

Resolution #1
Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs

OPPOSE RELEASE OF BLM BODIE WILDERNESS STUDY AREA

Submitted by: Toiyabe Chapter Sierra Club

Background: The Bodie BLM Wilderness Study Area (WSA) is located in Mono County, CA, in the spectacular and unique Bodie Hills north of the White Mountains. This area has great wilderness values of solitude and the opportunity for primitive recreation plus some of the best archeological resources in the Great Basin. At the urging of a large gold mining company, Representative Buck McKeon has introduced a bill (HR 6129) which would release the Bodie WSA from its present status. This release would allow the company to do extensive and unregulated exploration in the area. Under the 1872 Mining Law, exploration is allowed in a WSA but must be done in an environmentally sensitive manner, in full compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act, and taking into consideration all other values. Release of the WSA for mining exploration would create a dangerous precedent.

Resolution: The Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs strongly opposes the release of the Bodie Wilderness Study Area and any other WSA's where the reason for the release is based on mining exploration.

Contact: Marge Sill, 720 Brookfield Drive, Reno, NV 89503. (775) 322-2867.