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**Kate Miller**  
*Director of Government Affairs*

June 07, 2022

The Honorable Cortez Masto, Chair  
Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, Mining  
Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee  
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Lee, Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, Mining  
Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee  
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510

**RE: Subcommittee Legislative Hearing (6/7/2022).**

Dear Chair Cortez Masto and Ranking Member Lee:

I am writing on behalf of Trout Unlimited (TU), and our more than 340,000 members and supporters across the country, to offer our views on the following legislative proposals listed for consideration during the Subcommittee's June 7, 2022 legislative hearing.

- S. 387, to protect, for current and future generations, the watershed, ecosystem, and cultural heritage of the Grand Canyon region in the State of Arizona, to provide for a study relating to the uranium stockpile in the United States, and for other purpose (**Grand Canyon Protection Act**).
- S. 1750, to redesignate land within certain wilderness study areas in the State of Wyoming, and for other purposes (**Wyoming Public Lands Initiative Act**).
- S. 2568, to establish the Open Access Evapotranspiration (OpenET) Data Program (**Open Access Evapotranspiration Data Act**).
- S. 3129, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain segments of the Gila River system in the State of New Mexico as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, to provide for the transfer of administrative jurisdiction over certain Federal land in the State of New Mexico, and for other purposes (**M.H. Dutch Salmon Greater Gila Wild and Scenic River Act**).
- S. 3269, to provide for the recognition of certain Alaska Native communities and the settlement of certain claims under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, and for other purposes (**Unrecognized Southeast Alaska Native Communities Recognition and Compensation Act**).

Thank you for considering our views.

Sincerely,

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**Our mission is to bring together diverse interests to care for and recover rivers and streams so our children can experience the joy of wild and native trout and salmon.**

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June 07, 2022

**Re: S. 387, Grand Canyon Protection Act.**

Thank you for holding a hearing to consider S. 387, Grand Canyon Protection Act. Trout Unlimited strongly supports this important legislation, which would help protect the health of tribal people in Arizona, the water quality of the Colorado River, and numerous wildlife species, while still allowing for the multiple-use of these public lands.

Despite the Department of the Interior's mineral withdrawal for the area, it is crucial that Congress act to permanently protect the lands around Grand Canyon National Park, including lands bordering the Colorado river leading up to the world-renowned Lee's Ferry trout fishery—a defining region of Arizona and the Southwest that supports guiding companies and outdoor recreation. Future uranium mining could irreparably harm the health of local residents, water supplies, and the fish and wildlife that call this place home. S. 387 will help protect key natural, cultural and water resources for fish and wildlife and all Americans who live, work, and recreate in the Southwest.

Additionally, we have attached a letter from get Outdoors Arizona (GOAZ) with a list of over 130 Arizona businesses who support permanent for this incredible landscape (Attachment 1). We urge that S. 387 be moved swiftly through Committee and enacted into law.

For questions related to these comments, please contact:

Nathan Rees  
Arizona Field Coordinator  
Nathan.Rees@tu.org

Kate Miller  
Director of Government Affairs  
Kate.Miller@tu.org



June 07, 2022

**Re: S.1750, the Wyoming Public Lands Initiative Act.**

On behalf of Trout Unlimited and our members in Wyoming and across the country, we write to express our support for S. 1750, the Wyoming Public Lands Act of 2021.

Trout Unlimited has been involved in the development of this legislation since the Wyoming Public Lands Initiative stakeholder process began in 2016. It is promising to see several of TU's coldwater resource priorities receive the protection our staff deems adequate, namely Sweetwater Canyon Wilderness and Encampment River Canyon Wilderness.

