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An open letter to the Senate and House on LWCF

Dear members of the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives,

As Congress works on an economic stimulus package in this time of public health emergency, the below listed local elected officials hope you will invest in our parks, public lands, and outdoor recreation in recognition of their importance to our economy, and to our communities' well-being, through full funding of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF).

In the weeks and months to come, our nation's parks, trails, and outdoor spaces will be integral to our nation's coping and recovery. Great parks and green spaces make stronger, healthier communities. Everyone deserves access to the outdoors and the countless benefits parks provide. America's public lands bring us peace of mind and generate economic revenue - both will be critically needed to recover from the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak.

Our national, state and local parks, trails and public lands are a critical economic driver for communities big and small, urban and rural, across the nation. Across the nation, the travel and tourism industries have been taking a hit in the current crisis. Investing now in full funding for LWCF will help with a strong long-term recovery for gateway communities and states that rely on visitors to public lands. Specifically:

- America's outdoor recreation economy supports over 7.6 million jobs, contributes over \$887 billion in annual economic output, and serves as the lifeblood for countless communities across the country.
- Every dollar spent on LWCF returns \$4 in economic value from natural resource goods and services alone -- over and above the economic benefit of the outdoor recreation economy and tourism.

Broadly-supported, bipartisan LWCF legislation was already in the queue for Senate floor time before coronavirus upended the calendar -- it is directly relevant, ready to go, and makes sense for Congress to include in a stimulus package if possible and appropriate.

Investing in our public lands, and providing full, permanent funding for LWCF is a low-cost economic stimulus that will pay big dividends for communities across America. Please include full and permanent LWCF funding in the stimulus package.

Chairwoman Liz Archuleta, Board of Supervisors, Coconino County
Vice Mayor Adam Shimoni, City of Flagstaff
Mayor Stephanie Irwin, Town of Pinetop-Lakeside
San Xavier District Chair Austin Nunez, Tohono O'odham Nation

And 100+ more mayors, councilmembers and others from the West. For a full list, see azdailysun.com.

Mayor Rick Herrick, City of Big Bear Lake, California
Mayor Pro-Tem Randall Putz, City of Big Bear Lake, California
Council Member David Caretto, City of Big Bear Lake, California
Council Member Bob Jackowski, City of Big Bear Lake, California
Council Member Bill Jahn, City of Big Bear Lake, California
City Councilor John Wentworth, Town of Mammoth Lakes, California
Mayor Jason Collin, City of South Lake Tahoe, California
City Councilmember Devin Middlebrook, City of South Lake Tahoe, California
Mayor Torre, City of Aspen, Colorado
City Councilor Ann Mullins, City of Aspen, Colorado
City Councilor Rachael Richards, City of Aspen, Colorado
Mayor Pro Tem Ward Hauenstein, City of Aspen, Colorado
City Councilor Skippy Mesirow, City of Aspen, Colorado
City Councilor Juan Marcano, City of Aurora, Colorado
Mayor Sarah Smith Hymes, Town of Avon, Colorado
Mayor Pro Tem Amy Phillips, Town of Avon, Colorado
Council Member, Jennie Fancher, Town of Avon, Colorado
Council Member, Scott Prince, Town of Avon, Colorado

Council Member, Chico Thuon, Town of Avon, Colorado
Council Member, Tamra Underwood, Town of Avon, Colorado
Council Member, Jake Wolf, Town of Avon, Colorado
Councillor William Infante, Town of Basalt, Colorado
Mayor Sam Weaver, City of Boulder, Colorado
County Commissioner, Elise Jones, Boulder County, Colorado
Mayor Dan Richardson, City of Carbondale, Colorado
Board Chair Holy Cross Energy, Dave Munk, Carbondale, Colorado
County Commissioner Keith Baker, Chaffee County, Colorado
County Commissioner George Marlin, Clear Creek County. Colorado
County Commissioner Randy Wheelock, Clear Creek County. Colorado
Mayor Dean Brookie, City of Durango, Colorado
Chief County Commissioner Kathy Chandler-Henry, Eagle County, Colorado
County Commissioner Matt Scherr, Eagle County, Colorado
County Commissioner Jeanne McQueeney, Eagle County, Colorado
Mayor Hunter Mortensen, Town of Frisco, Colorado
Mayor Pro Tem Jessica Burley, Town of Frisco, Colorado
Councilmember Melissa Sherburne, Town of Frisco, Colorado
Councilmember Rick Ihnken, Town of Frisco, Colorado
Councilmember Andrew Aerenson, Town of Frisco, Colorado
Councilmember Andy Held, Town of Frisco, Colorado
Councilmember Dan Fallon, Town of Frisco, Colorado
Former City Councilor Bennett Boeschenstein. City of Grand Junction,
Colorado
County Commissioner Gwen Lachelt, La Plata County, Colorado
County Commissioner John Kefalas, Larimer County, Colorado
Mayor Brian Bagley, City of Longmont, Colorado
City Councilor Aren Rodriguez, City of Longmont, Colorado
City Councilor Joan Peck, City of Longmont, Colorado
City Councilor Marcia Martin, City of Longmont, Colorado
City Councilor Polly Christensen, City of Longmont, Colorado
City Councilor Susie Hidalgo-Fahring, City of Longmont, Colorado
City Councilor Tim Waters, City of Longmont, Colorado
Trustee Wendy Miller, Town of Lyons, Colorado
Mayor Pro Tem Lauren Koelliker, Town of Mt Crested Butte, Colorado

