



Western States Land Commissioners Association

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Western States Land Commissioners Association Applauds Congress for Repealing BLM Planning 2.0

On Tuesday, March 7th, the Senate used the authority of the Congressional Review Act (CRA) to undo the BLM's Resource Management Planning also known as Planning 2.0. This follows the same action taken in the House that previously voted the same way on February 7th. President Trump is expected to sign the joint resolution in the near future.

WSCLA passed a resolution on January 11th, 2017 to formally denounce the rulemaking which would negatively impact our member states' abilities to generate revenue from state trust lands. The rulemaking process failed to include congressionally mandated coordination with State Governments and would shift federal land use planning further out of the hands of state and local governments. By way of example, the inclusion of a landscape planning scheme for Greater Sage Grouse protection across 10 states and 165 million acres does not consider the impact of implementation on state trust lands.

From the beginning of the rulemaking process, WSCLA has actively voiced concern over the rule's shortcomings. After the rule was finalized, WSCLA has been working closely with Congressional leaders to secure the repeal of the rulemaking under the CRA. WSCLA President, Bent Goodrum, wrote to Speaker Ryan: "This rule inadequately considers the impacts on the respective states and the impact on the management of constitutionally granted state trust lands... we seek the development of a modern rule consistent with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 and congressional intent, and offer an ability to work with state trust land managers to craft provisions to streamline resource management planning."