



Your View: Letters to the editor (Aug. 11)

Wilderness support

Several recent opinions to the Sun-News from wilderness supporters have attacked the Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce for its position on S.B. 1689, The Organ Mountains-Desert Peaks Wilderness Act.

The attacks are unwarranted and reflect a lack of knowledge of the chamber's position, which very clearly supports the wilderness designations contained in S.B. 1689 for the Organ, Robledo and Las Uvas mountains. It also supports the National Conservation Areas proposed by the bill.

Because of legitimate concerns about how border security is compromised when vast areas of public lands near our southern border are subjected to the restrictions of wilderness designation, the chamber has requested the lands along the border be permanently protected by the less restrictive designation of National Conservation Area.

They have also requested that the Broad Canyon, which lies between the proposed Robledo Mountains Wilderness and the Las Uvas Mountains Wilderness, be designated as NCA to facilitate future storm water conservation and protection measures.

The Greater Las Cruces Chamber of Commerce has heard and carefully considered the New Mexico Wilderness Alliance arguments and the arguments presented by People for the Preservation of Our Western Heritage. Neither NMWA or PFPOWH would get all they want if S.B. 1689 is changed along the lines requested by the chamber.

Rather than criticizing GLCCC, this community should be thankful that this chamber of commerce has listened to all the arguments, pro and con, made an objective determination of what is best for the future of this county, and offered a sound proposal based on the facts presented.

TOM MOBLEY
Las Cruces