



City of Cortez
123 Roger Smith Ave.
Cortez, Co. 81321

Rachel Medina, Mayor

September 13, 2022

Honorable Michael Bennet
U.S. Senator
c/o 835 E. 2nd Avenue, #206
Durango, Colorado 81301

RE: Dolores River National Conservation Area and Special Management Area

Dear Senator Bennet,

The City of Cortez would like to express support for the Dolores River National Conservation Area and Special Management Area Act. The Act, being the result of many local diverse interests coming together to study the issues of the Dolores River corridor, ensures protection and management for the natural resources and the area that align with the views and needs of the City of Cortez.

Cortez is a diverse community that relies on the Dolores River and surrounding landscape for water, agriculture, recreation, industry, and tourism, and is the largest municipality located in Montezuma County. The City would greatly benefit from the designations proposed by the legislation in regard to maintaining the desired lifestyle of our residents and the future growth and development of our region. Given the strong community desire for protections for the Dolores River landscape and the bi-partisan nature of the proposal, we support the bill moving quickly through the congressional process.

We appreciate all the time and effort you and our local working groups have spent over the years helping to develop this proposal that will protect the Dolores River and its users. Please let us know how we can help further this legislation.

Respectfully,

Rachel Medina
Mayor, City of Cortez