from the Bureau of Land Management to the National Park Service and managed under the same laws and regulations that apply to the rest of the monument. Wilderness Study Areas in the expansion lands would continue to be managed in accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act. Although 2,850 acres of private land are inside the expansion boundary, the private land owners will be unaffected by the designation unless they choose to sell, in which case the lands would become part of the monument.

Process:

Pinnacles was originally designated by President Theodore Roosevelt in 1908, consisting of 2,060 acres, and was expanded five times by subsequent Presidents and once by Congress. This proposed expansion) discussed at length in local communities in recent years)would bring important pieces of adjacent public land into Pinnacles National Monument. An expansion, along with wilderness designation, has on two occasions been proposed by Congressman Sam Farr of Monterey, California. No committee hearings have been held on his bill (H.R. 2279). Secretary Babbitt visited Pinnacles National Monument and the adjacent public lands in October 1999 to discuss the expansion proposal with private ranchers and other landowners, and community and environmental leaders.

###

Proposed Grand Canyon)Parashant National Monument

Location:

The proposed monument is located on the Colorado Plateau in northwestern Arizona, within the drainage of the Colorado River. It borders Grand Canyon National Park to the south, the state of Nevada to the west, and encompasses a portion of Lake Mead National Recreation Area.

Description:

The proposed monument is a remote open, undeveloped area and engaging scenery is located on the edge of one of the most beautiful places on earth - the Grand Canyon. This 1,017,000 acres of federal land 1 804,000 acres are owned by the Bureau of Land Management and 213,000 acres are in the Lake Mead National Recreation Area. Within the boundary is also found 18,000 acres of private land and 22,000 acres of state land. 1 is a scientific treasure holding many of the same values that have long been protected in Grand Canyon National Park. Deep canyons, mountains, and lonely buttes testify to the power of geological forces and provide colorful vistas. Its Paleozoic and Mesozoic sedimentary rock layers are relatively undeformed and unobscured by vegetation, offering a clear view to understanding the process of the geologic history of the Colorado Plateau. The proposed monument encompasses the lower portion of the Shivwits Plateau, bounded by the Grand Wash Cliffs to the west and by the Hurricane Cliffs to the east. Much of the proposed boundary follows the divide between the Grand Canyon and the Virgin River drainage to the north. The Shivwits Plateau is a part of the larger Colorado Plateau of the region. To the south are the Parashant, Whitmore, and Andrus canyons. The Shivwits Plateau forms an important watershed for the Colorado River and the Grand Canyon. Beyond the phenomenal geological resources, the proposed monument contains countless biological, archeological, and historical resources. This area will be increasingly threatened by potential mineral development and by intensive recreational use from fast growing urban areas in the region.

Management:

The federal lands within the proposed monument are managed by the Department of the Interior through the National Park Service (NPS, within the boundaries of the Lake Mead National Recreation Area) and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). This arrangement would continue, but would be subject to the overriding purposes of protecting the scientific and historic objects for which the monument was created. Currently permitted livestock grazing, hunting, fishing, and similar activities would generally not be affected, nor would the designation affect state or private property or other valid existing rights such as water rights.

Process:

President Teddy Roosevelt first set aside a portion of what is now the Grand Canyon National Park under the Antiquities Act in 1908. In 1919, Congress converted the Grand Canyon National Monument to a national park. Additional lands were made national monuments by Presidential Proclamation in 1932 and 1969. Congress enlarged

Proposed Grand Canyon - Parashant National Monument [continued]

the Park in 1975 to include these lands, but that Act left open whether several drainages north of the Grand Canyon should be protected and directed that the Secretary of the Interior study and issue a report on these lands. Most of the studied lands are included within the proposed monument.

In November 1998, Secretary Babbitt came to Northern Arizona and

grazing, hunting, fishing, and similar activities would generally not be affected, nor would private property within the boundary (1,440 acres) or other valid existing rights such as water rights.

Process:

Secretary Babbitt initiated a process in July 1999 to solicit public input and advice about the future management and protection of the Agua Fria region, meeting with leading archeologists, Arizona State officials, and staff from the Arizona delegation. Three public open houses were held in nearby communities in September 1999 specifically to discuss the area ,s possible designation as a national monument.

In October 1999, the Bureau of Land Management forwarded to the Secretary a report of the meeting discussions and an assessment of future management.

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Location:

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The proposed boundary enlargement is vital to the continued preservation of Pinnacles National Monument ,s resources. In addition to containing pieces of the same faults that have created the tremendous geological formations throughout the monument, the expansion lands hold some of the headwaters of the monument basin. Over millions of years, flash floods and currents of streams have helped to sculpt the geological features of the monument. The expansion lands also hold important habitat for raptors (such as prairie falcons, golden eagles, and red-tailed hawks), amphibians, and reptiles. The area is threatened by exurban development and by watershed degradation.

Management:

The 7,960 acres of adjacent public lands would be transferred from the Bureau of Land Management to the National Park Service and managed under the same laws and regulations that apply to the rest of the monument. Wilderness Study Areas in the expansion lands would continue to be managed in accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act. Although 2,850 acres of private land are inside the expansion boundary, the private land owners will be unaffected by the designation unless they choose to sell, in which case the lands would become part of the monument.

Process:

Pinnacles was originally designated by President Theodore Roosevelt in 1908, consisting of 2,060 acres, and was expanded five times by subsequent Presidents and once by Congress. This proposed expansion -- discussed at length in local communities in recent years--would bring important pieces of adjacent public land into Pinnacles National Monument. An expansion, along with wilderness designation, has on two occasions been proposed by Congressman Sam Farr of Monterey, California. No committee hearings have been held on his bill (H.R. 2279). Secretary Babbitt visited Pinnacles National Monument and the adjacent public lands in October 1999 to discuss the expansion proposal with private ranchers and other landowners, and community and environmental leaders.

###

Message Sent

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Potentially Printed

George T. Frampton
12/08/99 12:52:50 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Elliot J. Diringer/CEQ/EOP@EOP
cc:
Subject: Monday POTUS National Monument Announcement

----- Forwarded by George T. Frampton/CEQ/EOP on 12/08/99 12:52 PM -----

George T. Frampton
12/08/99 12:52:16 PM

Record Type: Record

To: Albert Gore/OVP@OVP
cc: Charles W. Burson/OVP@OVP, Monica M. Dixon/OVP@OVP
Subject: Monday POTUS National Monument Announcement

I met with John Podesta and Bruce Babbitt last night. Babbitt is recommending that the President go forward in the near future to designate four of the national monument proposals that Babbitt has been "previewing" over the past year in his nationwide conservation tour. Two are in Arizona and two in California.

Podesta has talked to the President, who wants to announce at 9 a.m. next Monday morning (Dec. 13) that he has received Babbitt's recommendation, is looking favorably on it, will study the details, and will make a final decision "early in the new year." The plan is to treat this very close hold, advance the story the NY Times Sunday evening, and do notification calls Sunday afternoon to Arizona and California congressional members, the two Governors, and the chairs and ranking of the authorizing committees (Merkowski, Don Young, Bingaman, and Geo. Miller).

The first and by far the biggest proposal is an area of about a million acres of BLM land bordering the northwest corner of Grand Canyon National Park, called the Shivits Plateau. Babbitt has temporarily withdrawn the area from mining, visited it a number of times, held hearings, and encouraged the delegation to protect it through a legislative monument proposal. Rep. Stumpf, in whose district this is, has introduced such a bill but it is not protective. He and Governor Jane Hull will strongly oppose. Sen. McCain has been in the middle on this proposal and might go either way following the President's announcement: accuse him of usurpation, or agree with moving forward with protection.

