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BOOK INFORMATION SHEET (11.21.17)



Author: Stephen E. Strom
Title: Bears Ears
Subtitle: Voices from a Sacred Land
Contributors: Introduction by Rebecca M. Robinson and poem by Joy Harjo
Partner: Published in association with the American Land
Publishing Project
Book pages: 240
Number and type of illustrations: 1 color map and 157
color photographs by the author, including 8 foldouts

Trim size: 11.0" x 9.5" landscape List price: \$40.00 **Discount:** trade ISBN (book): 978-1-938086-56-4 **ISBNs (electronic):** n/a Edition: Hardcover E-book? to come **Interactive e-book?** n/a Jacket: yes Edition size: 1,250 Publication date: May 2018 Advances due: 28 February 2018 (in time for SPE Conference in Philadelphia on March 2–4) To warehouse: April 2018 **Printed in:** China Distributor: University of Arizona Press Bookstore categories (list three): Photography/Nature/American Southwest Audience: A regional and national audience for those who are interested in Bears Ears National Monument; readers who love photography and especially the photography of Steve Strom; anyone interested in national parks, national monuments, and Native American studies.

Selling points: 1. Bears Ears National Monument is now center stage in national debates over the preservation our national parks and national monuments, so there is a "current events" angle to this and the companion book,

Voices from Bears Ears Country: Seeking Common Ground on Sacred Land. 2. This is a stunning book of photographs in the tradition of Eliot Porter, so anyone interested in beautiful images of nature (especially the Colorado Plateau) and Native American sites will be interested in this book. 3. Visitors to Utah's many national parks and monuments will be entranced by the book.

Description of the work:

The region known as Bears Ears in southeastern Utah is a landscape of unsurpassed beauty anywhere on Earth. It is a land filled with more than 100,000 documented Native American archaeological sites, some dating back more than two millennia, that have been revered like mini-Sistine Chapels for the Native people. It is also home territory for Mormon settlers who ventured here from Salt Lake City after the Mormons' long journey from persecution in Nauvoo, Illinois, during the 1840s.

Sacred land to many, President Barack Obama, on December 28, 2016, issued a presidential proclamation to protect nearly 1.35 million acres as Bears Ears National Monument, seeking compromise between the Indian Nations, who wanted nearly 1.9 million acres, and those in Utah such as Congressman Robert Bishop who sought a monument of 1.3 million acres or who resisted any designation. President Obama also arranged for Indian Nations to work collaboratively, for the first time, with federal agencies to set policies for managing Bears Ears National Monument.

Stephen Strom's photographs capture the singular beauty of Bears Ears country in all seasons, its textural subtleties portrayed alongside the drama of expansive landscapes and skies, deep canyons, spires, and towering mesas. To his sensitive eyes, a scrub oak on a hillside or a pattern in windswept sand is as essential to capturing the spirit of the landscape as the region's most iconic vistas. In seeing red-rock country through his lens, viewers can discover the remarkable diversity, seductive power, and disarming complexity of Bears Ears' sacred lands. Strom's photographs evince the full spectrum of emotional responses: exhilaration and disorientation, contemplation and serenity, passion and gratitude for the wild places and archeological treasures that now belong to all Americans. Rebecca Robinson's informative essay provides historical context for how the national monument came to be, and poet Joy Harjo's original poem serves like a prayer to the book and the land.

Bears Ears: Voices from a Sacred Land is a celebration of the foresight of visionary leaders, from President Teddy Roosevelt, who advanced the idea of national monuments in the Antiquities Act of 1906, to President Barack Obama, who set aside this land known as Bears Ears that is sacred to so many.

About the Author (use the jacket and catalog version from the Author's Information form):

Stephen E. Strom spent 45 years as a distinguished research astronomer at Harvard University, SUNY Stony Brook, and the University of Massachusetts. At the time of his retirement in 2007, he was Associate Director for Science at the National Optical Astronomy Observatory. In 1978, Strom also began to make fine art photographs

of the American West. His work has been exhibited widely throughout the U.S. and is in the permanent collections of the Center for Creative Photography and Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, among others. For all of his books, including *Bears Ears*, Strom has collaborated with distinguished poets, writers, scientists, and curators in his other books of photography: *Tidal Rhythms: Change and Resilience at the Edge of the Sea* (George F. Thompson, 2016), *Death Valley: Painted Light* (George F. Thompson, 2016), *Earth and Mars: A Reflection* (Arizona, 2015), *Sand Mirrors* (Polytropos, 2012), *Earth Forms* (Dewi Lewis, 2009), *Otero Mesa: Preserving America's Wildest Grasslands* (New Mexico, 2008), *Sonoita Plain: Views from a Southwestern Grassland* (Arizona, 2005), *Tseyi / Deep in the Rock: Reflections on Canyon de Chelly* (Arizona, 2005), and *Secrets from the Center of the World* (Arizona, 1989).

About the Contributor(s):

Rebecca M. Robinson is a freelance writer based in Portland, Oregon, who previously worked as a staff writer for *Monterey County Weekly* and as a radio producer for Oregon Public Broadcasting. She has written for numerous print and online news outlets about crime, education, health care, social entrepreneurship, the criminal justice system,, and homelessness. She is the author of *Voices from Bears Ears Country: Seeking Common Ground in a Sacred Land* (Arizona, in association with George F. Thompson, 2018), with photographs by Stephen E. Strom.

Joy Harjo is a member of the Mvskoke Nation and the author of thirteen books, including seven volumes of poetry such as *How We Became Human: New and Selected Poems, 1975–2001* (Norton, 2002), *The Woman Who Fell from the Sky: Poems* (Norton, 1994), and *She Had Some Horses* (Norton, 1983; 2008), that have won the Griffen Poetry Prize in 2016, the Wallace Stevens and William Carlos Williams Awards from the Poetry Society of America in 2015 and 2001, American Book Awards in 2013 and 1991, and the PEN Literary Award in Creative Nonfiction in 2013.