

**Congressman Steven Horsford  
Statement for the Record**

**Statement**

- Thank you Chairman Grijalva, for organizing today’s hearing on the Department of Interior budget.
- Mr. Cameron, as I am sure you are aware, 86% of the land in Nevada is public land, managed in large part by the Department of Interior and its respective bureaus.
- Aside from Alaska, Nevada has more public land than any other state in the Union.
- The people of Nevada depend on collaboration with the Department of Interior and its management bureaus to promote wildlife conservation efforts, public safety, and outdoor recreation.
- According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Nevada is one of the fastest growing states in the nation.
- Nevada’s continued population growth and large quantity of public land, coupled with the ever-increasing impacts of climate change, pose serious challenges to land management for both the state and federal government.
- In recognition of Nevada’s unique public land needs, Congress passed the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act (known as SNPLMA), which was later signed into law in 1998.
- This law allows the Bureau of Land Management, in collaboration with the State of Nevada, to sell a small fraction of Nevada’s public land to local government and private land owners.

- Importantly, the revenue from SNPLMA provides an essential funding source for Nevada, promoting conservation, education, and water management in the State.
- The funding from these land sales is crucial to my state, which has long faced difficulties securing federal funding and federal grants for its education, water security, and conservation efforts.

### **Trump Stripping Funds From Nevada:**

- President Trump’s budget request proposes to strip \$230 million from Nevada, robbing the state of important funding for conservation and environmental stewardship.
- Adding to my fears, the Department of Interior, under the Trump Administration, has shown little inclination to promote environmental conservation.
- The Trump Fiscal Year 2020 Department of Interior budget proposal focuses too many resources on oil and gas development, weakens wildlife conservation efforts, and directs resources away from efforts to address climate change.
- That is why it is essential that all money currently allocated to Nevada for the promotion of conservation must remain in place. Otherwise, I fear the state of Nevada, and the people that call it home, will not have the resources necessary to combat the impacts of climate change.