

Emails Show That Utah Auditor John “Frugal” Dougall’s Staff Recommend An Anti-Public Lands Group Return \$400,000 To Utah Taxpayers.

Dougall’s Inaction And Friendship With The Group’s Director Raise Questions About His Ability To Be An Impartial Taxpayer Advocate.

SUMMARY: Utah State Auditor John “Frugal” Dougall was asked to investigate the Foundation for Integrated Resource Management (FIRM), a state-funded nonprofit that took \$400,000 in appropriations, promising to use it to sue the federal government over the designation of Bears Ears National Monument and other public lands issues. Years have passed, and Dougall appears to have made no such investigation despite a reputation for frugality.

New public records obtained through the Government Records Access and Management Act (GRAMA) show that Dougall’s inaction came after officials in Dougall’s office recommended that FIRM return \$400,000 in inappropriately-used taxpayer dollars.

The records also show that after a year of failing to do its contractually-obligated, taxpayer-funded work, FIRM established a new, extremely broad “scope of work” and was shielded from accountability by inaction at the top of the Utah Auditor’s office.

Dougall’s failure to act may be a result of conflicts of interest and personal biases. Dougall is a personal friend of FIRM’s founder Stan Summers and other public lands opponents. Dougall is vocally opposed to federal public lands, the designation of the Bears Ears National Monument, and has expressed sympathy and support for anti-government extremists.

After Five Years Of The Foundation For Resource Management’s Failure To Sue The Federal Government, A Utah Accountant In The Office Of The Auditor Told Auditor John Dougall The Hundreds Of Thousands Given To The Group Should Be Returned To The State-

- A Year Later, John Dougall Appears To Have Failed To Take Action.

Utah State Auditor John Dougall Was Asked To Investigate A Nonprofit That Promised To Use Taxpayer Dollars To Sue The Feds Over Bears Ears National Monument

A State-Funded Nonprofit Took \$400,000 That It Promised To Use To Sue Over Bears Ears. Instead, The Money Went To Staff And Lobbyists.

FIRM Received \$400,000 From The State Of Utah Division Of Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office, Obtaining The Full Contract Amount Of Both Their 2016 And 2017 Contracts. “On September 29, 2016, the Foundation was awarded a contract by the State of Utah

Division of Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office. [...] The Foundation received the full \$250,000 contract award amount in cash on October 13, 2016. On August 1, 2017, the Foundation was awarded a contract by the State of Utah Division of Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office. [...] The Foundation received the full \$150,000 contract award amount in cash on October 10, 2017." [Utah Auditor, Financial Statements And Accountant's Complication Report, 2019 & 2018, [03/24/20](#)]

- **The Foundation For Integrated Resource Management (FIRM) Took Taxpayer Dollars On A Promise To Sue The Federal Government Over Bears Ears National Monument.** "Launched in 2015 by Stan Summers, who is a Box Elder County commissioner, Utah-based FIRM publicized its intent to challenge the 2016 designation of Bears Ears National Monument, prohibitions on motorized use in Recapture Canyon and other federal decisions seen as undue barriers to the use of public lands. [...] But FIRM's taxpayer-supported charge was specific: File lawsuits against the federal government on behalf of Utah counties. The goal was to reverse restrictive land-use policies as a way to promote 'integrated' use of natural resources." [Salt Lake Tribune, [06/23/20](#)]

New Records Reveal That Dougall's Staff Found That FIRM Failed To Preform Its Duties And The Money Should Be Returned To The State.

State Auditor Staff: "...The Funds Should Have Been Returned To The State"

July 14, 2020: After Reviewing FIRM's Contracts And Financial Reports, Jeremy Walker Followed Up To John Dougall That He "Would Think The Funds Should Have Been Returned To The State" Since FIRM Only Spent \$40,000 On Legal Fees. "John, I received the grant contract with the State for combined \$400,000 paid to FIRM in 2016 and 2017. The contract identifies the scope of the contracts as: [REDACTED] I reviewed the financial reports for 2016-2018. There were only about \$40,000 in legal fees paid by FIRM. I don't really know what else FIRM did since the Trump Administration kind of resolved the issue before it got into the courts. I would think that the funds should have been returned to the State." [Office Of The State Auditor GRAMA Response, FIRM Correspondence With OSA, [07/14/20](#)]

