



RIO BLANCO COUNTY  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 555 MAIN  
P.O. BOX I  
MEEKER, COLORADO 81641  
970-878-9430

June 1, 2017

Representative Scott Tipton  
218 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Rio Blanco County Support for the Water Rights Protection Act

Dear Representative Tipton,

The Board of County Commissioners of Rio Blanco County is very concerned with recent actions on the part of federal agencies that attempt to circumvent state law in order to acquire private water rights. Even more disconcerting is the coercive manner in which these attempts have been made.

As of now, the components of local economies targeted by the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management are the ski area industry and ranching. There are also many other essential contributors to our economies that rely on water to exist, and we must be certain that none fall prey. Federal efforts to rearrange the legal structure by which water rights are held threaten Colorado jobs and the economic health of rural communities.

Rio Blanco County applauds you and your colleagues in this effort, and fully supports the Water Rights Protection Act.

Sincerely,

Board of County Commissioners, Rio Blanco County

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "SB", written over a light gray rectangular background.

Shawn Bolton, Chairman

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Jeff Rector", written over a light gray rectangular background.

Jeff Rector

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Si Woodruff", written over a light gray rectangular background.

Si Woodruff