

One of the greatest threats facing hikers, mountain bikers, OHV users, hunters and anglers today is the radical proposal to "transfer" millions of acres of BLM and Forest Service land to the states and lock them up or sell them off.

Here's why New Mexico lawmakers should reject this ill-conceived land grab:

- These are America's land: National public lands are an American birthright, which generations of "we the people" use all the time.
- Outdoors enthusiasts stand to lose: State control of these lands will lead to more development, fences and "no trespassing" signs less access for all.
- New Mexico can't afford it: The cost of fighting forest fires, maintaining roads and managing BLM and USFS lands will overwhelm New Mexico, leaving state taxpayers on the hook for millions.
- End game is clear: To offset the cost of managing these lands, the state will be forced to auction off to the highest bidder places New Mexicans know and love, like the Valle Vidal, the Jemez and the Gila.
- It's not constitutional: States gave up all claims to these lands when they joined the Union. A legal battle with the federal government will be expensive and unwinnable.

Join us at the Roundhouse at 2 p.m. on Jan. 29 and tell Santa Fe: <u>NO</u> public lands transfer!