Subject	Email: Re: FIRM
Name	
Related To	Foundation for Integrated Resource Management
Task	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Due Date	7/14/2020
Assigned To	Jeremy Walker
Last Modified Date/Time	7/14/2020 2:41 PM
Comments	<p>From: jeremywalker@utah.gov To: jdougall@utah.gov Cc: Bcc: Subject: Re: FIRM Body:</p> <p>John, I received the grant contract with the State for combined \$400,000 paid to FIRM in 2016 and 2017. The contract identifies the scope of the contracts as: " I reviewed the financial reports for 2016-2018. There were only about \$40,000 in legal fees paid by FIRM. I don't really know what else FIRM did since the Trump Administration kind of resolved the issue before it got into the courts. I would think that the funds should have been returned to the State. It boils down to how you interpret the scope language. I think we should get some legal input. Should I get a hold of Bryan Naider or is there someone else whom I should contact?"</p> <p>Jeremy Jeremy A. Walker, CPA Manager, Local Governments Division 435-277-0049 Office of the State Auditor</p>

Source: GRAMA Screenshot

Timeline: Following Salt Lake Tribune Reporting On FIRM And Its State Funding, Utah Auditor John Dougall Requested A Staffer, Jeremy Walker, Look Into It.

June 30, 2020: John Dougall Sent An Email To Jeremy Walker Requesting He Look Into A Salt Lake Tribune Article On The Foundation For Integrated Resource Management (FIRM) And Its \$400,000 In Utah State Funding. "Please look into this:<https://www.sltrib.com/news/environment/2020/06/23/utah-gave-group-sue-feds/>" [Office Of The State Auditor GRAMA Response, FIRM Correspondence With OSA, [06/30/20](#)]

- **Jeremy Walker Is A Manager Of The Local Governments Division In The Utah Office Of The State Auditor.** [Office Of The State Auditor GRAMA Response, FIRM Correspondence With OSA, [09/22/21](#)]
- **The Salt Lake Tribune Article Describes FIRM's Failure To Fulfill The Terms Of Its Contract That Was The Subject Of A Complaint To Auditor Dougall In Summer Of 2020.** "Four years and \$400,000 later, FIRM has yet to pursue a single legal action, according to ethics complaints filed Tuesday with the IRS, the Utah Division of Consumer Protection and Utah's state auditor." [Salt Lake Tribune, [06/23/20](#)]

Auditor Dougall Has Failed To Publicly Acknowledge Any Investigation Into FIRM. [Utah Auditor, accessed [08/24/21](#)]

Utah Accountant Jeremy Walker Argued That FIRM Failed To Do The Work Laid Out In Its Contract And Should Have Return Its Money To The State.

July 2, 2020: Jeremy Walker Responded That He Didn't "See How The Use Of The Funds Could Be Deemed Restricted." "John, I have done some research on this. I am going to try to

track down an agreement for these funds. Absent an agreement, I don't see how the use of the funds could be deemed restricted." [Office Of The State Auditor GRAMA Response, FIRM Correspondence With OSA, [07/02/20](#)]

- **In Utah, Restricted Funds Require The Grant Money Be Used Exclusively For Specific Programs While An Unrestricted Fund Allows For "Broader, More Discretionary" Uses.** "Restricted and unrestricted funds together comprise the total general fund, but the flexibility afforded by each type of funding is very different. Restricted funds are available for use only within the programs for which they are specifically granted. Unrestricted funds are available for broader, more discretionary needs of the LEA" [Utah State Board Of Education, Grants Compliance 101, [12/07/20](#)]

July 7, 2020: Jeremy Walker Emailed The Deputy Director Of The Public Lands Policy Coordination Office Requesting Copies Of FIRM Contracts To Determine If There Were Any Restrictions OR Requirements On FIRM's Contract Payments. "I have been tasked with researching the nature of state funds given to FOUNDATION FOR INTEGRATED PRESERVATION (FIRM) in Oct 2016 and 2017. The payments came from the Office of Infrastructure & Resource Management. [...] I'm trying to determine if there was any specific restrictions or requirements associated with these payments so that we can see if the funds were properly spent. Who could I talk to about these payments and any agreements or contracts associated with them?" [Office Of The State Auditor GRAMA Response, FIRM Correspondence With OSA, [07/07/21](#)]

