

CORE ACT UPDATE - November 1, 2019

- The CORE Act represents the culmination of years of communities coming together to protect the places they love. Thank you Congressman Joe Neguse for standing with your constituents to honor World War II veterans, boost our local economies, and protect wildlife habitat. Now, I am asking Senator Cory Gardner to support this common-sense legislation.
- The CORE Act would preserve roughly 400,000 acres of public land in Colorado and is the result of decades of local communities coming together to protect the public lands they love. This includes veterans, ranchers, sportsmen, small and large business owners, outdoor recreationists, conservationists, and more.
- Location specific protections:
 - The Continental Divide portion of CORE Act includes Eagle County wilderness additions to Holy Cross and Eagle's Nest Wilderness and the nation's first National Historic Landscape, at Camp Hale. Summit County would see a 17,000-acre recreation management area in the Ten Mile Range as well as wildlife conservation protections and new wilderness. Eagle and Summit County commissioners have supported the bill since its introduction.
 - The CORE Act also includes other important protections across the state. It protects 200,000 acres of public land south and west of Glenwood Springs known as the Thompson Divide, from future oil and gas leasing. To the south, it adds new Wilderness in the San Juan Mountains, and increases public fishing access in the Curecanti National Recreation Area on the Gunnison River.
- The legislation would preserve critical wildlife habitat, protect lands from oil and gas development, establish new wilderness and recreation management areas, and designate Camp Hale as our country's first national historic landscape. The CORE Act is seen by many as a new standard for Public Lands protection because it includes a variety of protections.
- All seven affected counties (republican and democrat) have written letters of support of protecting the lands contained in the CORE Act, and along with thousands of other constituents have been asking Colorado's congressional delegation to protect these special places for a decade.
- Camp Hale was where the 10th Mountain Division trained to fight in the Italian Alps during World War II, and whose veterans were instrumental in the founding of Colorado's ski industry and laying the foundations of the modern outdoor recreation economy. Veterans have long been calling for the designation of this important historic site.
- Colorado's public lands fuel the state's booming outdoor recreation industry. In 2017, [outdoor recreation contributed](#) \$62 billion to Colorado's economy and \$35 billion to the state's Gross Domestic Product - which is more than 10 percent - while supporting 511,000 direct jobs, according to Colorado Parks and Wildlife.
- Coloradans agree that we love our clean mountain water and air, appreciate our wildlife and spectacular, wild lands; and benefit from having quiet, wild places to rest and rejuvenate from the pace of life. These values are not partisan issues, and neither should be the protection of these lands.
- Senator Gardner is the **only** Colorado Senator who has not supported a wilderness bill since the Wilderness Act was passed in 1964.
- Strongly urge Senator Gardner to get on board with the majority of Coloradans who support the CORE Act and actively work with Senator Bennet to move it to through the Senate.
- A recent [Poll](#) shows that fully two-thirds of western Coloradans, those most affected by the CORE Act, are in favor of it. Our leaders need to honor this.