



October 9, 2013

The Honorable Scott Tipton
218 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20015

RE: H.R.3189

Dear Congressman Tipton:

The Colorado River Water Conservation District sincerely appreciates your leadership in Colorado and Western water matters. H.R.3189 is just one more example. The Colorado River District will recommend that its Board support H.R.3189 with the consensus amendments developed by your staff, the national ski areas and the River District.

With the clarifying amendments, H.R.3189 provides responsible side boards to agency actions when permitting allowable activities and uses on federal lands. It prohibits the transfer of ownership of privately held water rights in exchange for required permits. We are also pleased that your staff will prepare a sponsor's statement to confirm that the bill will not change existing law that allows reasonable permit conditions that can protect both the natural environment and present and future downstream water users dependent on the forest for critical water supplies.

I want to express my genuine appreciation for your and your staff's willingness to work with us on language that accomplishes our mutual goals of protecting private property interests in western water while maintaining the authority to condition permits to ensure responsible exercise of those rights.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "R. Eric Kuhn". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "R. Eric" and the last name "Kuhn" clearly legible.

R. Eric Kuhn
General Manager

- c. The Honorable Tom McClintock
- The Honorable Grace Napolitano
- The Honorable Jared Polis
- The Honorable Mike Coffman