I am writing to urge you to support the Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act (NREPA). This legislation would protect the best of the best wildlands in the US and help ensure that ecological integrity of our ecosystems is conserved. It would also help recover and preserve the high-quality habitat for endangered species like bull trout, grizzly bear, and lynx, as well as other keystone species like elk, moose, and bighorn sheep.

It would help to battle climate heating by keeping our forests intact rather than logging them, which has been shown to release tremendous amounts of carbon into the atmosphere.

NREPA protects the quality of life attributes that depend on the three Ws — wildlife, watersheds, and wildlands — that are foundational to the new creative and amenity-based economy of the region. And it saves taxpayers funds from being wasted on money-losing timber sales (nearly all logging on federal lands costs more to administer than the government receives in payment for the timber). Finally, it requires the ecological restoration of more than a million acres, providing jobs for rural communities.