



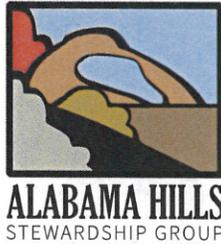
Subject: Alabama Hills National Scenic Area Legislation

Advocates for Access to Public Lands (501-C-4 non profit) is in "support of the recently introduced House and Senate bills (HR 496 and the California Desert Conservation and Recreation Act of 2015 / Title X1X – Alabama Hills National Scenic Area) designating the Alabama Hills a National Scenic Area."

Our organization is pleased with the legislative language that includes access opportunities for the public to enjoy the Alabama Hills for its scenic beauty.

Sincerely,

Dick Noles, President
Advocates for Access to Public Lands
136 Edwards St.
Bishop, Ca 93514



March 9, 2015

The Honorable Paul Cook
United States Congress
1222 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

SUBJECT: PROPOSED ALABAMA HILLS SCENIC AREA

Dear Congressman Cook:

The Alabama Hills Stewardship Group fully supports the recently introduced House and Senate bills (HR 496 and the California Desert Conservation and Recreation Act of 2015/ Title XIX-Alabama Hills National Scenic Area, respectively) designating the Alabama Hills a National Scenic Area, as recommended by the Alabama Hills Stewardship Group (AHSG).

The designation will guarantee appropriate access to the lands by visitors and local residents alike engaged in recreational activities. Tourism is an important local job creating industry in the area. It will also allow for better-funded maintenance and management of this area, preserving the scenic value important to the future of tourism in the Owens Valley.

The AHSG followed an extended and thoughtful process, identifying forty user groups then consulting with them before settling on the designation of National Scenic Area as the best for this historic and visually stunning area. We support having local groups and communities leading the way and being able to give input on these decisions about our public lands.

It is precisely this local collaborative effort that led to a solution, which is best for the environment, the community, visitors and the diverse users of the Alabama Hills. The AHSG's process provides an excellent model for all such future considerations for the selection of federal designations for appropriate public landscapes. We appreciate your willingness to listen to the voice of the local Owens Valley residents. We encourage you to spearhead the passing of the legislation making the Alabama Hills a National Scenic area.

Sincerely,

Christopher Langley
President
Alabama Hills Stewardship Group



BISHOP AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & VISITORS BUREAU

Congressman Paul Cook
1222 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

March 23, 2015

Dear Congressman Cook:

I am writing to you today on behalf of the Bishop Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Bureau (BACCVB). The BACCVB proudly represents more than 300 business and individual members in our region. We've been following the efforts of the Alabama Hills Stewardship Group to designate the Alabama Hills near Lone Pine, CA as a National Scenic Area.

At the BACCVB Board of Directors meeting on March 19, 2015, our Board voted unanimously to support recently introduced House and Senate Bills (HR 496 and the California Desert Conservation and Recreation Act of 2015/ Title XIX Alabama Hills National Scenic Area.

The Alabama Hills area is a special place and is very important for a variety of reasons to a wide range of users. During at least two years of study, the Alabama Hills Stewardship Group has gone to great lengths to gather input from all users and stakeholders including rock climbers, ATV riders, cattle ranchers, local businesses, film makers and preservation groups.

Tourism is the main economic driver of our regional economy. People visit the Alabama Hills for many diverse activities and the designation of National Scenic Area is the most appropriate to balance the needs of users with the necessity to preserve this special place so that future generations may enjoy it.

We appreciate your attention to this important legislation and encourage you to support making the Alabama Hills a National Scenic Area.

Sincerely,

Tawni Thomson, Executive Director
Bishop Area Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau

VOICE 760-873-8405 FAX 760-873-6999



The Other Side of California
DEATH VALLEY AND THE EASTERN SIERRA

EXECDIR@BISHOPVISITOR.COM



BISHOP AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & VISITORS BUREAU

Senator Dianne Feinstein
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

March 23, 2015

Dear Senator Feinstein:

I am writing to you today on behalf of the Bishop Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Bureau (BACCVB). The BACCVB proudly represents more than 300 business and individual members in our region. We've been following the efforts of the Alabama Hills Stewardship Group to designate the Alabama Hills near Lone Pine, CA as a National Scenic Area.

