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House to Vote on 26,000,000 NLCS BLM Acres Lock Up

It will be 33,000,000 if Senator Feinstein adds a large part of the California Desert Bill which she is planning to do.

Urgent Action Required

The House is expected to vote shortly on the National Landscape Conservation System (NLCS) (HR 2016).

HR 2016 (NLCS) will essentially place a National Park like regulatory overlay over the top of 26 million BLM acres.

You need to call, fax and e-mail your Congressman to oppose this giant land grab. Please read this message carefully. See all the BLM areas that will be affected.

-----To see a map of all the areas affected by the NLCS, go to www.landrights.org. We have posted a nationwide map with the NLCS on it. It is a big file so you have to be patient as it loads on to your computer.

-----Look below to see how each Member of the Natural Resources Committee voted on HR 2016.

ALRA will send you a summary of how every Congressman voted when the vote goes to the House floor.

If NLCS (HR 2016) passes, it will hurt your state and community.

We've sent you a list of all the Members of the House Natural Resources Committee. We sent previously you a summary of how they voted on HR 2016 in Committee. How they voted is repeated below.

-----You must call, e-mail and fax any Members of the Committee from your State urging him or her to vote no on HR 2016. They will be the leaders both for and against HR 2016 on the House Floor.

-----Call at least five neighbors, friends and business associates to urge them to call, fax and e-mail against HR2016.

See Action Items Below:

NLCS Plans To Put Into Law The Babbitt National Landscape Conservation System (NLCS) he set up in the dark of Night in the last few months of the Clinton Administration.

HR 2016 Essentially Places A National Park Type Overlay Over Millions Of Acres Of BLM Land. You know that will hurt multiple-use and private property.

Access to and use of 26,000,000 million acres of Federal land will be affected.

Vast amounts of private land will be limited in use and access.

Here are just some of the people who will be hurt by HR 2016.

Ranchers;

Miners;

Oil and Gas explorationists;

Hunters;

Fishermen;

Off-Highway Vehicle users;

Campers;

Other recreation advocates;

Adjacent Private property owners;

Inholders;

Horseback riders;

Forestry advocates;

Rock Collectors;

Tourists;

and many others will lose if the National Landscape Conservation System passes into law.

-----Local rural communities will be especially hurt. The economic damage will spread like a cancer. HR 2016 must be stopped.

-----Massive areas of Wilderness Study Areas will be changed into full Wilderness bypassing the normal state-by-state Congressional vote. This is a huge aspect of HR 2016 that they are sneaking by while people are focused on other areas of the bill.

-----See statement at the bottom of this e-mail by National Parks Subcommittee Ranking Minority Member Rob Bishop.

The Democrats Are Now In Charge And They Are Deliberately Trying To Give As Late A Notice As Possible For Each Committee Action.

Congress seeks to codify new NLCS Land Grab -- (From Federal Parks and Recreation Newsletter); Seventeen House members from both parties teamed up in April, 2007 to introduce legislation (HR 2016) that would give the National Landscape Conservation System official Congressional certification.

The system, administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), was created administratively by former Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt during the Clinton years.

In June 2000 the Interior Department under the guidance of former Secretary Babbitt established the 26 million acre NLCS in BLM to protect what they called special areas.

The NLCS consists of major conservation areas in 12 western states, including 15 national monuments, 13 national conservation areas, Steens Mountain area in Oregon, Headwaters Forest Reserve in northern California, 36 wild and scenic rivers, 148 wilderness areas, 4,264 miles of national trails, and more than 600 wilderness study areas.

Making the NLCS permanent threatens recreation, access, grazing, mining, oil and gas and many other uses. Gradually these areas will be turned into parks with traditional uses strangled and roads cut off. Private property owners and inholders in the areas can say so long to their property rights. You will see new areas nominated for NLCS status gradually eroding BLM multiple-use.

Four Democratic senators introduced counterpart legislation (S 1139) in April, 2007. Said chief sponsor of the Senate bill, Sen. Jeff Bingaman (D-NM), "Given the broad public support for these areas, I expect this bill to be non-controversial and it is my hope that it will be able to move quickly through the Congress and enactment into law." Bingaman chairs the Senate Energy Committee. Non-Controversial?

