

DOI's Review of National Monuments Established Since 1996

On April 26, 2017, President Trump issued Executive Order 13792¹ directing the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a review of certain national monument. On May 11, 2017, the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) published a notice of opportunity for public comment on its review of monument designations under the Antiquities Act of 1906.² While a public comment period is not required for the designation of national monuments under the Antiquities Act, DOI has chosen to accept and consider public input on this issue.

On July 7, 2017 the Office of Advocacy (Advocacy) filed a comment letter encouraging DOI to consider the impacts to small businesses when conducting its review of national monuments. The letter to DOI may be accessed at: <http://sba.gov/advocacy>

- DOI is currently reviewing 27 national monuments, including five marine monuments. The complete list can be found [here](#).
- In making determinations about whether to alter the current status of the monuments DOI was instructed to consider among other things the following: (1) the requirements and original objectives of the Antiquities Act, including the smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the objects to be protected; (2) whether designated lands are appropriately classified; (3) effects of designation on available uses of the land, and (4) other factors the Secretary deems appropriate.
- Advocacy spoke with small business owners who work at or near several of the monuments under review. Some owners stated that they had seen an increase in profits as a result of the designation while others said that there had been adverse effects to their business and they wanted DOI to consider altering provisions of the designation.
- Advocacy submitted to DOI a public comment letter requesting that in its review it consider the impact to small business of any changes to the designations, and suggesting that DOI use the factors in the RFA as a framework for its analysis of impacts.
- For more information visit Advocacy's web page at www.sba.gov/advocacy, or contact Prianka Sharma at (202) 205-6938.

¹ Exec. Order No. 13792, 82 Fed. Reg. 20429 (April 26, 2017).

² Review of Certain National Monuments Established Since 1996, 82 Fed. Reg. 22016, (May 11, 2017).