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Sincerely,


Tawni Thomson, Executive Director
Bishop Area Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau

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The Other Side of California
DEATH VALLEY AND THE EASTERN SIERRA

EXECDIR@BISHOPVISITOR.COM



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF INYO

P. O. BOX N • INDEPENDENCE, CALIFORNIA 93526
TELEPHONE (760) 878-0373 • FAX (760) 878-2241
e-mail: pgunsolley@inyocounty.us

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD
DAN TOTEROH
JEFF GRIFFITHS
RICK PUCCI
MARK TILLEMANS
MATT KINGSLEY

KEVIN D. CARUNCHIO
Clerk of the Board

PATRICIA GUNSOLLEY
Assistant Clerk of the Board

March 10, 2015

The Honorable Colonel Paul Cook (Ret.)
United States Congress
1222 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Subject: Support for HR 496 establishing the Alabama Hills National Scenic Area

Dear Representative Cook:

The Inyo County Board of Supervisors wishes to thank you and communicate its unequivocal support for your recently introduced legislation (H.R. 496) to establish the Alabama Hills National Scenic Area.

Your legislation reaffirms and validates the efforts of the Alabama Hills Stewardship Group to obtain local consensus and support for protecting the Alabama Hills, and the activities that Americans and visitors have enjoyed in this special place for the past 100-years. The Alabama Hills Stewardship Group has worked tirelessly for many years to address the concerns of County residents and public lands users, and the Board of Supervisors applauds this exemplary community-based initiative. The Board also appreciates you recognizing this work, and taking care to develop legislation that purposefully ensures that the future management of the Alabama Hills does not eliminate the specific uses the community seeks to protect.

The benefits of protecting one of Inyo County's treasured landscapes, so that future generations can enjoy the same access, use, and enjoyment that residents and visitors have experienced in the Alabama Hills up to this time are self-evident, and the Board of Supervisors is grateful for your leadership and thanks you and offers its continued support for your efforts.

Sincerely,

Supervisor Matt Kingsley, Chairperson
Inyo County Board of Supervisors

cc: The Honorable Senator Dianne Feinstein
Inyo County Board of Supervisors
Kevin Carunchio, CAO
Marge Kemp-Williams, County Counsel
Joshua Hart, Planning Director
Rural County Representatives of California
California State Association of Counties
National Association of Counties
Alabama Hills Stewardship Group



CITY OF BISHOP

377 West Line Street – Bishop, CA 93514
P.O. Box 1236 – Bishop, CA 93515
City Hall (760) 873-5863 – Fax (760) 873-4873

February 24, 2015

The Honorable Paul Cook
United States Congress
1222 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

SUBJECT: PROPOSED ALABAMA HILLS SCENIC AREA

Dear Congressman Cook:

The City Council of the City of Bishop is in full support of the recently introduced House and Senate bills (HR 496 and the California Desert Conservation and Recreation Act of 2015 / Title XIX – Alabama Hills National Scenic Area, respectively) designating the Alabama Hills a National Scenic Area, as presented by the Alabama Hills Stewardship Group Designation Subcommittee. The Alabama Hills are a unique and special natural treasure that deserves such recognition and protection.

We strongly believe that designation should not come at the expense of those who utilize our federal lands, and that local communities should have an opportunity to give input and shape the use of such lands. We also believe that the best solutions incorporate the needs of as many of the varied stakeholders as possible. The Alabama Hills Stewardship Group gathered comments from over 40 groups such as OHV users, environmentalists, cattle ranchers, Inyo County Supervisors and business owners. After nearly two years of work, the Subcommittee determined that the National Scenic Area Designation is the most appropriate for the Alabama Hills.

