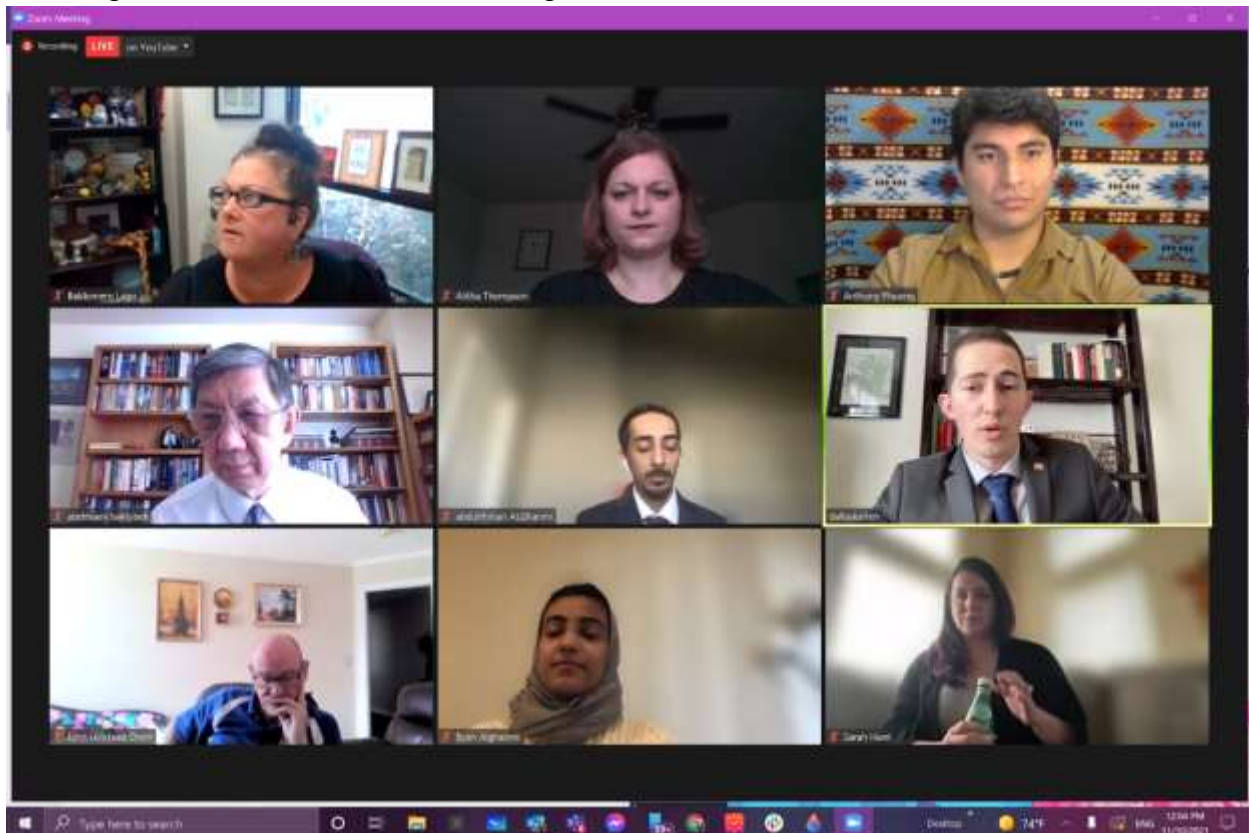


Bear Ears National Monument

According to the roundtable that was done on Bear Ears National Monument at Utah Valley University on November 10, 2022 the speakers made a lot of good points. I thought the speakers did a very good job at knowing what they were talking about and knew what information needed to be addressed. All of the points and perspectives were addressed well which made it easy to understand. I really enjoyed Sarah Hunt's perspective and views on the matter. All of the speakers did a great job, but hers is the one that stood out to me the most. Her entire goal is to bring peace and healing to the community. The fact that she starts off with this being her main focus helps me want to listen to what she has to say. She finds it important to see the best in people and values listening to others even if there is disagreement.



Participants of the roundtable on Bear Ears National Monument at Utah Valley University on November 10, 2021

As far as I have learned, there are many aspects that go into natural resources such as Bears National Monument. As far as what a monument is, still valued by the state but is not considered a nation park. It is much smaller but just as valued by the community and others who come to see it or visit. I find that it is important to understand the issue.

When discussing a national monument, congress does not need to be involved when establishing something like this. The state spends millions on the monument each year, but it is not a dent in cost considering other high expenses throughout the year for the state of Utah. Uranium is extremely important to the state and Bear Ears National Monument is one of the only places that provides it for us. Clean energy is extremely important as well, but uranium is not a necessity in order to do that, at least in other countries due to security issues that come along with it. There are many natural gas options that will help us be able to meet our climate goals and improve overall human health.

My own views support a lot of what was discussed. I fully support using natural resources in order to improve climate change and everyone's health to make ourselves healthier and our world healthier as well. Although there are many aspects to this expansion, there is no easy answer considering all of the decisions that need to be made. Overall, Bear Ears is extremely important to consider when looking at revenue for Utah. The federal government should not be the one to take over and gain all of that money that is gained for the state annually. I don't think they should get rid of the monument due to its beauty and all of the things it gives for the state of Utah. I enjoyed the discussion and feel that great points were made and addressed.

- **Savannah Wariner, Student at Utah Valley University**