The four lead House sponsors of HR 2016, all co-chairs of an NLCS caucus, are Reps. Mary Bono (R-CA), Rick Renzi (R-AZ), Raúl Grijalva (D-AZ) and Jim Moran (D-VA). Reps. Bono and Renzi need to receive lots of contacts. The others are not likely to change their position but should receive as many calls as possible.

Creating this massive new conservation area program (read land grab) will take money especially from the National Park Service that is way behind in deferred maintenance and other uses. It will also take money from vast areas of BLM lands. The NLCS will eventually become a huge new agency with thousands of additional bureaucrats added over time.

Any promises made when these areas like Steens Mountain and the Missouri Breaks National Monument and all the other affected monuments as well as the Grand Staircase National Monument and many others will be conveniently forgotten as more and more regulations are added.

The NLCS will convert millions of acres of now accessible BLM land into park-like areas with park-like regulations and will be gradually

managed like a park. Gradually existing uses will be strangled out of existence.

Supporters of the NLCS insist they are not competing with other conservation programs for fiscal 2008 appropriations. One said, "We do want to see a shift in the funding priorities of the BLM itself. Specifically, the oil and gas program of the BLM has become the dominant program of the BLM at the expense of some the best lands and waters of the American West."

It is the nature of the Congressional appropriations beast that money for all programs in the Interior appropriations bill comes out of the same pot and the programs compete with each other.

One of the sponsors of the bill to codify the NLCS, Sen. Ken Salazar (D-CO), said the measure would not affect management of lands or existing rights or public access. Added Salazar, "The bill does, however, recognize that these landscapes are of great interest to the American people and should be managed to protect their values."

Does anyone believe setting up the NLCS would not change the management of these areas? If that were true, why would Congress want to do it?

American Land Rights will be sending out thousands of faxes, letters and e-mails to alert landowners, rural communities and allies about the danger and work to build more allies in Congress to stop the NLCS from passing. ALRA needs your support to defeat the massive new National Landscape Conservation System.

It is critical that private property owners and Federal land users make a big push now to head off this attack on private property and access to Federal lands. It is so much cheaper to fight it early than to wait. Hit it hard now. Call, write and fax your Congressman. You must overwhelm his or her office with calls between now and 5:00 pm Wednesday, March 12th. You may call any Congressman at (202) 225-3121.

*****ACTION ITEMS

*****What You Should Do Now!

-----1. Call, fax and e-mail your Congressman immediately to oppose the National Landscape Conservation System (NLCS), HR 2016. You may call any Congressman at (202) 225-3121. You can ask for his or her staff person who handles this issue. Ask for their fax and e-mail address.

-----2. Call today any Congressman listed below on the House Natural Resources Committee who is from your state to urge him or her vote against HR 2016, the National Landscape Conservation System when the bill come to the floor of the House.

-----3. Call, fax and e-mail all the other Congressmen from your state. It is too late to send a letter. You need to call and get the fax number.

-----4. E-mail a copy to the Minority Staff (casey.hammond@mail.house.gov or jason.knox@mail.house.gov).

Be sure to label your e-mail in the subject line as concerning HR 2016. You must send it as quickly as you can.

-----5. Send a copy of your e-mail opposing HR 2016 to all the Members of the House Resources Committee.

-----6. Send a copy of your letter to both your Senators. Write: Honorable _____, US Senate, Washington, DC 20510. You may call any Senator at (202) 224-3121.

Here is House Natural Resources Committee. All can be called at the Capital Switchboard at (202) 225-3121. You can fax the committee office at (202) 225-5929. Fax each individual Congressman on the Committee and their personal fax number listed. E-mail each Congressman care of the staff member's e-mail listed.

-----Minority Members (Republicans)

Don Young (R-AK) -- FAX (202) 225-0-425 -- e-mail: kevin.v.kennedy@mail.house.gov

Jim Saxton (R-NJ) -- FAX (202) 225-0778 -- e-mail: andy.oliver@mail.house.gov

Elton Gallegly (R-CA) -- FAX (202) 225-1100 -- e-mail: brian.feintech@mail.house.gov

John Duncan (R-TN) -- FAX (202) 225-6440 -- e-mail: scott.fischer@mail.house.gov

Wayne Gilchrest (R-MD) -- FAX (202) 225-0254 -- edith.Thompson@mail.house.gov

Chris Cannon (R-UT) -- FAX (202) 225-5629 -- e-mail: rachel.dresen@mail.house.gov

Tom Tancredo (R-CO) -- FAX (202) 226-4623 -- e-mail: andrew.good@mail.house.gov

Jeff Flake (R-AZ) -- FAX -- (202) 226-4386 -- e-mail: chandler.morse@mail.house.gov

Steve Pearce (R-NM) -- FAX -- (202) 225-9599 -- e-mail: tim.charters@mail.house.gov

Henry Brown (R-SC) -- FAX -- (202) 225-3407 -- e-mail: chris.berardini@mail.house.gov.

