

ROUTT COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Box 773598 • Steamboat Springs, Colorado 80477

Phone: 970-879-0108 • Fax: 970-879-3992

March 11, 2014

Timothy V. Corrigan
District 1

Douglas B. Monger
District 2

Stephen K. Ivancie
District 3

Thomas A. Sullivan
County Manager

Congressman Scott Tipton
218 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: H.R.3189

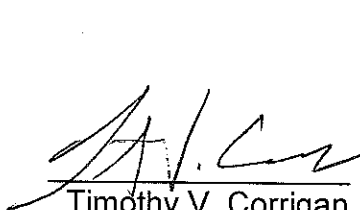
Dear Congressman Tipton:

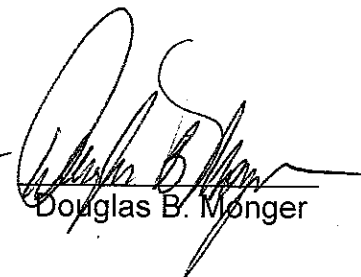
On behalf of the people of Routt County, Colorado, we are hereby expressing our earnest support for H.R. 3189 aka the "Water Rights Protection Act". This is a timely and necessary piece of legislation. This bill represents no cost to the public and provides needed protection of lawfully held water rights.

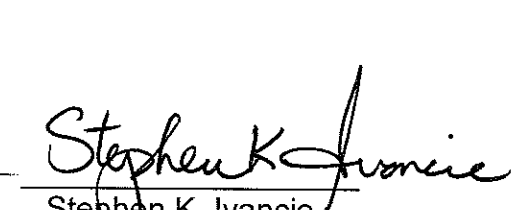
Water is an essential property right for business operators ranging from agriculture to ski areas. No operator or property owner should be coerced into surrendering a privately held water right. The opportunity for beneficial use of public lands is a separate right. Federal agencies are charged only with administering permitting and other processes related to public lands. These agencies should have no authority to use these processes as a mechanism to strip rights from lawful water users.

We urge Congress to pass H.R. 3189 and we are happy to provide further support for this effort as necessary.

Cordially,
ROUTT COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


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