



# United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
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In Reply Refer To:  
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## Memorandum

To: State Director, Utah

From: Robert V. Abbey  
Director

Subject: Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument Management Plan Implementation Review Team Report

Attached please find the final results of the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument (GSENM) Management Plan (Plan) implementation review.

Over the last year a number of external stakeholders have expressed concern over the slow progress and manner in which the Bureau of Land Management has implemented the GSENM Plan, which was completed in 2000. In response to the issues that have been raised, I directed that the Office of the National Landscape Conservation System and Community Partnerships (NLCS) conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the Plan's implementation and how implementation priorities have been set and carried out. The Team, led by Jim Murkin, examined a wide variety of planning, environmental analysis, budget, and activity level planning-related documents and conducted almost 100 interviews with GSENM staff and external stakeholders. The Team's findings and recommendations are documented in the attached report.

The GSENM is the BLM's first and largest national monument, designated by Presidential Proclamation in 1996. It was also the first national monument created with the express intent that it be managed by the BLM. It is important to me and our many stakeholders that we ensure the long-term protection and enhancement of the Monument's myriad historic and scientific resources and make it a showcase for collaborative science-based management.

As recommended in the Team's report, I ask that by September 30, 2010, you submit to me a plan that describes what actions the Utah State Office and the GSENM staff will take to address the findings and recommendations from the report. I understand that the Monument has already begun an effort to revise its Table of Organization, and that a Plan Implementation Strategy Workshop is scheduled for November. I appreciate your attention to this important effort, and offer the assistance of the Washington Office NLCS staff.

If you have any questions about the report, please contact Carl Rountree at (202) 208-3516 or Kristin Bail at (202) 912-7078.

### 3 Attachments

- 1 - Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument Management Plan Implementation Review (25 pp)
- 2 - Appendix A – Review Team Members (1 p)
- 3 - Appendix B – Interview Questions (5 pp)