The other three proposals are small and likely to be entirely noncontroversial. One is an archeological area north of Phoenix called Black Mesa (Agua Fria River), also BLM land. Designation would help protect these resources against sprawl pressures from Phoenix suburbs. Another is an expansion of Pinnacles National Monument in California, managed by the Park Service. Pinnacles was created by Hoover, expanded by FDR. The last is a set of small islands off the California Coast. The two California proposals are mostly in Sam Farr's district, and he's very supportive. (There are some islands in Lynn Woolsey's and Mike Thompson's districts. Similar islands off the Oregon coast are all protected as a National Wildlife

Refuge.) I expect that virtually all of the California delegation will cheer the idea of the California designations.

Environmentalists will strongly support all the designations, although these are not places that are immediately threatened and therefore not necessarily as high on their priority list as some of our other initiatives. The impetus here is coming from Secretary Babbitt, not the environmental community. In addition to some opposition from elected officials in Arizona, there are some local ranchers and probably "wise use" advocates in Arizona who will be opposed. I'm not aware of any interests in California that will be opposed.

Let me know if you want more info via e-mail, or need to discuss. Thanks.

**PRESIDENT CLINTON:
PROTECTING AMERICA'S NATURAL AND HISTORIC TREASURES**

December 14, 1999

President Clinton will make two announcements today on new and proposed actions to protect critical lands around the country. The Administration will forward to Congress a list of 18 natural and historic sites proposed for protection with \$35 million secured through the Administration's Lands Legacy initiative. The President also will announce that he is studying recommendations from Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt for the creation or enlargement of four national monuments on federal lands in Arizona and California.

Preserving America's Lands Legacy. As part of the recent budget agreement, the President secured \$64 million in FY 2000 for his Lands Legacy initiative, a 42 percent increase. About a third of the funding will support efforts by states and communities to protect farms, forests, urban parks, and other local green spaces. Much of the rest is committed to federal acquisition of New Mexico's Baca Ranch and other specified lands from the Everglades to the California desert. The remaining \$35 million is available for federal acquisition of other sites. Today, the Administration will propose to the Appropriations committees, for their concurrence, protection of 18 sites, including:

- Expansion of Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge in Florida -- America's first refuge, established by President Theodore Roosevelt in 1903 -- to protect habitat of the endangered wood stork, endangered manatee, and juvenile sea turtles (\$4.6 million).
- Steps toward acquisition of the Atlanta birth home and burial place of the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., and neighboring properties within the Martin Luther King, Jr., National Historic Site (\$3.5 million).
- Expansion of Hakalau Forest National Wildlife Refuge on Hawaii's Big Island, including habitat for nine endangered bird and plant species (\$1.6 million).
- Additions to two Civil War battlefields -- Stones River in Tennessee, and Fredericksburg-Spotsylvania in Virginia (\$3.8 million).
- Land surrounding Lake Logan and adjoining the Shining Rock Wilderness in Pisgah National Forest, at the foot of North Carolina's Cold Mountain (\$1.25 million).
- Additional acreage within the Mountains-to-Sound Greenway linking the Cascade Range to Puget Sound in Washington state (\$3.7 million).

Proposed National Monuments. President Clinton will announce that he has received recommendations from Secretary Babbitt for the creation or expansion of four national monuments on federal lands in Arizona and California. The President, who had requested that the Secretary report to him on unique places in need of additional protection, plans to study the recommendations and reach a decision on each proposal early next year. The Secretary is recommending:

- Designation of a new 1 million-acre Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument on the north rim of the Grand Canyon.
- Designation of a new 71,100-acre Agua Fria National Monument on federal lands north that contain hundreds of prehistoric sites with petroglyphs and ancient ruins.
- Designation of a new California Coastal National Monument encompassing thousands of public-owned islands, rocks, and reefs off the California Coast.
- An 8,000-acre expansion of Pinnacles National Monument 65 miles south of San Jose to protect the monument's unique geologic resources.

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LANDS PROPOSED FOR PROTECTION WITH FY 2000 LANDS LEGACY FUNDING

December 14, 1999

As part of the recent budget agreement, President Clinton secured \$652 million in FY 2000 for his Lands Legacy initiative, a 42 percent increase. About a third of the funding will support efforts by states and communities to protect farms, forests, urban parks, and other local green spaces. Much of the rest is committed to federal acquisition of New Mexico's Baca Ranch and other specified lands, from the Everglades to the California desert. The remaining \$35 million is available for federal acquisition and protection of other sites. Today, the Administration is proposing to the Appropriations committees, for their concurrence, that the \$35 million be used to protect the following sites:

COLORADO

Gunnison Basin – The \$2.5 million proposed today would allow the Bureau of Land Management to help preserve critical elk and Bighorn sheep habitat, communities of threatened and endangered species and scenic views.

Silver Mountain – In a joint partnership with the local community, \$5 million would be used by the Forest Service to acquire lands located near Telluride. This acquisition would provide protection of wildlife habitat and alpine ecosystems and would preserve valuable public recreational resources and open spaces. The historic Alta Townsite would also be preserved and managed under the agreement.

FLORIDA

Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge – The FY 2000 Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act includes \$2 million for the Fish and Wildlife Service to acquire land for Pelican Island. And additional \$4.6 million proposed today would allow the Service to acquire two key tracts to protect the Island's historic and scenic values from escalating residential development.

GEORGIA

Martin Luther King, Jr., National Historic Site – Funding of \$3.5 million would provide a significant down payment toward acquisition of properties surrounding the birth home and burial place of Martin Luther King Jr., including the King Center. The King family intends to donate the birth home and burial to the Park Service upon completion of the other acquisitions.

HAWAII

Hakalau Forest National Wildlife Refuge – The \$1.6 million proposal would allow the Fish and Wildlife Service to acquire a portion of the McCandless Ranch, which supports the last remaining wild population of the alala, or Hawaiian crow. This acquisition would increase the Service's ability to control alien species and manage the native plants and animal populations.

IDAHO

Sawtooth National Recreation Area – The FY 2000 Appropriations Act includes \$1 million for the Forest Service to make easement acquisitions for critical habitat of threatened and endangered fish species, like bull trout and Chinook salmon. The additional \$1 million proposed today would help move the Service towards acquiring the remaining \$7.5 million of high priority land just east of Boise.

Minnesota

Chippewa National Forest – Located in northern Minnesota, the Chippewa National Forest has a boundary that overlaps with the Leech Lake Reservation. The \$550,000 proposed today would allow the Forest Service to complete acquisition of a 146-acre tract on the shoreline of Leech Lake, allowing a large span of the lakeshore to remain untouched by encroaching development and protecting wetlands and white cedar swamps.

Superior National Forest – Funding of \$500,000 would allow the Forest Service to acquire a key lake front property for recreation and resource protection. This parcel features Native America burial sites, proposed Wild and Scenic River lands and wilderness entry points.

NORTH CAROLINA

Lake Logan – The FY 2000 Appropriations Act includes \$1 million for the Forest Service to acquire portions of a tract within the Pisgah National Forest. The additional \$1.25 million proposed today would allow purchase of more of this tract, which adjoins the Shining Rock Wilderness near the base of Cold Mountain. Preserving these undeveloped lands would protect wilderness and fish and wildlife habitat.

TENNESSEE

Gulf Tract – The FY 2000 Appropriations Act includes \$3.5 million for the acquisition of this tract, which is four miles from the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and borders six miles of the Appalachian Trail. An additional \$1 million proposed today would allow the Forest Service to complete the acquisition.

Stones River National Battlefield – The FY 2000 Appropriations Act includes \$1.5 million for the National Park Service to purchase land within the national battlefield. The \$2.8 million Title VI request would be used to complete all necessary land acquisition within the current boundary of the national battlefield.

