

Christopher



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

2/22/2012

Dear Mark,

Thank you for your toast
at T.J. Dinner. You, as usual,
did an outstanding job in your
performance.

Attached is a draft on the
Sanje de Cristo National Historical
Park which your staff and Interior
staff have been sharing. Please
call me when you have a minute.

Respectfully,

Ker Salazar

112th CONGRESS

____ Session

S. _____

To establish the Sangre de Cristo National Historical Park, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

(DATE)

A BILL

To establish the Sangre de Cristo National Historical Park, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the 'Sangre de Cristo National Historical Park Establishment Act'.

SEC. 2. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this Act is to establish the Sangre de Cristo National Historical Park --

(1) to help preserve, protect, and interpret the nationally significant historical and cultural resources in the Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area in the Sangre de Cristo Mountain Range-San Luis Valley region of Southern Colorado for the benefit and inspiration of future generations;

(2) to support the preservation, protection, and interpretation of the urban, rural, and agricultural landscape features of the region that provide an overarching context for the Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area;

(3) to educate the public about--

(A) the northern migrations and the other migrations of diverse peoples that established over time the sustained settlement of humans in the area;

(B) the establishment and history of communities under Spanish rule from 1598 through 1821;

(C) the history of communities under Mexican rule between 1821 and 1848, the date of conclusion of the Mexican American War;

- (D) the post-1848 history of the area under United States jurisdiction, including creation of the first non-native American settlements, and the creation of the States of Colorado and New Mexico;
- (E) the rich and distinctive folklore, religion and language of the cultures in the area today; and
- (4) to support and enhance the network of partners, including the State, local governments, and private and non-profit entities, engaged in the protection, improvement, management, and operation of key resources and facilities throughout the National Heritage Area.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

- (1) MAP- The term 'map' means the map entitled 'Sangre de Cristo National Historical Park', numbered _____, and dated _____ 201__.
- (2) NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA- The term 'National Heritage Area' means the Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area established by Public Law 111-11.
- (3) PARK- The term 'Park' means the Sangre de Cristo National Historical Park established under section 4 of this Act.
- (4) SECRETARY- The term 'Secretary' means the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the National Park Service.
- (5) STATE- The term 'State' means the State of Colorado.

SEC. 4. ESTABLISHMENT OF SANGRE DE CRISTO NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK.

- (a) Establishment- There is established in the State a unit of the National Park System, to be known as the 'Sangre de Cristo National Historical Park'.
- (b) Boundaries- The Park shall be comprised of the following cultural and historical sites and byway within the National Heritage Area, as generally depicted on the map: Sangre de Cristo Heritage Center, San Luis, Costilla County; the Sociedad Proteccion Mutua de Trabajadores Unidos (SPMDTU) building, Antonito, Conejos County; the Fort Garland Museum, Fort Garland, Costilla County; the Denver & Rio Grande Antonito Depot, Antonito, Conejos County; and the Los Caminos Antiguos Scenic and Historic Byway.
- (c) Availability of Map- The map shall be available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior.

(d) Acquisition of Land- The Secretary may acquire from willing sellers land or interests in land within the boundaries of the Park by--

- (1) donation;
- (2) purchase with donated or appropriated funds; or
- (3) exchange.

(e) Administration-

(1) IN GENERAL- The Secretary shall administer the Park in accordance with--

(A) this Act;

(B) the laws generally applicable to units of the National Park System, including--

(i) the National Park Service Organic Act (16 U.S.C. 1 et seq.); and

(ii) the Act of August 21, 1935 (16 U.S.C. 461 et seq.); and

(C) any cooperative agreements entered into under subsection (f).

(2) GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN-

(A) IN GENERAL- Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds are made available to carry out this Act, the Secretary in consultation with owners of properties within the boundaries of the Park shall prepare a general management plan for the Park--

(i) in consultation with the State;

(ii) in consultation with owners of properties and local governments within the boundaries of the Park; and

(iii) in accordance with--

(I) any cooperative agreements entered into under subsection (f); and

(II) section 12(b) of the National Park System General Authorities Act (16 U.S.C. 1a-7(b)).

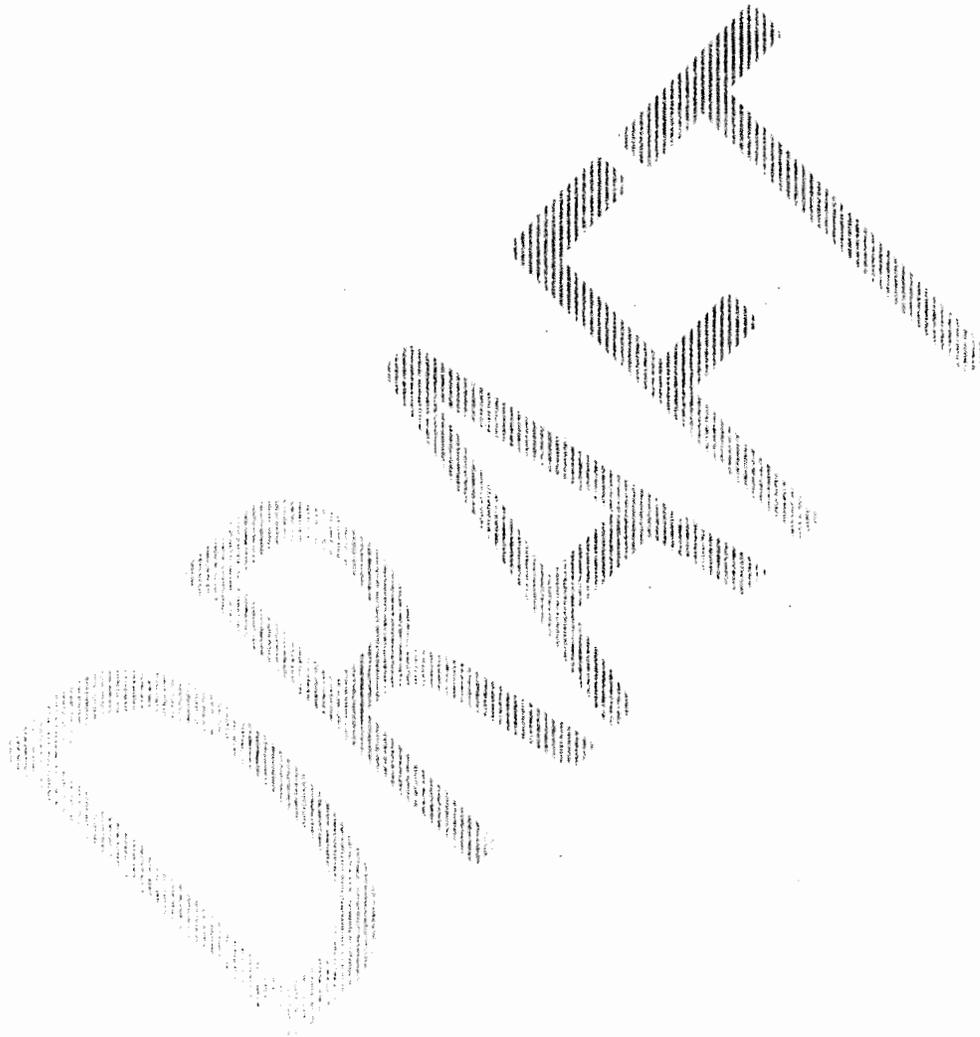
(B) REQUIREMENTS- To the maximum extent practicable, the plan prepared under subparagraph (A) shall consider ways to use preexisting or planned visitor facilities and recreational opportunities developed in the National Heritage Area.

(3) GRANTS AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS- The Secretary is authorized to provide grants and technical assistance, and may enter into cooperative agreements with, the State, political subdivisions of the State, nonprofit organizations, and private property owners to provide technical assistance, interpretation, public access and other visitor services in the Park.

(f) Financial Assistance- Subject to the availability of appropriations, the Secretary may provide financial assistance, on a matching basis, for the conduct of resource protection activities in the Park.

SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this Act.





THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

DEC 30 2010

The Honorable Mark Udall
Chairman, Subcommittee on National Parks
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

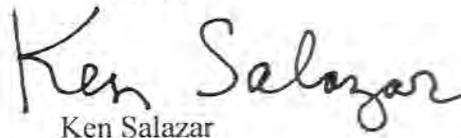
Dear Senator Udall:

The Fiscal Year 2010 Appropriations Act funding the Department of the Interior, enacted as Public Law (P.L.) 111-88, provides \$25 million for Save America's Treasures grants for priority historic preservation projects. Save America's Treasures grants support preservation or conservation work on nationally significant intellectual and cultural artifacts and historic structures and sites. Intellectual and cultural artifacts include artifacts, collections, documents, sculpture, and works of art. Historic structures and sites include historic districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects. The National Park Service administers these grants in partnership with the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities, the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Eligible applicants include state, tribal, and local governments, nonprofit organizations, and educational institutions.

P.L. 111-88 provided \$25 million for Save America's Treasures grants. Congress specified \$10.2 million for 52 projects in the joint explanatory statement of the managers accompanying the Act. In early 2010, NPS solicited applications to award the remaining funds competitively. A total of 338 applications were received requesting over \$90.4 million. A national selection panel comprised of senior staff with expertise in the appropriate disciplines and representing noncompeting Federal agencies evaluated the applications and recommended funding for 61 projects in 23 states and the District of Columbia totaling \$14,301,000. Since 1999, including the attached FY 2010 proposed projects, 1,245 grants totaling \$318.2 million will have been awarded to preserve historic properties and collections.

The attached enclosure provides a listing of the grants that the NPS will award for the competitive round of FY 2010 Save America's Treasures projects.

Sincerely,


Ken Salazar

Enclosure



2010 SAVE AMERICA'S TREASURES RECOMMENDATIONS

Arizona

Saving Woven Wonders of American Heritage, Tucson - \$400,000

The Arizona State Museum cares for the largest and most comprehensive collection of Southwest Native American woven basketry, which spans 11,000 years of archaeological history. Funds will help re-house the collection to mitigate threats from light, temperature, humidity, insects, and abrasion.

Dendrochronology Collection, Tucson - \$425,000

For the past 70 years, the Laboratory of Tree-Ring Research has served as a national scientific wood repository, containing over 2 million specimens. With this raw material, researchers can pinpoint single-year dates for past events and processes, which is vital to studying climate change and unlocking the pre- and early-European history of the United States. Funds will provide a climate controlled environment and storage systems to address current threats from rodents, insects, floods, and temperature variations.

Arkansas

Civil War Battle Flag Collection, Little Rock - \$26,032

Save America's Treasures funding will treat several fragile flags, two regimental flags from the Civil War, and one from a battle between Confederate veterans and state militia during reconstruction. The regimental flags are one of a kind survivors from every major battle in which the Army of Tennessee was involved and the 1868 flag is the only existing flag from the violent political struggles that followed the Civil War.

California

Hans Hofmann Paintings, Berkeley - \$93,825

Hans Hofmann was a painter, teacher, and key figure in the development of abstract expressionism in postwar America. His work and teaching help disseminate the European Modernist sensibilities of abstraction, Cubism, and Fauvism. This Save America's Treasures grant to the Berkeley Art Museum will conserve 48 paintings, which suffer from flaking, cracks, discoloration, and abrasions.

SS Red Oak, Richmond - \$700,000

The only remaining ship of its class, the SS *Red Oak Victory* was launched in 1944 from Kaiser's Richmond, California shipyard as an ammunition carrier. The Victory class ships were faster than their Liberty predecessors and could outrun the submarine wolf packs during World War II. This award will help complete the final stage of an 18-year, volunteer-driven project and support restoration of the hull, engine and boiler room.

Bringing Back the Americans: Saving Lost Silent Films, San Francisco - \$203,000

Only 20 percent of American films created before 1920 exist in the United States today, but a new cache of films previously considered lost will add substantially to that number and likely re-write current understanding of early filmmaking in the U.S. Forty silent-era films were recovered and repatriated from New Zealand and the award will support their restoration, exhibition, and study.

Fort Mason, San Francisco - \$700,000

Fort Mason was built in the early 20th-century in response to the emergence of the United States as a world power, becoming the U.S. Army West Coast Port of Embarkation and opening the U.S. to the Pacific. Now part of Golden Gate National Recreation Area, the former military base serves 21 resident nonprofit cultural institutions and is the site of more than 15,000 events annually. The award will assist in the repair and seismic retro-fitting of the Pier 2 building, which is both the centerpiece and oldest continuously used structure at Fort Mason.

Connecticut

Barnum and London Circus Posters, Bridgeport - \$26,703

Two-hundred years after the birth of P.T. Barnum of Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus, Bridgeport Public Library holds 47 “Barnum and London” circus posters in need of conservation treatment. Save America’s Treasures grant funds will be used to restore the posters and photograph the relics to expand access to the collection.

19th-Century Dinosaur Collections of Othniel Charles Marsh, New Haven - \$450,000

Othniel Charles Marsh was a leading American paleontologist whose dinosaur collection proved invaluable as the fossil record Charles Darwin needed to develop his theory of evolution. The Save America’s Treasures grant will help re-house the collection in a climate controlled environment and provide greater access to the collection.

Delaware

Philadelphia Savings Fund Society - Howe and Lescaze Design Archives - \$26,305

Save America’s Treasures funding will preserve architectural drawings and important historical images that document the first International-style skyscraper in the United States. This is a rich resource and contribution to the U.S. architectural history.

District of Columbia

Washington National Cathedral - \$700,000

The Protestant Episcopal Cathedral, commonly known as the Washington National Cathedral, functions as the national church called for in the 1792 Plan of the Federal City. It has held ecumenical services of national importance from state funerals of presidents to commemorative gatherings such as honoring the victims of 9/11. This award will help support foundation repairs, repainting the exterior stonework, conserving selected stained glass windows, and repair of exterior doors and metal work.

Heye Foundation Collection, National Museum of the American Indian - \$29,905

This collection is the preeminent repository for primary source documentation of indigenous history, lifeways, and traditions. This Save America’s Treasures grant will address the threats to 19th- and early 20th century manuscripts, expedition field notes, correspondence, and films.

Jim Crow Railroad Car, National Museum of African American History and Culture - \$222,128

Discrimination practices permeated American life for decades after the emancipation of slaves. For most Americans it was a commonplace experience that now seems foreign and archaic. This early 20th-century Pullman car encapsulates the experience of travelers during this time period. Funds will help restore this passenger coach.

Renwick Gallery - \$335,000

Designed by James Renwick, Jr., the Renwick Gallery was Washington's first art museum, built to house William Wilson Corcoran's (1798-1888) collection of American and European art. With the outbreak of the Civil War, it served as the quartermaster headquarters and later as the Federal Court of Claims. Former First Lady Jackie Kennedy saved the building in 1962, and returned it to its role as a museum. Funds will support urgent repairs to exterior structure.

Moses and Frances Asch Collection, Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage - \$335,500

Moses Asch founded Folkway Records. These recordings are the wellspring of American folk music and feature both famous—Woody Guthrie, Lead Belly, Pete Seeger—and lesser known American writers, poets, documentarians, ethnographers, and grass roots musicians. The grant funds will preserve and digitize the collection for public research access, opening up the collection to a far wider audience.

Dance Theater of Harlem Archives, Dance Heritage Coalition - \$58,853

Voted one of 100 of "America's Irreplaceable Dance Treasures," the Dance Theater of Harlem and its founder, Arthur Mitchell, have received over 300 official citations for excellence including the National Medal of Arts and a Kennedy Center Honors Award. This Save America's Treasures grant will be used by the Dance Heritage Coalition to re-house threatened paper, photographs/negatives, original sound-score reels, and moving images.

Biodiversity Field Books and Expedition Journals, National Museum of Natural History - \$96,783

The field notebooks and expedition journals of prominent American scientists at the National Museum of Natural History chronicle the growth of the scientific field and survey exploration in the United States. These 6,000-7,000 items represent unique documents of scientific work that are vital to understanding the biodiversity of the planet. This Save America's Treasures grant will conserve original artifacts and prepare paper documents for digitization.

Georgia

African-American Scrapbooks, Atlanta - \$170,000

Some 30 scrapbooks held by the Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library at Emory University encapsulate the visual culture created around a theme, a moment, or an entire life. Told through the eyes of vaudeville performers, former slaves, artists, students, preachers, and writers, these stories provide an understanding of the African-American experience in the United States. Funding will support the

preservation and continuing use of such materials, and the creation of digital surrogates to increase access to these important source materials.

Flannery O'Connor's Andalusia's Hill House, Milledgeville - \$120,000

Hill House was the home of African-American farm workers at Andalusia and the estate of author Flannery O'Connor. The Hill House served as an inspirational element for several of O'Connor's stories, and the author referred to the inhabitants, Jack and Louise Hill, with humor and affection quite frequently in her published letters. The award will help support the stabilization and restoration of the 19th-century structure.

Illinois

Steeple Building, Bishop Hill - NHL district, \$312,560

Founded in 1846 by Swedish religious dissident Erik Jansson, the National Historic Landmark site, Bishop Hill, was established as a utopian community based on Jansson's religious beliefs. Thousands of Swedish immigrants settled here as his followers and were known as Janssonists. The proposed project addresses deterioration of one of the former colony's most visible building, the historic 1854 Steeple Building.

R. Buckminster Fuller Dome Home, Carbondale - \$125,000

Prolific inventor and architect, R. Buckminster Fuller's geodesic dome was among his most well-known architectural designs. It is the only home the Fullers ever owned, and it served as a model for all dome homes built since 1960. The grant funds will support stabilizing the existing dome structure and restoring the dome to original condition.

Jane Addams Hull-House Museum, Chicago - NHL, \$80,000

The museum is the former home of Jane Addams Hull, a Nobel Peace Prize-winner, whose work with women and children and inner city neighborhoods redefined American democracy. The grant funds will be used to replace and repair roofs on several buildings.

1992 Election Documentary Collection, Chicago - \$79,000

This project will preserve and restore a landmark collection of documentary footage covering the 1992 American presidential election. The footage includes images of then-Governor Bill Clinton's campaign, Ralph Nader, George H.W. Bush, Ross Perot, and the election of Carol Mosley-Braun, the first female African American Senator. The funds will transfer the material from unstable format onto a more reliable one that will allow access to the material.

Indiana

Butler Fieldhouse, Indianapolis - NHL, \$700,000

The oldest major college basketball fieldhouse, Butler University's Hinkle Fieldhouse became a prototype for modern sports facilities, helping to transform college basketball in the late 1920s and 1930s. The award will support the repair of weather-related corrosion to the supporting steel and address damage to the window systems.

USS LST 325, Evansville - \$414,444

The USS *LST 325* was built in a Philadelphia Naval Shipyard and commissioned in 1943. It is the only fully restored LST in the country and it participated in the invasion of Sicily (July 1943), Salerno (September 1943) and Normandy (June, 1944). The project will restore 11 ballast tanks of the USS *LST 325* by removing the corrosion and accumulated sediment and painting.

Maine

Haystack Mountain School of Crafts, Deer Isle - \$125,000

The Haystack Mountain School of Crafts, designed by Edward Larrabee Barnes, influenced generations of American architects. Built from local materials with little impact on the natural landscape, the School features walkways and structures that float above the ground on concrete piers. Grant funds will be used to replace the rotted carrying timbers, supporting posts, and piers, as well as repair roofs and windows.

Maryland

Hessian Barracks, Frederick - \$259,800

The Hessian Barracks is the only survivor of a congressionally mandated building type created during the American War for Independence from 1776-1783. Over 239 years, the building has served as a prisoner-of-war camp, recruiting depot, army barracks, Civil War hospital, and a school for the deaf. Save America's Treasures funds will help repair of the roof's supporting structure and replace gutters and downspouts.

Massachusetts

Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy Collection, Boston - \$150,000

Considered one of the most influential First Ladies, Jacqueline Kennedy used scrapbooks to chronicle her time in the White House, which included the restoration of the White House and numerous other projects and events. These records are very fragile and funding will enable the John F. Kennedy Library to repair and preserve them, allowing first time-time public access to the collection covering the years 1960-1964.

Historic Alaska Native Kayaks and Related Collections, Cambridge - \$283,685

The only known Alutiiq warrior kayak is the centerpiece of the Peabody Museum's collection of more than 100 kayaks and other related items. Kayaks and their accessories embody a chain of indigenous technological knowledge, craftsmanship, and spiritual beliefs passed down through generations. The grant will support collaboration between the museum and the Alutiiq Museum and Archaeological Repository to document, research, and re-house the kayak and other materials in a climate-controlled environment.

Norman Rockwell's Works on Paper, Illustrated Posters and Photographs, Stockbridge - \$144,240

American illustrator Norman Rockwell could distill a story into a single image and his body of work chronicles American life and values. Save America's Treasure funds will help the Norman Rockwell Museum repair artworks and archival objects that are damaged, warped, and/or rolled to enable first-time access to these materials.

Reserve and Early American Bindings Collection, Worcester - \$77,557

The American Antiquarian Society's collections of early American (pre-1876) imprints are recognized as the most comprehensive holdings of American materials from that period and they include the first books printed in the colonies. Funds would provide conservation treatment to retain the original character and physical appearance of the materials.

Mississippi

Tougaloo College Civil Rights Collections, Tougaloo - \$213,564

In many ways Mississippi was the crucible of America's Civil Rights movement. The complex struggles for political, social, and economic equality that began in the 1950s continued throughout the century and have been preserved in the Tougaloo College Archives since 1973. Funds will support the preservation of eight manuscript collections.

Missouri

A.B. Nichols Panama Canal Collection, Kansas City - \$52,929

The A.B. Nichols Panama Canal Collection at the Linda Hall Library of Science, Engineering & Technology is an archive of rare and unique materials generated during the Panama Canal's construction from the late 19th century to 1923. For scholars, historians, writers, and others, this archive provides original source material for one of the world's greatest engineering achievements. Funds will preserve, digitize, and publicize 10 notebooks, containing some 700 brittle items and two photo albums.

Patee House, St. Joseph - NHL, \$162,500

Completed in 1858, this huge structure was the eastern terminus of the Pony Express and one of the best-known hotels west of the Mississippi in the mid-19th century. The Save America's Treasures award will help pay to scrape, re-glaze, and paint all 228 windows and exterior wood trims, as well as install 118 new maple windows.

Missouri Botanical Garden Perimeter Wall, St. Louis - NHL, \$529,623

Established in 1859, this is the oldest functioning botanical garden in the country and has served as a major institution for the study of botany in the United States. Today it is widely considered one of the top three botanical gardens in the world. Support from the Save America's Treasures program will help fund the restoration of the 1856 stone and ironwork perimeter wall, which is a key feature in this historic cultural landscape.

Montana

Butte Mineyard Headframes, Butte - NHL District, \$192,000

The Butte Mineyard Headframes are large metal and wooden structures designed to lift and lower men and materials into the local mines. They serve as an ever-present reminder of America's built environment that is critical to understanding the nation's extractive mining and labor history. Save America's Treasures funds will restore eight historic mineyard headframes within the Butte-Anaconda National Historic District.

Nebraska

Ardis and Robert James Collection, Lincoln - \$25,000

The Ardis and Robert James Collection at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln is a priceless medley of quilts dating from the late 1700s to the 20th-century. The collection represents the creative expressions of countless women whose quilts provide a rare window onto daily life, as these works are influenced by international, national, regional, and local events and societal changes. Each quilt is as individual as a film and just as finite, so the Save America's Treasures funds will help mend worn fabric and other effects of use.

New Mexico

Pueblo Acoma, Acoma - NHL District, \$216,491

Acoma Pueblo, built on top of a giant, craggy mesa, is one of the oldest continuously occupied settlements in the United States. Founded as early as A.D. 1100, its location made it virtually impregnable in early times. Save America's Treasures funds will renovate one block of homes that have suffered major water and erosion damage. These structures adjoin the plaza of Acoma and are connected to historic and religiously significant kivas.

Albuquerque Museum History Collection, Albuquerque - \$550,000

The Museum of New Mexico collections tell an intricately woven history of the many peoples and cultures of the Southwest. Thousands of objects, artifacts, and other material are an irreplaceable legacy for native and Anglo cultures in the Southwest. Grant assistance will support the re-housing of collections within a new archaeological repository featuring climate control and fire suppression technology.

New York

Trinity Church, Buffalo - \$178,615

Trinity Church features glass and interior decoration by American master John La Farge, with additional windows produced by Tiffany Studios. The church was designed by noted American architect Bertram Goodhue and its completion in the early 20th century brought national attention to La Farge's expressive use of layered and intricately leaded art glass. Grant funds from Save America's Treasures will install protective covering for the tower stained glass window and repair exterior windows and eaves.

Trials Pamphlet Collection, Ithaca - \$155,700

The Trials Pamphlet Collection is a unique resource for the study of significant historical events, and during the 19th-century these pamphlets were the means that most people had in understanding the judicial system. The Cornell University collection contains a wealth of primary source materials and includes ephemera from the trials of Lizzie Borden, John Brown, and the conspirators who assassinated President Lincoln. Funds will be used to conserve and digitize these priceless pieces of American history.

Fireboat *John J. Harvey*, New York - \$165,955

Built in 1931, the *Harvey's* design revolutionized marine fire fighting by introducing several innovative engineering systems that would be incorporated into a new generation of marine fire fighting equipment worldwide. It was recalled for service during 9/11, providing thousands of gallons of water to fight the twin towers blaze. The grant will repair its hull and water damaged machinery, as well as replace the corroded steel of the vessel's deckhouse.

New York City Ballet Film Archives, New York - \$75,000

The Ballet's film archives chronicle world premiere performances of work by George Balanchine, Jerome Robbins, Peter Martins, and a wide array of contemporary choreographers, plus rehearsal footage. The magnetic tape quality of the footage is deteriorating and this Save America's Treasures grant will support the transfer of the footage to more stable media to preserve it.

Robert and Cornell Capa Collections, New York - \$57,425

Robert and Cornell Capa were pre-eminent photojournalists, whose work chronicled the 20th century in the United States and abroad. Their work included the first published images of D-Day and John F. Kennedy's first 100 days in office. While much of the film stock to be treated is unstable and in some cases combustible, the grant to the International Center of Photography will support the preservation of photographs and film, including those in a recently discovered trove of photographs documenting the Spanish Civil War.

Gordon Parks Collection, Pleasantville - \$69,008

Gordon Parks was a Time Magazine photographer who captured important aspects of African-American culture, focusing on race relations, poverty, Civil Rights activism, and urban life. The Gordon Parks Collection features over 5,000 photographic prints and more than 22,000 negatives, slides, and contact sheets. The Meserve-Kunhardt Foundation will use funds to stabilize and re-house the collection.

Edison Tinfoil Recording, Schenectady - \$25,735

Thomas Edison's tinfoil recording was created on 1878 and is the second oldest recorded voice of an American. Since the recording can't be safely played, the contents of the recording are unknown. This Save America's Treasures grant will recover the sound from the recording, making it accessible for the first time.

Calvert Vaux Hoyt House, Staatsburg - \$320,000

Perched atop a 100-foot bluff overlooking the Hudson River and the Catskill Mountains, the Hoyt House was designed in 1855 by nationally renowned architect, Calvert Vaux. Spared from demolition in the late 1960s, "The Point" has stood vacant for the past four decades. Funds will help restore the house to its circa 1911 appearance.

Ohio

Cincinnati Zoo Reptile House, Cincinnati - NHL, \$408,886

The Reptile House at the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden is the oldest existing zoo building in America, dating from 1875. This Save America's Treasures grant will support the renovation of this historic structure to address damage it has sustained from years of water infiltration.

Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania German Fraktur Collection, Collegeville - \$31,000

The Pennsylvania German fraktur, a highly decorative writing style usually blending motifs and text on a single sheet of paper, is a distinctive American folk art tradition that commemorates the way of life and values of early German-Americans. The 127-piece collection at the Berman Museum of Art at Ursinus College will receive funds to stabilize these works and mitigate the corrosive quality of the iron gall inks that were used in creating them.

Central Market, Lancaster - \$300,000

Established in 1730, the Central Market in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, is the oldest continuously-operated farmers market in the United States. Funds will support major exterior restoration to the 19th-century market building in addition to the installation of a sprinkler system.

St. Mark's Church, Philadelphia - NHL, \$700,000

Built in 1847, St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Philadelphia is one of the finest examples of Gothic revival architecture in America. This Save America's Treasures grant will support the repair of the exterior of the church, parish house, and rectory buildings in order to ensure the long-term preservation of this National Historic Landmark.

Pennsylvania German Manuscripts and Fraktur, Philadelphia - \$200,000

This Save America's Treasures grant will conserve 100 Pennsylvania German manuscripts and 300 fraktur from the Free Library of Philadelphia's collections. These materials provide insight into the early American traditions that helped to shape our national identity and provide detailed accounts of everyday life in rural communities from the colonial era through the Industrial Revolution.

Rabbi Mordecai M. Kaplan Collection, Wyncote - \$25,250

Rabbi Mordecai M. Kaplan was the founder of Reconstructionist Judaism, the only denomination of Judaism to be founded in America. His papers and correspondence with contemporary leaders, scholars, and other historical figures like Albert Einstein and Martin Luther King, Jr., provide a key source of material on American history and religion. Funds will be used by the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College to treat thousands of pages of manuscripts and sermons, which are at risk of loss.

South Carolina

Yaughan and Curriboo Archaeological Collections, Columbia - \$192,482

Collections from the Yaughan and Curriboo plantations comprise one of the most important perspectives on the everyday life of African-Americans in the 18th and 19th century, particularly the adaptation and integration of African culture into southern plantation life and the local agrarian economy as it moved from indigo to rice to cotton. Funds will support the re-housing and digitalization of the collections.

Texas

Historical Photographs from the US-Mexico Border, El Paso - \$141,206

Almost 650,000 photographs from the 19th and 20th centuries comprise this comprehensive collection at the University of Texas at El Paso. El Paso was a crossroads of cultures for centuries and these photos provide a rare and rich resource on the borderland and its effects on the Nation. Grant funds will stabilize, re-house, and digitize a portion of the collection so that becomes more accessible.

Trevino-Uribe Rancho, San Ignacio - \$269,130

Built in 1830, the Jesus Trevino-Blas Uribe Rancho is an exceptional survivor of vernacular Mexican architectural and ranching traditions on the American side of the Rio Grande. Largely in original condition, the complex vividly portrays the Mexican/Texan frontier experience. Grant funds will support the stabilization of the building.

Virginia

Arlington House, The Robert E. Lee Memorial, Arlington - \$290,000

The Arlington House was built by George Washington Parker Custis as a memorial to George Washington, his step-grandfather. For 30 years, it served as the home of Robert E. Lee and his family. Today, it is preserved as a memorial to General Lee. Funds will support the stabilization of the foundation in order to preserve the structural integrity of the mansion.

September 11 Digital Archive, Fairfax - \$152,769

No event in the 21st-century has had a greater impact on contemporary American foreign policy, domestic public policy, the economy, or the cultural memory of the American people than the tragic events of September 11, 2001. The September 11 Digital Archive is the largest public collection of materials produced in the wake of those terrible events and the grant funds will bring the archive up to current technological standards so that it continue to be accessed and used.

Executive Papers and Letterbooks of Gov. Thomas Jefferson, Richmond - \$110,000

Thomas Jefferson served as the second governor of Virginia and his correspondence, letters, and documents bring to life the daily challenges facing him and the other leaders during the Revolutionary War. This Save America's Treasures grant will facilitate the preservation of these manuscripts and the digitization of the collection, ensuring access to the materials.

Charles Hoffbauer "Memorial Military" Murals, Richmond - \$375,000

In 1914, the Confederate Memorial Association commissioned the leading historical muralist of the early twentieth century, Charles Hoffbauer, to do the *Four Seasons of the Confederacy*. These murals were a response to the pain and destruction of the Nation's bloodiest war and became symbolic of the South's complex perspective on the Civil War. Funds will help repair flaking and lifting paint, as well as remove layers of grime, soot, and varnish.

Wisconsin

1889 Soldiers Home Chapel & Chaplain's Quarters, Milwaukee - \$245,412

The National Soldiers Home Historical District is the birthplace of Federal veteran care in America established by President Lincoln just after the Civil War. Funds will support the restoration of the 1889 Home Chapel and the Chaplain's Quarters, allowing the resumption of services for veterans and their families.



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

AUG 20 2010

The Honorable Mark Udall
Chairman, Subcommittee on National Parks
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Fiscal Year 2010 Appropriations Act funding the Department of the Interior, enacted as Public Law 111-88, provides \$4.6 million for Preserve America grants for priority historic preservation projects. Preserve America grants support planning, development, implementation, or enhancement of innovative activities and programs in heritage tourism, including interpretation/education, planning, promotion, training, and research and documentation of cultural resources. Successful projects involve public-private partnerships and serve as models to communities nationwide for heritage tourism, historic preservation, education, and economic development. The National Park Service administers these grants in partnership with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and typically awards them in two application rounds in each fiscal year. In the first application round for FY 2010, the NPS awarded 31 grants totaling \$2,891,128.

The NPS solicited applications for the second round of FY 2010 grants in early 2010. A total of 102 applications were received requesting over \$8.5 million. A national selection panel comprised of senior staff with expertise in the appropriate disciplines and representing noncompeting Federal agencies evaluated the applications and recommended funding for 22 projects in 16 states totaling \$1,308,022. Over the 8 grant rounds since 2006, including the attached FY 2010 Round 2 proposed projects, 280 grants in 49 states totaling \$21,242,661 will have been awarded to enhance local preservation efforts.

Eligible applicants include designated Preserve America Communities, designated Preserve America Neighborhoods, Certified Local Governments in the process of applying for or having received Preserve America Community designation, State Historic Preservation Officers, and Tribal Historic Preservation Officers. Preserve America Communities and Preserve America Neighborhoods located within a federally designated National Heritage Area (NHA) are eligible to receive funding provided that they are not currently receiving Federal funds from the NHA management entity.

The attached enclosure provides a listing of the grants that the NPS will award for the second round of FY 2010 projects.

Sincerely,

Ken Salazar

Enclosure



2010 Preserve America Grants

Round 2

Expansion of the Park Hill National Register Historic District

North Little Rock, AR

\$30,000

Grant funds will be used to survey 380 architectural resources in the Park Hill District of North Little Rock, AR. Products will include an amendment to the National Register of Historic Places listing for this historic district and an expansion of the listing's boundaries.

Implementation of Pocahontas Historic Assets Promotion Plan

Pocahontas, AR

\$16,085

This grant will assist Pocahontas, AR, produce brochures and signage for visitors to the local National Historic Commercial District. Additional signage will highlight historic venues along "Rock and Roll Highway 67."

Preserve Little Italy

San Diego, CA

\$40,000

This grant will be used to survey and map historic resources in this Preserve America neighborhood and produce a catalog of community stories reflecting the family life, business activities, and culture of San Diego's Little Italy.

Market and Octavia Historic Resource Preservation Project

San Francisco, CA

\$83,529

Grant funds will be used by the City of San Francisco to promote economic incentives available to owners of designated historic properties in the Market and Octavia neighborhoods. Products will include educational resources targeted to property owners and businesses encouraging historic preservation and sustainability.

Bent County Rural Resources Survey

Las Animas, CO

\$54,259

Grant funds will be used to conduct an architectural and archeological survey of Bent County, CO. The survey will provide a historic context for the County and enable a prioritized list of resources in need of protection.

City of Sanford Path of History: Sanford Avenue Information Markers

Sanford, FL

\$15,000

Grant funds will be used to design, fabricate, and install heritage trail markers in the Georgetown neighborhood of Sanford, FL. The markers will interpret the history of segregation in this southern city.

State of Florida Historic Preservation Training Initiative

Tallahassee, FL

\$200,000

The State of Florida will provide subgrants and technical assistance to communities in Florida for training in the study, use, protection, and promotion of local historic and cultural resources in the State.

Noblesville Cultural Docent and Interpretation Collaboration Pilot Program

Noblesville, IN

\$23,867

Grant funds will be used to develop a pilot program to promote heritage tourism in the historic downtown of the City of Noblesville, IN. The City will employ high school students to serve as docents for six heritage tourism non-profit organizations.

Historic Preservation Planning for Coon Rapids, Iowa

Coon Rapids, IA

\$15,000

This grant will assist the rural City of Coon Rapids provide historic preservation architectural planning to owners of historic properties. Preservation of these resources will involve youth in historic preservation activities and promote heritage tourism programs.

Rural Heritage Survey Phase III, Development of Farmstead Heritage Websites

Frankfort, KY

\$30,420

Grant funds will be used to create a website to interpret and promote Kentucky's historic agricultural resources for visitors to the State. Additional funds will be used to develop and promote local heritage tourism programs, tourism brochures, and festivals.

Historic Opelousas Wayfinding Signage and Gateway Enhancement Project

Opelousas, LA

\$50,000

The City will use funds to design and produce historic markers and interpretive plaques. The project will showcase the City's historic structures and promote tourism.

Producing a Heritage Design Plan for Baltimore's Carroll Park

Baltimore, MD

\$35,000

Baltimore City will use grant funds to conduct surveys, impact studies, and site analyses of Carroll Park. Products will include a preservation plan for the park that addresses the preservation of historic landscape features.

Montana Community Revitalization Project: Heritage Planning for the New Decade

Helena, MT

\$169,348

This grant will be used to assist local communities with economic development plans which promote heritage tourism and preservation of historic properties. Planning will encourage public investment in community revitalization.

Kalispell Gets You Glacier Marking Initiative

Kalispell, MT

\$75,000

The grant will be used to promote historic downtown Kalispell, the gateway to Glacier National Park, and engage youth in heritage tourism activities.

Finding Your Way in Oyster Bay Service Learning Project

Oyster Bay, NY

\$70,000

The City of Oyster Bay, NY, will use grant funds to develop tourism resources including a website, brochure, and interpretive signs. The tools will be used to promote the city as a viable destination of historic interest. Funds will also be used to develop a video and a blog that document the progression of the project for students of historic preservation and marketing.

Pennsylvania Wilds Design Assistance Initiative

Harrisburg, PA

\$100,000

This grant will fund design assistance in 8 – 12 historically significant communities in the Pennsylvania Wilds and serve as a model to further good design and historic preservation principles in the region. Funds will be used to hold planning meetings that will match local architects and design professionals with community organizations, individuals, and business leaders. The outcome of these meetings will be planning for sound investments in the building environment that will complement and promote local historic resources.

Fountain Inn Oral History Project: Heritage Tourism & Downtown Revitalization

Fountain Inn, SC

\$34,000

The City of Fountain Inn, SC, will compile oral histories of the city that will be presented at the historic downtown's new Heritage Center. The project will provide the community and visitors a greater knowledge and understanding of significant local historic resources. The Heritage Center focuses on six major themes: Native and African-American experience, veterans' stories of past wars, mill life, impact of the railroad and highway, significance of agriculture, and the significance of historic downtown and residential structures.

Blood Run (National Historic Landmark) State Park Master Plan

Pierre, SD

\$75,000

Grant funds will be used by the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks to develop a master plan for the preservation of resources located in Blood Run, a 300 acre parcel recently acquired by the State. The plan will develop alternatives for the preservation, interpretation, and promotion of this new State Park.

Austin Historical Survey Web Tool

Austin, TX

\$87,278

The Austin Historical Society will develop a website to disseminate survey information on historic properties in the city. Data will be presented in GIS overlays and be accessible using applications for both PC and mobile devices.

Llano County Red Top Jail Museum Planning

Llano, TX

\$40,236

The community of Llano, TX, will develop a plan for the adaptive reuse of the Llano Red Top Jail. Objectives include conducting historical research of the Llano Red Top Jail and its relation to Llano's "wild west boom-town days." Local high school students will participate in oral history and documentation projects. The planning and reuse of the jail as a museum will assemble a consortium of youth, senior citizens, community leaders, and interested stakeholders.

Edmonds Downtown Cultural Heritage Tour

Edmonds, WA

\$24,000

The grant will be used to promote tourism by creating a Cultural Heritage Tour of the Edmonds, WA, downtown historic district. Elements of the project include: highlighting historic sites through a series of permanently displayed images and photographs, created and based on previous research, and an oral history project. Students from the town will assist with new oral history documentation. A walking tour map/brochure and web site will also be developed to assist in providing information to visitors to the City.

King County Heritage Barn Guide

Seattle, WA

\$40,000

Preserve America funding will contribute to the creation of a new printed and web-based heritage Barn Guide to promote preservation of rural historic resources, promote heritage travel, and educate residents and visitors about barn types. This project will highlight numerous properties listed in the National Register, the Washington Heritage Barn Register and the King County Landmarks Register, as well as properties which have been surveyed and determined eligible for landmark designation. A component supports job training program for low-income students and a nonprofit organization, Youth in Focus, both involving photography.



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

MAR 16 2010

The Honorable Mark Udall
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Udall:

It is startling that a young person today spends 6 hours a day in front of a computer or television and less than 4 minutes playing outdoors. Young people from underserved communities are even less likely to be engaged in outdoor programs and activities.

The Department of the Interior is uniquely positioned to help millions of young Americans reconnect with our natural and cultural heritage, put thousands of young people to work in the great outdoors, and inspire the next generation of conservation leaders. Our Youth Initiative, which seeks to educate, employ, and engage the youth of our Nation, instructs more than 30 million children throughout the Country annually. From classrooms to picnic tables, our specialists from the National Park Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Bureau of Land Management reach out and help connect young people to the natural world every day of the year.

