

RESOLUTION NO. 17-4991

A RESOLUTION CALLING ON PRESIDENT DONALD J. TRUMP AND THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO PROTECT NATIONAL MONUMENTS, PUBLIC LANDS AND WATERWAYS.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

WHEREAS, on April 26, 2017, President Donald J. Trump signed Executive Order (EO) 13792 "Review of Designations Under the Antiquities Act", directing the Department of the Interior to review designations of national monuments made since 1996; and

WHEREAS, the order applies to all new monuments greater than 100,000 acres in size and monuments that were expanded by at least 100,000 acres; and

WHEREAS, on Thursday, August 24, Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke presented a draft plan to President Trump recommending changing the borders and reducing the size of Utah's Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante national monuments; and

WHEREAS, Secretary Zinke's plan allegedly includes a proposal for Oregon's Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument established in June 2000; and

WHEREAS, the draft plan, which has yet to be released to the public, allegedly proposes reducing the area of Bears Ears by 160,000 acres from a current total of 1.35 million; and

WHEREAS, of the twenty-two land monuments and five marine monuments created by presidents Bill Clinton, George W. Bush and Barack Obama that are now under review pursuant to EO 13792; six national monuments are located in California, including the San Gabriel Mountains, the Mojave Trails, the California Coastal, the Berryessa Snow Mountain, Carrizo Plain, and Giant Sequoia; and

WHEREAS, national monuments can be created via an act of Congress or by presidential proclamation using the Antiquities Act of 1906; and

WHEREAS, the Act gives authority to a president to establish national monuments in federal lands to protect significant natural, cultural, or scientific features; since 1906, more than 150 monuments have been created, and presidents have rarely used the Act to reduce the size of national monuments; and

WHEREAS, Bears Ears inter-tribal coalition including the tribal governments of the Hopi, Navajo, Uintah and Ouray Ute, Ute Mountain Ute, and Zuni nations presented a proposal on October 15, 2015, requesting the protection of 1.9 million acres of sacred lands through designation of Bears Ears as a national monument; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Parks Conservation Association, a non-profit organization, more than 2.8 million comments have been submitted to the Department of Interior during the 60-day public comment period in regards to the alleged plan to "right-size" and open up some of our national monuments for exploitation by commercial interests; and

WHEREAS, five of the 27 national monuments included in the Department of Interior's "hit list" are marine monuments, that not only preserve coastal areas like sites in California but also entire ecosystems and marine life in places like the northern Hawaiian Islands; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has, in the past, expressed its concerns as to how the federal government manages public lands, which are an irreplaceable and invaluable part of our national landscape and resources; and

WHEREAS, on February 15, 2015, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 15-4760 in support of H.R. 1902, the "Protect Our Public Lands Act". H.R. 1902 proposed banning fracking in public lands; and

WHEREAS, the protection of our national monuments and parks is entrusted on our elected leaders and administrators; removing protections of currently designated monuments is step in the wrong direction; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of West Hollywood calls on President Trump and the United States Congress to keep in place existing protections of our national monuments.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of West Hollywood at a regular meeting held this 18<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2017 by the following vote:

AYES:	Councilmember:	D'Amico, Horvath, Meister, Mayor Pro Tempore Duran, and Mayor Heilman.
NOES:	Councilmember:	None.
ABSENT:	Councilmember:	None.
ABSTAIN:	Councilmember:	None.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JOHN HEILMAN, MAYOR

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
YVONNE QUARKER, CITY CLERK