UTAH

Bonneville Shoreline Trail – The FY 2000 Appropriations Act includes \$750,000 for the Forest Service to complete the Bonneville Shoreline Trail to serve as an artery for access to other trails and provide urban recreation to more than a million people in the Salt Lake area. An additional \$1million proposed today would allow the complete acquisition of the Harvey property and

continued land purchases along the urban interface.

Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument – The \$2 million proposed today would allow the Bureau of Land Management to protect key land from development, preserving the numerous resources the property contains.

VIRGINIA

Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania County Battlefield Memorial National Military Park – The FY 2000 Appropriations Act includes \$2 million for the National Park Service to acquire several of the nine tracts of private land within the national park. An additional \$1 million proposed today would allow the Service to acquire more of these lands.

VIRGIN ISLANDS

Virgin Islands National Park – Funding of \$1.5 million would be used by the National Park Service toward acquisition of property known as Estate Maho Bay within the park boundary. The funds would allow the NPS to further protect park resources.

WASHINGTON

Mountains to Sound Greenway – The FY 2000 Appropriations Act includes \$2.5 million to allow the Forest Service to begin acquiring lands as part of a greenway along the I-90 corridor near Seattle. An additional \$3.7 million proposed today would allow the Forest Service to improve public access to existing public land and enhance management of the fragile ecosystem, which supports several threatened and endangered species.

WYOMING

Royal Teton Ranch – Funding of \$500,000 would be used to retire grazing permits from willing sellers on the recently acquired Royal Teton Ranch, just outside Yellowstone National Park, ensuring additional winter range for Yellowstone bison.

MULTI -STATE

Chattooga Wild & Scenic Ecosystem – The Chattooga Wild and Scenic River, flowing through North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia, is one of the Forest Service's most popular recreation destinations in the South. Funding of \$1 million would allow acquisition of critical land to protect unique plant communities and provide habitat for threatened and endangered species.

###

Proposed Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument

Location: The proposed monument is located on the Colorado Plateau in northwestern Arizona, within the drainage of the Colorado River. It borders Grand Canyon National Park to the south, the state of Nevada to the west, and encompasses a portion of Lake Mead National Recreation Area.

Description: The proposed monument's remote open, undeveloped area and engaging scenery is located on the edge of one of the most beautiful places on earth—the Grand Canyon. This 1,017,000 acres of federal land¹ is a scientific treasure holding many of the same values that have long been protected in Grand Canyon National Park. Deep canyons, mountains, and lonely buttes testify to the power of geological forces and provide colorful vistas. Its Paleozoic and Mesozoic sedimentary rock layers are relatively undeformed and unobscured by vegetation, offering a clear view to understanding the process of the geologic history of the Colorado Plateau. The proposed monument encompasses the lower portion of the Shivwits Plateau. Much of the proposed boundary follows the divide between the Grand Canyon and the Virgin River drainage to the north. The Shivwits Plateau (which is bounded by the Grand Wash Cliffs to the west and by the Hurricane Cliffs to the east) is a part of the larger Colorado Plateau of the region. To the south are the Parashant, Whitmore, and Andrus canyons. The Shivwits Plateau forms an important watershed for the Colorado River and the Grand Canyon. Beyond the phenomenal geological monument contains countless biological, archeological, and historical resources increasingly threatened by potential mineral development and by intensive re-growing urban areas in the region.

Management: The federal lands within the proposed monument are managed by the National Park Service (NPS, within the boundaries of the Lake Mead National Recreation Area) and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). This arrangement would be subject to the overriding purposes of protecting the scientific and historic objects that were created. Currently permitted livestock grazing, hunting, fishing, and mining would not be affected, nor would the designation affect state or private property or mineral or water rights.

Process: President Teddy Roosevelt first set aside a portion of what is now Grand Canyon National Park under the Antiquities Act in 1908. In 1919, Congress converted the Grand Canyon into a national park. Additional lands were made national monuments by Presidential Proclamation in 1939 and 1969. Congress enlarged the Park in 1975 to include these lands, but that action was limited to several drainages north of the Grand Canyon should be protected and directed that the Secretary of the Interior study and issue a report on these lands. Most of the studied lands are included within the proposed monument.

In November 1998, Secretary Babbitt came to Northern Arizona and began a dialogue that has included two more Secretarial visits, two large public meetings, and more than 59 other meetings with concerned local governments, tribes and other groups regarding the future of these lands. Congressman Bob Stump introduced a bill (H.R. 2795) that would have established a National Conservation Area in this area in August 1999, but this bill actually would lower protections in existing law, thus allowing the degradation of these lands in perpetuity. Senator Kyl also introduced legislation on this subject (S. 1560), but no hearings have been held on it.

¹ 804,000 acres are owned by the Bureau of Land Management and 213,000 acres are in the Lake Mead National Recreation Area. Within the boundary is also found 18,000 acres of private land and 22,000 acres of state land.

Proposed Agua Fria National Monument

- Location:** The proposed monument is located in central Arizona approximately forty miles north of central Phoenix. The 71,100 acres of federal land comprise two mesas—Perry Mesa and the adjacent, smaller Black Mesa – the public land to the north of these mesas, and the canyon of the Agua Fria River. Elevations range from 600 feet above sea level along the Agua Fria Canyon to about 4,300 feet in the northern hills.
- Description:** The proposed monument contains one of the most significant systems of late prehistoric sites in the American Southwest. Its ancient ruins offer insights into the lives of those who long ago inhabited this part of the desert southwest. At least 450 prehistoric sites are known to exist within the proposed monument, and there are likely many more. Many intact petroglyph sites within the proposed monument contain rock art symbols pecked into the surfaces of boulders and cliff faces. The area also holds an extraordinary record of prehistoric agricultural features, including extensive terraces bounded by lines of rocks and other types of landscape modifications. In addition to its rich record of human history, the proposed monument contains other objects of scientific interest: a diversity of vegetative communities, a wide array of sensitive wildlife species, and native fish. The area, vital open space on the northern edge of the rapidly expanding Phoenix urban area, has already suffered from extensive vandalism.
- Management:** The proposed monument would continue to be managed by the Bureau of Land Management for the predominant purpose of protecting the objects for which the monument was created. Currently permitted livestock grazing, hunting, fishing, and similar activities would generally not be affected, nor would private property within the boundary (1,440 acres) or other valid existing rights such as water rights.
- Process:** Secretary Babbitt initiated a process in July 1999 to solicit public input and advice about the future management and protection of the Agua Fria region, meeting with leading archeologists, Arizona State officials, and staff from the Arizona delegation. Three public open houses were held in nearby communities in September 1999 specifically to discuss the area's possible designation as a national monument. In October 1999, the Bureau of Land Management forwarded to the Secretary a report of the meeting discussions and an assessment of future management.

