

August 12, 2019

Senator Tom Udall

c/o Melanie Goodman melanie_goodman@tomudall.senate.gov

Senator Martin Heinrich

c/o Dara Parker Dara_Parker@heinrich.senate.gov

Dear Senators

Enclosed, you will find the resolution passed by the San Francisco Soil and Water Conservation District opposing Wild and Scenic Rivers designations for the Gila and San Francisco Rivers and their tributaries. We find it disturbing that outside entities have more influence on the Senators positions than those living within our region.

Prior to admitting NM into the union, the federal government supported use of our number one natural resource water. This support has continued historically to this day where the USDA energetically supports ongoing projects within our district through grants and funding. That is but one meaningful fact left unknown to our senators who need only ask to gain additional knowledge.

Legislation is being considered calling for designation of a large part of our waterways as wild and scenic, without visiting the district, discussing the topic or learning of unintended consequences is unthinkable. We expect our Senators to spend at least equal time within those places most affected by their actions.

These potential designations should require significant input from the New Mexico citizens most affected. We welcome honest dialogue with our board.

Sincerely,

Howard Hutchinson, Chairman

Enclosure: RESOULTION N0. # 002-2019 IN OPPOSITION TO THE DESIGNATION OF THE GILA AND SAN FRANCISCO RIVERS AS NATIONAL WILD & SCENIC RIVERS

Xc: Gail Armstrong, Gaberial Ramos, Debra Haaland, Xochitl Torres Small and Ben Ray Lujan