

May 9, 2017

Dear Members of Congress:

The undersigned hunting and fishing businesses are part of a thriving outdoor recreation industry that contributes \$887 billion annually to the U.S. economy. We are writing in support of the Antiquities Act of 1906 and to request that it be used responsibly and in a way that supports the continuation of hunting and fishing in America. The Antiquities Act is an important conservation tool and using the tenets detailed below will ensure hunting, fishing and wildlife values are priority considerations and that future land protections enjoy widespread support.

Over a century ago, Congress recognized that there was need to ensure that public lands of “historic or scientific interest” be conserved as national monuments through executive action by the president. Known as the Antiquities Act, it was signed into law by Theodore Roosevelt and has since become one of the most successful conservation tools in American history.

Over the last 110 years, 16 U.S. presidents – eight Democrats and eight Republicans – have used the Antiquities Act to protect some of the nation’s best public lands, including areas important for hunting and fishing like Colorado’s Browns Canyon and New Mexico’s Rio Grande del Norte. In each of these locations, sportsmen supported, locally-driven legislative proposals languished in Congress for years – sometimes decades – despite overwhelming support. Faced with Congressional inaction, the Antiquities Act provided a path forward.

The Antiquities Act is a tool, and like any tool there is a right and wrong way to use it. To that end, numerous hunting and fishing organizations and businesses have been steadfast in our belief that the following tenets must be followed in places important to hunting and fishing, prior to the designation of any future national monuments.

- The monument proposal must be developed through a public process – one that includes hunters and anglers, as well as appropriate state and local governments.
- The monument proclamation must clearly stipulate that management authority over fish and wildlife populations will be retained by state fish and wildlife agencies.
- Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service lands must remain under the authority of a multiple-use focused land management agency.
- Reasonable public access must be retained to enable continued hunting and fishing opportunities.
- The input and guidance of hunters and anglers must be included in management plans for national monuments.
- Important fish and wildlife habitat must be protected.
- The proposal must enjoy support from local sportsmen and women.
- Sporting opportunities must be upheld and the historical and cultural significance of hunting and fishing explicitly acknowledged in the monument proclamation.

Adherence to these tenets will ensure the responsible use of the Antiquities Act, and we oppose any effort to undermine Theodore Roosevelt’s legacy by undoing or modifying it. Instead, we urge you to encourage its use through a process that is locally driven, transparent, incorporates

the science-based management and conservation of important fish and wildlife habitat, and upholds continued opportunities to hunt and fish.

Sincerely,

Able Reels
Montrose, Colorado

Adipose Boatworks
Helena, MT

Airflo Lines
Vancouver, WA

Alaska Fly Fishing Goods
Juneau, AK

Alaska Kenia Fishing For Fun
Soldatna, AK

Almont Anglers
Almont, CO

Animas Valley Anglers
Durango, CO

Angler's Covey
Colorado Springs, CO

Angler's Xstream
Parkersburg, WV

ARC Fishing
Lenexa, KS

Backcountry Experience
Durango, CO

BinoBro
Bend, OR

Boat Ankor
Missoula, MT

Breckenridge Outfitters
Breckenridge, CO

The Caddis, Fly Angling Shop
Eugene, OR

Castle Construction & Taxidermy
Las Cruces, NM

Charlton Reels
Montrose, CO

Cheeky Fishing
Arlington, MA

Clackacraft
Clackamas, OR

ColdAvenger
Missoula, MT

Colorado Hunter Hiker
Highlands Ranch, CO

Colorado Outfitters
Clark, CO

Confluence Casting, LLC
Gypsum, CO

Cooper Landing Fishing Guide, LLC
Cooper Landing, AK

Creek Company
Steamboat Springs, CO

Crystal Fly Shop
Carbondale, CO

Custom Bird Works
Missoula, MT

Dean Finnerty Guides and Outfitters
Cottage Grove, OR

Dun Magazine
Dover, TN

Durangers
Durango, CO

Durango Sporting Goods
Durango, CO

Dvorak Expeditions
Nathrop, CO

Echo Rods
Vancouver, WA

Endless Drift
Missoula, MT

Far-Flung Adventures
El Prado, NM

First Lite
Ketchum, ID

Fishpond
Denver, CO

Fly Fishing Film Tour
Boulder, CO

Four Wheel Campers
Woodland, CA

Free Fly Apparel
Charleston, SC

Gardenswartz Outdoors
Durango, CO

Great Miami Outfitters
Miamisburg, OH

Great Outdoors Provision Company
Raleigh, NC

Green Anchors
Hamilton, MT

Hart-Montgomery Outdoor Sales
Bozeman, MT

Heads Up Flyfishing
Durango, CO

Henry's Fork Lodge
Island Park, ID

High Desert Angler
Santa Fe, NM

Hunter Banks Fly Fishing
Asheville, NC

Idaho Angler
Boise, ID

Jimmy's All Season Angler
Idaho Falls, ID

JP Fly Fishing Specialties
Canon City, CO

JY Fly Fishing
Hopewell Junction, NY

Last Exit Goods
Broomfield, CO

Little River Outfitters
Townsend, TN

Montana Raft Frames
Huson, MT

Northfork Fly Shop
Morgantown, WV

One Fish Engineering
Fort Collins, CO

Oregon Outdoor Excursions
Lyons, CO

Oregon Pack Works
Bend, OR

Orvis
Manchester, VT

Orvis – Greenville
Greenville, SC

Outback a’Horseback
Radium Spring, NM

Premier Outfitters
Questa, NM

Questa Economic Development Fund
Questa, NM

Rainbow Falls Mountain Trout
Woodland Park, CO

Red Canyon Lodge
Dutch John, UT

Redington
Bainbridge Island, WA

Reel Em in Guide Service
Ellijay, GA

RepYourWater
Erie, CO

RIGS Fly Shop and Guide Service
Ridgeway, CO

Rio Products
Idaho Falls, ID

Riverside Anglers, Inc.
West Yellowstone, MT

Rocky Mountain Rod Shop
Lakewood, CO

Rogue Valley Anglers
Medford, OR

Ross Reels
Montrose, CO

Royal Treatment Fly Fishing
West Linn, OR

Sage
Bainbridge Island, WA

The San Juan Angler
Durango, CO

Sawyer Paddles and Oars
Phoenix, OR

Scheels, Reno-Sparks
Sparks, NV

Scientific Anglers
Midland, MI

Scott Fly Rods
Montrose, CO

Seek Outside
Grand Junction, CO

Silver Creek Outfitters
Ketchum, ID

Simms Fishing Products
Bozeman, MT

Solitary Angler
El Prado, NM

Southwest Expeditions
Mesilla, NM

The Sportsmen, Inc.
Lake City, CO

Stone Creek Fly Rods
Greely, CO

Sweetwater Fly Shop
Livingston, MT

Sweetwater Ranch Properties
Livingstone, MT

Sweetwater Travel Company
Livingston, MT

Taos Fly Shop
Taos, NM

Telluride Outside
Telluride, CO

Tenkara USA
Boulder, CO

Three Rivers Resort
Almont, CO

Tight Lines Media
Idaho Falls, ID

Timber to Table Guide Service
Paonia, CO

Time Timer
Cincinnati, OH

Trout Creek Flies
Dutch John, UT

U.P. Fly Angler
Trout Creek, MI

Vedavoo
Leominster, MA

Vermillion Ranch
Billings, MT

Waters West
Port Angeles, WA

Western Rivers Fly Shop
Salt Lake City, UT

Willowfly Anglers
Almont, CO

The Wooden Fly
Easthampton, NY