

**California League of Conservation Voters * Californians for Western Wilderness * Conservation Colorado *
Conservation Lands Foundation * Conservation Northwest * Environment America * Environment
California * Environment Colorado * Environment Washington * Environmental Protection Information
Center * Hispanic Access Foundation * Inland Ocean Coalition * Klamath Forest Alliance * League of
Conservation Voters * Sierra Club Alaska * Soda Mountain Wilderness Council * Southern Environmental
Law Center * The Wilderness Society
Tuleyome * Western Watersheds Project**

March 17, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
U.S. House of Representatives
1236 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Raul Grijalva
U.S. House of Representatives
1511 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Diana DeGette
U.S. House of Representatives
2111 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Joe Neguse
U.S. House of Representatives
1419 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Derek Kilmer
U.S. House of Representatives
2059 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Adam Schiff
U.S. House of Representatives
2309 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Salud Carbajal
U.S. House of Representatives
2331 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jared Huffman
U.S. House of Representatives
1527 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Judy Chu
U.S. House of Representatives
2423 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Chair Grijalva, Representatives DeGette, Neguse, Kilmer, Schiff, Carbajal, Huffman and Chu,

Thank you for your leadership in introducing and passing the Protecting America's Wilderness and Public Lands Act. This important move to protect 1.49 million acres of public land as wilderness and to add more than 1,000 river miles into the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System is a big step toward protecting 30 percent of United State lands and waters by 2030. Further, this legislation ensures that iconic landscapes like the Grand Canyon are permanently protected for future generations of Americans.

America is running short on nature. Every minute, we lose two football fields worth of forest, meadow, grassland, desert, beachfront, riverside or wetland. There are 3 billion fewer birds in North America than there were in 1970. There are far too many iconic animals native to our beautiful stretch of the planet that are now endangered or threatened. The Protecting America's Wilderness and Public Lands Act is an important step in reversing this trend.

Safeguarding our special places is widely supported by Americans of all stripes, with 4 out of 5 voters in favor of protecting more nature. And as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, more Americans have sought recreation opportunities and peace of mind in America's great outdoors.

We are thankful to have champions like you in Congress fighting to protect our public lands. We're thrilled that the final vote attracted support from both sides of the aisle. And we look forward to continuing to work with you and your staff to protect more nature.

Sincerely,

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