I have directed my staff to meet goals we have set to increase the number of young people employed by the Department as we hire approximately 12,500 employees in the next 4 months. We are able to target programs directed towards making sure young people have the best opportunities for job training and career development, especially in these difficult economic times. We are engaging youth from all backgrounds and all walks of life in the great outdoors. By expanding access to the outdoors for all young people, we will help build the personal experiences that are the foundation of stewardship.

Given your long-standing interest on youth issues, I want to make sure you are aware of our initiatives. I have asked my staff to follow up with your office to provide a more detailed briefing of our programs and their impacts on the young people in your State and throughout the Country.

Thank you for your leadership and friendship.

Sincerely,

Ken Salazar

MARK E. UDALL
COLORADO



United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

August 19, 2013

The Honorable Sally Jewell
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street N W Room 6156
Washington, DC 20240-0001

Dear Secretary Jewell,

Sally

Thank you for sending your condolences regarding Randy's passing. Our family is touched by your thoughtful note.

Randy left this earth doing what he loved most: hiking in his favorite mountain range in the world. Randy's passing is a reminder to all of us to live every day to its fullest, just as he did.

Sincerely,

Mark

Mark E. Udall
U.S. Senator

*Madame Secretary
Your call and vote
means the world to
the Udall clan!*

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

DENVER CO 802

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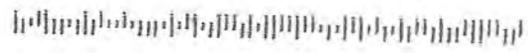


The Honorable Sally Jewell
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street N W Room 6156
Washington, DC 20240-0001

2013 AUG 29 AM 11:02

RECEIVED

526279



Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

525678

August 8, 2013

RECEIVED

2013 AUG -8 PM 5: 05

OFFICE OF THE
FEDERAL REGISTER

Honorable Anne Castle
Assistant Secretary for Water and Science
Department of Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001

Honorable Michael L. Connor
Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001

Dear Assistant Secretary Castle and Commissioner Connor:

As the Department of Interior begins consideration of its FY 2015 budget, we write to express our strong support for robust funding of water conservation and delivery studies, projects and activities. In particular, we want to highlight the Arkansas Valley Conduit project in southeastern Colorado. Adequate funding is essential in order to meet federally mandated water quality standards in the region.

The Arkansas Valley conduit is a planned 130-mile water delivery system from the Pueblo Dam to communities throughout the Arkansas River Valley in Colorado. The conduit is the final phase of the Fryingspan-Arkansas Project, which Congress authorized in 1962. When completed, it will help bring clean drinking water to up to 42 municipalities, towns, and water providers in the lower Arkansas valley.

Many of the wells in these areas have been contaminated with radon or uranium. As a result, many of the water providers in the region are out of compliance with federal water quality standards. More importantly, however, because of the lack of funding for water projects like this, the populations of these regions have been denied clean high quality water. Providing clean and safe water to all Americans should be at the forefront of the Department's mission, and these water quality issues underscore the urgent need for progress on the conduit.

The federal government has already funded planning and feasibility studies for four years in order to make the conduit a reality, and President Obama signed legislation in 2009 committing to fund a substantial share of the project costs. Unfortunately, the Administration's budget proposal for FY 2014 did not fund the project adequately. While planners in the Arkansas valley expect costs to exceed \$15 million in FY 2014, the Bureau of Reclamation's budget justification

requested just \$1 million for the project. Adequate funding to compensate for this shortfall in 2015 will be essential to complete the project on schedule.

As you know, the final Environmental Impact Statement will be released this month. Following a 30-day comment period, a Record of Decision ("ROD") will be announced. The issuance of an ROD stating a preferred alternative removes any regulatory barrier to moving forward with the project, and signals the start of the design and engineering phase. The Office of Management and Budget indicated that the lack of the ROD was the reason for reducing the funding to only \$1 million for FY 2014. With the ROD due to be announced soon, adequate project funding is essential for moving this vital infrastructure and water quality project forward in a timely manner.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

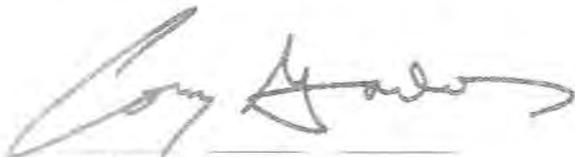
Sincerely,



Michael F. Bennet
United States Senator



Mark Udall
United States Senator



Cory Gardner
Member of Congress



Scott Tipton
Member of Congress

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 23, 2013

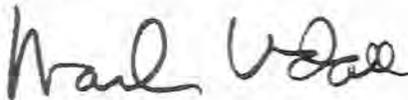
Mr. Patrick Wilkinson
Legislative Affairs Group Manager
Bureau of Land Management, Department of Interior
1849 C St NW Mail Stop 401-ls
Washington, DC 20240-0001

Dear Mr. Wilkinson,

I am writing on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners of Saguache County, Colorado, who contacted my office requesting assistance correcting an error in the calculation of their Payment in Lieu of Taxes, or PILT payment for Fiscal Year 2013. This alarming calculation error resulted in a loss of half a million dollars to the general fund of one of the poorest counties in Colorado, which will likely result in layoffs and diminished services to a county that already struggles to serve the needs of their residents through a limited private land tax base. For your convenience, enclosed is a copy of Saguache County's letter.

I would appreciate your looking into this for me and taking any appropriate action consistent with applicable laws and regulations. Please respond to my Alamosa office at 609 Main Street, #5, Alamosa, Colorado, 81101, or phone 719-589-2101 or erin_minks@markudall.senate.gov. As always, thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,



Mark E. Udall
U.S. Senator

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
OFFICE OF THE

2013 JUL 24 PM 3:17

RECEIVED

525154



SAGUACHE COUNTY GOVERNMENT

501 Fourth Street • P. O. Box 655
Saguache, Colorado 81149

July 8, 2013

Department of the Interior
Attn: Niall O'Connor - PILT
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington DC 20240

Office of Congressman Scott Tipton
San Luis Valley Office
609 Main Street, #105 Box 11
Alamosa, CO 81101

Senator Michael Bennett
San Luis Valley Office
609 Main Street, Suite 110
Alamosa, Colorado 81101

Senator Mark Udall
San Luis Valley Region Office
609 Main Street, Suite 205
Alamosa, CO 81101

It was with great alarm that the Saguache County Board of County Commissioners learned that an error was made, resulting in our County receiving only half of the full Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) allocation due Saguache County in 2013. This is an error on the order of a half million dollars, compounded with the 5.5% sequestration cuts to our rural/frontier county. Having given local Schools the full Secure Rural Schools (SRS) funding, in order to replenish our deplete General Fund, lack of receipt of these funds due to a clerical error is a considerable impact. The unfortunate connection between SRS and PILT funding, whereby for each dollar of SRS funding the County keeps for Road & Bridge, we lose a dollar in PILT funding which supports our General Fund has significantly depleted the County's General Fund. This has been an ongoing issue, perhaps only impacting a few counties with significant Public Lands, and a profile of poverty, but in a most detrimental way. We request and urge your support and action to separate the SRS/PILT funding programs.

In addition, we are writing today, to make an urgent appeal for correction of the above-mentioned error, to make-whole full PILT payment to Saguache County in 2013. It is our understanding that rectification of this error in 2013, requires "an act of Congress", and Saguache County is appealing to you for such consideration.

We have been assured by Jarrod Biggs, CO Dept. of Local Affairs, that this error will be corrected, although without Congressional action, this would not occur until 2014. We request to be made whole this fiscal year. And, we respectfully request a letter confirming this commitment to pay to Saguache County the erroneously withheld funds, from the party with authority to make and fulfill such assurances.

We appreciate any assistance you can provide to rectify this error at the earliest possible date.

Sincerely -
Saguache County Board of County Commissioners

Linda Joseph, Chair

Jason Anderson

Ken Anderson

CC: John W Hickenlooper, Governor by Cassie Rudder; Ed Vigil, State House; Larry Crowder, State Senate



Re: Saguache County Colorado PILT issue

Briggs, Vickie <vbriggs@blm.gov>

Wed, Jul 24, 2013 at 2:35 PM

To: "Wilkinson, Patrick" <p2wilkin@blm.gov>

Cc: Phyllis Thompson <tthompso@blm.gov>, Carrie Richardson <crichardson@blm.gov>, Craig S Leff <cleff@blm.gov>, "Lara E. Douglas" <LEDouglas@blm.gov>, "Andrea Nelson (work)" <anelson@blm.gov>, Lisa Cannuscio <Lisa_Cannuscio@ios.doi.gov>

Hi, Lisa.

Forwarding to you in case you haven't seen this one. Thanks.

On Wed, Jul 24, 2013 at 2:33 PM, Wilkinson, Patrick <p2wilkin@blm.gov> wrote:

fyi - incoming letter re. pilt.
if it's doi's to handle, assume you'll send on?
thx,
p

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Minks, Erin (Mark Udall)** <Erin_Minks@markudall.senate.gov>

Date: Wed, Jul 24, 2013 at 2:06 PM

Subject: Saguache County Colorado PILT issue

To: "ledouglas@blm.gov" <ledouglas@blm.gov>

Thanks so much for forwarding this to folks at Interior. Here is was I put in the mail yesterday ...Sorry to mis-route!!

Best,

Erin

Erin Minks
San Luis Valley Regional Director
Senator Mark Udall
609 Main Street, #5
Alamosa, CO 81101
719-589-2101
erin_minks@markudall.senate.gov

Follow Mark Udall on his Website | Facebook | YouTube | Twitter
Sign up for Mark's Newsletter

-

Patrick Wilkinson
U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Legislative Affairs Division (WO 620)
Phone: (202) 912-7429
Fax: (202) 245-0050

-

Vickie Briggs
BLM Correspondence Office
202-208-6671

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

July 12, 2013

Sally Jewell
Secretary of the Interior
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Tom Vilsack
Secretary of Agriculture
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20250

Dear Secretary Jewell and Secretary Vilsack:

We are writing to invite you to our state to learn about Colorado's successful efforts to preserve and protect the Gunnison sage grouse. We believe the collaborative and voluntary process our state has undertaken could be used as a model to protect other threatened species within Colorado and across the country.

In response to the proposed listing of the Gunnison sage grouse, stakeholders in Colorado worked to implement strong and binding voluntary conservation measures throughout the bird's local habitat. Local governments and private landowners used a variety of tools to protect the species, including: the implementation of protective land use policies, conservation easements on private land, Conservation Agreements With Assurances and private property acquisitions. These efforts and others have led to the expenditure of over \$30 million in public and private funds, all with the goal of preserving the species. Thanks to these initiatives we've made great progress – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) data now show the population of Gunnison sage grouse has increased in the Gunnison Basin.

In addition to the work outlined above, eleven counties in southwest Colorado and southeast Utah have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) summarizing joint measures they will take to protect the Gunnison sage grouse within their borders. This MOU has led to a recently-finalized conservation agreement with the State of Colorado. We are hopeful that your agencies will join in these good faith efforts to initiate proactive conservation and habitat protection measures and perhaps endorse this landmark agreement. The coalition members believe these measures will ultimately achieve or exceed the species protection goals of a possible Endangered Species Act (ESA) listing. While great progress has been made, there is significant potential to illustrate even greater preservation and – given that USFWS has expressed support for locally-led conservation initiatives in the past – we would request that you grant a six month extension before making a final decision regarding whether to list the species under the ESA.

We know the Administration has many factors to weigh when considering listing a species under the Act. We know you are diligently moving through this process for the Gunnison sage grouse

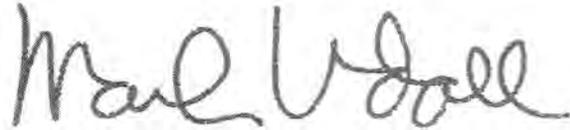
and believe your deliberations will benefit from witnessing firsthand the impressive work that has occurred in our home state of Colorado.

Thank you for your continued efforts on this matter and your consideration of these requests. We look forward to hearing from you.

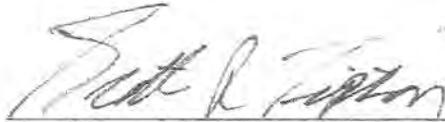
Sincerely,



Michael F. Bennet
United States Senator



Mark Udall
United States Senator



Scott Tipton
United States Representative

OFFICE OF THE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

2013 JUL 12 PM 5:21

RECEIVED

524785



Howarth, Robert <robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov>

Fwd: Gunnison Sage Grouse Letter

Harding, Stephenne <stephenne_harding@ios.doi.gov>

Fri, Jul 12, 2013 at 5:18 PM

To: Fay Iudicello <fay_iudicello@ios.doi.gov>, Robert Howarth <robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov>

Cc: Megan Kelhart <megan_kelhart@fws.gov>, Sarah Neimeyer <sarah_Neimeyer@ios.doi.gov>, Jason Buckner <Jason_Buckner@ios.doi.gov>, Carlos Uriarte <carlos_uriarte@ios.doi.gov>

FYI

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Babington, Sean (Bennet)** <Sean_Babington@bennet.senate.gov>

Date: Fri, Jul 12, 2013 at 5:02 PM

Subject: Gunnison Sage Grouse Letter

To: "Kelhart, Megan (megan_kelhart@fws.gov)" <megan_kelhart@fws.gov>, "Harding, Stephenne" <stephenne_harding@ios.doi.gov>

Cc: "Ozarski, Jill (Mark Udall)" <Jill_Ozarski@markudall.senate.gov>, "Zupancic, Nicholas" <Nicholas.Zupancic@mail.house.gov>

Megan and Stephenne,

Please see the attached letter from members of the Colorado delegation regarding the Gunnison Sage Grouse.

Thanks,
Sean

—
Stephenne Harding
Deputy Director
Congressional and Legislative Affairs
Department of the Interior
Stephenne_Harding@ios.doi.gov
202-208-6174 (desk)
202-341-8080 (cell)

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THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

SEP 10 2013

The Honorable Mark Udall
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Udall:

Thank you for your letter of July 12, 2013, to Secretary Tom Vilsack and me regarding the State of Colorado's efforts to conserve and protect the Gunnison sage-grouse. The Department of Agriculture will respond under separate cover.

On July 19, 2013, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) published a notice in the Federal Register extending the deadline for the final decision regarding listing of the Gunnison sage-grouse until March 31, 2014. The FWS took this action based on its finding that there is substantial disagreement regarding the sufficiency or accuracy of the available data relevant to its final decision, making it necessary to re-open the public comment period for 45 days.

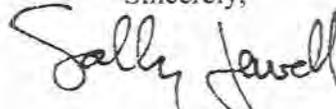
The FWS Director, Mr. Dan Ashe, visited Gunnison, Colorado on July 16, 2013, to meet with local landowners, the Gunnison Basin Strategic Committee, and representatives from the 11 counties in the Gunnison sage-grouse range. Director Ashe heard from each of the counties about their efforts to conserve Gunnison sage-grouse and their concerns regarding listing species under the Endangered Species Act. He was impressed with the work they have done in such a short period of time to provide a framework for conserving the Gunnison sage-grouse. While the FWS works to resolve the scientific issues that led it to apply the statutorily allowed extension, stakeholders can continue to work on conservation efforts, and the FWS can evaluate those efforts prior to a final listing decision.

In addition to the FWS, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Farm Services Administration, U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, and National Park Service are working together with the State, local governments, and private landowners to conserve the Gunnison sage-grouse. We are encouraged by these public and private conservation efforts and will continue to work with land owners, local communities, the Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife and our Federal agency partners to continue these efforts.

The FWS recognizes that the community-based conservation efforts that have occurred to date and those that are under development are valuable to the conservation of the species. The FWS will take these efforts into consideration in making its final determination.

If you have any additional questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me or Director Dan Ashe at (202) 208-4545. A similar letter is being sent to the co-signers of your letter.

Sincerely,



Sally Jewell

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 1849 C STREET, N.W.
 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240
 (202) 245-2000
 www.doi.gov

United States Senate RECEIVED
524543 COMMITTEE ON
 ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES
 Washington, DC 20510-6150
 WWW.ENERGY.SENATE.GOV
 2013 JUL -5 PM 12:18
 OFFICE OF THE
 EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

June 28, 2013

Director Sylvia Burwell
 Office of Management and Budget
 725 17th Street, NW
 Washington, DC 20503

Secretary Tom Vilsack
 Department of Agriculture
 1400 Independence Ave., SW
 Washington, DC 20250

Secretary Sally Jewell
 Department of the Interior
 1849 C Street, NW
 Washington, DC 20240

Dear Director Burwell, Secretary Vilsack, and Secretary Jewell:

We write to request an action plan regarding the current budget framework for fire suppression and prevention activities and what can be done to move forward to ensure both suppression and prevention are adequately funded in future budgets. In a Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee hearing earlier this month on wildland fire management it was clear that the current approach is unacceptable.

Federal fire program budgets, wildfire frequency and intensity, and associated losses have been a concern for many years. Because the Administration's annual budget requests to Congress propose to fund the increasing 10-year rolling average for wildland fire suppression costs within the current funding level of the Forest Service and Department of the Interior's discretionary appropriations, increases in suppression expenditures have caused significant decreases in funding for the non-fire programs including those that keep wildfire suppression costs down, such as hazardous fuels reduction, cost-share programs for the acquisition of fire apparatus with local partner agencies, and assistance for community wildfire planning. This shift in funding to fire suppression has taken a toll on the agencies budgets. Just ten years ago, fighting fires accounted for 13 percent of the Forest Service budget; last year it was over 40 percent.

In a time when fire activity and costs are steadily rising, the 10-year rolling average budget formula that the agencies have used to set the annual budget request for suppression expenditures has translated into shortfalls in available suppression funds nearly every year since the mid-1990s. When the budgeted amount is insufficient, the agency continues to suppress fires

by reallocating funds from other non-fire programs. This practice is called fire borrowing. This approach to paying for firefighting is nonsensical and further increases wildland fire costs.

The Federal Land Assistance, Management and Enhancement (FLAME) Act was enacted in 2009 to address these very issues. The FLAME Act authorized the establishment of two reserve accounts to provide additional suppression funding for large, emergency wildfire incidents, above and beyond the 10-year average annual suppression expenditures. In addition, any balances remaining in the FLAME accounts were to carry-over into future years so that funds would be available for the inevitable, high cost years and not have to be borrowed from other program accounts. Despite Congressional intent, OMB has forced the agencies to implement the FLAME Act in a manner that makes it ineffective: instead of funding the FLAME account in addition to the 10-year average cost of suppression, the account is funded as part of the 10-year average cost of suppression. Although authorized, no additional funding has been requested for the FLAME reserve accounts above the 10-year average cost of suppression. Thus, fire borrowing has continued to occur.

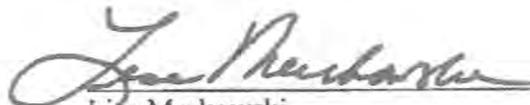
We are also concerned about the dramatic cuts to hazardous fuels treatments proposed in the FY2014 President's budget request. For example, the Forest Service treated 1.87 million acres for hazardous fuels in FY2012, but expects to treat only 685,000 acres in FY2014. Our understanding is that these cuts were based on OMB's continued skepticism about the efficacy of hazardous fuels treatments. We whole-heartedly disagree with OMB on this point.

We look forward to hearing from you. If you or your staff should have any questions, please contact Meghan Conklin (202-224-8046) on the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources Majority Staff or Lucy Murfitt (202-224-4971) on Minority Staff.

Sincerely,



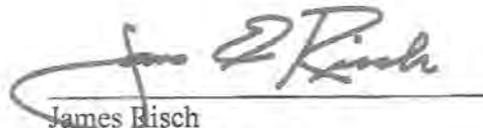
Ron Wyden
Chairman
Energy and Natural Resources Committee



Lisa Murkowski
Ranking Member
Energy and Natural Resources Committee



Mark Udall
United States Senator



James Risch
United States Senator



Fwd: Senators Push for Plan to Reform Budgeting for Wildfires and Increase Prevention Efforts

Robert Howarth <robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov>

Fri, Jun 28, 2013 at 4:28 PM

To: Daniel Vaught <Daniel_Vaught@ios.doi.gov>, "Director, OES Fay Iudicello" <fay_iudicello@ios.doi.gov>, Lisa M Cannuscio <Lisa_Cannuscio@ios.doi.gov>

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Harding, Stephenne" <stephenne_harding@ios.doi.gov>

Date: June 28, 2013, 2:34:45 PM EDT

To: Fay Iudicello <fay_iudicello@ios.doi.gov>, Robert Howarth <robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov>, Sarah Neimeyer <sarah_Neimeyer@ios.doi.gov>, Christopher Salotti <chris_salotti@ios.doi.gov>, Matthew Quinn <matthew_quinn@ios.doi.gov>, Patrick Wilkinson <p2wilkin@blm.gov>, James Douglas <james_douglas@ios.doi.gov>, Pam Haze <Pam_Haze@ios.doi.gov>

Subject: Fwd: Senators Push for Plan to Reform Budgeting for Wildfires and Increase Prevention Efforts

FYI

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Conklin, Meghan (Energy)** <Meghan_Conklin@energy.senate.gov>

Date: Fri, Jun 28, 2013 at 2:26 PM

Subject: Senators Push for Plan to Reform Budgeting for Wildfires and Increase Prevention Efforts

To: "Conklin, Meghan (Energy)" <Meghan_Conklin@energy.senate.gov>

Hello:

Attached is a letter released today by Senators Wyden, Murkowski, Mark Udall, and Risch to OMB and the Departments of Agriculture and Interior regarding wildland fire funding.

Please feel free to give me a call with questions.

Thanks

Meghan

Meghan Conklin

Senior Professional Staff Member

Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee

202.224.4971 (phone)

Meghan_Conklin@energy.senate.gov (e-mail)

2 attachments

View Details

United States Senate  **image001.jpg**
18K

 **Wyden, Murkowski, Udall and Risch Fire Funding Letter June 28, 2013.pdf**
519K



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

THE DIRECTOR

November 26, 2013

The Honorable Ron Wyden
Chairman, Committee on Energy
and Natural Resources
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for your letter to Secretary Tom Vilsack, Secretary Sally Jewell, and me requesting a plan for a budget framework regarding wildland fire suppression and prevention activities to ensure adequate funding for these activities in future budgets. Over the past few months, the Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Department of the Interior (DOI), and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) worked closely together to develop a plan to address funding for wildfire management and prevention activities. I am responding on behalf of OMB, USDA, and DOI.

Fire seasons in the United States are increasing in both severity and length. This is leading to steadily increasing firefighting costs for the Federal Government and for state and local communities. At the same time, we strongly believe in the value of our land management and fuels treatment programs that improve the integrity and resilience of our forests and rangelands, contribute to community adaptation to fire, and improve our ability to safely and appropriately respond to wildland fire.

To better manage these lands and the costs associated with wildfire suppression, the Administration is taking a number of actions. The Administration is working with states, local communities, conservationists, forest industry and other stakeholders to enhance our response to wildfire and to restore forests and grasslands across large landscapes to make them more resilient to fire. We are developing better approaches to setting our treatment priorities to accomplish these goals and to measure the success of the treatments. We are also targeting funds to the highest priority projects in the highest priority areas in order to increase the effectiveness of limited funding. Thirdly, to provide stable funding for wildland fire suppression, consistent with the President's FY 2014 Budget, we are requesting full funding of the 10-year average cost of the wildfire suppression.

We share your concerns, however, about overall forest and rangeland management, preparedness and fuels budgets. We recognize that the current practice of funding suppression is not sustainable over the long run and impedes our ability to invest in other priorities that will improve long-term forest health. The FLAME Act requires that FLAME funds be used to cover the costs of large or complex wildfires, so DOI and USDA have been requesting a portion of the 10-year average estimated to cover extreme fire events out of their FLAME accounts. Ideally, funding suppression at the 10-year average of suppression expenditures, including the FLAME fund, provides excess funding in low-cost fire years that carries into high-fire years in order to prevent fire borrowing. However, that has not been the case in recent years, leaving us without additional funding to manage through high-fire years. The Administration's current budget framework provides funding for suppression costs; however, constrained budget caps, sequestration, and the difficulty of predicting annual costs because of the variability in fire expenses year to year, impacts the stability of funding.

Appropriations bills under consideration in both the House and Senate provide emergency funding for suppression activities. In addition, there are authorization bills in both the House and Senate that attempt to address the risk of catastrophic fire. However, these bills do not take the necessary steps to reform fire suppression activities. Moreover, they remove necessary environmental protections. The Administration would like to work with you to find more effective ways to utilize existing programs to improve forest and rangeland health and resilience. One of these ways is to provide stable funding to the programs that are most critical to impacting forest and rangeland resilience.

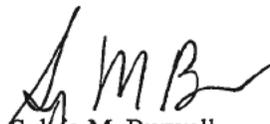
As your letter points out, continued reductions to resource management programs to fund suppression needs is detrimental to the health and resilience of our nation's forests and rangelands. The Administration would like to work with Congress on a new budget approach that embodies the following principles:

1. Minimize destabilizing funding transfers from other important programs by providing sufficient fire suppression funding.
2. Improve agencies' ability to adequately invest in preparedness, forest and rangeland restoration and health, and other fire risk-reduction measures.
3. Clearly account for suppression spending and activities that are eligible for suppression, and retrospectively report on total fire costs, cost drivers, impacts of investments, suggested corrective actions, and other parameters.
4. Retain incentives for agencies to proactively manage fire costs by leveraging work with others and by using scientifically-based decision-support systems that will help to determine appropriate fire response by modeling fire potential, risk of spread, necessary resource usage, impact on forest health, and other parameters is necessary for the long-term effectiveness of the agencies wildland fire suppression activities. Ensure that funds are available when needed in "extreme" fire years.

We would like to work with Congress to determine how to improve the funding mechanism for suppression needs and effectively increase efforts to improve forest and rangeland health and resilience.

Developing the budget framework and strengthening forest and rangeland management programs are important priorities for our Departments. We look forward to working with you and your colleagues to find solutions to both issues. If you have any questions, please contact Kristen J. Sarri, Associate Director for Legislative Affairs, at (202) 395-4790. Thank you again for your letter.

Sincerely,



Sylvia M. Burwell
Director, OMB

cc: The Honorable Tom Vilsack
Secretary of Agriculture

The Honorable Sally Jewel
Secretary of the Interior

Identical Letter Sent to:

The Honorable Ron Wyden

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski

The Honorable Mark Udall

The Honorable James Risch

THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE
523925 REFERRAL

RECEIVED

2013 JUN 17 AM 11:15

OFFICE OF THE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

June 12, 2013

TO: DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

ACTION COMMENTS:

ACTION REQUESTED: DIRECT REPLY W/COPY

REFERRAL COMMENTS:

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 1114964

MEDIA: EMAIL

DOCUMENT DATE: June 05, 2013

TO: PRESIDENT OBAMA

FROM: THE HONORABLE MARK UDALL
UNITED STATES SENATE
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

SUBJECT: REQUESTS THE PRESIDENT TO WORK WITH CONGRESS TO FORMULATE
AND EXECUTE A BIPARTISAN, DYNAMIC AND EFFECITVE INITIATIVE TO
COMMEMORATE THE NATIONAL PARK CENTENNIAL AND PREPARE OUR
PARKS FOR THE SECOND ANNNIVERSARY OF SERVICE

COMMENTS:

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT,
UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE UNDERSIGNED AT (202) 456-2590.

RETURN ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE (OR DRAFT) TO: DOCUMENT TRACKING UNIT,
ROOM 63, OFFICE OF RECORDS MANAGEMENT - THE WHITE HOUSE, 20500

**THE WHITE HOUSE
DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT AND
TRACKING WORKSHEET**



DATE RECEIVED:

CASE ID: 1114964

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE MARK UDALL

SUBJECT: REQUESTS THE PRESIDENT TO WORK WITH CONGRESS TO FORMULATE AND EXECUTE A BIPARTISAN, DYNAMIC AND EFFECITVE INITIATIVE TO COMMEMORATE THE NATIONAL PARK CENTENNIAL AND PREPARE OUR PARKS FOR THE SECOND ANNNIVERSARY OF SERVICE

ROUTE TO: AGENCY/OFFICE	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
		CODE	DATE	TYPE RESPONSE	DATE COMPLETED
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS	MIGUEL RODRIGUEZ	ORG	06/12/2013		

ACTION COMMENTS:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR R 06/12/2013

ACTION COMMENTS:

ACTION COMMENTS:

ACTION COMMENTS:

ACTION COMMENTS:

COMMENTS: 223 ADDL SIGNEES

MEDIA TYPE: EMAIL

USER CODE:

ACTION CODES	TYPE RESPONSE	DISPOSITION	COMPLETED DATE
A = APPROPRIATE ACTION B = RESEARCH AND REPORT BACK D = DRAFT RESPONSE I = INFO COPY/NO ACT NECESSARY R = DIRECT REPLY W/ COPY ORG = ORIGINATING OFFICE	INITIALS OF SIGNER (W.H. STAFF) NRN = NO RESPONSE NEEDED OTBE = OVERTAKEN BY EVENTS	DISPOSITION CODES A = ANSWERED OR ACKNOWLEDGED C = CLOSED X = INTERIM REPLY	DATE OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OR CLOSEOUT DATE (MM/DD/YY)

KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING LETTER AT ALL TIMES
REFER QUESTIONS TO DOCUMENT TRACKING UNIT (202)-456-2590
SEND ROUTING UPDATES AND COMPLETED RECORDS TO OFFICE OF RECORDS MANAGEMENT - DOCUMENT TRACKING UNIT ROOM 63, EEOB.

Scanned by
ORM

1114964

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 5, 2013

President Barack Obama
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

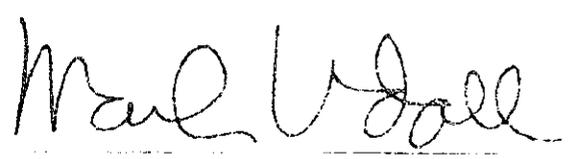
Dear Mr. President:

On the eve of the 100th anniversary of our National Park System, we invite you to work with us to formulate and execute a bipartisan, dynamic, and effective initiative to commemorate the national park centennial and prepare our national parks for their second century of service to the American people.

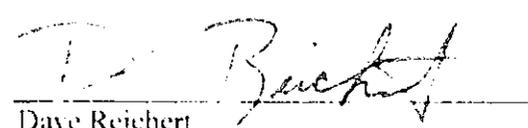
In three years, the nation will mark the 100th anniversary of the creation of the modern National Park System. Since the National Park Service Organic Act was signed into law in 1916, the Park System has grown to include splendid examples of America's natural and scenic heritage, as well as places of historic importance to our country. Support for the national parks is an issue most Americans agree is important - particularly as our parks are enjoyed and utilized by persons across our country regardless of their background.

Past presidents and congresses have worked together at key times to repair, improve and enhance parks and facilities, to develop creative ways of connecting the American people with our national treasures and to better preserve our parks for future generations. The national park centennial provides an opportunity to reinvigorate the national parks for their second century of service. We look forward to working with you and your staff to build on momentum from the 100th anniversary of the National Parks System to find a sustainable path forward for our national parks.

Sincerely,



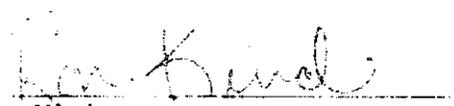
Mark Udall
U.S. Senator



Dave Reichert
U.S. Representative



Rob Portman
U.S. Senator



Ron Kind
U.S. Representative

Laura Alexander

John Barrasso

Ben Sanders

Mike Croso

Susan Collins

Hedi Heuberg

Tom Udare

Jim Johnson

Rebbie Stetson

Jack Beed

Brian Eckel

Richard Blumenfeld

Jany Baddi

Shurred Brown

Bill Nelson

Dir Daulin

Tom Luhn

~~W. D.~~

J. T. T.

Ben Cardin

St. Thomas

Robert M. G.

Jeanne Shakes

Mary A. Turbin

Mark F. Best

Kirsten E. Hillibrand

Mark R. Womers

Frank

William

Mark Begeh

Chris Coors

Kelly A. Ayotte

Peggy Murray

Elizabeth

Angus King

Paul

Maya & Simon

Dennis Feinstein

Amy Klobuchar

Jay Byrnes

Tom Carper

My Baines

Al Franken

Barb B

Maria Cantwell

Jeffrey A. Merkley

Ron Wyden

Paul Cook

Father's Day

Oliver Pea

Thomas R. Pettus

Keith Ellison

W. Delingray

~~[Illegible signature]~~

John R. [Illegible]

James H. [Illegible]

Emilia [Illegible]

Wm. [Illegible]

Ed. [Illegible]

Ben [Illegible]

Bob Paul

Jim Sanger

[Signature]

Bob [Signature]

Erik Paulsen

David N. Cicillino

[Signature]

Joe Heck

Ann McFave Foster

[Signature]

[Signature]

Frank R. Way

Min Sugum

Peter Raschom

Michelle Dujan Holm

[Signature]

[Signature]

Frederica S. Wilson

[Signature]

Katley Costa

Michael H. Michaud

Michael M. Mondo

Beto O'Rourke

CPA

Lan Lipinski

Mr Van Veltre

Betty McCallum

Susan Sargis

Kiki Tangas

Joel Hoffman

David P. Grace

Lamar Smith

SP

Adam B. Schuff

Rosalinda Laura

A. Waten Ruppensperger

Wm. Larry Clay

Linda Sanchez

John M. [unclear]

Lynda

John Klein

Dick Nolan

Bob L. Green

W. W. Dyer

Gene Cole

Eddie Bonnie Johnson

Bernie N. Thompson

Sam Schenkensky

Shelley Moore Capito

John J. Williams

Madeline J. Boudallo

John P. Santa

[Signature]

Gene Green

Louise M. Slaughter

Paul D. Tonico

Ed Pastor

Bill Bassett

Miss Smith

Ken Anderson

Greg Miller

Jim Mather

Nelson Miller

Tom Salkam

Joe E. Leonard

Luis Capps

Eight Lenny

John F. Terry

Michael B. Jensen

Harold Johnson

James Baker

Bruce Sherr

Boyd L. Park

Rubin Hingora

Frank Lee

Joe King

Alan Lath

Nabe Fidd

Pete Welch

Charles B. Rangel

Yvette D. Clarke

Marcia L. Inge

Steve Lewis

Sam Whiggin

Luella Royal Allard

Capt. B. Wesley

Rich Simpson

Collin T. Felton

Edward J. Minkley

Juana Madler

Corinne Brown

Herbert

John S. Lynd

Patricia

Dale P.

Danny K. Davis

Shirley Jackson

Margaret

E. Whitfield

Alfred D. Dorr II

Jim R. Kain

Ar Kirkpatrick

Alice Fitts

Ronald E. Connolly

Alan Wagner

Fred Vels

Arden Carlson

Paul A. Gosar

Michael H. Adams

Bradley S. Schick

August D. Brun

John Hain

Dan P. Ru

Denny Heck

Bob

Jim McForn

Suzanne Bonanni

Elizabeth H. Esty

Pete P. Halligan

Renee J. Ellis

Loretta Sanchez

Robt. T. Hallego

Earl Blumenauer

Terri Swell

Sam Farr

Renee Cramer

Lois J. Wolf

Jim McDevitt

Julia Brawley

Eric Stiers

Acosta Denton

Lynda Jenkins

Ron Barber

Chris Campbell

Janet Love

Bob

Ally G. Smith

Janet Holt

Jay McHugh

Betty

Light

Joe Lopez

Joe & Janice

Matthew A. K... ..

Jeff

Gudy Chen

Carol Shea-Porter

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Betty

h

Joan Peis

Deborah

Tim Ryan

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John B. Larson

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Rail M.



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

AUG 28 2013

The Honorable Mark Udall
Chairman, Subcommittee on National Parks
Natural Resources Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Udall:

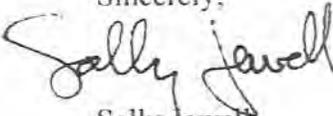
Thank you for your letter of June 5, 2013, to President Obama, signed by a number of your colleagues in the House and Senate, expressing your support the approaching 100th anniversary celebration of the National Park Service (NPS). The centennial will celebrate treasured American landscapes, our shared cultural heritage, and the benefits of preserving these resources for the public in perpetuity.

Staff from the Department of the Interior (Department) and the NPS are working to build a robust strategy for centennial activities, and we will include opportunities for scalable programs for all park units to ensure that the centennial is commemorated in all communities. This planning process includes the establishment of a Centennial Advisory Committee under the direction of former Governor of Alaska and Chair of the National Park System Advisory Board, the Honorable Tony Knowles. This representative coalition of stakeholders is the first step in what will be an open and engaged initiative.

I also join NPS Director Jon Jarvis in my commitment to the NPS' *Call to Action* to ensure the second century of the National Park System continues to bring the restorative benefits of the outdoors, recreation, cultural reflection, community renewal, and preservation to all Americans. We welcome your involvement to support the National Park Service in this ongoing initiative and associated centennial campaign.

I look forward to working with you and your fellow members of the U.S. Congress to recognize and support this opportunity to prepare and celebrate our America through the National Park Service in 2016.

Sincerely,



Sally Jewell

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 4, 2013

523636

The Honorable Sally Jewell
Secretary of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

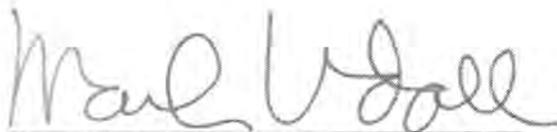
Dear Madam Secretary:

On May 16, 2013, the Department of the Interior announced its intent to issue a supplemental draft of proposed rulemaking for the Bureau of Land Management's proposed hydraulic fracturing rule (RIN 1004-AE26). The comment period on the supplemental allows for a 30-day public comment period. We are concerned that the comment period does not allow adequate time to fully assess the changes to the rule and provide meaningful feedback.

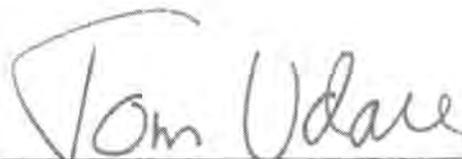
As you know, this rule has garnered significant attention from a diversity of stakeholders in our home states. It is our understanding that your agency received over 170,000 public comments on the original proposed rule. With the substantial changes to the proposed rule included in the current draft, we believe that stakeholders will need additional time for full consideration.

Therefore, we respectfully request that you offer a longer comment period for public comment on this proposed rule. In order for stakeholders to plan accordingly, we request that you provide notice to our office by June 10th on whether additional time will be added to the comment period.

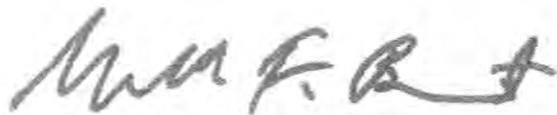
Sincerely,



Mark Udall
U.S. Senator



Tom Udall
U.S. Senator



Michael F. Bennet
U.S. Senator



Martin Heinrich
U.S. Senator

2013 JUN -4 PM 4:31
RECEIVED
OFFICE OF THE
CLERK OF THE
U.S. SENATE



Howarth, Robert <robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov>

Fwd: Letter for Sec. Jewell re BLM fracking regulations

Harding, Stephenne <stephenne_harding@ios.doi.gov> Tue, Jun 4, 2013 at 4:26 PM
 To: Fay Iudicello <fay_iudicello@ios.doi.gov>, Robert Howarth <robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov>

FYI

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Adams, Wendy (Mark Udall) <Wendy_Adams@markudall.senate.gov>
Date: Tue, Jun 4, 2013 at 4:08 PM
Subject: Letter for Sec. Jewell re BLM fracking regulations
To: "Stephenne Harding (stephenne_harding@ios.doi.gov)" <stephenne_harding@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: "Black, Jonathan (Tom Udall)" <Jonathan_Black@tomudall.senate.gov>, "Hermann, Maya (Heinrich)" <Maya_Hermann@heinrich.senate.gov>, "Babington, Sean (Bennet)" <Sean_Babington@bennet.senate.gov>

Hi Stephenne -

Please see the attached letter from Senators Mark Udall, Tom Udall, Michael Bennet and Martin Heinrich to the Secretary.

Thanks - Wendy

Wendy Adams
 Senior Energy Advisor
 Office of Senator Mark Udall
 Hart Senate Office Building, Suite 730
 Washington, DC 20510
 Wendy_Adams@MarkUdall.senate.gov<mailto:Wendy_Adams@MarkUdall.senate.gov>
 202-224-5941

Stephenne Harding
 Deputy Director
 Congressional and Legislative Affairs
 Department of the Interior
 Stephenne_Harding@ios.doi.gov
 202-208-6174 (desk)
 202-341-8080 (cell)

 **13.6.4 Letter to Secretary Jewell on Extension of Fracking Comment Perio....pdf**
 156K



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON
JUN 07 2013

The Honorable Mark Udall
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

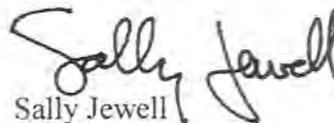
Dear Senator Udall:

Thank you for your letter of June 4, 2013, requesting an extension of the comment period for the Revised Proposed Hydraulic Fracturing Rule (revised rule) published in the Federal Register on May 24, 2013.

