

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 15, 2021

The Honorable Deb Haaland
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington DC 20240

Dear Secretary Haaland:

We write in support of the Antiquities Act and the critical role it plays in protecting our nation's most important and endangered places.

Since 1906, sixteen presidents have used the Antiquities Act to protect places across our nation. From Chaco Canyon in New Mexico to Harriet Tubman's house in Maryland, the Antiquities Act has long protected key landscapes and historical sites. National monuments protect our most precious natural, cultural, and historical resources, and threats to the integrity of any monuments established under the Antiquities Act threaten the protection of all monuments.

During your confirmation process, you committed to undertaking a thorough review of the Antiquities Act proclamations of the previous Administration. Former President Trump illegally attempted to reduce the protections provided by proclamations that previous presidents issued. We urge you to defend the Antiquities Act and recommend that President Biden review President Trump's actions and undo any unlawful attacks on the Antiquities Act.

We thank you for your commitment to the conservation of our nation's most important places and history.

Sincerely,

/s/ Martin Heinrich
Martin Heinrich
United States Senator

/s/ Richard J. Durbin
Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator

/s/ Ben Ray Luján
Ben Ray Luján
United States Senator

/s/ Elizabeth Warren
Elizabeth Warren
United States Senator

/s/ Richard Blumenthal

Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator

/s/ Ron Wyden

Ron Wyden
United States Senator

/s/ Cory A. Booker

Cory A. Booker
United States Senator

/s/ Alex Padilla

Alex Padilla
United States Senator

/s/ Tim Kaine

Tim Kaine
United States Senator

/s/ Michael F. Bennet

Michael F. Bennet
United States Senator

/s/ Sherrod Brown

Sherrod Brown
United States Senator

/s/ Jacky Rosen

Jacky Rosen
United States Senator

/s/ Edward J. Markey

Edward J. Markey
United States Senator

/s/ Tina Smith

Tina Smith
United States Senator

/s/ Mazie K. Hirono

Mazie K. Hirono
United States Senator

/s/ Brian Schatz

Brian Schatz
United States Senator

/s/ Chris Van Hollen

Chris Van Hollen
United States Senator

/s/ Jeanne Shaheen

Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senator

/s/ Catherine Cortez Masto

Catherine Cortez Masto
United States Senator