

## **Public Lands Foundation**

P.O. Box 7226 Arlington, Virginia 22207

March 18, 2021

The Honorable Debra Haaland Secretary of the Interior 1849 C Street NW Washington, DC 20036

Dear Secretary Haaland:

On behalf of the Public Lands Foundation (PLF), I am writing to congratulate you on your confirmation as Secretary of the Interior. I'm sure you are excited about taking the reins of this great department that manages so many of the Nation's public resources. We are excited to have you on-board and look forward to your tenure at Interior.

The PLF is a national non-profit membership organization incorporated in 1987 that advocates and works for the retention of the public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in the public's hands, professionally and sustainably managed for the responsible use and enjoyment of American citizens. The PLF endorses and embraces the multiple use mission of the BLM as prescribed by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA). Our members are predominantly retired employees of the BLM that spent their careers dedicated to the sound management of these valuable lands and resources. The members represent the broad spectrum of knowledge needed for public land management and collectively have thousands of years of experience managing the public's lands.

I know you are well aware of the many opportunities and challenges of leading the management of the great resources the lands administered by the BLM have to offer. The PLF stands ready to provide any assistance we can as you and your staff move forward with the management of these valuable American assets. I will be in Washington sometime in the near future and, if your schedule permits, would like to meet with you and your staff to discuss the PLF and any ways that we can assist you.

Again, congratulations and welcome to the Department of the Interior.

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Sincerely,

Edward W. Shepard

President