



Ysleta del Sur Pueblo

Tribal Council

119 South Old Pueblo Road • P.O. Box 17579 • El Paso, Texas 79917 • (915) 859-8053 • Fax: (915) 859-4252

March 16, 2012

Dear President Obama,

We are writing on behalf of the Ysleta del Sur Pueblo, a federally recognized tribe with land near El Paso, TX, and just south of Las Cruces, NM.

We believe strongly that the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks region deserves permanent protection. Without such protection, cultural resources and connections to spiritual places can be lost forever for native cultures. These cultures, like our own, depend on areas like the confluence of two desert canyons lined by hundreds of petroglyphs that would be protected by the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument.

The past and current use of these lands by native peoples, including members of Ysleta del Sur Pueblo and other Puebloan peoples, attest to its significance as a traditional cultural property. Protecting the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks region as a National Monument will protect unique cultural resources, allowing our children and grandchildren to know and appreciate the beauty, bounty, and spiritual significance of these lands. Protection of the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument is an issue of great importance, and we call on all to support this needed step in our shared journey.

Sincerely,

Carlos Hisa
Lieutenant Governor