Proposed California Coastal National Monument

- Location:** The proposed monument would include all the islands, rocks, exposed reefs, and pinnacles above the high water mark owned by the U.S. Government along the 840 mile California coast, extending out for 12 miles. (Because of the scattered small bits of land involved, acreage cannot be readily calculated and is not meaningful.) Islands, rocks, exposed reefs, and pinnacles already appropriated or reserved for other purposes would not be affected.
- Description:** The proposed monument is a biological treasure. A crucial part of the fragile coastal ecosystem, the islands, rocks, exposed reefs, and pinnacles off the California coast are part of the nearshore ocean zone that begins just off shore and ends at the boundary between the continental shelf and the continental slope. The proposed monument contains many geologic formations that provide unique habitat for biota, such as sensitive feeding and nesting habitat for an estimated 200,000 breeding seabirds, including gulls, the endangered California least tern, and the brown pelican. Development of the mainland has forced seabirds that once fed and nested in the shoreline ecosystem to retreat to the proposed monument. There is also forage and breeding habitat for several mammal species such as the threatened southern sea otter. Future economic or commercial development as well as some recreational use threaten the objects of the proposed monument.
- Management:** The federal lands in the area are currently under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in the Department of the Interior. After a monument designation, management would continue under the BLM's existing authorities for the predominant purpose of protecting the objects for which the monument was created. Currently California State Department of Fish and Game manages the area under a Memorandum of Understanding with the BLM. This arrangement could continue (with any necessary revisions to the MOU) following the establishment of the proposed monument. The proposed monument would not enlarge or diminish state or federal regulatory authority over fishing, oil and gas development, or other uses of adjacent waters.
- Process:** Proposals to protect the California coastline have generally been met with wide acceptance. In June 1999, Congressman Sam Farr of Monterey, California, introduced, for the second time, a bill (H.R. 2277) to designate these islands, rocks, exposed reefs, and pinnacles off the coast of California as wilderness. No hearings have been held on this bill. In September 1999, Secretary Babbitt, accompanied by Congressman Farr as well as state and community leaders, visited the coastline to discuss protection for the rocks and islands including possible designation as a national monument.

Pinnacles National Monument Proposed Expansion

Location: Only 65 miles from San Jose, California, Pinnacles National Monument is about halfway between Hollister and King City, California.

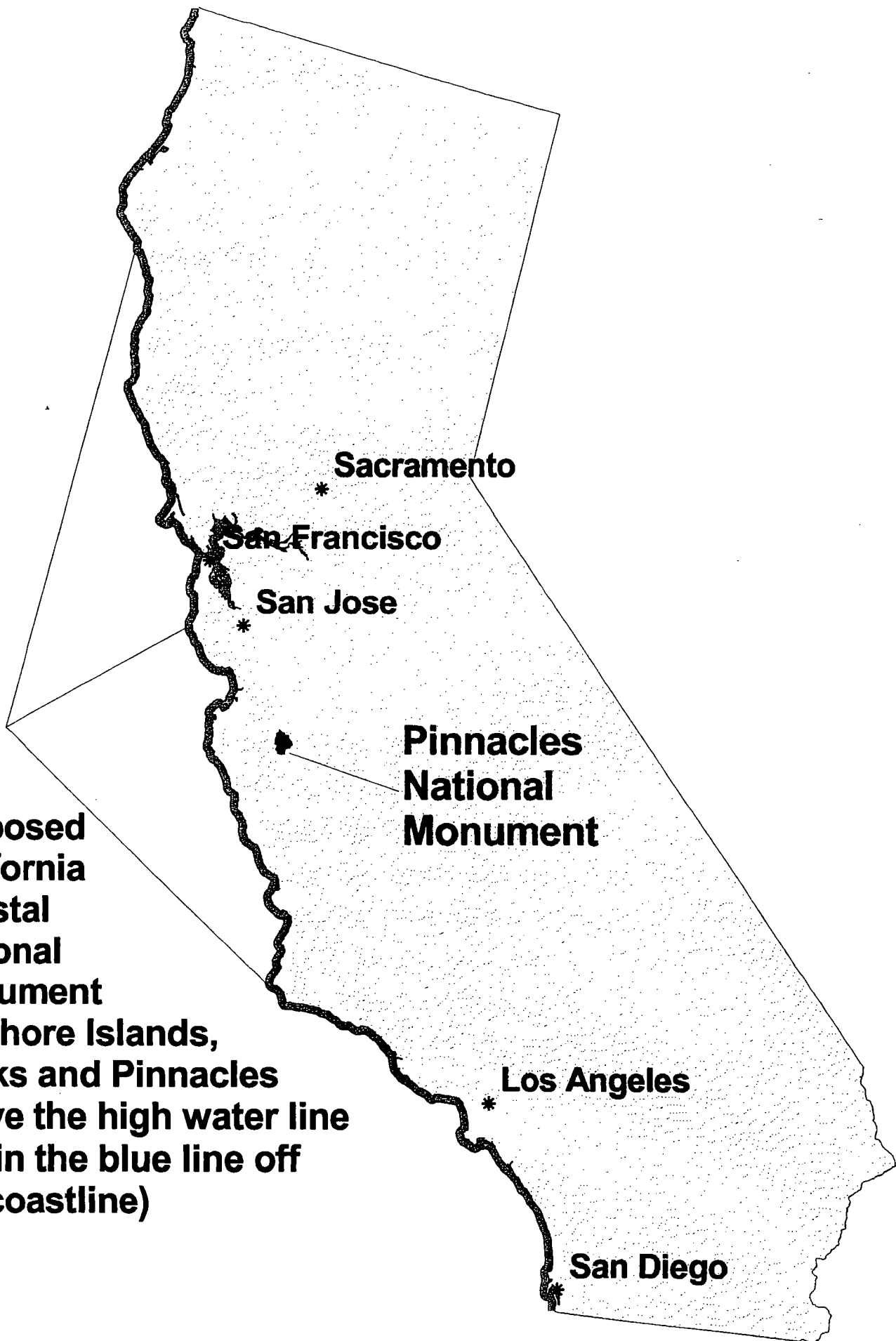
Description: Pinnacles National Monument was created by President Theodore Roosevelt in 1908 to protect Pinnacle Rocks and the series of caves underlying them, both of scientific interest. Two primary drainage channels cut water gaps through these rocks which were roofed over as large rocks spilled off the adjacent cliffs, slid down the slopes, and became wedged in the tops of gaps to form the talus caves of the monument.

The proposed boundary enlargement is vital to the continued preservation of Pinnacles National Monument's resources. In addition to containing pieces of the same faults that have created the tremendous geological formations throughout the monument, the expansion lands hold some of the headwaters of the monument basin. Over millions of years, flash floods and currents of streams have helped to sculpt the geological features of the monument. The expansion lands also hold important habitat for raptors (such as prairie falcons, golden eagles, and red-tailed hawks), amphibians, and reptiles. The area is threatened by exurban development and by watershed degradation.

Management: The 7,960 acres of adjacent public lands would be transferred from the Bureau of Land Management to the National Park Service and managed under the same laws and regulations that apply to the rest of the monument. Wilderness Study Areas in the expansion lands would continue to be managed in accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act. Although 2,850 acres of private land are inside the expansion boundary, the private land owners will be unaffected by the designation unless they choose to sell, in which case the lands would become part of the monument.

Process: Pinnacles was originally designated by President Theodore Roosevelt in 1908, consisting of 2,060 acres, and was expanded five times by subsequent Presidents and once by Congress. This proposed expansion—discussed at length in local communities in recent years—would bring important pieces of adjacent public land into Pinnacles National Monument. An expansion, along with wilderness designation, has on two occasions been proposed by Congressman Sam Farr of Monterey, California. No committee hearings have been held on his bill (H.R. 2279). Secretary Babbitt visited Pinnacles National Monument and the adjacent public lands in October 1999 to discuss the expansion proposal with private ranchers and other landowners, and community and environmental leaders.

