

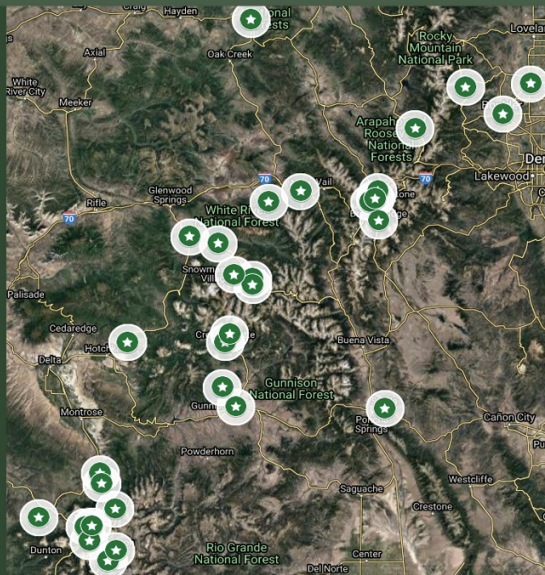


# The Mountain Pact

## 111 Colorado Local Elected Officials Urge Senator Gardner to Take Action on the Colorado Outdoor Recreation and Economy (CORE) Act *Urge Action and Leadership After Years of Inaction*

Today 111 local elected officials from over 30 mountain communities across Colorado [sent a letter](#) to Senator Cory Gardner urging him to actively support the Colorado Outdoor Recreation and Economy (CORE) Act this year. You can read the Mountain Pact [media release here](#) and listen to this [morning's telepress call here](#) with Mayor Richardson from the Town of Carbondale, Mayor Gelwicks from the City of Gunnison, Commissioner Scherr from Eagle County, Commissioner Steigelmeier from Summit County, and Commissioner Waring from San Miguel County.

### 111 Colorado Local Elected Officials from 30+ Colorado communities to Senator Gardner:



**"Pass the CORE Act this year!"**

The CORE Act will protect 400,000 acres of Colorado public land and designate nearly 80,000 acres as new recreation and conservation management areas that preserve existing outdoor uses such as hiking and mountain biking. It is the most significant and broadly-supported effort to protect Colorado's most cherished lands, waters, and forests in a generation.

The majority of Colorado's congressional delegation supports the CORE Act, which has passed the House of Representatives with bipartisan support twice. The CORE Act's inclusion in the House-passed version of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) offers this Congress an opportunity to pass significant protections for Colorado public lands.

The CORE Act protects the ranches, rural agriculture, and wildlife of the Thompson Divide; improves management, conservation, and recreation at the Curecanti National Recreation Area; protects the iconic scenery, recreation, and water supply in the San Juan Mountains; and secures the hunting, fishing, and other outdoor recreation economies of many towns across the state of Colorado. Counties, local governments, hunters, ranchers, miners, small businesses, ski resorts all support it.

The measure also includes a first-of-its-kind National Historic Landscape at Camp Hale to honor Colorado's military legacy and the history of Colorado's 10th Mountain Division, a unique and powerful tribute to those who have served our country. The last living members of the 10th Mountain Division have [called on Senator Gardner to support this effort](#) before they pass.

Thank you to so many Colorado Mountain Pact participants for your efforts on this [letter](#)!



October 1, 2020

Dear Senator Gardner,

As local elected officials in Colorado, we write to implore you to actively support the Colorado Outdoor Recreation and Economy (CORE) Act. There is broad bipartisan support in Colorado for the protection of our public lands and this bill is the most broadly supported legislation to protect public lands in Colorado in a generation. It is supported by the majority of the Colorado congressional delegation and has passed the House of Representatives with bipartisan support twice. The CORE Act's inclusion in the House-passed version of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) offers this Congress a critical opportunity to pass significant protections for Colorado public lands. As the Colorado Senator on the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, we urge you to actively take up the CORE Act in the Senate this year.

COVID-19 has hit our mountain communities very hard. Some are struggling with 50% unemployment. Before the pandemic, 229,000 jobs in Colorado were in our state's outdoor recreation economy. As local elected officials who are tasked with helping our region's economy to recover, we know protecting our state's public lands permanently is an important part of the solution. The CORE Act will help our communities recover from the pandemic by bringing some of these people back to work.

[\(Read The Full Letter Here\)](#)

*Founded in 2014, [The Mountain Pact](#) mobilizes local elected officials in over 75 Western mountain communities with outdoor recreation based economies to speak with a collective voice on federal climate, public lands, and outdoor recreation policy.*

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