July 8, 2020: Jeremy Walker Spoke On The Phone With The Deputy Director Of The Public Lands Policy Coordination Office Carmen Bailey Regarding FIRM's Contracts. "I received this request from Jeremy Walker yesterday. I just got off the phone with him explaining the background of our pass through contracts to FIRM. He would like a copy of each of these contracts. I'm hoping you will be able to go into finet and get them. Let me know if you have any problems. Please send the contracts either to me or directly to Jeremy with a cc to me as well." [Office Of The State Auditor GRAMA Response, FIRM Correspondence With OSA, [07/08/21](#)]

July 14, 2020: Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office Finance Manager Stephen Ogilvie Sent Jeremy Walker One Contract With FIRM, But Was Unable To Locate The Second One. "I have attached Contract # 180668 with FIRM. I contacted GOMB, who maintained our contracts previously, to see if they had a copy of Contract # 170843. They could not find it for me. I asked if they would take the time to look deeper and they told me they would. When they find it they will scan a copy of it and send it to me. I will forward it on to you as soon as I get it." [Office Of The State Auditor GRAMA Response, FIRM Correspondence With OSA, [07/14/20](#)]

July 14, 2020: After Reviewing FIRM's Contracts And Financial Reports, Jeremy Walker Followed Up To John Dougall That He "Would Think The Funds Should Have Been Returned To The State" Since FIRM Only Spent \$40,000 On Legal Fees. "John, I received the grant contract with the State for combined \$400,000 paid to FIRM in 2016 and 2017. The contract identifies the scope of the contracts as: [REDACTED] I reviewed the financial reports for 2016-2018. There were only about \$40,000 in legal fees paid by FIRM. I don't really know what else

FIRM did since the Trump Administration kind of resolved the issue before it got into the courts. I would think that the funds should have been returned to the State.” [Office Of The State Auditor GRAMA Response, FIRM Correspondence With OSA, [07/14/20](#)]

- **Walker Offered To Seek Out Legal Input, Stating FIRM’s Requirement To Return State Money Or Not Depending On How The Scope Of Their Work Is Interpreted.** “It boils down to how you interpret the scope language. I think we should get some legal input. Should I get a hold of Bryan Nalder or is there someone else whom I should contact?” [Office Of The State Auditor GRAMA Response, FIRM Correspondence With OSA, [07/14/20](#)]

August 17, 2020: Brooke Russell Was Assigned A “Call Regarding The Delinquency Notice” Related To FIRM. [Office Of The State Auditor GRAMA Response, FIRM Correspondence With OSA, [08/17/20](#)]

- **Brooke Russell Is An Office Specialist On The Administrative Team In The Utah Auditor’s Office.** [Office Of The State Auditor, Directory, accessed [10/05/21](#)]

NOTE: There were no additional emails or phone calls regarding FIRM, a legal opinion, or the scope of work provided by the state of Utah in response to our open records requests. There was no publicly available information we were able to locate regarding a delinquency notice, contract amendments, or FIRM returning their contract money.

FIRM Spent The Entirety Of Its \$400,000 By 2018, Yet Only A Tiny Fraction Went To The Legal Work FIRM Pledged To Use The Money For.

As Of December 31, 2018, All Of The Money FIRM Received Through Their Contracts With The State Of Utah Division Of Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office Were Expended. “As of December 31, 2019 and 2018, respectively, there was no portion of the contract award amounts that were received but not expended.” [Utah Auditor, Financial Statements And Accountant’s Complication Report, 2019 & 2018, [03/24/20](#)]

- **In 2018, FIRM Listed \$251,604 In Grant Revenue And \$117,900 In Total Expenses.** [Utah Auditor, Financial Statements And Accountant’s Complication Report, 2019 & 2018, [03/24/20](#)]
- **In 2017, FIRM Listed \$132,333 In Grant Revenue And \$132,333 In Total Expenses.** [Utah Auditor, Financial Statements And Accountant’s Complication Report, 2017 & 2016, [01/23/18](#)]
- **In 2016, FIRM Listed \$16,063 In Grant Revenue And \$16,063 In Total Expenses.** [Utah Auditor, Financial Statements And Accountant’s Complication Report, 2017 & 2016, [01/23/18](#)]

FIRM Stated In Its Financial Statements That It Received The Full \$400,000 Amount Of Its Two Contracts In Cash. “On September 29, 2016, the Foundation was awarded a contract by the State of Utah Division of Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office. [...] The Foundation received

the full \$250,000 contract award amount in cash on October 13, 2016. On August 1, 2017, the Foundation was awarded a contract by the State of Utah Division of Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office. [...] The Foundation received the full \$150,000 contract award amount in cash on October 10, 2017." [Utah Auditor, Financial Statements And Accountant's Complication Report, 2019 & 2018, [03/24/20](#)]