As you referenced, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) provided a 120-day comment period on the proposed rule published last year. The BLM received 177,000 comments, many of which informed the revised rule. Moreover, prior to publishing the revised rule, the Office of Management and Budget facilitated a number of BLM listening sessions with major stakeholders, which included Federal agencies, tribes, industry representatives, and other non-government organizations. Comments from these sessions were also considered in developing the revised rule.

I agree that stakeholders and the public need sufficient time to review and comment on this important issue, and the comment period is being extended for an additional 60 days. A similar reply is being sent to the cosigners of your letter.

Sincerely,


Sally Jewell

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

523428

May 16, 2013

RECEIVED

2013 MAY 29 PM 4:45

OFFICE OF THE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

The Honorable Sylvia Burwell
Director
Office of Management and Budget
725 17th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Director Burwell:

We write to you about the Department of the Interior's (DOI) recent decision to sequester revenue under the Mineral Leasing Act (MLA).

On March 22, 2013, DOI notified states that it would sequester over \$109 million in revenue under the MLA and other statutes during the remainder of FY 2013. DOI explained that its decision to sequester these funds was "in accordance with the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act, as amended." We have heard from our states, including the Western Governors' Association, all of whom have significant concerns about the sequestration of MLA revenues. However, we understand that current law accords these funds special status and specifically makes them available for obligation in FY 2014. We ask you to confirm that DOI will in fact make the sequestered MLA revenue available to the states in FY 2014 and to ensure that DOI does so as soon as possible.

As is the case now, the United States faced a growing debt crisis during the 1980s. In response, Congress passed the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act (BBEDCA) of 1985. Under this legislation, DOI sequestered revenue under the MLA in FY 1986. However, we understand that DOI made the sequestered MLA revenue available to the states in FY 1987. It is our understanding that DOI relied on section 256(a)(2) of the BBEDCA which states that:

Any amount of new budget authority, unobligated balances, obligated balances, new loan guarantee commitments, new direct loan obligations, spending authority (as defined in section 401(c)(2) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974), or obligation limitations which is sequestered or reduced pursuant to an order issued under section 252 is permanently cancelled, with the exception of amounts sequestered in special or trust funds, which shall remain in such funds and be available in accordance with and to the extent permitted by law, including the provisions of this Act. (emphasis added).

In short, DOI determined that the BBEDCA did not permanently cancel MLA revenue owed to states but that such revenue fell within the exception provided in section 256(a)(2). In subsequent years, Congress passed a series of changes to the BBEDCA which effectively amended and redesignated section 256(a)(2) as section 256(k)(6). Section 256(k)(6) states that:

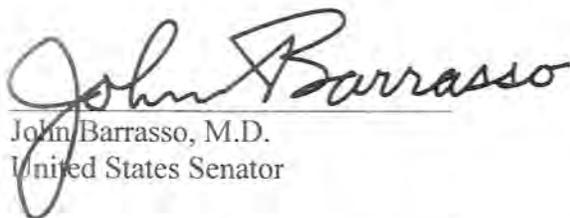
Budgetary resources sequestered in revolving, trust, and special fund accounts and offsetting collections sequestered in appropriation accounts shall not be available for obligation during the fiscal year in which the sequestration occurs, but shall be available in subsequent years to the extent otherwise provided in law. (emphasis added).

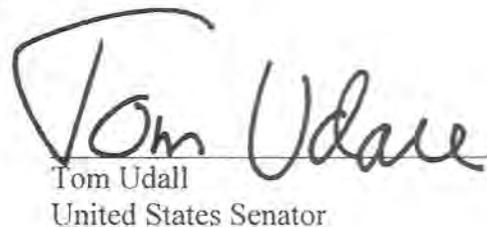
Like section 256(a)(2), section 256(k)(6) provides that amounts sequestered in trust and special fund accounts shall be made available in subsequent fiscal years. While Congress has since made further changes to the BBEDCA, there is nothing in current law that would authorize DOI to apply section 256(k)(6) any differently to MLA revenue sequestered under the Budget Control Act (BCA) of 2011. In fact, section 302 of the BCA¹ explicitly states that: "Any reductions imposed under [the March 1st sequester] shall be implemented in accordance with section 256(k)." For that reason, DOI should make available in FY 2014 MLA revenue sequestered in FY 2013, just as it made available in FY 1987 MLA revenue sequestered in FY 1986.

MLA revenue is the economic lifeblood of many states and local communities across rural America. States, such as Colorado, New Mexico, North Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming, use MLA revenue to address, among other things, impacts from energy and mineral production. If MLA revenue sequestered in FY 2013 is not returned to the states, local communities across the West will experience severe hardships. We therefore ask that you ensure that DOI makes available in FY 2014 MLA revenue sequestered in FY 2013 and that it does so as soon as possible.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to your prompt response.

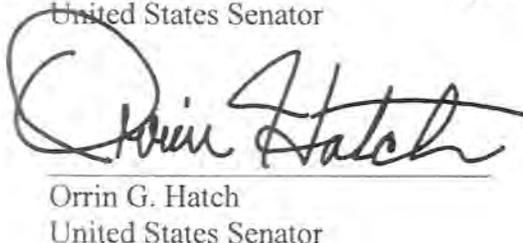
Sincerely,

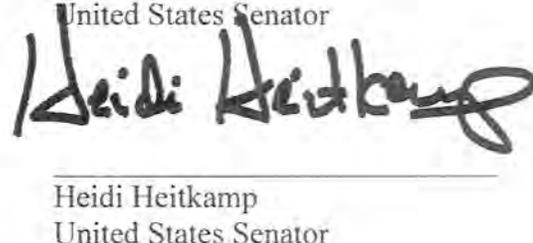

John Barrasso, M.D.
United States Senator


Tom Udall
United States Senator


Michael B. Enzi
United States Senator


Martin Heinrich
United States Senator


Orrin G. Hatch
United States Senator


Heidi Heitkamp
United States Senator

¹ Section 251A(10) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act, as amended.



John Hoeven
United States Senator



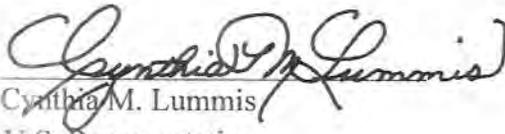
Mark Udall
United States Senator



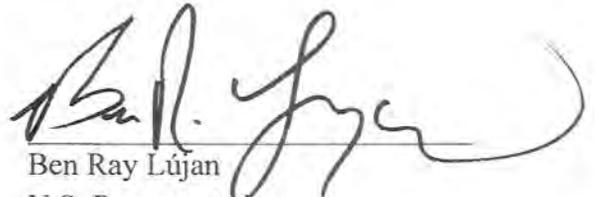
Mike Lee
United States Senator



Michael F. Bennet
United States Senator



Cynthia M. Lummis
U.S. Representative



Ben Ray Lujan
U.S. Representative



Rob Bishop
U.S. Representative



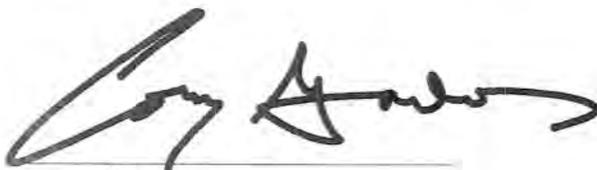
Jason Chaffetz
U.S. Representative



Chris Stewart
U.S. Representative



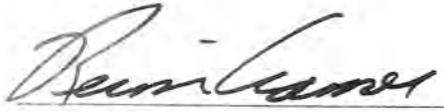
Stevan Pearce
U.S. Representative



Cory Gardner
U.S. Representative



Scott R. Tipton
U.S. Representative



Kevin Cramer
U.S. Representative



Mike Coffman
U.S. Representative



cc: Sally Jewell, Secretary of the Interior

Gregory J. Gould, Director, Office of Natural Resource Revenue, Department of the Interior

Doug Lamborn

Michelle Grissom

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-5005

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

John Barasso
U.S.S.

PRSR7 STB

The Honorable Sally Jewell
Secretary of the Interior
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW, Room 5665
Washington, D.C. 20240

7314



DFS-TPI 20240





THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

AUG 27 2013

The Honorable Mark Udall
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Udall:

I have been asked to respond to your letter of May 16, 2013, to Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Director Sylvia Burwell regarding the treatment of Mineral Leasing Act (MLA) payments to states under sequestration. The Department of the Interior (DOI) administers and disburses these funds and is responsible for their execution under the March 1, 2013 sequestration order.

With regard to the applicability of sequestration reductions to MLA payments, exemption is determined by the terms of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (BBEDCA), as amended. Under BBEDCA, budgetary resources are subject to sequestration unless expressly exempted by statute. The MLA payments are not exempted in the legislation, and thus are reduced pursuant to the terms of sequestration. The OMB issued a report to Congress detailing the required reductions for each non-exempt budgetary account, which included the MLA payment account. The report can be found online at: www.whitehouse.gov/omb/legislative_reports.

You expressed the belief that based on the treatment of MLA payments in Fiscal Year 1986, the amounts sequestered in FY 2013 should become available for payment in FY 2014. As you have noted, BBEDCA has been amended since that earlier sequestration took place. Therefore, we needed to review the current statutory framework to make a determination.

I am pleased to let you know that based on a legal review of the underlying MLA statutory authority, the amounts sequestered in FY 2013 from MLA payments will become available for payment in FY 2014. Assuming no further legislative changes affecting these payments are enacted in the interim, we will work expeditiously to make the sequestered amounts available to affected states as part of our regular monthly payment process in FY 2014.

The MLA payments are only one of many revenue and resource payments made by DOI that are affected by the FY 2013 sequester. Because of the importance of the MLA payments to the states, we made a determination as to the availability of the sequestered amounts for MLA first. We are working quickly to complete the necessary legal review to determine the availability of sequestered funds in FY 2014 for the remaining trust fund, special fund, and offsetting collection accounts we administer. We will have determinations made on the other accounts soon.

Similar letters are being sent to the co-signors of your letter.

Sincerely,


Sally Jewell

cc: The Honorable Sylvia M. Burwell, Office of Management and Budget

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 1, 2012 522672

RECEIVED

2013 MAY -8 AM 11:29

OFFICE OF THE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

Honorable Sally Jewell
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C St. NW
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Jewell,

We would like to invite you, on behalf of the Colorado Thirty Group, to provide a short briefing to its members on Wednesday May 22, 2013, between 9:00 a.m. and 11:30 p.m. at the Canadian Embassy in Washington, D.C. We know the group would very much appreciate 30 minutes of your time during this period to provide them with your insights as Secretary of the Interior on issues relating to renewable energy, the environment and our national security.

The Colorado Thirty Group has been active since 1979 in supporting the mission and objectives of the U.S. Department of Defense in Colorado. It is the only statewide group of its kind in the nation. The group has toured most of the major U.S. military installations and has visited NATO on several occasions. Its members are highly knowledgeable and would appreciate hearing your perspective on what challenges face the Department of the Interior in today's budget environment and the impacts on protecting our natural resources in Colorado and across the nation.

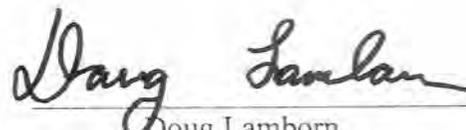
During previous visits, they have been briefed by lawmakers such as Speaker Dennis Hastert, Senator John McCain, Senator Carl Levin, Senator John Cornyn and Congressman Ike Skelton, as well as the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and President Bush at the White House.

We hope you will be able to join us on May 22. Please let us know if you have any questions, or have your staff contact Mark DeVries in Senator Udall's office for further clarification or to RSVP at 202.224.5169 or mark_devries@markudall.senate.gov.

Sincerely,



Mark E. Udall
U.S. Senator



Doug Lamborn
U.S. Representative

RON WYDEN, Oregon, *Chairman*

TIM JOHNSON, South Dakota
MARY L. LANDRIEU, Louisiana
MARIA CANTWELL, Washington
BERNARD SANDERS, Vermont
DEBBIE STABENOW, Michigan
MARK UDALL, Colorado
AL FRANKEN, Minnesota
JOE MANCHIN, III, West Virginia
CHRISTOPHER A. COONS, Delaware
BRIAN SCHATZ, Hawaii
MARTIN HEINRICH, New Mexico

LISA MURKOWSKI, Alaska
JOHN BARRASSO, Wyoming
JAMES E. RISCH, Idaho
MIKE LEE, Utah
DEAN HELLER, Nevada
JEFF FLAKE, Arizona
TIM SCOTT, South Carolina
LAMAR ALEXANDER, Tennessee
ROB PORTMAN, Ohio
JOHN HOEVEN, North Dakota

JOSHUA SHEINKMAN, STAFF DIRECTOR
SAM E. FOWLER, CHIEF COUNSEL
KAREN K. BILLUPS, REPUBLICAN STAFF DIRECTOR
PATRICK J. McCORMICK III, REPUBLICAN CHIEF COUNSEL

46269
United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6150

WWW.ENERGY.SENATE.GOV

522067

2013 APR 23 AM 11:40

OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY

April 10, 2013

The Honorable Sally Jewell
Secretary
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Jewell:

On behalf of the Subcommittee on National Parks of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, I would like to invite you or your designee to testify at the Subcommittee's hearing on Thursday, April 23, 2013, at 2:30 p.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on the following bills:

S. 59, to designate a Distinguished Flying Cross National Memorial at the March Field Air Museum in Riverside, California;

S. 155, to designate a mountain in the State of Alaska as Denali;

S. 156, to allow for the harvest of gull eggs by the Huna Tlingit people within Glacier Bay National Park in the State of Alaska;

S. 219, to establish the Susquehanna Gateway National Heritage Area in the State of Pennsylvania, and for other purposes;

S. 225, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of alternatives for commemorating and interpreting the role of the Buffalo Soldiers in the early years of the National Parks, and for other purposes;

S. 228, to establish the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area, California;

S. 285, to designate the Valles Caldera National Preserve as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes;

S. 305, to authorize the acquisition of core battlefield land at Champion Hill, Port Gibson, and Raymond for addition to Vicksburg National Military Park;

S. 349, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate a segment of the Beaver, Chipuxet, Queen, Wood, and Pawcatuck Rivers in the States of Connecticut and Rhode Island for study for potential addition to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and for other purposes;

S. 371, to establish the Blackstone River Valley National Historical Park, to dedicate the Park to John H. Chafee, and for other purposes;

S. 476, to amend the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Development Act to extend to the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park Commission;

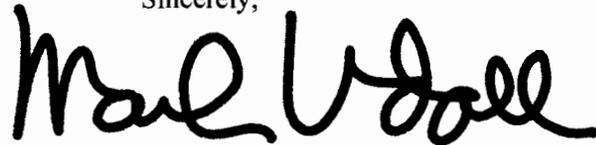
S. 486, to authorize pedestrian and motorized vehicular access in Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area, and for other purposes;

S. 507, to establish the Manhattan Project National Historical Park in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, Los Alamos, New Mexico, and Hanford, Washington, and for other purposes, and;

S. 615, to establish Coltsville National Historical Park in the State of Connecticut, and for other purposes.

If you have any questions, please have your staff contact David Brooks at (202) 224-9863, david_brooks@energy.senate.gov, or John Assini at (202) 224-9313, john_assini@energy.senate.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Udall". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mark" and last name "Udall" clearly distinguishable.

Mark Udall
Chairman
Subcommittee on National Parks

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

521399
March 28, 2013

RECEIVED

2013 APR -1 AM 10: 21

OFFICE OF THE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

Thomas Beaudreau
Acting Assistant Secretary
Lands & Minerals Management
U.S. Department of Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Director Beaudreau:

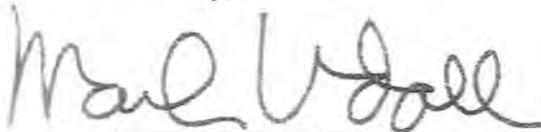
We write to request that the Office of Surface Mining (OSM) consider the Mining Plan Decision Document regarding the Elk Creek Mine in Somerset, CO at the earliest possible date. The facility operator, Oxbow Mining, recently shut in a large portion of the mine and needs approval to redirect their operation into recently-leased federal minerals to avoid laying off many of the 320 workers that the mine employs.

In May of 2012, Oxbow was the successful bidder for Federal Coal Lease COC-70615. In November of 2012, the state of Colorado completed its approval process for this lease. Now, it is our understanding that the lease approval rests with OSM. We further understand that the Western Regional Center has crafted and submitted a Mining Plan Decision Document for final approval.

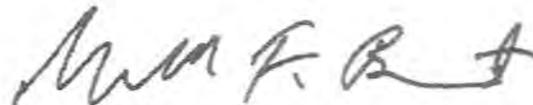
Oxbow has told our offices that if they do not receive approval for the plan by April 5, the mine will be forced to curtail the development and furlough over 250 of the 320 employees at the operations. We ask that you, consistent with all applicable rules and regulations, consider the Elk Creek Mining Plan Decision Document at the earliest possible date in the hope that the company, and the surrounding communities, can avoid these furloughs.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and please don't hesitate to contact our staffs for questions or additional discussion.

Sincerely,



Senator Mark Udall



Senator Michael F. Bennet


Congressman Scott Tipton



Fwd: Elk Creek Mine Letter

Iudicello, Fay <fay_iudicello@ios.doi.gov>
To: Lisa Cannuscio <lisa_cannuscio@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Robert Howarth <robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov>

Fri, Mar 29, 2013 at 3:43 PM

pls handle. thanx

—— Forwarded message ——

From: **Harding, Stephenne** <stephenne_harding@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Thu, Mar 28, 2013 at 2:57 PM
Subject: Fwd: Elk Creek Mine Letter
To: Fay Iudicello <fay_iudicello@ios.doi.gov>, Robert Howarth <robert_howarth@ios.doi.gov>

FYI

—— Forwarded message ——

From: **Babington, Sean (Bennet)** <Sean_Babington@bennet.senate.gov>
Date: Thu, Mar 28, 2013 at 1:04 PM
Subject: Elk Creek Mine Letter
To: "stephenne_harding@ios.doi.gov" <stephenne_harding@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: "Adams, Wendy (Mark Udall)" <Wendy_Adams@markudall.senate.gov>

Stephenne,

Please see the attached from several members of the Colorado delegation.

Thanks,

Sean

Sean Babington

Legislative Assistant

Office of Senator Michael Bennet
458 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
202-224-5852

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 1, 2013

Noreen Walsh
Director
United States Fish and Wildlife Service
Prairie-Mountain Region
134 Union Blvd
Lakewood, Colorado 80228

Dear Director Walsh:

We write to request public hearings and a 60-day extension of the comment period for Fish and Wildlife Service's proposed rules for Gunnison sage-grouse. Pursuant to the Endangered Species Act (ESA), these two rules propose to list the species as Endangered and designate 1,704,227 acres of critical habitat in Western Colorado and Eastern Utah. The proposal has engendered great interest and concern among several communities we represent.

We feel that on any proposal with implications of this magnitude, the federal government should strive for maximum public participation. We therefore request that your agency hold formal hearings on the matter and that you provide a full 60-day extension on both proposed rules on Gunnison sage-grouse.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

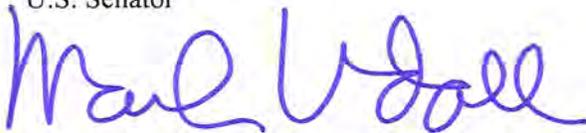
Sincerely,



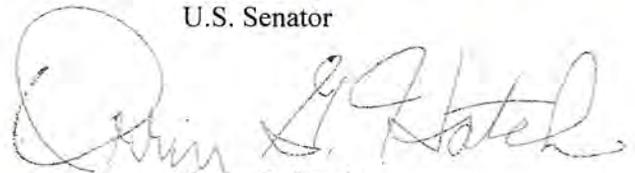
Michael F. Bennet
U.S. Senator



Mike Lee
U.S. Senator



Mark Udall
U.S. Senator



Orrin G. Hatch
U.S. Senator



Jason Chaffetz
U.S. Representative



Scott Tipton
U.S. Representative



Jim Matheson
U.S. Representative

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

RECEIVED

October 17, 2012
516739

2012 OCT 24 PM 12:47

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar:

As the Department of the Interior prepares a Final Integrated Activity Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (IAP/EIS) for the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska (NPR-A), we respectfully urge you to adopt the B-2 alternative, which you announced as the preferred alternative on August 13, 2012. Given the importance of complying with the National Environmental Policy Act and other related federal laws, we believe that this plan for the NPR-A offers a reasoned, appropriate, and scientifically-based balance that would not only protect exceptional natural resources but also allow for substantial energy development in the Reserve.

Consistent with the statutory requirements for the management of surface and subsurface resources within the NPR-A, alternative B-2 offers significant resources for leasing while protecting important natural resources. In the Naval Petroleum Reserves Production Act of 1976 (NPRPA), Congress expressly recognized that the unique cultural, natural, fish and wildlife, scenic, and historical values of the Reserve should be protected. To that end, Congress transferred jurisdiction of the nearly 23 million acre Reserve from the Department of the Navy to the Department of the Interior. It also required the Interior Secretary to identify and protect "Special Areas" specifically mentioning Teshekpuk Lake and the Utukok River, and to initiate studies to determine what additional protections should be recommended to Congress. Under the NPRPA, Congress has directed the Secretary to give "maximum protection" to the surface resources of Special Areas.

In recognition of their extraordinary wildlife values, the Secretary of the Interior designated three Special Areas within the Reserve in 1977: Teshekpuk Lake, Utukok River Uplands, and the Colville River. In 2004, the Kasegaluk Lagoon Special Area was established, and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has proposed a new Peard Bay Special Area in the Draft IAP. The Teshekpuk Lake and Utukok River Uplands Special Areas include the calving grounds of Alaska's largest caribou herds, important migratory waterfowl and shorebird habitat, along with essential habitat for polar bears, walrus, grizzly bears, and wolves. These areas also provide vitally important subsistence resources for more than 40 communities and villages in northern and western Alaska. Congress and previous administrations have recognized the importance of providing maximum protection for these areas and safeguarding their unique ecological values.

Alternative B-2 fulfills the statutory requirement to offer leases for oil and gas development. Under this alternative, the great majority, roughly 72 percent, of the Reserve's discovered and projected oil is available for leasing and development on 11.8 million acres of land. To date, six million of the 23 million acres within the NPR-A have been leased for drilling. Based on the most current U.S. Geological Survey assessment, the difference in oil that might be recovered under Alternative D – the "drill everywhere" alternative – and Alternative B-2 is small. At current usage rates in the U.S., this additional oil would

only provide fewer than two weeks of supply. Such insignificant amounts of oil simply cannot address any of our national energy concerns.

Alternative B-2 also includes several provisions to accommodate future development of a pipeline to transport prospective offshore oil resources to the Trans-Alaska Pipeline. Roads must not be permitted along any pipeline across the Reserve, however, because they can have a serious, adverse ecological impact. This important protection should not impose an unworkable burden to future pipeline development. Other Arctic crude oil transmission pipelines (e.g. Alpine to Kuparuk and Badami to Endicott) exist without roads alongside them.

Thank you for your consideration of our request. There is strong scientific justification as well as broad popular support for the preferred alternative that you developed. The public submitted over 400,000 comments to BLM, the vast majority of which called for strong conservation protections. We hope you agree that Alternative B-2 fulfills the balance that Congress intended by providing reliable protection for sensitive wildlife and subsistence areas while also allowing for substantial future energy development in the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska.

Sincerely,

Maria Conrues

Brian Boy

Patty Murray

Jim Duhon

Mark Udall

Jon Lisk

Jeffrey A. Markley



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

NOV 26 2012

The Honorable Mark Udall
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Udall:

Thank you for your letter dated October 17, 2012, in support of Alternative B-2 in the current planning effort for the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska. I appreciate your taking the time to share your interest in allowing for substantial energy development in the NPR-A while providing protection for environmentally sensitive areas.

The Bureau of Land Management expects to issue a Final Environmental Impact Statement and decision document for the NPR-A in the near future. We are committed to responsible development of oil and gas resources on public lands and look forward to continuing to work with you as we move forward with a scientifically-based, balanced plan for the NPR-A. A similar response is being sent to the co-signers of your letter.

Sincerely,

Ken Salazar

MARK E. UDALL
COLORADO



United States Senate
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

June 12, 2012

The Honorable Ken L. Salazar
Secretary of the Interior
Office of the Secretary
United States Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W., Room 6156
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar:

Ken

I wish to extend my sincere appreciation to you for taking time out of your busy schedule to attend and speak at the conference I hosted last week. The 2012 Colorado Capital Conference was a tremendous success. My fellow Coloradans valued the opportunity to hear from national leaders such as yourself.

Without a doubt, the conference was an impressive workshop for helping our citizens gain unique insight into how our federal government works, from the policy process to the personal interactions between colleagues. I know that the participants, who have an impressive commitment to civic engagement, will take your insights to heart and put them to good use in the future.

Once again, thank you for your participation in the conference.

Sincerely,

Mark E. Udall
U.S. Senator

*My Senior Senator
you were awesome!
Great news on the
Trincher - Congratulations!*

513325

RECEIVED

2012 JUN 22 AM 10:21

OFFICE OF THE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510



JUN 22 2012

The Honorable Ken L. Salazar
Secretary of the Interior
Office of the Secretary
United States Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W., Room 6156
Washington, D.C. 20240

7312

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 21, 2012

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Mail Stop 2134 LM
1849 C St. NW.
Washington, DC 20240

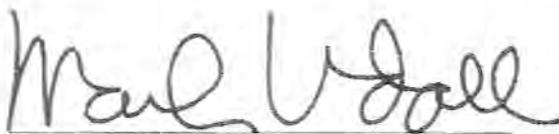
Dear Acting Director Pool:

We are writing to request an extension of the comment period for the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) proposed rule for "Oil and Gas; Well Stimulation, Including Hydraulic Fracturing, on Federal and Indian Lands" published in the Federal Register on May 11, 2012. The proposed rule would require the disclosure of hydraulic fracturing fluids, as well as reporting requirements, certifications, approvals, and standards for well construction and management of produced water.

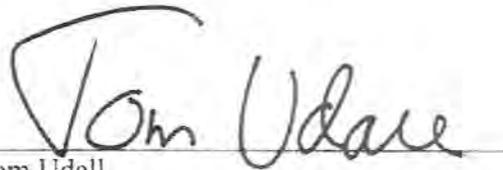
As you know, our home states have a long history of oil and gas development on BLM leases. With the BLM managing millions of acres of land and mineral estate in Colorado and New Mexico, any new rules and regulations will affect many of our constituents and a broad range of stakeholders. We believe public input is an indispensable part of crafting appropriate regulations, and we know you agree.

Given the complexity and potential impacts of the proposed rules, we believe it is appropriate for BLM to provide additional time for the development of comments on the proposed rule, which is scheduled to close on July 10, 2012. We thank you in advance for your time and attention to this request.

Sincerely,



Mark Udall
U.S. Senator



Tom Udall
U.S. Senator



Michael F. Bennet
U.S. Senator

EXCISE SECRETARIAT
OFFICE OF THE

2012 JUN 22 PM 1:12

RECEIVED

513329

Howarth, Robert

From: Urban, Heather
Sent: Friday, June 22, 2012 1:06 PM
To: Mansour, Christopher; Howarth, Robert; Kornze, Neil G
Subject: Fw: Udall-Udall-Bennet letter on BLM
Attachments: Udall Letter to BLM on Comment Period Extension Fracking Regs.pdf

From: Adams, Wendy (Mark Udall) [mailto:Wendy_Adams@MarkUdall.senate.gov]
Sent: Friday, June 22, 2012 01:04 PM
To: Urban, Heather
Cc: babington, Sean; Wallace, Andrew (Tom Udall) <Andrew_Wallace@tomudall.senate.gov>; Fenn, Dan (Mark Udall) <Dan_Fenn@MarkUdall.senate.gov>
Subject: Udall-Udall-Bennet letter on BLM

Hi Heather –

Please see the attached letter from our bosses.

Thanks – Wendy

Wendy Adams
Legislative Assistant
Office of Senator Mark Udall
Hart Senate Office Building, Suite 328
Wendy_Adams@MarkUdall.senate.gov
202-224-5941

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 25, 2012

Jonathan B. Jarvis
Director, National Park Service
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Bob Abbey
Director, Bureau of Land Management
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Daniel M. Ashe
Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Director Jarvis, Director Abbey and Director Ashe:

We write to highlight the concerns from across our drought-ridden home state about the safety of prescribed burns. Prescribed fire is a vital component of forest management that your agencies have used successfully for many years to reduce wildfire risk and restore healthy forests. However, the tragedy of the Lower North Fork fire - which was ignited from an escaped prescribed burn from the Colorado State Forest Service - raises critical issues about how, when, and under what circumstances this tool should be used.

Last week, the state of Colorado and Colorado State University released a review of the Lower North Fork Prescribed Fire. This report contains some recommendations for the Colorado State Forest Service to strengthen prescribed fire operations including long-term patrol and monitoring activities, and the state has already convened a working group to examine state rules and procedures for prescribed burns. As the state reexamines their prescribed burn procedures, we request that your agency review the findings of this report and reexamine its own prescribed burn procedures. It is our responsibility to do everything in our power to learn from this tragic fire so that we can be better prepared in the future. We know that the agencies are highly professional and utilize the best available science to conduct your operations. However, in light of this recent example and before the wildfire season begins in earnest, we urge you to review the report and consider whether any of your federal rules and procedures could be improved. This close look will help reassure Coloradans and ensure that we are helping keep communities safe.

We continue to believe that prescribed burns can be an essential tool for effective forest management and do not intend this to be a top-down comprehensive agency review. However, we want to be sure that the Department of Interior is learning all available lessons from the Lower North Fork fire and is doing everything in its power to ensure the safety of prescribed burns.

Sincerely,



Mark Udall
U.S. Senator, Colorado



Michael F. Bennet
U.S. Senator, Colorado



United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Washington, D.C. 20240
<http://www.blm.gov>



MAY 30 2012

The Honorable Mark Udall
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

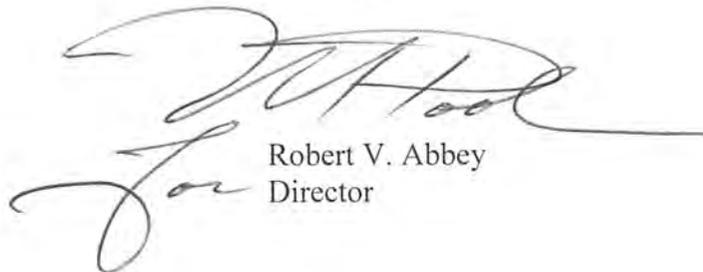
Dear Senator Udall:

Thank you for your letter of April 25, 2012, to National Park Service Director Jonathan Jarvis, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Director Daniel Ashe, and me regarding prescribed fire. I appreciate the opportunity to address your concerns as they relate to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

The BLM reviews all escaped Federal prescribed fires to strengthen fire operations and places a high priority on the knowledge gained from rare incidents, mistakes, and near misses. We value the State of Colorado and Colorado State University's report and recommendations regarding the Lower North Fork fire and will continue to work with our State partners to learn all that we can from this fire. The BLM will also work through the National Wildfire Coordinating Group to review the findings and make appropriate recommendations to enhance the safety of BLM practices.

We appreciate your concern with this matter and look forward to working with you as the BLM continues to ensure firefighter and public safety in all areas of wildland fire management. A similar reply is being sent to Senator Bennet.

Sincerely,



Robert V. Abbey
Director



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, DC 20240
AUG - 7 2012

The Honorable Mark Udall
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Udall:

Thank you for your letter of April 25, 2012, to National Park Service Director Jonathan Jarvis, Fish and Wildlife Service Director Daniel Ashe, and Bureau of Land Management Director Robert Abbey, regarding the Lower North Fork Prescribed Fire and the review of its subsequent escape. Before I address the concerns of your letter, I would like to convey my deepest sympathy for the record high toll this wildfire season has taken on your state. On behalf of the Department and to the people of Colorado, let me assure you that our agencies remain committed and ready to work with state and local authorities to protect life, property and other resources during this historic fire season.

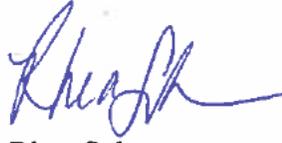
The Department of the Interior (DOI) agrees that prescribed fire is a vital component of forest management, as well as in other vegetation types and for other purposes. We have studied the prescribed fire review report in order to glean lessons from this incident and to ensure the safety of future prescribed fires.

We have implemented a number of the recommendations of the review report. For example, DOI bureaus in the western U.S. rely on the drought index referenced in the report, and are committed to working with our partners in the region to ensure that our weather monitoring system is adequate and that our weather stations are properly maintained.

Our bureaus are required to follow the guidelines established in the National Wildfire Coordinating Group's Interagency Prescribed Fire Planning and Implementation Procedures Guide, which provides standardized procedures to plan and implement prescribed fires. A complexity analysis is completed for all prescribed fire projects to help ensure proper management of each burn. Our bureaus perform a rigorous Prescribed Fire Burn Plan technical review and have standard requirements for the qualifications necessary to prepare and review burn plans. An agency administrator is required to approve the ignition of every prescribed fire, which is documented through the Agency Administrator's Pre-Ignition Checklist. The Prescribed Fire Burn Boss is required to complete the Go/No-Go checklist for each day of active ignition.

As you know, there is always some risk in using prescribed fire, and some small fraction of prescribed fires will escape and burn areas not intended to be burned. However, in order to minimize escapes, and protect nearby communities, DOI has instituted and will continue to implement the procedures mentioned above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rhea Suh", with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Rhea Suh
Assistant Secretary
Policy, Management and Budget

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 28, 2012

Helen Hankins
2850 Youngfield Street
Lakewood, Colorado 80215-7093

Dear Director Hankins:

Stemming from technical issues with the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) comment website, we are writing to ask for an extension of the public comment period on the BLM's draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) on the proposed lease of 30,000 acres for oil and natural gas development in the North Fork Valley of Colorado.

On March 7, the Uncompahgre Field Office opened a 30-day public comment period on these drafts. While we recognize that BLM already extended the initial scoping public comment period, we understand that a large number of our constituents have encountered technical difficulties with the new e-Planning system in trying to submit their current comments on the draft EA and FONSI. Though we appreciate BLM's efforts to encourage the public to review planning documents and submit substantive comments through e-Planning, it is essential that the comment process be simple, transparent, and accessible to the public. From recent conversations with BLM staff, we understand that the Uncompahgre Field Office will provide a simple email address for comments as an alternative to e-Planning, and we applaud that decision.

As this area supports key aspects of Colorado's economy, from tourism and resource development to agriculture and outdoor recreation, it is essential that management decisions regarding these public lands be informed by comments from all stakeholders. Due to the technical concerns described above, we believe a 30-day extension of the comment period to May 7 would be appropriate.

Thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely,

Mark Udall
U.S. Senator

Michael F. Bennet
U.S. Senator

2012 MAR 30 AM 5:20

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510751

Howarth, Robert

From: Urban, Heather
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2012 8:31 PM
To: Howarth, Robert
Subject: Fw: Udall/Bennet letter on North Fork leases comment process
Attachments: 12.3.28 - Letter to BLM - Extend Comment Period on North Fork Lease.pdf

From: Adams, Wendy (Mark Udall) [mailto:Wendy_Adams@MarkUdall.senate.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, March 28, 2012 06:16 PM
To: Hankins, Helen M
Cc: Kornze, Neil G; Urban, Heather; babington, Sean; Otero, Jerry; jill_ozarski@markudall.senate.gov;
John_Whitney@bennet.senate.gov; Montgomery, Becca
Subject: Udall/Bennet letter on North Fork leases comment process

Hi Helen –

Please see the attached letter from Senators Udall and Bennet.

Thank you – Wendy

Wendy Adams
Legislative Assistant
Office of Senator Mark Udall
Hart Senate Office Building, Suite 328
Wendy_Adams@MarkUdall.senate.gov
202-224-5941

Follow Mark Udall on his [Website](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#) | [Twitter](#)
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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 21, 2012

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary of the Interior
Office of the Secretary
United States Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W., Room 6156
Washington, D.C. 20240

Re: Invitation to speak at the 2012 Colorado Capital Conference, June 5-7, 2012

Dear Secretary Salazar:

Ken

As we watch the historic events unfold around the world, we are reminded about the fundamental importance of promoting democratic institutions at home. In America, it is our rich history of civic engagement across generations that has shaped our institutions. Now it is our generation's responsibility to continue the promotion of civic engagement at all levels. For that reason, I am honored to partner with Colorado Mesa University and the University of Colorado to organize the nonpartisan 2012 Colorado Capital Conference in order to offer Coloradans an opportunity to hear from thought-provoking leaders like you.

I would like to invite you to participate in the upcoming 2012 Colorado Capital Conference, to be held at the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C. The conference will start on Tuesday, June 5, and run through Thursday, June 7. If your schedule permits, I invite you to address the one hundred anticipated attendees by offering remarks and then answering a few questions from the attendees.

Again, it would be an honor if you would consider participating in the 2012 Colorado Capital Conference, June 5-7, at the U.S. Capitol. Please feel free to contact my staff member John Bristol at john_bristol@markudall.senate.gov if you have any questions. I look forward to your response, and I thank you in advance for your kind consideration.

*KLS, you'd be
a total hit.
We will work
with your
schedule!*

Sincerely,

Mark Udall

Mark E. Udall
United States Senator

JEFF BINGAMAN, New Mexico, *Chairman*

RON WYDEN, Oregon
TIM JOHNSON, South Dakota
MARY L. LANDRIEU, Louisiana
MARIA CANTWELL, Washington
BERNARD SANDERS, Vermont
DEBBIE STABENOW, Michigan
MARK UDALL, Colorado
JEANNE SHAHEEN, New Hampshire
AL FRANKEN, Minnesota
JOE MANCHIN, III, West Virginia
CHRISTOPHER A. COONS, Delaware

LISA MURKOWSKI, Alaska
RICHARD BURR, North Carolina
JOHN BARRASSO, Wyoming
JAMES E. RISCH, Idaho
MIKE LEE, Utah
RAND PAUL, Kentucky
DANIEL COATS, Indiana
ROB PORTMAN, Ohio
JOHN HOEVEN, North Dakota
BOB CORKER, Tennessee

37152

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6150

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ROBERT M. SIMON, STAFF DIRECTOR
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McKIE CAMPBELL, REPUBLICAN STAFF DIRECTOR
KAREN K. BILLUPS, REPUBLICAN CHIEF COUNSEL

February 23, 2012

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar:

On behalf of the Subcommittee on National Parks of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, I would like to invite you or your designee to testify at the Subcommittee's hearing on Wednesday, March 7, 2012, at 2:30 p.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on the following bills:

- S. 29, a bill to establish the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area;
- S. 1150, a bill to establish the Susquehanna Gateway National Heritage Area in the State of Pennsylvania;
- S. 1191, a bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to carry out a study regarding the suitability and feasibility of establishing the Naugatuck River Valley National Heritage Area in Connecticut;
- S. 1198, a bill to reauthorize the Essex National Heritage Area;
- S. 1215, a bill to provide for the exchange of land located in the Lowell National Historical Park;
- S. 1589, a bill to extend the authorization for the Coastal Heritage Trail in the State of New Jersey;
- S. 1708, a bill to establish the John H. Chafee Blackstone River Valley National Historical Park;

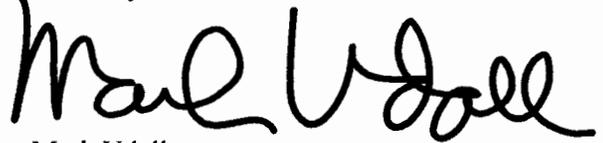
H.R. 1141, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating prehistoric, historic, and limestone forest sites on Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, as a unit of the National Park System.

H.R. 2606, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to allow the construction and operation of natural gas pipeline facilities in the Gateway National Recreation Area, and for other purposes.

In order to maximize time available for Subcommittee Members to ask questions, it would be helpful if you would summarize your written testimony. Your written testimony will be included in its entirety in the Committee's printed hearing record. Please provide the Subcommittee with an electronic copy as well as 25 printed copies of your written testimony at least 48 hours in advance of the hearing.

If you have any questions, please have your staff contact David Brooks at (202) 224-9863, david_brooks@energy.senate.gov, or Jake McCook at (202) 224-9313, jake_mccook@energy.senate.gov.

Sincerely,



Mark Udall
Chairman
Subcommittee on National Parks

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 9, 2012

510270

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar:

Thirty-six million Americans, from Denver to Los Angeles, depend on the Colorado River Basin for drinking water. The river irrigates 15 percent of the nation's crops and supports a multi-billion dollar recreation industry. It provides water for at least 15 Native American tribes and generates over 4200 megawatts of power. Born in the Colorado Rockies and stretching through seven states and Mexico, the Colorado River is the economic backbone of the Southwest.

Yet we have a problem in the Colorado River Basin: there simply isn't enough water in the basin to sustain our current trajectory. More often than not in recent years, annual basin water use has exceeded available supplies, and our water deficit problem will only be exacerbated in the future as we place more demands on the river. For example, population in the basin will continue to grow, creating new demands for municipal water deliveries. Also, basin water supplies will be further stressed as precipitation and snow melt patterns change. This deficit poses a tremendous threat to the long-term success of the Colorado River Basin and the Southwest, and it requires attention from all levels of government to bring water supply and demand back into balance.