Luis Fortuno (R-PR) -- FAX (202) 225-2154 -- kimberly.beer@mail.house.gov

Rob Bishop (R-UT) Fax: (202) 225-5857
e-mail: casey.hammond@mail.house.gov

Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA) -- FAX (202) 225-3392
chrissy.poe@mail.house.gov

Louie Gohmert (R-TX) – FAX – (202) 226-5866 – e-mail:
drew.kent@mail.house.gov

Tom Cole (R-OK) – FAX -- (202) 225-3512 – e-mail:
caitrin.mccarron@mail.house.gov

Dean Heller (R-NV) – FAX – (202) 225-5679 – e-mail:
emy.lesofski@mail.house.gov

William Sali (R-ID) – FAX – (202) 225-3029 – e-mail:
lisa.tanner@mail.house.gov

Douglas Lamborn (R-CO) – FAX (202) 226-2638 – e-mail:
craig.rushing@mail.house.gov

Rob Wittman (R-VA) -- FAX (202) 225-4382– e-mail:
brent.robinson@mail.house.gov

Adrian Smith (R-NE) – FAX (202) 225-0207 – e-mail:
monica.jirik@mail.house.gov

-----Majority Members (Democrats):

Chairman: Nick Rahall (D-WV) – FAX – (202) 225-9061 – e-mail:
jim.zoia@mail.house.gov

Dale Kildee (D-MI) – FAX – (202) 225-6393 – e-mail:
travis.talvitie@mail.house.gov

Eni F. H. Faleomavaega (D-AS) – FAX -- (202) 225-8757 – e-mail:
lisa.Williams@mail.house.gov

Neil Abercrombie (D-HI) -- FAX – (202) 225-4580—e-mail:
wendy.clerinx@mail.house.gov

Soloman Ortiz (D-TX) – FAX – (202) 226-1134 – e-mail:
patricia.villarreal@mail.house.gov

Frank Pallone (D-NJ) – FAX – (202) 225-9665 – e-mail:
eric.gordon@mail.house.gov

Donna Christensen (D-VI) – FAX – (202) 225-5517 – e-mail:
brian.modeste@mail.house.gov

Grace Napolitano (D-CA) – FAX – (202) 225-0027 – e-mail:
joe.sheehy@mail.house.gov

Rush Holt (D-NJ) – FAX – (202) 225-6025 – e-mail:
christopher.hartmann@mail.house.gov

Raul Grijalva (D-AZ) – FAX -- (202) 226-2301 – e-mail:
david.watkins@mail.house.gov

Madeleine Bordallo (D-GU) – FAX (202) 226-0341 – e-mail:
jed.bullock@mail.house.gov

David Daniel Boren (D-OK) – FAX – (202) 225-3038 – e-mail:
Jason.buckner@mail.house.gov

John Sarbanes (D-MD) – FAX – (202) 225-9219 – e-mail:
Jason.Gleason@mail.house.gov

George Miller (D-CA) – FAX -- (202) 225-5609 – e-mail:
ben.miller@mail.house.gov

Edward Markey (D-MA) – FAX -- (202) 226-0092 – e-mail:
jeff.Duncan@mail.house.gov

Peter DeFazio (D-OR) – FAX – (202) 225-0032 – e-mail:
susan.brown@mail.house.gov

Maurice Hinchey (D-NY) -- FAX – (202) 226-0774 – e-mail:
moira.campion@mail.house.gov

Patrick Kennedy (D-RI) – FAX – (202) 225-3290 – e-mail:
kimber.colton@mail.house.gov

Ron Kind (D-WI) – FAX – (202) 225-5739 – e-mail:
david.degennaro@mail.house.gov

Lois Capps (D-CA) -- FAX – (202) 225-5632 – e-mail:
jonathan.levenshus@mail.house.gov