### **The Economic Value of Public Land and Water Protection in Wyoming**

The value of protected landscapes, migration pathways, and coldwater fisheries in the state of Wyoming cannot be understated. In 2020, outdoor recreation opportunities added \$1.2 billion to the state's economy, and Wyoming Game and Fish earned over \$7.5 million in revenue from fishing licenses alone, most sales coming from residents.<sup>1</sup> The protection and restoration of lands and waters in the state not only offer recreation opportunities for residents and visitors alike, but it enables the growth of Wyoming's robust recreation economy which provides more than 50,000 jobs across the state and generates over \$300 million in state and local tax revenue.<sup>2</sup>

### **Encampment River Canyon Wilderness Proposal**

Trout Unlimited strongly supports the recommendation to designate 4,500 acres of the Encampment River Canyon as a new Wilderness area in Wyoming. Carbon County was the only county to reach full consensus surrounding their desired future of land designations in the county during the Public Lands Initiative stakeholder process, which is an outcome that should be affirmed through this legislative process. Additionally, Encampment River Canyon serves as important habitat for rainbow, brook, and brown trout. Over the last decade, TU staff, volunteers, and private landowners have collaborated extensively to restore and reconnect aquatic habitat in the North Platte and Encampment rivers and their tributaries. We believe this designation is warranted for the continued restoration and protection of this key watershed and believe that this area exhibits explicit Wilderness characteristics as defined by the Wilderness Act of 1964.

### **Sweetwater Canyon Wilderness Proposal**

Trout Unlimited strongly supports and celebrates the recommendation to designate 5,625 acres of Lower and 2,825 acres of Upper Sweetwater Canyon as a new Wilderness area in Wyoming. This canyon provides important habitat for rainbow, brown, and brook trout, and offers anglers in Fremont County and visitors from across and outside of the state alike, an area to experience solitude, enjoy fishing, hunting, and hiking in a remote area that encapsulates countless wilderness characteristics as defined by the

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<sup>1</sup> WGFD Commission Revenue [https://wgfd.wyo.gov/WGFD/media/content/PDF/About%20Us/Commission/WGFD-Revenue-Fact-Sheet\\_FINAL.pdf](https://wgfd.wyo.gov/WGFD/media/content/PDF/About%20Us/Commission/WGFD-Revenue-Fact-Sheet_FINAL.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> OIA WY State Recreation Economy Report [https://outdoorindustry.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/OIA\\_RecEcoState\\_WY.pdf](https://outdoorindustry.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/OIA_RecEcoState_WY.pdf)

Wilderness Act of 1964. Along with recreation and wilderness values, Sweetwater Canyon offers deep historical value as it served as a critical water source for pioneers headed westward on the Oregon and Mormon Trails. There are several National Historic trails in the area that deserve sustained protection.

### **Refine “Withdrawal” Language**

As S. 1750 continues to move through the legislative process, TU encourages the committee to clarify and add specificity to language outlined in “Withdrawal” sections of the bill, which define “mining, mineral and geothermal withdrawal” opportunities and limitations with each parcel’s redesignation. It is critical that bill text is explicit in what type of activities (e.g., solid and fluid mineral operations, sale of mineral materials) the withdrawals will forbid on these new land designations across the state. Trout Unlimited supports responsible, strategic energy development that is forward-looking, meets the needs of people and communities, and avoids all unnecessary risks and impacts to coldwater fisheries and water resources.

### **Inclusive Stakeholder Engagement**

Trout Unlimited applauds the intention placed behind the stakeholder process undertaken by counties across the state to develop a sensible land designation plan by Wyoming residents, for Wyoming residents. However, we encourage more robust inclusive stakeholder engagement in the future. Stakeholder processes should be transparent and widely communicated across various networks to ensure there is potential for broader representation of Wyoming residents. Wyoming residents who stand to bear the weight of decisions made on public lands must be prioritized when seeking input on new designations. Several tactics that can be taken to ensure inclusive stakeholder engagement are as follows:

Direct and intentional outreach, and a designated committee position or seat at the table allocated to Tribal nations.

- Clearly define “stakeholder” in public engagement efforts to ensure input from a wide range of perspectives.
- Meet the needs of all Wyoming residents by offering various avenues for engagement including through physical mail, email, web forums, phone, in-person, video conferencing, etc.
- Ensure engagement events are accessible for participants by providing basic tools and services including but not limited to translation and interpretation services, childcare, and ample time and opportunity for all participants to be heard.