Fortunately, we have an opportunity now to tackle this problem on a basin-wide scale. As you know, the Colorado River Basin Water Supply and Demand Study, which your department, through the Bureau of Reclamation, is conducting, will assess water supplies and demands over the next fifty years and develop plans for resolving any imbalances between the two. The Bureau of Reclamation is working with the seven Colorado River Basin States – Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada and California – to conduct the study. Though the report won't make recommendations or mandate specific courses of action, it will include suites of options for addressing our future water needs and inform the states and the Federal government about possible strategies they can adopt.

As senators from Colorado River Basin States, we are following the study's progress closely. Water and the health of the Colorado River will be critical to preserving our States' economy, heritage and way of life as well as enabling growth throughout the next century. We are hopeful this report will bring much-needed perspective to the options and strategies available to State and Federal lawmakers about how to address current and future water challenges.

When the report is finalized, we will be looking for practical strategies that balance the multiple uses of water in the basin: agricultural, municipal and industrial, recreational and environmental. We must sustain the viability of agriculture and provide drinking water for a growing population. We must keep

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

enough water in the river to support a healthy ecosystem and the recreation and tourism industries that depend on it, while honoring existing compacts and agreements that collectively make up the law of the river. We recognize the challenge this presents, but we are confident it can be done.

We understand that the study will produce a range of various options designed to bring water supply and demand back into balance. Given the magnitude of the problem we face, a diverse set of possible solutions will be critical. However, we are particularly interested in what role urban and agricultural water conservation can play.

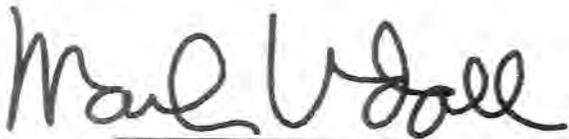
Many communities throughout the basin, recognizing the impact limited water supplies have on their well being, have taken forward-looking steps to reduce their per capita water consumption dramatically. We should apply lessons learned from these examples to further improve urban water use efficiency. Also, since agriculture consumes about 70 percent of the water in the basin, the long term health of the Colorado River and the viability of farms, ranches and rural communities depend on helping the agricultural sector become more effective and efficient in the use of water.

While conservation – learning how to do more with less – will undoubtedly be a reality in an over-appropriated basin, conservation can only go so far to bring supply and demand back into alignment. The study will have to examine additional solutions, including, for example, mechanisms to allocate water supplies in the basin in a more efficient manner such as water banking or temporary water leasing.

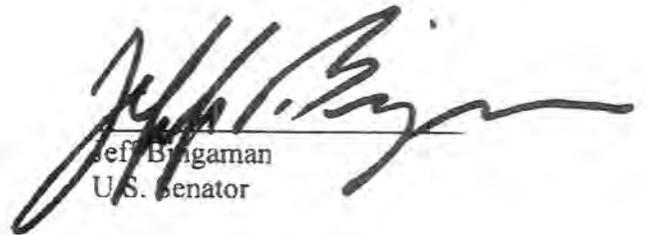
Bringing supply and demand back into equilibrium means developing solutions that balance the needs of many different kinds of users throughout the basin. This balance is what has made life in the arid Southwest viable and thriving. We must take common sense steps to maximize every drop of water, our most precious natural resource, because our future depends on it.

We look forward to reviewing the results of the study and working together with you and the basin states to plan for our shared water future.

Sincerely,



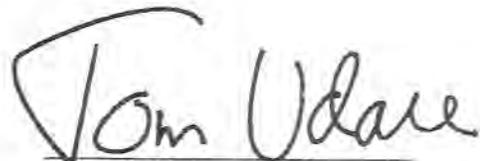
Mark Udall
U.S. Senator



Jeff Bingaman
U.S. Senator



Michael F. Bennet
U.S. Senator



Tom Udall
U.S. Senator

Howarth, Robert

From: Urban, Heather
Sent: Friday, March 09, 2012 4:27 PM
To: Howarth, Robert; Castle, Anne; Mansour, Christopher
Subject: Fw: CRBS letter
Attachments: CRBS letter to SecSalazar 3.9.12.pdf

From: Hague, James (Mark Udall) [mailto:James_Hague@MarkUdall.senate.gov]
Sent: Friday, March 09, 2012 04:22 PM
To: Urban, Heather
Subject: RE: CRBS letter

Here's the letter. Can you make sure Assistant Secretary Castle and other relevant people at DOI see it as well?

Thanks,
Jimmy

From: Urban, Heather [mailto:Heather_Urban@ios.doi.gov]
Sent: Friday, March 09, 2012 10:09 AM
To: Hague, James (Mark Udall)
Subject: RE: CRBS letter

Thanks for the heads up.

From: Hague, James (Mark Udall) [mailto:James_Hague@MarkUdall.senate.gov]
Sent: Friday, March 09, 2012 10:06 AM
To: Urban, Heather
Subject: CRBS letter

Heather, just a heads up that I'll be sending you a letter to Sec. Salazar from the CO and NM senators later today on Reclamation's study of the Colorado River Basin. I think you'll find it pretty benign. Working with some of the groups who have a particular interest in keeping water in the river, we developed the letter to demonstrate interest in the study in the Senate.

Jimmy

Jimmy Hague | Legislative Assistant | U.S. Senator Mark Udall | Hart 328 | Washington, DC 20510 | (202) 224-5941

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THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

APR 17 2012

The Honorable Mark Udall
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Udall:

I am responding to your letter of March 9, 2012, regarding the Colorado River Basin Water Supply and Demand Study (Study) that is being conducted by the Bureau of Reclamation in collaboration with the seven Colorado River Basin States and other interested parties. The Department of the Interior views this Study as a critical first step in the Colorado River Basin (Basin) to establish a common technical foundation from which important discussions can begin regarding possible strategies that have been identified to resolve future supply and demand imbalances.

The future of the Basin is indeed critical to the livelihood of the millions of people who reside there and the multiple uses that are dependent on this critical resource. That future is highly uncertain. Recognizing that uncertainty, the Study has adopted a scenario planning approach. Multiple scenarios are being developed for both future supply and demand in the Basin to establish the range of potential imbalances. Based on preliminary assessments, a supply-demand imbalance of greater than 3.5 million acre-feet is plausible over the next 50 years when considering potential reductions in supply due to climate change. An imbalance of this magnitude will require a wide range of innovative solutions.

During the period of November 2011 through February 2012 the Study received public input regarding the types of solutions that could be considered to resolve these potential imbalances. Over 140 ideas were submitted and approximately 40 percent of the ideas are related to demand reductions through either urban or agricultural conservation. The role of conservation in addressing future imbalances will certainly be assessed in the Study.

As you note, it is important for the Study to explore options beyond conservation as a wide range of practical solutions will be needed to resolve future imbalances across the many different Basin resources. Public input included options such as water banking, transfers and exchanges, and temporary water leases, and these will be considered in the Study as well.

Thank you for your interest and continued support of this important Study. We look forward to continuing to work with you and your respective State on this important endeavor before and after the Study's completion this summer.

Sincerely,

Ken Salazar
Ken Salazar

Identical Letter Sent To:

The Honorable Jeff Bingaman
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Michael F. Bennet
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tom Udall
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

January 17, 2012

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary of the Interior
U.S. Department of Interior
1849 C St NW
Washington D.C., 20240

Bob Abbey
Director
Bureau of Land Management
1849 C St NW
Washington D.C., 20240

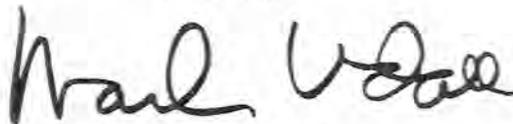
Dear Secretary Salazar and Director Abbey,

I am writing to ask for an extension of the public comment period on the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Colorado River Valley Resource Management Plan. I appreciate that BLM has already extended for 30 days the original December 16, 2011 comment period deadline to allow more time for public input. However, given the length and complexity of this management plan, an additional 60 days would allow for stakeholders to more fully evaluate the plan and comment on its impacts.

As you know, this management plan covers over 500,000 acres of surface and mineral estate in Colorado with an array of complex management issues. This area supports key aspects of Colorado's economy from tourism to responsible natural resource development to outdoor recreation. Therefore it is essential that any decision impacting the use of these public lands be carefully considered with ample opportunity for all those affected to weigh in with their views.

I know the BLM is dedicated to producing a management plan that carefully considers the views of those impacted, and I applaud the Bureau's proactive efforts in convening 11 public meetings between 2007 and 2010 as well as its extensive outreach to solicit public comment for the proposal. Given the length, complexity, and array of the proposal's potential impacts, I believe an additional 60-day extension of the comment period would be consistent with these efforts.

Sincerely,



Mark E. Udall
United States Senator

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2012 JAN 18 AM 11:48
OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF THE
INTERIOR

Cannuscio, Lisa M

From: Iudicello, Fay
Sent: Wednesday, January 18, 2012 11:37 AM
To: Cannuscio, Lisa M
Cc: Howarth, Robert
Subject: FW: Letter requesting extension to Colorado River RMP Comment Period
Attachments: 1-17-12 letter.pdf

Pls handle. Thanx

Fay S. Iudicello
Director, Office of the Executive
Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs
1849 "C" Street NW MS-7328
Washington, DC 20240-0001
(202) 208-3181 office
(202) 219-2100 fax
(202) 251-0135 cell

From: Mansour, Christopher
Sent: Wednesday, January 18, 2012 10:04 AM
To: Iudicello, Fay; Howarth, Robert; Kornze, Neil G; Urban, Heather; Wilkinson, Patrick
Subject: FW: Letter requesting extension to Colorado River RMP Comment Period

From: Adams, Wendy (Mark Udall) [mailto:Wendy_Adams@MarkUdall.senate.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, January 18, 2012 9:58 AM
To: Urban, Heather; Mansour, Christopher
Subject: FW: Letter requesting extension to Colorado River RMP Comment Period

FYI – I don't have Neil's email address, would you please forward to him as well? Thanks.

From: Ozarski, Jill (Mark Udall)
Sent: Tuesday, January 17, 2012 4:35 PM
To: hhankins@blm.gov
Cc: sbhall@blm.gov; 'Boyd, David L'
Subject: Letter requesting extension to Colorado River RMP Comment Period

Director Hankins:

Attached please find a letter from Senator Udall requesting an extension of the comment period for the Colorado River Draft RMP Revision. Thank you for your consideration of this important issue.

Jill Ozarski
Natural Resources Policy Advisor
U.S. Senator Mark Udall
999 18th Street
North Tower, Suite 1525
Denver, CO 80202

Office: (303) 650-7820

Cell: (303) 829-2046

jill_ozarski@markudall.senate.gov

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THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

JAN 19 2012

The Honorable Mark E. Udall
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Udall: *Mark*

Thank you for your letter of January 17, 2012, to me and Bureau of Land Management Director Bob Abbey, regarding the public comment period for the draft Colorado River Valley Resource Management Plan. As you note, the CRV RMP is a complex document that will guide BLM decisions in much of Western Colorado for many years.

The BLM recognizes the importance of providing the public sufficient time to evaluate the draft CRV RMP and its impacts. The BLM has extended the public comment period a second time to February 29, 2012. With this extension, the public comment period for this plan will total 165 days.

Thank you again for your interest and support. We encourage you and your constituents to continue to engage in the BLM's land-use planning process.

Sincerely,

Ken Salazar

JEFF BINGAMAN, New Mexico, Chairman
RON WYDEN, Oregon
TIM JOHNSON, South Dakota
MARY L. LANDRIEU, Louisiana
MARIA CANTWELL, Washington
BERNARD SANDERS, Vermont
DEBBIE STABENOW, Michigan
MARK UDALL, Colorado
JEANNE SHAHEEN, New Hampshire
AL FRANKEN, Minnesota
JOE MANCHIN, III, West Virginia
CHRISTOPHER A. COONS, Delaware
LISA MURKOWSKI, Alaska
RICHARD BURR, North Carolina
JOHN BARRASSO, Wyoming
JAMES E. RISCH, Idaho
MIKE LEE, Utah
RAND PAUL, Kentucky
DANIEL COATS, Indiana
ROB PORTMAN, Ohio
JOHN HOEVEN, North Dakota
BOB CORKER, Tennessee

ROBERT M. SIMON, STAFF DIRECTOR
SAM E. FOWLER, CHIEF COUNSEL
MCKIE CAMPBELL, REPUBLICAN STAFF DIRECTOR
KAREN K. BILLUPS, REPUBLICAN CHIEF COUNSEL

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6150

ENERGY.SENATE.GOV

October 12, 2011

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar:

On behalf of the Subcommittee on National Parks of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, I would like to invite you or your designee to testify at the Subcommittee's hearing on Wednesday, October 19, 2011, at 2:30 p.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on the following bills:

S. 544, A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of alternatives for commemorating and interpreting the role of the Buffalo Soldiers in the early years of the National Parks, and for other purposes;

S.1083, A bill to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the route of the Smoky Hill Trail, an overland trail across the Great Plains during pioneer days in Kansas and Colorado, for study for potential addition to the National Trails System;

S. 1084, A bill to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the routes of the Shawnee Cattle Trail, the oldest of the major Texas Cattle Trails, for study for potential addition to the National Trails System, and for other purposes;

S. 1303, A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish Fort Monroe National Historical Park in the Commonwealth of Virginia, and for other purposes;

S. 1325, A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating sites in the Lower Mississippi River Area in the State of Louisiana as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes;

S. 1347, A bill to establish Coltsville National Historical Park in the State of Connecticut, and for other purposes;

S. 1421, A bill to authorize the Peace Corps Commemorative Foundation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, and for other purposes;

S. 1478, A bill to modify the boundary of the Minuteman Missile National Historic Site in the State of South Dakota, and for other purposes;

S. 1537, A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to accept from the Board of Directors of the National September 11 Memorial and Museum at the World Trade Center Foundation, Inc., the donation of title to The National September 11 Memorial and Museum at the World Trade Center, and for other purposes.

In order to maximize time available for Subcommittee Members to ask questions, it would be helpful if you would summarize your written testimony. Your written testimony will be included in its entirety in the Committee's printed hearing record. Please provide the Subcommittee with an electronic copy as well as 25 printed copies of your written testimony at least 48 hours in advance of the hearing.

If you have any questions, please have your staff contact David Brooks at (202) 224-9863, david_brooks@energy.senate.gov, or Jake McCook at (202) 224-9313, jake_mccook@energy.senate.gov.

Sincerely,



Mark Udall
Chairman
Subcommittee on National Parks

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
OFFICE OF THE

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 25, 2011

The Honorable Tom Vilsack
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C. Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Vilsack and Secretary Salazar:

This year we have seen unprecedented expanses of public and private lands burn in wildfires. The cost of these fires has been millions of dollars, thousands of citizens evacuated, and extensive erosion and flooding. These catastrophic fires are a result of ecologically degraded and overstocked forests. Restoration of our forests on a landscape scale is urgently needed. The Southwest Forest Restoration Institutes (SWERI) have already been recognized as a key component in establishing science-based landscape scale restoration strategies across the Intermountain West. We urge you to include adequate funding in the President's Fiscal Year 2013 (FY13) Budget for the institutes to continue to confront the forest health issues in the southwest head-on.

In 2004 SWERI was established by a bipartisan Act of Congress (PL 108-317) to help provide the biophysical and socio-economic science needed to overcome the barriers to forest restoration. The three institutes that form SWERI, the New Mexico Forest and Watershed Restoration Institute (NMFWRI) at New Mexico Highlands University, the Colorado Forest Restoration Institute (CFRI) at Colorado State University and, the Ecological Restoration Institute (ERI) at Northern Arizona University, provide a unique program of work that bridges the gap between academic knowledge and applied on-the-ground action. The institutes work in concert with the major initiatives of this administration by advancing restoration at multiple scales on all lands by using collaboration, best available science, and adaptive management. The institutes' work also aligns with Congressional priorities by actively supporting the implementation of the Healthy Forest Restoration Act, the Forest Landscape Restoration Act and efforts that will reduce fire suppression costs.

The Southwest Forest Health and Wildfire Prevention Act authorized up to \$15 million per year for the three Institutes. Each year the Institutes work cooperatively with federal agencies and with stakeholders involved in forest restoration and wildland fire management to identify a relevant program of work. The program is reviewed by the leadership of the appropriate federal and state agencies to guarantee that their decision support needs are met. Based on the last five years of institute work plans, we request that you include \$5 million in the President's Budget for FY13 for the work planned for the three institutes in the 2013 Fiscal Year.

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The Institutes fill a crucial role in our efforts to restore forests, protect watersheds, avoid unwanted wildfires and improve the economic vitality of rural communities. We appreciate your continued support for forest restoration in the Southwest and urge you to fund the Southwest Forest Health and Wildfire Prevention Act in the Administration's forthcoming budget request for Fiscal Year 2013.

Sincerely,



Tom Udall
United States Senator



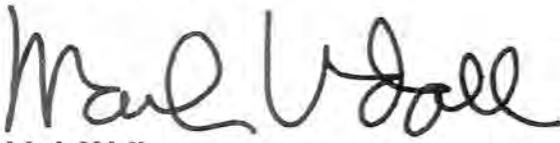
Jeff Bingaman
United States Senator



John McCain
United States Senator



Jon Kyl
United States Senator



Mark Udall
United States Senator



Michael F. Bennet
United States Senator

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SECRETARY OF THE
INTERIOR



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

DEC 16 2011

The Honorable Mark Udall
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Udall:

I am writing in response to your letter of October 25, 2011, regarding the urgent need for restoring forests on a landscape scale in order to reduce and mitigate the impact of catastrophic wildfires, and urging the Department to provide funds for the Southwest Forest Health and Wildfire Prevention Act in Fiscal Year 2013. Similar responses are being sent to the cosigners of your letter, Senators Jeff Bingaman, John McCain, Michael Bennet, John Kyl, and Tom Udall.

Thanks to the work of the Southwest Forest Restoration Institutes, the fire management community has a greater understanding of forest health and wildfire. The three Institutes have made valuable contributions to the design and implementation of restoration-based fuel treatments, and we expect their contributions to continue. In the next couple of years, the intergovernmental fire management community will continue efforts to develop a national cohesive wildfire management strategy. As part of this process, regional committees are currently working to develop appropriate strategies and science-based risk assessments to address how best to restore and maintain resilient landscapes, promote fire-adapted communities, and respond to wildland fires. The three Southwest Forest Restoration Institutes will certainly be important contributors to those efforts in the West.

The President's FY 2013 budget is currently under development and no specific information is available regarding any dedicated funding at this time. The Southwest Forest Restoration Institutes are encouraged to seek grant funding through the competitive inter-departmental Joint Fire Science Program (JFSP) in FY 2012. In addition, the Department of the Interior will consult with the U.S. Department of Agriculture in the project selection process to be funded through its Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Fund to select and fund ecological restoration treatments for priority landscapes. The efforts of the Ecological Restoration Institute (ERI), the Colorado Forest Restoration Institute (CFRI), and the New Mexico Forest and Watershed Restoration Institute (MNFWRI) are important contributors to the knowledge needed to help agencies restore critical ecosystem functions.

Sincerely,

Ken Salazar



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

OCT 21 2011

The Honorable Mark Udall
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Udall:

I am pleased to inform you of the designation of two areas in Colorado as National Natural Landmark sites. Hanging Lake, located east of Glenwood Springs in Garfield County, and the Golden Fossil Areas, located west and north of Golden in Jefferson County, which are designated as an addition to the existing Morrison Fossil Area National Natural Landmark. National Natural Landmark designations are made by the Secretary of the Interior to recognize and support the voluntary preservation of public and private sites that illustrate America's outstanding natural heritage.

Hanging Lake is a unique example of a lake formed by travertine deposition, within the Southern Rocky Mountain biophysio-graphic province. It is one of the larger and least altered travertine systems in the province, where natural geologic and hydrologic processes continue to operate as they have done throughout the history of the lake. The site also supports one of the best and largest examples of a hanging garden plant community in the province.

The Golden Fossil Areas reveal the first fossil bird footprints (*Ignotornis*) ever discovered and formally named from the Mesozoic 'age of dinosaurs', the only outcroppings of the Golden Fault, and the first tracks ever discovered and formally named of horned dinosaurs (*Ceratopsipes*), champsosaurs (*Champsosaurichnus*), and Cretaceous mammals (*Schadipes*). Collectively, the Morrison-Golden Fossil Areas provide a trail through time for the late Jurassic and Cretaceous Periods that is unparalleled in the western U.S. and unique globally.

The National Natural Landmarks Program was established in 1962 under the authority of the Historic Sites Act of 1935 (16 U.S.C. 461 et seq.). The National Park Service manages this program using regulations found at 36 CFR Part 62. When designated, a landmark is included in the National Registry of Natural Landmarks, which currently lists 586 National Natural Landmarks nationwide. Designation is not a land withdrawal, it does not change the ownership of an area, and it does not dictate activity. Owners of National Natural Landmarks do not give up any rights or privileges of ownership, nor do they give up use of the area.

Pursuant to 36 CFR 62.4(j), for notification of new designations, I am contacting the owners, government officials, tribal governments, and others, and a notice will be published in the *Federal Register*. If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Margaret Brooks, National Natural Landmarks Program Manager, at (520) 791-6470.

Sincerely,

Ken Salazar

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 12, 2011

The Honorable Tom Vilsack
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave, SW
Washington, DC 20250

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretaries Vilsack and Salazar,

We are writing regarding a proposal currently pending before BLM to designate a 32,000-acre parcel of public land (mostly under the jurisdiction of the Forest Service) in Colorado's Pitkin and Garfield Counties, as a single exploratory unit for potential oil and gas development.

The Commissioners of Pitkin County and other local stakeholders argue that the unitization proposal, if granted at this time, may undermine years of discussions by local governments and leaseholders to reach a long-term agreement governing mineral production and conservation of important public lands in this area. Conversely, some of the affected leaseholders argue that promptly granting the unitization request would be the most efficient way to extract the resource in an environmentally-protective manner.

After further discussions between parties, it may well be that a viable, consensus-based development plan for the area may emerge. Our intent, therefore, is not to preclude eventual consideration of such an option. However, given the lack of current local consensus, we believe it is very difficult to gauge if unitization is presently in the public interest (as required under 43 C.F.R. § 3183.4). Until the communities affected by this proposal have been given adequate time to complete their final discussions on the long term management of this area, we believe it would be premature for your respective agencies to approve the current unitization request covering the so-called "Thompson Divide" acreage. We would ask that you allow for robust and meaningful discussions among all concerned stakeholders, as well as an opportunity for those stakeholders to meet with the Administration, before making a decision on the request.

Our offices are beginning active outreach to the relevant stakeholders to facilitate those discussions, including meetings between local community groups and SG Interests (the largest leaseholder represented in the unitization request). In an effort to solve natural resource conflicts by local consensus, rather than years of costly litigation and quarreling as we've seen elsewhere,

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OFFICE OF THE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

we are committed to working through discussions with the leaseholders and concerned landowners about the future of this area.

We stand ready to work with the Administration toward the important goal of continued, robust production of clean-burning, domestic natural gas. This production should proceed where it serves the public interest, in areas appropriate for development and in consultation and coordination with local governments and stakeholders. We are hopeful these communities in western Colorado can continue to discuss whether the acreage in question meets these criteria. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Michael F. Bennet
U.S. Senator
Member, Senate Committee on
Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry



Mark Udall
U.S. Senator
Member, Senate Committee on
Energy and Natural Resources

CC: Harris Sherman, Undersecretary for Natural Resources and Environment, United States Department of Agriculture

Bob Abbey, Director, Bureau of Land Management, United States Department of Interior

Cannuscio, Lisa M

From: Feeney, Tim
Sent: Thursday, October 13, 2011 4:19 PM
To: Cannuscio, Lisa M
Subject: FW: Bennet/Udall Letter to Vilsack/Salazar re: Thompson Divide
Attachments: Bennet_Udall_Thompson_Divide.pdf

Importance: High

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Have you seen this yet. USDA is asking what we are planning to do with it.

From: Bridges, Shirley [<mailto:sbridges@fs.fed.us>]
Sent: Thursday, October 13, 2011 4:15 PM
To: Feeney, Tim
Cc: Worrells, Andrea; Conerly, Zena
Subject: FW: Bennet/Udall Letter to Vilsack/Salazar re: Thompson Divide
Importance: High

Hi Tim, here is another letter. Have you received this letter yet, we are holding it waiting for DOI to give us a heads up.

Shirley L. Bridges
USDA-FS
Lead Writer/Editor
Correspondence and Records Management (CRM)
Phone: 202-205-0862
Fax: 202-205-0975
E-mail: sbridges/wo@fs.fed.us

From: Worrells, Andrea
Sent: Thursday, October 13, 2011 3:08 PM
To: Conerly, Zena
Cc: Bridges, Shirley
Subject: FW: Bennet/Udall Letter to Vilsack/Salazar re: Thompson Divide
Importance: High

This letter was received via email to Doug Crandall. It is addressed Secretary Vilsack and Secretary Salazar.

From: Hart, Steve
Sent: Thursday, October 13, 2011 10:05 AM
To: Worrells, Andrea
Subject: FW: Bennet/Udall Letter to Vilsack/Salazar re: Thompson Divide

A
Please forward to CM for resposne

From: Crandall, Doug
Sent: Thursday, October 13, 2011 8:27 AM
To: Hart, Steve
Subject: Fw: Bennet/Udall Letter to Vilsack/Salazar re: Thompson Divide

From: Babington, Sean (Bennet) [mailto:Sean_Babington@bennet.senate.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, October 12, 2011 02:02 PM
To: 'Urban, Heather' <Heather_Urban@ios.doi.gov>; Brown, Laura; Crandall, Doug; 'Black, Steve' <steve_black@ios.doi.gov>; Bonnie, Robert
Cc: Adams, Wendy (Mark Udall) <Wendy_Adams@MarkUdall.senate.gov>
Subject: Bennet/Udall Letter to Vilsack/Salazar re: Thompson Divide

Hello,

Please see the attached letter to Secretaries Vilsack and Salazar from Senators Bennet and Udall that was put in the mail this afternoon. Please don't hesitate to call Wendy Adams or me with questions or to discuss further.

All the Best,
Sean Babington

Sean Babington
Legislative Assistant
Office of Senator Michael Bennet
458 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
202-224-5852
www.bennet.senate.gov



United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Washington, D.C. 20240
<http://www.blm.gov>



NOV 02 2011

The Honorable Michael F. Bennet
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Bennet:

Thank you for your October 12, 2011, letter to Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar and Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack regarding potential oil and gas development on public land in Colorado's Pitkin and Garfield Counties. Secretary Salazar has asked me to respond to the issues you raise in your letter that pertain to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

The area addressed in your letter, known as the Lake Ridge Unit, is approximately 32,400 acres in size and includes roughly 27,700 acres of U.S. Forest Service lands. The BLM received an application from SG Interests, LTD, on May 17, 2011, for the Lake Ridge Oil and Gas Unit Agreement, proposing to drill two obligation wells in the unit area. Energy development is common in this area, much of which has been leased for oil and gas development since the 1950s. In fact, there are multiple oil and gas units located west of the proposed Lake Ridge unit area, including a producing unit that adjoins the proposed unit.

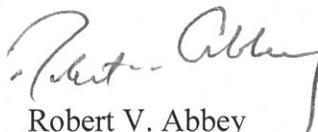
The purpose of unitization is to provide orderly, timely, and environmentally sound exploration and development of oil and gas within a geologically defined area, and each proposal to unitize is evaluated on its specific merits. By effectively eliminating internal property boundaries within the unit area, unitization allows the most efficient and cost-effective means of developing the underlying oil and gas resources with a minimum number of wells, roads, and associated infrastructure, thereby conserving natural resources. Unitizing the area neither conveys any additional rights, nor denies the development of leases. Completion of a producing well and payment of royalties to the Federal Government, either through a unit agreement or on an individual lease, extends the lease(s) until production ends.

Since the proposed acres included in the Lake Ridge Unit are currently under lease, they are open to development, pending an approved application for permit to drill, which would require a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis. Unitization is an administrative action that is categorically excluded from NEPA analysis; however, in accordance with Federal regulations, the BLM will continue to accept comments from the public as it evaluates the unit application.

We appreciate your thoughts and concerns about this application. If you have additional comments, please contact me at 202-208-3801, or BLM Colorado State Director Helen M.

Hankins at 303-239-3700, or your staff may contact Patrick Wilkinson, Chief of BLM's Legislative Affairs Division, at 202-912-7421. A similar reply was sent to Senator Mark Udall.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert V. Abbey". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Robert V. Abbey
Director

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510
October 11, 2011

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Department of the Interior
1849 C St. NW
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar:

I, like you, am passionate about preserving land and open spaces. We have a responsibility not only to future generations, but to this generation of Americans, to protect our public lands to provide clean air to breathe, clean water to drink, open spaces to recreate, and economic opportunity. Fulfilling this broad mission takes a diverse array of stakeholders working together to achieve a balance of land management policies, one of which is Wilderness. I commend your efforts to compile a list of areas that have Wilderness character and support from neighboring communities, and yet have not been designated by Congress.

Wilderness designations exemplify the best that our public lands have to offer. Virtually untouched by the industrialized world in which we live, Wilderness protects the land in a natural state providing essential untrammelled habitat for wildlife and gives us a place we can go to escape the modern world. In parks, forests, deserts, or high-alpine meadows, Wilderness often shows us a place before and without human interference.

When discussing public lands, we cannot forget their importance to our economy. Our public lands have long been a source of economic value, and one of these sources is outdoor recreation. Sportsmen, hikers, and campers not only enjoy our land – they also support our rural economies and a large and growing industry of supply stores, manufacturers, guides, hotels, and other important businesses.

In many respects, Wilderness is pure and uncomplicated. However its designation is, and should be, complicated. As native westerners, you and I both know the essential balance that must be struck to ensure we are balancing the many uses that exist on our public lands. In making decisions that will affect land use, extensive input from and collaboration with stakeholders and the public is vital.

This kind of public process was integral to the development of the San Juan Mountains Wilderness Act that I introduced last week. Years of work with diverse groups of stakeholders created a bill that has wide support from local governments, businesses, and many others. Carefully crafted to preserve over 60,000 acres of public lands in southwest Colorado, the bill would preserve two "fourteeners" (peaks over 14,000 feet high) and the sole water supply of the town of Ridgway - while also accommodating the various ongoing uses of the area, such as for water, recreation, and heliskiing. I believe this bill is an excellent example of how a community can come together to support Wilderness designation.

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In general, this type of locally driven public process not only creates effective land management policies but also instills trust from the public in a process that is open, transparent, and fair. As we continue to seek ways to balance the demands on our public lands, I look forward to working with you to make sure any Wilderness proposal in Colorado is right for the communities affected.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Udall". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mark" and the last name "Udall" clearly distinguishable.

Mark Udall
U.S. Senator

Howarth, Robert

From: Mansour, Christopher
Sent: Tuesday, October 11, 2011 4:05 PM
To: Iudicello, Fay; Howarth, Robert
Subject: FW: Udall letter to Sec. Salazar
Attachments: 11.10.11_Letter to Salazar onWilderness.pdf

From: Adams, Wendy (Mark Udall) [mailto:Wendy_Adams@MarkUdall.senate.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, October 11, 2011 4:03 PM
To: Urban, Heather; Mansour, Christopher
Cc: Fenn, Dan (Mark Udall)
Subject: Udall letter to Sec. Salazar

Hi Heather and Christopher –

This letter is going in the mail today, but we wanted to get a copy to you asap.

Thanks – Wendy

Wendy Adams
Legislative Assistant
Office of Senator Mark Udall
Hart Senate Office Building, Suite 328
Wendy_Adams@MarkUdall.senate.gov
202-224-5941



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

OCT 25 2011

The Honorable Mark Udall
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Udall:

(Broth)

Thank you for your October 11, 2011, letter regarding the Department of the Interior's forthcoming report on areas deserving permanent protection. I appreciate your input on public lands located in Colorado.

I will be sure to consider your comments as we move forward with this effort.

Sincerely,

Ken Salazar

JEFF BINGAMAN, New Mexico, *Chairman*

RON WYDEN, Oregon
TIM JOHNSON, South Dakota
MARY L. LANDRIEU, Louisiana
MARIA CANTWELL, Washington
BERNARD SANDERS, Vermont
DEBBIE STABENOW, Michigan
MARK UDALL, Colorado
JEANNE SHAHEEN, New Hampshire
AL FRANKEN, Minnesota
JOE MANCHIN, III, West Virginia
CHRISTOPHER A. COONS, Delaware

LISA MURKOWSKI, Alaska
RICHARD BURR, North Carolina
JOHN BARRASSO, Wyoming
JAMES E. RISCH, Idaho
MIKE LEE, Utah
RAND PAUL, Kentucky
DANIEL COATS, Indiana
ROB PORTMAN, Ohio
JOHN HOEVEN, North Dakota
BOB CORKER, Tennessee

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6150

ENERGY.SENATE.GOV

ROBERT M. SIMON, STAFF DIRECTOR
SAM E. FOWLER, CHIEF COUNSEL
MCKIE CAMPBELL, REPUBLICAN STAFF DIRECTOR
KAREN K. BILLUPS, REPUBLICAN CHIEF COUNSEL

September 8, 2011

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar:

On behalf of the Subcommittee on National Parks of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, I would like to invite you or your designee to testify at the Subcommittee's hearing on Wednesday, September 21, 2011, at 2:30 p.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of this hearing is to consider a recently released report by the National Park Service: *A Call to Action: Preparing for a Second Century of Stewardship and Engagement*.

In order to maximize time available for Subcommittee Members to ask questions, it would be helpful if you would summarize your written testimony. Your written testimony will be included in its entirety in the Committee's printed hearing record. Please provide the Subcommittee with an electronic copy as well as 25 printed copies of your written testimony at least 48 hours in advance of the hearing.

If you have any questions, please have your staff contact David Brooks at (202) 224-9863, david_brooks@energy.senate.gov, or Jake McCook at (202) 224-9313, jake_mccook@energy.senate.gov.

Sincerely,

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Mark Udall
Chairman
Subcommittee on National Parks

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

August 30, 2011

The Honorable Tom Vilsack
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave, SW
Washington, DC 20250

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretaries Vilsack and Salazar:

We are writing to convey concerns from local governments in Southwest Colorado regarding the recent decision to end the Dual Delegation pilot project within the Service First program on the San Juan National Forest and San Juan Bureau of Land Management Resource Area.

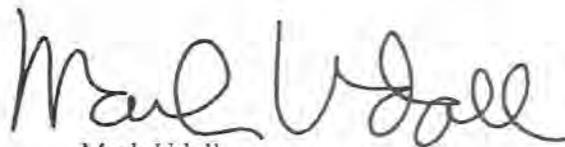
Several entities in Southwest Colorado, including the Southwest Council of Governments and the Region 9 Economic Development District, have expressed concerns that the Administration terminated the Dual Delegation pilot program in the region without seeking input from local communities or communicating the rationale for their decision. They believe the Dual Delegation pilot has fostered positive working relationships with the respective federal land management agencies and serves as a national model for inter-departmental collaboration and efficiency. These entities are asking for a review of this decision. Their concerns are enclosed in the attached correspondence.

We would respectfully ask you to review the input of these local governments as you decide whether any additional Administrative action is warranted on this matter, and that you share the basis for that final decision with the local governmental entities and with our offices. We stand ready to assist in any way to help address the concerns of the local governments we serve in this region. Thank you for your consideration of this request, and we look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Michael F. Bennet
U.S. Senator



Mark Udall
U.S. Senator

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OFFICE OF THE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY



July 27, 2011

Michael F. Bennet
U.S. Senator
835 East 2nd Avenue, Suite 203
Durango, CO 81301

Dear Senator Bennet:

The Southwest Colorado Council of Governments (SWCCOG) would like to make you aware of its opposition to the ending of the Dual Delegation portion of the Service First program by the San Juan Public Lands Center as of the end of September.

The SWCCOG members feel that the Dual Delegation concept contributed greatly to a positive working relationship with both agencies, and were under the impression that this program served as a best practice example for other regions.

The SWCCOG members were disappointed that the decision to end the Dual Delegation authorization appeared to be made quickly and without apparent communication to the local governments who work with these agencies. It seems reasonable to assume that ending this program will result in either greater costs or reduced services. During this time of decreasing budgets, the cooperation of agencies should seem to be more cost effective. From our perspective it appears that the Service First/Dual Delegation has been a successful model that should be duplicated rather than terminated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dr. Rick Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized script.

Dr. Rick Smith
Chair, Southwest Colorado Council of Governments



**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
OF SOUTHWEST COLORADO**

August 15, 2011

John Whitney
Senator Michael Bennett
835 East 2nd Avenue, Suite 206
Durango, CO 81301

Dear Senator Bennet:

The Region 9 Economic Development District of Southwest Colorado (Region 9) Board of Directors would like to express concern about ending the Dual Delegation portion of the Service First program by the San Juan Public Lands Center.

We understand that this change is to go into effect at the end of September, and feel this decision was made without apparent communication to the local governments who work with these agencies. It seems reasonable to assume that ending this program will result in either greater costs or reduced services.

The Region 9 Board, which includes the seventeen governmental jurisdictions in southwest Colorado as well as nine at-large members, feel that the Dual Delegation concept contributed greatly to a positive working relationship with both agencies, streamlined resources, and served as a best practice example for other regions.

We encourage our elected delegation to review whether this change is in the best interest of Colorado communities. From our perspective it appears that the Service First/Dual Delegation has been a successful model that should be duplicated rather than terminated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Fernandez", written over a horizontal line.

John Fernandez
Chair, Region 9 Board of Directors

SERVING THE COUNTIES OF:

ARCHULETA

DOLORES

LA PLATA

MONTEZUMA

SAN JUAN

**SOUTHERN UTE
INDIAN TRIBE**

**UTE MOUNTAIN UTE
INDIAN TRIBE**

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES:

295A Girard St.
Durango, CO 81303
(970) 247-9621 PHONE
(970) 247-9513 FAX
e-mail: ed@scan.org
www.scan.org



SAN JUAN COUNTY COLORADO

1557 GREENE STREET
P.O. BOX 466
SILVERTON, COLORADO 81433
PHONE/FAX 970-387-5766 sanjuancounty@frontier.net

July 14, 2011

Senator Michael F. Bennet
458 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Bennet:

It has come to our attention that the Dual Delegation portion of the Service First program is being terminated at the San Juan Public Lands Center. We believe that this program worked exceptionally well for San Juan County and provided excellent customer service throughout the region. More than 86% of San Juan County is publicly owned lands divided almost equally between Forest Service and BLM. Prior to the Dual Delegation authorization, dealing with the both the Forest Service and BLM was often confusing and inefficient.

We were extremely dismayed that the decision to end the Dual Delegation authorization was made without consulting local government or receiving public comment. We have not been informed as to why these changes are necessary. Nor have we been informed as to what these changes will mean to our county, our residents and our visitors. It seems reasonable to assume that ending this program will result in either greater costs or reduced services. During this time of decreasing budgets, every effort should be made to provide existing services as efficiently as possible.

We believe that the Dual Delegation concept has contributed greatly to a positive working relationship with both agencies.

We are requesting that you as a member of our Colorado Delegation initiate an independent federal review of this important program before it is terminated. From our perspective it appears that the Service First/Dual Delegation has been a successful model that should be duplicated rather than terminated.

Thank you for your consideration on this critical issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ernest F. Kuhlman".

Ernest F. Kuhlman, Chairman
San Juan County Commissioners

TOWN OF DOLORES

Incorporated 1900
420 Central Avenue • P. O. Box 630
Dolores, Colorado 81323
Phone (970) 882-7720

July 12, 2011

Senator Michael Bennett
835 E. 2nd Avenue, Suite 206
Durango, CO. 81301

RE: Termination of Service First Program

Dear Senator Bennett:

This letter is in reference to a seemingly arbitrary decision to end the cooperative arrangement in the San Juan region that combines resources for public land management. My understanding is that former Regional Forest Supervisor, Rick Cables and BLM State Director, Helen Hankins jointly made the decision to end the program. It was not until the San Juan County Commissioners brought it to my attention that I was aware of this change. In fact, on June 27th our Town Board hosted two Forest Service employees to discuss the Travel Management Plan for the area. While the topic was not focused on the internal changes to the local office, a mention of the change would have been prudent. These two employees are managers and would have had that information at their disposal by that date.

The Service First venture has worked well in this region and has enabled the BLM and Forest Service to effectively disseminate information to the public in a consistent manner. Individuals have been assigned to administer programs that affect both BLM and Forest Service Lands. These include energy exploration, fire services, resources planning and rangeland management. The decision to end this program will effectively change the quality of service as your constituency will now interact with multiple agencies to accomplish the same goal.

How will this decision improve or maintain the level of service for our region? The Forest Service and BLM continue to deal with budget cuts and yet they have decided to make it more expensive to do their jobs. Montezuma County and the Town of Dolores depend on these agencies to do their jobs in an efficient manner so that industry can continue to thrive. Recreation, tourism, agriculture and the energy industry make up a large part of our economy. To the extent that the level of service is reduced in the public lands office, I believe that our local economies will feel a proportionate negative effect.

