

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 24, 2010

Support Recreational Aviation and Backcountry Airstrips
Cosponsor H.Res. 1473

Dear Colleague:

We respectfully ask you to join us in supporting H.Res. 1473, a resolution supporting recreational aviation and backcountry airstrips on America's public lands.

Backcountry airstrips are a part of life for many Americans, especially in the West. They provide countless benefits to the general public, including search and rescue, fire management, research, disaster relief and wildlife management. They also allow public access to some of the most beautiful, remote federal lands in America—regardless of one's physical ability to otherwise enjoy the backcountry.

Backcountry airstrips serve as efficient access points for tourists, who in turn contribute to local economies and small businesses. More importantly, in the event of mechanical problems or inclement weather, they serve as emergency landing sites when larger airports are out of reach. Too often, however, these airstrips are targeted for closure by the federal government or well-funded special interest groups, or simply ignored by bureaucrats in Washington, D.C.

During a time when our lands are under threat from drought, insect infestation and wildfire, and when our economy continues to struggle, backcountry airstrips serve a valuable role for land managers and visitors alike. Please join us in recognizing the value of recreational aviation and backcountry airstrips, in addition to commending aviators and the various private organizations that maintain these airstrips for public use.

If you have any further questions or would like to cosponsor H.Res. 1473, please contact Eric Bierwagen in Congressman Rehberg's office at eric.bierwagen@mail.house.gov.

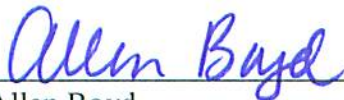
Sincerely,



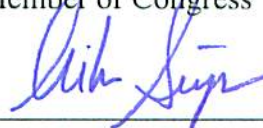
Denny Rehberg
Member of Congress



Vernon Ehlers
Member of Congress



Allen Boyd
Member of Congress



Mike Simpson
Member of Congress



Walt Minnick
Member of Congress