### **Conclusion**

Trout Unlimited appreciates the opportunity to weigh in on land and water designation decisions being made in Wyoming by the Committee and are grateful to see both Encampment River Canyon and Sweetwater Canyon receive increased protection through Wilderness designations. As this process progresses, please consider TU as a resource when working through markups and when defining creative conservation solutions that serve the residents of Wyoming in the future.

Amelia Howe  
Wyoming Field Manager  
Amelia.Howe@tu.org

Kate Miller  
Director of Government Affairs  
Kate.Miller@tu.org



June 07, 2022

**RE: S. 2568, the Open Access Evapotranspiration Data Act.**

Dear Cortez Masto and Ranking Member Lee:

Trout Unlimited (TU) writes in support of S. 2568, the Open Access Evapotranspiration Data Act and appreciates the bill's subcommittee hearing on June 7, 2022. Members of this subcommittee are all too familiar with the fact that sustainable water management is one of the most challenging issues of our time. Maximizing the benefits of water supplies requires careful measurement of availability and use; however, there is one important information gap compounding this challenge: the lack of consistent consumptive water use data. Before OpenET, access to this data has been limited and expensive, keeping it out of the hands of most water users and decisionmakers. OpenET fills this huge data gap in order to support sustainable water management and innovation in water conservation.

On behalf of TU, I testified in support of OpenET in the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Water, Oceans, and Wildlife legislative hearing on November 4, 2021. My testimony can be found [here](#).<sup>3</sup> TU thanks this subcommittee for their attention to the pressing issue of water data availability, management, and accessibility.

For questions related to these comments, please contact:

Dr. Sara Porterfield  
Water Policy Associate  
Sara.Porterfield@tu.org

Steve Moyer  
Vice President for Government Affairs  
Steve.Moyer@tuorg

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<sup>3</sup> <https://naturalresources.house.gov/imo/media/doc/Porterfield%20Testimony%20-%20WOW%20Leg%20Hrg%2011.04.21.pdf>



June 07, 2022

**Re: S. 3129, M.H. Dutch Salmon Greater Gila Wild and Scenic River Act**

Trout Unlimited strongly supports the M.H. Dutch Salmon Greater Gila Wild and Scenic River Act and we urge swift passage into law for this important and necessary legislation. Attached is a coalition letter (Attachment 2) signed by over 40 supporting organizations, including local Trout Unlimited chapters, supporting S. 3129.

Thank you for holding a hearing on the M.H. Dutch Salmon Greater Gila Wild and Scenic River Act. For questions related to these comments, please contact:

Dan Roper  
New Mexico Field Coordinator  
Dan.Roper@tu.org

Kate Miller  
Director of Government Affairs  
Kate.Miller@tu.org



June 7, 2022

**Re: S. 3269, the Unrecognized Southeast Alaska Native Communities Recognition and Compensation Act.**

Dear Senator Cortez Masto, Senator Lee, and members of the Subcommittee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the Unrecognized Southeast Alaska Native Communities Recognition and Compensation Act (S. 3269). Trout Unlimited (TU) is concerned with S. 3269 because of the potential severe impact it could have to public lands, fish and wildlife in southeast Alaska's Tongass National Forest.

At the outset, TU recognizes the longstanding injustices borne by Alaska Native Tribes and people, and acknowledges that the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian people have a long and rich history caring for the waters and forests of southeast Alaska. We recognize there is a lot of work yet to be done to remedy past issues and challenges facing indigenous communities in southeast Alaska. We are committed to doing our part to help resolve these past and future challenges while maintaining and protecting the fish and wildlife resources we all depend on. However, we encourage the Committee to oppose this bill and, instead, seek remedies that address injustices without compromising the fish, wildlife, clean water, and the cultural and traditional values of the land.

This bill is the latest in a long string of efforts to carve off, privatize and unsustainably exploit valuable resources and public lands on the Tongass. Despite the increasing importance of the Tongass to climate change, resiliency, and the local fishing and tourism industries, since 2015 approximately 88,000 acres have been transferred out of the Tongass to bolster unsustainable old-growth logging.

Most of these land transfers were the result of the Southeast Alaska Native Land Entitlement Finalization and Jobs Protection Act of 2014, which Congress celebrated for finalizing land entitlements on the Tongass.