According To An Accountant In The Utah Auditor's Office, FIRM Only Spent \$40,000 On Legal Fees. "John, I received the grant contract with the State for combined \$400,000 paid to FIRM in 2016 and 2017. The contract identifies the scope of the contracts as: [REDACTED] I reviewed the financial reports for 2016-2018. There were only about \$40,000 in legal fees paid by FIRM. I don't really know what else FIRM did since the Trump Administration kind of resolved the issue before it got into the courts. I would think that the funds should have been returned to the State." [Office Of The State Auditor GRAMA Response, FIRM Correspondence With OSA, [07/14/20](#)]

- **From 2016 To 2017, FIRM Only Spent \$42,796 On "Professional Services."** FIRM's additional expenses were limited to insurance and licenses; salary and wages; professional services; office expenses; education and training; and communications/marketing. [Utah Auditor, Financial Statements And Accountant's Complication Report, 2017 & 2016, [01/23/18](#)]
- **In 2018, FIRM Spent \$488 On Legal Fees.** [Utah Auditor, Financial Statements And Accountant's Complication Report, 2019 & 2018, [03/24/20](#)]

FIRM Was Awarded Its 2016 Contract To "Fund Legal Challenges To Federal Government Restrictions On Public Land" And "Accordingly" Promote The "Sovereign Interests Of The State Of Utah" Regarding Land Use. "This grant has been awarded to fund legal challenges to federal government restrictions on public land. Accordingly, the scope of work is to promote the sovereignty interests of the State of Utah, its agencies and political subdivisions in sound, integrated, multiple-use and sustained-yield public lands and natural resources management." [Office Of The State Auditor GRAMA Response, State Grant Contract With FIRM, [10/05/16](#)]

FIRM's 2016 Contract With The State Was Explicitly Issued To "Fund Legal Challenges To The Federal Government Restrictions On Public Lands," But The Legal Challenges Portion Was Dropped In Their 2017 Contract.

FIRM's 2016 Contract Notes The Grant Was Awarded To "Fund Legal Challenges To Federal Government Restrictions On Public Land" And "Accordingly" Promote The "Sovereign Interests Of The State Of Utah" Regarding Land Use. "This grant has been awarded to fund legal challenges to federal government restrictions on public land. Accordingly, the scope of work is to promote the sovereignty interests of the State of Utah, its agencies and political subdivisions in sound, integrated, multiple-use and sustained-yield public lands and natural resources management." [Office Of The State Auditor GRAMA Response, State Grant Contract With FIRM, [10/05/16](#)]

FIRM's 2017 Contract With The State Of Utah Describes The Scope Of Their Work As "Advocat[ing] For The State's Of Utah's Rights To Use And Access Federal Public Lands."

“The scope of work that the Foundation for Integrated Preservation will perform is as intended by the legislature, to advocate for the State of Utah’s rights to use and access federal public lands for multiple use and sustained yield.” [Office Of The State Auditor GRAMA Response, 180668 FIRMS Contract Updtd 2020, [09/13/17](#)]

FIRM’s Two Contracts Overlapped For Four Months In 2017.

FIRM Received A \$250,000 Contract With The State Of Utah From September 29, 2016 To December 31, 2017. “This contract is between the following agency of the state of Utah: Department Name: Governor’s Office Agency Code: 590 Division Name: Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office [...] Effective Date: 9/29/2016 Termination Date: 12/31/2017 [...] Contractor will be paid a maximum of \$250,000 for costs authorized by this contract.” [Office Of The State Auditor GRAMA Response, State Grant Contract With FIRM, [10/05/16](#)]

FIRM Received A \$150,000 Contract With The State Of Utah’s Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office From September 1, 2017 To September 1, 2018. “This contract is between the following agency of the State of Utah: Department Name: Governor’s Office Agency Code: 590 Division Name: Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office [...] Effective Date: 09/01/2017 Termination Date: 09/01/2018 [...] Contractor will be paid a maximum of \$150,000.00 for costs authorized by this contract.” [Office Of The State Auditor GRAMA Response, 180668 FIRMS Contract Updtd 2020, [09/13/17](#)]

FIRM Failed To Pursue Any Legal Action In The Time Frame Of Its 2016 Contract Despite The Stated Pursue Of The Contract Or File An Amendment To Change Their Work.