It is precisely this local collaborative effort that led to a solution that is best for the environment, the community, and the users of the Alabama Hills. Indeed, the local collaborative process should be emulated for future major federal land use decisions. The members of the Alabama Hills Stewardship Group are to be commended for their effort. We appreciate your willingness to listen to the voice of the local Owens Valley populace, and encourage you to pass the introduced legislation making the Alabama Hills National Scenic Area a federal designation.

Sincerely,

Pat Gardner
Mayor, City of Bishop



3/2/2015

To: Alabama Hills Stewardship Group, Inc. (AHSG)

The Eastern Sierra 4x4 Club supports the activities of the ASHG and is in support of the recently introduced House and Senate bills (HR496 and the California Desert and Recreation Act of 2015/ Title XIX- Alabama Hills National Scenic Area) designating the Alabama Hills a National Scenic Area.

Mike Johnston

President

March 1, 2015

The Honorable Paul Cook
United States Congress
1222 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman:

Friends of the Inyo strongly supports the recently introduced House and Senate bills (HR 496 and the California Desert Conservation and Recreation Act of 2015 / Title XIX – Alabama Hills National Scenic Area) designating the Alabama Hills a National Scenic Area. The designation of a National Scenic Area in the Alabama Hills will help guide future management to protect this unique landscape for residents and visitors while providing opportunities for economic development in Lone Pine and the Southern Owens Valley.

Friends of the Inyo praises the efforts of the Alabama Hills Stewardship Group to seek the creation of the Alabama Hills National Scenic Area. We have supported their inclusive process from the beginning, and are pleased that you have introduced the proposed legislation to protect the Alabama Hills in the future.

Thank you for your work to identify and protect special public lands throughout California. We look forward to continue working with the Alabama Hills Stewardship Group through the process of designating and establishing a management plan for a national scenic area in the Alabama Hills.

Sincerely,

Sydney Quinn
President

March 2, 2015
The Honorable Paul Cook
United States Congress
1222 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

SUBJECT: PROPOSED ALABAMA HILLS SCENIC AREA

Dear Congressman Cook:

The Inyo County Film Commission fully supports the recently introduced House and Senate bills (HR 496 and the California Desert Conservation and Recreation Act of 2015/ Title XIX-Alabama Hills National Scenic Area, respectively) designating the Alabama Hills a National Scenic Area, as recommended by the Alabama Hills Stewardship Group (AHSG) Designation Subcommittee.

The designation will guarantee appropriate access to the important locations for film companies and film project managers, an important local job creating industry. It will also allow for better-funded maintenance and management of this area, preserving the scenic value important to the film industry.

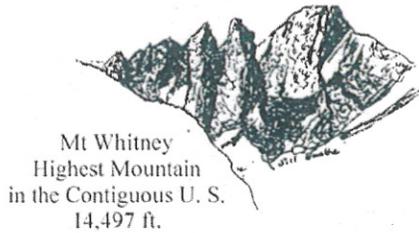
The AHSG followed an extended and thoughtful process, identifying then consulting with forty user groups before settling on the designation of National Scenic Area as the best for this historic and visually stunning area. We support having local groups and communities leading the way and being able to give input on these decisions about our public lands.

It is precisely this local collaborative effort that led to a solution, which is best for the environment, the community and the diverse users of the Alabama Hills. The AHSG's process provides an excellent model for all such future considerations for the selection of federal designations for appropriate public landscapes. We appreciate your willingness to listen to the voice of the local Owens Valley residents and local movie employees. We encourage you to spearhead the passing of the legislation making the Alabama Hills a National Scenic area.

Sincerely,



Christopher Langley
Inyo County Film Commissioner



Inyo County Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Terence K. McAteer

February 25, 2015

To Whom It May Concern,

I want to lend my and the Inyo County educational community's complete support behind the legislation to create the Alabama Hills National Scenic Area. This important piece of legislation will not only create an economic boom for Southern Inyo County, it will provide an educational opportunity for our residents, our youth, and our visitors. The work of the stewardship steering committee is commendable and has been exceedingly inclusive.

