

December 4, 2013

Chairman Denny and Winder and Members of the Federal Lands Sub Committee of the Idaho Legislature:

As someone with a background in economics, I find the idea of Idaho taking over the management of Idaho's federal land ludicrous. The federal government spends an enormous amount of money annually to manage and firefight the federal forests in Idaho. Congressional Research Service (CRS) reports expenses of \$392 million in 2012 for managing federal lands in Idaho. Conversely, the CRS reports 2012 revenue from federal lands in Idaho at \$18.5 million. Idaho is constitutionally required to balance its budget annually. If Idaho takes control of the federal lands in Idaho, it will need to find \$360 million in additional revenue to manage the lands. This means that Idaho will have to either increase taxes or sell federal land to pay to manage other federal lands. Either way, the citizens of Idaho loose.

I do not support the resolution to transfer ownership of federal lands in Idaho to the state.

Thank you.
Sincerely,

Bryan Moore