FIRM Never Pursued Legal Action Against The Federal Government, Despite Being Issued Contracts From The State For That Purpose. “Four years and \$400,000 later, FIRM has yet to pursue a single legal action, according to ethics complaints filed Tuesday with the IRS, the Utah Division of Consumer Protection and Utah’s state auditor. [...] FIRM’s legislative appropriations were passed through the Utah Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office, which issued contracts to the group to ‘fund legal challenges to federal government restrictions on public land.’” [Salt Lake Tribune, [06/23/20](#)]

FIRM’s Grant Requires Any Change Of Scope Be Submitted In A Written Amendment And Mutually Agreed On By Both Parties. “Any changes in the scope of the Services to be performed under this Contract shall be in the form of a written amendment to this Contract, mutually agreed to and signed by both parties specifying any such changes, fee adjustments, any adjustment in time of performance, or any other significant factors arising from the changes in the scope of Services.” [Office Of The State Auditor GRAMA Response, State Grant Contract With FIRM, [10/05/16](#)]

NOTE: No contract amendment was provided by the state of Utah in response to open records requests.

From 2016 To 2017, FIRM Only Spent \$42,796 On “Professional Services.” FIRM’s additional expenses were limited to insurance and licenses; salary and wages; professional services; office

expenses; education and training; and communications/ marketing. [Utah Auditor, Financial Statements And Accountant's Complication Report, 2017 & 2016, [01/23/18](#)]

- **FIRM Had \$233,937 And \$251,604 In Unexpended Contract Moneys At The End Of 2016 And 2017 Respectively.** "The portion of the contract award amounts that were received but not expended as of December 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively, are recorded as advanced grant revenue liability in the balance sheet in the amounts of \$251,604 and \$233,937, respectively." [Utah Auditor, Financial Statements And Accountant's Complication Report, 2017 & 2016, [01/23/18](#)]

New Research Shows A Reason FIRM May Have Gotten A Pass From The Auditor: Dougall Is A Personal Friend Of The Group's Director And Shares Their Anti-Public Lands Extremism.

John Dougall Is Close Friends With The Founders And Supporters Of FIRM

FIRM Was Founded By Box Elder County Commissioner Stan Summers, Who Refers To The Group As A "One-Man Show."

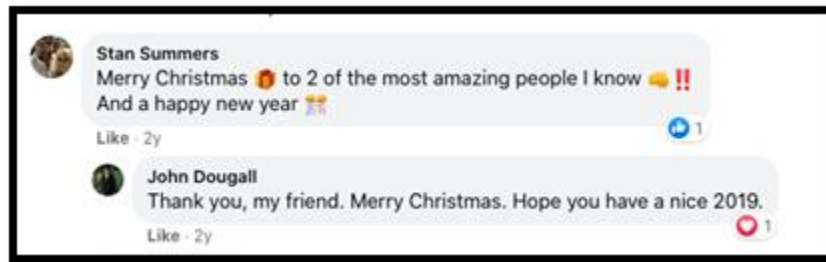
Foundation For Integrated Management (FIRM) Is A "State-Funded Nonprofit Group That Promotes Local Control Over Public Lands." "Rep. Mike Noel's HB481, which would affix the Trump name to the Utah National Parks Highway, is largely a gesture of thanks for Trump's recent decision to reduce Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante national monuments... Briscoe said he received 300 emails since HB481's surprise unveiling Thursday, all but one opposing the measure. The single message of support came from Foundation for Integrated Resource Management, a state-funded nonprofit group that promotes local control over public lands." [Salt Lake Tribune, [03/08/18](#)]

- **FIRM Was Launched By Stan Summers In 2015 To Oppose The Bears Ears National Monument Designation And Other Policies Designed To Protect Public Lands.** "Launched in 2015 by Stan Summers, who is a Box Elder County commissioner, Utah-based FIRM publicized its intent to challenge the 2016 designation of Bears Ears National Monument, prohibitions on motorized use in Recapture Canyon and other federal decisions seen as undue barriers to the use of public lands." [Salt Lake Tribune, [06/23/20](#)]
- **In 2020, Summers Called FIRM A "One-Man Show" Focused On Lobbying.** "Now FIRM is largely dormant, operating as a "one-man show," Summers said. [...] Summers said FIRM is now focused on lobbying the Environmental Protection Agency to designate northern Utah's challenged airsheds "in attainment" with air pollution standards, a move that would presumably enable industry to increase emissions." [Salt Lake Tribune, [06/23/20](#)]

John Dougall Calls FIRM Founder Stan Summers "A Friend," And Summers Says Dougall And His Wife Are "Two Of The Most Amazing People I Know."

