



**PRESS RELEASE**  
For Immediate Release  
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**Grand County Announces Update  
Related to Congressman Rob Bishop's Proposed Public Lands Bill for Southeastern Utah**

The initial public input period for Grand County residents in relation to Congressman Rob Bishop's public lands bill for southeastern Utah was completed on January 30, 2014. The County Council wishes to thank all who took the time to provide their thoughts and ideas. Approximately 170 letters were received.

A preliminary review indicates the major concerns of Grand County citizens relate to recreation, roads, wilderness, economy, quality of life, water, and resource development. The Council study committee will now review all comments in further detail and prepare an array of alternatives for addressing these issues for presentation to residents at an approaching public meeting, date to be determined and published.

Grand County is posting informational material at [www.grandcountyutah.net](http://www.grandcountyutah.net) main page including all public comment letters received. The county site will also provide citizens an opportunity to review the alternative maps, when available, prior to the public meeting.

Preliminary plans call for a public meeting sometime in mid- to late-March at the Grand Center. Grand County will inform the local news media and provide the date on the county's website with as much lead time as possible for the public meeting date.

The public meeting will be hosted by a professional facilitator, and verbal comments will be received at the meeting. There will be an additional time period after the meeting for written comments from county residents on the alternatives drafted by the Council study committee. The final phase will consist of the Council's review of the public comments and alternatives suggested by the Council study committee followed by the Council's vote during an open, public meeting on a preferred alternative to forward to Congressman Bishop for consideration in his proposed legislation.

Grand County residents are reminded that this entire process and final legislative action is not in the control of the Grand County Council. The process is driven by a Congressional legislative proposal. Congressman Bishop has indicated he will present initial legislation later this summer. The public input process Grand County is engaged in will inform the Congressman's proposed legislation; in this way, Congress would not be expected to alone determine the best recourse for Grand County citizens. Congressman Bishop and other Congressional leaders will make the final decisions.

Given the limited timeframe for Grand County's ability to weigh in on this important legislation, an expensive, fully integrated 18-24 month study with task groups, field trips, and professional facilitation and automated processes will simply not be possible.