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I appreciate the opportunity to submit these comments on an issue that affects so many . I have spent most of my life in Utah and have seen first hand the effects of what a National Monument can do to shut down local economy . Conservation groups rally around the Antiquities Act as a do good tool of presidents . Maybe that was the case of yesteryear - but in my time it has had a devastating affect on fragile rural economies in Utah .

Utahns watched as Bill Clinton gave us the Grand Staircase while never even coming to Utah . Barrack Obama gave us the Bears Ears while in Hawaii . Neither president had an idea of the land they were talking about or , more importantly , the people whose lives were being affected . Having grown up in Central Utah , I was one of those lives . How can someone from New York or Chicago understand a young person leaving their family , friends and home because there is no job to found ? But such is the case for many in rural Utah who leave because of depressed economies where they live .

Rural economies in Utah survive in large part because of agriculture and public lands . Public lands have the ability of providing many needed jobs and products that Americans need and rely on . It seems that many forget that they in fact need these services . When demand overcomes supply and prices rise then everyone complains . We are stewards over the land , and the land must be taken care of, but at the same time it seems that the idea of multiple use has been long forgotten and our politicians feel that we can just lock everything up without a negative outcome .

While economies suffer because of Monuments , access for many who rely on OHVs for transportation suffers also . The areas that we grew up enjoying with our families and friends has become nothing but a memory as we no longer can visit them with the only means of transportation that we have . Locking up our Federal Land in Utah proves that Utah has become a political give away State . Two presidents that did not carry a majority in Utah have both given away millions of acres of Federal Land to special interest groups . Most of the members of these groups do not even live here but they have had a disastrous effect on our economies , lifestyles and way of life .

I applaud President Trump for taking this action to review Monuments and the abuse of the Antiquities Act . I thank you for your time to come to Utah to see for yourself what our situation is . I'm grateful for our local leaders including Governor Herbert who are standing up for rural Utah . The best course of action at this time is clear . Rescind Bears Ears and the Grand Staircase or at the very least downsize

these monuments and give the land back to smart sustainable management .

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