

Coalition Briefs
September 2017

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The Coalition To Protect America's National Parks

Voices of Experience

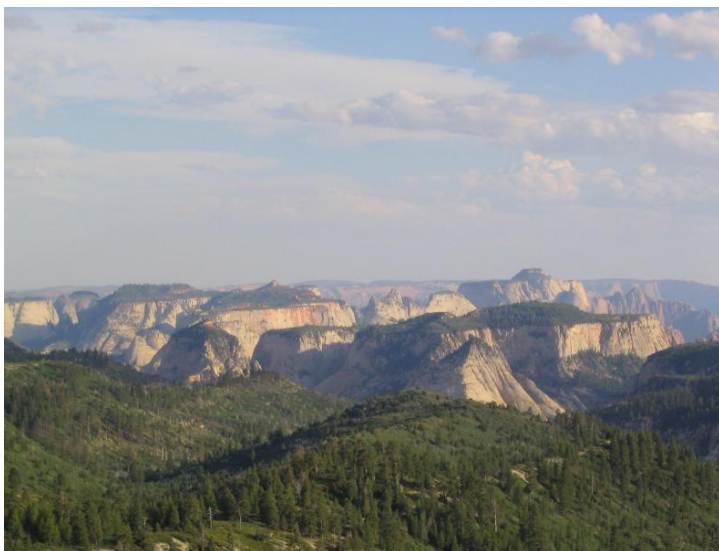
In This Brief

Over 350 Coalition
Members Sign
Letter to Secretary
Zinke Against Oil
and Gas
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Op-Ed: Will Ryan

Over 350 Coalition Members Sign Letter to Secretary Zinke Against Oil and Gas Development Around National Parks



This past month, the Coalition launched a sign on letter for our members to voice their concern for the alarming number of oil and

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Happy 101st
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gas proposals that are advancing next to national parks, as well as broader efforts by the Interior Department to reduce protections for national parks in order to encourage oil and gas drilling.

Thank you to our over 350 members who signed this letter! We are very grateful for you lending your voices of experience as part of our effort to protect national parks from oil and gas development.

Click below to read the full letter delivered to Secretary Zinke.

[Read the Full Letter](#)

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Today**

**Coalition Files Amicus Curiae Brief
Regarding Proposed Dominion Surry-Skiffes
Creek-Wheaton Transmission Line Project**



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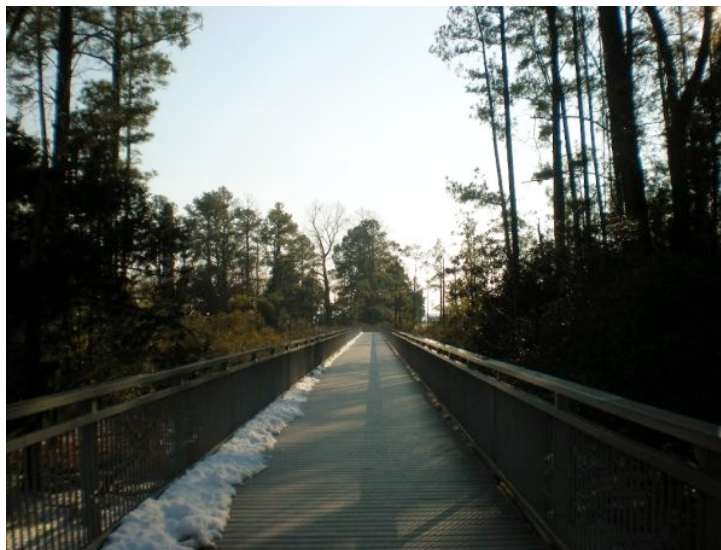
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The Coalition recently submitted an amicus brief and associated motion against the Proposed Dominion Surry-Skiffes Creek-Wheaton Transmission Line Project along with the National Parks Conservation Associated, Former 18th Director of the National Park Service Jonathan B. Jarvis, and American Rivers, Inc.

Click below to read the full brief and motion.

[Read the Full Brief and Motion](#)

Op-Ed: Will Ryan Zinke Protect Our Public Lands?

Membership Update

The Coalition's membership currently stands at **1,382** members.

Website Links

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On August 23, Coalition Executive Council Chair Maureen Finnerty wrote on op-ed about the protection of America's public lands.

From the op-ed: "The Coalition to Protect America's National Parks has actively participated throughout the public comment period regarding this onerous demand by President Trump. We have urged Secretary Zinke to reflect on the words he spoke during his January confirmation hearing before the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. He stated, then, that he is 'an unapologetic admirer of Teddy Roosevelt and believes he had it right when he placed under federal protection millions of acres of federal lands.' We could not agree more; as president, Roosevelt used the Antiquities Act to create 18 national monuments, including the Grand Canyon.

"Now, just a few months into his new job, Secretary Zinke has already reached a critical fork in the road. The Coalition urges that he act on these early promises and protect the 27 national monuments and leave them as they are. Doing so clearly reflects the duties of his office and the wishes of the American people."

Click below to read the full op-ed.

Read the Op-Ed

What We're Reading This Month

-**In Memoriam:** Cecil Andrus, the longest-serving governor of Idaho, who saved Castle Peak from miners and engineered the protection of 25 percent of Alaska as wilderness, wildlife refuges and national parks, passed away this month. Read more [by clicking this link](#).

-*"In a move that's drawing fierce criticism, the acting head of the National Park Service has rescinded a 2016 order by the Obama administration that called for a focus on climate change in managing natural resources in U.S. parks."* Read the full article titled, "NPS Chief Scraps Climate-Focused Order" [by clicking this link](#).

-*"One way that the National Park Service is addressing its infrastructure needs is through in-kind donations from the private sector. Across the country, companies are donating equipment, upgrading systems, and sharing expertise that is helping to reduce costs at some of our most iconic sites."* Read the full article from The Pew Charitable Trusts titled, "Corporate Expertise and Equipment Enhance National Parks" [by clicking this link](#).

-**Eclipse Across America:** Don't miss this video from the Department of the Interior showing the experiences of the hundreds of thousands of people who watched the August 21st solar eclipse on America's public lands. Watch [by clicking this link](#).

Video of the Month: Happy 101st Birthday to the National Park

Service!



On August 25, 2017, the National Park Service celebrated its 101st birthday! How does the National Park Service continue to inspire people? [Click here](#) to watch the full video.

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