

HAROLD RUNNELS
2D DISTRICT, NEW MEXICO

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

June 16, 1977

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Eliot Porter
Route 4, Box 33
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501

Dear Eliot:

Thank you for your recent letter in regard to H. R. 3454, the so-called Endangered American Wilderness Act. I appreciate knowing of your position on the measure.

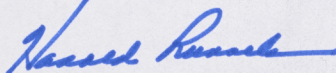
As you are aware, this bill would designate certain endangered public lands for preservation as wilderness and to provide for the study of additional endangered public lands for the inclusion in wilderness designations. As of this writing, I have not as yet made a final determination on the measure in that it encompasses numerous proposals, and the Subcommittee on Indian Affairs and Public Lands has not as yet completed its work and much testimony remains to be gathered.

As for the New Mexico designations, all of the proposed areas are not within my congressional district and before making a final determination I will confer in detail with Congressman Lujan, who I might add, has indicated support for the New Mexico provisions.

Again, I appreciate having the benefit of your observations prior to our final consideration of the measure.

With best wishes.

Sincerely,



HAROLD RUNNELS, M.C.

bma