**Proposed
California
Coastal
National
Monument
(offshore Islands,
Rocks and Pinnacles
above the high water line
within the blue line off
the coastline)**



Sacramento

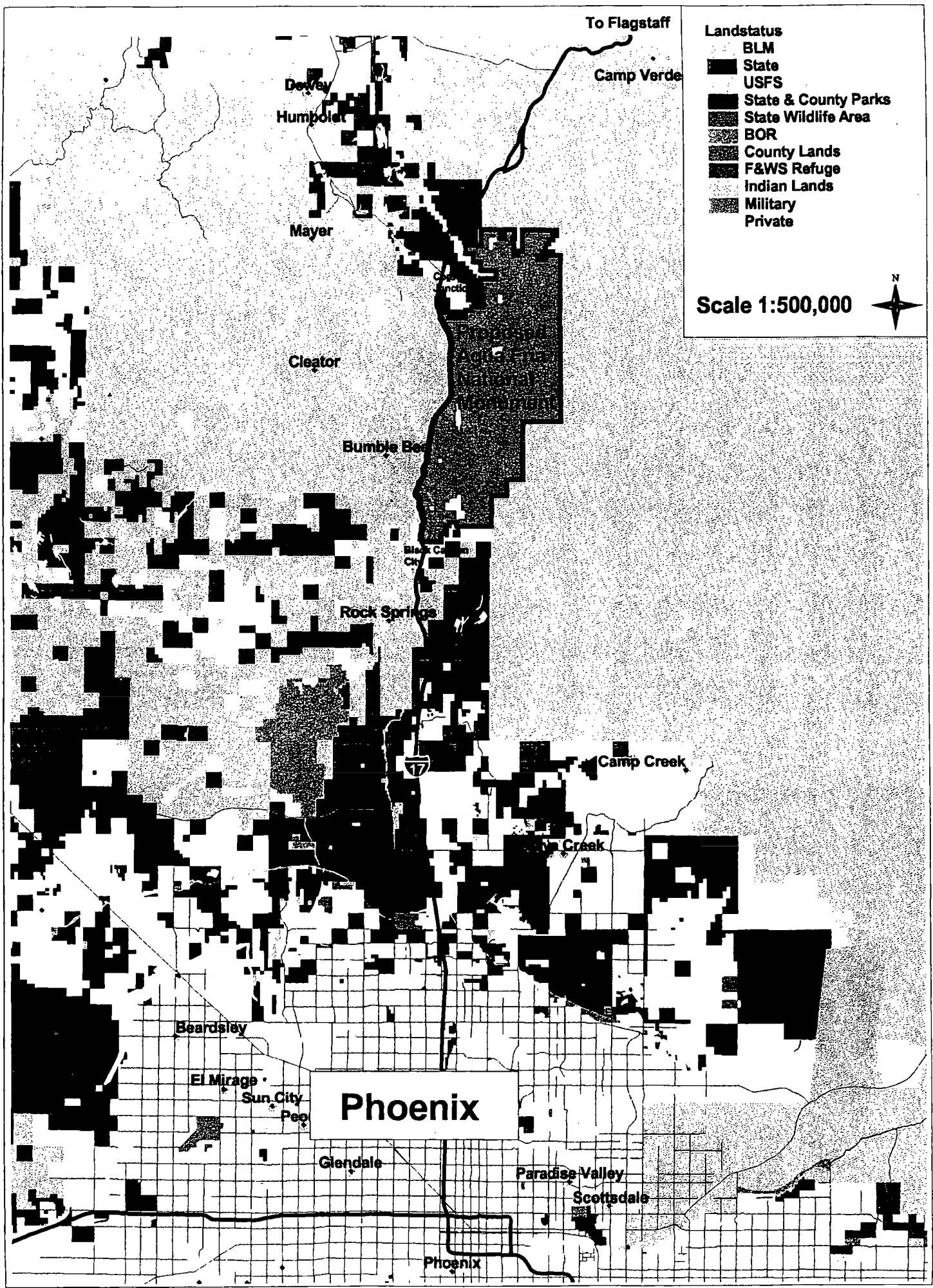
San Francisco

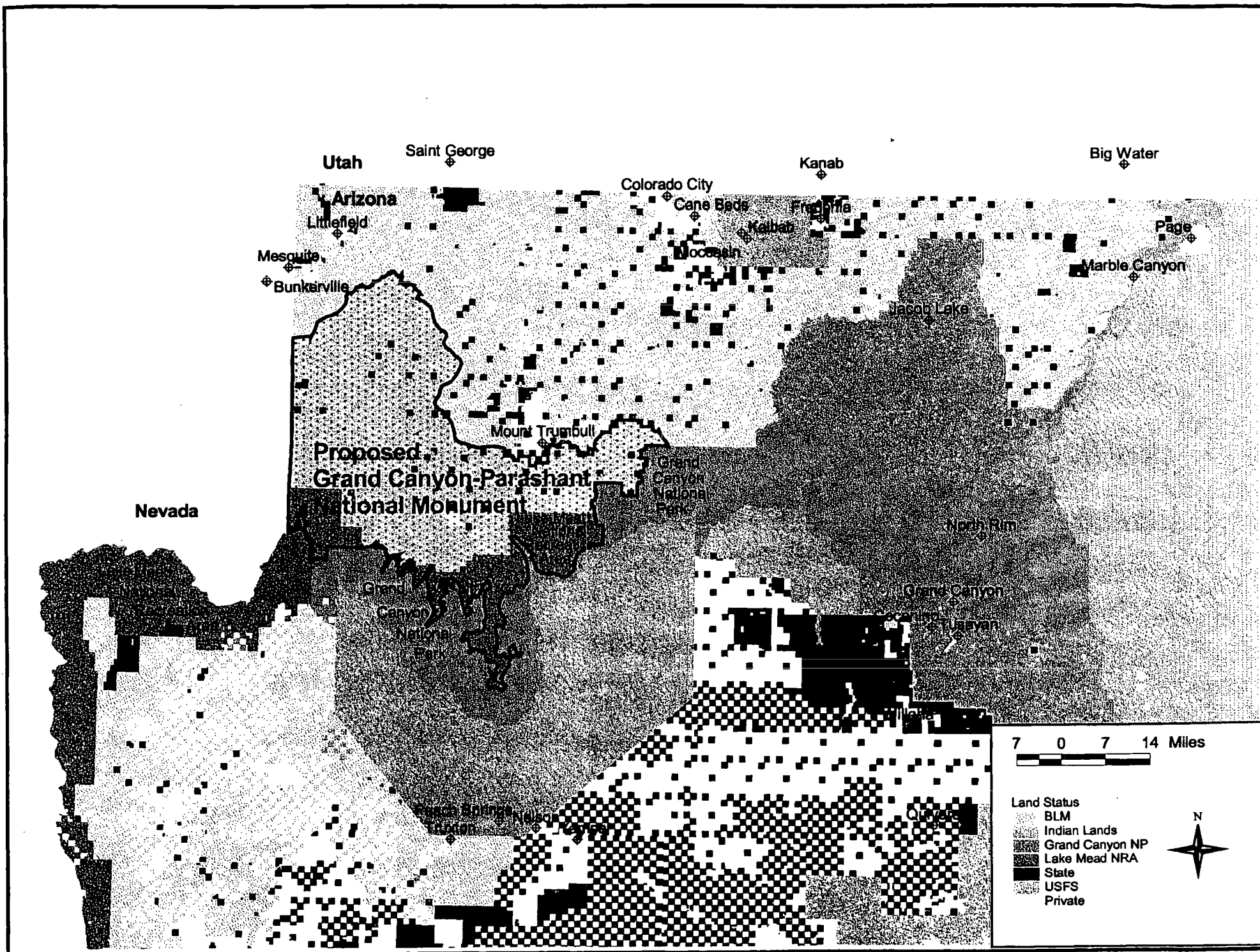
San Jose

**Pinnacles
National
Monument**

Los Angeles

San Diego





To San Jose
(approximately 65 miles)



- Expanded Pinnacles NM Boundary
- Existing Pinnacles NM Lands-NPS
- Federal Lands proposed to be added

Scale 1:75,000



Pinnacles
National
Monument

25



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
The White House, December 14, 1999

CONTACT: Joan Moody
202-682-9400 x 220

COMMENTS OF RODGER SCHLICKEISEN
PRESIDENT, DEFENDERS OF WILDLIFE
AND CHAIR, LAND LEGACY COALITION

NO GREATER LEGACY

President Clinton's two announcements today of additional lands to be protected and of Interior Secretary Babbitt's new monument proposals represent news that can rightfully be called historic. The Clinton-Gore Administration is often cited for its importance to the economy and education, but future historians may emphasize its land legacy even more.

