



23RD NAVAJO NATION COUNCIL OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

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MEDIA CONTACTS

Jared Touchin (928) 221-9253
Jolene Holgate (928) 380-4174
Crystalyne Curley (928) 286-7918
nnlb.communications@gmail.com

Delegate Filfred receives Marjory Stoneman Douglas Award on behalf of the Navajo Nation

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah – At the end of November, members of the Bears Ears Inter-Tribal Coalition received the Marjory Stoneman Douglas Award from the National Parks Conservation Association. The coalition member tribes include the Navajo Nation, Hopi Tribe, Ute Indian Tribe, Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, and the Zuni Tribe.

Council Delegate Davis Filfred (Mexican Water, Aneth, Teecnospos, Tólikan, Red Mesa), the designated representative on the Bears Ears Commission for the Navajo Nation, accepted the award on behalf of the Navajo Nation at the 1st Annual Indigenous Dinner, “for outstanding leadership in advocating for the protection of their sacred ancestral lands as the Bears Ears National Monument.”

Delegate Filfred expressed gratitude to the NPCA for the award and said the award was unexpected, however, he was happy to share the award with the Utah Navajo Communities and the other coalition member-tribes.

“We were not expecting this award because it is our jobs as leaders to protect our land areas and advocate on behalf for these protections. This was a collective effort and I commend all the tribal leaders and organizations who worked diligently and passionately to protect Bears Ears,” said Delegate Filfred.

Delegate Filfred added that he accepting this award on behalf of everyone who worked hard on the initiative and wanted to recognize the Utah Navajo Chapters, the 23rd Navajo Nation Council, Office of the President and Vice President, Bears Ears Commission, and Utah Diné Bikeyah, for their continued support and advocacy to ensure protections for the Bears Ears National Monument.

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