The Bears Ears Inter-Tribal Coalition would like to wish you and your loved ones a very happy holiday season. We would also like to take this opportunity to personally thank you, as a member of our greater community, for all of the support you have given us over the past few years. Your contributions and warm messages have strengthened our efforts to protect and conserve the Bears Ears cultural landscape. With your help, we have grown our organizational capacities and have begun a great many projects, including our Indigenous informed land management plan. As the Coalition continues on this journey to protect the rights of Indigenous peoples and conserve living landscapes, we hope to find you by our side for years to come.

In the spirit of building and supporting our Bears Ears community, we would like to acknowledge all of your efforts to be more responsible stewards for our planet. To expand upon this, we would like to encourage you to seek out organizations and businesses that support Indigenous causes by working on critical issues that impact our daily and future lives. Whether these groups are protecting Indigenous homelands from the effects of climate change, cultivating food sovereignty, or increasing the visibility of Native people and their perspectives — they could all use our help during this season of generosity to make the world a better and more equitable place.

December 28th marks the third anniversary of the original establishment of the Bears Ears National Monument by President Obama. That proclamation followed many years of advocacy by the five Coalition Tribes to properly protect Bears Ears. As such, Bears Ears was named a national monument and was the first to be created from a Tribal proposal. This unprecedented monument is recognized as an achievement for Tribal sovereignty and substantive Native involvement in public land management. We honor this day as a celebration of Bears Ears, of the community who united to preserve the landscape, and of the people who continue to carry on the work. It is our hope that the sacred Bears Ears area will continue to be a place of healing and connection for present and future generations.

The Coalition remains steadfast in the effort to re-establish the original boundaries as the Monument was illegally reduced in 2017 by the current administration. In the meantime, you can contribute to the preservation of Bears Ears by visiting the land with respect. But don't stop there! Please remember to practice recreational activities with caution and mindfulness. By doing these things, you can help protect cultural and natural resources. Thank you for your continued support, and we will see you in the new year!