



COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: January 16, 2024

ITEM TITLE, PRESENTER: Consideration and Approval, Request for Meeting, Draft Bears Ears Monument Plan; Nick Sandberg, Public Lands Coordinator

RECOMMENDATION: Approve letter of request

SUMMARY

BLM and USFS are continuing work on the draft Bears Ears Management Plan in preparation for release to the public for comment. Release of the draft, originally scheduled for November 17, 2023, has been delayed pending final changes to the plan. No public release date has yet been announced. San Juan County is concerned that changes may be substantive and may or may not be consistent with comments made by Cooperating Agencies at the November 6 meeting held prior to the original scheduled public release of the document. The County, in concert with a recent PLPCO request, asks that the agencies host a meeting of Cooperating Agencies to consult and coordinate on the draft prior to its release to the public. Such a meeting would allow for meaningful consultation and coordination consistent with law and help facilitate resolution of any inconsistencies with local plans.

HISTORY/PAST ACTION

San Juan County has been a Cooperating Agency in this planning effort from its beginning.

FISCAL IMPACT

Unknown pending finalization of the plan.