

# Wayne Allard

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## **SENATE ENERGY COMMITTEE APPROVES ALLARD LEGISLATION TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO ROCKY MOUNTAIN NATIONAL PARK**

*Twin Owls bill protects MacGregor Ranch,  
protects property rights, improves public access*

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The U.S. Senate Energy Committee on Wednesday approved legislation introduced by U.S. Senator Wayne Allard (R-Colorado) designed to improve public access to Rocky Mountain National Park while protecting private property rights. The Rocky Mountain National Park Boundary Adjustment Act of 2005 will create a better access road and parking area for park visitors, and will protect the MacGregor Ranch.

“The Rocky Mountain National Park Boundary Adjustment Act will improve public access to the park and protect the MacGregor Ranch, a historic 132 year old homestead that is adjacent to the park.” Senator Allard told the Energy Committee today.

“At the same time, the act would increase the public’s ability to access Rocky Mountain National Park,” the Senator said. “After gathering public input and doing an environmental assessment, the National Park Service and the local community agreed that a boundary adjustment would be in the best interest of the park, and of MacGregor Ranch.”

In recent years the popularity of Rocky Mountain National Park has grown considerably, and one of the increasingly popular spots within the park is the Twin Owls Trail. The trail’s head is now only accessible by traversing a one-lane dirt access road across the MacGregor Ranch. The road leads to a parking area which can no longer accommodate the public. The overflow of cars has adversely affected the MacGregor Ranch, a privately owned historic working ranch.

“This heavy traffic affects the pristine, historic nature of the homestead. This legislation that will increase our ability to share these spectacular public lands and protect one of Colorado’s most historic homesteads,” Senator Allard said.

The bill will next go to the full Senate for approval.