

**Agua Fria Open Space Alliance ♦ Alaska Wilderness League ♦ American Rivers
The Arizona Zoological Society ♦ California Wilderness Coalition
Center for Biological Diversity ♦ Conservation Law Foundation
Conservation Northwest ♦ Center for Native Ecosystems
Defenders of Wildlife ♦ Earthjustice ♦ Endangered Species Coalition
Environmental Protection Information Center ♦ Environment America
Friends of the Desert Mountains ♦ Friends of the Earth
Friends of the Missouri Breaks Monument ♦ Friends of the Sonoran Desert National
Monument ♦ Grand Canyon Trust ♦ Grand Canyon Wildlands Council
Grand Staircase Escalante Partners ♦ Great Old Broads for Wilderness
Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands Center ♦ League of Conservation Voters
National Audubon Society ♦ The National Center for Conservation Science and Policy
National Parks Conservation Association ♦ National Wildlife Federation
National Wildlife Refuge Association ♦ Natural Resources Defense Council ♦ Oceana
Olympic Forest Coalition ♦ Oregon Natural Desert Association ♦ Oregon Wild
Outdoors America ♦ Pew Environment Group ♦ Partnership for the National Trails
System ♦ Republicans for Environmental Protection ♦ Sierra Club ♦ Soda Mountain
Wilderness Council ♦ Siskiyou Project ♦ Sonoran Institute ♦ Sky Island Alliance
Tuleyome ♦ Umpqua Watersheds ♦ Union of Concerned Scientists
The Wilderness Society ♦ WildWest Institute**

Dear Senator:

On behalf of our millions of members, activists, and supporters, we urge you to pass the FY 2010 Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill (H.R. 2996) and oppose all amendments that undermine the urgent need to invest in our natural resources and wildlife, as well as a clean energy future, growing green jobs, and addressing the global climate crisis. In particular, we urge opposition of these amendments below which are in addition to a number of others submitted previously:

Sens. Murkowski and Thune Amendment #2530

- Would block the EPA from taking action to address global warming emissions from sources other than cars and trucks and would thwart any actions to carry out EPA's responsibilities under the law of the land. (See separate letter detailing this amendment which has previously been dropped)

Harkin-Grassley-Nelson Amendment #2477

- Prohibits the EPA from completing a full lifecycle assessment of biofuels, thus ignoring the clear scientific evidence that some biofuels production results in increased global warming pollution. According to the EPA, it will also prevent the EPA prevent EPA from finalizing its Renewable Fuel Standard rule.
- We urge **SUPPORT** for the **Carper-Bingaman 2nd degree amendment (#2510)** which takes a balanced approach to the debate on biofuels land use change emissions using sound science and common-sense regulatory mechanisms and does not risk blocking the entire RFS.

Sen. Vitter's Amendment #2508

- Prohibits the Secretary of the Interior from properly assessing and making determinations on the Draft Proposed Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program 2010-2015.

Sen. Barrasso's Amendment #2472

- Prohibits the President from implementing his important secretarial order on climate change

Sen. Bond's Amendment #2489

- Prohibits the EPA from assessing the harmful effects of carbon dioxide under the Clear Air Act

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Sen. Coburn's Amendment #2483

- Diverts desperately needed funds from the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). The LWCF is a vital program that the land management agencies use to protect recreational access, natural resources, and cultural heritage sites, and it has its own backlog after years of starvation budgets.

Sen. Coburn's Amendment #2480

- Seeks to eliminate any funding for the Sewall-Belmont House, the only museum in the nation's capital dedicated to preserving and showcasing a crucial piece of our history—the fight for the American woman's right to vote.

Sen. DeMint's Amendment #2496

- Seeks to defund the National Endowment for the Arts

Sen. DeMint's Amendment #2497

- Seeks to defund the California National Historic Trail Interpretive Center in the State of Nevada.

The 2010 Interior appropriations bill begins laying the foundation for a clean energy future and restores funding for critically important environmental programs that have long been marginalized. These amendments do not support a strong investment in the environment which will help improve the health, security and economic strength of our communities.

The Interior appropriations bill which passed out of committee provides the tools necessary to invest in a clean energy economy, support a cleaner, healthier environment, and pave the way for comprehensive climate legislation this year. These programs protect our air, water, oceans, land and wildlife and are important to the public health of our communities and the natural heritage of our nation. Investing in a clean energy future and protecting our natural resources are critical components of a forward thinking budget that will create economic opportunity nationwide.

Once again, we urge you to pass the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies appropriations bill and oppose all weakening amendments, including those listed above.