

Keep public lands in public hands

The Idaho Legislature's decision to try to take over our public lands should be worrying all of us.

Politicians in Idaho are talking about our public lands as though they are a liability rather than an asset and are traveling around the state on taxpayer dollar to try and pitch this bad idea. Idaho's public lands are what make this state a great place to live! I'm proud that our state is home to such beautiful places and that as Idahoans we help protect these lands for all Americans.

Those trying to take over Idaho's public lands are failing to realize that managing these lands is a monumental endeavor. To offset the cost, the state Legislature proposes selling off our public lands to private buyers to pay for management. I, for one, don't want to see foreign interest buying up our public lands in Idaho and locking us out. There's nothing like camping out in the wilderness, hiking to the top of a mountain peak or fishing on one of Idaho's many rivers. I want my children and their children to be able to have these same experiences. If the state takes over public lands, we can say goodbye to many of the places we love to go. Our public lands should be celebrated, not attacked. They are what make America and Idaho great.

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