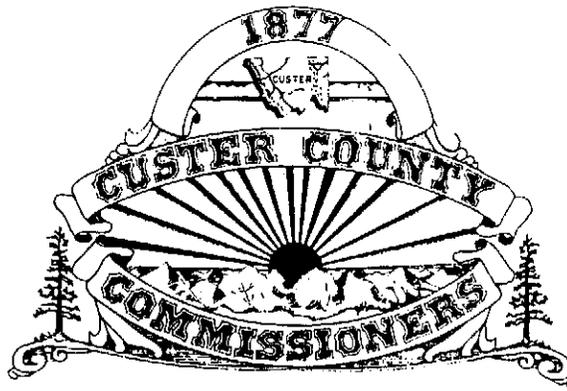


LYNN ATTEBERY  
ALLEN BUTLER  
KIT SHY

CUSTER COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
205 SOUTH 6th STREET  
P. O. BOX 150  
WESTCLIFFE, COLORADO 81252  
(719) 783-2552  
FAX (719) 783-2885



April 30, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

The Custer County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) individually and as a Board strongly supports the proposed HR 6089 Healthy Forest Management Act 2012.

The recent and devastating wildfires throughout the Colorado are a symptom of the deteriorating health of our forests. Bark beetle, drought and lack of management have left much of land under imminent threat of a catastrophic wildfire. We have seen record wildfires wreak havoc in many areas of the state and in our own county. The deterioration of our National Forest and lands not only puts local communities and citizens in dangerous situations, it negatively impacts the health of the wildlife in the area, the agricultural interests that depend on properly managed lands for supplemental grazing as well as the tourism in the region.

The cost of fighting wildfires is immensely more expensive than properly managing the forest and lands owned by the Federal Government. It is time that local and state governments have a great voice in the management of public lands in Colorado and throughout the nation. The Governor in conjunction with the local county officials need to have the flexibility to work with local public land managers to designate high risk areas in the National Forest and on BLM land and to act quickly to implement a strategy for addressing the situation. H.R. 6089 gives states the authority to identify areas afflicted by the bark beetle epidemic, drought, or at high risk of wildfires and to put in place emergency reduction projects.

Thank You for giving the HR 6089 Health Forest Management Act 2012 the serious consideration it deserves. As elected representatives of the people of Custer County we support the passage of HR 6089.

If there are any questions regarding our support or the contents of this correspondence, please give the Commissioner's office a call at 719-783-2552 or contact a Board member at the following e-mail addresses.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lynn Attebery".

Lynn Attebery,  
Chairman

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Allen Butler".

Allen Butler,  
Vice Chairman

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christopher L. (Kit) Shy".

Christopher L. (Kit) Shy,  
Commissioner