

Wayne Allard

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ALLARD INTRODUCES JOE ROWELL PARK BILL LEGISLATION TO TRANSFER PARK TO TOWN OF DOLORES

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Senator Wayne Allard (R-CO) has introduced legislation that will transfer management and ownership of Joe Rowell Park from the U.S. Forest Service to the Town of Dolores. The bill was introduced at the request of the Town of Dolores which has been attempting to resolve the management of the park for more than two years with the local Forest Service.

“My legislation is a ‘win-win proposal’ for everyone involved,” Allard said. “The bill will return management and ownership of the Joe Rowell Park to the Town of Dolores, which has managed and taken care of the park, from the Forest Service.”

Joe Rowell Park was originally condemned by the Bureau of Reclamation from the Town of Dolores as part of the McPhee Dam and Reservoir Project. The area was later transferred to the Forest Service, and under a special use permit the town has managed the park. The park now includes a lighted softball field and soccer fields, which has been constructed by the town at a cost of nearly \$300,000.

“It simply does not make sense for the Forest Service to have a lighted softball field in its inventory and like wise for the Town of Dolores to have to get permission from the Forest Service every time they want to change a light bulb at the park,” added Allard. “This bill puts ownership and management of the Joe Rowell Park back where it belongs - with the town’s citizens.”

Under Allard’s legislation the park would revert back to the Forest Service if the Town of Dolores ever “attempted to convey or otherwise transfer ownership of any portion” of the park. The park is approximately 25 acres.

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