



United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0504

<http://feinstein.senate.gov>

October 6, 2015

The Honorable Sally Jewell
Secretary of the Interior
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

The Honorable Thomas Vilsack
Secretary of Agriculture
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Secretary Jewell and Secretary Vilsack,

I am writing to request your or your designee's participation in a public meeting in the Palm Springs area to discuss the potential designation of the Mojave Trails, Sand to Snow and Castle Mountain national monuments. The meeting is scheduled to take place on Tuesday October 13 at 2p.m. at the Whitewater Preserve near Palm Springs.

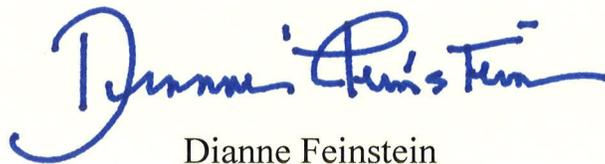
As you know, I recently wrote to President Obama to urge him to consider using his authority under the Antiquities Act to designate these three new monuments. While I remain committed to doing all I can to enact the California Desert Conservation and Recreation Act to establish the monuments, as well as other conservation and recreation areas, I believe it is important to pursue both legislative and administrative options to ensure their permanent protection.

This meeting will provide an opportunity to for the public to learn more about the proposed monuments, the administration's process for considering national monument proposals and the types of uses and activities permissible within national monuments established under the Antiquities Act. Most importantly, the meeting will allow members of the public to express their support, raise concerns or ask questions about the potential designation of these three particular monuments.

In order to facilitate discussion of the proposed monuments at the meeting, I have attached maps depicting proposed boundaries for the Mojave Trails, Sand to Snow and Castle Mountain National Monuments. The boundaries for each monument largely parallel those included in the legislation I and the bill's many supporters have endeavored to enact since 2009. In addition to the legislatively proposed monument lands, the boundaries include adjacent public lands that merit consideration in order to protect resources consistent with the purposes of the Antiquities Act.

Thank you for considering my request. I look forward to working with you to protect California's majestic desert.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dianne Feinstein". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator

DF:jp

Attachments