

Alaska Wilderness League • American Bird Conservancy • American Rivers
Association of Partners for Public Lands • Audubon Society • Center for Food Safety
Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice • Center for Sustainable Communities
Clean Water Action • Defenders of Wildlife • Earth Day Network • Earthjustice • Earthworks
Endangered Species Coalition • Energy Action Coalition • Environment America
Environmental Defense Fund • Environmental Investigation Agency
Epic-Environmental Protection Information Center • Friends of the Earth
Interfaith Power & Light • International Forum on Globalization • Klamath Forest Alliance
KyotoUSA • League of Conservation Voters • Los Padres ForestWatch
National Parks Conservation Association • Natural Resources Defense Council
New Energy Economy • Oceana • Rachel Carson Council • Sierra Club
Southern Environmental Law Center • Southern Oregon Climate Action Now
Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance • The Wilderness Society

July 20, 2015

Dear Mr. President, Senators and Representatives:

On behalf of our millions of members and supporters, we write to emphasize the importance of restoring funding for environmental programs and avoiding environmentally damaging policy riders in the FY16 Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Appropriations bills.

Both the House and Senate Interior and Environment Appropriations bills are deeply flawed, and we view recent developments stalling those harmful bills as an opportunity to entirely revisit the FY16 Interior appropriations process. We urge both chambers not to move forward with these bills that undermine popular environmental investments and bedrock environmental laws through dozens of drastic policy riders.

The damaging funding cuts and short-sighted policy provisions in both the House and Senate Interior spending bills would undermine the ability of environmental, environmental justice, land management and wildlife agencies to perform their basic duties and are completely out of touch with the public interest.

In order for Congress to provide adequate funding for agencies to protect our environment for the benefit of all Americans, the current sequestration caps must be replaced.

We respectfully ask you to work together to reach agreement on a broad budget deal that allows for a full-year appropriations bill that provides more adequate resources for environmental agencies and avoids environmentally damaging policy provisions.

We stand ready to be of assistance in this needed endeavor and invite you to reach out to our public-interest groups to craft a final, urgently needed budget deal.

Sincerely,

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