



**RESOLUTION OF THE
NAVAJO UTAH COMMISSION
OF THE NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL**

NUCAPR-789-19

**OPPOSING STATE OF UTAH PETITION TO THE UNITED STATES REGARDING
RELAXING 2001 ROADLESS RULE RESTRICTIONS IN UTAH**

WHEREAS:

1. The Navajo Nation is a federally recognized sovereign tribal government
2. The Navajo Utah Commission (NUC) is a governmental subdivision of the Navajo Nation and is subject to oversight of the Navajo Nation Council – Naabik’iya’ti Committee pursuant to resolution no. NABIAP-21-15; and;
3. On February 28th, 2019, the State of Utah petitioned the United States Forest Service to create a special version of the Roadless Area Rule that would remove some restrictions on USFS managed lands within the State of Utah; and
4. In 2017, the State of Utah argued to President Trump that Inventoried Roadless Areas inside of the original Bears Ears National Monument boundary were already protected by 2001 Roadless Area Rule restrictions and therefore did not warrant protection under the 1905 Antiquities Act. Yet, now the state is proposing roadbuilding, logging, and removing all protections on some of these lands (i.e. Aquarius Plateau); and
5. This petition for a special Roadless Area Rule has not involved adequate consultation with Tribes by the State of Utah, even though these lands include countless cultural sites and resources to which we desire be protected in their natural state.

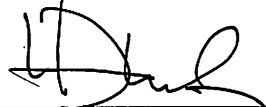
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Navajo Utah Commission requests that the existing Roadless Rule be maintained for all of the Inventoried Roadless Areas in San Juan County, and throughout Utah; and
2. The Navajo Utah Commission opposes the State of Utah rewriting the roadless rule to allow roadbuilding, logging, or other activities which may disturb wildlife habitat or introduce invasive plant species to a region; and

3. The Navajo Utah Commission requests that the San Juan County Commission amend the County Resource Management Plan to recommend retention of the 2001 Roadless Rule restrictions within San Juan County, Utah; and
4. The Navajo Utah Commission opposes all efforts by the State of Utah to further erode protections on lands either proposed by the Navajo Nation or protected by President Obama as Bears Ears National Monument; and
5. The Navajo Utah Commission respectfully urges the Governor, Utah legislators, and State of Utah's Natural Resource officials to recognize and respect tribal sovereignty, and to involve the Navajo Utah Commission office, the Navajo Nation government, and our communities in the petitions like this which may impact cultural sites and the lives of Diné people.

CERTIFICATION

We, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly considered by Navajo Utah Commission at a duly called meeting in Teecnospos, Arizona at which a quorum was present and the same was passed by a vote of 4 in favor, 0 opposed, and 1 abstention, this 09th day of April, 2019.



Herman Farley, Chairperson
NAVAJO UTAH COMMISSION

MOTION: Wesley Jones
SECOND: Alfred L. Jim

Chair not voting