

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY, <i>et al.</i> ,)	
)	
Plaintiffs,)	
)	
v.)	Case No. 1:17-cv-02587 (TSC)
)	
JOSEPH R. BIDEN, in his official capacity)	
as President of the United States, <i>et al.</i> ,)	
)	
Defendants.)	
_____)	
)	
GRAND STAIRCASE ESCALANTE)	
PARTNERS, <i>et al.</i> ,)	
)	
Plaintiffs,)	
)	Case No. 1:17-cv-02591 (TSC)
v.)	
)	
JOSEPH R. BIDEN, in his official capacity)	
as President of the United States, <i>et al.</i> ,)	
)	
Defendants.)	CONSOLIDATED CASES
_____)	

JOINT STATUS REPORT

Pursuant to the Court’s March 8, 2021 Order, and July 1, 2021 and September 30, 2021 minute orders, the parties hereby submit this joint status report.

On October 8, 2021, the President issued Proclamation 10286 addressing the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. 86 Fed. Reg. 57,335-347 (Oct. 15, 2021). The Proclamation, by its terms, “[r]estor[es] the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument to its size and boundaries as they existed prior to December 4, 2017.” *Id.* at 57,336.

Previously, on March 8, 2021, the Court ordered the parties to file status reports every 30 days, advising the Court:

1) whether the current dispute has been mooted or the parties anticipate that it will be mooted; 2) whether the parties wish to stay this action for any reason, including the parties' negotiations over resolving this dispute; or 3) whether the parties agree that this litigation should continue as anticipated pursuant to the federal rules, local rules or a scheduling order.

ECF No. 152. The Court reiterated the requirement that the parties file joint status reports every 30 days in minute orders dated July 1, 2021 and September 30, 2021.

As reported in the prior status report, the parties (primarily the Plaintiffs and Federal Defendants) are attempting to reach a resolution regarding how, if at all, this case should proceed. Several months ago the Federal Defendants provided a response to a proposed resolution provided by Plaintiffs and Plaintiffs are continuing to evaluate this response. Accordingly, additional time is necessary to determine whether the parties can reach an agreement.

All the parties, except for Intervenor-Defendant State of Utah, Garfield County, Kane County, American Farm Bureau Federation and Utah Farm Federation believe that the Court should allow an additional thirty days to continue these discussions, so that the parties are in a better position to formulate their responses to the Court's inquiries set forth in its March 8, 2021 Order.

The position of the State of Utah, Garfield County, and Kane County is that an additional 30-day delay in resolving this case is inappropriate because—despite now having had eighteen months to do so—the Plaintiffs and the Federal Defendants have not provided information justifying any contention that the case is not now moot. Plaintiffs state that they offered to schedule a call with counsel to discuss information relevant to the mootness question

before a previous joint status report and have not yet received a response to their offer.

The American Farm Bureau Federation and Utah Farm Bureau Federation take no position on the additional thirty days.

Respectfully submitted this 14th day of April, 2023,

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