

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Natural Resources
Washington, DC 20515

December 15, 2017

Mr. Yvon Chouinard
Founder
Patagonia, Inc.
259 W. Santa Clara Street
Ventura, CA 93001

Dear Mr. Chouinard:

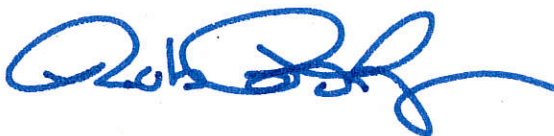
On December 4, 2017, President Trump signed proclamations modifying the boundaries of Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante national monuments. The proclamations examine the nature of the objects identified on the lands reserved under the original monument designations, the lack of a threat of damage or destruction to many of those objects, and the protection for those objects already provided by existing law and governing land-use plans.

There is much public interest in this matter. It is apparent through multiple media accounts and appearances that you have strong feelings on the topic as well. The Committee believes that major public policy decisions involving millions of acres of public land should be discussed, debated, and considered in the light of day. The Committee also believes it is important to understand and allow for all perspectives to be presented fairly and respectfully. Open discussion and debate in Congress is the best venue for the public policy debate on land management policy to occur.

Over the last several months, the House Committee on Natural Resources has invited stakeholders from across the country to engage in a public conversation on these and related matters. In addition, the Committee will continue to receive testimony on a wide variety of views from affected stakeholders. As part of this continuing process, I wish to invite you to testify before the Committee about your views on federal land management.

Please contact the House Committee on Natural Resources staff to discuss how we may be able to arrange this at a mutually agreeable time in the coming weeks at (202) 225-2761, and to discuss any questions you may have about this invitation. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Rob Bishop
Chairman
Committee on Natural Resources