



## Office of the Governor

JIM GIBBONS  
GOVERNOR

March 12, 2008

The Honorable Harry Reid  
United States Senate  
528 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable John Ensign  
United States Senate  
119 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Dean Heller  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1023 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington DC 20515

**RE: Public Lands Legislation**

Dear Senators Reid and Ensign and Congressman Heller:

I am writing to express my concern regarding the proposed Public Lands Legislation for Mineral and Lyon Counties. While I have adamantly supported the efforts of Nevada's delegation to protect Nevada's public lands over the years, I can not support any legislation which does not have the full backing of the affected counties.

During my service in the House, I worked with my colleagues to ensure the passage of the Lincoln County Conservation, Recreation, and Development Act. This effort was undertaken with the full support of Lincoln County officials and other affected stakeholders. As a result of this successful collaboration, White Pine County elected to move forward with similar legislation.

As you know, during the stakeholder meeting process, White Pine County chose to withdraw its support of the legislation and I immediately followed suit. Regrettably, the legislation was pushed through despite the lack of support from the County. It

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(NSFO Rev 3-07)

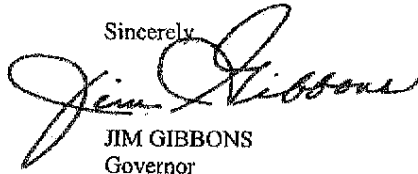
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appears once again the federal government is electing to move forward with legislation without taking into consideration the wishes and needs of the counties.

It is my belief that local stewardship of the lands bill process is imperative to ensure that stakeholder needs are taken into consideration. I will continue to voice my opposition to any federal legislation that is not a result of local coordination, cooperation and support. Therefore, I respectfully request you do not move forward with legislation until such time as Mineral and Lyon Counties chose to support the effort.

I trust you will give this letter your full consideration. Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jim Gibbons". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

JIM GIBBONS  
Governor

/jls

cc: Mineral County Commission  
Lyon County Commission