



**CROW CANYON**  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL CENTER  
Discover the Past, Share the Adventure

***Deborah Gangloff, PhD., President & CEO***

July 10, 2014

The Honorable Rob Bishop  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Via email to [Fred.Ferguson@mail.house.gov](mailto:Fred.Ferguson@mail.house.gov)

Dear Congressman Bishop:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback and input on your process to develop federal legislation aimed at addressing public land management in Utah. As the President & CEO of the Crow Canyon Archaeological Center, I am writing today regarding public land management opportunities in San Juan County, Utah.

For 30 years, the Crow Canyon Archaeological Center has conducted scientific archaeological research in the Four Corners area with the involvement of the public and American Indian tribes. We work primarily with the tribes representing descendant populations of those people who lived in this area a thousand or more years ago; the Pueblo peoples of New Mexico and Texas, the Hopi of current-day Arizona, and the Ute and Navajo of the Four Corners region. Crow Canyon also conducts tours of cultural resources in the Four Corners, especially San Juan County, Utah. Every year we bring several groups of travelers into San Juan County, Utah, to hike, view archaeological sites, and take float trips on the San Juan River. This type of cultural heritage tourism is a significant economic driver in this part of southeast Utah.

The national advocacy goals of Crow Canyon are to work to protect significant archaeological resources, ensure access to those resources for archaeological investigation, and to help assure the inclusion of tribal voices in land use decisions. I have reviewed the various proposals for San Juan County from the Friends of Cedar Mesa, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and the Dine Bikeyah. All of these proposals recognize the unique cultural resources of the county. What is especially significant is that the history of many peoples can be traced to this important county in southeast Utah.

The county includes many outstanding Ancestral Pueblo rock art and cliff dwellings that are internationally recognized. Sites and rock art of the Ute and Navajo cultures are also abundant in the area. The Hole-in-the-Rock trail, over which Mormon settlers traveled, is a venerated site. Later Hispanic and Anglo settlers can also trace their history back to this unique county. I cannot think of another county in the United States with such strong historical relevance for so many diverse groups of people.

*Advancing knowledge of the human experience through archaeological research, education programs, and collaboration with American Indians*



**CROW CANYON**  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL CENTER  
Discover the Past, Share the Adventure

The areas of particular concern for Crow Canyon, due to their significant historical resources, are Cedar Mesa, Montezuma Canyon, and the Hole-in-the-Rock Trail. Designations of NCAs or National Monument status for these areas, and a National Historic Trail designation for Hole-in-the-Rock, would not necessarily preclude existing economic uses and could provide additional economic benefits from national visibility and increased visitation. Most importantly, additional protection provided by these designations could significantly reduce degradation from inappropriate recreation and vandalism.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide this input as you and Congressmen Chaffetz and Stewart coordinate your process to address public land management issues in Utah. I applaud your efforts to invite and consider the feedback from a diversity of stakeholders.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Deborah Grayhoff".