

February 1, 2009

Senator Russ Feingold
1600 Aspen Commons
Middleton, WI 53562-4716

Dear Senator Feingold:

Unitarian Universalists join with the National Council of Churches of Christ, USA, and other conservation-concerned organizations in urging you to support and pass America's Red Rock Wilderness Act. We believe doing so is fully consistent with the values and goals of President Barack Obama, his administration, and the American people. What a great and positive way to start off 2009 – by showing you stand with us in working to preserve and protect America's natural treasures and our planet as a whole.

Americans find spiritual renewal in the wilderness areas of our country. In central Utah there exists one of the largest remaining untouched and undesignated wilderness lands in the lower 48 states. This Federal area features wide-open spaces, spectacular vistas, and intimate slot canyons, rugged characteristics where visitors can enjoy a remote experience iconic of the American West. This special place has been described as “a lovely and terrible wilderness... harshly and beautifully colored, broken and worn until its bones are exposed, its great sky without a smudge or taint from Technocracy.”

We believe it deserves the highest form of land protection our laws can offer. By voting for America's Red Rock Wilderness Act, you will be designating 9.4 million acres of this special area for preservation, retaining opportunities for hiking, camping, hunting, scientific study and the psychological refreshment people feel by experiencing nature's unspoiled treasures. You will also be protecting a vast array of archeological resources and places sacred to Native Americans, and providing a sustainable economic foundation for the people of this area.

We call upon you personally and Congress as a whole to pass America's Red Rock Wilderness Act as an affirmation of your vital commitment to good stewardship of wild places in America, recognizing their importance to current and future generations. In doing so, you will be affirming the value of preserving the interdependent web of life of which we are all a part, a principle cherished by the Unitarian Universalist Association and its member congregations throughout the United States, Canada, and the world.

Thank you for your vision and vote.

Sincerely,
Martin H. David and Cindy Rose (co-chairs)
Environmental ACTION Committee
First Unitarian Society
900 University Bay Dr., Madison, WI 55705
(44 additional signers with addresses attached)

