

For Release: December 15, 2016

Statement from Matthew Koehler, Director of the WildWest Institute, on President Elect Donald Trump's Nomination of Rep Ryan Zinke as Secretary of Interior

Rep Ryan Zinke has an established track record of being pro-coal, pro-fracking, pro-logging, anti-science and anti-endangered species act when it comes to managing America's public lands and wildlife. This has earned Zinke an environmental voting record of 3% from the League of Conservation Voters and a National Parks voting record of just 9% from the National Parks Conservation Association.

Let's also not forget that Rep Zinke was just hand picked by President-elect Donald Trump, someone who is clearly assembling the most anti-environmental, anti-public lands, pro-oil and gas and pro-wall street cabinet and administration in U.S. History.

To think that Congressman Ryan Zinke is going to be a strong advocate for America's public lands, our national parks and fish and wildlife species – and not just do the bidding of his boss, Donald Trump and campaign contributors in the resource extraction industry – is simply delusional, and not being honest with the American public.

Simply because someone has stated that they would not sell-off, or give away, America's public lands, does not in any way make that person a huge public lands champion, or a "Teddy Roosevelt Republican" especially when the voting record clearly exposes the truth.

More information: Matthew Koehler, [406-396-0321](tel:406-396-0321), koehler@wildrockies.org, <http://www.wildwestinstitute.org>

###