

Wayne Allard

U . S . S E N A T O R • C O L O R A D O



For Release:
April 17, 2000

Contact: Sean Conway
(202) 224-6207
Brooke Morton
(202) 224-5946

SENATE APPROVES ALLARD'S SPANISH PEAKS WILDERNESS BILL ACTION BRINGS AREA ONE STEP CLOSER TO WILDERNESS PROTECTION

Washington, D.C. – The U.S. Senate passed unanimously on Friday legislation by U.S. Senator Wayne Allard (R-CO) to make the Spanish Peaks located near La Veta, Colorado the state's first wilderness area since 1993.

“This is a tremendous victory! We have cleared the final hurdle in getting this legislation enacted this year,” said Allard. “The Senate's action will mean the spectacular splendor of the Spanish Peaks will be protected for future generations to come.”

Allard introduced his Spanish Peaks Wilderness Bill (S.503) last year after spending more than a year working with environmental groups and local officials from Huerfano and Las Animas Counties to develop a compromise bill. The legislation designates more than 18,000 acres as wilderness in and around the Spanish Peaks located in southern Colorado. Earlier this year the U.S. House of Representatives approved a similar bill sponsored by Colorado Third District Representative Scott McInnis and Fourth District Congressman Bob Schaffer. President Clinton has said he will sign the legislation to make the Spanish Peaks a wilderness area.

“Since this will be the first wilderness area created in Colorado since 1993, I am hopeful that the President will come to Colorado for the bill signing ceremony,” added Allard. “I think it would be nice for the many Coloradans who have worked hard over the years to protect the Spanish Peaks to be able to attend the bill signing ceremony.”

###