

To: Interested parties

From: GBA Strategies

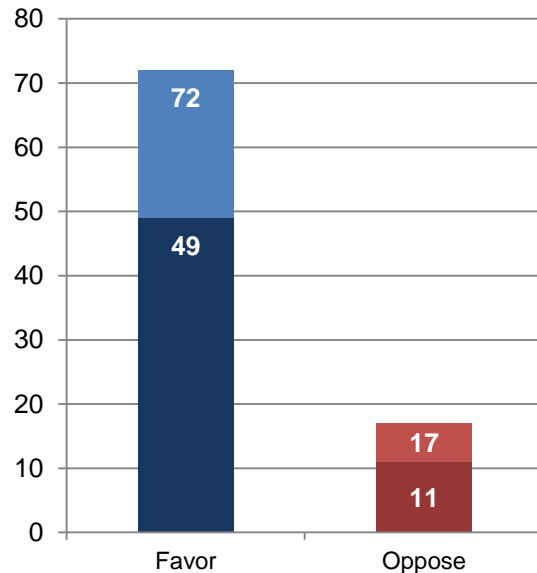
Date: January 21, 2014

### Organ Mountains - Desert Peaks National Monument Survey Results

A new survey<sup>1</sup> of Dona Ana County, New Mexico residents shows extremely strong support for establishing the Organ Mountains - Desert Peaks National Monument. By a margin of 72 – 17 percent, residents favor creating the monument, including nearly half (49 percent) who say they are “strongly” in favor.

The Organ Mountains - Desert Peaks Conservation Act, introduced in Congress by New Mexico Senators Tom Udall and Martin Heinrich, would protect approximately 500,000 acres of public lands in the Organ Mountains as well as landmarks, historical and archeological sites, and other natural areas in Dona Ana County. This proposal is designed to not only protect the area’s outstanding natural values, but also conserve a wide range of nationally significant historic and cultural sites in the region.

**Strong Support for the Organ Mountains - Desert Peaks National Monument**



**Question:** As you may know, establishing the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument would protect public lands in the Organ Mountains, as well as prominent landmarks such as Butterfield Stagecoach Trail, Apollo space mission test sites at Kilbourne Hole, World War II-era Deming Bombing Targets, Geronimo's Cave and hundreds of archeological sites, as well as other natural areas north, south, and west of Las Cruces including the Sierra de las Uvas, Robledo, and Potrillo Mountains.

Now that you have more information, do you favor or oppose the proposal to establish the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument?

<sup>1</sup> This survey was administered by GBA Strategies and conducted January 16<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>, 2014. It interviewed 400 people in Dona Ana County on both landlines and cell phones. The results are subject to a margin of error of ±4.9 percent at the 95 percent confidence interval.

The Organ Mountains - Desert Peaks proposal enjoys exceedingly broad, bi-partisan support throughout the county. It's supported by Democrats (84 – 8 percent favor-oppose), Republicans (50 – 35 percent), and independents (76 – 16 percent). Hispanics, in particular, are widely behind the plan, with 82 percent in favor and only 10 percent opposed, while Anglos also favor it by a strong 67 – 23 percent margin.

Importantly, the majority in Dona Ana County prefers the more extensive protections provided by creating the comprehensive Organ Mountains - Desert Peaks National Monument over a more limited proposal. This competing proposal, introduced by Congressman Steve Pearce, would create a pared down national monument that leaves out several areas.

When offered a choice between protecting the areas included in the proposal for the Organ Mountains - Desert Peaks National Monument and the smaller Pearce-sponsored proposal, Dona Ana County residents favor the more comprehensive protections by a large margin of 60 – 24 percent, with 42 percent “strongly” in favor.

**Question:** As you may know, there are two different proposals being considered by Congress that would establish the Organ Mountains as a National Monument.

One proposal, supported by Senators Tom Udall and Martin Heinrich, would designate the Organ Mountains as a National Monument, as well as prominent landmarks such as Butterfield Stagecoach Trail, Apollo space mission test sites at Kilbourne Hole, World War II-era Deming Bombing Targets, Geronimo's Cave, and other natural areas north, south, and west of Las Cruces including the Sierra de las Uvas, Robledo, and Potrillo Mountains.

The other proposal, supported by Congressman Steve Pearce, would establish the Organ Mountains as a National Monument, but would not include other landmarks and areas.

Thinking about these two proposals, which proposal would you favor more - the proposal that would establish the Organ Mountains as a National Monument as well as other landmarks and natural areas, OR the proposal that would establish the Organ Mountains as a National Monument but NOT include the other landmarks and areas?

