

February 3, 2011

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

Dear Secretary Salazar,

The 70 undersigned elected officials from Colorado are writing to thank you for the important Secretarial Order that you announced on December 23rd, restoring the path toward protection for wild lands across the West and acknowledging the important role of wilderness in the multiple uses of our public lands. Since the passage of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) in 1976, identifying and protecting wilderness values has been part of the BLM's mandate. Secretarial Order 3310 recognizes this mandate and ensures that wilderness qualities on critical landscapes throughout the West will be considered in public lands management decisions.

Wild lands provide an important economic engine in the West and across the entire United States – visitors come from around the nation and world to visit our prized landscapes and tourism has remained a reliable economic driver for generations. In fact, activities like hunting, hiking, camping, skiing and fishing support nearly 6.5 million jobs in the United States, and provide a \$730 billion annual contribution to the United States economy.¹ Protecting the lands that sustain this income is common sense.

We look forward to following your progress on implementation of Secretarial Order 3310, and working with our local BLM offices to make sure that wilderness values of our local landscapes are inventoried and duly considered in management decisions. We again thank you for moving forward with this important Order, which restores needed balance to public land management in the West.

Sincerely,

¹ Outdoor Industry Foundation. *"The Active Outdoor Recreation Economy"*
<http://www.outdoorindustry.org/images/researchfiles/RecEconomypublic.pdf?26>

Tim Mauck
Clear Creek County Commissioner

Wally White
La Plata County Commissioner

Elaine Fisher
San Miguel County Commissioner

Joan May
San Miguel County Commissioner

Art Goodtimes
San Miguel County Commissioner

Bruce Christensen
Mayor of Glenwood Springs

Karn Stieglemeier
Summit County Commissioner

Dan Gibbs
Summit County Commissioner

Thomas Davidson
Summit County Commissioner

Crestina Martinez
Costilla County Commissioner

Roger Wilson
State Representative
House District 61

Deb Gardner
State Representative
House District 11

Jennifer McAtamney
Breckenridge Town Council

Eileen Davies
Breckenridge Town Council

Jacob Smith
Mayor of Golden

Michael Rendon
Mayor of Durango

Sal Pace
State Representative
House District 46

Gail Schwartz
State Senator
Senate District 5

Irene Aguilar
State Senator
Senate District 32

Brandon Shaffer
State Senate President
Senate District 1

Randy Fisher
State Representative
House District 32

Matt Jones
State Representative
House District 12

Michael Owsley
Pitkin County Commissioner

George Newman
Pitkin County Commissioner

Jack Hatfield
Pitkin County Commissioner

Rachael Richards
Pitkin County Commissioner

Rob Ittner
Pitkin County Commissioner

Karin Teague
Basalt Town Council

John Hoffmann
Carbondale Town Council

Frosty Merriott
Carbondale Town Council

Linda Newell
State Senator
Senate District 26

Jeanne Nicholson
State Senator
Senate District 16

Cherylin Peniston
State Representative
House District 35

Sue Schafer
State Representative
House District 24

Max Tyler
State Representative
District 23

Angela Williams
State Representative
House District 7

Joe Miklosi
State Representative
House District 9

John M. Kefalas
State Representative
House District 52

Bob Bacon
Colorado State Senator
District 14

Andy Kerr
State Representative
District 26

Lucia Guzman
State Senator
District 34

Edward Casso
State Representative
House District 32

Rhonda Fields
State Representative
House District 42

Jeanne Labuda
State Representative
House District 1

Dan Pabon
State Representative
House District 4

Nancy Todd
State Representative
House District 21

Edward Vigil
State Representative
District 62

Pete Lee
State Representative
House District 18

Christiana Duran
State Representative
House District 5

Michael Johnston
State Senator
Senate District 33

Mick Ireland
Mayor of Aspen

Will Toor
Boulder County Commissioner

Ben Pearlman
Chair, Boulder County Commission

Cindy Domenico
Vice Chair, Boulder County Commission

Faith Winter
Westminster City Council

Mark Kaiser
Westminster City Council

Su Ryden
State Representative
House District 36

KC Becker
Boulder City Council

Chris Nevitt
President, Denver City Council

Paul Lopez
Denver City Council

Judy Solano
State Representative
House District 31

Pat Steadman
State Senator
Senate District 31

Eva Henry
Thornton City Council

Tom Quinn
Lakewood City Council

Dominick Moreno
Commerce City City Council

Molly Markert
Aurora City Council

Mark McGoff
Arvada City Council

Rollie Heath
State Senator
Senate District 18

Evie Hudak
State Senator
Senate District 19

Rachel Zenzinger
Arvada City Council