



TOWN OF NORWOOD

September 7, 2022

*P.O. Box 528
1670 Naturita Street
Norwood, Colorado 81423
www.norwoodtown.com*

Senator Michael Bennet
261 Russell Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510
Attn: John_Whitney@bennet.senate.gov

Dear Senator Bennet,

The Norwood Board of Trustees would like to express support for the homegrown Dolores River National Conservation Area and Special Management Area Act you and Senator Hickenlooper introduced in the U.S. Senate last month. The Town of Norwood, is located in Southwestern Colorado and would greatly benefit from the designations proposed in the legislation.

The Town of Norwood is a diverse community that relies on the Dolores River and surrounding landscape for agriculture, recreation, industry, and tourism. The areas that are included in the bill are important for fishing, whitewater rafting and motorized recreation, as well as some small-scale industry and grazing. The region also brings in visitors from other parts of the state, which help many small businesses located in Norwood and around San Miguel County. Also, the area is one of the most magnificent and ecologically significant areas in southwest Colorado. These lands support a variety of fish, wildlife, and birds that our communities enjoy and take pride in.

This proposal was developed by local stakeholders based on consensus, collaboration and a desire to see this area preserved for all sorts of users. We commend you for respecting this process in drafting the bill and introducing it in the Senate.

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.

Thank you for your strong support for the lands in Southwest Colorado, and we appreciate the time and effort it took to get this bill to protect the Dolores River introduced. Please let us know if we can help further this legislation.

Respectfully,


Candy A. Meehan, Mayor
Town of Norwood