This bill would amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) to create five new for-profit corporations in the communities of Haines, Ketchikan, Petersburg, Tenakee and Wrangell. Each new corporation would be given surface rights to approximately 23,040 acres (115,200 acres in total) of some of the most valuable and productive public lands in the Tongass. Sealaska Corporation, which was the beneficiary of the 2014 bill, would get a windfall and receive the subsurface estate to all 115,200 acres.

As has occurred across lands owned by other for-profit ANCSA corporations in southeast Alaska, we must expect the valuable old-growth forest on these lands to be clear-cut logged, the minerals to be mined, federal protections designed to minimize impacts to fish and wildlife to no longer apply, and existing users of the land—including subsistence users, anglers, hunters, outfitters and guides, and recreationists—to be displaced. Although this latest version of the bill provides for limited public use of the lands after they are privatized, the value of the lands to the public will be lost once they are exploited, and fish and wildlife populations impacted.

In TU's comments to prior versions of this bill, we expressed concern that the lands to be privatized would be cherry-picked from throughout the region and block off access to adjacent public lands. Unfortunately, the maps that are now available and incorporated into this bill confirm our prior concerns. Key parcels at the mouths of salmon streams and along coastlines, at important recreation sites including public use cabins and campsites, at the gap where the Hoonah road network could be connected to the Tenakee road, and at sites containing valuable publicly-funded infrastructure, would be privatized and given to the new ANCSA corporations.

Many of the same issues TU has raised with past versions of this bill remain unresolved. While we acknowledge the complex and historical roots of the issues this bill seeks to address, and appreciate Senator Murkowski's efforts to address them, lasting solutions should avoid giving away important public lands and natural resources to for-profit corporations, not come at the expense of current users or the conservation of regionally and globally important public lands, and not set a further precedence for creating Dear Cortez Masto and Ranking Member Lee:

For questions related to these comments, please contact:

Austin Williams  
Alaska Director of Law and Policy  
Austin.Williams@tu.org

Kate Miller  
Director of Government Affairs  
Kate.Miller@tu.org



**Attachment 1: Coalition letter supporting the Grand Canyon Protection Act (S. 387)**



February 22, 2021

Senator Mark Kelly  
Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington DC 20510

Senator Kelly,

Thank you for introducing legislation that will permanently protect the Grand Canyon from uranium mining. As the defining image of and crown jewel of our beautiful state, there is no place more important to Arizonans.

Get Outdoors Arizona (GOAZ) was formed specifically to raise the voice of Arizona businesses who depend on, and care about, outdoor recreation and Arizona's public lands. One issue that has been a constant since the earliest days of GOAZ is the importance of permanent protection from uranium mining in the watershed and area around the Grand Canyon. The economic importance of the Grand Canyon to tourism and outdoor recreation simply cannot be overstated.

The below list of over 130 Arizona businesses have signed on to letters supporting such permanent protection in the past and several of our members have spoken to you about this issue directly. The current GOAZ Grand Canyon Protection letter is also attached for your reference.

Thanks again for all you do for Arizona.

Sincerely,

Scott Garlid  
Acting Director, Get Outdoors Arizona

**Arizona Businesses Supporting Permanent Grand Canyon Protection:**

Everything Desert	Cottonwood Hotel
Shades of Green Sustainability Advisor	Absolute Bikes
Arizona Scenic Tours	Canyon REO Rafting
Borderland Adventures	OARS Grand Canyon Dories
Me Time with Mandy Evans	Macy's European Coffeehouse & Bakery
Sty-Lynn Studios	Jay's Bird Barn
Archery Headquarters	Run Flagstaff
Verde Valley Bicycle Co.	Brightside Bookstore

