

President Barack Obama
White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

April 15, 2014

Re: Recent Actions to Protect America's Public Lands

Dear President Barack Obama,

We the undersigned state legislators would like to applaud you for acting quickly on your State of the Union commitment to protect America's public lands by using your authority this spring to protect public lands along California's northern coast and call for full funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund. We support continued administrative action to protect our public lands heritage.

From the deep river gorge at Rio Grande del Norte to the ragged coastline of Acadia, you know personally that America's public lands contain some of the most beautiful sights in the country. Each year, millions of Americans plan family vacations to these special places to enjoy these view sheds and take advantage of outdoor adventures. This passion to enjoy the outdoors spurs America's outdoor recreation economy, generating \$646 billion in consumer spending and 6.1 million direct jobs annually, as well as encouraging entrepreneurs to relocate and grow their businesses near protected public lands.

Unfortunately many of these same landscapes are also home to highly sought-after natural resources increasing the risk of mining, logging and drilling, which put these landscapes at risk. It is a pivotal moment in history to protect some of the country's last wild places to ensure future generations can enjoy them just as our economy benefits from them today.

We stand in support of your message delivered in the State of the Union that you will use your executive authority to protect our public lands.

As legislators, we encourage action from Congress to protect these landscapes but, as you know, for the last three years Congress has passed just one bill to designate new wilderness. Our economies can't afford to wait. Thank you for acting decisively to expand the California Coastal Monument to include the Point Arena-Stornetta Public Lands in Mendocino County, California. We hope you will continue to work with local communities to protect public landscapes including the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks near Las Cruces, NM, and Boulder-White Clouds in Idaho. Your administration can deliver a bold agenda for permanently protecting our most critically important cultural and natural heritage in your remaining years in office.

Another critical tool for protecting our public lands is America's premier conservation program, the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). We are heartened by your continued support for this program. Since its inception, LWCF has invested nearly \$14.4 billion into protecting state and federal lands. Over 40,000 grants have come to our states and localities allowing us to give more opportunities for youth

and families to enjoy the outdoors while protecting critical habitat for wildlife. We look forward to working with you to ensure full and continued funding of LWCF and we look forward to working with you to support the full resources it deserves.

Thank you again for protecting those places “too special to develop”, and investing in our state and local economies. We look forward to continuing to work with you to make sure our parks and public lands get the funding they need and the protections they deserve.

Sincerely,

Assemblymember Tom Ammiano

California

Senator Marty Block

California

Assemblymember Richard Bloom

California

Assemblymember Rob Bonta

California

Assemblymember Wesley Chesbro, Assembly
Natural Resources Committee Chair; Co-Chair,
Environmental Caucus

California

Senator Ellen Corbett, Senate Majority Leader

California

Assemblymember Roger Dickinson

California

Senator Noreen Evans

California

Assemblymember Paul Fong

California

Assemblymember Mike Gatto

California

Assemblymember Lorena Gonzalez

California

Senator Loni Hancock,

California

Senator Jerry Hill, Senate Environmental Quality

Committee Chair

California

Senator Ben Hueso

California

Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson

California

Assemblymember Marc Levine

California

Senator Carol Liu

California

Assemblymember Bonnie Lowenthal

California

Assemblymember Kevin Mullin, Assistant
Speaker pro Tempore of the Assembly

California

Assemblymember Adrin Nazarian

California

Senator Alex Padilla, Senate Committee on
Energy, Utilities and Communications Chair

California

Senator Fran Pavley, Senate Committee on
Natural Resources and Water Chair; Co-Chair,
Environmental Caucus

California

Assemblymember V. Manuel Pérez
California

Assemblymember Anthony Rendon, Assembly
Committee on Water, Parks and Wildlife Chair
California

Assemblymember Mark Stone
California

Assemblymember Phil Ting
California

Assemblymember Bob Wieckowski
California

Assemblymember Das Williams
California

Senator Irene Aguilar
Colorado

Representative Millie Hamner
Colorado

Representative Dickie Lee Hullinghorst
Colorado

Senator Matt Jones
Colorado

Representative Paul Rosenthal
Colorado

Representative Jonathan Singer
Colorado

Representative Matthew Lesser
Connecticut

Representative Diana Urban
Connecticut

Representative Karla Drenner
Georgia

Representative Scott Holcomb
Georgia

Representative Dar'shun Kendrick
Georgia

Representative Mary Margaret Oliver
Georgia

Representative Valencia Stovall
Georgia

Representative Chris Lee, Energy and
Environmental Protection Committee Chair
Hawaii

Representative Phyllis King
Idaho

Representative Donna Pence
Idaho

Senator Michelle Stennet, Senate Minority
Leader
Idaho

Senator Elliot Werk
Idaho

Representative Paul Froehlich
Illinois - Ret.

