

February 12, 2019 -

Udall, Heinrich Help Senate Pass Public Lands Package!

U.S. Senators Tom Udall and Martin Heinrich helped push a public lands package through the Senate today that would create thirteen new wilderness areas in New Mexico! Ten of the proposed wilderness areas fall within the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks National Monument, two fall within the Rio Grande del Norte National Monument, and one is located near the Four Corners region. The legislation also includes an expansion of the existing Bisti/De-Na-Zin Wilderness Area near the Four Corners region. Overall, the thirteen new designations would account for roughly 270,000 acres of new wilderness in New Mexico - the most wilderness designated in the state in a single year since 1980!

The wilderness area designations will provide an extra layer of protection for some of New Mexico's most beloved destinations to connect with the natural world. These places are home to a wide variety of plant and animal wildlife and natural features that offer recreational opportunities for virtually every type of outdoor enthusiast.

Senators Udall and Heinrich co-sponsored two pieces of legislation to create the wilderness areas within the Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks and Rio Grande del Norte National Monuments. **Please let Senators Udall and Heinrich know that you appreciate the leadership they have shown and for their efforts to keep New Mexico wild!**

While the public lands package now heads to the U.S. House of Representatives, its passage in the Senate was a major first step toward protecting even more New Mexico wilderness!