

P.O. Box 250 1360 Main Street Silverton, Colorado 81433 970-387-5522

June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016

The Honorable Michael Bennet United States Senate 261 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

## Dear Senator Michael Bennet:

The elected Board of Trustees for the Town of Silverton, Colorado would like to express our strong support for the proposed legislation for the San Juan Mountains Wilderness and Special Management area. The Town of Silverton sits near the boundary of this area. We stand to enjoy economic and social benefits from this legislation. We are hopeful our Colorado federal elected officials will support this measure on our behalf.

For over three years this proposed designation has been analyzed and debated with all relevant stakeholders and interests. The bill, as we understand it, represents the best in American public discussion and compromise. We respect the fact that the legislation represents a broad spectrum of interests and existing uses. It is noteworthy that our local government partners, the San Juan County, Colorado Commissioners have unanimously supported this endorsement, as well.

We urge you to introduce this bill and work to move it forward through the Senate and Congress for a successful passage. In doing so, you are expressing leadership for our beautiful mountains, their varied uses and our local economic sustainability.

Respectfully submitted,

On behalf of the Town of Silverton Board of Trustees,

Christine M. Tookey, Mayor

Christine M. Tookey