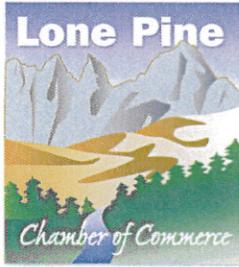
The Alabama Hills are a very special place that needs to be preserved for our youth. The historical, cultural, and scenic value of this area is truly extraordinary and I look forward to assisting the stewardship group in enhancing the educational opportunities available to all. I pledge to working with the stewardship committee to insure youth groups gain access to the area. Having annual field trips for all of our youth in Inyo County will be a hallmark to the success of this project.

I urge passage of the Alabama Hills National Scenic Area legislation.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Terence K. McAteer".

Terence K. McAteer



LONE PINE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

120 South Main Street ~ P.O. Box 749 ~ Lone Pine, CA 93545
(760) 876-4444 ~ Fax (760) 264-9675

March 2, 2015

The Honorable Paul Cook
United States Congress
1222 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 205105

Dear Congressman Cook:

The Lone Pine Chamber supports the recently introduced House and Senate bills HR496 and the California Desert Conservation and Recreation Act of 2015/Title XXIX – Alabama Hills National Scenic Area respectively.

This Bill is the result of a collaborative effort of the community, BLM and the Alabama Hills Stewardship Group. All stakeholders have put their efforts into this proposal and we the Chamber fully support this Bill.

Thank you for helping make this designation a reality.

Sincerely,
/s/
Kathleen New
President/CEO

Lone Pine Paiute-Shoshone Reservation

P.O. Box 747 • 975 Teya Road
Lone Pine, CA 93545
(760) 876-1034 FAX (760) 876-8302
Web Site: www.lppsr.org

March 10, 2015

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

RE: Proposed Alabama Hills Scenic Area

Dear Senator Feinstein;

The Lone Pine Paiute-Shoshone Reservation (LPPSR) is in support of the recently introduced House and Senate bills (HR 496 and the California Desert Conservation and Recreation Act of 2015 / Title XIX - Alabama Hills National Scenic Area) designating the Alabama Hills a National Scenic Area.

The LPPSR has been a part of the Alabama Hills Stewardship Committee since its creation. We have supported the continued efforts needed to preserve the Alabama Hills in their semi-primitive state to be enjoyed by future generations. We greatly respect the commitment to an open process, inclusion of all those concerned with the issue, and protecting traditional usage as we have all known. Because of the extensive pre-historical and historical habitation of our Valley by indigenous people, the BLM has found themselves to be caretakers of numerous culturally significant and sacred sites. The Tribes of the Owens Valley have welcomed this partnership as a means to optimally safeguard these sites from damage and destruction.

While determining the boundary of the designation area, there was concern over the fact that the LPPSR currently uses a cemetery which was on both Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and US Forest Service (USFS) property. Tribal officials have since met with BLM and USFS representatives and reached a verbal agreement to transfer this land to the LPPSR. The LPPSR General Council then voted to accept the transfer and place the land within the boundaries of the Natural Scenic Area designation to ensure the best possible protection of our cultural resources and continued usage. Including the land transfer as part of the legislation will be an advantage to all parties involved.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Mary Wuester
Chairperson



Kathy Jefferson Bancroft
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

cc: Congressman Paul Cook
Alabama Hills Stewardship Group, Inc.

Lone Pine Paiute-Shoshone Reservation

P.O. Box 747 • 975 Teya Road
Lone Pine, CA 93545
(760) 876-1034 FAX (760) 876-8302
Web Site: www.lppsr.org

Tuesday, March 10, 2015

The Honorable Paul Cook
United States Congress
1222 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Proposed Alabama Hills Scenic Area

Dear Mr. Cook,

The Lone Pine Paiute-Shoshone Reservation (LPPSR) is in support of the recently introduced House and Senate bills (HR 496 and the California Desert Conservation and Recreation Act of 2015 / Title XIX - Alabama Hills National Scenic Area) designating the Alabama Hills a National Scenic Area.

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Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Mary Wuester
Chairperson



Kathy Jefferson Bancroft
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

cc: Senator Dianne Feinstein
Alabama Hills Stewardship Group, Inc.