

State of New Mexico

Office of the Governor

Bill Richardson
Governor

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GOVERNOR BILL RICHARDSON STATEMENT ON WHITE PEAK LAND SWAP

SANTA FE – Governor Bill Richardson released the following statement today about the State Land Commissioner’s plan to trade state-owned land in northern New Mexico:

White Peak statement

On another matter, I want to say a few words about Land Commissioner Pat Lyons’ proposal to swap state-owned land near White Peak for ranch land in Colfax County.

Yesterday I heard from hundreds of northern New Mexico residents during my visits to Mora and Las Vegas. They were all outraged by Pat Lyons’ plan – and understandably so.

White Peak includes pristine land that is an integral part of the culture of northern New Mexico.

Unfortunately, Pat Lyons’ land swap would trade some of the best hunting and recreation land for lesser land that includes a mountain that has been heavily mined. Pat Lyons’ policy will deprive access to New Mexicans and allow out-of-state interests to get full access.

I will join with other concerned New Mexicans and oppose Pat Lyons’ plan.

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