

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 5

BY RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

A JOINT MEMORIAL

1  
2 TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR, THE  
3 SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE, THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF  
4 THE UNITED STATES IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, AND TO THE CONGRESSIONAL DEL-  
5 EGATION REPRESENTING THE STATE OF IDAHO IN THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED  
6 STATES.

7 We, your Memorialists, the House of Representatives and the Senate of  
8 the State of Idaho assembled in the First Regular Session of the Sixty-third  
9 Idaho Legislature, do hereby respectfully represent that:

10 WHEREAS, the Boulder-White Clouds area of Central Idaho has been sug-  
11 gested as a potential national monument that could be established under the  
12 provisions of the Antiquities Act of 1906; and

13 WHEREAS, the current multiple use and private land protection policies  
14 governing the management of this area generally have served the interests of  
15 local residents; and

16 WHEREAS, cattle ranching and agriculture, the main economic drivers in  
17 Central Idaho, will be substantially impacted by any land management deci-  
18 sions regarding this landscape. Agriculture is the single biggest economic  
19 contributor to the state. Idaho's farms and ranches represent 11.7 million  
20 acres in rural Idaho and the sales of farm and ranch products contribute  
21 nearly \$7.6 billion to Idaho's economy. Ranching and farming play a substan-  
22 tial role in the state's heritage and identity and should be preserved; and

23 WHEREAS, the 2006 Idaho Roadless Rule has proven to be a model for coor-  
24 dination among groups and individuals to resolve issues surrounding the man-  
25 agement of 9.3 million acres of undeveloped national forestlands, provid-  
26 ing protection for unique and sensitive areas, while simultaneously allow-  
27 ing for limited road construction, vegetation management and minerals de-  
28 velopment; and

29 WHEREAS, there has been no local collaborative process coordinated by  
30 the administration in association with the designation; and

31 WHEREAS, Custer County is the place most impacted by the creation of the  
32 Boulder-White Clouds National Monument and the people of Custer County were  
33 given the opportunity to vote for or against the creation of the national  
34 monument. Sixty-five percent of registered voters came to the polls in the  
35 2014 midterm election, and of those ninety-five percent voted against the  
36 creation of a national monument solely by exercising the authority of the  
37 Antiquities Act of 1906, in part, because it precludes the collaborative  
38 process, and there has been no assurance from the administration that a col-  
39 laborative process would be exercised; and

40 WHEREAS, a national monument designation would impact local wildlife  
41 management as well as hunting, fishing and other recreational opportunities  
42 in Central Idaho, a place where Idaho residents, families and visitors can  
43 enjoy these Idaho traditions.

1           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the First Regular Ses-  
2 sion of the Sixty-third Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives and  
3 the Senate concurring therein, that it is understood that the President of  
4 the United States has full authority under the Antiquities Act of 1906 to  
5 designate the Boulder-White Clouds as a national monument. However, there  
6 should be a collaborative effort to secure local and state support prior to  
7 the exercise of that presidential authority. Any effort to reach a decision  
8 regarding lands of Idaho administered by federal agencies should be made  
9 with local collaboration rather than by unilateral administrative processes  
10 that exclude the citizens of Idaho.

11           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Clerk of the House of Represen-  
12 tatives be, and she is hereby authorized and directed to forward a copy of  
13 this Memorial to the President of the United States, the Secretary of the  
14 Interior, the Secretary of Agriculture, the President of the Senate and the  
15 Speaker of the House of Representatives of Congress, and to the congres-  
16 sional delegation representing the State of Idaho in the Congress of the  
17 United States.