Arizona Raft Adventures  
Dark Sky Brewing Co.  
Rov Ride Shop  
Ceiba Adventures  
Moenkopi Riverworks  
Motel Du Beau  
Nomads Global Lounge  
Grand Canyon International Hostel  
Wildland Trekking Company  
AZ Raft Adventures  
Inn at 410  
All Star Grand Canyon Tours  
Mountain Sports  
Kinney Construction Services, Inc.  
Elden Trails Bed and Breakfast  
Flagstaff Sports Exchange  
Summit Divers & Watersports  
Flagstaff Climbing  
Rivers and Oceans Rafting  
SMR Outdoor Gear  
Visible Difference  
Cosmic Cycles  
Grand Canyon Whitewater  
Arizona River Runners  
Outdoors Unlimited  
22 LeRoux Souvenirs  
BETA Bouldering Gym  
Kahtoola, Inc  
Flagstaff CSA & Local Market  
Museum of Northern Arizona  
The Market of Dreams  
Sunnyside Neighborhood Association  
Aspen Sports  
Lumberyard Brewery  
Fire Creek Coffee Co  
Eat n' Run Market & Cafe  
Arizona Elk Outfitters  
Arizona Strip Guides  
Wildland Trekking  
Red Feather Lodge  
Rivers & Oceans  
Arizona River Runners  
Rogue Panda  
Fountain Hills Bikes  
Town and Country General Contractors  
Smiling Dog Landscapes  
Planes of Fame Air Museum  
Bright Angel Bicycles  
Bright Angel Cafe  
Jerome Grand Hotel  
Lees Ferry Lodge  
Grand Canyon Brewing  
Southwest Hospitality Management  
Bear Mountain  
Fly Fish Arizona and Beyond  
Antelope Slot Canyon Tours  
Cheif Tsosie Trading Post  
Lake Powell Paddleboards  
H2OZone Watercraft Rentals  
Lee's Ferry On The Fly  
Border to Border Outfitters  
Dave Brown Outfitters

Dossigan Digital LLC	Native Traditions
360 Adventures	Mexican Imports
Wren House Brewing Co	Brana LLC.
Dos Corona LLC	Jenna Luna, LPC
Corona Cycle	Trail Sports
CPA Tax and Accounting	Cheers of Sedona
Lookout Mountain Outdoors	Cheers Again
Outdoor Experience 4 All	Western Trading Post
Outdoorsmen Roadshow	Sedona Outdoors
Pronghorn Guide Service	Manzanita Market
Ridgeline Outfitters	Canyon Wren Cabins
Ross Outdoors	The Hummingbird Society
High Gear Bike Shop	The Inn Above Oak Creek
The Hike Shack	Creekside Inn at Sedona
The Bikesmith	Olde Sedona Bar and Grill
Soul Ride Bikes	Sedona Rouge Hotel and Spa
The Native Garden	Sedona Village Lodge
Latino Outdoors	Canyon Outfitters
Buffalo Collection	Perfect Fly
Grey Wolf Gallery	Sedona Trail Zen
Old Towne Jewels	Silver Creek Fly Fishing Guide
The Cactus Hut	Arizona Covey Breaks
Miranda Jewelry	Lower Gear Outdoors
King Gallery	La Indita
Oriental Rugs	Magpies
Earth and Images	Let'er Rip Outfitters
Over the Top Consignment	Adrenaline Guide Service
On the Edge Gallery	Village Gallery
Casa de Artistas	Wildflower Inn at Bell Rock
River Trading Post	
Ortega Int'l	

**Attachment 2: Coalition letter supporting the M.H. Dutch Salmon Greater Gila Wild and Scenic River Act (S.3129)**

June 3, 2022

The Honorable Senator Catherine Cortez Masto  
313 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Senator Mike Lee  
363 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

**RE: S.3129 M.H. Dutch Salmon Greater Gila Wild and Scenic River Act**

Dear Senator Cortez Masto and Senator Lee,

We are writing to you today to express our support for the M.H. Dutch Salmon Greater Gila Wild and Scenic River Act scheduled for a hearing on June 7 in the U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests and Mining. The legislation seeks to permanently protect the Gila River, San Francisco River, and their main tributaries in the Gila National Forest and certain nearby lands critical for watershed protection. S. 3129 represents many years of hard work and dedication by local area farmers, ranchers, hunters, anglers, private landowners, recreationists, and business owners. We support their view that it is vitally important to protect these critical watersheds and rivers by designating certain segments of the Gila River system for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

Over the last several years there has been growing local support for this legislation. Towns such as Silver City, and other local municipalities have all passed unanimous resolutions in support of protecting the Gila River, San Francisco River, and their tributaries as Wild and Scenic. Furthermore, Grant County passed a similar resolution in September 2019 – joining not only the regional municipalities, but also the Fort Sill Apache Tribe and the All Pueblo Council of Governors, which represents all twenty Native American Pueblos in the State of New Mexico. This is in addition to the 150 small local businesses in Grant County that are in full support of the legislation.

