Extent

47 folders, approximately 2,914 pages

Summary

This collection consists of material dealing with documents addressed to President Clinton from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the Chair of the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) containing recommendations for the establishment of the following national monuments: Sonoran Desert, Upper Missouri River Breaks, Carrizo Plain, Craters of the Moon, Vermillion Cliffs, Hanford Reach, Canyons of the Ancients, Ironwood Forest, Giant Sequoia, Grand Canyon-Parashant, and Grand Canyon-Escalante. The collection includes memoranda, maps, press releases, correspondence, newspaper articles, and drafts of proclamations.

Scope and Content Note

The materials in 2017-0879-F are a selective body of documents responsive to the topic of the FOIA. Researchers should consult the archivist about related material. During his Administration President Clinton created 19 national monuments. These national monuments are managed by one of several federal agencies: the National Park Service, United States Forest Service, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, or the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). In the case of Clinton, the majority of the areas were under the control of the BLM. The WHORM (White House Office of Records Management)-Subject File-General contains material dealing with the designation of the following national monuments by President Clinton: Grand Canyon Parashant, Agua Fria, California Coastal, Vermillion Cliffs, President Lincoln and Soldiers' Home, Grand Staircase-Escalante, and Giant Sequoia. Moreover, documents can be found concerning the enlargement of national monuments located at Pinnacles and Craters of the Moon. Five of those listed are among the items asked for in FOIA request 2017-0879-F. Types of records in this collection include memoranda, press releases, lists, maps, drafts, proclamations,

correspondence, notes, bibliographies, tracking sheets, faxes, newspaper articles, and handwritten notes. Memos are generally addressed to the President and deal with specific issues related to proclamations and the establishment of national monuments. Franklin D. Raines, who was head of the OMB for two years (1996-1998) during the Clinton administration, acted as a conduit between affected agencies and the presidency. That is, he presented the proposed proclamation to the departments with the most at stake and received their objections, if any, to the proffered changes. Based on the information he accumulated, Raines would advise the President on the course of action that should be pursued. Kathleen A. McGinty was Chair of the Council for Environmental Quality (CEQ) for three years (1995-1998). With respect to the creation of Grand Staircase-Escalante in Utah as a national monument the trail of correspondence reveals a situation full of obtacles that had to be overcome. McGinty goes into some degree of specificity about the strident opposition of the state's political leaders (Leavitt, Hatch, and Orton); then she brings up a possible meeting between Babbitt and Leavitt to discuss the issues. There are a sizable number of other records related to national monuments. Maps (most in black and white; a few in color) display the proposed national monument. Bibliographies list information about proposed sites like the Giant Sequoia National Monument and can be broken down with the subdivisions historic resources, prehistoric and ethnographic references, paleontological resources, giant sequoias, ecological resources, fire and fuel conditions, hydrologic, geologic, and soil resources, general information/background information, botanical resources, and wildlife resources. Multiple copies of "Presidents and the Antiquities Act" list the national monuments along with the acreage involved affected by each President from Theodore Roosevelt through George H.W. Bush. "Monuments of the Colorado Plateau" is a very detailed listing with information under the following headings: monument, specific object(s), categorical object(s), initial reservation, subsequent history/current status, and President. A similar document exists with the title "Monuments Established by Presidential Proclamation." The majority of the records in the White House Staff and Office Files come from the Counsel's Office. They take the form of emails, correspondence, schedules, memoranda, papers, notes, bibliographies, proclamations, drafts, press briefings, maps, and remarks. In the files of Bridget McGovern and Brad Winter the emails can be characterized as speculation about what sites might become national monuments. The files of Bridget McGovern, Jason Wilson, and Brad Winter deal primarily with the designation of national monuments in general. The controversy surrounding President Clinton's action in the

Beehive State is reflected in the material found in this segment of the collection. Correspondence—both favorable and unfavorable—turns up pertaining to Grand Staircase-Escalante being preserved. The Sierra Club resoundingly approved of what happened in Utah. In its September 20, 1996 letter to President Clinton, the organization “applauded the bold and visionary step you have taken in responding to [our] concerns for Utah’s scenically and biologically important wildlands.” Conversely, the Utah Public Education Coalition expressed outrage at what the Administration proposed to do. The final paragraph of their September 11, 1996 to the White House highlighted the principal reason the group opposed the move: “On behalf of the children and our schools, we ask that you not designate any further lands in Utah as a national monument without full consideration of the impacts on education in Utah and full compensation for any restrictions placed upon Utah’s school trust lands.” In the files of Ed McNicholas there are background materials for a variety of national monuments. These records relate mainly to the legal effects of the proposed proclamation and the administration of the monument; usually the agency in charge of managing the site is clearly set forth. The national monuments dealt with in the papers of McNicholas include the expansion for Pinnacles, Agua Fria, California Coastal, and Grand Canyon-Parashant. The records of Paul Oetken concern the designation of the Giant Sequoia National Monument. Drafts of the proclamation accomplishing this show up all over the place. Nineteen pages of Righteous Pilgrim: The Life and Times of Harold L. Ickes, 1874-1952 by T.H. Watkins have been photocopied. Ickes served as FDR’s Secretary of the Interior from 1933-1945 and was intimately involved in the initial steps to preserve the Giant Sequoia site in California for posterity. The excerpt from the book by Watkins focuses on the contributions Ickes made in this endeavor while serving in the cabinet of Roosevelt. In the files of Karl Racine specific national monuments are examined in some detail. They include Hanford Reach, Cascade-Siskiyou (also known as Soda Mountain), Canyons of the Ancients, and Ironwood Forest. Each location has a packet of material with a map (sometimes in color), relevant newspaper articles, an extensive memo from Babbitt to President Clinton addressing such issues as legal effects of the proclamation and administration of the monument, actual drafts of the proclamation, and a lengthy bibliography.