Jay Inslee (D-WA) – FAX – (202) 226-1606 – e-mail:
garth.vanmeter@mail.house.gov

Mark Udall (D-CO) -- FAX – (202) 226-7840 – e-mail:
stan.sloss@mail.house.gov

Joe Baca (D-CA) – FAX – (202) 225-8671 – e-mail:
susie.saavedra@mail.house.gov

Hilda Solis (D-CA) – FAX- (202) 225-5467 – e-mail:
megan.uzzell@mail.house.gov

Stephanie Herseth Sandlin (D-SD) – FAX – (202) 225-5823 – e-mail:
lesley.kandaras@mail.house.gov

Heath Shuler (D-NC) -- FAX – (202) 226-6422 – e-mail:
sean.obrien@mail.house.gov

-----Here is how your Congressman voted if he or she is on the
Resources Committee.

-----Minority Members (Republicans)

Don Young (R-AK) -- FAX (202) 225-0-425 -- e-mail:
kevin.v.kennedy@mail.house.gov
Was in Alaska at the Republican Convention at the time of the vote.

Jim Saxton (R-NJ) -- FAX (202) 225-0778 – e-mail:
andy.oliver@mail.house.gov
Failed to vote

Elton Gallegly (R-CA) -- FAX (202) 225-1100 – e-mail:

brian.feintech@mail.house.gov

Failed to vote

John Duncan (R-TN) – FAX (202) 225-6440 -- e-mail:

scott.fischer@mail.house.gov

Voted No

Wayne Gilchrest (R-MD) – FAX (202) 225-0254 –

edith.Thompson@mail.house.gov

Failed to vote

Chris Cannon (R-UT) – FAX (202) 225-5629 – e-mail:

rachel.dresen@mail.house.gov

Voted No

Tom Tancredo (R-CO) – FAX (202) 226-4623 – e-mail:

andrew.good@mail.house.gov

Failed to vote. The NLCS will affect a lot of Colorado.

Jeff Flake (R-AZ) – FAX -- (202) 226-4386 – e-mail:

chandler.morse@mail.house.gov

Voted No

Steve Pearce (R-NM) – FAX – (202) 225-9599 – e-mail:

tim.charters@mail.house.gov

Voted NO

Henry Brown (R-SC) – FAX – (202) 225-3407 – e-mail:

chris.berardini@mail.house.gov.

Voted No

Luis Fortuno (R-PR) – FAX (202) 225-2154 –

kimberly.beer@mail.house.gov

Voted No

Rob Bishop (R-UT) Fax: (202) 225-5857

e-mail: casey.hammond@mail.house.gov

Voted No – A leader against the NLCS.

Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA) – FAX (202) 225-3392

chrissy.poe@mail.house.gov

Voted No

Louie Gohmert (R-TX) – FAX – (202) 226-5866 – e-mail:

drew.kent@mail.house.gov

Failed to vote

Tom Cole (R-OK) – FAX -- (202) 225-3512 – e-mail:

caitlin.mccarron@mail.house.gov

Failed to vote

William Sali (R-ID) – FAX – (202) 225-3029 – e-mail:

lisa.tanner@mail.house.gov

Voted No

Douglas Lamborn (R-CO) – FAX (202) 226-2638 – e-mail:

craig.rushing@mail.house.gov

Voted No

Rob Wittman (R-VA) -- FAX (202) 225-4382– e-mail:

brent.robinson@mail.house.gov

Voted YES. All Virginians should contact Congressman Whittman about his vote on this terrible bill. He let you down.

Adrian Smith (R-NE) – FAX (202) 225-0207 – e-mail:
monica.jirik@mail.house.gov
Voted No

-----Majority Members (Democrats):

Chairman: Nick Rahall (D-WV) – FAX – (202) 225-9061 – e-mail:
jim.zoia@mail.house.gov
Voted Yes

Dale Kildee (D-MI) – FAX – (202) 225-6393 – e-mail:
travis.talvitie@mail.house.gov
Voted Yes

Eni F. H. Faleomavaega (D-AS) – FAX -- (202) 225-8757 – e-mail:
lisa.Williams@mail.house.gov
Voted Yes

Neil Abercrombie (D-HI) -- FAX – (202) 225-4580—e-mail:
wendy.clerinx@mail.house.gov
Voted Yes

Soloman Ortiz (D-TX) – FAX – (202) 226-1134 – e-mail:
patricia.villarreal@mail.house.gov
Voted Yes

