

## Prepared Remarks

Rep. Blake Moore

November 2, 2023

Good morning, Chairman Westerman, Ranking Member Grijalva, and distinguished members of the committee. It is good to be back. I am grateful for the opportunity to address you today about several bills I have introduced in the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress that align with our shared, bipartisan goal of promoting responsible stewardship and access to our nation's natural resources.

Before I begin, I want to express my gratitude for the unanimous support in reporting out H.R. 1314, the *LODGE Act*, and H.R. 2717, the *Hershel Woody Williams National Medal of Honor Monument Location Act*. These bills reflect our collective commitment to safeguarding our natural heritage while fostering community engagement and economic vitality.

I would also like to express my gratitude to the committee for holding hearings on H.R. 3522, the *FIRESHEDS Act*, and H.R. 1614, the *Range Access Act*. It is my hope that these bipartisan bills can also be favorably considered by this committee.

This committee has been busy working on issues that matter to Americans. I am grateful for the time you have spent considering the legislation I have introduced, for your staff's collaborative efforts with my office, and for our friendship.

Looking forward, I would like to highlight two other pieces of legislation that I have or will have soon introduced.

Additionally, I have introduced several other bills currently pending before this committee, such as H.R. 5768, the *University of Utah Research Park Act*.

The University of Utah's Research Park is a major economic hub in my home state that is home to dozens of companies and organizations. Around 14,000 employees work out of Research Park.

In 1968, the land that Research Park was built on was transferred to the University from the BLM.

However, due to the nature of the reversionary interest, the University, the federal government, and the Utah delegation are interested in proceeding with this legislation to remove hurdles to future growth.

I am also excited to be introducing the *Tax Stamp Revenue Transfer for Wildlife and Recreation Act*. This legislation proposes a constructive reallocation of the revenue generated from the sale of suppressors under the National Firearms Act.

Our hope with this legislation is to supercharge conservation funding by directing 85% of this revenue to support wildlife conservation and recreational shooting ranges. The remaining 15% will be allocated to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms to augment staffing and provide the necessary resources for timely processing of these background checks.

The North American model of wildlife conservation has historically thrived on a 'user pays' system, underscored by the contributions of hunters and anglers. This legislation aims to build upon this legacy by addressing the contemporary challenges and opportunities in wildlife conservation and recreational shooting.

This bicameral bill will embody a balanced approach and has been drafted with significant input from conservation and recreation groups. It addresses the administrative bottleneck at the ATF, supports our rich tradition of wildlife conservation, and fosters safe and accessible recreational shooting opportunities.

In addition, I just introduced the bicameral *MAPWaters Act*, which will build on the successes of the MAPLand Act to provide Americans with the most comprehensive and up-to-date information on lakes, rivers, and streams under Federal jurisdiction for both recreational and conservation purposes.

In conclusion, these bills underscore our collective aspiration to responsibly manage and utilize our natural resources. I look forward to working closely with the committee to advance these crucial issues, which are instrumental in preserving our nation's natural heritage and fostering community well-being.

Thank you.