We are asking that this matter be considered more thoroughly and include input from local agencies and the public. We would also ask that we be kept apprised of these decisions in the future.

Sincerely,


Duvall Treulsen
Mayor



"HOME OF THE GALLOPING GOOSE"
DOLORES' CENTENNIAL
YEAR 2000

Howarth, Robert

From: Urban, Heather
Sent: Friday, September 02, 2011 11:31 AM
To: Mansour, Christopher; Howarth, Robert
Subject: Fw: Letter from Senators Bennet and Udall on Dual Delegation
Attachments: MFB_MEU Dual Delegation Letter.pdf

From: Babington, Sean (Bennet) [mailto:Sean_Babington@bennet.senate.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, August 30, 2011 06:04 PM
To: Urban, Heather; Bosworth, Neil; Reynolds, Fran; Blackstun, David E
Cc: Wendy_adams@markudall.senate.gov; jill_ozarski@markudall.senate.gov; John_Whitney@bennet.senate.gov; Montgomery, Becca (Bennet) <Becca_Montgomery@bennet.senate.gov>
Subject: Letter from Senators Bennet and Udall on Dual Delegation

Dear Administration Friends,

Please see the attached letter that Senators Bennet and Udall sent to your bosses today. The PDF also contains correspondence from local governments in Southwest Colorado that the Senators would like to pass along to Secretaries Vilsack and Salazar.

All the Best,
Sean

Sean Babington

Legislative Assistant
Office of Senator Michael Bennet
458 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
202-224-5852
www.bennet.senate.gov



United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Washington, D.C. 20240
<http://www.blm.gov>



OCT 12 2011

The Honorable Mark Udall
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Udall:

Thank you for your August 30, 2011, letter cosigned by Senator Bennet on behalf of local governments concerning upcoming management changes announced by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Forest Service (FS) in the Service First program at the San Juan Public Lands Center in Durango, Colorado. We appreciate learning of your concerns regarding the agencies' decision to end the dual delegation (with the exception of the fire program) of BLM and FS line management at the start of the new fiscal year.

The Service First model strives to improve service to the public by promoting one-stop service for public access to both agencies, and the BLM and the FS remain strongly committed to continuing this effort. We expect to implement these changes in management with minimal disruption to the public. The offices will stay co-located, allowing the public to continue to interact with the agencies at a "one-stop-shop".

An equally important feature of Service First is its focus on encouraging agencies to streamline administrative costs by co-locating field offices, and to achieve budget efficiencies by sharing resources, including line managers, in some cases across agency boundaries. Earlier this year the BLM and the FS determined that dual delegation of line managers in Colorado did not result in expected efficiencies. Differences involving staff time, budgeting, personnel rules, and computer networks across agency boundaries presented greater challenges than the agencies had anticipated and reduced potential cost savings.

The BLM and the FS in Colorado will apply the lessons of this experience in ongoing efforts to provide more streamlined public services while improving our public land management. To facilitate a smooth transition, the BLM and the FS are developing a new joint instruction memorandum for Colorado Service First. We will continue to brief your staff and interested communities as these implementation plans are completed.

If you have additional questions, please call BLM Colorado State Director Helen Hankins at 303-239-3700, or USFS Rocky Mountain Deputy Regional Forester Maribeth Gustafson at 303-275-5448.

Sincerely,

Robert V. Abbey
Director

**cc: Dr. Rick Smith, Chair, Southwest Colorado Council of Governments
Dan Fernandez, Chair, Region 9 Board of Directors
Ernest F. Kuhlman, Chairman, San Juan County Commissioners
Duvall Truelsen, Mayor, Town of Dolores**

JEFF BINGAMAN, New Mexico, *Chairman*

RON WYDEN, Oregon
TIM JOHNSON, South Dakota
MARY L. LANDRIEU, Louisiana
MARIA CANTWELL, Washington
BERNARD SANDERS, Vermont
DEBBIE STABENOW, Michigan
MARK UDALL, Colorado
JEANNE SHAHEEN, New Hampshire
AL FRANKEN, Minnesota
JOE MANCHIN, III, West Virginia
CHRISTOPHER A. COONS, Delaware

LISA MURKOWSKI, Alaska
RICHARD BURR, North Carolina
JOHN BARRASSO, Wyoming
JAMES E. RISCCH, Idaho
MIKE LEE, Utah
RAND PAUL, Kentucky
DANIEL COATS, Indiana
ROB PORTMAN, Ohio
JOHN HOEVEN, North Dakota
BOB CORKER, Tennessee

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6150

ENERGY.SENATE.GOV

ROBERT M. SIMON, STAFF DIRECTOR
SAM E. FOWLER, CHIEF COUNSEL
McKIE CAMPBELL, REPUBLICAN STAFF DIRECTOR
KAREN K. BILLUPS, REPUBLICAN CHIEF COUNSEL

July 14, 2011

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar:

On behalf of the Subcommittee on National Parks of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, I would like to invite you or your designee to testify at the Subcommittee's hearing on Thursday, July 28, 2011, at 2:30 p.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on the following bills, which pertain to the Department of the Interior:

S. 264, A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey to the State of Mississippi 2 parcels of surplus land within the boundary of the Natchez Trace Parkway, and for other purposes;

S. 265, A bill to authorize the acquisition of core battlefield land at Champion Hill, Port Gibson, and Raymond for addition to Vicksburg National Military Park;

S. 324, A bill to amend the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Development Act to extend to the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park Commission;

S. 864, A bill to designate a Distinguished Flying Cross National Memorial at the March Field Air Museum in Riverside, California;

S. 883, A bill to authorize National Mall Liberty Fund D.C. to establish a memorial on Federal land in the District of Columbia to honor free persons and slaves who fought for independence, liberty, and justice for all during the American Revolution;

S. 925, A bill to designate Mt. Andrea Lawrence;

2011 JUL 29 AM 11:21

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S. 970, A bill to designate additional segments and tributaries of White Clay Creek, in the States of Delaware and Pennsylvania, as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System;

S. 1063, A bill to allow for the harvest of gull eggs by the Huna Tlingit people within Glacier Bay National Park in the State of Alaska;

S. 1134, A bill to authorize the St. Croix River Crossing Project with appropriate mitigation measures to promote river values; and

S. 1235, A bill to recognize the memorial at the Navy UDT-SEAL Museum in Fort Pierce, Florida, as the official national memorial of Navy SEALs and their predecessors.

In order to maximize time available for Subcommittee Members to ask questions, it would be helpful if you would summarize your written testimony. Your written testimony will be included in its entirety in the Committee's printed hearing record. Please provide the Subcommittee with an electronic copy as well as 30 printed copies of your written testimony at least 48 hours in advance of the hearing.

If you have any questions, please have your staff contact David Brooks at (202) 224-9863, david_brooks@energy.senate.gov, or Jake McCook at (202) 224-9313, jake_mccook@energy.senate.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Udall". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mark Udall
Chairman
Subcommittee on National Parks

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 30, 2011

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar:

We are writing in regards to the Cobell v. Salazar trust case settlement. As you know, the settlement brings an end to an unfortunate chapter of the Department of Interior's history; and though, as in many settlements of this nature, the compensation may never fully right every wrong endured, your leadership was a valuable part of reaching an amicable resolution.

In addition to direct compensation, the congressionally-approved settlement set aside \$60 million into a college and vocational scholarship fund for Native American students. We were very pleased to learn that the American Indian College Fund has been selected as a finalist to manage the \$60 million Indian Education Scholarship Holding Fund.

As you may know, the American Indian College Fund has consistently ranked as a leader in its field. Its success is rooted in advancing educational and vocational opportunities for American Indians and maintaining strong relationships with the community it serves.

With this in mind, we request you give due consideration to the nomination of the American Indian College Fund to manage this scholarship endowment in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations. Should you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact our offices at 202-224-5941 (Udall) or 202-224-5852 (Bennet).

Sincerely,



Mark Udall



Michael F. Bennet

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAL
OFFICE OF THE

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THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

SEP 08 2011

The Honorable Mark Udall
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Udall:

Thank you for your letter dated June 30, 2011, to Secretary Salazar, supporting the nomination of the American Indian College Fund to manage the Indian Education Scholarship Holding Fund created under the Cobell Settlement. The Secretary has asked me to respond to your letter.

The Obama Administration and the leadership of the Department of the Interior strongly support programs that empower Native peoples through higher education. We recognize the valuable contributions already made by the American Indian College Fund. We appreciate your personal recommendation.

Thank you for your continued public service.

Sincerely,

Meghan M. Conklin

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 12, 2011

Department of the Interior
Assistant to the Secretary and Director of Congressional and Legislative Affairs
Department of the Interior
1849 C St NW Rm 6254
Washington, DC 20240-0001

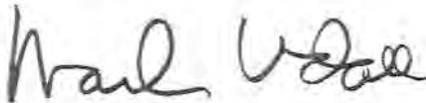
Dear Congressional Liaison,

Enclosed is a copy of a letter my office has received regarding problems with fracking in La Veta, Colorado and issues regarding the process for public input.

Please provide my office with a response as to the best way to address these concerns so that I can respond to my constituent. You may send your response to my Southern Colorado Regional Director, Gloria Gutierrez, by postal mail to 107 West B. Street, Pueblo, CO 81003 or by email at Gloria_Gutierrez@markudall.senate.gov or by fax to 719-542-1738.

As usual, thank you for your assistance in the important matter.

Sincerely,



Mark E. Udall
U.S. Senator

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2011 JUL 22 AM 10:33
OFFICE OF THE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

503642

**Fracking Problems - Borthick, Sandy: Casework -
DOE Hearing June 13 --fracking well permitted
here with NO public input**

Correspondence

Subject:

Casework - DOE Hearing June 13 --fracking well permitted here with NO public input

Type:

incoming

Content:

Agency: Department of Energy

Problem: 6/13/2011 I am posting this here at the direction of your Denver office. Please bring this matter to the attention of the Department of Energy, EPA and all other relevant federal agencies. Dear Senator Udall, We in Huerfano County are reaching out for help as we are currently being threatened by exploratory drilling/fracking and the prospect of expanded drilling/fracking in our area. Briefly, Shell Oil (SWEPI) filed an application to drill a natural gas well with the COGCC (Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission) on April 27, 2011. The location is about 2.5 miles west of the town of La Veta, about 18.5 miles west of the City of Walsenburg, and Shell plans to use hydraulic fracturing ("fracking"). This is one of the first natural gas exploratory wells in our area, and the first fracked well we know of. Manzano and Petroglyph are also "making plays." The SWEPI application was approved by COGCC on June 9, 2011. I am attaching the approved APD forms. As you may know, by COGCC rule, the Local Government Designee (LGD) must be notified as soon as the application is in process, and the COGCC must leave the application in progress for at least 20 days to allow for local government and public user input. In this case, COGCC received no comments from public users or LGD during that period, and statused the approval line items for the "Local Government User" and "Public Users" with "WAIVED". Those were the only two "WAIVED" line items in the process. That 20 day period expired on 5/27. In other words, no one from Huerfano County said anything before May 27, 2011, so our ability to speak was forfeited. The public did not know that we were in such a public input period nor were we made aware that there was an application filed. The local newspapers confirmed that such an announcement was never printed. Now, although we have been trying to reach him with multiple calls, the LGD, our county administrator, is apparently out until next Thursday (June 16). We do have a Planning and Zoning meeting on Shell's Conditional Use Permit tomorrow (June 14), after which a recommendation will be made by P&Z to the BOCC. The BOCC need not accept the P&Z recommendation or even hold a public hearing. Our sense is that the BOCC will approve the project. We have had only 12 days to begin to get a grip on what is going on and how to proceed. We are working to get a hearing with COGCC under an approval suspension Rule in order to buy time, and we are trying to reach out to other organizations that might help us. We are terrified by the threat that is posed by oil and gas drilling in general -- and by fracking in particular-- to Huerfano County's air, water, land and scenic/tourist assets. We are also very angry that our public officials at all level of government seem to be putting the oil and gas industry ahead of the citizens who elect them and to whom they are meant to be accountable. We know that fracking has done damage in Colorado and other parts of the country. New York state has effectively banned it for the time being, and the EPA is in a multi-year study of its effects. Our primary concerns here are: 1) Lack of adequate testing and protection of drinking water. We are investigating hiring our own hydrologist/geologist to do baseline testing for us. 2) Lack of established ordinances and/or buffer zones to protect areas where public health, safety, welfare, environment and wildlife are of concern. We looking at our County Land Use Guide for future, more restrictive language. 3) Our unique geology --the radial dikes of the Spanish Peaks -- makes fracking outcomes unpredictable in this area. The depths and underground characteristics of these dikes are unknown, even by geologists, and present unknown opportunities for fracking fluids to travel. 4) Deposits of radioactive minerals (e.g. Uranium and Vanadium) are common to this area, and fracking could surface those minerals. We are reaching out in all directions for assistance -- please let us know if and how you can help us and what we need to do next! Sincerely, **Non-Responsive** on behalf of Citizens for Huerfano County **Non-Responsive** phone: **Non-Responsive** email: **Non-Responsive**

Additional information:

IP: 207.119.136.14

REFERER: http://markudall.senate.gov/?p=casework_form

SCCMAIL PREFIX: Ms.

FIRST: **Non-Responsive**

LAST: **Non-Responsive**



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

JUL 11 2011

The Honorable Mark Udall
United States Senate
Washington D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Udall:

Thank you for your letter of June 17, 2011, concerning the draft voluntary Land-Based Wind Energy Guidelines of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service). During my tenure as Secretary, one of my highest priorities has been the development of wind and other renewable energy in a manner that is compatible with the wildlife conservation and other environmental responsibilities of this office. To that end, it is my intent that the Service develops guidelines that will provide a roadmap to help the wind industry avoid conflicts with bird and bat resources, particularly those that we have an obligation under the law to protect.

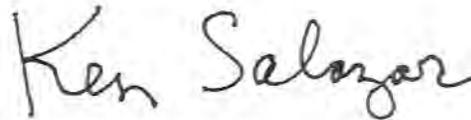
The work of the Wind Turbine Guidelines Federal Advisory Committee has been very helpful to the Service. The Committee's recommendations provided the basis for the Service's draft Guidelines. The Service is currently evaluating the comments received in response to its draft Guidelines and will be taking those comments fully into account prior to issuing final Guidelines. Based on the review completed thus far, the Service anticipates making a number of changes to the draft Guidelines, including changes that were broadly supported by many wind industry and environmental comments. Some of those anticipated changes will be discussed at a public meeting on the Committee of July 20-21, 2011. I will personally participate in that meeting.

The Service is also evaluating comments received in response to its draft "Eagle Conservation Plan Guidance," which was published at the same time as the draft Land-Based Wind Energy Guidelines. The purpose of the draft Eagle Guidance was to clarify and explain the requirements of eagle permitting regulations that were published in September 2009. Those 2009 regulations authorized the issuance of permits under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act for activities expected to result in the incidental taking of bald or golden eagles. However, the 2009 regulations set a 5-year limit on the duration of such permits, a limitation that representatives of the wind industry regard as impractical for their projects. In response to comments received on the draft Eagle Guidance, the Service plans to initiate a proposed rule to allow such eagle permits to be issued for much longer periods.

There are other initiatives under way to find creative solutions to some of the challenges that large scale wind energy development presents, including an imminent scoping notice for an Endangered Species Act “habitat conservation plan” encompassing wind energy development throughout the whooping crane migratory corridor, a nine-state area that stretches from Canada to the Gulf of Mexico. The Service is working closely with the industry and the conservation community to develop a plan that is both larger than any earlier habitat conservation plan, and adequately protective of the whooping crane, a species for which major conservation investments have been made over nearly seven decades.

I greatly appreciate your interest in these matters and your desire for solutions that enable both wind energy deployment and wildlife protection. As the Service works toward that goal in carrying out its important conservation responsibilities, it will continue to work cooperatively with the wind industry.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Salazar". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ken Salazar

JEFF BINGAMAN, New Mexico, *Chairman*

RON WYDEN, Oregon
TIM JOHNSON, South Dakota
MARY L. LANDRIEU, Louisiana
MARIA CANTWELL, Washington
BERNARD SANDERS, Vermont
DEBBIE STABENOW, Michigan
MARK UDALL, Colorado
JEANNE SHAHEEN, New Hampshire
AL FRANKEN, Minnesota
JOE MANCHIN, III, West Virginia
CHRISTOPHER A. COONS, Delaware

LISA MURKOWSKI, Alaska
RICHARD BURR, North Carolina
JOHN BARRASSO, Wyoming
JAMES E. RISCH, Idaho
MIKE LEE, Utah
RAND PAUL, Kentucky
DANIEL COATS, Indiana
ROB PORTMAN, Ohio
JOHN HOEVEN, North Dakota
BOB CORKER, Tennessee

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
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ROBERT M. SIMON, STAFF DIRECTOR
SAM E. FOWLER, CHIEF COUNSEL
MCKIE CAMPBELL, REPUBLICAN STAFF DIRECTOR
KAREN K. BILLUPS, REPUBLICAN CHIEF COUNSEL

May 4, 2011

501393

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar:

On behalf of the Subcommittee on National Parks of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, I would like to invite you or your designee to testify at the Subcommittee's hearing on Wednesday, May 11, 2011, at 2:30 p.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on the following bills, which pertain to the Department of the Interior:

S. 114, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to enter into a cooperative agreement for a park headquarters at San Antonio Missions National Historical Park, to expand the boundary of the Park, to conduct a study of potential land acquisitions, and for other purposes;

S. 127, to establish the Buffalo Bayou National Heritage Area in the State of Texas, and for other purposes;

S. 140, to designate as wilderness certain land and inland water within the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore in the State of Michigan, and for other purposes;

S. 161, to establish Pinnacles National Park in the State of California as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes;

S. 177, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire the Gold Hill Ranch in Coloma, California;

S. 247, to establish the Harriet Tubman National Historical Park in Auburn, New York, and the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Historical Park in Caroline, Dorchester, and Talbot Counties, Maryland, and for other purposes;

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RECEIVED

S. 279, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to carry out a study to determine the suitability and feasibility of establishing Camp Hale as a unit of the National Park System;

S. 302, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to issue right-of-way permits for a natural gas transmission pipeline in nonwilderness areas within the boundary of Denali National Park, and for other purposes;

S. 313, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to issue permits for a microhydro project in nonwilderness areas within the boundaries of Denali National Park and Preserve, to acquire land for Denali National Park and Preserve from Doyon Tourism, Inc., and for other purposes;

S. 323, to establish the First State National Historical Park in the State of Delaware, and for other purposes;

S. 403, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate segments of the Molalla River in the State of Oregon, as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and for other purposes;

S. 404, to modify a land grant patent issued by the Secretary of the Interior;

S. 535, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to lease certain lands within Fort Pulaski National Monument, and for other purposes;

S. 564, to designate the Valles Caldera National Preserve as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes;

S. 599, to establish a commission to commemorate the sesquicentennial of the American Civil War;

S. 713, to modify the boundary of Petersburg National Battlefield in the Commonwealth of Virginia, and for other purposes;

S. 765, to modify the boundary of the Oregon Caves National Monument, and for other purposes;

S. 779, to authorize the acquisition and protection of nationally significant battlefields and associated sites of the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812 under the American Battlefield Protection Program;

S. 849, to establish the Waco Mammoth National Monument in the State of Texas, and for other purposes; and

S. 858, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the suitability and feasibility of designating the Colonel Charles Young Home in Xenia, Ohio as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

In order to maximize time available for Subcommittee Members to ask questions, it would be helpful if you would summarize your written testimony. Your written testimony will be included in its entirety in the Committee's printed hearing record. Please provide the

Subcommittee with an electronic copy as well as 30 printed copies of your written testimony at least 48 hours in advance of the hearing.

If you have any questions, please have your staff contact Sara Tucker at (202) 224-6224, sara_tucker@energy.senate.gov, or Allison Seyferth at (202) 224-4905, allison_seyferth@energy.senate.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Udall". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mark Udall
Chairman
Subcommittee on National Parks

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 15, 2011

The Honorable Ken Salazar
United States Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar,

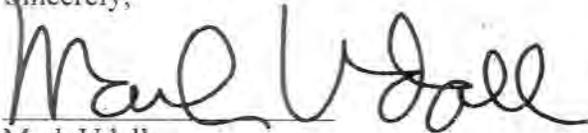
We are writing to encourage you to participate and speak at CLUB 20's Policy Conference. This conference happens once every two years and is going to take place in Washington, D.C., Monday, May 9 – Wednesday, May 11, 2011. **CLUB 20 members are very flexible, and their current draft agenda calls for administration officials to speak Tuesday, May 10 in the morning or Wednesday, May 11 in the afternoon.**

CLUB 20 is a western Colorado organization comprised of local Colorado governments, businesses, associations and tribes. CLUB 20 was formed to provide a united front and voice on issues of great and mutual concern to Western Colorado. CLUB 20 requests your presence because of your proximity and expertise on issues that are currently affecting western Colorado and the western United States.

CLUB 20 is an association that represents interests from a variety of groups within western Colorado, but their insight is a valuable tool that can be applied throughout the West. All while gaining perspective into what is driving CLUB 20, and learning what policies are of importance to your colleagues; as well as the western United States.

We know you are very busy and we thank you for your time. We hope to see you at the CLUB 20 Policy Conference.

Sincerely,



Mark Udall
United States Senator
Colorado



Scott R. Tipton
Member of Congress
Colorado's 3rd District



Michael Bennet
United States Senator
Colorado

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 25, 2011

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20510-0001

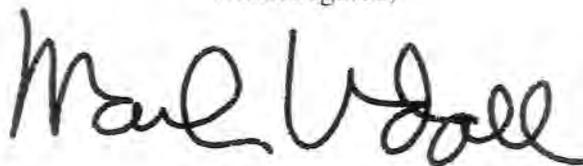
Dear Secretary Salazar,

As we watch the historic events unfold across the Middle East, we are reminded about the fundamental importance of promoting democratic institutions. In America, it is our rich history of civic engagement across generations that has shaped our institutions. Now it is our generation's responsibility to continue the promotion of civic engagement at all levels. For that reason, I am honored to partner with Mesa State College in Grand Junction, Colorado, to organize a nonpartisan conference to offer Coloradans an opportunity to hear from thought-provoking leaders like you.

We would like to invite you to participate in the upcoming 2011 Colorado Capital Conference, to be held at the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C. The conference will start on Wednesday, June 15, and run through Friday, June 17. If your schedule permits, we invite you to address the 100 anticipated attendees by offering remarks for a period of 15 minutes and then participate in a 15-minute question-and-answer session.

Again, it would be an honor if you would consider participating in the 2011 Colorado Capital Conference, June 15-17, at the U.S. Capitol. Please feel free to contact my staff member John Bristol at john_bristol@markudall.senate.gov to confirm your availability or if you have any questions. I look forward to your response, and I thank you in advance for your kind consideration.

Warm regards,



Mark E. Udall
U.S. Senator

December 17, 2010

Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar:

We are writing to follow up on our request of December 19, 2009, concerning the need to objectively answer critical questions about impacts of large scale commercial oil shale development on water, wildlife, communities and local economies. We have once again heard from a diverse group of local constituents in northwest Colorado who continue to seek a comprehensive study of those potential impacts prior to consideration of any commercial oil shale development. Those constituents include local government officials, ranchers, water and wildlife interests and others.

As we noted in our previous request, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) concluded in their September 2008 Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement on oil shale that the agency lacked information to meet the congressional mandate in the Energy Policy Act of 2005 that "development be conducted in an environmentally sound manner using practices that minimize impacts." In addition, on November 29th 2010, the General Accountability Office released a report on the potential impacts to water of oil shale development, finding that oil shale development could have significant impacts on the quantity and quality of water resources and recommending that the Department of the Interior initiate water-related research with DOE and state agencies involved in water regulations.^[1]

While we and our constituents are appreciative of your efforts in the second round of research, development and demonstration (RD&D) leasing to require that information developed on those leases is more accessible and timely, the fact remains that the RD&D program is focused more on technology and processes than on potential impacts on land, water and people. That additional information is critical to responsible planning by local and state governments and federal and state agencies.

As we requested in our 2009 letter, we ask that RD&D be completed and the data analyzed prior to considering offering leases for commercial development. We also continue to believe that information from the RD&D program must be supplemented by an independent evaluation conducted by the National Academy of Science (NAS) that investigates, among other things:

- The status of oil shale extraction technologies;
- The likely positive and negative implications of the various technologies for the production of kerogen from oil shale resources;
- The cumulative energy inputs required to produce oil from shale;

^[1] GAO-11-35.

- The cumulative economic and environmental impacts of commercial-scale oil shale production on energy and water sources and associated energy infrastructure required for the commercial application of various oil shale technologies currently in operation or under development;
- The time frame for viable large-scale commercial oil shale production and events that should serve as a precursor to commercial leasing, such as development of commercially viable and environmentally safe technologies;
- Workforce capacity requirements associated with commercial scale development and the potential impacts of assimilating those workers and their families; and
- Means of ensuring a fair return to the public from the production of oil shale on public land.

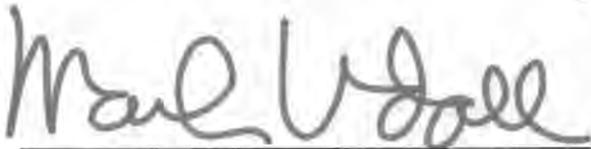
Given the lack of current relevant information, any move toward commercial leasing should occur only in concert with a thorough comprehensive analysis of cumulative impacts that would provide the Department of Interior, other relevant federal and state agencies, and local and state governments the means to make informed planning decisions.

We and our constituents recognize the challenges of funding such a study in the current economic and budgetary climate. Therefore, we ask only that you adopt now a policy requiring this type of analysis be completed prior to implementing any commercial oil shale leasing program. They and we pledge to work with you toward scoping and seeking funding for this independent study by NAS as economic conditions improve.

Only by proceeding slowly and judiciously and with current comprehensive information can we be assured that not just technological questions but the broader issues of water needs and impacts, socio-economic impacts, environmental impacts and other impacts can be planned for and mitigated in a manner that leaves local communities and surrounding lands both healthy and prosperous and diminishes the chances they will be devastated by another boom and bust oil shale cycle.

We look forward to your positive response and to working with you and your department on this important issue.

Sincerely,



Senator Mark Udall



Senator Michael F. Bennet

OFFICE OF THE
CLERK OF THE SENATE

2010 DEC 27 PM 3:28

RECEIVED

496333



United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Washington, D.C. 20240
<http://www.blm.gov>



MAR 24 2011

The Honorable Mark Udall
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Udall:

Thank you for your December 16, 2010, letter to Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar regarding oil shale development in Colorado. Secretary Salazar has asked me to respond to your letter.

I understand your concerns about how large-scale commercial oil shale development might affect water, wildlife, communities, and local economies. Any oil shale development must include careful analysis and consultation with all affected stakeholders.

Your letter discusses the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) 2008 Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) for oil shale. In 2008, the BLM published a Final PEIS and Record of Decision that amended eight land-use plans in Utah, Colorado, and Wyoming to make nearly two million acres of public lands available for potential commercial oil shale development.

The BLM is initiating a process to take a fresh look at the 2008 decisions. The public planning process will allow the BLM to update its assessment of what public lands are best suited for oil shale development. The public will be invited in the planning process to submit their comments and concerns, and final land-use decisions will be made in light of any new information about potential resource needs and impacts, as well as any new technological innovations. The BLM is also initiating a public rulemaking process to consider, among other things, whether plans of development for commercial oil shale leases must include specific watershed and groundwater protection plans, airshed reviews, integrated waste-management plans, or environmental protection-and-mitigation plans.

Meanwhile, the Department and the BLM remain committed to a robust program of research and development. The BLM recently completed its review of three nominations for oil shale Research, Development, and Demonstration (RD&D) leases in Colorado and Utah. An Interdisciplinary Review Team, including representatives of the Governors of Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming, the Department of Energy, and the Colorado School of Mines, recommended that all three nominations be advanced. The BLM's Colorado and Utah offices will conduct National Environmental Policy Act reviews on the nominations, two of which are in Colorado and one of which is in Utah. The analyses may take up to 18 months to complete, and will help chart an informed path for oil shale resources in the West.

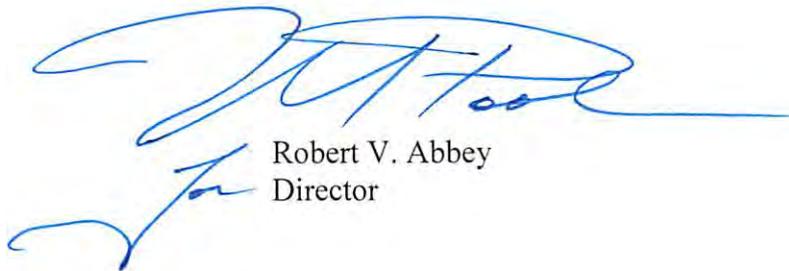
This second round of 10-year leases would help answer fundamental questions about the feasibility of oil shale technologies, their impacts on the environment and local communities, and the use of water — all important issues cited in your letter. This RD&D round contains substantial diligence requirements, including specific timeframes for submitting plans of development, obtaining state and local permits, developing infrastructure, and submitting quarterly reports.

After obtaining sufficient information from the leases, the data will be available for evaluation by independent entities, such as the National Academy of Sciences, to help provide a scientific basis for future decisions on development. I appreciate and will consider your offer to help seek funding for such a study in the future.

Your letter restates your 2009 request that the BLM complete the RD&D process and analyze the data before considering offering leases for commercial development. Before issuing leases on any nominated parcels, the BLM must comply with NEPA to ensure consideration of possible environmental consequences from commercial development, as well as any appropriate mitigation. During the NEPA process, the public would have an opportunity for input. As always, the BLM is committed to working with affected stakeholders, including state and local governments, Tribes, and the public when considering energy issues on public lands.

Thank you for your interest in and support of responsible oil shale development. A similar letter has been sent to Senator Michael Bennet. If you have further questions or concerns, please contact me at 202-208-3801.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. V. Abbey", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Robert V. Abbey
Director

**THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE
REFERRAL**

November 24, 2010

TO: DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

ACTION COMMENTS:

ACTION REQUESTED: APPROPRIATE ACTION

REFERRAL COMMENTS:

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 1043215

MEDIA: EMAIL

DOCUMENT DATE: November 19, 2010

TO: PRESIDENT OBAMA

FROM: THE HONORABLE JOSEPH LIEBERMAN
UNITED STATES SENATE
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

SUBJECT: WRITES TO ASK THE PRESIDENT TO GRANT THE ARCTIC REFUGE THE
STRONGEST POSSIBLE PROTECTIONS IT DESERVES

RECEIVED
2010 DEC -2 AM 9:03
OFFICE OF THE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

495267

COMMENTS:

**PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT,
UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE UNDERSIGNED AT (202) 456-2590.**

**RETURN ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE (OR DRAFT) TO: DOCUMENT TRACKING UNIT,
ROOM 85, OFFICE OF RECORDS MANAGEMENT - THE WHITE HOUSE, 20500
FAX A COPY OF REPNSE TO: (202) 456-5881**

1043215

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

November 19, 2010

The Honorable Barack Obama
President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Dear President Obama:

As we approach the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge on December 6, 2010, we ask that you grant the Arctic Refuge the strongest possible protections. In your commendable decision to declare September 2010 as National Wilderness Month, you recognized our nation's "diverse lands, remarkable wildlife, and untamed beauty." This proclamation is especially timely as we near the Arctic Refuge's 50th anniversary – a significant milestone in our nation's public lands legacy. The majestic Arctic Refuge is an American icon. Recent polling shows that two thirds of Americans support stronger protections for the Refuge. In this historic year, we ask that you grant the Arctic Refuge the strong protections it deserves.

The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is truly one of America's greatest wild places. Its Coastal Plain hosts an amazing diversity of wildlife including polar bears, grizzly bears, muskoxen, wolverines, and over a hundred thousand caribou. This "biological heart" of the Refuge is connected to the entire country, as well as to countries all around the world. Every year, birds that begin their lives on the Coastal Plain migrate to all 50 states and across six continents, before heading back to the Arctic, where the cycle of life begins again.

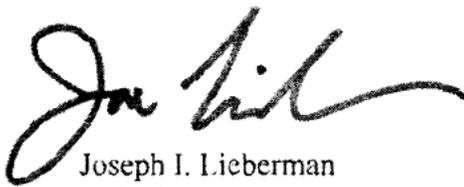
The people of the Gwich'in Nation call this area "the Sacred Place where life begins" because it is vital to their subsistence lifestyle. They, together with other Alaska Native tribes and Canadian First Nation people, depend on the caribou for food and as a link to their traditional way of life. Many Inupiat people across the North Slope have voiced opposition to oil drilling in the Refuge because they are increasingly feeling the cumulative effects of oil and gas development in the North Slope of Alaska on their subsistence resources and way of life.

On December 6, 1960, during the Eisenhower administration, Interior Secretary Fred Seaton signed the public land order establishing the 8.9-million-acre Arctic National Wildlife Range. In a visionary public statement, Secretary Seaton said "Looking ahead 50 years to the unfolding story of Alaska's development, it is clear that the only economically feasible opportunity for maintaining a wilderness frontier large enough for the preservation of the caribou, the grizzly, the Dall sheep, the wolverine, and the polar bear, all of which require a sizeable unrestricted range, lies in this northeastern Arctic region of the State." Since that time,

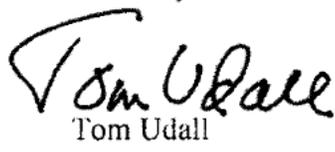
over 100 million Arctic acres outside of the Refuge – almost the entirety of Alaska’s North Slope – have been slated for oil and gas development. Now is the time to find balance in managing our public lands.

Again, we thank you for your efforts to honor the American legacy of preserving our wild public lands for future generations. As you continue important efforts across the country through the America’s Great Outdoors Initiative, we urge you to also take steps to provide additional protections to the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. On the historic 50th anniversary of the creation of the Arctic Refuge, now is the time to grant the Refuge the strong, long-term protections it deserves so that we can pass this unspoiled American treasure to our children and grandchildren.

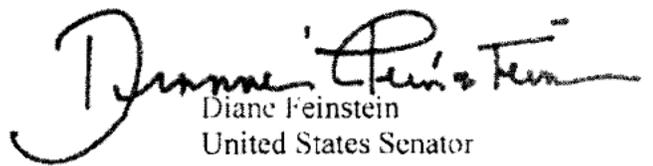
Sincerely,



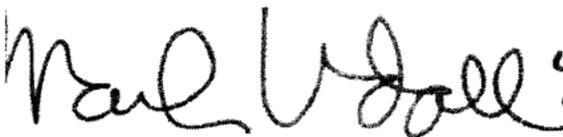
Joseph I. Lieberman
United States Senator



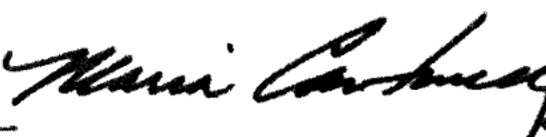
Tom Udall
United States Senator



Diane Feinstein
United States Senator



Mark Udall
United States Senator



Maria Cantwell
United States Senator



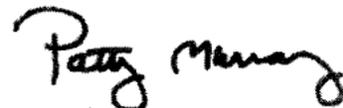
Ron Wyden
United States Senator



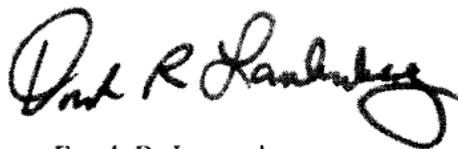
Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator



Tom Harkin
United States Senator



Patty Murray
United States Senator



Frank R. Lautenberg
United States Senator



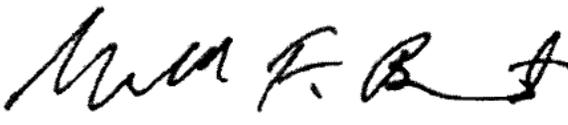
Russell D. Feingold
United States Senator



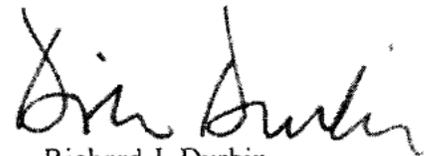
Jeff Merkley
United States Senator



Benjamin L. Cardin
United States Senator



Michael F. Bennet
United States Senator



Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator

Christopher J. Dodd
United States Senator

Jack Reed
United States Senator

Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senator

Barbara Boxer
United States Senator

Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator

Al Franken
United States Senator

Thomas R. Carper
United States Senator

Debbie Stabenow
United States Senator

Robert Menendez
United States Senator

John F. Kerry
United States Senator

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

August 19, 2010

The Honorable Tom Vilsack
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20250

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C. Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretaries Vilsack and Salazar:

Already this year, fires have cost millions of dollars, charred thousands of acres, and resulted in the evacuation of thousands of residents of New Mexico, Arizona, and Colorado. In the arid west, catastrophic fires are an inevitability in our ecologically degraded and overstocked forests. There is broad consensus that active restoration on a landscape scale is urgently needed. By using science-based restoration strategies, the challenge of annual wildfire devastation can be met head on. We believe that the Southwest Forest Restoration Institutes are fundamental to establishing science-based restoration strategies across the Intermountain West. We urge you to include adequate funding for the institutes in the President's Budget for Fiscal Year 2012 (FY12.)

In 2004 The Southwest Forest Restoration Institutes (SWERI) were established by a bipartisan Act of Congress (PL 108-317) to help provide the biophysical and socio-economic science needed to overcome the barriers to restoration. The three institutes that form SWERI, the New Mexico Forest and Watershed Restoration Institute (NMFWR) at New Mexico Highlands University, the Colorado Forest Restoration Institute (CFRI) at Colorado State University and, the Ecological Restoration Institute (ERI) at Northern Arizona University, provide a unique program of work that bridges the gap between academic knowledge and applied on-the-ground action. The institutes work in concert with the major initiatives of this administration by advancing restoration at multiple scales on all lands by using collaboration, best available science, and adaptive management. The institutes' work also aligns with Congressional priorities by actively supporting the implementation of the Healthy Forest Restoration Act, the Forest Landscape Restoration Act and efforts that will reduce fire suppression costs.

The Southwest Forest Health and Wildfire Prevention Act authorizes up to \$15 million per year for the three Institutes. Each year the Institutes work cooperatively with federal agencies and with stakeholders involved in forest restoration and wildland fire management to identify a relevant program of work. The program is reviewed by the leadership of the appropriate federal and state agencies to guarantee that their decision support needs are met. Based on five years of experience of assembling institute work plans, we request that you include \$5 million for the work of the three institutes in the President's Budget for FY12.

A Congressionally mandated 5 Year Review of the Institutes was completed in 2009 by the Meridian Institute and US Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution. It concluded that not only did the Institutes warrant continued federal assistance, but that there was no other

existing entity with the capacity or mandate to provide the support needed for landscape-scale restoration.

The Institutes fill a crucial role in our efforts to restore forests, protect watersheds, avoid unwanted wildfires and improve the economic vitality of rural communities. We appreciate your support of forest restoration in the Southwest and urge you to fund the Southwest Forest Health and Wildfire Prevention Act in the Administration's forthcoming budget request for Fiscal Year 2012.

Sincerely,



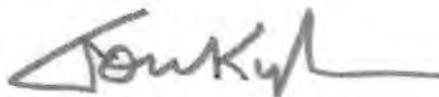
Tom Udall
United States Senator



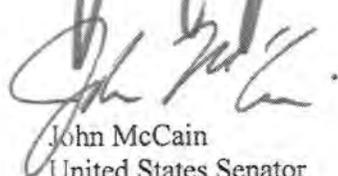
Michael F. Bennet
United States Senator



Jeff Bingaman
United States Senator



Jon Kyl
United States Senator



John McCain
United States Senator



Mark Udall
United States Senator

2010 SEP -7 PM 4:21

491720



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

OCT 27 2010

The Honorable Mark Udall
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Udall:

Thank you for your letter of August 19, 2010, urging the Department of the Interior to support forest restoration in the Southwest and to provide funds for the Southwest Forest Health and Wildfire Prevention Act in FY 2012. Similar responses are being sent to the cosigners of your letter, Senators Michael Bennet, Jon Kyl, Tom Udall, Jeff Bingaman, and John McCain.

The President's FY 2012 budget is currently under development and no specific information is available regarding any dedicated funding at this time. However, I believe the three Southwest Forest Restoration Institutes have made valuable contributions to the design and implementation of restoration-based fuels treatments. In fact, as a result of the work of the Institutes, it is now generally recognized by those with fire management responsibilities that there is a need for a new way of thinking about wildland fire.

To that end, and with the opportunity presented by the passage of the Federal Land Assistance, Management and Enhancement Act of 2009 (the FLAME Act), the Secretary of Agriculture and I are leading an intergovernmental committee of Federal, state, tribal, county, and municipal government officials to develop a new national cohesive wildfire management strategy. During the next few years, regional committees will be working to develop appropriate strategies and science-based risk assessments to address how best to restore and maintain resilient landscapes, promote fire-adapted communities, and respond to wildland fires. The three Southwest Forest Restoration Institutes will certainly be important contributors to those efforts in the West.