Frank Pallone (D-NJ) – FAX – (202) 225-9665 – e-mail:
eric.gordon@mail.house.gov
Voted Yes

Donna Christensen (D-VI) – FAX – (202) 225-5517 – e-mail:
brian.modeste@mail.house.gov
Voted Yes

Grace Napolitano (D-CA) – FAX – (202) 225-0027 – e-mail:
joe.sheehy@mail.house.gov
Voted Yes

Rush Holt (D-NJ) – FAX – (202) 225-6025 – e-mail:
christopher.hartmann@mail.house.gov
Voted Yes

Raul Grijalva (D-AZ) – FAX -- (202) 226-2301 – e-mail:
david.watkins@mail.house.gov
Voted Yes

Madeleine Bordallo (D-GU) – FAX (202) 226-0341 – e-mail:
jed.bullock@mail.house.gov
Voted Yes

David Daniel Boren (D-OK) – FAX – (202) 225-3038 – e-mail:
Jason.buckner@mail.house.gov
Voted Yes

John Sarbanes (D-MD) – FAX – (202) 225-9219 – e-mail:
Jason.Gleason@mail.house.gov
Voted Yes

George Miller (D-CA) – FAX -- (202) 225-5609 – e-mail:
ben.miller@mail.house.gov
Voted Yes

Edward Markey (D-MA) – FAX -- (202) 226-0092 – e-mail:
jeff.Duncan@mail.house.gov
Did not vote

Peter DeFazio (D-OR) – FAX – (202) 225-0032 – e-mail:
susan.brown@mail.house.gov
Voted Yes

Maurice Hinchey (D-NY) -- FAX – (202) 226-0774 – e-mail:
moira.campion@mail.house.gov
Voted Yes

Patrick Kennedy (D-RI) – FAX – (202) 225-3290 – e-mail:
kimber.colton@mail.house.gov
Did not vote

Ron Kind (D-WI) – FAX – (202) 225-5739 – e-mail:
david.degennaro@mail.house.gov
Voted Yes

Lois Capps (D-CA) -- FAX – (202) 225-5632 – e-mail:
jonathan.levenshus@mail.house.gov
Voted Yes

Jay Inslee (D-WA) – FAX – (202) 226-1606 – e-mail:
garth.vanmeter@mail.house.gov
Voted Yes

Mark Udall (D-CO) -- FAX – (202) 226-7840 – e-mail:
stan.sloss@mail.house.gov
Did not vote

Joe Baca (D-CA) – FAX – (202) 225-8671 – e-mail:
susie.saavedra@mail.house.gov
Voted Yes

Hilda Solis (D-CA) – FAX- (202) 225-5467 – e-mail:
megan.uzzell@mail.house.gov
Voted Yes

Stephanie Herseth Sandlin (D-SD) – FAX – (202) 225-5823 – e-mail:
lesley.kandaras@mail.house.gov
Voted Yes

Heath Shuler (D-NC) -- FAX – (202) 226-6422 – e-mail:
sean.obrien@mail.house.gov
Voted Yes

-----Notice there is pattern here. As you prepare to vote in the important election this fall, take a look at how each party supports private property rights and access to Federal lands.

-----You can get more about how your every Congressman voted in previous years by going to www.landrights.org and look on the home page for the Private Property Congressional Vote Index. It will be on the right hand side toward the bottom under the heading – Vote Index.

-----This is the Congressional scorecard is printed each year to show how your Congressman voted on environmental, private property and Federal lands issues.

-----The Vote Index also scores how all the Senators voted. So you can look up the vote record of John McCain (R-AZ), Hillary Clinton (D-NY) or Barrack Obama (D-IL). In 2006 John McCain scored a 56 out of 100. However, both Obama and Clinton scored 11 out of 100. That appears to make McCain five times as good at protecting your rights.

American Land Rights will be sending out thousands of faxes, letters and e-mails to alert landowners, rural communities and allies about the danger and work to build more allies in Congress to stop the NLCS from passing to full House.

ALRA needs your support to defeat the massive new National Landscape Conservation System (HR 2016) in the full House.

You can join ALRA or make a contribution by going to www.landrights.org

It is critical that private property owners and Federal land users make a big push now to head off this attack on private property and access to Federal lands. Call, write and fax your Congressman. The NLCS will come up in the full House in the next month. Your calls mean a lot.

Chuck Cushman
American Land Rights Association
(360) 687-3087
ccushman@landrights.org

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