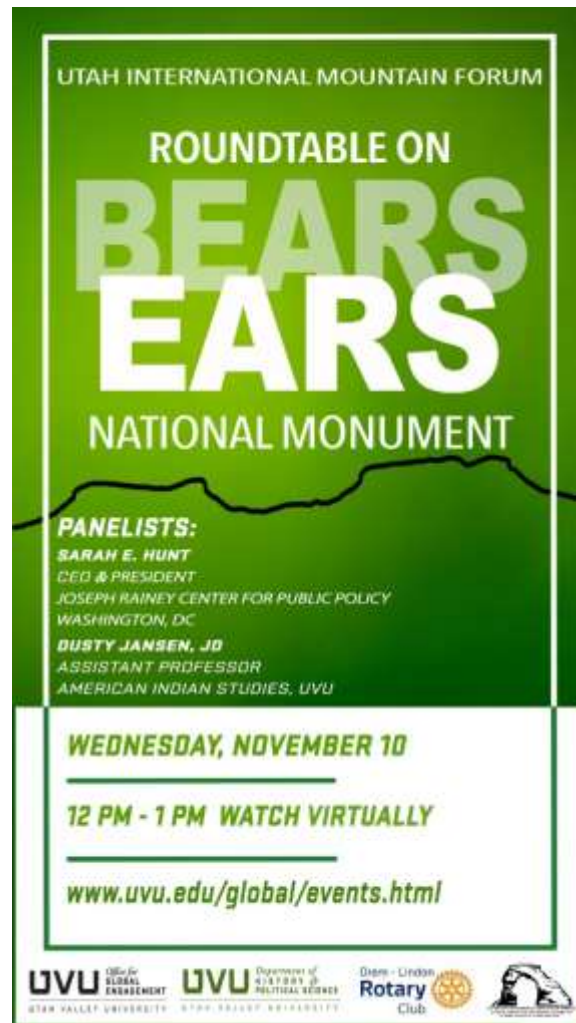


My Experience with the Bear Ears National Monument Roundtable Hosted by UIMF Students



Bears Ears is 1.36 million acres of public land. President Obama established bear ears as a national monument under authority of the 1906 antiquities act on December 28 2016 recognizing it as a sacred land of spiritual experience.

Speakers from different sides of the issue came together to present on November 10, 2021 at Utah Valley University. Lynn Hillstead was the first speaker as President of the Orem-Lindon Rotary Club. Rotary sounds like an awesome thing. I like that they create opportunities for students to succeed and empower them to become responsible global citizens. Rotary international's 7 categories of emphasis that include promoting peace, fighting disease, providing clean water sanitation and hygiene, saving

mothers and children, supporting education, growing local economies and protecting the environment. I love how involved the rotary act is with making a positive impact and giving back to so many different things. I even like that they have helped out Utah Valley University (UVU). Being an LDS person myself, I really like how President Hinckley, past President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, was brought up. I thought that was very interesting.

I like how Miss Hunt said "it's hard to make change if you see other people as enemies and not your neighbor". Something interesting I didn't know before is "if it's a national monument the federal government gets most of the money and the federal government manages the land" and "if it's Utah protected land then Utah gets the money " which is a common sense thing". I agree that nuclear power is a better option than borrowing more things from other countries because in my opinion that is the last thing we need with all the other worldly issues going on right now. I like how the video pointed out the climate change issue and we can't solve it without human need and that's why we need to keep using natural resources.

I like how it was brought up that when the government takes over land or money goes to the government out of certain things it's really harmful to the land and the state. I feel like a president cannot legally reduce a national monument but in my opinion I think it should be up to either congress or the state itself. I think everything is becoming political whether we like it or not and It's just something we have to deal with. I like how the view of native people was explained. I did not know that they were limited to one area and it was illegal for them to leave for a certain amount of time.

I think my favorite part was listening to how the native people lived and sending their kids to boarding school. I did not know they were sent to alcatraz for not wanting their kids in boarding school. I found out a lot of information about native people that I did not know before. I also did not know that native religion is land based. "Land is itself a living being". I loved the first question in the Q & A. In my opinion I believe that the state should have a bigger say than anyone else involved that just seems like common sense to me. I think in question 3, it's interesting to me why bears ears became a monument. It sounds like there was a lot of damage caused but I'm glad they tried to prevent things like that from happening.

-Taylor Herrera, Student of Utah Valley University