

**Witness Biography for R. Paul Van Dam, representing Conserve Southwest Utah**  
**For the House Natural Resources Committee Subcommittee on Federal Lands**  
**Hearing on H.R. 5597**  
**"Desert Tortoise Habitat Conservation Plan Expansion Act, Washington County, Utah."**

R. Paul Van Dam is a former Salt Lake County district attorney, Utah state attorney general and executive director of Conserve Southwest Utah (CSU), and is currently an advisory board member for CSU in his retirement years. He is a life-long Utah resident and has spent much time enjoying Utah's public lands and waters, including as a professional river runner, and is passionate about their protection.

CSU is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization founded in 2006 in St George, Utah, to advocate for the protection of public lands, water conservation, air/climate quality, and Smart Growth principles. It was founded largely on the issues that brought protections to the lands that are the subject of this bill.

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