

November 25, 2025

Congressman Dan Newhouse,  
460 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Newhouse:

The 44 undersigned leaders in government, the business community and the nonprofit sector write with appreciation for your work to protect public lands. Thank you for your leadership in opposing efforts to mandate the sale of federal lands in the One Big Beautiful Bill Act. We appreciate your commitment to our shared lands and your efforts to build the bipartisan Public Lands Caucus. The lands you protected have immense economic, cultural, ecological and recreational importance to us.

National public lands are important for small businesses and critical to Washingtonians' way of life. We know the value of Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service lands because we are public land users. We spend our spare time camping, biking, hiking, hunting and skiing with our families on the federal lands you protected. We rock climb and ride our horses into the backcountry. We raise our families and make lifelong friends on our local rivers, fishing and whitewater kayaking.

National public lands are important to the economic vitality of our communities. The federal lands you protected from being sold support our local ranchers, fishing guides, hotels and restaurant owners. They sustain our outdoor recreation and tourism industries. In 2020, Earth Economics estimated that spending by residents and tourists on outdoor recreation trips supports 264,000 jobs throughout Washington. Approximately 20% of total jobs in Okanogan county (~2,765 jobs) are tied to outdoor recreation expenditures on public lands.

Thank you for standing up for these places and the people who depend on them. We ask that you continue to protect our national public lands and use your influence on the Appropriations Committee to ensure that they are well managed for our benefit and the benefit of future generations.

Sincerely,

Michael DeCramer  
Policy and Planning Manager  
Washington Trails Association

Sen. Judy Warnick  
13th Legislative District

Danny Herrera  
Yakima City Council

Tim Matsui  
Twisp Town Council Member

Tim McGuire  
Twisp Town Council Member

Hanne Beener  
Executive Director  
Chelan-Douglas Land Trust

Marine Bjornsen  
Owner  
Winthrop Mountain Sports

Sarah Brooks  
Executive Director  
Methow Conservancy

Joseph Brown  
Owner  
Methow Cycle and Sport

Arthur Campbell  
President  
North Central Washington Audubon

David Van Cleve  
President, Yakima River Runner  
Conservation Chair, Cascadians

Eddie Espinosa  
Executive Director  
Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance

Tyler Foreman  
Cowlitz-Naches Chapter  
Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance

Joel Forrest,  
Owner  
Goats Beard Mountain Supplies

Nick Gibson  
Director  
Trans-Cascadia

Larry Goldie  
Owner  
North Cascades Mountain Guides

Sharon Grant  
Board Directors  
Friends of Badger Mountain

Madelyn Hamilton  
Public Lands & Wildlife Program Manager  
Methow Valley Citizens Council

Margaret Heming  
Director and Field Trip Chairperson  
Central Basin Audubon Society

Jon Hoekstra  
Executive Director  
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust

Celisa Hopkins  
Executive Director  
Cowiche Canyon Conservancy

Allen Jircik  
Director  
Methow Valley Trails Collaborative

Yvonne Kraus  
Executive Director  
Washington Wildlife and Recreation  
Coalition

Vanessa Kritzer  
Executive Director  
Washington Association of Land Trusts

Mat Lyons  
Executive Director  
TREAD

Alan McCoy  
Board President  
Spokane Audubon Society

Eric Miller  
Single Track Alliance of Yakima

Kate Miller  
Executive Director  
Okanogan Land Trust

Julie Nelson  
President Columbia Basin Chapter  
Evergreen Mountain Bike Alliance

Thomas O'Keefe  
Director of Policy and Science  
American Whitewater

Scott Paton  
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Bale Breaker Brewing Co.

Betsy Robblee  
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The Mountaineers

Sarah Shaffer  
Executive Director  
Wenatchee Outdoors

Braydon and Caroline Shields  
Sporthaus USA

Curt Soper  
Washington Opportunity Fund

Peter Steelquist  
Washington Policy Manager  
Surfrider Foundation

Robert Stroup  
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Icicle Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Gabriel Tiller  
Executive Director  
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Zach Turner  
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Executive Director  
Washington Wild

Dana C. Ward  
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Levi Wyatt  
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Jacob Young  
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Old Schoolhouse Brewing