

December 4, 2013

Mark Caywood
PO Box 3443
Hailey ID 83333

Idaho Legislature Federal Lands Interim Committee
Statehouse
Boise ID 83712

Dear Committee Members:

I am a life-long hunter and fisherman. My wife and I live in Hailey, Idaho.

I lived and worked in California until we made our retirement move to Idaho over a decade ago. After comparing many western states, we chose to retire in the Wood River Valley because of its wonderful blend of high quality hiking, hunting and fishing on federal public lands and the community's wealth of cultural offerings.

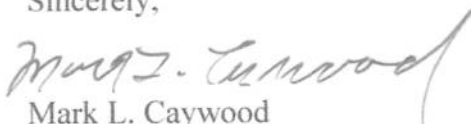
We can live most anywhere we chose, but made our move because of the amenities provided by those same federal lands you would terminate. Retirees are a boon to Idaho's economy. We pay our own way and require few services. I encourage you to use federal lands to market our great state to people like me, not engage in discussions that discourage life-style migrants.

Since retirement, hunting friends from both Spain and France have enjoyed the hospitality of our home and the bountiful wildlife on nearby federal wild lands. Our international friends are awed that we Idahoans can use and enjoy vast areas of federal Public land. Such freedoms were lost centuries ago where they come from. The quality of our federal public lands was the primary reason they came to Idaho and contributed to Idaho's tourism economy.

I think the legislature's plan to acquire and then likely sell our federal public lands is a very bad idea. To me, it appears legally specious, questionable economically and poorly thought out. If successful, it would damage our economy and disenfranchise and reduce the quality of life for mainstream Idahoans.

The whole concept of privatizing my federal lands, locking me out, is appalling.

Sincerely,


Mark L. Caywood