



February 25, 2021

Congresswoman Lauren Boebert  
1609 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

**RE: H.R. 803 Colorado Wilderness Act of 2021**

Congresswoman Boebert:

As our 3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District representative, you recently spoke as a proud representative of “one of the most beautiful districts in the entire nation, where waters like the Colorado, the Arkansas and the Animas Rivers flow, and snow falling along the Rocky Mountain provide outdoor recreation in towns like Durango, Telluride, Aspen and Steamboat Springs....”<sup>1</sup> and our rural community surrounded by national forest now speaks to you today.

Last fall, 111 Colorado elected officials, including Aspen Mayor Torre and City Council members Ward Hauenstein and Ann Mullins, signed on to a letter of support for the Colorado Outdoor Recreation & Economy Act - CORE. The act was originally introduced by Congressman Joe Neguse and Senator Michael Bennett in 2019. This week the CORE Act has been revived and Rep. Diana DeGette introduced a broader public lands bill, H.R. 803 that includes the CORE Act and seven other public lands proposals. The CORE Act has passed the House with bipartisan support twice, yet it has never made it to the Senate floor.

The act includes protection for 400,000 acres of Colorado’s public land. Of that, nearly 80,000 acres are new recreation and conservation management areas that preserve existing outdoor uses. This is vital to the state of our economy to protect those very things you spoke about: Colorado’s most cherished lands, waters, and forests in a generation.

The CORE Act has the support of seven counties, 12 towns and cities, the Grand Junction Daily Sentinel newspaper and the state of Colorado. Of the nine counties affected by the bill, every county approves of the component of the bill in their county. Representative Boebert, we urge you to please acknowledge and laser focus your time to acknowledge the breadth and consistent local support for the CORE Act and its incorporation into H.R. 803.

Sincerely,

Torre, Mayor

Aspen City Council members: Ward Hauenstein, Skippy Mesirow, Ann Mullins, Rachael Richards

<sup>1</sup> “Fighting for American Energy” United States House of Representatives live speech as posted on @repboebert Instagram account  
February 8, 2021 and aired on C-SPAN