

SENATE RESOLUTION

8638

By Senator Hawkins

1 WHEREAS, The Methow Valley in the 12th legislative district
2 serves as a hub of outdoor recreation for all of Washington state. It
3 is home to the nation's largest Nordic ski trail system and serves as
4 a gateway to the North Cascades National Park and many vast
5 wilderness areas, including the Pasayten Wilderness and the Lake
6 Chelan-Sawtooth Wilderness; and

7 WHEREAS, The rivers and lakes that make up the Methow watershed
8 of the Methow Valley sustain its life, play a critical role in the
9 Upper Columbia Salmon recovery, and support a rich diversity of
10 wildlife, including seven federally protected fish and wildlife
11 species; and

12 WHEREAS, Nearly one million visitors per year come to the Methow
13 Valley to enjoy the sun, snow, and rural environment, and contribute
14 more than \$150 million annually to Okanogan County's economy; and

15 WHEREAS, A coalition of local Methow Valley businesses, area
16 residents, civic leaders, and local organizations who were concerned
17 about the threat an industrial-scale copper mine presented to the
18 region's economy, waters, and rural character came together to form
19 the Methow Headwaters Campaign. This coalition focused on broad
20 community support to ensure the upper headwaters of the Methow River
21 were permanently protected from mining; and

1 WHEREAS, Since 2014, the Methow Headwaters Campaign has
2 worked tirelessly to protect Flagg Mountain on U.S. Forest
3 Service Land from exploratory drilling attempts; and

4 WHEREAS, The Methow Headwaters Campaign was successful in
5 their efforts, when S.47, *The John D Dingell, Jr. Conservation,*
6 *Management and Recreation Act* officially became law on March
7 12th when the President signed a historic legislative package
8 that approved more than 100 public land, natural resource, and
9 water bills, including the permanent withdrawal of 340,079 acres
10 in the Methow Headwaters from new mineral exploration and mine
11 development; and

12 WHEREAS, Protecting this land in the Methow Headwaters will
13 allow it to be enjoyed by all Washington State citizens and
14 visitors, as well as maintain the health and purity of the
15 Methow Valley watershed for years to come;

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State
17 Senate honor the accomplishments of the members of the Methow
18 Headwaters Campaign and the efforts of every citizen in the
19 Methow Valley and beyond who worked to protect the Methow
20 Headwaters through the passage of the federal legislation; and

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the copies of this resolution
22 be transmitted by the Secretary of the Senate to the leadership
23 team of the Methow Headwaters Campaign.

24 I, Brad Hendrickson, Secretary of the Senate,
25 do hereby certify that this is a true and
26 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8638,
27 adopted by the Senate
28 April 8, 2019

29 BRAD HENDRICKSON
30 Secretary of the Senate