



KANE COUNTY COMMISSION

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August, 2022

PUBLIC NOTICE

Grand Staircase-Escalante Monument Advisory Committee

The county commission would like to inform the public of the ongoing work of the Grand Staircase-Escalante Monument Advisory Committee (GSENM MAC).

The GSENM MAC was created by Presidential Proclamation 6920, as modified by Presidential Proclamations 9682 and 10286, and established the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument Advisory Committee to provide advice and information to the Secretary of the Interior through the Director of the BLM to consider for managing the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. This committee will help influence decisions made about future monument decisions. We need to be aware of the impact The National Landscape Conservation System (NLCS) 15-Year Strategy could have on land management. Limiting land uses to just scientific study does not consider local concerns or the significant impacts it will have. Its implementation completely eliminates 20+ years of BLM and Kane County work developing the current monument management plan.

The 15-member committee represents a wide range of interests including local and state government, paleontological and archaeological expertise, the conservation community, livestock grazing permittees, Tribal members, developed and dispersed recreation interests, private landowners, local business owners, and the public at large. Here is the committee:

Garfield County:	Commissioner Tebbs
Kane County:	Commissioner Gant
State Government:	J. Shea Owens, JD
Tribal Interests:	Henry Stevens
Education:	Joel Pederson, PhD
Outdoor Rec:	William Weppner
Conservation:	Sarah Bauman
Private Land:	Drew Parkin

Grazing:	Stephen Westhoff
Public at-large:	Jacqueline Grant, PhD
Local Business:	Lance Chournos
Dispersed Rec:	Raymond Berry, JD
Ecologist:	Val Jo Anderson, PhD
Paleontologist:	Vacant
Archaeologist:	Vacant

The Kane County Commission want our county residents to be aware of these meetings and we strongly encourage you to get engaged with this process. This is an open, public process and all voices need to be heard. The GSENM MAC held a virtual meeting on July 12, 2022.

One item we encourage you to get familiar with is the National Landscape Conservation System 15-Year Strategy. It is taking an ever-increasing and important role in monument planning and administration.

Strategy summary here:
[NLCS Summary](#)

- Or -

Full strategy here:
[NLCS Full Strategy](#)

There will be more virtual meetings held on **October 18, 2022** and **December 13, 2022** at 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. All meetings are open to the public.

-October 18, 2022 Meeting-

GSENM MAC will be discussing the following items:

- Ongoing guidance from BLM as providing interim management direction for land managers while the new monument management plan is being developed.
- The National Landscape Conservation System 15-Year Strategy (2010-2025) and how this strategy applies monument management.
- Updates on the status of BLM efforts toward preparing and adopting a science plan for the monument.
- Updates on ongoing NEPA planning priorities within the monument.

Here is the link to all the meeting materials:

[GSENM MAC-BLMUT](#)

The agenda and meeting access information (including how to log in and participate in virtual meetings) will be announced on the GSENM MAC web page 15 days before the meeting at <https://go.usa.gov/xuq2U>.

Public comments will be received on October 18, 2022 at 2:45 p.m., and on December 13, 2022 at 1:45 p.m.

**The October 18, 2022 agenda and access information will be posted on October 3, 2022.*

To summarize, the GSENM MAC will be watching the BLM as it:

1. Creates a new monument management plan.
2. Applies the National Landscape Conservation System 15-Year Strategy to the monument.
3. Prepares and adopts a science plan for the monument.
4. Incorporates NEPA priorities into the monument plans.

Once again, we are asking Kane County residents to get informed and to fully engage in this open, public process. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the [Kane County Commission](#) or visit the GSENM MAC website here: [Federal Register](#)

Additionally, you may contact:

David Hercher, Paria River District Public Affairs Specialist, 669 S Highway 89A, Kanab, UT 84741, via email with the subject line "GSENM MAC" to escalante_interagency@blm.gov, or by calling the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument Office at (435) 644-1200.

Respectfully,

The Kane County Commission.