



Grand County BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Colorado

308 Byers Ave., P.O. Box 264 | Hot Sulphur Springs, CO 80451 | 970-725-3347

Edward F. Raegner

District 1, Fraser 80442

Merrit S. Linke

District 2, Granby 80446

Randal F. George

District 3, Kremmling 80459

Email: grndcty1@co.grand.co.us

Phone: 970-725-3100

Edward Moyer

County Manager

Maxine LaBarre-Krostue

County Attorney

March 7, 2025

Brooke Rollins, Secretary of Agriculture
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20250

Delivered via electronic mail to: agsec@usda.gov

Re: Grand County, Colorado public lands staff terminations

Dear Secretary Rollins,

We, the Commissioners of Grand County, Colorado, on behalf of the citizens of Grand County, strongly support your leadership and the values you stand for, including the fight against fraud and waste in the Federal government.

However, we urge you to consider the critical role that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), National Forest Service (NFS), and National Park Service (NPS) employees play in our community. Grand County is not only one of the main entrances to Rocky Mountain National Park but also home to the Arapahoe and Roosevelt national forests. Our county also includes Lake Granby, located in the Arapahoe National Recreation Area — an area that draws tourists and supports local businesses. With nearly two-thirds of our county being public lands, the essential services provided by the dedicated staff of these agencies are central to our economy and way of life.

These employees oversee essential areas such as our lakes, which are key to our tourism economy. They also manage wildfire prevention efforts that protect our safety and the health of our land. Clean, well-maintained parks and forests are vital to Grand County, ensuring that visitors can enjoy peaceful, safe experiences in our natural spaces. The staff working in these agencies help maintain the pristine conditions of our parks, keeping trash cans empty and campsites quiet — critical components of our local tourism economy.

Given the vital role these employees play, we respectfully ask that you consider their importance as you review potential changes to the staffing and funding of the National Forest Service and National Park Service. We believe their work is crucial to the economic stability of our region and to preserving the natural beauty that defines Grand County.

The "boots on the ground" employees working day in and day out are not the sources of waste you are looking for, they are hard-working people who provide essential services to our County and the millions of visitors we receive each year.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We trust that, as you continue your work to streamline and improve government, you will recognize the irreplaceable value of the NFS and NPS employees in Grand County.

Sincerely,



Randal F. George
Commissioner, Chair



Edward Raegner
Commissioner



Merrit Linke
Commissioner

Cc: Doug Borgum, U.S. Secretary of the Interior: doug.borgumlast@doi.gov
Elon Musk, Special Government Employee, Department of Government Efficiency:
doge@mail.house.gov
U.S. President Donald Trump: comments@whitehouse.gov