This is the quintessential American legacy that we can leave to future generations – decisive actions that preserve the winter range for bison in Yellowstone, the spectacular landscape on the rim of the Grand Canyon, the rocky wildlife shelters off the California coastline, the flocks of birds at Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge, and other treasures. There is no greater legacy.

President Teddy Roosevelt initiated conservation in the twentieth century when he set aside Pelican Island refuge. Today, in the Roosevelt Room, President Bill Clinton has ushered us into the twenty-first century of conservation.

The conservation community supports his Lands Legacy initiative and is glad that the Interior Department won a number of victories in the budget battle to obtain funds that will be so wisely spent to protect natural and historic resources. In addition, we hope President Clinton's actions today point out the need for Congress to provide a permanent source of funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund so that it will not be necessary to wage the same battles every year to ensure protection of America's greatest treasures.

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THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY

www.wilderness.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
December 14, 1999

Contact: Sabrina Williams 202/429-8441
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**Statement by William H. Meadows
President, The Wilderness Society
Regarding the Designation of Four National Monuments**

Today, The Wilderness Society applauds U.S. Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt's proposal to create four national monuments in Arizona and California. Secretary Babbitt's announcement is an important step towards federal land and resource protection. We commend Secretary Babbitt for his leadership and hope that President Clinton promptly designates these areas as national monuments.

The threats to wilderness and open spaces all over the country have increased significantly in the past several years. Pollution, development, sprawl, off-road vehicles, loss of natural sound, logging, overgrazing, and mining have contributed to the degradation of too many of our nation's special wild places.

As we approach the 21st century we must celebrate our conservation achievements and address the pending challenges. We must protect and preserve our nation's wild places before they vanish forever, so that generations to come will enjoy and benefit from them.

The four proposed monuments are:

- The **Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument** in Arizona; If designated as a national monument 1 million acres northwest of the Grand Canyon currently threatened by mining and subdivisions will be protected.
- The **Agua Fria National Monument** in Arizona; If designated as a national monument, 40,000 acres north of Phoenix, Arizona, where hundreds of archeological sites are threatened by urban sprawl and pothunters will be protected.
- An additional 10,000 acres would be added to **Pinnacles National Monument** south of San Jose, California to protect it from urban sprawl.
- The **California Coastal National Monument**. This area is made up of thousands of small, uninhabited islands and rock outcroppings, which are threatened by mining.

This day is significant in preserving America's precious wild lands and open spaces. America is blessed with a great diversity of natural wonders: Our forests; deserts; mountains; rivers; fish and wildlife; and archeological, historical, and ecological treasures are the envy of the world. In creating our newest national monuments, President Clinton follows in the footsteps of President Theodore Roosevelt, Herbert Hoover, Calvin Coolidge, Woodrow Wilson, Dwight Eisenhower, John F. Kennedy, and many others. Each of these leaders gave all Americans a gift of great worth.

--more--

NEWS RELEASE

Q&A – National Monument Recommendations
December 14, 1999

Has the President already received Secretary Babbitt's recommendations?

The Secretary send some materials over yesterday but, because the President was under the weather, he didn't have a chance to review them. They will be meeting shortly so the Secretary can formally present his recommendations.

Can we see the Secretary's letter?

We will have to check with the lawyers to see if it can be released. In the past, there has been some concern about releasing direct communications between the President and his senior advisors. But the letter is really little more than a cover note transmitting materials describing the areas the Secretary is recommending for additional protection. And you have most of that material already.

What additional protections would monument designation provide?

If there President chooses to proceed, he would sign a proclamation establishing a monument and identifying its unique natural, historic or scientific features. The overriding objective in managing those lands would be the protection of those features. Specific protections would be tailored for each monument. Activities incompatible with protecting those features – for instance, mining – probably would not be permitted. On the other hand, certain compatible activities like grazing could continue.

When will the President make his decision?

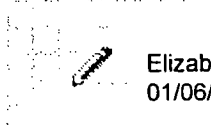
We're hoping for decisions early in the new year?

Are there other monument proposals in the works?

These are the only sites being proposed to the President at this time.

Is this simply an effort to bolster the President's conservation legacy?

What's at stake here is the natural legacy of our country. Secretary Babbitt is making these recommendations because he believes that future generations of Americans deserve the opportunity to enjoy these lands too.



Elizabeth R. Newman
01/06/2000 03:34:41 PM

Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message

cc:

Subject: Hansen press release - how should we respond? getting a lot of calls

January 6, 2000

Contact: Allen Freemyer

Hansen responds to leak that Clinton is about to create another 1 million-acre + national monument south of St. George, Utah

Washington, D.C. – Today leaks from the White House indicated that on Tuesday, January 11th President Clinton would create a new national monument over 1 million acres in size on the Arizona Strip south of St. George, Utah. While details were sketchy, sources close to the President said that the announcement, like the Grand Staircase - Escalante national monument announcement, was scheduled to be made from the Grand Canyon.

While the actual monument boundaries will likely be confined to Arizona, many of the people who use the area, including most of the ranchers whose cattle graze there, live in the St. George and Kanab areas. Congressman Hansen, Congressman for these areas commented that "Once again President Clinton hurts southern Utah for his own political gain. This kind of abuse of the Antiquities Act has got to end."

Congressman Hansen continued, "Secretary of Interior Bruce Babbitt claims that these lands are in some kind of danger. Yet when asked, he can't identify the danger. It seems these lands are only considered "in danger" every four years at presidential election time. He admits that the land is being well managed and that the condition of the land has actually been improving over the last several decades. It has already been withdrawn from mining and much of the area is already under special protective designation. All Secretary Babbitt can do is recite his mantra that we need to act to save these lands for our children. These lands are already being saved for our children. In fact, if anything, this monument designation is a step in the wrong direction and could hurt preservation of this land. The President will be taking a piece of land that is remarkably well protected by its remoteness and turn it into an international tourist attraction."

Congressman Hansen further noted "Like the Grand Staircase fiasco, this monument is being created without public input. Secretary Babbitt has only held one off-the-record town hall type meeting in Flagstaff where opposition to the monument was overwhelming. Next he threatened the Arizona Congressional delegation that if they didn't pass legislation to protect the area he would make it a monument. Yet despite numerous requests he repeatedly refused to give them any legislation to pass. Finally, he sent out a couple of press releases claiming that he was considering a monument because Congress failed to act. The sad thing is that Babbitt and Clinton will probably claim that these actions show that they involved the public in this decision." We have, at least a partial solution to this with H.R. 1487, which passed 408-2 in the House last September, but is still pending in the Senate.

Congressman Hansen concluded, "The public should be involved in public lands decisions. This action by President Clinton and Secretary Babbitt shows contempt for our environmental laws and for the concept of public involvement in the democratic process. These lands are our sacred trust and should not be used for election year politicking or personal legacies."

###

Message Sent To:

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**Q'S AND A'S ON GRAND CANYON EVENT ANNOUNCEMENT – FO
USE ONLY – NOT FOR DISTRIBUTION**

Q. Do you fear action by Congress to amend the Antiquities Act if the Preside

A. The Antiquities Act has had a long successful history, where in prac Congress has come to endorse what the Presidents have done. We expect that t look forward to working with Congress to protect more areas through legislatio possible. Congress presently has proposals pending to amend the Act, and cons proposals may continue in the next session.

fully priv
| ✓

Q. Are these areas being threatened? If so, by what? If not, then what is the ne now? Can't you wait until Congress has another chance to protect these areas in session? You still have another thirteen months in this Administration. What's the rush in doing this? Do you claim that there's any real risk to these lands at this point? What is it? If there is no imminent harm doesn't it make much more sense to allow the delegation and the public some additional time to comment and work on this legislatively, as they've requested?

