

## **News Release March 27, 2007**

### **Independent Petroleum Association of Mountain States (IPAMS)**

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March 27, 2007

The Honorable Nick J. Rahall  
Chairman,  
House Committee on Natural Resources  
Longworth 1324

The Honorable Don Young  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on Natural Resources  
Longworth 1329

Dear Chairman Rahall and Ranking Member Don Young,

As today's Committee hearing on energy development and wildlife begins, the members of the Independent Petroleum Association of Mountain States (IPAMS) want to again express our strong commitment to protecting wildlife as we continue to meet America's energy needs by developing oil and natural gas on public lands in the Intermountain West.

Energy producers in the Intermountain West have a strong connection to the land where they live and work. Many were born and raised here, and as such share a deep appreciation for the outdoors. In fact, an overwhelming number of our industry employees are hunters and fisherman and have a personal dedication to protecting wildlife.

IPAMS members have a history of partnering with conservation and sporting groups committed to protecting wildlife habitat. We work hard to ensure wildlife impacts are avoided when possible, and that all other impacts are managed and

mitigated.

According to the Department of Interior, oil and natural gas activities occur on less than one percent of public lands. This tiny percentage of federal land is still open for multiple uses such as hunting and fishing, and oil and natural gas companies operating on these lands follow strict government guidelines to protect the environment. Our members are going above and beyond what's required to ensure that the footprints of development are small and temporary.

IPAMS is a charter member of *Conservation in Action*, a partnership between industry and conservationists whose mission is to identify and implement projects to improve wildlife habitat and further our understanding of the sustainable coexistence of wildlife and energy development. *Conservation in Action* partners demonstrate their dedication to wildlife preservation with on-the-ground actions that improve and protect wildlife habitat. *Conservation in Action* partners include: the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, the National Forest Foundation, the North American Grouse Partnership, the Wild Turkey Federation, the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the Wildlife Habitat Council.

The goal of *Conservation in Action* is to ensure that while energy development continues, corresponding efforts are made to improve and protect wildlife habitat. We encourage you to find out more about what energy companies in the Intermountain West are doing to protect wildlife by visiting [www.conservationinaction.us](http://www.conservationinaction.us). With industry and the conservation and sporting communities working side-by-side, everyone—especially wildlife—wins.

Sincerely,

Logan Magruder  
President  
Independent Petroleum Association of Mountain States (IPAMS)

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IPAMS, founded in 1974, is a non-profit trade association representing more than 400 independent oil and gas producers, service and supply companies, banking and financial institutions and industry consultants committed to environmentally responsible oil and gas development in the Intermountain West. More information on IPAMS and its members is available at [www.ipams.org](http://www.ipams.org).