

February 16, 2011

Dear Member of Congress,

On behalf of the organizations and businesses listed below, we ask you to ***vote against Continuing Resolution Amendments No. 92, 203, 515***. Amendments 92, 203, 515 would remove all funding to protect our nation's natural, cultural and historic treasures as new National Monuments and all funding for the National Landscape Conservation System.

These amendments would effectively eliminate one of our nation's greatest conservation tools – the Antiquities Act and funding for the 16 National Monument within the National Landscape Conservation System. The Antiquities Act is deeply rooted in American history. Since it was first used by President Teddy Roosevelt in 1906, 15 presidents (most recently by President George W. Bush) have utilized the Antiquities Act to protect our nation's most recognizable public treasures from the Grand Canyon to the Statue of Liberty. The President's authority to create National Monuments on public land already owned and used by the American people should not be curtailed or compromised.

As Americans, we recognize the increased quality of life and economic boost that protected public lands provide.

Please oppose Amendments No. 92, 203, 515 to the Continuing Resolution and safeguard our nation's proud conservation heritage.

Sincerely,

Brian O'Donnell, Executive Director
Conservation Lands Foundation

Debbie Sease, National Campaign Director
Sierra Club

William H. Meadows, President
The Wilderness Society

Patrick J. Lally, Director of Congressional Affairs
The National Trust for Historic Preservation

Nancy Hall, Director
Friends of Gold Butte

Lahsha Brown, Executive Director
Friends of Ironwood Forest National Monument

Dave Willis, Chair
Soda Mountain Wilderness Council

Roger Cole, Director
Grand Staircase-Escalante Partners

Dennis Tighe, President
Friends of the Missouri Breaks National Monument

Deborah Gangloff, President & CEO
Crow Canyon Archeological Association

Nathan Newcomer, Associate Director
New Mexico Wilderness Alliance

Christi Biniatz, Director
Citizens for Dixie's Future

John J. Corcoran, President
Fort Stanton Cave Study Project

Jeremy Wheeler, Executive Director
Mattole Restoration Council

Jamie Stuve, President & CEO
Loxahatchee River Historical Society

Charlotte Overby, Director
Nevada Wilderness Project

Kristi Davie, President
California Wilderness Coalition

Glenda Simmons, President
Friends of the Agua Fria National Monument

Thom Hulen, President
Friends of the Sonoran Desert National Monument

Martie Maierhauser, Chairman
Cienega Watershed Partnership

Joel Hoffman, President
Friends of Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks Wilderness

Judy Durzo, Executive Director
Grand Circle Field School

Sara Husby, President
Tuleyome

Ronni Egan, Executive Director
Great Old Broads for Wilderness

Megan Graham, Executive Director
San Juan Citizens Alliance

Chris Enlow
KEEN Footwear, Inc

Katharine Wang
Waterbox

David Eddleston, Executive Director
Friends of the Oregon Badlands Wilderness

Noah Levy, President
Friends of Sanctuary Forest

Bill James, President
Friends of Sloan Canyon