A. The character of the threats vary from area to area - some are immediate, such as vandalism and urban encroachment. Others are more long term, such as increased demand for minerals. The Antiquities Act does not require a threat before the President acts. In fact, it is usually better to act before an area is under immediate threat, to protect against future degradation of our most special places.

For example, given the fantastic growth of the Phoenix area in the last few decades, there is absolutely no doubt that the Agua Fria area will have huge value as protected open space for central Arizona. We have talking about protecting this area for many months, and Congress has never shown any interest in legislating.

Congressman Farr has introduced legislation regarding the two California area for two years, and can't even get a hearing on the bill.

We've been talking with Congress for over a year on the Grand Canyon-Parashant, and the House bill that would address the area is a step backwards in terms of protection, not forwards.

Congress has been given a chance to act. I believe the time is right to act on these four areas. After all, if the President waits until the end of his term and then acts, there would be those who would accuse him of abusing his power.

Q. Would the President consider making the Arctic Refuge a Monument?

A. The Arctic Refuge is not on the Secretary's list of places he's been considering in this current process. As you may know, it is currently managed as wilderness unless Congress legislates to the contrary. However, as with all monument determinations that

is an executive action reserved for the President personally, and I would not presume to speak for him.

Q. Will the Administration continue to oppose legislative amendments to the Antiquities Act that would provide more public process?

A. Yes. The Antiquities Act has been enormously successful and not a comma needs to be changed. It is a classic example of some members of Congress taking the attitude, "if it ain't broke, let's break it."

Q. Some suggest that Congress is on the verge of passing an amendment to the Antiquities Act. Is this an effort to get around that? Are you following the process in the bill?

A. The President's action is not an effort to avoid any Congressional legislation. The Secretary has been working on this for some time, and felt it was the appropriate time to make recommendations. The President has acted because the time is right and there is no reason for further delay. I have not compared our process to what Congress is proposing in its bill. As I have mentioned, the Secretary has followed a fairly elaborate public process with regards to these areas, and the public and Congress have been on notice for almost a month that the President was considering the Secretary's recommendations.

Q. Have you consulted with the environmental community in putting these proposals together?

A. There have been consultations by the Interior Department with all kinds of affected interests on these proposals, including with environmentalists.

Q. Is the President playing a numbers game with the acreage - to try to beat FDR or TR?

A. This is about historic and scientific objects and values, not about acres.

Q. How do you answer the charge that this is a unilateral land grab by the President for political purposes?

A. The people of the U.S. already own these lands; there is no land grab here. The Congress has given the President clear authority to do this. Many Presidents have exercised this power, with wondrous results. This is a gift to future generations. It is political only in the sense that everything the President does is political.

Q. The Antiquities Act speaks of reserving the "smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the objects to be protected." Why is the Grand Canyon proposal so big? It goes way beyond the north rim. Your original proposal was much smaller; what happened? How did it get enlarged to include the Grand Wash Cliffs? Why didn't you let the public respond to this proposal?

A. First of all, Presidents have properly recognized that, when you are talking about properly caring for historic and scientific values, very large areas may be required. Many national monuments have involved millions of acres of land each, and the courts have long upheld this practice, dating back to a unanimous Supreme Court decision in 1920 which upheld Teddy Roosevelt's setting aside part of the Grand Canyon under the Antiquities Act.

As part of our consultation process, we heard from some who thought the original area we talked about should be enlarged. We decided there were important values in the Grand Wash Cliffs, there were conflicts over uses, and that, being part of the watershed of the Grand Canyon, reserving that area is important for proper protection of the values. There were many different proposals offered during the consultation process, some much larger than this. Interested people had opportunities to comment on them all.

Q. Wasn't the public process a sham? Given the opposition, particularly in the C area, why would you propose designating these places?

A. The public process brought forward much information that was useful. The Secretary's recommendations to the President, and to the President's conclusions on those recommendations. The Grand Canyon-Parashant monument was the Secretary's original tentative proposal and the Agua Fria area was included. The decisions were based on public input. Public input does not mean that everyone in the public, or even a majority commenting will be pleased with the ultimate decision. It does mean that the decision is better informed.

Q. How much are these monuments going to cost the taxpayers?

A. In the near term, very little over current management costs. We hope some additional funding will be available for these special areas; at Agua Fria, for example, we need to do a better job of protecting these ruins against vandalism.

Q. How will these monuments affect existing uses? What about ranchers, hunters, ORV users, etc. If monument status won't change these things, why are you recommending the monuments be created?

A. In general, I believe these monuments will not create any serious disruption of existing uses. For example, the Grand Canyon, remains open to hunting and grazing and those activities remain subject to the same laws and regulations that it is already subject to. Some things will be regulated strictly because they directly threaten the values we're trying to protect. With the Agua Fria, for example, ORVs are not permitted to trample archeology sites, although ORVs are not permitted in that area currently.

Again, immediate threats are not a precondition of using the Antiquities Act. And it is, as I said, important to keep a long term perspective in mind, and not to wait until huge threats emerge before acting.

Q. What about a new management plan for these areas?

A. The Proclamations do not require completely new management plans, and the management planning will be done in accordance with the requirements of existing law, primarily the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Some of the areas have very current plans which may not need to be completely redone. Under direction from the Secretary, each of the managers of the new monuments will review their existing plans and modify them as needed to comply with the Proclamation. This will be done under existing law in full compliance with NEPA and with public comment.

Q. Does the California Coastal proposal affect oil and gas development? Does it affect fishing, hang-gliding, boating, etc.? How many islands and rocks are there?

A. There will be no effect on oil and gas development or fishing, because all the proposal deals with is fast land, above the high water mark, not things in or under the water. Activities on the rocks (such as, perhaps, recreation) might be affected. There are thousands of islands and rocks, which may be as small as a few square feet in area. Nobody's counted them; it's not a meaningful statistic.

Q. The fact sheet says Cal. State Fish and Game manages the islands and rocks under an MOU with BLM, and that may not change. What kind of management is done?

A. Management is largely custodial. That's appropriate. If threats emerge, they can be dealt with more readily given the monument designation.

Q. The map indicates the Pinnacles National Monument expansion boundary includes a fairly big chunk of private land on the east side. Why?

A. The monument expansion itself only covers federal land. However, the addition of the privately-owned land would be helpful in protecting the objects for which the monument is created, and I understand the owner of much of that property is interested in selling, and would want it to become part of the monument. Since addition of that land would likely enhance the purposes of the monument, it makes sense to draw the boundary to include that land if it becomes available from willing sellers.

Q. How does monument status affect private land within the boundaries? There's no legal effect, but won't there be a practical effect on the value of their property? (That's a question at Pinnacles, Grand Canyon, and Agua Fria.) State land? (That's a question only at Grand

Canyon.) What is effect on Arizona school children of incorporating 23,000 acres of state school trust lands into monument boundaries?

A. There should be no effect. The creation of these monuments is subject to valid existing rights of all kinds. For example, the state lands in the Grand Canyon currently earn only the revenue generated by grazing permits. Because grazing continues there should be no economic effect on the school children. In addition at the Grand Canyon, we would be delighted to trade out the state lands, as we have done so successfully at the Grand Staircase. When private property owners wish to sell, as Andalex and PacifiCorp did with their coal leases in the Grand Staircase, we are willing to work with them as well.

Q. Are you proposing to have BLM manage the three new monuments (except for the Lake Mead NRA piece of the Grand Canyon one, which will remain with NPS). Why BLM? What's the difference between BLM running a monument and NPS doing it? Is BLM just NPS-lite?

