

Committee on Resources

Witness Statement

HON.BILL REDMOND

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Hon. Don Young
Rayburn House Office Bld.
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Young,

I write this letter in support of Rep. Heather Wilson's bill for the purchase of the Baca Ranch. The Baca is located in my former congressional district in northern New Mexico.

As you recall, Chairman Regula and Chairman Hansen worked closely with my office laying down the groundwork for this important acquisition. The 105th Congress designated \$40 million for the down payment of this one-of-a-kind habitats. The Baca is the largest volcano caldera in the world. It is the "Grand Canyon," in regards to this type of geological formation.

My philosophy, in general, is in favor of less land under Federal control. However, I support Federal ownership of the Baca because of its' uniqueness, and encourage my former colleagues to do the same. I still favor selling off other Federal lands in New Mexico in order to pay for the Baca, so there is no net gain of Federal land in our state.

Thank you for allowing this testimony to be entered into the record.

Sincerely,

Hon. Bill Redmond
105th U.S. Congress

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