



February 9, 2009

United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the more than 1.3 million members and supporters of the Sierra Club, I am writing to urge you to support S. 22, The Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009, and to oppose any motion to recommit.

The Omnibus Public Land Management Act includes many important provisions for protecting and preserving America's public land heritage. The bill, introduced by Senator Jeff Bingaman (D-NM), is a compilation of bills that enjoy broad bipartisan support in Congress.

Examples of the meaningful public land provisions in the bill include the Virginia Ridge and Valley Act, sponsored by Representative Rick Boucher (D-VA), the Eastern Sierra Wilderness bill, sponsored by Representative Buck McKeon (R-CA), the Wild Monongahela Act, sponsored by Representative Nick J. Rahall (D-WV), the Riverside County Wilderness bill, sponsored by Representative Mary Bono-Mack (R-CA), and the National Landscape Conservation System Act, sponsored by Representative Raul Grijalva (D-AZ).

Unfortunately, in addition to these popular public land protections the omnibus bill includes the Izembek and Alaska Peninsula Refuge and Wilderness Enhancement Act, S.1680. The Sierra Club continues our opposition to the inclusion of this provision in the Omnibus Public Land Management Act.

The Omnibus Public Land Management Act will greatly increase vital protections for our shared public lands heritage. The bill will also help to sustain natural resources and recreation opportunities that drive local economies. We encourage you to kick off the historic 111th Congress by voting yes on S. 22 and opposing any motion to recommit. Please join us in protecting America's wild legacy. For more information, please contact Myke Bybee at (202) 675-2389 or myke.bybee@sierraclub.org

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carl Pope". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Carl" and the last name "Pope" clearly distinguishable.

Carl Pope