February 26, 2021

Dear Representative:

On behalf of our millions of members and supporters across the United States, we are writing to urge you to vote for Protecting America’s Wilderness and Public Lands Act (PAW+), H.R. 803. This legislation consists of eight important public lands provisions – Colorado Wilderness, CORE, Grand Canyon Protection, Wild Olympics, Rim of the Valley, Central Coast, San Gabriels, NW California Wilderness - and will protect 2.7 million acres in Colorado, Arizona, Washington, and California, and will help us reach the goal of protecting 30 percent of the U.S. by 2030.

Our organizations also urge you to make PAW+ even stronger by supporting En Bloc #1. This bipartisan amendment includes several important public lands bills including: Outdoors for All; Environmental Justice in Recreational Permitting; Veterans Outdoors; George Washington National Forest; Great Dismal Swamp.

Conversely, we also call on you to oppose En Bloc #2, the myriad of anti-wilderness and anti-environmental amendments, and amendment #3, which calls for a costly, duplicative study of various mineral deposits within areas this legislation intends to protect; the United States Geological Survey (USGS) already maintains this information.

We strongly urge you to support the PAW+ Act, and make it stronger by passing the En Bloc #1 amendment. Doing so will protect key public lands, help address the climate crisis, connect underserved communities with our public lands, protect areas sacred to Indigenous communities, and promote the outdoor economy.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Athan Manuel
Sierra Club

Aaron Mintzes

Earthworks

Blaine Miller-McFeeley

Earthjustice

Ellen Montgomery

Environment America

Jen Ujifusa

Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance

Roger McManus

Friends of the Sonoran Desert

Kristen Brengel

National Parks Conservation Association

Lydia Weiss

The Wilderness Society

Jeff Kuyper

Los Padres ForestWatch

Alex Taurel

League of Conservation Voters