A. As the Secretary has repeatedly said, BLM deserves more management responsibilities to protect areas primarily for conservation. It is often the right agency to manage such lands when uses like grazing and hunting are still appropriate given its expertise in managing resources which incorporate those uses.

Q. Many national monuments have become national parks, managed by NPS. Do you see this happening here? Why not?

A. No. Many, perhaps nearly all, of the national monuments converted to park status were originally managed by the National Park Service. I don't believe such a conversion is appropriate or inevitable here.

Q. Why are you including Lake Mead NRA? Isn't it already protected?

A. It was the part of the area considered in 1975 for Grand Canyon expansion; it's part of the same ecosystem/drainage as the BLM lands, and it has not been completely off limits to mineral development.

Q. In at least some of these areas, your local process showed nobody or very few wanted a monument. Why are you recommending it anyway? Isn't this an example of federal arrogance, ignoring the views of the local people?

A. We learned a lot in our consultations. I disagree that there was anything like unanimous opposition from local interests. Naturally some local people were concerned about what might happen with such a change, but we hope to continue to work with them

to clarify the effects of monument status and to be responsive to their concerns in our land management. But a recent poll showed that 78% of all voters in the state of Arizona favored designation of the Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument and 75% favored designation of the Agua Fria National Monument. I am confident that the local communities will ultimately see that this is a positive step.

Q. What about water? Why do you reserve water rights in Agua Fria and not in Grand Canyon? Your background materials say water's needed in Agua Fria to protect monument resources (mainly archeological), but says not needed in the Grand Canyon because most resources there don't need water. Please elaborate. Same for Pinnacles reserved water rights.

A. Yes, Pinnacles and Agua Fria have reserved a federal water right because water is an important component of the objects to be protected. Water played a huge role in the formation of the Pinnacles, for example. In Agua Fria many of the biological objects to be protected are dependant on the Agua Fria river which runs through the monument. The Grand Canyon-Parashant monument is located in an extremely arid region and the objects to be protected are less dependent on water. Accordingly, the proclamation for the Grand Canyon-Parashant does not reserve water as a matter of Federal law nor does it relinquish any water rights held by the federal government existing on this date. It does however require the BLM and NPS to work with appropriate state authorities to ensure that water resources needed for monument purposes are available, and I believe this will be sufficient to ensure protection of any water that might be needed.

Q. What is effect of eliminating hunting in Pinnacles expansion area? How much hunting now? Are there alternatives for hunters in the area?

A. The expansion area is only lightly hunted currently, primarily by surrounding private landowners, because access to the area is difficult. These private landowners can, of course, continue to hunt on their own land so we expect the impact to be minimal.

Q. What's the precedential effect of allowing grazing on land that will part of a Park Service-administered monument? Isn't this the first time that's been done? Does this risk opening the door to demands for grazing on Park Service land? Why was this done?

A. None. Authorizing legislation of park service units has on occasion permitted grazing at the discretion of the agency. Lake Mead National Recreation Area, for example, has grazing and its authorizing legislation explicitly permits such activity. It was done here because grazing was currently occurring on the expansion lands, and unless it was determined to be inconsistent with monument status, there was no reason to eliminate it. That determination will be left to the National Park Service, subject to valid existing rights.

Q. Did you talk to Senators Kyl or McCain or the AZ delegation about the Grand Canyon or Agua Fria proposals? What about the Arizona delegation's claim that there's been inadequate consultation with the public and Congress?

A. The Secretary and his staff talked repeatedly with the delegation and the Governor's office. I believe these claims of inadequate consultation or public input are overstated. In November of 1998 the Secretary began discussing whether the Grand Canyon should become a monument, and spoke with members of the delegation at that time. He personally held two public meetings where over 600 people attended. His staff has had over 50 meetings with those interested, including meetings with delegation and staff. His staff commented on the delegation's proposed legislation, and he personally testified in opposition to legislation explaining why the delegation's bill was a mistake. When he recommended to the President that he create these monuments 18 months ago, the President held a press conference to announce this fact and to release maps about the areas. As a result the delegation contacted the President. The delegation may disagree with the President's decision but they cannot be surprised.

Q. Do you expect monument status to require changes to availability or conditions of grazing?

A. No. Grazing continues to be permitted under existing rules and regulations on Agua Fria and Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monuments. It is possible there will be changes in grazing on BLM land because of recent court cases, a recent implementation of the BLM's standards and guidelines but this is not the case for all public lands, and is not a result of monument status. The NPS has the authority to eliminate grazing eventually on the new expansion lands of Pinnacles National Monument, but it is not known whether they will ultimately decide to do so, and it will be maintained to the extent that can be done consistent with the protection of monument resources.

Q. Is your effort at a public process here an implicit admission that the surprise announcement of the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument was a mistake?

A. No. Each situation is different. It is interesting, however, that in the Grand Staircase, management of these public lands has been much more open to the public, which included proposals for more protective management.

Q. How does the proclamations' prohibitions on off-road vehicle use square with the commitment generally to flexible management planning tailored to particular circumstances? What's the basis for determining at this stage that off-road vehicle use is inappropriate? Is this determination consistent with FLPMA amendments and the Executive Order on ORVs?

A. Yes. Two of the proclamations, the Agua Fria and the Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monuments include a prohibition on off road vehicle use cross-country. Vehicles are still permitted to be used in the monuments but must remain on designated trails. This is currently the rule under the management plan of both areas. The result is no change in actual use. The objects to be protected in these areas, in particular the archeological and biological, are directly threatened when vehicles run over them. In areas this large it would be impossible to document every place on the landscape that

might be damaged, and then enforce a mandate requiring driving around every pot. The proclamation is consistent with both FLMPA and the Executive Order on ORVs because under both provisions prohibition of vehicular cross country travel is authorized. Under the proclamation, management of the federal land continues under FLMPA but management discretion is limited by the mandates of the proclamation. In this case, BLM must use its authority under FLMPA to prohibit cross country vehicle travel.

Q. Secretary Babbitt committed in writing that so long as the congress was working on the Grand Canyon issue he would hold off recommending that the President act. In addition, George Frampton's testimony on antiquities act amendments pledged to make the President aware of the Congress' concern about action without reasonable notice to the Hill. Doesn't this action renege on both commitments?

A. No. My understanding is that the Secretary committed that so long as the Congress was making progress on legislation that would provide equivalent protection to a monument designation for the Grand Canyon-Parashant area, he would not make a recommendation. As this administration made clear on numerous occasions, the Stump legislation to create an NCA was a step backward from *existing* protections, rather than a step toward protecting the area. He never promised that merely introducing legislation calling for a conservation area in name only would be sufficient to foreclose the legitimate use of the President's authority.

Mr. Frampton's testimony made clear that he could not speak for or commit the President to a particular process, since this is an executive action that resides with the President.

Finally, this process has hardly been secret. The White House and Interior have repeatedly produced documents to the Congress on this matter, including the President's letter to Secretary Babbitt in November 1998 asking him to look into these matters. The Secretary has repeatedly said that he was considering making a recommendation on all four of these areas, and in the case of the Grand Canyon has been saying so for over a year. Nearly a month ago every member of the delegation and the American public was informed that the Secretary had made such a recommendation, and that the President was considering it. Members of Congress, including the Arizona delegation, have made their views known to the President over the last month.

Q. How many other national monuments will be created? Are you in effect indicating today that Oregon is next? Or Colorado? Is this just the beginning?

A. These four are the ones being created and the ones the Secretary recommended to the President. It's no secret that the Secretary has been traveling around the country talking about the need to better protect some fantastic areas of public lands. We also have expressed our willingness to work with Congress when we can to protect public lands. I am not aware of any other recommendations being prepared by the Secretary at this time.