Record Type

Textual

System of Arrangement

Records that were responsive to this FOIA request were found in these collection areas—Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM Subject Files and Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files. The White House Office of Records Management (WHORM) contains a variety of series created to organize and track documents and correspondence. The WHORM Subject File was compiled by the White House Office of Records Management and is a series of categories designated by a letter/number combination. Staff and Office files are administered at the folder level by staff members within their individual offices and document all levels of administration activity. WHORM files are processed at the document level; whereas, Staff and Office files are processed at the folder level, that is, individual documents are not selected and removed from a folder for processing. While this method maintains folder integrity, it frequently results in the incidental processing of documents that are not wholly responsive to the subject area. FOIA 2017-0879-F includes WHORM records from these subject codes: PA002 Memorials – Monuments PA003 Parks – Reservations

Access

Collection is open to all researchers. Access to Clinton Presidential Records is governed by the Presidential Records Act (PRA) (44 U.S.C. Chapter 22, as amended) and Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 U.S.C. 552, as amended) and therefore records may be restricted in whole or in part in accordance with legal exemptions.

Copyright

Documents in this collection that were prepared by officials of the United States government as part of their official duties are in the public domain. Researchers are advised to consult the copyright law of the United States (17 U.S.C. Chapter 1) which governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material.

Provenance

Official records of William Jefferson Clinton’s presidency are housed at the Clinton Presidential Library and administered by the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) under the provisions of the Presidential Records Act.

Processed by

Staff Archivist, 2017. Previously restricted materials are added as they are released.

Last Modified Date

2017-12-14

Container List

View all digitized files in the National Archives Catalog (NAC)

The following is a list of documents and folders processed in response to 2017-0879-F:

Box 1
Clinton Presidential Records: WHORM: Subject Files

Category	Case Number
PA002	405860
	405874
	430279 [1]
	430279 [2]
	430279 [3]
	430279 [4]
PA003	186331SS [1]
	186331SS [2]
	186331SS [3]

186331SS [4]
186331SS [5]
186331SS [6]
186331SS [7]

Box 2

PA003 417306 [1]
417306 [2]
417306 [3]

Clinton Presidential Records: White House Staff and Office Files

Chief of Staff

Ickes, Harold

Utah 09/1996 (Grand Staircase-Escalante) – General [OA/ID 9173]

Counsel's Office

McGovern, Bridget; Wilson, Jason; Winter, Brad

National Monument Designation [1] [OA/ID 21669]
National Monument Designation [2] [OA/ID 21669]
National Monument Designation [3] [OA/ID 21669]
National Monument Designation [4] [OA/ID 21669]
National Monument Designation [5] [OA/ID 21669]
National Monument Designation [6] [OA/ID 21669]

McGovern, Bridget; Winter, Brad

Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument [Folder 1]: [1] [OA/ID 18584]
Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument [Folder 1]: [2] [OA/ID 18584]
Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument [Folder 1]: [3] [OA/ID 18584]

Box 3

Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument [Folder 1]: [4] [OA/ID 18584]
Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument [Folder 1]: [5] [OA/ID 18584]
Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument [Folder 1]: [6] [OA/ID 18584]
Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument [Folder 2]: [1] [OA/ID 18584]
Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument [Folder 2]: [2] [OA/ID 18584]
Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument [Folder 2]: [3] [OA/ID 18584]
Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument [Folder 2]: [4] [OA/ID 18584]
Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument [Folder 2]: [5] [OA/ID 18584]

McNicholas, Ed

National Monuments [1] [OA/ID 21516]
National Monuments [2] [OA/ID 21516]

Counsel's Office
Oetken, Paul
Sequoia National Monument [1] [OA/ID 40308]
Sequoia National Monument [2] [OA/ID 40308]
Sequoia National Monument [3] [OA/ID 40308]

Box 4
Racine, Karl
[National Monument Proposals] [1] [OA/ID 17086]
[National Monument Proposals] [2] [OA/ID 17086]
[National Monument Proposals] [3] [OA/ID 17086]
[National Monument Proposals] [4] [OA/ID 17086]
[National Monument Proposals] [5] [OA/ID 17086]
Legislative Affairs
Casstevens, Kay
National Monument [OA/ID 19832]
Millennium Council
Lovell, Ellen
1/17/01 POTUS Speech [Designation of National Monuments] [OA/ID 24194]
Public Liaison
Fine, Deborah
Utah National Monument [OA/ID 8751]

Box 5
Oversized Topographic Map of Escalante, Utah, 1985 – Edited and Published by the Bureau of Land Management [OA/ID 14088]

Content Available Online