

WYOMING WOOL GROWERS ASSOCIATION



March 12, 2013

PRESIDENT

Peter John Camino
Buffalo, WY

The Honorable Cynthis Lummis
113 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Dave Julian
Kemmerer, WY

Dear Rep. Lummis,

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Gene Hardy
Douglas, WY

Tomorrow, the House of Representatives will consider H.R. 3189, the Water Rights Protection Act. On behalf of the Wyoming Wool Growers Association, I encourage you to vote in favor of this legislation. As you are no doubt aware, a number of our members hold private water rights on federal lands, which serve as an integral part of their operations; thus, these water rights keep our members in business and they help keep rural communities thriving. Unfortunately, these landowners face an unprecedented threat to the future of their water rights on lands managed by the USFS, as outlined in a USFS directive currently only applicable to ski areas. Our concern is that if this directive is allowed to stand, the policy will be applied to other areas and possibly adopted by other federal land management agencies, such as the Bureau of Land Management.

VICE PRESIDENTS

Lisa Cunningham,
Kaycee, WY

Liz Philp, *Shoshoni, WY*

Bob Harlan, *Kaycee, WY*

John Marton, *Casper, WY*

Kay Neves, *Emblem, WY*

The WWGA stands in strongly support of the doctrine that states control and administer the water within their borders and that all federal agencies shall comply with state water law. The laws and policy of state and local governments should be paramount in governing the use and ownership of water and no department or agency of the federal government should diminish the value of a water right by unreasonable restraint or regulation. The WWGA vigorously opposes any federal regulation or legislation that attempts to place water rights within federal government jurisdiction.

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

Marcia Federer
Cheyenne, WY

Thank you for the opportunity to express our interest in this important legislation. If you have any questions or need further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Executive Director
Amy Wallop Hendrickson

Sincerely,

Amy W. Hendrickson
Executive Director

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