

Access Fund ♦ American Fisheries Society ♦ American Horse Council ♦ American Sportfishing Association ♦ American Whitewater ♦ Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies ♦ Association of Northwest Steelheaders ♦ Audubon New Mexico ♦ California Habitat Conservation Planning Coalition ♦ The Conservation Fund ♦ Conservation Lands Foundation ♦ Forest Capital Partners, LLC ♦ International Mountain Biking Association ♦ Endangered Habitats League ♦ Friends of Ironwood Forest ♦ Japanese American Citizens League ♦ Land Trust Alliance ♦ Montana Wilderness Association ♦ The Mountaineers ♦ Mule Deer Foundation ♦ National Alliance of Forest Owners ♦ National Parks Conservation Association ♦ National Trust for Historic Preservation ♦ National Wildlife Federation ♦ The Nature Conservancy ♦ New Mexico Wildlife Federation ♦ OLÉ ♦ Outdoor Alliance ♦ Outdoor Industry Association ♦ Pacific Crest Trail Association ♦ Partnership for the National Trails System ♦ The Public Lands Foundation ♦ Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation ♦ San Juan Citizens Alliance ♦ Superstition Area Land Trust ♦ Teton Regional Land Trust ♦ Trout Unlimited ♦ The Trust for Public Land ♦ The Vital Ground Foundation ♦ Western Rivers Conservancy ♦ The Wilderness Land Trust ♦ The Wilderness Society ♦ Winter Wildlands Alliance

December 6, 2011

The Honorable Cynthia Lummis  
113 Cannon House Office Building  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Martin Heinrich  
336 Cannon House Office Building  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Lummis and Heinrich:

**On behalf of our respective organizations, we write to express our support for your legislation, H.R. 3365, the Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act (FLTFA) Reauthorization of 2011.** We applaud your leadership to achieve economic and conservation goals for the West and reduce the deficit. We stand ready to help you advance this important bill this Congress.

By reauthorizing FLTFA, revenue from sales of Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands identified for disposal will generate funds to acquire high priority land from willing sellers for conservation, outdoor recreation and historic preservation. At no cost to the taxpayer, your FLTFA bill will expand recreational access for hunting, fishing and hiking, while benefiting farmers and ranchers and reducing the federal deficit. With the administrative money that the FLTFA program generates, BLM will be able to sell lands identified for disposal, creating private sector jobs, and generate funding for land conservation at critical areas to promote jobs in outdoor recreation. FLTFA often complements other funding in order to achieve priority conservation in the West, such as the Land and Water Conservation Fund and other public and private funding. By providing landowners with additional opportunities to sell their lands, FLTFA helps landowners achieve their economic goals.

In a time of increased budget pressures, FLTFA reauthorization is an excellent way to provide a dedicated funding source for land conservation, while also providing a thoughtful, efficient and economical tool that helps facilitate the disposal of public lands, thereby reducing the BLM's operations and maintenance backlog.

Because of FLTFA's benefits for local communities, landowners, tourism, fish and wildlife conservation, outdoor recreation, and historic preservation, we stand ready to support your work to reauthorize FLTFA for the benefit of current and future generations.

Sincerely,

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