

RESOLUTION NO. R-2016-1997

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A TIME EXTENSION FOR THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR'S COMPLETION OF THE RED CLIFFS NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN

WHEREAS, in 2013, James Doyle filed a lawsuit alleging the U.S. Department of the Interior ("DOI") was in violation of the law by not having completed a management plan for the Red Cliffs National Conservation Area and that he was harmed because he believed the management plan would incorporate the DOI's prior commitment to acquire real property owned by Doyle (*See Doyle v Jewell*, 2:13-cv-861, Docket No. 2, ¶ 61);

WHEREAS, on May 27, 2015, the U.S. District Court for the District of Utah entered an order requiring the DOI to finalize a management plan for the Red Cliffs National Conservation Area by June 30, 2016 (*See Doyle v Jewell*, Docket No. 65);

WHEREAS, in July 2015, the DOI released draft management plans for Washington County that included the draft plan for the Red Cliffs NCA;

WHEREAS, Washington County raised fourteen specific areas of concern with the draft plans and other areas of general and technical concern (*See Exhibit A, Washington County's Substantive Comment on the Draft Resource Management Plans for the Beaver Dam Wash and Red Cliffs National Conservation Areas and Draft Amendment to the St. George Field Office Resource Management Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement, hereinafter referred to as the "Comment"*);

WHEREAS, the draft plan for the Red Cliffs NCA fails to carry forward or expand upon the DOI's commitment to acquire Mr. Doyle's property (*See Exhibit A, Comment at pp 42-43*);

WHEREAS, Mr. Doyle will not benefit from the plan being finalized unless changes are made in accordance with Washington County's Comment;

WHEREAS, the DOI recently filed a motion with the court seeking relief from the June 30, 2016, deadline in order to allow time for the BLM to fully address concerns raised by Washington County and others; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, UTAH, that Washington County is supportive of the U.S. Department of the Interior being granted additional time to complete the Red Cliffs National Conservation Area management plan.

VOTED UPON AND PASSED BY THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMISSION AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMISSION HELD ON THE 2ND DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2016.

WASHINGTON COUNTY

ALAN GARDNER, Chair
Washington County Commission

ATTEST:

Kim M. Hafen
Washington County Clerk-Auditor

Commissioner Gardner voted ____
Commissioner Iverson voted ____
Commissioner Renstrom voted ____

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Deputy Washington County Attorney