The Department will continue to rely on the best available science to guide its planning, and support the inter-departmental Joint Fire Science Program (JFSP) with Board investments in science and science delivery projects from an interagency perspective. The JFSP has invested heavily in research evaluating fuel treatment effectiveness and is currently investing in fuel treatment guides for managers, lifecycle fuel treatment regimes, insect and wind effects on fuel profiles, and climate change impacts on fuel treatment. The Program is also focused on smoke emissions from wildfires and prescribed fires and is invested in science addressing regional haze and low-level smoke dispersion. These activities are consistent with those of the three Southwest Forest Restoration Institutes as well, and they are well suited to take full advantage of the grants provided by the JFSP.

Finally, the Southwest Forest Health and Wildfire Prevention Act was subsequently amended by the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (P.L. 111-11). The P.L.111-11 established the "Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Fund" under the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture. Under the authorities provided by this Act, funds may be used "to pay up to 50 percent of the cost of carrying out and monitoring ecological restoration treatments on National Forest System land for each proposal to be carried out under subsection (d)."

Subsection (d) requires the Secretary of Agriculture to consult in the project selection with both an advisory panel and the Secretary of the Interior. The Department has a long-standing history of collaboration with partners to apply the best available science to hazardous fuels reduction treatments, and as directed within the amended legislation, we will consult with the Department of Agriculture in the project selection process to select and fund ecological restoration treatments for priority landscapes. The efforts of the Ecological Restoration Institute, the Colorado Forest Restoration Institute, and the New Mexico Forest and Watershed Restoration Institute are important contributors to the knowledge needed to help agencies restore critical ecosystem functions, and the Department will continue to support these collaborative efforts.

I sincerely appreciate your continued interest in the Department's fire programs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Salazar". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. Below the signature, the name "Ken Salazar" is printed in a simple, sans-serif font.

Ken Salazar

MARK UDALL
COLORADO

489157
SUITE SH-317
SENATE HART OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510
13021 234-9941

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510
July 7, 2010

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary of the Interior
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C., 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar,

I know we share the same goal of working together to avoid another environmental or economic disaster of the type we currently are experiencing in the Gulf of Mexico as a result of the Deepwater Horizon accident. However, an Associated Press report published today alleges troubling facts regarding further dangers posed by abandoned offshore oil and gas wells in the Gulf of Mexico. This report is of great concern to me, as I'm sure it is to you.

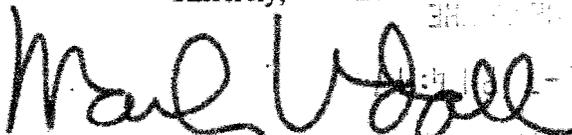
According to today's report, more than 27,000 wells in the Gulf of Mexico are no longer producing and have been closed or abandoned. Many of these wells were first drilled in the 1940s and 1950s. I am concerned that one or more of these wells could pose additional environmental and economic stresses in the already damaged Gulf ecosystem. Prior studies by the Government Accountability Office, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Minerals Management Service appear to give credence to these concerns.

In light of this information, I wish to raise some questions:

- Does the Department of the Interior agree with the central facts or conclusions drawn by these reports? If so, which of these abandoned/closed wells are in federal waters, and does the Department think they are a source of environmental threat?
- What statutory or regulatory obligation does the Department have to inspect or ensure proper closure of wells after production has ceased? Are there differences between onshore and offshore requirements for abandoned or orphaned wells?
- Congress may not have given the Department the full set of tools or resources to properly understand or respond to these concerns. What additional tools or resources does the Department need from Congress to ensure that it can meet its obligations and that any unnecessary environmental or economic risks are addressed?

While these reports are worrisome, obviously your attention must be completely focused on stopping the BP oil spill in the Gulf. I will continue to support your efforts. Once the spill is stopped and any urgent environmental remediation is completed, however, I would urge your Department to quickly work to address any of the valid issues posed by abandoned wells in the Gulf.

Sincerely,



Mark Udall
United States Senator

MEU/wa

RECEIVED
2010 JUL 7 11:17
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

489158

Howarth, Robert

From: Iudicello, Fay
Sent: Wednesday, July 07, 2010 3:52 PM
To: Howarth, Robert
Cc: Long, Susan
Subject: FW: Udall letter on inspection of offshore abandoned wells
Attachments: MEU to Sec. Salazar_offshore abandoned wells_7.7.10.pdf

Pls date stamp, enter into system, and task. Thanx

Fay S. Iudicello
Director, Office of the Executive
Secretariat and Regulatory Affairs
1849 "C" Street NW MS-7328
Washington, DC 20240-0001
(202) 208-3181 office
(202) 219-2100 fax
(202) 251-0135 cell

From: Urban, Heather
Sent: Wednesday, July 07, 2010 1:55 PM
To: Iudicello, Fay; Mansour, Christopher
Subject: FW: Udall letter on inspection of offshore abandoned wells

From: Adams, Wendy (Mark Udall) [mailto:Wendy_Adams@MarkUdall.senate.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, July 07, 2010 1:49 PM
To: Urban, Heather
Subject: FW: Udall letter on inspection of offshore abandoned wells

Hi Heather –

Here's the letter that I mentioned in my voicemail.

Thanks – Wendy

From: Adams, Wendy (Mark Udall)
Sent: Wednesday, July 07, 2010 1:49 PM
To: 'Kenneth_lane@ios.doi.gov'
Cc: Sozan, Michael (Mark Udall)
Subject: Udall letter on inspection of offshore abandoned wells

Hi Ken –

Attached is the letter from the Senator that Mike mentioned to you earlier today.

Thank you – Wendy

Wendy Adams

Legislative Assistant
Senator Mark Udall
317 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-5941
<http://markudall.senate.gov>

Follow Mark Udall on Facebook | YouTube | Twitter
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United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT, REGULATION, AND ENFORCEMENT

Washington, DC 20240

OCT 25 2010

The Honorable Mark Udall
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Udall:

Thank you for your letter dated July 7, 2010, to Interior Secretary Salazar, regarding abandoned wells in Federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico. Specifically, regarding an Associated Press (AP) report that alleges that as many as 27,000 wells in the Gulf of Mexico that have been closed or abandoned pose further dangers. As the Director for the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement (BOEMRE), I have been asked to respond on his behalf.

You raised questions regarding four issues: 1) whether the Department of the Interior agrees with the facts and conclusions drawn by the July 7, 2010, AP report referred to in your letter and the GAO and BOEMRE reports AP referenced; 2) whether the Department believes that the abandoned wells are an environmental threat; 3) what are the regulations that govern abandoned wells offshore, as well as onshore; and 4) what additional tools or resources the Department may need to make certain we continue to meet our regulatory obligations and ensure that unnecessary environmental and economic risks are addressed. I have enclosed further clarification on decommissioning regulations (enclosure 1) and specific answers to the questions you raised (enclosure 2).

I also believe it important to clarify some of the issues that were reported by the AP. Decommissioning regulations require all wells on a lease to be permanently plugged and abandoned within 1 year after the lease terminates, not within 1 year after the well is temporarily abandoned. BOEMRE allows the temporary abandonment of wells when it is necessary for proper development or production from a lease. However, if BOEMRE determines that a temporarily abandoned well no longer fits the criteria for which temporary abandonment status was approved or the well poses a hazard to safety or the environment, then the well must be promptly and permanently plugged and abandoned. We announced on September 15, 2010, a new Notice to Lessees that clarifies the rules for dealing with those wells and structures that are in a need of decommissioning.

Thank you again for writing to express your views on this important issue. If you have further questions, please contact me at (202) 208-3500 or Ms. Lyn Herdt, Chief, BOEMRE, Office of Congressional Affairs, at (202) 208-3502.

Sincerely,

Michael R. Bromwich
Director

18741
~~18741~~

COMPLETED

Enclosures 2

Further Clarification on Outer Continental Shelf Regulations

First, decommissioning regulations at 30 CFR 250.1710 require all wells on a lease to be permanently plugged and abandoned within 1 year after the lease terminates, not within 1 year after the well is temporarily abandoned. The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement (BOEMRE) allows the temporary abandonment of wells when it is necessary for proper development and production from a lease (30 CFR 250.1721 – .1723). For example, on an operating production platform it is generally not advisable to require companies to cut the well 15 feet below the mudline due to the close proximity of producing wells. However, if BOEMRE determines that a temporarily abandoned well no longer fits the criteria for which temporary abandonment status was approved or the well poses a hazard to safety or the environment, then the well must be promptly and permanently plugged and abandoned.

Second, regulations require that temporarily abandoned wells, that the operator does not plan to re-enter, adhere to the exact same standards as permanently abandoned wells with the following limited exceptions:

- A temporarily abandoned well is not required to sever the casing to 15 feet below the mudline;
- A temporarily abandoned well is not required to remove the wellhead;
- A temporarily abandoned well is not required to clear the site of debris; and
- A temporarily abandoned well can have a Bridge Plug or 100' cement plug up to 1000' BML (below mud-line) instead of a 150' cement plug within 150' of the mudline.

Responses to Specific Questions:

Does the Department of the Interior agree with the central facts or conclusions drawn by these reports?

Response:

The AP story correctly reported that there were over 27,000 abandoned wells in the Federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico. BOEMRE's statistics show that there are 23,592 permanently abandoned wells in the Gulf, as well as 3,701 wells that are in temporary abandonment status. However, the report infers that many of the temporarily abandoned wells have been "orphaned;" that is, the operator has walked away from their permanent abandonment obligations. On the OCS, "abandoned" means that a company has conducted abandonment operations on a well pursuant to BOEMRE regulations, and it is incorrect to infer that these are "orphan" wells. I want to assure you that if a lessee goes bankrupt and there is no other financially viable co-lessee, then the regulations allow us to call for the forfeiture of the financial assurance provided to BOEMRE in the form of corporate surety bonds, US Treasury Securities, or other acceptable types of securities. Additionally, former lessee(s) are joint and severally liable for the decommissioning obligations for all obligations accrued as of the time of the assignment to the current lessee. So BOEMRE will call upon any one or all of the former co-lessees to fulfill these obligations and use bond money, if necessary.

If so, which of these abandoned/closed wells are in Federal waters, and does the Department think they are a source of environmental threat?

Response:

All of the temporary and permanently abandoned wells described above are in Federal waters. The Federal regulations for well abandonment are found at 30 CFR 250.1710 through 250.1723 and are based on standard engineering practice. With limited exceptions, temporarily abandoned wells, that the operator does not plan to re-enter, must adhere to the same standards as permanently plugged and abandoned wells, including the setting of all cement plugs to ensure isolation of hydrocarbon and sulphur zones, protection of freshwater aquifers, and prevention of formation fluids within the wellbore migrating to the seafloor. As a result of a recent internal control review, BOEMRE is developing further guidance for OCS lessees that clarifies the limits on the length of time temporarily abandoned wells can remain in that status. In general, the guidance will clarify that if a well(s) is no longer useful for operations associated with the exploration for or the development of oil, gas, sulphur, or other mineral resources, and there are no plans to resume operations, or the well(s) is not used as infrastructure to support operations, then the well(s) must be permanently plugged and abandoned within a prescribed timeframe.

In the few cases where leaks from abandoned wells were detected in the Gulf of Mexico, they were small and the responsible operator performed remedial work to stop the leak.

What statutory or regulatory obligation does the Department have to inspect or ensure proper closure of wells after production has ceased?

Response:

When production or other lease holding operations as described in 30 CFR 250.180(a)(2) cease on a lease that is not in its primary term, within the last 180 days of its primary term, or for more than 180 days and a suspension of production has not been granted or directed by BOEMRE, then the lease terminates and all well(s) on that lease must be permanently plugged and abandoned within 1 year (see 30 CFR 250.1710). Regulations describing the requirements for permanently plugging and abandoning a well(s) are found at 30 CFR 250.1710 through 250.1717.

There is no regulatory requirement for the companies or BOEMRE to inspect the permanently abandoned wells. However, prior to permanently plugging a well or zone, the lessee must submit form MMS-124, Application for Permit to Modify, to the appropriate BOEMRE District Manager for approval (30 CFR 250.1712). This information is required to ensure the lessee follows the procedures necessary for proper closure of the well. Within 30 days after the lessee permanently plugs the well, the lessee is required to submit a subsequent report on form MMS-124 that describes the final well schematic for the plugging and abandonment requirements listed in 30 CFR 250.1712, as well as a description of the final plugging and abandonment work, materials used, and, if casing is removed, describe the size, amount, and casing removal depth (30 CFR 250.1717). BOEMRE carefully reviews and compares the approved permit plan to the weekly report to confirm that the permanent plugging and abandonment work is consistent with its regulations. If oil sheen is found in the Federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico, BOEMRE follows its standard procedures to determine its source, including but not limited to physical inspection of the wells located in the oil sheen area.

Are there differences between onshore and offshore requirements for abandoned or orphaned wells?

Response:

The Bureau of Land Management details onshore abandonment responsibilities through their Onshore Order #2. Although there are minor differences between BOEMRE offshore regulations and the BLM Order, there are no significant differences for abandonment of offshore or onshore wells.

A cursory review of well abandonment requirements for the states of Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama reveals that:

The State of Texas has abandonment requirements that are basically the same as the Federal requirements. The major differences between other Gulf states and the Federal requirements are the length of the surface plug that is required. In Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama, surface plug requirements are 30 feet, 25 feet, and 25 feet, respectively, whereas Federal offshore requirements require a 150 foot long surface plug.

Congress may not have given the Department the full set of tools or resources to properly understand or respond to these concerns. What additional tools or resources does the department need from Congress to ensure that it can meet its obligations and that any unnecessary environmental or economic risks are addressed?

Response:

The Department believes that as BOEMRE increases its level of scrutiny following the Deepwater Horizon incident that it will need more personnel to review permits, inspect operations, and to conduct environmental reviews. BOEMRE is currently developing requirements for those resource needs and will make its request know to Congress, if any, for assistance.



JUL 22 2010



The Honorable Mark Udall
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Udall:

Thank you for your letter of June 29, 2010, regarding the threat wildland fires pose to Colorado and other Western states. While the \$30 million you reference in your letter and many of the related questions are specifically tied to funds managed by the U.S. Forest Service, not the Department of the Interior, we are pleased to respond to the important issues you have raised.

The Department shares your concern for the condition of Colorado's forests. Since approximately 2002, and particularly since 2007, a severe infestation of mountain pine beetle has affected primarily lodgepole pine on Colorado's western slope including east of the divide within Larimer and Boulder Counties. As many as 16 species of bark beetles are presently killing lodgepole pine, ponderosa pine, limber pine, Engelmann spruce, subalpine fir, Douglas-fir, and Colorado blue spruce. Drought conditions, mild winters, dwarf mistletoe infestations, dense and mature late-seral forests, and a lack of wildland fires to maintain healthy ecosystems have contributed to the outbreak.

The Colorado Bark Beetle Cooperative (CBBC) was established in 2005 with the charge of developing a comprehensive program to address ongoing and projected forest mortality and impacts from Mountain Pine Beetle. Cooperators include the Bureau of Land Management, the National Park Service, the U.S. Forest Service, Northwest Colorado Council of Governments, Eagle, Grand, Jackson, Routt, and Summit Counties, local communities, conservation districts, and private landowners. The CBBC completed *The Northern Colorado Bark Beetle Cooperative Strategy for Action* in 2006. This included an action plan with both short- and long-term phases. The CBBC includes a steering team and implementation team.

As an outcome of working cooperatively, the BLM's Kremmling Field Office and the Jackson County Board of County Commissioners initiated a 10-year stewardship agreement. The agreement is designed to mitigate the impacts of the MPB on BLM, county, and private lands in and around the North Park area of Jackson County. The agreement manages natural resources across boundaries and includes a special focus on fuels reduction. A second component assists local wildland urban interface communities to minimize the threat of wildland fire through prevention and reduction of hazardous fuels.

Since 2006, the BLM has treated over 1,000 acres of beetle impacted land in Jackson, Grand, Lake and Chaffee Counties. Treatments have included timber sales, post and pole and firewood sales, prescribed burning, mechanical fuel treatments, and commercial thinning sales. Treatments are funded through a combination of Federal and County monies, in the case of the

stewardship agreement and Federal (BLM) forest management and hazardous fuel reduction funds.

The fiscal 2010 year includes over 400 acres of planned timber sales, 350 acres of prescribed fire treatments, and 30 acres of mechanical hazardous fuel treatments, all within Jackson and Grand Counties. Approximately 100 acres of BLM beetle impacted land in Chaffee and Lake Counties will undergo hazardous fuel treatments this fiscal year.

The BLM continues to work collaboratively with partners and landowners to reduce the impact of the pine beetle epidemic. Restoring this fire adapted ecosystem to improve wildlife habitat, local economic viability, and recreation, and to protect watersheds are the goals of the BLM. The BLM treatments are funded with both hazardous fuels reduction and forest management funds. With regard to your question concerning the \$30 million appropriation for this type of work, none was allocated to the BLM.

The MPB infestation has also impacted nearly 50 percent of the forested areas within Rocky Mountain National Park. Beginning in 2005, Rocky Mountain National Park has implemented an adaptive, proactive bark beetle management program. The Park is focusing its management on mitigating hazard trees to protect life and property. Fuels treatments have continued to mitigate fire risk that is associated with heavy fuel loading due to the collapse of insect-killed trees and fuel buildup due to fire suppression. However, approximately 95 percent of the Park's 265,800 acres are considered backcountry and in these areas bark beetle populations are allowed to fluctuate under natural processes. Appropriate strategies are taken to mitigate the risk from specific hazard trees at designated backcountry campsites, including warning visitors about the risks associated with cutting down trees near certain designated backcountry campsites, and expanding the zone of dispersed camping to minimize the threat of falling trees or branches.

For the last 2 years, hazard tree mitigation efforts have dramatically increased and thousands of hazard trees have been cut down, removed, or burned on-site. In 2009, some notable large hazard tree mitigation projects were completed at Timber Creek Campground and Glacier Basin Campground. Up to 20 persons and three contractors have been employed within the last year to address hazard tree reduction.

Projections suggest the Park may need to remove more than 1,000,000 hazard trees in the next 5 or more years, with total costs for mitigation and restoration estimated to be as much as \$7,000,000 over the same period. Of the \$30 million appropriation you reference, no funding was allocated to the National Park Service.

In 2010, the NPS plans to address more than 30 hazard mitigation projects (\$1.8 million), including mitigation of hazard trees along approximately 12 miles of roads in the Park, beginning at the Grand Lake Entrance on US Highway 34. The funding for the road contract is from American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds (\$489,675.18); the balance of the funding currently comes from an approved Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act project.

Other management efforts are directed at the mitigation of wildland fire risk. Approximately \$427,699 in hazardous fuels reduction funds were allocated in FY 2010, with another \$450,000

requested in FY 2011 for use in Rocky Mountain National Park, Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve, and Florissant Fossil Beds National Park.

You asked about the sufficiency of financial resources currently available for the 2010 wildland fire season and mitigation of hazardous fuels. The Department feels Wildland Fire Management funds for FY 2010 are sufficient to meet our needs.

The FY 2010 budget for the discretionary Department-wide Wildland Fire Management program is \$856 million, and reinforces the Administration's forward-looking commitment to provide solutions to problems; enhancing collaboration, improving fire prevention and suppression, reducing hazardous fuels, restoring fire-adapted ecosystems, promoting community assistance, and funding the 10-year average cost for wildfire suppression.

Readiness resources are currently deployed in advance of fire emergencies based on analysis of historic needs and those forecast for the coming fire season to ensure DOI bureaus' readiness to respond when fires occur. Program resources include local requirements, plus national shared resources such as hotshot crews that are available for fires on Federal lands regardless of ownership. Economically efficient fire management requires that the bureaus pool their resources to provide these nationally shared resources, which are collectively identified in the readiness process. Such resources include airtankers and retardant bases, lead planes, hotshot crews, smokejumpers, large transport planes, and fire weather technical support.

Fire severity funding, to provide additional preparedness in above normal or extreme conditions, is included in suppression operations. Severity funding is used to improve initial response capabilities when extreme fire conditions occur to temporarily increase firefighting staff, pay for personnel and equipment, pre-position suppression forces, conduct additional aerial reconnaissance, and acquire other supplemental contract services. Extreme fire conditions tend to arise when fire seasons start earlier than normal, last longer than normal, or exceed average high fire danger ratings for prolonged periods.

The Department's FY 2010 budget for the Hazardous Fuels Reduction program is \$206,206,000, a net increase of \$3,153,000 from the enacted FY 2009 level. The Hazardous Fuels Reduction program reduces the impact of wildland fires that negatively impact people, communities, and natural and cultural resources. The National Fire Plan established an expanded, intensive, long-term program of hazardous fuels reduction on Federal and adjacent lands to respond to the risks posed by changes in fuel and vegetation conditions and altered fire regimes that have occurred over the past several decades. This program emphasizes cooperation and collaboration among Federal agencies, state, local, and tribal governments, and other stakeholders to enhance the ability to manage fire in the wildland urban interface, where costs and losses can be greatest.

With respect to your interest in the FLAME Act, the FLAME funds help address the challenge of budgeting for fire suppression. By serving as a transfer account to fund those large fires that have resulted in the greatest expenditure of funds, DOI and the U.S. Forest Service will have more transparent means to account for these incidents. Coupled with program reforms such as strategic and operational protocols and improved oversight, the Department can continue development of a risk management framework that ensures fire management resources are

appropriately focused. The amount of funds placed in the FLAME account is based on an analysis of the 5-year average of suppression expenditures on large and costly wildfires (at least 300 acres in size). Consistent with the FLAME Act, the regular suppression account will fund initial attack and predictable firefighting costs, while the FLAME fund will cover the costs of large catastrophic fires and also serve as a reserve when funds available in the regular suppression account are exhausted. Together, the FLAME and the regular suppression accounts fully fund the 10-year suppression average.

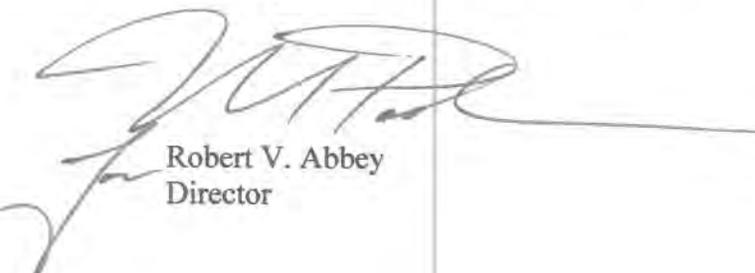
FLAME funds are then available to the Secretary of the Interior to be transferred into the suppression account when those funds are nearly exhausted, or when certain objective criteria are met, such as when Type 1 or Type 2 Incident Management Teams are assigned to an escaped fire.

Much of what the Department can do to prepare for the western fire season and ignitions on federally managed lands has already been accomplished. Work must now focus on helping local jurisdictions and individuals mitigate the danger of wildland fire to local communities and private lands. To that end, the Department of the Interior actively supports the National Wildfire Coordinating Group's Wildland Urban Interface Mitigation Committee and its activities to promoting fire-adapted wildland urban interface communities by supporting the concept of community responsibility and risk reduction practices.

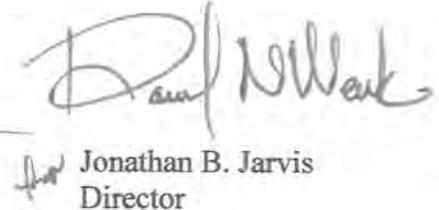
Similarly, both the Department and the Department of Agriculture are supporting the National Firewise Program. The program educates homeowners about how to protect their property by taking individual responsibility to create defensible space around their home, which is the most beneficial effort property owners can take. There are now Firewise Communities in nearly every state.

Again, thank you for your attention to this critical issue.

Sincerely,



Robert V. Abbey
Director



Jonathan B. Jarvis
Director

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 29, 2010

Mr. Jon Jarvis
Director, National Park
Service
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240

Mr. Bob Abbey
Director, U.S. Bureau of Land
Management
1849 C Street, NW, Room 5665
Washington, DC 20240

Mr. Tom Tidwell
Chief, U.S. Forest Service
1400 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, D.C., 20250

Dear Sirs:

As you know, a number of fires are currently burning throughout Colorado. Fire crews are working diligently to contain them, and I applaud their efforts.

These fires may foretell a serious wildfire season not only in Colorado, but throughout the Western states. Hot and dry conditions coupled with large swaths of dead and dying trees from insect epidemics have created conditions whereby we may see an increasing number of intense wildfires.

I want to express my appreciation to the Administration for allocating \$30 million this year to forests in Colorado and Wyoming to help mitigate the threats of wildfire and to protect public health and safety from the bark beetle-killed trees. While I understand there is limited funding to address fire threats, I remain concerned that these funds may not be sufficient to address the extent of the problem facing communities adjacent to and within forested areas.

Many of our mountain communities have expressed concern about the removal of these dead trees and are asking for a timeline of the tree removal that will help protect their communities and create jobs during a time when many Coloradans are unemployed. In that regard, I am writing to get an evaluation of the fire conditions and the Administration's capabilities to respond.

Specifically, I would like an assessment of the following issues:

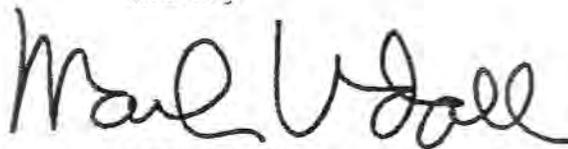
- Where has the Administration already spent, or is planning to spend, the existing funding for addressing wildfire threats and hazard tree removal? How many local loggers, businesses and other Coloradans have been employed to remove these trees? I understand that the focus of the \$30 million may be to remove hazard trees, but are any of these funds also being used for fuels treatment, the removal of the dense vegetation that

has built up and can feed intense wildfires? Again, if so, I would be interested in knowing where those projects may be located.

- I understand resources are limited, while the scope of the fuels treatment needs and the mitigation efforts are enormous. Nevertheless, I would be interested in knowing if the financial resources currently available to the Administration are sufficient to address the wildfire threats and hazard tree removal needs for this summer fire season. If the funding is insufficient, how much money would be adequate?
- With regard to fire suppression, I hope that the recent passage of the FLAME Act will help augment the fire suppression accounts. But if there are looming concerns about fire suppression funding, I would be interested in knowing of those concerns as well.
- What actions can or should be taken to help reduce the wildfire threat this season?
- What, if anything, can the Congress do to help in addition to securing additional funding?

Please know that I stand ready to do what I can to assist all public land agencies to address the insect epidemic, reduce wildfire threats and otherwise improve the health of our forests. Again, I appreciate all the hard work of your agencies and the firefighters who have been deployed to keep our communities safe from fires and other threats. Thank you also for your prompt attention and response.

Sincerely,



Mark E. Udall
United States Senator

MEU/dy

BLM-WASHINGTON OFFICE
2010 JUL -6 PM 12:25
A E U D A L L

Richardson, Carrie

From: Edwards, Tarsha
Sent: Thursday, July 22, 2010 9:33 AM
To: Richardson, Carrie
Cc: Quintana, Arthur
Subject: FW: Mark Udall wild fire letter

Carrie,

This is the message that Kim sent me last night.

From: Thorsen, Kimberly A
Sent: Wednesday, July 21, 2010 6:49 PM
To: Edwards, Tarsha
Cc: Quintana, Arthur; Iudicello, Fay
Subject: Fw: Mark Udall wild fire letter

Please get this to Carrie ASAP in the morning and let her know the letter has to go out tomorrow. Please confirm with me when it gets done. Thx!
Kim Thorsen

From: Lane, Kenneth
To: Thorsen, Kimberly A
Sent: Wed Jul 21 18:38:09 2010
Subject: Fw: Mark Udall wild fire letter

I must have ESP! We need to finalize surname tomorrow.

*Saloth 7/22
Laura Lewison 7/22*

From: Lane, Kenneth
To: 'Michael_Sozan@MarkUdall.senate.gov' <Michael_Sozan@MarkUdall.senate.gov>
Cc: Davis, Laura; Foster, Maureen
Sent: Wed Jul 21 18:34:27 2010
Subject: Re: Mark Udall wild fire letter

Hi Mike, the response is in the works. I checked on it just this afternoon.

From: Sozan, Michael (Mark Udall) <Michael_Sozan@MarkUdall.senate.gov>
Cc: Lane, Kenneth; Davis, Laura; Foster, Maureen
Sent: Wed Jul 21 18:31:14 2010
Subject: Mark Udall wild fire letter

Hi everyone:

I hope you're doing well. I know how hard you guys are working on everything.

Attached is a letter that Mark sent to NPR and BLM (in addition to the Forest Service) on June 29, regarding the urgent bark beetle/forest fire situation in CO and the west. Thus far, we haven't heard a response. As you know, this is a top public safety concern of Mark's right now. He is doing two beetle events this weekend, with press, and will be asked why he hasn't received a response to this

letter. We will need a convincing answer, especially as the mountain communities care deeply about this issue.

Can you let me know when we should expect a formal response? More importantly, can we get an informal preliminary response if the formal response requires more weeks of coordination?

Thanks a lot.
Mike

Michael L. Sozan | Chief of Staff | U.S. Sen. Mark Udall (CO) | 202-224-5941 | markudall.senate.gov

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DEBBIE STABENOW, Michigan
MARK UDALL, Colorado
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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6150

ENERGY.SENATE.GOV

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SAM E. FOWLER, CHIEF COUNSEL
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KAREN K. BILLUPS, REPUBLICAN CHIEF COUNSEL

June 2, 2010

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar:

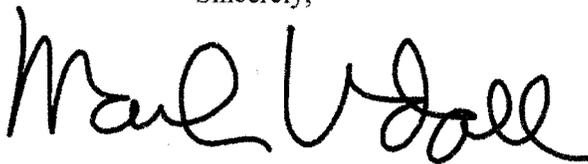
On behalf of the Subcommittee on National Parks of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, I would like to invite you or your designee to testify at the Subcommittee's hearing on Thursday, June 17th, at 10:00 a.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to examine the future of the National Park System and to consider the recommendations of the National Parks Second Century Commission in its report "Advancing the National Park Idea."

In order to maximize time available for Subcommittee Members to ask questions, it would be helpful if you would summarize your written testimony. Your written testimony will be included in its entirety in the Committee's printed hearing record. Please provide the Subcommittee with an electronic copy as well as 30 printed copies of your written testimony at least 48 hours in advance of the hearing.

If you have any questions, please have your staff contact David Brooks at (202) 224-9863, david_brooks@energy.senate.gov, or Allison Seyferth at (202) 224-4905, allison_seyferth@energy.senate.gov.

Sincerely,



Mark Udall
Chairman
Subcommittee on National Parks

RECEIVED
2010 JUN 22 AM 11:25

2010 JUN 22 AM 11:25

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 8, 2010

Secretary Ken Salazar
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001

Dear Secretary Salazar:

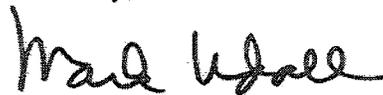
I am writing you to pass on information about a Colorado-based company (Aqua Verde) and its capabilities with regard to cleaning the beaches and waters that have been devastated by the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. While I have not seen their product in person, my staff has met with the company representatives and we thought it would be useful to pass this on to the appropriate federal authorities.

The beaches and inland waterways of the Gulf Coast are inundated with oil that is killing wildlife, destroying wetland habitats and crippling local economies. Representatives from Aqua Verde would like to assist the cleanup effort in any way possible and they think they might have an innovative idea that can help.

Founded by Colorado entrepreneurs, Aqua Verde is a small business with experience filtering petroleum and its byproducts out of water. In fact, Aqua Verde has received requests for its truck mounted filtration systems from several of the largest oil companies in the world.

It is my sincerest hope that the oil spill can be remediated with as little damage and cost to the American people as possible. With that in mind, perhaps someone at the Department with appropriate technical expertise can meet with representatives from Aqua Verde, learn about their technology, and consider how they might be able to help with the effort.

Sincerely,



U.S. Senator Mark Udall

OFFICE OF THE
ENGINEER IN CHARGE
NATIONAL

2010 JUN 23 PM 3:32

619884

RECEIVED
Cc: U.S. Coast Guard, Commander Edward St. Pierre



AQUA VERDE, LLC

Aqua Verde has the capacity to deploy a truck-mounted filtration system designed to remove petroleum and harmful chemicals from water. Originally designed to filter contaminated water produced in oil and gas drilling operations in the West, Aqua Verde's system can be fully customized to filter water to almost any specifications and is able to process extraordinarily dirty water.

Aqua Verde's filtration system and technologies are perfectly suited to help clean up high-priority waterways and beaches that have been contaminated with oil in the Gulf Coast. A few of the highlights:

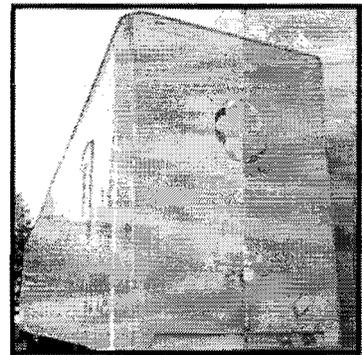
- **Mobility.** The entire system fits within a normal sized trailer and is capable of being transported on any U.S. highway directly to the filtration site.
- **Customization.** While the system is already designed specifically to remove oil from water, it can process water to the necessary specifications to maximize benefits to the environment.
- **Sand.** The system and other technologies are designed to filter water containing high sediment levels which means it can clean oily sand and soil.
- **Ease of use.** Once Aqua Verde's lead engineer calibrates the system to the necessary specifications, operators only need to make sure the pump is filled with fuel and the intake remains unclogged. The system must be taken off line one day per month for recalibration and cleaning.
- **Volume.** Each unit can filter up to 4,000 barrels of water per day, regardless of the concentration of oil, grit or sand.
- **Deployment.** Aqua Verde has one unit built that can be deployed at a moment's notice. One more unit currently under construction can be delivered by June 20. Additional units can be manufactured quickly and deployed directly to the Gulf Coast in the next few months.



Aqua Verde Technology
Produced Water To Fresh Water



Aqua Verde Technology
Produced Water Onsite Mobile Treatment Unit





United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF OCEAN ENERGY MANAGEMENT, REGULATION AND ENFORCEMENT

Washington, DC 20240

OCT 27 2010

The Honorable Mark Udall
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Udall:

Thank you for your letter dated June 8, 2010, to Secretary Salazar, on behalf of Aqua Verde, who provided a suggestion for containment and collection of oil in the Gulf of Mexico. I am the Director of the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement (BOEMRE), and I have been asked to respond on his behalf.

Throughout the period when the efforts to respond to the Deepwater Horizon explosion and spill were at their height, thousands of people across the nation and the world offered their ideas for stopping the flow of oil in the Gulf and cleaning it up. We very much appreciate the interest and commitment of the many people who offered their ideas and suggestions – and in some cases their own products and inventions.

While the spill has been contained and large quantities of oil from the spill have been collected, we are continuing to explore the important issues of spill containment and spill response so that the nation is better prepared in the event of another spill. We appreciate Aqua Verde's contributions to that discussion.

Thank you for your continuing interest in the Deepwater Horizon matter, and for the interest of your constituents in the important spill containment and cleanup efforts. If you have any further questions, please contact me at (202) 208-3500 or Ms. Lyn Herdt, Chief, BOEMRE, Office of Congressional Affairs, at (202) 208-3502.

Sincerely,

Michael R. Bromwich
Director

JEFF BINGAMAN, New Mexico, *Chairman*
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RON WYDEN, Oregon
TIM JOHNSON, South Dakota
MARY L. LANDRIEU, Louisiana
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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6150

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May 10, 2010

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar:

On behalf of the Subcommittee on National Parks of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, I would like to invite you or your designee to testify at the Subcommittee's hearing on Wednesday, May 19, at 2:30 p.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on the following bills, which pertain to the Department of the Interior:

S. 349, to establish the Susquehanna Gateway National Heritage Area in the State of Pennsylvania, and for other purposes;

S. 1596, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire the Gold Hill Ranch in Coloma, California;

S. 1651, to modify a land grant patent issued by the Secretary of the Interior;

S. 1750, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of the General of the Army George Catlett Marshall National Historic Site at Dodona Manor in Leesburg, Virginia, and for other purposes;

S. 1801, to establish the First State National Historical Park in the State of Delaware, and for other purposes;

S. 1802 and H.R. 685, to require a study of the feasibility of establishing the United States Civil Rights Trail System, and for other purposes;

S. 2953 and H.R. 3388, to modify the boundary of Petersburg National Battlefield in the Commonwealth of Virginia, and for other purposes;

S. 2976, to designate as wilderness certain land and inland water within the Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore in the State of Michigan, and for other purposes;

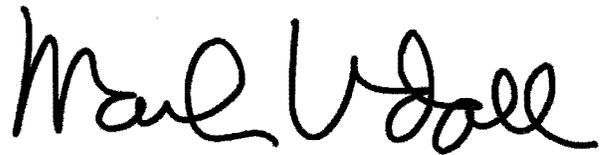
S. 3159 and H.R. 4395, to amend Public Law 101-377 to revise the boundaries of the Gettysburg National Military Park to include the Gettysburg Train Station, and for other purposes; and

S. 3168, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire certain non-Federal land in the State of Pennsylvania for inclusion in the Fort Necessity National Battlefield.

In order to maximize time available for Subcommittee Members to ask questions, it would be helpful if you would summarize your written testimony. Your written testimony will be included in its entirety in the Committee's printed hearing record. Please provide the Subcommittee with an electronic copy as well as 30 printed copies of your written testimony at least 48 hours in advance of the hearing.

If you have any questions, please have your staff contact David Brooks at (202) 224-9863, david_brooks@energy.senate.gov, or Allison Seyferth at (202) 224-4905, allison_seyferth@energy.senate.gov.

Sincerely,



Mark Udall
Chairman
Subcommittee on National Parks

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

2010 MAY 17 AM 11:52

RECEIVED

486950

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 07, 2010

The Honorable Ken Salazar
U.S. Department of the Interior
Mail Stop 6242
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001

Dear Secretary Salazar:

On April 29, 2010, the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs held a hearing on the Pine River Indian Irrigation Project Act (S.1264), which would address a longstanding infrastructure issue in Colorado Indian country.

It was made clear at the hearing that the water users on the Southern Ute Reservation of Southwest Colorado have waited far too long for the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) to rehabilitate the failing Pine River Indian Irrigation Project (PRIIP). It is not uncommon for users of this century-old irrigation project to go without water, making it virtually impossible for many users to make productive agricultural use of their land.

We share with you a common understanding of the importance and sensitivity of responsible water use in Colorado. The Pine River Indian Irrigation Project is an unfortunate example of an inefficient use of a valuable water resource. That is why we introduced the PRIIP Act (S.1264/H.R.3061) in June of 2009.

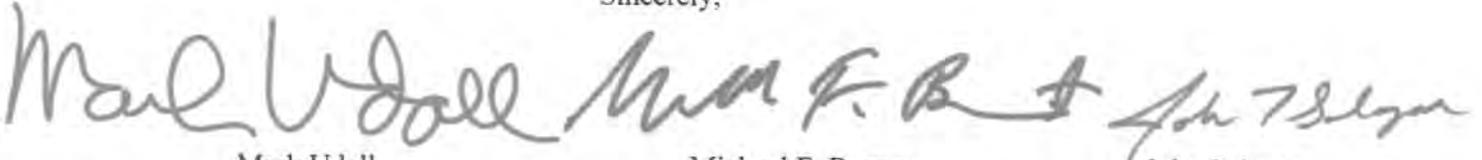
As you may know, the PRIIP Act would require an assessment of the extent of deterioration and provide a comprehensive and robust estimate of the costs of rehabilitation. It would also require full rehabilitation of the project over a six year period and require BIA to work with the Bureau of Reclamation to make the appropriate repairs. Furthermore, the legislation provides that the federal contribution would account for no more than 75 percent of total rehabilitation costs; the remainder of which the Southern Ute tribe would assume, unless otherwise determined.

At last month's hearing, we heard from Chairman Matthew Box and Director of Natural Resources Lena Atencio of the Southern Ute tribe that there is an immediate need for rehabilitation of the PRIIP. Chairman Byron Dorgan of the Senate Indian Affairs Committee agreed that the time to act is now. We urge you to prioritize the rehabilitation of the Pine River Indian Irrigation Project and we stand ready to work with you to ensure that water users of this

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2010 MAY 10 AM 11:18
EXECUTIVE OFFICE

irrigation project have reliable access to the water they need. Should you or your staff have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us or our staff.

Sincerely,



Mark Udall Michael F. Bennet John Salazar

Cc: Assistant Secretary Larry Echohawk, Bureau of Indian Affairs



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
Washington, DC 20240

JUN 22 2010



The Honorable Mark Udall
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Udall:

Thank you for your letter of May 7, 2010, concerning the proposed Pine River Indian Irrigation Project (PRIIP) Act (S.1264 and H.R. 3061.) We understand that the purpose of the Act is to facilitate the repair and rehabilitation of the PRIIP infrastructure. The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) supports the goals of improving water management and maintaining irrigation infrastructure in good condition.

