

# United States Senate

Washington, D.C. 20510

June 7, 2023

The Honorable Joe Manchin III  
Chairman  
Senate Committee on Energy  
and Natural Resources  
304 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable John Barrasso, M.D.  
Ranking Member  
Senate Committee on Energy  
Natural Resources  
304 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Manchin and Ranking Member Barrasso:

We would like to thank the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for holding a hearing in the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress to consider S. 173, the Colorado Outdoor Recreation and Economy Act (“CORE Act”). After reintroducing the CORE Act (now S. 1634) on May 17, 2023, we respectfully request that the Committee move to consider it. An identical bill was introduced in the House of Representatives on the same day and referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.

Colorado counties, in close coordination with businesses, recreation groups, sportsmen, and conservationists, worked for over a decade to craft the CORE Act. The bill conserves over 420,000 acres of public land in Colorado across four distinct titles: Continental Divide, San Juan Mountains, Thompson Divide, and Curecanti National Recreation Area. The bill proposes about 71,000 acres of new wilderness, and nearly 80,000 acres of new recreation and conservation management areas.

The CORE Act is supported by: Governor Jared Polis, seven affected counties and 16 municipalities, including the nearby cities of Ouray, Crested Butte, Carbondale, Glenwood Springs, Telluride, Basalt, Breckenridge, Ophir, Ridgway, Mountain Village, Vail, Snowmass, and the Towns of Frisco and Dillon.

In addition the following organizations also support the bill: Conservation Colorado, NPCA, Conservation Alliance, Backcountry Hunters and Anglers, International Mountain Biking Association, TRCP, National Wildlife Foundation, Trout Unlimited, Outdoor Industry Association, Wilderness Workshop, Trust for Public Land, American Whitewater, Coalition to Protect America’s National Parks, The Wilderness Society, Roaring Fork Audubon, Roaring Fork Sierra Club, Solar Energy International, Carbondale Historical Society, Crystal Valley Environmental Protection Association, and Great Old Broads for Wilderness.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


United States Senate

Washington, D.C. 20510



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Michael F. Bennet  
United States Senator



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John Hickenlooper  
United States Senator