The Gila River and its headwaters are revered for being one of the most ecologically diverse wilderness complexes in North America, with influences from the Rocky Mountains, Great Plains, Colorado Plateau, Sky Islands, Sierra Madre, Sonoran Desert, and Chihuahuan Desert overlapping and blending. The river is one of the largest free-flowing and undammed watersheds left in New Mexico. The Gila River and its headwaters also contain one of the largest expanses of unlogged, ancient forests south of the Boreal Forest and the greatest non-coastal breeding bird diversity in the United States.

These river segments contain some of the most outstandingly remarkable river values found in our nation. From the serpentine canyon of the Lower San Francisco River that carves its way through igneous rock for seventeen miles, to the narrow slot canyons and deep historical mining history of Mineral Creek; from the mighty West Fork of the Gila River with its geological paradise of hoodoos, rock spires, pocketed caves, and countless cliff dwellings and cultural sites, to Main

Diamond Creek, with its distinct population of threatened Gila trout found in no other watershed in the world, and its large concentration of prehistoric Mimbres-Mogollon sites that feature late Mimbres Classic villages, pueblos, farmsteads, field houses, and rock shelters, this region is unparalleled in its natural and cultural significance.

Safeguarding America's waterways like the Gila and San Francisco Rivers has been identified as a critical tool to mitigate against the impacts of climate change. Across the country, rivers like the Rio Grande and Colorado are experiencing some of the lowest water levels in decades, and that is affecting communities across the West. In fact, the Gila River is the last remaining free-flowing river and tributary system in New Mexico, and protecting these waterways as Wild and Scenic will protect clean water for southwestern New Mexico and downstream communities.

These rivers are the ancestral homelands of the Gila Apaches, Mogollon Apache, Mimbres Apache, Copper Mine Apache, and Warm Springs Apache, known collectively as the Chiricahua Apache. The Gila River and surrounding areas have great spiritual importance to Apache peoples and contain numerous sacred sites where Apache tribal members still practice their traditional ceremonies to this day.

Opportunities to experience and learn about the traditional uses of the Gila River and surrounding public land by the people of Bayard, Silver City, Hurley, Grant County, and other nearby communities, are crucial to the legacy passed down to future generations. Likewise, the pursuit of diverse recreational opportunities including picnicking, hiking, boating, fishing, hunting, camping, backpacking and viewing wildlife all contribute to the health, well-being, and quality of life for area residents.

According to recent data compiled by the New Mexico Outdoor Recreation Division, New Mexico's outdoor recreation economy directly supports \$1.2 billion in income and 33,500 jobs in the state annually and is among the state's fastest growing sectors. Tourism is New Mexico's second largest industry, and according to the New Mexico Department of Tourism, over half of all overnight visitors to the state engage in outdoor activities. Towns like Silver City, the first Gateway Community to the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail, rely on protected lands and rivers to draw visitors and businesses alike. Additional protections for public lands and rivers in the region, and the media and traveler attention they attract, will further assist their efforts to promote the region as a destination for travelers.

The COVID-19 pandemic has underscored how much Americans value their public lands, with many areas seeing more visitation than ever before. It has also created a need for durable and profitable recovery avenues in rural areas; outdoor recreation on protected public lands can be one of the primary drivers of rural job creation and economic recovery as the nation heals and moves forward. A new and high-profile designation of the Gila River as Wild and Scenic would be an immense help to the area's struggling small businesses, as they work to survive during this challenging time.

The Gila's natural flows support outstanding examples of southwest riparian forest, some of the greatest non-coastal breeding bird diversity and density in the United States; and a nearly intact native fish community that includes the endangered loach minnow and spike dace, and the threatened Gila trout.

