

Testimony on H.R. 1884 – To repeal section 3003 of the Carl Levin and Howard P. "Buck" McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015, and for other purposes. Also known as the “Save Oak Flat Act.”

April 9, 2021

**For consideration by the United States House
Subcommittee For Indigenous Peoples Of The United States
Committee on Natural Resources**

**Submitted by Tommy Caldwell, Global Sports Activist for Patagonia
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Dear Chairman Fernandez and Members United States House Subcommittee For Indigenous Peoples Of The United States:

My Name is Tommy Caldwell and I am a professional rock climber who has a deep relationship with America's public lands. Over the last couple years I have been learning a lot more about the relationship between America's public lands and the Native American community. As a climber I recognize the value of Oak Flat for recreation. I competed 9 years in a row as a teenager in the Phoenix Bouldering Contest which was the biggest climbing competition in the world at that time. While Oak Flat is incredible for climbing, the value to the San Carlos Apache is immeasurable. Maintaining America's public lands and Indigenous values is paramount to our future. I support H.R. 1884, to repeal section 3003 of the Carl Levin and Howard P."Buck" McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015, and for other purposes. This bill is also familiarly referred to as the "Save Oak Flat Act, or SOFA."

I strongly object to handing over sacred lands to a foreign mining company.