

# BRIDGEPORT VALLEY Regional Planning Advisory Committee

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## **RESOLUTION REQUESTING SUPPORT AND ACTION BY THE MONO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TO CAUSE THE RELEASE AND RETURN OF THE BODIE WILDERNESS STUDY AREA TO MULTIPLE USE**

**WHEREAS**, the Bridgeport Valley Regional Advisory Committee (RPAC) is a group of local citizens appointed by the Mono County Board of Supervisors for the purpose of providing advice and recommendations to the Board of Supervisors regarding the planning and use of lands in and near the Bridgeport area hereby provide the following for the consideration and action of the Board, and;

**WHEREAS**, the Bodie Wilderness Study Area (WSA) has been and is a subject of discussions by the Mono County Board of Supervisors both more recently and with past action taken in 1999 to release this and other WSA's to return to a multiple use category, and;

**WHEREAS**, the Bureau of Land Management has previously recommended to Congress that the Bodie WSA be returned to a multiple use category, and;

**WHEREAS**, Mono County includes only 6% of its total land area as private lands and that private lands within the Bodie WSA amounts to approximately 17% of this total of private lands, and;

**WHEREAS**, private landholdings within a WSA and or within a wilderness area are difficult to access and manage as a result of the restrictive permitting process which is subject to criticism, appeals and possible law suits by outside interest groups, and;

**WHEREAS**, these permitting processes of the land management agency take considerable time and effort which discourages the maximum potential uses by the private property owner, and;

**WHEREAS**, these restrictions have adversely effected the economy of the private property owners and the Bridgeport area, and;

**WHEREAS**, private inholdings within a WSA distract from the pure concept of a wilderness, and;

**WHEREAS**, the established uses of the Bodie Hills area prior to its designation as a WSA included grazing, mining, hunting, woodcutting, and motorized recreation and motorized-work-related uses, and other resource extraction uses all of which contributed to the present environmental conditions of the WSA, and;

**WHEREAS**, many of these historical uses are not compatible within a WSA;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Bridgeport Valley Regional Planning Advisory Committee finds and requests that the Mono County Board of Supervisors support the release of the Bodie WSA and take action to cause the return of this WSA to multiple use designation and to actively support and advocate the passage of H.R. 1581 the United States Congress.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS SIXTEENTH DAY OF JUNE, 2011, BY  
THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

Ayes: 6

Noes: 0

Abstain:

Absent: 3



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Janelle Mills, Chair, Bridgeport Valley RPAC