In May 2018, John Dougall Called Stan Summers “A Friend.” “A while back, I mentioned to a friend who was helping plan the golden spike celebrations (including next year's 150th anniversary) that they should make sure the Chinese are included in the celebration. Chinese workers were critical to the construction. He said that was in the plans. Glad to see it. Nice job, Stan Summers!” [Facebook, John Dougall, [05/11/18](#)]

Stan Summers Called John Dougall And His Wife “Two of The Most Amazing People I Know.”



[Facebook, John Dougall, [12/22/18](#)]

Summers And Dougall Have Regular Social Interactions, And Summers Supported Dougall’s Campaign For Auditor.

John Dougall Was With Stan Summers For Breakfast In Garland, UT On April 7, 2018.

“Delicious breakfast at The Pie Dump in Garland, UT. Thanks Box Elder Co. Commissioner Stan Summers.” [Facebook, John Dougall, [04/07/18](#)]

John Dougall Visited The Golden Spike Rodeo And Fair Following An Invitation From Stan Summers In August 2018. “Great time visiting at the Golden Spike Rodeo & Fair in Box Elder Co. Thanks for the invite, Stan Summers!” [Facebook, John Dougall, [08/24/18](#)]

John Dougall And Stan Summers Had Breakfast Together On September 17, 2016. “Box Elder County breakfast with Commissioner Stan Summers. JC's Country Diner in Elwood.” [Facebook, John Dougall, [09/17/16](#)]

In 2016, Stan Summers Had Signs Promoting John Dougall. “Who has #FrugalDougall signs in your area? Box Elder Co: Stan Summers” [Facebook, John Dougall, [09/17/16](#)]

John Dougall Has Even Promoted FIRM On Social Media

On December 19, 2016, John Dougall Posted A Video Of Rebecca Benally, A FIRM Board Member, Opposing Bears Ears National Monument. “Listen to San Juan County Commissioner Rebecca M. Benally explain why her constituents, friends, and family do not want the Bears Ears national monument.” [Facebook, John Dougall, [12/19/16](#)]

- **FIRM Board Member Rebecca Benally Said Bears Ears National Monument Would Be A “Devastation” For The Utah Navajo.** “At a Utah Commission for the Stewardship for Public Lands meeting on April 20, most of the state legislators were downright hostile

toward monument supporters. They again framed the fight in terms of their idea of 'locals' – meaning Utahns and San Juan County residents – vs. 'outsiders' – meaning everyone else, even if they have deep roots in southeast Utah. One lawmaker cut off in mid-speech tribal coalition Co-Chair Regina Lopez-Whiteskunk, a Ute Mountain Ute tribal council member, implying that even she had no say in the matter, despite the fact that the tribe's reservation extends into San Juan County. Benally was there to egg on the lawmakers. She said she supports protection of the land – even wilderness designation for the Bears Ears, themselves – but not a monument, which would be 'devastation.' 'My people do not want a national monument,' she said, 'they want continued access ... for medicinal plant gathering and wood gathering.' (The coalition's monument proposal clearly states that such activities would remain unimpeded)." [*High Country News*, [05/03/16](#)]

John Dougall Called FIRM's Chief Legislative Booster Mike Noel A "Friend" And "Passionate Advocate."

John Dougall Praised Mike Noel, Calling Him A "Passionate Advocate" And "Friend," Noting They Regularly Attended Events Together. "Rep Michael E. Noel and I entered the legislature together over 15 years ago. He is a passionate advocate for his constituents. I continually witnessed his dedication and hard work. Years ago, we sat next to each other as he was going through cancer treatment, when he was so weak and yet still present and participating. With the largest district (by geographic size), I regularly attended joint events with Noel, as he traveled southern Utah, from 4 Corners to Washington Co and from the AZ border northward approaching I-70. I am glad to call him a friend and have appreciated the opportunity to serve with him. All the best, Mikey!" [John Dougall, [03/09/18](#)]

