



September 7, 2016

Dear Friends:

Thank you for your letter about the future of America's public lands.

I agree that it is vitally important we keep public lands public. Public lands must stay in public hands. As I stated in my plan for the conservation and collaborative stewardship of America's Great Outdoors, our public lands are a proud inheritance that we have a responsibility to protect for our children and grandchildren. Our national forests, national wildlife refuges, national parks, and other public lands and waters are integral to our national identity, and provide unmatched opportunities for hunting, fishing, hiking, biking, and simple enjoyment and reflection. If I am so fortunate to serve as president, I will pursue policies that ensure wise stewardship, increase access, and harness the immense economic potential of our outdoor economy.

I know that, today, access to many public lands is restricted due to the intermixing of national, state, and private lands – and I join you in the belief that our public land and water assets should not be off-limits to anyone who wants to enjoy their bounty and beauty. No hunter or angler should encounter fences or locked gates blocking their ability to enjoy publicly owned streams and wildlife habitats. That's why I have committed to unlocking access to at least 2 million acres of currently inaccessible public lands by the end of my first term, through voluntary conservation partnerships with private landowners and state governments to establish new access points, trails, and easements. Achieving this goal would halve the amount of public lands that are currently inaccessible.

I also share your commitment to growing our nation's outdoor economy. America's public lands are an important engine of economic opportunity, and I have proposed a goal of doubling the size of the outdoor economy in ten years. We know that communities with accessible outdoor recreation opportunities experience a competitive advantage, as businesses and workers are drawn to these areas. By working closely with communities to improve outdoor recreation infrastructure; attract new businesses, workers and visitors; and promote our nation's unique outdoor

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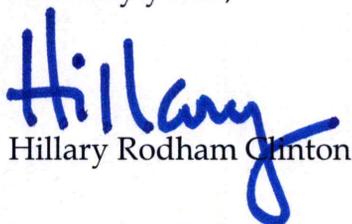
amenities, we can catalyze a burst of economic activity that strengthens and protects our natural heritage and grows our local economies.

America's public lands must remain public and available to all Americans, for all time. We are challenged as never before to collaborate together at all levels, from farmers to hunters and anglers to city councils and tribal governments, to protect and manage our public lands in a way that honors current and future generations, and helps to sustain our economy and way of life.

Thank you again for writing, and for your continued efforts to encourage wise stewardship of our national public lands and to inspire the next generation of Americans to share in our proud outdoor traditions.

With best regards, I am

Sincerely yours,


Hillary Rodham Clinton

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