



## **Coalition for Public Access**

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July 11, 2008

**via Email**

Honorable Dean A. Rhoads, Chairman  
Legislative Committee on Public Lands  
501 S. Carson St.  
Carson City, NV 89701-4747

Re: Wilderness Area Proposals/Lyon, Mineral and Esmeralda County Lands Bills  
Committee Agenda of April 4, 2008

Dear Chairman Rhoads and Honorable Committee Members:

The Coalition for Public Access (CPA), which organized last Spring in response to unreasonable proposals for Congressionally designated Wilderness Areas within Lyon, Mineral and Esmeralda counties as part of a non-locally driven federal lands bill, would like to thank your committee for all the valuable work it does in hearing about public lands issues and reviewing the need for pertinent committee or legislative action.

We appreciated the opportunity to speak to the committee last April regarding our concerns about the impacts to Nevada that we believe would result from continued creation of Wilderness Areas which would prohibit the use of millions of acres of federal public lands that contribute so much to Nevada's economy and way of life. The threats posed by tying up immense acres of public lands is real and will have devastating effects on the state's ability to generate future revenues and income that support state and local government, not to mention the benefit to every Nevada community.

We plan to submit a request for action by the Committee in relation to the potential loss of multiple-use public lands posed by unreasonable Wilderness Area designations. We believe the Committee will agree there is a need to strenuously defend open access to help secure Nevada's future.

Many of our members are new to the political and legislative arena. While our proposal and request may not be as comprehensive as others the committee receives, we will attempt to provide you with our suggestions on ways we envision Nevada may proactively ensure continued access to public lands. We believe you will agree it is vital that we keep Nevada open.

Respectfully,

### **Coalition for Public Access**

By Wade Harlan, Jim Kinninger, Mike Rosaschi, Sue Silver, Larry Simmons, Donald Smith,  
Emery Thran and Phil Tucker.