Rep. Mike Noel, Who Left The Legislature Amid Scandal, Initially Asked For \$500,000 For FIRM In 2017, But Then Pared His Request Down To \$150,000. "[Mike] Noel is also behind the request [for \$500,000 in state funding] for FIRM, which builds on \$250,000 the Legislature put up last year, according to Miller, who also serves as CEO of the Utah Counties Indemnity Pool. That earlier grant went to another nonprofit called the Rural Utah Alliance, ostensibly to defend county officials who get into legal trouble for standing up to federal land managers. On Monday, Noel pared the request to \$400,000 and divvied it up into three separate grants: \$150,000 to FIRM; \$100,000 to the Rural Utah Alliance; and \$150,000 for "rural sovereignty" grants, used by counties to challenge cuts to grazing levels on public lands." [*Salt Lake Tribune*, [03/08/18](#)]

John Dougall Has Worked With The Co-Founder Of FIRM Contractor DICIO Group As Radio Hosts On A Show That Has Hosted Anti-Public Land Extremists Like Phil Lyman And Mike Noel.

In December 2016, John Dougall Called Guests For The Red Meat Radio Show Including Phil Lyman, Mike Noel, And Stan Summers An "All-Star Lineup." "Who's on tap for tomorrow's Red Meat Radio (Saturday 8-10am on 860AM)? How's this for an all-star lineup? 1st hour: -Stephen Trimble (photographer & environmentalist) -Comm. Phil Lyman (San Juan Co.) -Comm. Leland Pollock (Garfield Co.) -Matt Canham (Salt Lake Tribune) -Rep. Michael E.

Noel 2nd hour: -Hal Boyd (Deseret News) -Comm. Stan Summers (Box Elder Co.) -Sen Michael S. Lee (tentative) or Boyd Matheson (Sutherland Institute) -Paul Edwards (Governor's Deputy Chief of Staff)" [Facebook, John Dougall, [Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.](#)]

July 12, 2018: John Dougall Hosted Red Meat Radio With DICIO Group Co-Founder Sasha Clark. "State Auditor John Dougall and Sasha Clark (co-founder, Dicio Group) talk with Boyd Matheson, opinion editor for the Deseret News and former Chief of Staff for Sen. Mike Lee. Matheson lays out the timeline and battle lines for the upcoming U.S. Supreme Court judicial confirmation process." [Facebook, Red Meat Radio, [07/12/18](#)]

July. 7, 2018: John Dougall Hosted Red Meat Radio With DICIO Group Co-Founder Sasha Clark. "State Auditor John Dougall and Sasha Clark (co-founder, Dicio Group) talk with Capital University Law School Professor Bradley Smith, one of the nation's leading authorities on election law and campaign finance. Smith discusses the 60th Anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling in NAACP v. Alabama. He also discusses the proper and improper use of transparency. To learn more about the Institute For Free Speech, see ifs.org." [Red Meat Radio, [07/07/18](#)]

- **In 2017, FIRM Had A \$2,000-A-Month Contract With The Dicio Group.** "In 2017, FIRM paid Miller \$20,000, Summers nearly \$17,000 and general counsel Jeremiah Riley nearly \$11,000, according to tax filings. It also had \$2,000-a-month contract with The Dicio Group to support public relations and fundraising." [Salt Lake Tribune, [06/23/20](#)]

Utah State Auditor John Dougall Is An Opponent Of Federal Control Of Public Land And Has Railed Against The Bears Ears National Monument Designation.

John Dougall Called For Public Land To Be "Disposed" And Railed Against The Bears Ears Monument Designation

John Dougall Called For Federal Public Lands Transfers To Be "Disposed." "Utah's leaders should mold the consensus among other Western states to do the same thing done by earlier Western frontier states. The federal government's promises to Utah are the same as those to states where the federal government successfully disposed of public lands. Public land transfer has been done before and should be done again!" [Facebook, John Dougall, [12/28/12](#)]

- **On July 2, 2016, John Dougall Promoted A Deseret News Article Arguing States Are Better Mangers Of Public Lands Than The Federal Government.** "DNews: A new report by the Sutherland Institute details that Western states, especially Utah, do a better job of managing public lands for recreation than the federal government." [Facebook, John Dougall, [07/02/16](#)]