Representative Gail Reicken
Indiana

Representative Marti Anderson
Iowa

Representative Charles Isenhardt
Iowa

Representative Dan Kelley
Iowa

Representative Tom Burch
Kentucky

Representative Mary Lou Marzian
Kentucky

Representative Darryl Owens
Kentucky

Representative Denise Harlow
Maine

Representative Joan Welsh
Maine

Delegate Elizabeth Bobo
Maryland

Delegate James Hubbard, Deputy Majority
Leader
Maryland

Delegate Ariana Kelly
Maryland

Delegate Dan Morhaim, Deputy Majority Leader
Maryland

Representative Ruth Balsler
Massachusetts

Representative Jennifer Benson
Massachusetts

Representative Marjorie Decker
Massachusetts

Representative Paul Donato
Massachusetts

Senator James Eldridge
Massachusetts

Representative Sean Garballey
Massachusetts

Representative Anne Gobi
Massachusetts

Representative Jonathan Hecht
Massachusetts

Representative Paul Heroux
Massachusetts

Senator Patricia Jehlen
Massachusetts

Senator Brian Joyce
Massachusetts

Representative Stephen Kulik
Massachusetts

Representative Jay Livingstone
Massachusetts

Representative Liz Malia
Massachusetts

Representative Paul Mark
Massachusetts

Senator Michael Moore
Massachusetts

Senator Richard Moore
Massachusetts

Senator Kathleen O'Connor - Ives
Massachusetts

Representative Denise Provost
Massachusetts

Senator Mike Rush
Massachusetts

Representative John Scibak
Massachusetts

Representative Frank Smizik
Massachusetts

Senator Karen Spilka
Massachusetts

Representative Thomas Stanley
Massachusetts

Representative Timothy Toomey
Massachusetts

Representative Aaron Vega
Massachusetts

Representative Chris Walsh
Massachusetts

Representative Marcia Hovey-Wright
Michigan

Representative Jeff Irwin
Michigan

Representative Sarah Roberts
Michigan

Representative Rick Hansen
Minnesota

Representative Alice Hausman, Chair, Capital
Investments Committee
Minnesota

Representative Phyllis Kahn
Minnesota

Senator Deborah Dawkins
Mississippi

Representative Susan Meredith
Missouri

Representative Stacey Newman, Deputy
Minority Whip
Missouri

Representative Ellie Boldman Hill
Montana

Representative Virginia Court
Montana

Representative Margie MacDonald, Minority
Whip
Montana

Representative Mary McNally
Montana

Senator Mike Phillips
Montana

Representative Tom Steenberg
Montana

Representative Franke Wilmer
Montana

Senator Ken Haar
Nebraska

Senator Don Preister
Nebraska - Ret.

Assemblymember Paul Aizley, Speaker Pro
Tempore Nevada Assembly
Nevada

Assemblymember David Bobzien
Nevada

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New Hampshire

Representative Mariellen MacKay
New Hampshire

Representative Dick Patten
New Hampshire

Representative Ian Raymond
New Hampshire

Representative Donna Schlachman
New Hampshire

Representative Mary Till
New Hampshire

Representative Suzanne Vail
New Hampshire

Senator David Watters
New Hampshire

Representative Scott Burns
New Hampshire

Representative Richard Russman
New Hampshire - Ret.

Senator Bob Smith, Chair, Energy and
Environment Committee
New Jersey

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New Mexico

Representative Brian Egolf
New Mexico

Representative Doreen Gallegos
New Mexico

Senator Phil Griego
New Mexico

Senator Daniel Ivey-Soto
New Mexico

Representative Emily Kane
New Mexico

Senator Benny Shendo
New Mexico

Representative Gail Chasey
New Mexico

Senator Carlos Cisneros
New Mexico

Representative Miguel Garcia
New Mexico

Representative Stephanie Garcia Richard
New Mexico

Senator Timothy Keller
New Mexico

Representative Georgene Louis
New Mexico

Representative Antonio Maestas
New Mexico

Representative Bill McCamley
New Mexico

Senator Bill O'Neill
New Mexico

Senator Gerald Ortiz y Pino
New Mexico

Senator Michael Padilla
New Mexico

Senator Nancy Rodriguez
New Mexico

Representative Henry "Kiki" Saavedra
New Mexico

Representative Tomas Salazar
New Mexico

Senator Bill Soules
New Mexico

Representative Mimi Stewart
New Mexico

Representative Liz Thomson
New Mexico

Representative Carl Trujillo
New Mexico

Senator Peter Wirth
New Mexico

Senator Stephen Fischmann
New Mexico - Ret.

