

GREG WALDEN
SECOND DISTRICT, OREGON

ENERGY AND COMMERCE

SUBCOMMITTEES:
COMMUNICATIONS AND TECHNOLOGY
CHAIRMAN

E-MAIL VIA WEBSITE:
<http://walden.house.gov>



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

WASHINGTON, DC OFFICE:
2185 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-3702
TELEPHONE: (202) 225-6730

DISTRICT OFFICES:
14 N CENTRAL AVENUE, SUITE 112
MEDFORD, OR 97501
TELEPHONE: (541) 776-4646
TOLL FREE: (800) 533-3303

1051 NW BOND STREET, SUITE 400
BEND, OR 97701
TELEPHONE: (541) 389-4408

1211 WASHINGTON AVENUE
LA GRANDE, OR 97850
TELEPHONE: (541) 624-2400

March 10, 2016

The Honorable Sally Jewell
Secretary of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC

Dear Madam Secretary,

I've appreciated our discussions regarding the proposed Owyhee Canyonlands National Monument and your statements before the House Natural Resources Committee confirming that no one in your department is working on such a proposal. That information is comforting news to me and my constituents who believe, as you do, in building positive, cooperative partnerships when it comes to managing our public lands.

I also appreciated your commitment to me that if the Interior Department does engage on such a proposal, that you will let me and the Natural Resources Committee know at your earliest convenience. Nothing will erode public trust more than another "dark-of-night" monument designation that is created without a fair public process that includes the input of the citizens most affected by such an action.

Tuesday, the voters of Malheur County weighed in at the ballot box with their views regarding the proposal. Nearly 55% of eligible voters turned out in a special election and nearly 90% voted against the 2.5 million acre proposed monument.

Given the intense emotions regarding federal land management in Oregon, and across the West, I knew you would take interest in the strongly held opinions of the residents of this eastern Oregon county. The sooner you and the President can put this matter to rest, the sooner we can move forward in a positive direction.

Thank you for your interest in this matter and others related to prudent and productive improvements in federal land management.

Sincerely,

Greg Walden
U.S. Representative
Oregon's 2nd District

cc: President Barack Obama
The Honorable Tom Vilsack, Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture