



COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: February 15, 2022

ITEM TITLE, PRESENTER: USFS Cultural Site Visitor Management Project; Nick Sandberg, County Public Lands Planner

RECOMMENDATION: Consideration and Approval of Letter of Support for Cultural Site Visitor Management Project

SUMMARY

The US Forest Service proposes management actions at four cultural sites (Doll House, Lewis Lodge, Dry Wash Caves and Twin Kivas) to provide better management of increased visitation to better protect these sites. Proposed actions include designation of foot trails, improved vehicle parking areas off Forest roads and installation of kiosks with 'Visit with Respect' and site interpretation information.

HISTORY/PAST ACTION

Visitation at these cultural sites has increased many-fold since creation of the Bears Ears National Monument. Increased visitation has led to adverse impacts to cultural objects and landscape. Existing actions and facilities are inadequate to manage this increased visitation and associated impacts.

FISCAL IMPACT

Not applicable to County.