Assemblymember Thomas J. Abinanti
New York

Assemblymember Didi Barrett
New York

Assemblymember David Buchwald
New York

Assemblymember William Colton
New York

Assemblymember Steven Englebright, Chair,
Government Operations Committee
New York

Assemblymember Patricia Fahy
New York

Assemblymember Richard N. Gottfried
New York

Assemblymember Ellen Jaffee
New York

Assemblymember Brian Kavanagh
New York

Assemblymember Barbara Lifton
New York

Assemblymember Donna Lupardo
New York

Assemblymember Joan L. Millman
New York

Assemblymember Walter T. Mosley
New York

Assemblymember Félix Ortiz
New York

Assemblymember Steven Otis
New York

Assemblymember Gabriela Rosa
New York

Assemblymember Nily Rozic
New York

Assemblymember Addie J. Russell
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Assemblymember Sean Ryan
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Assemblymember Michelle Schimel
New York

Assemblymember Luis Sepúlveda
New York

Assemblymember Frank Skartados
New York

Senator Daniel Squadron
New York

Assemblymember Robert Sweeney
New York

Assemblymember Fred W. Thiele
New York

Assemblymember Harvey Weisenberg
New York

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North Carolina

Representative Susan Fisher
North Carolina

Representative Rick Glazier
North Carolina

Representative Pricey Harrison
North Carolina

Representative Graig Meyer
North Carolina

Representative Earline Parmon
North Carolina

Representative Mike Woodard
North Carolina

Senator Tim Mathern
North Dakota

Representative Nickie Antonio
Ohio

Representative Denise Driehaus
Ohio

Representative Mike Foley
Ohio

Representative Bob Hagan
Ohio

Representative Jules Bailey
Oregon

Representative Phil Barnhart
Oregon

Senator Lee Beyer
Oregon

Representative Peter Buckley
Oregon

Senator Richard Devlin
Oregon

Senator Mark Hass
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Representative Paul Holvey
Oregon

Representative Alissa Keny-Guyer
Oregon

Representative Carolyn Tomei
Oregon

Representative Ben Unger
Oregon

Representative Jessica Vega Pederson
Oregon

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Pennsylvania

Representative Roberto Alonzo
Texas

Representative Lon Burnam
Texas

Representative Dawnna Dukes
Texas

Representative Jessica Farrar
Texas

Representative Donna Howard
Texas

Representative Ruth Jones McClendon
Texas

Representative Elliott Naishtat
Texas

Representative Ron Reynolds
Texas

Representative Eddie Rodriguez
Texas

Representative Mike Villarreal
Texas

Representative Rebecca Chavez-Houck
Utah

Representative David Deen
Vermont

Delegate Bob Brink
Virginia

Senator Barbara Favola
Virginia

Delegate Patrick Hope
Virginia

Delegate Scott Surovell
Virginia

Senator Maralyn Chase
Washington

Representative Joe Fitzgibbon
Washington

Senator Karen Fraser
Washington

Senator David Frockt
Washington

Representative Mia Gregerson
Washington

Representative Ross Hunter
Washington

Senator Karen Keiser
Washington

Senator JeanneKohl-Wells
Washington

Senator Marco Lias
Washington

Senator Steve Litzow
Washington

Senator Rosemary McAuliffe
Washington

Senator John McCoy, Ranking Member,
Environment Committee
Washington

Senator Sharon Nelson
Washington

Representative Gerry Pollet
Washington

Senator Kevin Ranker
Washington

Senator Christine Rolfes
Washington

Representative Gary Hebl
Wisconsin

Representative Brett Hulse
Wisconsin

Senator Mark Miller
Wisconsin

Representative Sondy Pope
Wisconsin

Representative Melissa Sargent
Wisconsin