JOHN GARAMENDI CALIFORNIA, 3RD DISTRICT

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January 25, 2022

Dear Colleague:

I invite you to cosponsor the "Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument Expansion Act" (H.R.6366). My bill with Congressman Mike Thompson would expand northern California's Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument designated by President Obama in 2015, to include approximately 3,925 acres of adjacent federally owned land in Lake County known as the "Walker Ridge" tract. In addition, our bill would rename the ridgeline from "Walker Ridge" to "Condor Ridge," or "Molok Luyuk" in the Patwin language, to honor the area's cultural significance to Native Americans. The bill would also create a first-of-its-kind authority for federally recognized tribes of the area to engage in voluntary co-management and land stewardship opportunities, in partnership with the federal management agencies.

Condor Ridge (Molok Luyuk) is an extinct volcanic mountain range with an unusual "serpentine" soil composition that has made it a trove of rare and beautiful plant species. This natural habitat is the home to the adobe lily (*Fritillaria pluriflora*) and more than 30 species of rare plants. Along with other rare and protected animal species such as the bald eagle, golden eagle, and tule elk all make their home there.

Before the 2015 National Monument designation, the following members from the California delegation joined me in cosponsoring Congressman Thompson's legislation in previous Congresses to protect this special area and the federal land currently included in the National Monument boundary:

- Berryessa Snow Mountain National Conservation Area Act (113th): Huffman, Eshoo, Bera, Matsui, Napolitano, McNerney
- Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument Act (114th): Thompson Garamendi, Huffman, Matsui

I hope to earn your support on this locally support legislation to conserve this special place in my Congressional district for future generations of Californians to enjoy. To be added as a cosponsor or for questions, please contact <u>Tigran.Agdaian@mail.house.gov</u> in my office. Thank you for your consideration.

for Sincerely,

JOHN GARAMENDI Member of Congress Endorsements: Sierra Club, California Wilderness Coalition, California Native Plant Society, Tuleyome, State Senator Mike McGuire (SD-02), Assemblymember Cecilia Aguiar-Curry (AD-04), Lake County Board of Supervisors, Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation, City of Davis, City of Woodland, Conservation Lands Foundation, American Motorcyclist Association District 36, Backcountry Anglers & Hunters, Californians for Western Wilderness, Eco Flight, Endangered Habitats League, Environmental Justice Coalition for Water, Lake County Land Trust, Redbud Audubon Society, Archaeological Research, Wilbur Hot Springs, Yolo Basin Foundation