The PRIIP is composed of 170 miles of ditches and 1,263 structures that serve 12,985 acres. The BIA operates the project using funds collected from water users through operations and maintenance assessments. Historically, the BIA tempered assessment rate increases to demonstrate sensitivity to the economic impact on water users. This practice resulted in a rate deficiency, where the funds collected from water users were not sufficient to fully maintain many BIA irrigation projects, including the PRIIP. Past audits by the General Accountability Office and the Department of the Interior Office of the Inspector General identified this practice as a factor limiting the BIA's ability to fully maintain its irrigation projects and recommended higher collection rates to support maintenance activities. In response to this recommendation, the BIA has been raising assessment rates to better support maintenance activities.

Additionally, the BIA is systematically addressing deferred maintenance at its irrigation projects by identifying and prioritizing outstanding maintenance items. To this end, the BIA has developed a Facilities Condition Index (FCI) and an Asset Priority Index (API) for the irrigation projects. The FCI and API are being used to establish project priorities for those irrigation projects currently receiving irrigation construction funding. The BIA estimates that the total deferred maintenance costs for all of its irrigation projects is \$635 million. As comprehensive condition assessments are performed on each irrigation project, the BIA ranks all irrigation structures and projects and distributes the \$1 million it receives annually in appropriated construction funding for irrigation project rehabilitation. The BIA has previously allocated funds from these appropriations for the PRIIP.

For its ongoing operation of projects, the BIA uses an automated maintenance management system called MAXIMO. MAXIMO has been developed to incorporate all of the BIA's budgeting templates for maintenance management, which will include the irrigation project management. MAXIMO is being implemented at the various BIA irrigation projects. Deferred maintenance projects and other identified work from the conditions assessments, along with day to day work orders, are entered into MAXIMO and tracked by the BIA.

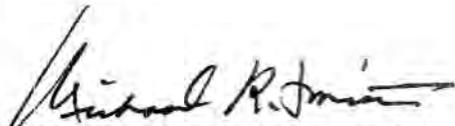
As part of these efforts, the BIA commissioned an engineering condition assessment for the PRIIP that was completed in 2008. The 2008 assessment calculated the replacement cost of PRIIP to be \$20 million and the cost of deferred maintenance to be \$10 million. The scope of the assessment included an engineering evaluation of all key structures and main canals on the PRIIP. The assessment analyzed a representative sample of smaller structures and ditches and extrapolated the results to estimate the deferred maintenance for the entire project. The assessment is similar to the condition assessments that the BIA is conducting on its other irrigation projects.

It should be noted that the BIA's general policy is that irrigators pay for the operation and maintenance of the BIA irrigation projects that benefit their lands through assessments.

Similar letters have been sent to the Honorable Michael F. Bennet, United States Senate, and the Honorable John T. Salazar, United States Senate.

Thank you for your interest in this matter. If you have any further questions, please contact Mr. John Anevski, P.E., Chief, Division of Irrigation, Power and Safety of Dams, at (202) 208-5480.

Sincerely,


Acting Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs

JEFF BINGAMAN, New Mexico, *Chairman*

BYRON L. DORGAN, North Dakota
RON WYDEN, Oregon
TIM JOHNSON, South Dakota
MARY L. LANDRIEU, Louisiana
MARIA CANTWELL, Washington
ROBERT MENENDEZ, New Jersey
BLANCHE L. LINCOLN, Arkansas
BERNARD SANDERS, Vermont
EVAN BAYH, Indiana
DEBBIE STABENOW, Michigan
MARK UDALL, Colorado
JEANNE SHAHEEN, New Hampshire

LISA MURKOWSKI, Alaska
RICHARD BURR, North Carolina
JOHN BARRASSO, Wyoming
SAM BROWNBACK, Kansas
JAMES E. RISCH, Idaho
JOHN MCCAIN, Arizona
ROBERT F. BENNETT, Utah
JIM BUNNING, Kentucky
JEFF SESSIONS, Alabama
BOB CORKER, Tennessee

ROBERT M. SIMON, STAFF DIRECTOR
SAM E. FOWLER, CHIEF COUNSEL
McKIE CAMPBELL, REPUBLICAN STAFF DIRECTOR
KAREN K. BILLUPS, REPUBLICAN CHIEF COUNSEL

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6150

ENERGY.SENATE.GOV

April 19, 2010

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar:

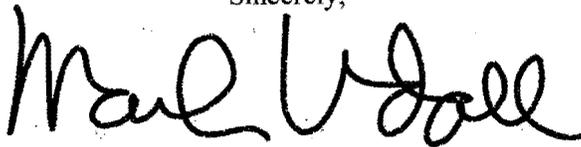
On behalf of the Subcommittee on National Parks of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, I would like to invite you or your designee to testify at the Subcommittee's hearing on Wednesday, May 5, 2010, at 2:30 p.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to review the National Park Service's implementation of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

In order to maximize time available for Subcommittee Members to ask questions, it would be helpful if you would summarize your written testimony. Your written testimony will be included in its entirety in the Committee's printed hearing record. Please provide the Subcommittee with an electronic copy as well as 40 printed copies of your written testimony at least 48 hours in advance of the hearing.

If you have any questions, please have your staff contact David Brooks at (202) 224-9863, david_brooks@energy.senate.gov, or Allison Seyferth at (202) 224-4971, allison_seyferth@energy.senate.gov.

Sincerely,



Mark Udall
Chairman

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
OFFICE OF THE

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 31, 2010

Mr. Bill Howell
PILT Specialist
U.S. Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW, Mail Stop 4116
Washington D.C. 20240

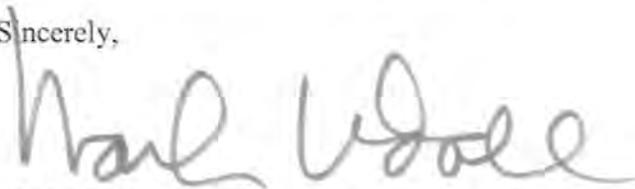
Dear Mr. Howell:

It is my understanding that you have received correspondence from Mr. John (Chip) Taylor of Colorado Counties, Inc., regarding some issues involving the calculation of county payments under the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program and the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act.

I am writing to express my support for Mr. Taylor's March 30, 2010 letter and to express my hope that the U.S. Bureau of Land Management will seriously consider the points he raises in that letter and resolve this matter so that we can avoid serious funding shortfalls to Colorado counties.

Thank you for reviewing this situation, and I look forward a satisfactory resolution.

Sincerely,



Mark Udall
U.S. Senator



150-15151

United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, DC 20240

APR 21 2010

The Honorable Mark Udall
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Udall:

This responds to your letter dated March 31, 2010, referencing correspondence from Mr. John (Chip) Taylor of Colorado Counties, Inc. that concerns the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) payments to Colorado counties.

Your letter was referred to me because the PILT program is administered by the Assistant Secretary - Policy, Management and Budget. Although the Bureau of Land Management is an active partner with the State and local governments in Colorado and they assist in communicating local issues, they no longer have responsibility for the PILT program.

With regard to the concerns expressed in Mr. Taylor's letter, I can assure you that the Department of the Interior fully supports the intent of the PILT program to help local governments pay for essential services such as firefighters, first responders, and roads. PILT payments are provided to over 1,800 counties and other jurisdictions across the country to compensate for nontaxable Federal lands that are located within their jurisdictions. We strive to compute all payments in an accurate manner and make timely payments. Since 1977, the Department has distributed over \$4.8 billion to local jurisdictions throughout the Nation and over \$347 million to the counties in Colorado.

The development of the 2010 PILT payment process is well underway, and we are hopeful that we will be able to meet our goal to distribute the payments during June 2010. I can assure you that we have been in communication with officials in the Colorado State Auditor's Office as well as the Department of Local Affairs, and we are evaluating information provided by all concerned. There are some complexities in the allocation of 2009 revenues, and as a result we are working with our Solicitor's Office to ensure that we compute the PILT payment amounts accurately and in accordance with applicable Federal statutes.

We will exercise the discretion that we have available under the law, and we will keep you informed of developments in this matter. Thank you for your support of the Department's PILT program.

Sincerely,

Rhea Suh
Assistant Secretary
Policy, Management and Budget

JEFF BINGAMAN, New Mexico, *Chairman*

BYRON L. DORGAN, North Dakota
RON WYDEN, Oregon
TIM JOHNSON, South Dakota
MARY L. LANDRIEU, Louisiana
MARIA CANTWELL, Washington
ROBERT MENENDEZ, New Jersey
BLANCHE L. LINCOLN, Arkansas
BERNARD SANDERS, Vermont
EVAN BAYH, Indiana
DEBBIE STABENOW, Michigan
MARK UDALL, Colorado
JEANNE SHAHEEN, New Hampshire

LISA MURKOWSKI, Alaska
RICHARD BURR, North Carolina
JOHN BARRASSO, Wyoming
SAM BROWNBACK, Kansas
JAMES E. RISCH, Idaho
JOHN McCAIN, Arizona
ROBERT F. BENNETT, Utah
JIM BUNNING, Kentucky
JEFF SESSIONS, Alabama
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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6150

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ROBERT M. SIMON, STAFF DIRECTOR
SAM E. FOWLER, CHIEF COUNSEL
McKIE CAMPBELL, REPUBLICAN STAFF DIRECTOR
KAREN K. BILLUPS, REPUBLICAN CHIEF COUNSEL

March 2, 2010

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar:

On behalf of the Subcommittee on National Parks of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, I would like to invite you or your designee to testify at the Subcommittee's hearing on Wednesday, March 17th, at 2:30 p.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on the following bills, which pertain to the Department of the Interior:

S. 553, to revise the authorized route of the North Country National Scenic Trail in northeastern Minnesota to include existing hiking trails along Lake Superior's north shore and in Superior National Forest and Chippewa National Forest, and for other purposes;

S. 1017, to reauthorize the Cane River National Heritage Area Commission and expand the boundaries of the Cane River National Heritage Area in the State of Louisiana;

S. 1018, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to enter into an agreement with Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, Louisiana, to construct a curatorial center for the use of Cane River Creole National Historical Park, the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training, and the University, and for other purposes;

S. 1537, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the National Park Service, to designate the Dr. Norman E. Borlaug Birthplace and Childhood Home in Cresco, Iowa, as a National Historic Site and as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes;

S. 1629, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of the archeological site and surrounding land of the New Philadelphia town site in the state of Illinois, and for other purposes;

S. 2892, to establish the Alabama Black Belt National Heritage Area, and for other purposes;

S. 2933, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the suitability and feasibility of designating the Colonel Charles Young Home in Xenia, Ohio, as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes;

S. 2951, to authorize funding to protect and conserve lands contiguous with the Blue Ridge Parkway to serve the public, and for other purposes; and

H.R. 3804, to make technical corrections to various Acts affecting the National Park Service, to extend, amend, or establish certain National Park Service authorities, and for other purposes.

In order to maximize time available for Subcommittee Members to ask questions, it would be helpful if you would summarize your written testimony. Your written testimony will be included in its entirety in the Committee's printed hearing record. Please provide the Subcommittee with an electronic copy as well as 35 printed copies of your written testimony at least 48 hours in advance of the hearing.

If you have any questions, please have your staff contact David Brooks at (202) 224-9863, david_brooks@energy.senate.gov, or Allison Seyferth at (202) 224-4905, allison_seyferth@energy.senate.gov.

Sincerely,



Mark Udall
Chairman
Subcommittee on National Parks

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 15, 2010

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary of the Interior
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar:

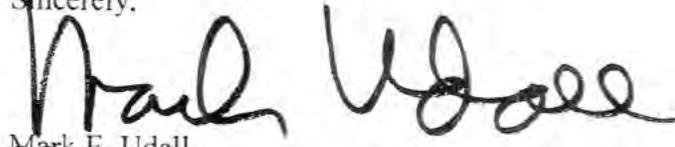
I am writing on behalf of **Non-Responsive** who is interested in serving in the U.S. Department of the Interior as a land use management and open space policy advisor.

Non-Responsive

I believe the U.S. Department of the Interior would benefit from **Non-Responsive** experience in both public management and private sector project management.

I hope you will give **Non-Responsive** every consideration as a land use management and open space policy advisor for the U.S. Department of the Interior. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (202) 224-5941.

Sincerely,



Mark E. Udall
U.S. Senator

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1000-13734



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, DC 20240

Honorable Mark E. Udall
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510-0608

MAR 30 2010

Dear Senator Udall:

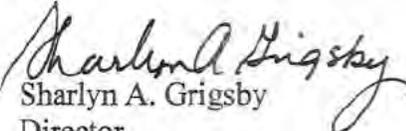
I am preparing this letter on behalf of Secretary Salazar to your correspondence dated February 15, 2010, reference your constituent **Non-Responsive**. First, I would like to thank **Non-Responsive** for his interest in working for the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI). DOI has a number of vacancies that are open to the public occurring throughout the year.

The U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) maintains an exceptionally thorough web site which highlights career opportunities within the DOI and across all Federal agencies. **Non-Responsive** can find this site at: www.usajobs.gov. The web site is very user-friendly and includes a web link for first time visitors. The USAJOBS web site includes different search categories, e.g., agency or job families. He may wish to take a few moments to review all of the options available before applying for a specific position. The DOI section includes our component bureaus and executive offices.

In order to apply, he will need to have a detailed resume. He should take time to ensure his resume is comprehensive. He can create and edit this document in a word processing program and then "cut and paste" it into USAJOBS. He should thoroughly read the vacancy announcements and answer all of the questions posted in the on-line announcement. He may need to fax additional documents to the servicing Human Resources Office. Failure to meet either of these prerequisites could cause his application to be rated ineligible. The OPM web site is also an excellent source of information on hiring requirements such as veteran's preference and various hiring authorities.

We appreciate and encourage the public's interest in employment at DOI. If he has additional questions, please have him contact Craig Welch, Human Resources Specialist, via e-mail at Craig_Welch@ios.doi.gov or via telephone at (202) 513-0755.

Sincerely,


Sharlyn A. Grigsby
Director
Office of Human Resources

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

January 8, 2009

The Honorable Ken Salazar
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar:

We are writing to request that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) implement a pilot project in the form of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that will accommodate the needs of special populations and the outfitters capable of providing services to this population.

We are concerned that the current Special Recreation Permit (SRP) allocation process determined in BLM's Resource Management Plans (RMP) does not adequately meet the needs of special populations. Recently, Colorado Discover Ability (CDA), a non-profit organization that specializes in serving wounded warriors, was denied an SRP by BLM for the Gunnison Gorge Canyon and Westwater Canyon in Utah because all permits had already been allocated.

Moreover, we are concerned that non-profit organizations like CDA are often unable to compete for available commercial permits due to financial constraints. While some commercial outfitters are equipped to provide services for a portion of special needs populations, there remain individuals whose disability exceeds the ability of commercial outfitters to safely meet their needs.

While precedent to accommodate these special populations already exists within the Department of the Interior through The National Park Service (NPS) rules, the BLM does not currently have similar policies. In fact, the NPS accommodation for special populations is based on a pilot program dating back to 1979. A Memorandum of Understanding between the BLM and CDA could launch a comparable—and hopefully successful—pilot program.

This pilot project could provide the basis for the possible creation of a subclass or subcategory of "special population permits" in revised RMPs. With that in mind, should the pilot project be implemented, we ask that you consider including these types of permits in any RMP up for revision one year from now.

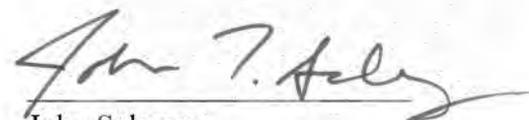
Thank you for all that you do to protect our national treasures and make sure all Americans have access to them.

Sincerely,



Mark E. Udall
U.S. Senator

Michael F. Bennet
U.S. Senator



John Salazar
Member of Congress



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR

WASHINGTON

MAR 01 2010

The Honorable Mark E. Udall
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Udall:

Thank you for your letter of January 8, 2010, requesting that the Bureau of Land Management implement a pilot project with Colorado Discover Ability (CDA) to accommodate recreational use on the public lands by special populations. You also raise concerns about whether the nonprofit organizations are able to compete for Special Recreation Permits (SRP) due to financial constraints.

The Department of the Interior shares your concern about providing opportunities for high-quality recreational experiences for individuals with disabilities. The BLM endeavors to accommodate people with special needs and to work with outfitters who are able to serve them. Currently, the BLM's local field offices work directly with many organizations, such as Adventure Bound and SPLORE Accessible Outdoor Adventures, that provide recreational opportunities for public land visitors with disabilities. Also, the BLM has long-standing assistance agreements with two nonprofit organizations—Wilderness Inquiry, Inc. and the C.A.S.T. for Kids Foundation—that focus on providing recreational opportunities for adults and children with disabilities.

In 2008, the BLM updated the Resource Management Plans for the Gunnison Gorge Canyon and West Canyon areas and established the number of available SRPs. Many of the commercial outfitters operating under the BLM's SRPs are nonprofit organizations and businesses that offer services for people with disabilities. The cost to apply for a commercial SRP varies by location, ranging from no charge to a \$100 application fee.

I understand that CDA is frustrated in its efforts to offer guided river trips for disabled veterans in the Westwater Canyon and the Gunnison Gorge because all use permits for these areas have already been allocated. To assist CDA in serving its clients during this past summer, the BLM offered several suggestions, including partnering with one of the existing, authorized outfitters that hold permits for these river segments in order to provide trips for clients with disabilities. CDA selected a permitted outfitter for its August 19, 2009, trip through Westwater Canyon.

The BLM is committed to facilitating the use and enjoyment of the public lands by all citizens, including those with special needs, and is willing to meet with CDA and other organizations that provide services to disabled veterans. I invite CDA to contact the BLM's new State Director for Colorado, Ms. Helen Hankins. Ms. Hankins would be happy to discuss options with CDA for meeting its clients' special needs, and she can be reached at 303-239-3700 or helen_hankins@blm.gov.

BLM Director Robert V. Abbey would be happy to meet with you and members of the Colorado delegation to discuss this matter further. He can be reached at 202-208-3801. Mr. Bob Ratcliffe, the BLM's Chief of Recreation and Visitor Services, is also available to meet with your staff and can be reached at 202-912-7250 or bob_ratcliffe@blm.gov.

Similar letters have been sent to Senator Michael F. Bennet and Representative John Salazar.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Salazar". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ken Salazar

— Forwarded by Patrick Wilkinson/VO/BLM/DOI on 01/08/2010 06:02 PM —

Patrick
Wilkinson/VO/BLM/DOI
01/08/2010 06:02 PM

To Debra Lyons
cc Joseph W Berry/VO/BLM/DOI@BLM, Beverly S
Winston/VO/BLM/DOI@BLM
Subject Fw: letter for Sec. Salazar

fyi - on incoming letter...
(andrea reminded me that we had a related letter w/ response from 8//26/09)

Patrick Wilkinson
U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Legislative Affairs & Correspondence Division (VO 620)
Phone: (202) 912-7429
Fax: (202) 452-0346

— Forwarded by Patrick Wilkinson/VO/BLM/DOI on 01/08/2010 06:00 PM —



"Mansour, Christopher"
<Christopher_Mansour@ios.
doi.gov>
01/08/2010 05:58 PM

To "Iudicello, Fay" <Fay_Iudicello@ios.doi.gov>, "Marsters,
Lizzie" <Lizzie_Marsters@ios.doi.gov>, "Lane, Kenneth"
<Kenneth_Lane@ios.doi.gov>, "Wilkinson, Patrick"
<Patrick_Wilkinson@blm.gov>, "Quinn, Matthew"
<Matthew_Quinn@ios.doi.gov>
cc
Subject Fw: letter for Sec. Salazar

From: Adams, Wendy (Mark Udall) <Wendy_Adams@MarkUdall.senate.gov>
To: Mansour, Christopher
Sent: Fri Jan 08 17:21:03 2010
Subject: letter for Sec. Salazar
Hi Chris –

Attached is a letter for the Secretary.

Thank you!
Wendy

Wendy Adams
Legislative Assistant
Senator Mark Udall
317 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-5941
<http://markudall.senate.gov>

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Wounded Warrior and BLM_letter to Sec SA(azar 1.8.09.pdf



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

DEC 15 2009

The Honorable Mark Udall
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Udall:

Thank you for your letter of December 4, 2009, to Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack and me requesting that the Department of the Interior include funding for the Southwest Forest Health and Wildfire Prevention Act of 2004 in the Fiscal Year 2011 budget. Identical responses are being sent to the co-signers of your letter.

The Department is currently formulating the FY 2011 budget that will be submitted to Congress in February 2010. Your request will be given full consideration during the internal review process. The Department also will consult with the U.S. Forest Service on this proposal.

I sincerely appreciate your interest in the Department's budget and look forward to working with Congress to ensure continued support for our Nation's natural and cultural resources.

Sincerely,

Ken Salazar

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

December 4, 2009

The Honorable Tom Vilsack
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20250

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Vilsack and Secretary Salazar:

The dry forests and woodland ecosystems of the Southwest are particularly vulnerable to unusually severe wildfires. At the same time, these forests are responsive to forest restoration and hazardous fuel reduction treatments. The use of the best available science is critical to maximize the effectiveness of each dollar spent on forest treatments so that projects address multiple resource problems simultaneously, including uncharacteristic wildfire, declining wildlife habitat, impairment of watershed function and the loss of recreational value and economic opportunities for people.

The Southwest Forest Health and Wildfire Prevention Act of 2004 (P.L. 108-317) received strong bipartisan support. It establishes a unique program of applied research and translation and transfer of information to inform forest management via three restoration institutes: The Ecological Restoration Institute (ERI) at Northern Arizona University; the Colorado Forest Restoration Institute (CFRI) at Colorado State University; and the New Mexico Forest and Watershed Restoration Institute (NMFWR) at New Mexico Highlands University. The institutes collaborate with each other, federal and state land management agencies, private land owners, and other stakeholders to design and implement forest restoration and hazardous fuels reduction treatments on a variety of scales to accomplish landscape restoration.

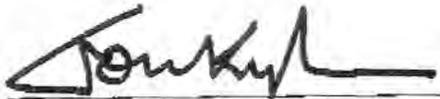
The Act authorizes \$15 million per year in federal appropriations to operate the program. The institutes have worked with the U.S. Forest Service and the Department of the Interior to develop and approve programs of work for each fiscal year, as required in the Act. For fiscal year 2011, the program budget is \$5 million allocated as follows: \$3 million to ERI, and \$1 million each to CFRI and NMFWR. This program budget will enable the Institutes to meet the high degree of demand for their work across the Southwest.

The first five-year evaluation report on the program and activities of the institutes was completed in October of this year. The Forest Service concluded in that evaluation that not only did the institutes warrant continued provision of federal assistance, there was no other existing entity with the capacity or mandate to carry out landscape-scale forest restoration.

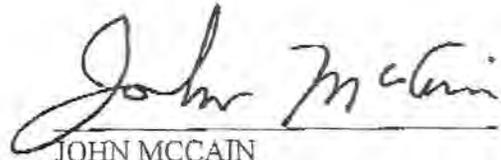
The institutes fill a critical void in forest restoration that will slow the spiraling costs of wildfire suppression and restore critical forest ecosystem functions. We urge you to fund the Southwest Forest Health and Wildfire Prevention Act at \$5 million in the Administration's forthcoming budget request for fiscal year 2011.

Thank you for your support of effective forest restoration in the Southwest.

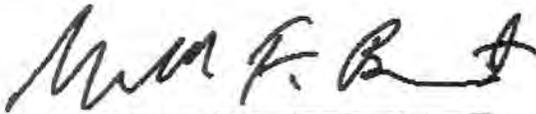
Sincerely,



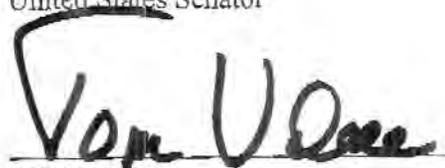
JON KYL
United States Senator



JOHN MCCAIN
United States Senator



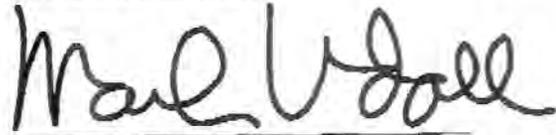
MICHAEL BENNET
United States Senator



TOM UDALL
United States Senator



JEFF BINGAMAN
United States Senator



MARK UDALL
United States Senator

Cc: Honorable Peter Orszag, Director, Office of Management and Budget



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

DEC 15 2009

The Honorable Mark Udall
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Udall:

Thank you for your letter of December 4, 2009, to Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack and me requesting that the Department of the Interior include funding for the Southwest Forest Health and Wildfire Prevention Act of 2004 in the Fiscal Year 2011 budget. Identical responses are being sent to the co-signers of your letter.

The Department is currently formulating the FY 2011 budget that will be submitted to Congress in February 2010. Your request will be given full consideration during the internal review process. The Department also will consult with the U.S. Forest Service on this proposal.

I sincerely appreciate your interest in the Department's budget and look forward to working with Congress to ensure continued support for our Nation's natural and cultural resources.

Sincerely,

Ken Salazar

JEFF BINGAMAN, New Mexico, *Chairman*

BYRON L. DORGAN, North Dakota
RON WYDEN, Oregon
TIM JOHNSON, South Dakota
MARY L. LANDRIEU, Louisiana
MARIA GANTWELL, Washington
ROBERT MENENDEZ, New Jersey
BLANCHE L. LINCOLN, Arkansas
BERNARD SANDERS, Vermont
EVAN BAYH, Indiana
DEBBIE STABENOW, Michigan
MARK UDALL, Colorado
JEANNE SHAHEEN, New Hampshire

LISA MURKOWSKI, Alaska
RICHARD BURR, North Carolina
JOHN BARRASSO, Wyoming
SAM BROWNBACK, Kansas
JAMES E. RISCH, Idaho
JOHN MCCAIN, Arizona
ROBERT F. BENNETT, Utah
JIM BUNNING, Kentucky
JEFF SESSIONS, Alabama
BOB CORKER, Tennessee

ROBERT M. SIMON, STAFF DIRECTOR
SAM E. FOWLER, CHIEF COUNSEL
MCKIE CAMPBELL, REPUBLICAN STAFF DIRECTOR
KAREN K. BILLUPS, REPUBLICAN CHIEF COUNSEL

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6150

ENERGY.SENATE.GOV

November 20, 2009

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar:

On behalf of the Subcommittee on National Parks of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, I would like to invite you or your designee to testify at the Subcommittee's hearing on Thursday, December 3, 2009, at 2:30 p.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on several bills, which pertain to the Department of Interior:

S. 760, to designate the Liberty Memorial at the National World War I Museum in Kansas City, Missouri, as the "National World War I Memorial";

S. 1838, to establish a commission to commemorate the sesquicentennial of the American Civil War;

S. 2097, to authorize the rededication of the District of Columbia War Memorial as a National and District of Columbia World War I Memorial to honor the sacrifices made by American veterans of World War I;

S. 2722, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the suitability and feasibility of adding the Heart Mountain Relocation Center, in the State of Wyoming, as a unit of the National Park System;

S. 2726, to modify the boundary of the Minuteman Missile National Historic Site in the State of South Dakota, and for other purposes;

S. 2738, to authorize National Mall Liberty Fund D.C. to establish a memorial on Federal land in the District of Columbia to honor free persons and slaves who fought for independence, liberty, and justice for all during the American Revolution;

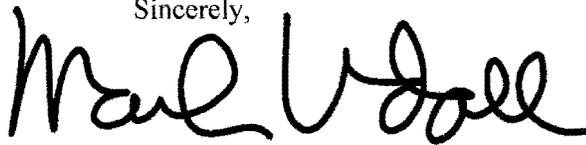
H.R. 1849, to designate the Liberty Memorial at the National World War I Museum in Kansas City, Missouri, as the National World War I Memorial, to establish the World War I centennial commission to ensure a suitable observance of the centennial of World War I, and for other purposes; and

H.R.3689, to provide for an extension of the legislative authority of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund, Inc. to establish a Vietnam Veterans Memorial visitor center, and for other purposes.

In order to maximize time available for Subcommittee Members to ask questions, it would be helpful if you would summarize your written testimony. Your written testimony will be included in its entirety in the Committee's printed hearing record. Please provide the Subcommittee with an electronic copy as well as 35 printed copies of your written testimony at least 48 hours in advance of the hearing.

If you have any questions, please have your staff contact David Brooks at (202) 224-9863, david_brooks@energy.senate.gov, or Allison Seyferth at (202) 224-4905, allison_seyferth@energy.senate.gov.

Sincerely,



Mark Udall
Chairman
Subcommittee on National Parks

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
OFFICE OF THE

2009 NOV 27 AM 9:18

RECEIVED

472135

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

November 18, 2009

Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
Department of the Interior
849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar,

We are writing concerning the need to objectively answer critical questions about potential impacts of large scale commercial oil shale development on water, communities and local economies before proceeding with commercial development. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) concluded in its September 2008 programmatic environmental impact statement on oil shale that the agency lacks the information necessary to meet Congress' mandate in the Energy Policy Act of 2005 that "development should be conducted in an environmentally sound manner, using practices that minimize impacts." In advance of sufficient information to manage risks, commercial development of oil shale could irreparably change local lives, local economies and the environment.

The most recent evaluation of the viability of oil shale technologies was prepared in 1980 by the Congressional Office of Technology Assessment. Despite BLM's attempt to address this deficit through the research, development and demonstration (RD&D) program, there are questions that need to be answered to bring necessary clarity regarding how industrial scale oil shale operations could impact the region and the nation – questions that cannot be answered by the current scale of research.

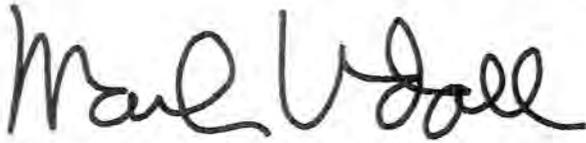
The best way to gain answers to critical questions is to proceed in an orderly fashion. That means allowing RD&D to be completed and the data analyzed prior to offering leases for commercial development. It would also be advantageous for RD&D programs to be supplemented with an independent evaluation conducted by the National Academies of Science (NAS). The NAS study should investigate, among other things,

- The status of oil shale extraction technologies;
- The likely positive and negative implications of the various technologies for the production of kerogen from oil shale resources;
- The cumulative energy and water inputs required to produce oil from shale, including a lifecycle assessment of greenhouse gas emissions produced;
- The cumulative economic and environmental impacts of commercial-scale oil shale production and associated energy infrastructure required for the commercial application of the various oil shale technologies currently in operation or under development on energy and water resources;

- The timeframe for viable large-scale commercial oil shale production and events that should serve as a precursor to commercial leasing, such as development of commercially viable and environmentally safe technologies;
- Workforce capacity requirements associated with commercial-scale development; and
- Means of ensuring a fair return to the public from the production of oil shale on public land.

We applaud your recent decision to seek answers concerning the effects of oil shale development on water quantity and quality, other environmental effects and socioeconomic factors. It is our view that sound RD&D, along with an independent NAS evaluation, offers a judicious approach to the prospect of commercial development of oil shale. The scope and funding of an independent analysis by the NAS would provide a scientific base for future decisions and we hope you will join us in supporting that effort.

Sincerely,



Mark Udall
U.S. Senator



Michael Bennet
U.S. Senator



John T. Salazar
Member of Congress

RECEIVED
2009 NOV 24 AM 9:23
EXECUTIVE
OF THE
DEPARTMENT

472028

THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE
REFERRAL

May 05, 2009

TO: DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

ACTION REQUESTED: APPROPRIATE ACTION

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 1004423
MEDIA: LETTER
DOCUMENT DATE: January 22, 2009
TO: PRESIDENT OBAMA
FROM: THE HONORABLE JOHNNY ISAKSON
UNITED STATES SENATE
WASHINGTON, DC 20510
SUBJECT: ASK THE PRESIDENT NOT TO REINSTATE AN EXECUTIVE MORATORIUM ON
OFFSHORE ENERGY EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION AND TO RECIND THE
INTERIOR DEPARTMENT PLAN FOR OIL SHALE EXPLORATION AND
RECOVERY

COMMENTS: No response deemed necessary after review of incoming and previous responses sent to signatories on energy development. Copies of responses to incoming letters from signatories to Secretary Salazar on energy development are enclosed.

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE UNDERSIGNED AT 456-2590.

RETURN ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE (OR DRAFT) TO: DOCUMENT TRACKING UNIT, ROOM 437, OFFICE OF RECORDS MANAGEMENT - THE WHITE HOUSE, 20500

RECEIVED

457583



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON
NOV 25 2009

The Honorable Mark Udall
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Udall:

Thank you for your letter of November 18, 2009, co-signed by Senator Michael Bennet and Representative John Salazar, expressing support for addressing questions regarding potential impacts of oil shale development through the Bureau of Land Management's research, development and demonstration program and an independent evaluation by the National Academies of Science. The Department of the Interior received your letter on November 24, 2009.

I sincerely appreciate your interest in this matter and you will receive a more detailed response in the near future.

Sincerely,

Ken Salazar

JEFF BINGAMAN, New Mexico, *Chairman*

BYRON L. DORGAN, North Dakota
RON WYDEN, Oregon
TIM JOHNSON, South Dakota
MARY L. LANDRIEU, Louisiana
MARIA CANTWELL, Washington
ROBERT MENENDEZ, New Jersey
BLANCHE L. LINCOLN, Arkansas
BERNARD SANDERS, Vermont
EVAN BAYH, Indiana
DEBBIE STABENOW, Michigan
MARK UDALL, Colorado
JEANNE SHAHEEN, New Hampshire

LISA MURKOWSKI, Alaska
RICHARD BURR, North Carolina
JOHN BARRASSO, Wyoming
SAM BROWNBACK, Kansas
JAMES E. RISCH, Idaho
JOHN MCCAIN, Arizona
ROBERT F. BENNETT, Utah
JIM BUNNING, Kentucky
JEFF SESSIONS, Alabama
BOB CORKER, Tennessee

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6150

ENERGY.SENATE.GOV

ROBERT M. SIMON, STAFF DIRECTOR
SAM E. FOWLER, CHIEF COUNSEL
McKIE CAMPBELL, REPUBLICAN STAFF DIRECTOR
KAREN K. BILLUPS, REPUBLICAN CHIEF COUNSEL

October 27, 2009

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

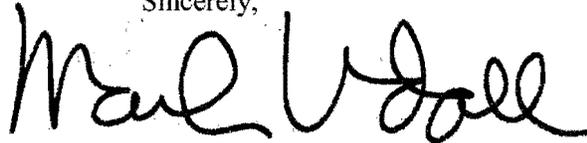
Dear Secretary Salazar:

On October 22, 2009, I wrote to invite you or your designee to testify at a hearing before the Subcommittee on National Parks on pending legislation. The hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, November 4, 2009, at 2:30 p.m. in room 366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building. In addition to the previously announced bills, the subcommittee will also be considering H.R. 1287, a bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to enter into a partnership with the Porter County Convention, Recreation and Visitor Commission regarding the use of the Dorothy Buell Memorial Visitor Center as a visitor center for the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, and for other purposes, and I would like to invite you or your designee to provide testimony on this additional measure.

In order to maximize the time available for Committee Members to ask questions, it would be helpful if you would summarize your written testimony. Your written testimony will be included in its entirety in the Committee's printed hearing record. Please provide the Committee with an electronic copy, as well as 30 printed copies of your testimony at least 48 hours in advance of the hearing.

If you have any questions, please have your staff contact David Brooks at (202) 224-9863, david_brooks@energy.senate.gov, or Allison Seyferth (202) 224-4905, allison_seyferth@energy.senate.gov.

Sincerely,



Mark Udall
Chairman
Subcommittee on National Parks

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
OFFICE OF THE

2009 NOV -3 AM 10:33

469704

RECEIVED

JEFF BINGAMAN, New Mexico, *Chairman*

BYRON L. DORGAN, North Dakota
RON WYDEN, Oregon
TIM JOHNSON, South Dakota
MARY L. LANDRIEU, Louisiana
MARIA CANTWELL, Washington
ROBERT MENENDEZ, New Jersey
BLANCHE L. LINCOLN, Arkansas
BERNARD SANDERS, Vermont
EVAN BAYH, Indiana
DEBBIE STABENOW, Michigan
MARK UDALL, Colorado
JEANNE SHAHEEN, New Hampshire

LISA MURKOWSKI, Alaska
RICHARD BURR, North Carolina
JOHN BARRASSO, Wyoming
SAM BROWNBACK, Kansas
JAMES E. RISCH, Idaho
JOHN MCCAIN, Arizona
ROBERT F. BENNETT, Utah
JIM BUNNING, Kentucky
JEFF SESSIONS, Alabama
BOB CORKER, Tennessee

ROBERT M. SIMON, STAFF DIRECTOR
SAM E. FOWLER, CHIEF COUNSEL
McKIE CAMPBELL, REPUBLICAN STAFF DIRECTOR
KAREN K. BILLUPS, REPUBLICAN CHIEF COUNSEL

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6150

ENERGY.SENATE.GOV

October 22, 2009

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar:

On behalf of the Subcommittee on National Parks of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, I would like to invite you or your designee to testify at the Subcommittee's hearing on Wednesday, November 4, 2009, at 2:30 p.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on the following bills, which pertain to the Department of the Interior:

S. 1369, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate segments of the Molalla River in the State of Oregon, as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and for other purposes;

S. 1405, to redesignate the Longfellow National Historic Site, Massachusetts, as the "Longfellow House-Washington's Headquarters National Historic Site";

S. 1413, to amend the Adams National Historical Park Act of 1998 to include the Quincy Homestead within the boundary of the Adams National Historical Park, and for other purposes;

S. 1767 and H.R. 1121, to authorize a land exchange to acquire land for the Blue Ridge Parkway from the Town of Blowing Rock, North Carolina, and for other purposes; and

H.R. 2802, to provide for an extension of the legislative authority of the Adams Memorial Foundation to establish a commemorative work in honor of former President John Adams and his legacy, and for other purposes.

In order to maximize the time available for Committee Members to ask questions, it would be helpful if you would summarize your written testimony. Your written testimony will be included in its entirety in the Committee's printed hearing record. Please provide the Committee

with an electronic copy, as well as 30 printed copies of your testimony at least 48 hours in advance of the hearing.

If you have any questions, please have your staff contact David Brooks at (202) 224-9863, david_brooks@energy.senate.gov, or Allison Seyferth (202) 224-4905, allison_seyferth@energy.senate.gov.

Sincerely,



Mark Udall
Chairman
Subcommittee on National Parks

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
OFFICE OF THE

2009 NOV -2 AM 9:27

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469432

JEFF BINGAMAN, New Mexico, *Chairman*

BYRON L. DORGAN, North Dakota
RON WYDEN, Oregon
TIM JOHNSON, South Dakota
MARY L. LANDRIEU, Louisiana
MARIA CANTWELL, Washington
ROBERT MENENDEZ, New Jersey
BLANCHÉ L. LINCOLN, Arkansas
BERNARD SANDERS, Vermont
EVAN BAYH, Indiana
DEBBIE STABENOW, Michigan
MARK UDALL, Colorado
JEANNE SHAHEEN, New Hampshire

LISA MURKOWSKI, Alaska
RICHARD BURR, North Carolina
JOHN BARRASSO, Wyoming
SAM BROWNBACK, Kansas
JAMES E. RISCH, Idaho
JOHN McCAIN, Arizona
ROBERT F. BENNETT, Utah
JIM BUNNING, Kentucky
JEFF SESSIONS, Alabama
BOB CORKER, Tennessee

ROBERT M. SIMON, STAFF DIRECTOR
SAM E. FOWLER, CHIEF COUNSEL
McKIE CAMPBELL, REPUBLICAN STAFF DIRECTOR
KAREN K. BILLUPS, REPUBLICAN CHIEF COUNSEL

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6150

ENERGY.SENATE.GOV

October 19, 2009

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar:

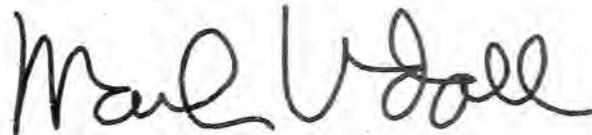
On behalf of the Subcommittee on National Parks of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, I would like to invite you or your designee to testify at the Subcommittee's hearing on Wednesday, October 28th, 2009, at 2:30 p.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on the current and expected impacts of climate change on units of the National Park System.

In order to maximize the time available for Committee Members to ask questions, it would be helpful if you would summarize your written testimony. Your written testimony will be included in its entirety in the Committee's printed hearing record. Please provide the Committee with an electronic copy, as well as 50 printed copies of your testimony at least 48 hours in advance of the hearing.

If you have any questions, please have your staff contact Sara Tucker (202) 224-6224, sara_tucker@energy.senate.gov, or Allison Seyferth (202) 224-4905, allison_seyferth@energy.senate.gov.

Sincerely,



908897 Mark Udall
Chairman
Subcommittee on National Parks

10/19/09
2009 OCT 19 15:00:00Z
U.S. SENATE

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

RECEIVED

467266
September 3, 2009

2009 09 -7 AM 9:35

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar:

I am writing to encourage that the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) re-implement policies in Colorado that will ensure interim protection and special consideration for public lands proposed for wilderness protection. Specifically, I would urge the BLM to reinstate the former "Colorado Policy" that would direct the agency to give additional consideration to public lands managed by the BLM that have wilderness values or characteristics.

