

January 26, 2017

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
U.S. Capitol Building, Room: S-230  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Hart Senate Office Building, Room: 419  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Paul Ryan  
Speaker  
United States House of Representatives  
U.S. Capitol Building, Room: H-232  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Minority Leader  
United States House of Representatives  
U.S. Capitol Building, Room: H-204  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Majority Leader McConnell, Minority Leader Schumer, Speaker Ryan and Minority Leader Pelosi:

As representatives of state and local governments and public lands stakeholders from across the United States, we encourage Congress to use its legislative authority to review the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Planning 2.0 rule. As partners with the federal government, we continue to encourage the BLM to engage in meaningful collaboration with local stakeholders during the development of policies and guidelines. And despite representations by the BLM to do just that, we remain unconvinced that Planning 2.0 in its final form does much to satisfy the objective of meaningful collaboration and consultation with non-federal governmental entities.

Robust coordination and cooperation between states and local governments and the BLM allows federal decision-makers to be responsive to the concerns of state and local government officials during policy development and sets the stage for more effective and efficient implementation of federal policies by involving multi-jurisdictional resources and expertise. Simply put, gathering meaningful, on the ground, input from the states and localities that will be most impacted by BLM's planning regulations is critical to ensuring a practical federal policy that works at the local level.

For years to come, the proposed Planning 2.0 rule will have a substantial impact on how the BLM engages with state and local government and manages its 245 million acres of public lands and 700 million acres of subsurface minerals. We encourage Congress to act to ensure BLM's Planning 2.0 rule does not go into effect and instruct the agency to work with intergovernmental partners to ensure the policy has benefited from meaningful, on the ground, collaboration with state and local governments.

Sincerely,

Alaska Municipal League  
American Sheep Industry Association  
Arizona Association of Counties  
Arizona County Supervisors Association  
Association of Oregon Counties  
Eureka County, Nevada  
National Association of Conservation Districts  
National Association of Counties  
National Association of State Departments of  
Agriculture  
National Cattlemen's Beef Association  
Nevada Association of Conservation Districts

Nevada Association of Counties  
Oregon Association of Conservation Districts  
Public Lands Council  
Rural County Representatives of California  
Utah Association of Conservation Districts  
Utah Association of Counties  
Western Interstate Region of NACo  
Wyoming Association of Conservation Districts  
Wyoming County Commissioners Association  
Wyoming Stock Growers Association  
Wyoming Wool Growers Association