

January 13, 2017

Congressman Ryan Zinke 1419 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Zinke:

NFPA is a conservation organization working to protect the wilderness character, watershed, and wildlife of the North Fork of the Flathead River Valley. The abundance of public land in the North Fork is what makes it special. Our members are strong proponents of keeping public land in public hands.

You have frequently described yourself as a Teddy Roosevelt Republican, strongly committed to protecting and preserving public lands owned by the people of the United States. So, we were dismayed and disappointed with your vote on the recent House Rules bill that could make land transfer legislation easier to pass.

I'm sure that you are aware that 85% of Montanans support public land and you were elected to Congress to be an advocate for us. We hope that this vote is not a preview of how you will act as the Secretary of Interior. In that role, you will be required to protect the interests of all Americans and our national public lands belong to all Americans. We hope that you will not participate in the theft of our public lands. You cannot expect the support of Montanans if you continue down this path.

Sincerely,

Debo Powers, NFPA President
With approval of NFPA Board of Directors

A nonprofit corporation dedicated to preserving the integrity of the North Fork of the Flathead Valley on the western edge of Waterton/Glacier International Peace Park.