Collectively, our organizations represent more than 500,000 members in New Mexico and across the United States, and we fully support the legislation to designate the Gila River, San Francisco River, and their main tributaries as Wild and Scenic Rivers. Thank you in advance for your consideration and leadership.

Sincerely,

Adobe Whitewater Club  
Scott Carpenter  
President  
Albuquerque, NM

American Canoe Association  
Robert Levin  
New Mexico State Director  
Cochiti Lake, NM

American Rivers  
David Moryc  
Senior Director  
Portland, OR

American Whitewater  
Kestrel Kunz  
Southern Rockies Associate Stewardship Director  
Crested Butte, CO

Amigos Bravos  
Rachel Conn  
Deputy Director  
Taos, NM

Audubon Southwest  
Judy Calman  
New Mexico Director of Policy  
Albuquerque, NM

AZ Wild  
Kelly Burke  
Executive Director  
Tucson, AZ

Center for Biological Diversity

Todd Schulke

Co-Founder

Silver City, NM

The Commons Center for Food Security and Sustainability

Rafael Garcia

Executive Director

Silver City, NM

Continental Divide Trail Coalition

Teresa Martinez

Executive Director

Santa Fe, NM

Conservation Lands Foundation

Brian Sybert

Executive Director

Durango, CO

Conservation Voters New Mexico

Demis Foster

Executive Director

Santa Fe, NM

Copper Country Senior Olympics

Fred R. Baca

President Silver

City, NM

Doña Ana County Consolidated Sportsmen

John Cornell

President

Las Cruces, NM

Fort Sill Apache Tribe

Lori Gooday Ware

Chairwoman

Fort Sill Apache Reservation, Akela, NM

Gila Chapter Backcountry Horsemen

Douglas Dexter

President

Silver City, NM

Gila Conservation Coalition  
Allyson Siwik  
Executive Director  
Silver City, NM

Gila Resources Information Project  
Sally Smith  
President Silver  
City, NM

Gila/Rio Grande Chapter of Trout Unlimited  
Jeff Arterburn  
President  
Las Cruces, NM

Las Cruces Green Chamber of Commerce  
Carrie Hamblen  
CEO/President  
Las Cruces, NM

LULAC Council #8003  
Evangelina Montes  
Vice President  
Silver City, NM

NAACP - Doña Ana County  
Dr. Bobbie Green  
President  
Las Cruces, NM

National Center for Frontier Communities  
Susan Wilger  
Executive Director  
Silver City, NM

National Wildlife Federation  
Brian Kurzel  
Regional Executive Director  
Denver, CO

Native Plant Society of New Mexico  
Tom Stewart  
President  
Albuquerque, NM



New Mexico Backcountry Hunters and Anglers

Joel Gay

Policy Chair

Albuquerque, NM

New Mexico Council of Trout Unlimited

Harris Klein

Chairperson

Albuquerque, NM

New Mexico Interfaith Power and Light

Sr. Joan Brown, osf

Executive Director

Albuquerque, NM

New Mexico Paddlers Coalition

Sherry Barrett

Chair

Albuquerque, New Mexico

New Mexico Rivers Outfitters Association

Francisco Guevara

President

Taos, NM

New Mexico Wild

Mark Allison

Executive Director

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New Mexico Wildlife Federation

Jesse Deubel

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Las Cruces, NM

Partnership for Responsible Business

Alexandra Merlino

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Rio Grande Restoration

Steve Harris

Owner

Embudo, NM

Southwest Consolidated Sportsmen

John Cornell

Chairman

Las Cruces, NM

Southwest New Mexico Green Chamber of Commerce

Craig Wentz

Vice-President

Silver City, NM

Southwestern New Mexico Audubon Society

Megan Ruehmann

Board Member

Silver City, NM

Trout Unlimited

Dan Roper

Angler Conservation Coordinator

Nambe, NM

Upper Gila Watershed Alliance

Donna Stevens

Executive Director

Silver City, NM

Wild Turkey Federation

Jim Bates

President

Las Cruces, NM

Vet Voice Foundation

Janessa Goldbeck

CEO

San Diego, CA