John Dougall Said The Designation Of Bears Ears National Monument Would Have A "Devastating Economic Impact." "State Auditor John Dougall today issued the following statement concerning the unilateral designation of the Bears Ears National Monument, 1.35 million acres of land in Utah: 'I am concerned with today's designation of the Bears Ears National Monument. The poor, ad hoc process undertaken by the Secretary of the Interior concerning this monument has been insufficient and reflects poorly on the current

administration. This designation does not appear to be designed to protect or to unify but rather to pander to out of state interests. Utah has already experienced devastating economic impacts from a previous 'stroke of the pen' national monument designation, and this represents the second such blow. I am also concerned about the impact this designation will have on Utah's school trust lands, which were set aside at statehood for the benefit of Utah's schoolchildren. I view this as an abuse of the Antiquities Act by an outgoing President." [Utah State Auditor Press Release, [12/28/16](#)]

- **On December 28, 2016, John Dougall Posted On Facebook Criticizing National Monument Designations.** "Why stop there? Why not just designate the entire state one big national monument?" [Facebook, John Dougall, [12/28/16](#)]

John Dougall Has Repeatedly Empathized With Anti-Government Extremists Including The Bundys, Phil Lyman, And The Hammonds.

John Dougall Called The Government "Out Of Control" For Seeking Restitution From Phil Lyman Over His Illegal ATV Protest.

John Dougall Said The Federal Government Was "Out Of Control" For Seeking More Restitution From Phil Lyman Following His Illegal ATV Protest.



[Facebook, John Dougall, [03/17/19](#)]

- **Phil Lyman Led An Illegal ATV Protest In Recapture Canyon In Utah.** "A jury convicted Lyman in 2016 of misdemeanor trespassing after he led an ATV protest ride in a southeastern Utah canyon that the Bureau of Land Management had closed to off-road vehicles. Lyman spent 10 days in jail. [...] A federal judge hit him with a \$95,955 bill for assessing and repairing riparian areas and archeological sites in Recapture Canyon." [KSL, [03/14/19](#)]

John Dougall Posted A Wall Street Journal Article About A Pardon For Arsonists Dwight And Steven Hammond, Highlighting Claims Of "Government Injustices" Against The Extremists.

John Dougall Posted A Wall Street Journal Article Excerpt Calling Charges Against Extremists And Arsonists Dwight And Steven Hammond "Government Injustices." "WSJ: The pardon power has its most compelling use when correcting a government injustice. President Trump used his authority on Tuesday for precisely such a purpose in pardoning Dwight Hammond Jr. and his son Steven." [Facebook, John Dougall, [07/11/18](#)]

John Dougall Has Repeatedly Posted About Members Of The Bundy Family, Blaming Both Sides For Their Armed Standoffs With Government Officials.

John Dougall Posted A Wall Street Journal Article Exert Blaming Federal Agents For The Armed Standoff With Extremist Cliven Bundy. "WSJ: Federal agents provoked a showdown with Nevada rancher Cliven Bundy that might have turned deadly, according to a former government investigator assigned to examine the 2014 armed standoff. In the November 2017 memo to the Justice Department, Bureau of Land Management Special Agent Larry "Clint" Wooten said BLM supervisor Daniel Love oversaw a "punitive and ego-driven" law-enforcement buildup at Mr. Bundy's ranch that included at least one sniper, as well as officers with long-range rifles." [Facebook, John Dougall, [12/17/17](#)]

- **John Dougall Compared The Bundy-Led Extremists Occupying The Malheur National Wildlife Refuge With The Occupy Wall Street Movement.** "'Occupy Malheur National Wildlife Refuge headquarters building" versus "Occupy Wall Street": similar underlying concerns/objectives or completely different?" [Facebook, John Dougall, [01/05/16](#)]
- **On December 8, 2018, John Dougall Made A Facebook Post An Article On Ammon Bundy Calling Him "Correct To Be Skeptical Of The Government."** "Interesting article. 1. Because of personal experience, he's correct to be skeptical of the government." [Facebook, John Dougall, [12/08/18](#)]

John Dougall Posted An Excerpt From A Wall Street Journal Profile Of Wayne Hage To Facebook In March 2018. "WSJ: Wayne Hage saddled up to check on his cattle one morning last summer, but he didn't have to ride far. All his cows were confined to a private field near his ranch house, instead of roaming the Toquima and Monitor mountains, as herds have done for more than a century." [Facebook, John Dougall, [03/31/18](#)]