

Public Lands in Utah

Selected policies and events, 2012-2019



2012-2013

Legislature [enacts](#) the Transfer of Public Lands Act and [directs](#) Utah's [Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office \(PLPCO\)](#) to conduct a study and economic analysis of the transfer of federal lands to state ownership.



2015

Commission hires outside legal counsel and public relations firms.

Outside legal counsel presents its [legal analysis](#) that summarizes Utah's legal case against the federal government and steps to facilitate the transfer of federal lands to the state.



2017

Legislature [urges](#) the President to rescind the Bears Ears National Monument and [requests](#) a modification to the boundaries of the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument.

Legislature [asserts](#) Utah's commitment to remaining a public lands state.

President modifies the boundaries of the [Bears Ears](#) and [Grand Staircase-Escalante](#) National Monuments.



2019

Legislature passes [H.J.R. 17](#), expressing support for the Commission issuing an RFP to hire a consultant to form management plans for certain federally-controlled lands in the state.

Legislature and Governor support [S.C.R. 13](#), directing the state to pursue strategies for ensuring sound public lands management policies.

2014



Legislature [creates](#) the Commission for the Stewardship of Public Lands and [enacts](#) the Utah Wilderness Act.

PLPCO presents its [final report](#), which concludes that Utah could take ownership of lands and cover management costs.

2016



Legislature [enacts](#) the Utah Public Lands Management Act.

President [designates](#) Bears Ears as a national monument.

2018



Legislature [adopts](#) the [Statewide Resource Management Plan](#), on file with PLPCO.

Commission submits two letters to the LMC requesting approval to issue RFPs: one for a consultant to prepare [public land management plans](#) for certain federally-controlled lands in the state and one for a consultant to represent the Legislature's positions on public land issues in [Washington D.C.](#)