Councilman Patrick Berry, Town of Mountain Village, Colorado
Mayor Corinne Platt, Town of Ophir, Colorado
Councilor Peggy Lindsey, Town of Ouray, Colorado
County Commissioner Kelly McNicholas Kury, Pitkin County, Colorado
County Commissioner Greg Poschman, Pitkin County, Colorado
Mayor John Clark, Town of Ridgway, Colorado
Mayor Pro-Tem Eric Johnson, Town of Ridgway, Colorado
Councilor Tessa Cheek, Town of Ridgway, Colorado
Councilor Kevin Grambley, Town of Ridgway, Colorado
Councilor Beth Lakin, Town of Ridgway, Colorado
Councilor Russ Meyer, Town of Ridgway, Colorado
Councilor Terry Schuyler, Town of Ridgway, Colorado
Former Town Councilor Ninah Hunter, Town of Ridgway, Colorado
County Commissioner, District Two, Lance Waring San Miguel County,
Colorado
County Commissioner Hilary Cooper, San Miguel County, Colorado
County Commissioner Kris Holstrom, San Miguel County, Colorado
Councilperson Sonja Macys, Town of Steamboat Springs, Colorado
County Commissioner Elisabeth Lawrence, Summit County, Colorado
County Commissioner Karn Stiegelmeier, Summit County, Colorado
Mayor DeLanie Young, Town of Telluride, Colorado
Mayor Pro Tem Todd Brown, Town of Telluride, Colorado
Councilperson Adrienne Christy, Town of Telluride, Colorado
Councilperson Travis Coggin, Town of Vail, Colorado
Councilperson Kim Langmaid, Town of Vail, Colorado
County Commissioner Angenie McCleary, Blaine County, Idaho
County Commissioner Jacob Greenberg, Blaine County, Idaho
County Commissioner Tom Lamar, Latah County, Idaho
Mayor Hyrum Johnson, City of Driggs, Idaho
Mayor Shelby Rognstad, City of Sandpoint, Idaho
County Commissioner Cindy Riegel, Teton County, Idaho
Mayor Chris Mehl, City of Bozeman, Montana
County Commissioner Juanita Vero, Missoula County, Montana
County Commissioner David Strohmaier, Missoula County, Montana
County Commissioner Josh Slotnick, Missoula County, Montana

Mayor Hillary Schieve, City of Reno, Nevada
City Councilor Devon Reese, City of Reno, Nevada
Chair Amber Torres, Walker River Paiute Tribe, Nevada
City Commissioner Mark Lewis, City of Aztec, New Mexico
Mayor Victor Snover, City of Aztec, New Mexico
City Councilor Gill Sorg, City of Las Cruces, New Mexico
Commissioner Anna Hansen, Santa Fe County District 2, Santa Fe County,
New Mexico
Councilwoman Renee Villarreal, City of Santa Fe, New Mexico
Mayor Pro Tem Nathaniel Evans Town of Taos, New Mexico
City Councilor Rich Rosenthal, City of Ashland, Oregon
City Councilor Tonya Graham, City of Ashland, Oregon
City Councilor Barb Campbell, City of Bend, Oregon
City Councillor Ward 6, Greg Evans, City of Eugene, Oregon
Mayor Emily Niehaus, City of Moab, Utah
City Councilor Karen Guzman-Newton, City of Moab, Utah
City Councilor Rani Derasary, City of Moab, Utah
City Councilor Kalen Jones, City of Moab, Utah
Mayor Sally Ranzau, Town of Winthrop, Washington
County Commissioner Pete Gosar, Albany County, Wyoming
City Councilor Pete Laybourn, City of Cheyenne, Wyoming
Mayor Pete Muldoon, Town of Jackson, Wyoming
Town Councilman Jim Stanford, Town of Jackson, Wyoming