

Prevent This Kind of Abuse of our Public Lands!



Support the TRAIL Act

Dear Colleague:

I recently introduced H.R. 3247, the Trail Responsibility and Accountability for the Improvement of our Lands Act (**TRAIL Act**). The legislation -- based on a bill introduced last Congress by Rep. Scott McInnis (*HR 3808, - 107th*) -- would create consistent enforcement authority among the Federal agencies responsible for most public lands -- the Bureau of Land Management, the U. S. Forest Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the National Park Service.

Current law treats property abuse differently among these federal agencies. My legislation makes penalties consistent throughout. It creates two general classes of fines and penalties for individuals/groups found guilty of unlawful conduct on public lands.

Class B Misdemeanor – Any individual found guilty of violating regulations governing the use of public lands will be subject to a fine not to exceed \$5,000 and/or imprisonment of up to six months. Any group found guilty of violating such regulations will be subject to a fine not to exceed \$10,000 and/or up to six months of imprisonment.

Class A Misdemeanor – Any individual found guilty of “willfully and knowingly” violating regulations governing the use of public lands will be subject to a fine not to exceed \$100,000 and/or imprisonment of up to one year. Any group found guilty of “willfully and knowingly” violating regulations will be subject to a fine not to exceed \$200,000 and/or imprisonment of up to one year.

The bill would allow agencies to utilize funds received as fines for such offenses to be used for restoration work on public lands or for educational outreach on appropriate use and behavior on public lands. Any funds in excess of rehabilitation work and or educational outreach will be returned to the general treasury.

H.R. 3247 provides Federal agencies with enhanced enforcement tools to protect and maintain public lands for all to enjoy. This legislation is designed to penalize those who abuse our public lands, for the benefit of those of us who properly enjoy recreating on our national lands and natural treasures.

I hope you will consider co-sponsoring the TRAIL Act. Contact Mac Zimmerman at x.57882 with any questions, or for additional information.

Sincerely,
Tom Tancredo
Member of Congress

CURRENT COSPONSORS – McInnis, Udall (CO), Beauprez

LAST YEARS COSPONSORS: Acevedo-Vila, Brown (SC), Calvert, Cannon, Cubin, Gibbons, Graves, Green, Gutknecht, Hart, Johnson (IL), Jones (NC), Manzullo, Otter, Peterson, Petri, Radanovich, Shimkus, Simpson, Weller