

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

February 4, 2015

Dear Public Lands Initiative Participants,

The Utah Public Lands Initiative (PLI) has transformed the way local communities confront federal land management issues in Utah. February 15 will mark the three-year anniversary of this multi-county, grassroots planning process. The goal then was to bring land-use certainty, economic development, land conservation, and enhanced land management models to eastern Utah counties. We're pleased to report that our goals are still very much attainable and we are on track to move forward in the near future.

A coalition of counties, tribal leaders, and over 120 different interest groups has crafted more than 60 detailed proposals outlining each group's desired land-management outcomes. Our offices have hosted nearly 1,000 meetings, driven over 50,000 miles, and spent countless hours digesting maps, bill language, and broad-ranging policy proposals. Our county partners have also led local working groups, lands councils, and public meetings to assist their efforts in identifying areas and policies that merit consideration in PLI.

The next step in the process will involve the release of a map and a legislative proposal. The draft map and proposal will be crafted by our offices and released to the public on March 27, 2015. The draft map and proposal will include areas and policy provisions that have been discussed over the past three years. The draft will attempt to incorporate the ideas and recommendations of the various participating entities including counties, tribes, the State of Utah, conservation organizations, SITLA, and others interest groups.

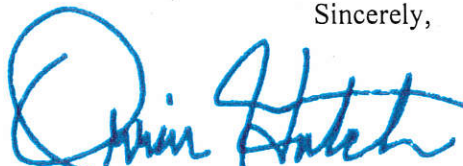
Our offices will give deference to local zones of agreement and consensus where they exist. In areas where consensus has not been reached, our offices will do our best to minimize local impacts. We recognize that some groups may oppose the draft proposal and while we welcome comments and the opportunity to address these concerns, we realize it's impossible to achieve 100% consensus.

Thank you for your participation in PLI. Virtually all local officials, interest group leaders, and members of the public have participated in good-faith and want to see PLI succeed. We would not be on the cusp of a paradigm shift of this magnitude without each of these people and their efforts. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Rob Bishop
Member of Congress



Orrin Hatch
U.S. Senator



Jason Chaffetz
Member of Congress



Mike Lee
U.S. Senator



Chris Stewart
Member of Congress



Mia Love
Member of Congress