In 1996-97, at the urging of then Colorado Congressman David Skaggs, the BLM had adopted a policy—also referred to as the "take care" or "second look" policy—that required the BLM to re-inventory lands proposed for wilderness before the BLM pursued any "irretrievable or irreversible" actions that would degrade or destroy the wilderness character or characteristics of those areas. To qualify for such consideration, sufficient documentation had to be provided by an entity demonstrating the area's wilderness attributes, such as to trigger the "significant new information" requirement of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). If the BLM, upon field re-inventory, found the proposed wilderness area to have wilderness values, character or characteristics, then the BLM would pursue a public planning process pursuant to NEPA to consider this new information and decide whether or not to protect the area's wilderness attributes. In the interim, the BLM would disallow any uses that would degrade the area's wilderness qualities.

Reinstatement of the Colorado Policy, as described above, will preserve both the wilderness values themselves and the opportunity for future, more permanent protection for the lands involved, and involvement of the public, other stakeholders, and Congress in that process. These measures will also ensure careful agency consideration of field information and other new data on potential wilderness and the areas' public values. With BLM lands facing increasing pressures from a wide variety of uses, it is prudent to maintain an updated inventory of select lands with unique natural features and to take steps to maintain and protect those features.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Mark Udall
U.S. Senator



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON
OCT 08 2009

The Honorable Mark Udall
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Udall:

Thank you for your letter of September 3, 2009, urging the Bureau of Land Management to re-implement policies in Colorado that will ensure interim protection and special consideration for public lands proposed for wilderness protection. The Department of the Interior received your letter on October 7, 2009.

I sincerely appreciate your interest in this matter and you will receive a more detailed response in the near future.

Sincerely,

Ken Salazar

Ken Salazar



United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Washington, D.C. 20240
<http://www.blm.gov>



NOV 24 2009

The Honorable Mark Udall
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Udall:

Thank you for your September 3, 2009, letter to Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar encouraging the Bureau of Land Management to reinstitute policies in Colorado that would provide consideration of the potential wilderness characteristics of public lands. Secretary Salazar has asked me to respond on his behalf, and I apologize for the delay.

You raise important concerns in your letter about the manner in which land use planning decisions are made as they pertain to lands with wilderness characteristics. Rather than approach this issue on a state-by-state basis, we are taking a more comprehensive approach, one that we believe will result in greater consistency in how these important stewardship decisions are made. Currently, the BLM is in the process of reviewing the direction provided by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 for maintaining wilderness inventories and is also reviewing its policy for the use of wilderness inventory information in the development of land use plans. This review will result in a national policy that will supersede any state-level practice regarding the maintenance of wilderness inventories and use of wilderness inventory information in planning.

Nearly 550,000 acres of public lands in Colorado are currently protected as wilderness study areas, and nearly 206,000 acres are designated as wilderness. Additional areas containing wilderness characteristics are currently being considered by BLM Colorado for protection in its revisions of six Resource Management Plans.

I share your concerns about the protection of wilderness values within the special places that are under our care. I am encouraged by the progress made in wilderness protection in the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (P.L. 111-11), which will forever protect the wilderness values of Colorado's Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area and Dominguez Canyon Wilderness. I look forward to working with you and others to build on the success of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act to address the protection of wilderness resources throughout the West.

Thank you for your support of the BLM's commitment to the protection of our Nation's wilderness resources. If you have further questions, please contact Acting BLM Colorado State Director David B. Hunsaker at 303-239-3748.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert V. Abbey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "R" and "A".

Robert V. Abbey
Director

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

46726F
September 3, 2009

RECEIVED
2009 OCT -7 AM 9:21

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar:

I am writing to encourage that the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) re-implement policies in Colorado that will ensure interim protection and special consideration for public lands proposed for wilderness protection. Specifically, I would urge the BLM to reinstate the former "Colorado Policy" that would direct the agency to give additional consideration to public lands managed by the BLM that have wilderness values or characteristics.

In 1996-97, at the urging of then Colorado Congressman David Skaggs, the BLM had adopted a policy—also referred to as the "take care" or "second look" policy—that required the BLM to re-inventory lands proposed for wilderness before the BLM pursued any "irretrievable or irreversible" actions that would degrade or destroy the wilderness character or characteristics of those areas. To qualify for such consideration, sufficient documentation had to be provided by an entity demonstrating the area's wilderness attributes, such as to trigger the "significant new information" requirement of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). If the BLM, upon field re-inventory, found the proposed wilderness area to have wilderness values, character or characteristics, then the BLM would pursue a public planning process pursuant to NEPA to consider this new information and decide whether or not to protect the area's wilderness attributes. In the interim, the BLM would disallow any uses that would degrade the area's wilderness qualities.

Reinstatement of the Colorado Policy, as described above, will preserve both the wilderness values themselves and the opportunity for future, more permanent protection for the lands involved, and involvement of the public, other stakeholders, and Congress in that process. These measures will also ensure careful agency consideration of field information and other new data on potential wilderness and the areas' public values. With BLM lands facing increasing pressures from a wide variety of uses, it is prudent to maintain an updated inventory of select lands with unique natural features and to take steps to maintain and protect those features.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Mark Udall
U.S. Senator

MARK E. UDALL
COLORADO

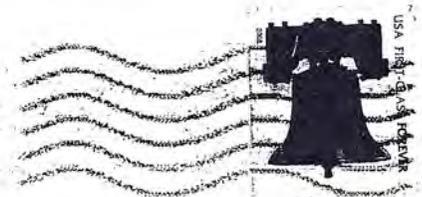


United States Senate
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Secretary
(and my Senior
Senator)
I loved "hanging"

United States Senate SOUTHERN MD 207
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20510

15 SEP 2009 PM 3 L



SEP 2 - 2009

SEP 6 1 2009

SEP

SEP 21 2009

Secretary Ken Salazar
Department of Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20240



with you and John at
the Canyon. The NPS
staff are fantastic. I'm
very proud of all you
are doing. You do
wonder

MARK, E. UDALL
COLORADO

JEFF BINGAMAN, New Mexico, Chairman

BYRON L. DORGAN, North Dakota
RON WYDEN, Oregon
TIM JOHNSON, South Dakota
MARY L. LANDRIEU, Louisiana
MARIA CANTWELL, Washington
ROBERT MENENDEZ, New Jersey
BLANCHE L. LINCOLN, Arkansas
BERNARD SANDERS, Vermont
EVAN BAYH, Indiana
DEBBIE STABENOW, Michigan
MARK UDALL, Colorado
JEANNE SHAHEEN, New Hampshire

LISA MURKOWSKI, Alaska
RICHARD BURR, North Carolina
JOHN BARRASSO, Wyoming
SAM BROWNBACK, Kansas
JAMES E. RISCH, Idaho
JOHN McCAIN, Arizona
ROBERT F. BENNETT, Utah
JIM BUNNING, Kentucky
JEFF SESSIONS, Alabama
BOB CORKER, Tennessee

ROBERT M. SIMON, STAFF DIRECTOR
SAM E. FOWLER, CHIEF COUNSEL
MCKIE CAMPBELL, REPUBLICAN STAFF DIRECTOR
KAREN K. BILLUPS, REPUBLICAN CHIEF COUNSEL

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6150

ENERGY.SENATE.GOV

August 14, 2009

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar:

On behalf of the Subcommittee on National Parks of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, I would like to invite you or your designee to testify at the Subcommittee's hearing on Monday, August 24, 2009, at 12:00 p.m., in the Board Room of Town Hall, 170 MacGregor Avenue, Estes Park, Colorado.

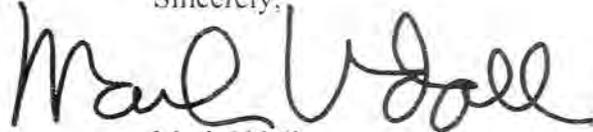
The purpose of the hearing is to consider climate change impacts on national parks in Colorado and related management activities.

In order to maximize time available for Committee Members to ask questions, it would be helpful if you would summarize your written testimony. Your written testimony will be included in-full in the Committee's printed hearing record.

Please provide the committee with an electronic copy of your testimony by Thursday, August 20, 2009. Testimony should be emailed to Scott Miller: scott_miller@energy.senate.gov.

If you have any questions, please contact Scott Miller by phone at (202) 224-5488 or by email at scott_miller@energy.senate.gov.

Sincerely,



Mark Udall
Chairman
Subcommittee on
National Parks

2009 AUG 24 PM 3:08

464872

RECEIVED

JEFF BINGAMAN, New Mexico, *Chairman*

BYRON L. DORGAN, North Dakota
RON WYDEN, Oregon
TIM JOHNSON, South Dakota
MARY L. LANDRIEU, Louisiana
MARIA CANTWELL, Washington
ROBERT MENENDEZ, New Jersey
BLANCHE L. LINCOLN, Arkansas
BERNARD SANDERS, Vermont
EVAN BAYH, Indiana
DEBBIE STABENOW, Michigan
MARK UDALL, Colorado
JEANNE SHAHEEN, New Hampshire

LISA MURKOWSKI, Alaska
RICHARD BURR, North Carolina
JOHN BARRASSO, Wyoming
SAM BROWNBACK, Kansas
JAMES E. RISCH, Idaho
JOHN MCCAIN, Arizona
ROBERT F. BENNETT, Utah
JIM BUNNING, Kentucky
JEFF SESSIONS, Alabama
BOB COPKER, Tennessee

ROBERT M. SIMON, STAFF DIRECTOR
SAM E. FOWLER, CHIEF COUNSEL
MCKIE CAMPBELL, REPUBLICAN STAFF DIRECTOR
KAREN K. BELLUPS, REPUBLICAN CHIEF COUNSEL

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6150

ENERGY.SENATE.GOV

July 9, 2009

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar:

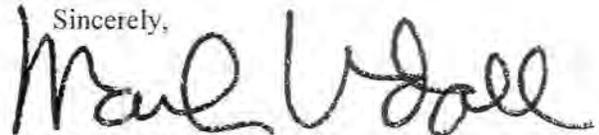
On behalf of the Subcommittee on National Parks of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, I would like to invite you or your designee to testify at the Subcommittee's hearing on Wednesday, July 22, 2009, at 2:30 p.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on several bills, including: S. 715, to establish a pilot program to provide for the preservation and rehabilitation of historic lighthouses; S. 742, to expand the boundary of the Jimmy Carter National Historic Site in the State of Georgia, to redesignate the unit as a National Historical Park, and for other purposes; S. 1270, to modify the boundary of the Oregon Caves National Monument, and for other purposes; S. 1418 and H.R. 2330, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to carry out a study to determine the suitability and feasibility of establishing Camp Hale as a unit of the National Park System; and H.R. 2430, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to continue stocking fish in certain lakes in the North Cascades National Park, Ross Lake National Recreation Area, and Lake Chelan National Recreation Area.

In order to maximize time available for Committee Members to ask questions, it would be helpful if you would summarize your written testimony. Your written testimony will be included in-full in the Committee's printed hearing record. Please provide the Committee with an electronic copy, as well as 50 printed copies of your testimony at least 48 hours in advance of the hearing.

If you have any questions, please have your staff contact David Brooks (202) 224-9863, david_brooks@energy.senate.gov, or Anna Fox (202) 224-1219, anna_fox@energy.senate.gov.

Sincerely,



Mark Udall
Chairman
Subcommittee on National Parks

SECRETARY
THE

2009 JUL 22 11:03 AM

40829

RECEIVED

Guidelines for Delivery of Testimony

Electronic Testimony:

- **At least two working days** in advance of the hearing please send an electronic copy of your testimony via email to: anna_fox@energy.senate.gov

The Committee intends to post your testimony on its website, <http://energy.senate.gov> in order to make it widely available to the public.

Delivery of Hard Copies of Testimony:

- Please ensure that **50 hard copies** of your testimony arrive to the Committee **two full working days** in advance of the scheduled hearing date. The copies should go to:

**Anna Fox
304 Dirksen Office Building
Washington, DC 20510**

- Executive Branch couriers with appropriate identification may deliver packages directly to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.
- Local and independent couriers will be directed to deliver packages to the Congressional Acceptance Trailer located at 160 D Street, N.E., Washington, D.C., to be tested for possible contaminants. You must allow 4 working days from the time the package is received by the Senate for testing and subsequent delivery to the Committee offices. The Congressional Acceptance Trailer should be notified in advance by phone (202-224-5600) or via email congressional_acceptancesite@saa.senate.gov prior to delivery. **If you plan to hire a courier service for delivery, please contact Anna to make special arrangements in advance.**
- Deliveries by commercial couriers (e.g. USPS, UPS, FedEx, Emery, Airborne Express, etc.) require 4 working days from the time the package is received by the Senate for testing and subsequent delivery to the Committee offices.

NOTE: If testimony is being delivered by courier, please include the name of the Committee staff contact and room number on the envelope.

Anna Fox
U.S. Senate Committee on
Energy and Natural Resources
304 Dirksen Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

If timing for delivery appears to be a problem, please call Anna Fox (202-224-1219) and arrangements can be made.

JEFF BINGAMAN, New Mexico, *Chairman*

BYRON L. DORGAN, North Dakota
RON WYDEN, Oregon
TIM WAINMAN, South Dakota
MARY L. LANDRIEU, Louisiana
MARIA CANTWELL, Washington
ROBERT MENENDEZ, New Jersey
BLANCHE L. LINCOLN, Arkansas
BERNARD SANDERS, Vermont
EVAN BAYH, Indiana
DEBBIE STABENOW, Michigan
MARK UDALL, Colorado
JEANNE SHAHEEN, New Hampshire

LISA MURKOWSKI, Alaska
RICHARD BURR, North Carolina
JOHN BARRASSO, Wyoming
SAM BROWNBACK, Kansas
JAMES E. RISCH, Idaho
JOHN MCGAIN, Arizona
ROBERT F. BENNETT, Utah
JIM BUNNING, Kentucky
JEFF SESSIONS, Alabama
BOB CORKER, Tennessee

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6150

ENERGY.SENATE.GOV

ROBERT M. SIMON, STAFF DIRECTOR
SAM E. FOWLER, CHIEF COUNSEL
MCKIE CAMPBELL, REPUBLICAN STAFF DIRECTOR
KAREN K. BILLUPS, REPUBLICAN CHIEF COUNSEL

July 7, 2009

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar:

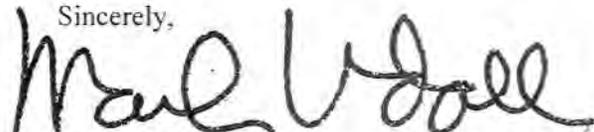
On behalf of the Subcommittee on National Parks of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, I would like to invite you or your designee to testify at the Subcommittee's hearing on Wednesday, July 15, 2009, at 2:30 p.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on several bills, including: S. 227, to establish the Harriet Tubman National Historical Park in Auburn, New York, and the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Historical Park in Caroline, Dorchester, and Talbot Counties, Maryland, and for other purposes; S. 625, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish the Waco Mammoth National Monument in the State of Texas; S. 853, to designate additional segments and tributaries of White Clay Creek, in the States of Delaware and Pennsylvania, as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System; S. 1053, to amend the National Law Enforcement Museum Act to extend the termination date; S. 1117, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide assistance in implementing cultural heritage, conservation, and recreational activities in the Connecticut River watershed of the States of New Hampshire and Vermont; S. 1168 and H.R. 1694, to authorize the acquisition and protection of nationally significant battlefields and associated sites of the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812 under the American Battlefield Protection Program; and H.R. 714, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to lease certain lands in Virgin Islands National Park, and for other purposes.

In order to maximize time available for Committee Members to ask questions, it would be helpful if you would summarize your written testimony. Your written testimony will be included in-full in the Committee's printed hearing record. Please provide the Committee with an electronic copy, as well as 50 printed copies of your testimony at least 48 hours in advance of the hearing.

If you have any questions, please have your staff contact David Brooks (202) 224-9863, davidbrooks@energy.senate.gov, or Anna Fox (202) 224-1219, anna_fox@energy.senate.gov.

Sincerely,



Mark Udall
Chairman
Subcommittee on National Parks

2010 JUL 13 PM 2:41

462037

RECEIVED

MARK UDALL
COLORADO



SUITE SH-317
SENATE HART OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510
(202) 224-5941

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 6, 2009

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C St, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar:

I am writing to express my support for the appointment of **Non-Responsive** of Pueblo, Colorado, to the National Park System Advisory Board.

As you know, **Non-Responsive** is a rancher in Pueblo County and has a long and distinguished background in many natural resource issues. He has been involved in many important public land and water issues in Colorado. Through this work and his time as a political science professor he has acquired an appreciation for the complex issues facing public lands and national parks. His knowledge and experience—and keen insight into political dynamics that are involved in such issues—would be a tremendous asset to the issues facing the National Park Service and our national parks.

As a Coloradan I am sure you are familiar with **Non-Responsive** and know of his passion for the land and his wealth of experience and knowledge. I hope you will give **Non-Responsive** serious consideration for this position and the benefits he can bring to the agency and our parks.

Sincerely,

Mark Udall

OFFICE
EXECUTIVE

2010 JUL 15 PM 12:02

462326

PROCESSED



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

JUL 16 2009

The Honorable Mark Udall
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Udall:

Thank you for your letter of July 6, 2009, expressing your support for the appointment of **Non-Responsive** to the National Park System Advisory Board. The Department received your letter on July 15, 2009.

We sincerely appreciate your interest in this matter. Your letter is being reviewed in the appropriate office and **Non-Responsive** will be contacted if he is selected to serve on the Board.

Please let me know whenever I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Ken Salazar



15

Date: 6/18/09

To: Secretary Ken Salazar, Dept. of the Interior

From: Senator Mark Udall

Attention: Sec. Ken Salazar

RE:

No. of pages including cover: 3

**U.S. Senator
Mark Udall**
Colorado

317 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: 202-224-5941
Fax: 202-224-6471
<http://markudall.senate.gov>

- Urgent For Review Please Comment Please Reply

Message:

RECEIVED
 2009 JUN 22 AM 9:03
 OFFICE OF THE
 EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

460774

MARK UDALL
COLORADO

SUITE 9H-317
SENATE HART OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510
(202) 224-5041

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 19, 2009

Chief Abigail Kimbell
United States Forest Service
1400 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20250-0003

Dear Chief Kimbell:

A number of years ago, at a briefing on human rights issues in China, I was approached by Mr. John Kenneth Knaus, an associate at Harvard's Fairbank Center for East Asian Research and a former employee of the Central Intelligence Agency. He told me that while with the CIA he had helped train Tibetan refugees seeking to resist the Chinese occupation of Tibet. He is the author of "Orphans of the Cold War," a book about this CIA project.

I was particularly interested to learn that the training took place at Camp Hale, a Colorado facility that also was used for training by the U.S. Army's 10th Mountain Division. As you know, that site is on the White River National Forest, and is located between the towns of Minturn and Leadville. Camp Hale was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1992.

Some 300 Tibetans were trained in this program and dispatched back to India and Nepal, from where they launched guerrilla and intelligence gathering operations against the Chinese Communist Army throughout the 1960s. A sizeable number of these men and the compatriots with whom they fought were killed. A handful are still alive today.

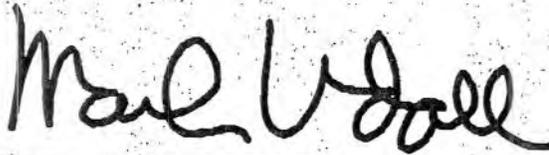
Some time ago we contacted the Forest Service to see what might be done to appropriately commemorate the role of Camp Hale in connection with the training of the Tibetans. The Forest Service did not offer immediate assistance, and we have not made progress on this idea in the intervening years. Still, I think that is an idea well worth exploring.

I propose the placement of a small plaque at Camp Hale, to accompany plaques already there honoring the 10th Mountain Division's use of the site. The cost of this effort would be extremely modest, but the acknowledgment of the unique use of Colorado's mountains would be a lasting memorial to a shared worthy endeavor of the American and the Tibetan people.

I believe that the placing of such a plaque at a site that is associated with the traditions and motivation of the Tibetans' fellow mountaineers of the Tenth Mountain Division would be a meaningful act today and for generations to come. It would be all the more meaningful if this memorial were put in place soon, while a few Tibetan fighters are still alive to appreciate such a gesture of appreciation for their service so many years ago.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Udall". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mark Udall
U.S. Senator

CC: The Honorable Ken Salazar, Secretary of the Interior

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 19, 2009

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001

Dear Mr. Secretary:

We are writing to express our support of *Over The River*, the temporary work of art that internationally renowned artists Christo and Jeanne-Claude have proposed to exhibit in Colorado. We ask that the Department make this project a priority and that the Bureau of Land Management give a fair, full and expeditious environmental review of the artists' application. This project involves suspending 5.9 miles of silvery fabric high above a 40-mile stretch of the Arkansas River between Cañon City and Salida. It would be exhibited for two weeks, hopefully during the summer of 2012.

We believe that *Over The River* has the potential to be of great benefit to the state of Colorado, both culturally and economically. Estimates by independent researchers have projected that nearly \$200 million in additional spending could flow into the Colorado economy as a result of this project. Furthermore, *Over The River* will leave Colorado with a lasting artistic legacy and will help enhance our state's growing reputation as a place of cultural excellence. Even more impressive is the fact that Colorado will reap these benefits without public subsidy or taxpayer support, as the estimated \$50 million cost of *Over The River* will be entirely funded by the artists.

This project has received widespread support throughout Colorado, including tourism organizations, the commercial rafting community, chambers of commerce, economic development groups, the arts community, and many residents from the Arkansas River Valley and across the state. A list of some of the supporting organizations and individuals is attached.

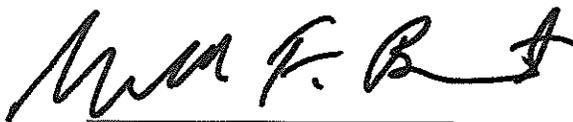
We recognize that there are challenges to completing *Over The River*, particularly as it relates to traffic and safety. It is important to us that these issues are aired and mitigated before the work of art will be exhibited. We commend Christo and Jeanne-Claude for requesting a comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) – as opposed to a less extensive Environmental Assessment – in order to thoroughly analyze and address the concerns of local residents. We look forward to reviewing the EIS, and we have confidence that the artists are willing to take the necessary actions to mitigate the impacts outlined in the final document. Given Christo and Jeanne-Claude's track record of sensitivity to environmental and public concerns, we believe that the project's challenges can be addressed and that *Over The River* can become a reality.

We appreciate your office's hard work on this project. We will look forward to communicating with you about *Over The River* in the future as this project continues to move forward.

Sincerely,



Mark Udall
U.S. Senate



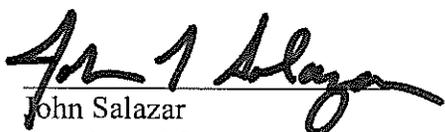
Michael Bennet
U.S. Senate



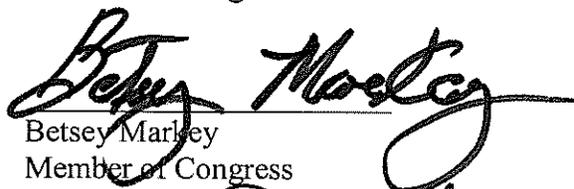
Diana DeGette
Member of Congress



Jared Polis
Member of Congress



John Salazar
Member of Congress



Betsey Markey
Member of Congress



Mike Coffman
Member of Congress



Ed Perlmutter
Member of Congress

Over The River Supporters

Many organizations have already pledged their support of *Over The River*. Below is a partial list of the individuals and organizations that have submitted statements of support to date.

- Arkansas River Outfitters Association
- Art Works For the Heart of the Rockies
- Canon City Chamber of Commerce
- Richard F. Celeste, President of Colorado College
- Chaffee County Visitor's Bureau
- Colorado Springs Convention and Visitors Bureau
- Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center
- Colorado Council on the Arts
- Cultural Office of the Pikes Peak Region (COPPeR)
- Maggie Divelbiss, Executive Director of the Sangre de Cristo Arts Center
- Dvorak Expeditions and Bill Dvorak
- Fremont Center for the Arts
- Fremont County Tourism Council
- Dr. Robin Gooldy, Superintendent of Canon City Schools
- John W. Hickenlooper, Mayor of the City & County of Denver
- The Mountain Mail
- Barbara O'Brien, Lieutenant Governor of Colorado
- Sangre de Cristo Arts Center Board of Trustees
- Doug Shane, Executive Director of the Canon City Chamber of Commerce
- Lewis Sharp, Denver Art Museum Director
- George Turner, Former Executive Director of the Canon City Chamber of Commerce
- Visit Denver, The Convention & Visitors Bureau
- Whitewater Adventure Outfitters



FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION
United States Department of the Interior
Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, D.C (202) 208-7693
Fax: (202) 208-7619

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PLEASE DELIVER:

NAME: Honorable Mark Udall

ORGANIZATION: U.S. Senate

PHONE: (202) 224-5941

FAX: (202) 224-6471

FROM: Eric Sanders

PAGES, INCLUDING COVER PAGE: 4

DATE: 6/30/09

COMMENTS: _____



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240



JUN 30 2009

Honorable Mark Udall
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 21510

Dear Senator Udall:

Thank you for your letter of June 17, 2009, requesting the Department immediately review our authorities, rules, and regulations to see whether we can grant an across-the-board contract term extension of 3 years to Bureau of Land Management timber sales purchasers in your States. The Department received your letter on June 24, 2009.

We sincerely appreciate your interest in this matter, and you will hear from us again in the near future.

Please let me know whenever I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Christopher Mansour
Director, Office of Congressional
and Legislative Affairs



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR

WASHINGTON

SEP 10 2009

The Honorable Mark Udall
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Udall:

Thank you for your June 22, 2009, letter expressing support for artists Christo and Jeanne-Claude's *Over the River* Project. As you note in your letter, there are challenges to completing this installation, but the Department of the Interior, through the Bureau of Land Management, has begun a review of the project under the National Environmental Policy Act.

In accordance with its regulations (43 CFR 2900), the BLM will also address the Over the River Corporation's Land Use Application compliance with the Royal Gorge Resource Management Plan. Accordingly, the BLM is preparing an environmental impact statement to develop an appropriate range of reasonable alternatives and to assess the impacts of the proposed action.

The BLM has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the OTR Corporation, as well as other affected agencies, to guide the EIS process.

We appreciate your providing a list of the organizations and individuals in support of the OTR Corporation's proposal. We are committed to ensuring that interested parties and individuals have the opportunity to participate in the environmental review of this project.

I hope this information is useful to you. We look forward to your continued involvement. An identical letter has been sent to the seven other signatories of your June 22, 2009, letter.

Sincerely,

Ken Salazar

Guidelines for Delivery of Testimony

Electronic Testimony:

- At least 48 hours in advance to the hearing please send an electronic copy of your testimony via email to: anna_fox@energy.senate.gov.

The Committee intends to post your testimony on its website, <http://energy.senate.gov> in order to make it widely available to the public.

Delivery of Hard Copies of Testimony:

- Please ensure that 50 hard copies of your testimony arrive to the Committee by Noon on Monday, June 15th. The copies should go to:

**Anna Fox
304 Dirksen Office Building
Washington, DC 20510**

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- Local and independent couriers will be directed to deliver packages to the Congressional Acceptance Trailer located at 160 D Street, N.E., Washington, D.C., to be tested for possible contaminants. You must allow 4 working days from the time the package is received by the Senate for testing and subsequent delivery to the Committee offices. The Congressional Acceptance Trailer should be notified in advance by phone (202-224-5600) or via email congressional_acceptancesite@saa.senate.gov prior to delivery. **If you plan to hire a courier service for delivery, please contact Anna to make special arrangements in advance.**
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NOTE: If testimony is being delivered by courier, please include the name of the Committee staff contact and room number on the envelope.

Anna Fox
U.S. Senate Committee on
Energy and Natural Resources
304 Dirksen Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

If timing for delivery appears to be a problem, please call Anna Fox (202-224-1219) and arrangements can be made.

JEFF BINGAMAN, New Mexico, Chairman

BYRON L. DORGAN, North Dakota
RON WYDEN, Oregon
TIM JOHNSON, South Dakota
MARY L. LANDRIEU, Louisiana
MARIA CANTWELL, Washington
ROBERT MENENDEZ, New Jersey
BLANCHE L. LINCOLN, Arkansas
BERNARD SANDERS, Vermont
EVAN BAYH, Indiana
DEBBIE STABENOW, Michigan
MARK UDALL, Colorado
JERNE SHAHEEN, New Hampshire

LISA MURKOWSKI, Alaska
RICHARD BURR, North Carolina
JOHN BARRASSO, Wyoming
SAM BROWNBACK, Kansas
JAMES E. RISCH, Idaho
JOHN MCCAIN, Arizona
ROBERT F. BENNETT, Utah
JIM BUNNING, Kentucky
JEFF SESSIONS, Alabama
BOB CORKER, Tennessee

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6150

ENERGY.SENATE.GOV

June 8, 2009

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar:

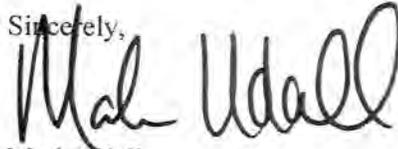
On behalf of the Subcommittee on National Parks of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, I would like to invite you or your designee to testify at the Subcommittee's hearing on Tuesday, June 16, 2009, at 2:30 p.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on the President's proposed Fiscal Year 2010 budget for the National Park Service and proposed expenditures under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

In order to maximize time available for Committee Members to ask questions, it would be helpful if you would summarize your written testimony. Your written testimony will be included in-full in the Committee's printed hearing record. Please provide the Committee with an electronic copy, as well as 50 printed copies of your testimony at least 48 hours in advance of the hearing.

If you have any questions, please have your staff contact David Brooks (202) 224-9863, david_brooks@energy.senate.gov, or Anna Fox (202) 224-1219, anna_fox@energy.senate.gov.

Sincerely,



Mark Udall
Chairman
Subcommittee on National Parks

EXPIRES
OFFICE OF THE CLERK

2009 JUN 16 AM 9:42

RECEIVED

460430

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 4, 2009

458049

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am writing on behalf of Judge E. Cooper Brown, who is interested in serving in the U.S. Department of the Interior as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Insular Affairs.

RECEIVED
2009 MAY 13 AM 11:37
OFFICE OF THE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

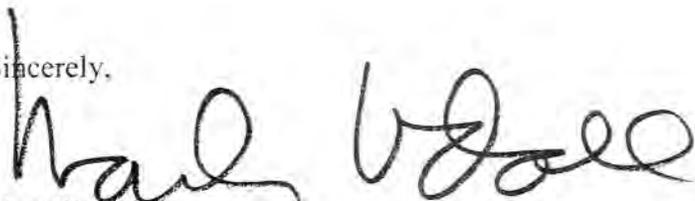
Cooper has a long record of public service and is recognized and respected for his current work as Chief Administrative Appeals Judge for the District of Columbia's Department of Employment Services workers disability compensation program. His legal management skills are widely regarded and would prove invaluable to the Office of Insular Affairs.

Previously, Cooper was appointed by President Bill Clinton to serve in the U.S. Department of Labor. He worked as an administrative appeals judge focused on employment and labor law.

I believe the Department of the Interior would benefit from his experience, energy and interest in the issues faced by the Office of Insular Affairs.

I am pleased to write this letter of support for Judge E. Cooper Brown and hope you will give him every consideration as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Insular Affairs in the U.S. Department of the Interior. If your staff has any questions, please feel free to have them contact me at (202) 224-5941.

Sincerely,



Mark E. Udall
U.S. Senator

Cc: Don Gips, Director, Office of Presidential Personnel

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 4, 2009

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
Department of the Interior
1849 C St NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar:

First, we would like to thank you for your long-time support for and commitment to the Arkansas Valley Conduit, which has led to the exciting new prospect of delivering clean and safe water to the many communities east of Pueblo, Colorado. As you know, they are struggling to meet the water quality standards mandated by the federal government at a time when their own economies and revenue sources are strained.

Because we share your commitment to provide clean, safe water to all communities in Colorado, we are writing to emphasize the importance of including funding for the conduit in the Administration's pending budget request to Congress.

We will be supporting an appropriation of \$9 million for the Arkansas Valley Conduit for FY2010. This level of funding will allow for construction of the conduit to begin in the next three years following completion of all environmental compliance requirements, design and other pre-construction tasks. While even this seems a lengthy timetable, funding in FY2010 would help to make completion possible in the next six to seven years.

As you know, inclusion of funding in the Bureau of Reclamation's proposed budget will greatly enhance the ability of Congress to appropriate funds in these difficult budget times. With a budget request from your department, we can work closely together to ensure that the Arkansas Valley Conduit, envisioned for the Lower Valley in the 1950s and originally authorized in 1962, will soon serve its worthy purpose of providing an efficient and affordable water supply for the people of southeastern Colorado.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We appreciate the Department of the Interior's willingness to seriously consider this request consistent with all applicable laws and regulations.

Sincerely,

Mark Udall Michael Bennet

Mark Udall
U.S. Senator

Michael Bennet
U.S. Senator

John Salazar

John Salazar
U.S. Representative

Betsy Markey

Betsy Markey
U.S. Representative



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

AUG 13 2009

Honorable Mark Udall
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Udall:

Thank you for your letter dated May 4, 2009, in support of the Bureau of Reclamation funding for the Arkansas Valley Conduit in the President's Budget for Fiscal Year 2010.

We share your concern about the availability of clean and safe water for communities in Colorado. The new cost share authorization for the Arkansas Valley Conduit contained in Section 9115 of Public Law 111-11 was passed too late for consideration in the President's Budget for FY 2010. However, we are committed to working with you on this issue in the FY 2011 budget process.

We look forward to working with you in the future on the Arkansas Valley Conduit and other Reclamation projects.

Thank you for all you do for Colorado and the Nation.

Sincerely,

Ken Salazar
Ken Salazar

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

4 55:28
April 15, 2009

RECEIVED

2009 APR 29 8:10:16

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar:

I am writing on behalf of **Non-Responsive** who is interested in serving in the U.S. Department of the Interior. He would like to be considered for Chief Financial Officer, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Budget and Business Management, and Deputy Assistant Secretary for Human Capital, Performance, and Partnerships.

Non-Responsive is known nationally as a leader in government financial management. He recently completed a term as the **Non-Responsive**

Non-Responsive He has also served **Non-Responsive**
Non-Responsive

Currently, **Non-Responsive**
Non-Responsive

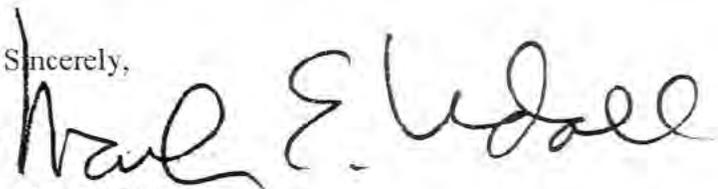
He manages regional budgets that total nearly \$700 billion.

In addition to numerous professional accomplishments, **Non-Responsive** has inspired many Coloradans through his volunteer work and community activism. He has been a significant leader on many levels and is widely acknowledged for his public service.

I believe the new administration would benefit from **Non-Responsive** experience, energy and commitment to serving our nation.

I am pleased to write this letter of support for **Non-Responsive** and hope you will give him every consideration for a position at the Department of the Interior.

Sincerely,



Mark E. Udall
U.S. Senator

Cc: Mr. Don Gips, Director, Office of Presidential Personnel



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, D.C. 20240

MAY 4 2009

The Honorable Mark E. Udall
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Udall:

Thank you for your letter of April 15, 2009, to Secretary Salazar recommending [REDACTED] for a position at the Department of the Interior. We are moving as expeditiously as possible to fill these important jobs and will give this candidate very serious consideration.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 202-208-6133 if I can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,

Renee Stone
Deputy Chief of Staff

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

February 25, 2009

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary, U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

The Honorable Tom Vilsack
Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20250

The Honorable Dr. Steven Chu
Secretary, U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20585

The Honorable Janet Napolitano
Secretary, U.S. Department of Homeland
Security
Washington, DC 20528

Dear Secretaries Salazar, Vilsack, Chu, and Napolitano:

We are writing to urge your agencies to do what they can to help us address the serious bark beetle infestation affecting our forests in Colorado—an infestation that impacts the state's economy, environment and water supplies. Two million acres of Colorado's high-elevation lodgepole pine forests are dead or dying. Municipal and county governments of the region and the state of Colorado are extremely concerned about the hazards of wildfire and falling trees to the health and safety of citizens, their homes and communities, vital public infrastructure such as power lines, and critical water supplies.

Now that the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) has been signed into law, we urge your agencies to seriously consider applying those funds to address the threats of wildfire and falling dead trees. In northern Colorado, the Forest Service alone has NEPA-ready projects valued at \$57.4 million ready to go if and when money is made available through the ARRA. (Over ninety percent of the forests in northern Colorado are public lands, almost all managed by the U.S. Forest Service; The Bureau of Land Management and the National Park Service also manage some lands.) These projects will create jobs, produce renewable energy from the removal of insect-killed trees, and protect watersheds that provide water to ten states.

In the five-county epicenter of the dead and dying forests there are:

- 12 incorporated municipalities located within the forest and 11 more adjacent to the forest.
- 28 incorporated municipalities that derive their primary source of drinking water from creeks flowing through dead and dying forests.
- 2,000 miles of roadways—many of which would be needed in the event of an evacuation—that are in jeopardy due to dead standing trees in the right-of-way.
- 1,500 miles of recreational trails on three national forests that are in jeopardy of closure due to falling dead trees.
- 21,455 acres of national forest developed recreation sites that are in jeopardy of closure due to falling tree hazards.

- World-class ski resorts that must cope with safety and aesthetic issues presented by dead trees on slopes.
- More than 2,000 miles of national forest grazing fences, which are the responsibility of the rancher permittee, that are in jeopardy due to falling trees.
- 52 emergency communications sites that are in jeopardy.
- 633 miles of electrical transmission lines at risk from falling trees and that will not withstand a wildfire.
- 1,314 miles of electrical distribution lines at risk from falling trees and that will not withstand a wildfire.

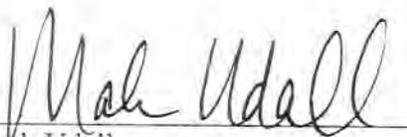
In addition, the Colorado River rises and flows through these forests, supplying the metropolitan areas of Denver, Las Vegas, Phoenix, and Southern California. Major electrical transmission lines that feed the Western Grid (which serves the entire western United States) run directly through the heart of these forests.

We, the members of Colorado's congressional delegation, strongly urge you to:

- Immediately assess the hazards posed to the resources managed by your departments by this critical situation.
- Meet with affected municipal and county governments and stakeholders to assess the threats posed by this critical situation to their citizens, public infrastructure and water supplies.
- Develop budget proposals to effectively mitigate the hazards posed.
- Develop priority action plans to expedite the hazard mitigation projects.
- Report the assessment, proposed budgets, and proposed action plans to the Governor of the State of Colorado and the Colorado Congressional delegation.
- Begin the implementation of the priority action plans within the current fiscal year.

Jobs created in the public and private sectors to respond to the enormous task of implementing hazard mitigation projects will provide significant stimulus to our state and national economy. We cannot overstate the threat to communities and our fellow Coloradans' way of life posed by these dead and dying federal forests. We urge you take decisive actions within your authorities to avert potential disaster.

Sincerely,



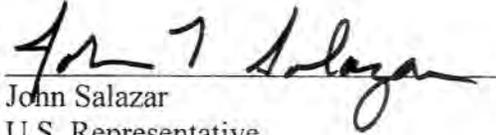
Mark Udall
U.S. Senator



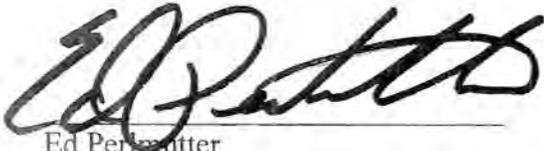
Michael Bennet
U.S. Senator



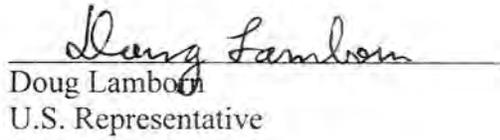
Diana DeGette
U.S. Representative



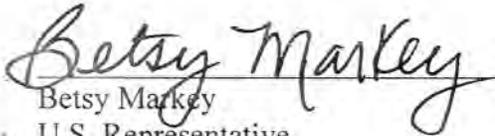
John Salazar
U.S. Representative



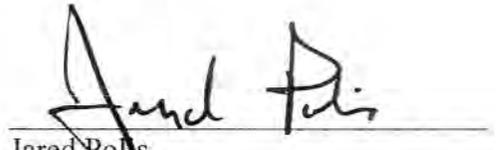
Ed Perlmutter
U.S. Representative



Doug Lamborn
U.S. Representative



Betsy Markey
U.S. Representative



Jared Polis
U.S. Representative



Mike Coffman
U.S. Representative