



*Board of County Commissioners*  
*Fremont County*

615 Macon Ave., Room 105 - Canon City, Colorado 81212  
Phone (719) 276-7300 - Fax (719) 276-7304

Michael J.  
Stiehl Larry  
Lasha  
Ed H. Norden

District One

District Two

District Three

March 4, 2010

Re: Support for SB10-098, Conservation of State's Natural Resources

Senator Tochtrop, Representative Sonnenberg

Thank you for sponsoring this important legislation.

SB10-098, the "Weed Bill," will allow local entities to utilize existing Conservation Trust Fund funds. This is very forward-thinking legislation and is very much in keeping with the original principles driving Conservation Trust Funds.

The open space, parks and recreation that have been supported by Conservation Trust Funds continue to be threatened by invasive species. These threats increase each year that our response as a State are not coordinated.

Colorado placed an unfunded mandate on local governments in 1996, requiring that they establish weed controls. While Fremont County is proud of our Weed Management Department, neighboring lands, including State and Federal holdings, continue to threaten our efforts. By their nature, any uncontrolled parcel of noxious weeds will invade their neighbors.

The War on Weeds cannot be won until all entities in Colorado establish programs and join forces. The Weed Bill will allow these entities to establish weed programs across the State.

We endorse this bill and urge immediate passage.

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Michael J. Stiehl

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Larry Lasha

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Ed Norden

Cc: Rep. Randy Fischer, Rep Sal Pace, Rep. Randy Baumgardner, Rep. Kathleen Curry, Rep. Cory Gardner, Rep. Dickie Lee Hullinghorst, Rep. Marsha Looper, Rep. Wes McKinley, Rep. Su Ryden, Rep. Judy Solano, Rep. Scott Tipton, Rep. Ed Vigil

VIA E-MAIL to: lauren.ris@state.co.us

The Honorable Representative Randy Fischer, Chair  
The Honorable Representative Sal Pace, Vice-Chair  
The Honorable Representative Randy Baumgardner  
The Honorable Representative Kathleen Curry  
The Honorable Representative Cory Gardner  
The Honorable Representative Dickie Lee Hullinghorst  
The Honorable Representative Marsha Looper  
The Honorable Representative Wes McKinley  
The Honorable Representative Su Ryden  
The Honorable Representative Judy Solano  
The Honorable Representative Jerry Sonnenberg  
The Honorable Representative Scott Tipton  
The Honorable Representative Ed Vigil  
House Agriculture and Natural Resource Committee  
State of Colorado  
State Capitol Building  
200 E Colfax  
Denver, CO 80203

To The Honorable Representatives of the House Agriculture and Natural Resource Committee:

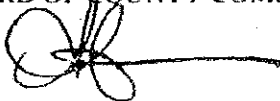
The San Miguel County Board of Commissioners is writing in support of Senate Bill (SB) 10-098 "Concerning the Allocation of Moneys to Promote Conservation of the State's Natural Resources." This legislation will assist Colorado's counties and its seventy-six Conservation Districts to address conservation and stewardship of Colorado's natural resources.

This legislation will allow San Miguel County to further support its weed control program and to help to eliminate the unfunded mandate created by the Colorado Noxious Weed Act that was passed in 1996 and amended in 2003. It will also allow Conservation Districts and County Weed Control Programs to utilize existing Conservation Trust Funds to address local conservation and weed control issues.

We respectfully request your support for SB 10-098. Thank you in advance for your consideration of this important bill.

Sincerely,

SAN MIGUEL COUNTY, COLORADO  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Art Goodtimes, Chair

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March 15, 2010

The Honorable Representative Randy Fischer, Chair  
The Honorable Representative Sal Pace, Vice Chair  
The Honorable Representative Randy Baumgardner  
The Honorable Representative Kathleen Curry  
The Honorable Representative Cory Gardner  
The Honorable Representative Dickie Lee Hullinghorst  
The Honorable Representative Marsha Looper  
The Honorable Representative Wes McKinley  
The Honorable Representative Su Ryden  
The Honorable Representative Judy Solano  
The Honorable Representative Jerry Sonnenberg  
The Honorable Representative Scott Tipton  
The Honorable Representative Ed Vigil  
House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee  
State of Colorado  
State Capitol Building  
200 East Colfax, Room 346  
Denver, CO 80203

The Honorable Representatives of the Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee:

The Board of Douglas County Commissioners respectfully submits their support for Senate Bill 10-098.

Douglas County supports this Bill as it will allow us to further the County's weed control programs as established in our State-approved 2005 Weed Management Plan.

Colorado's local government noxious weed programs have been operating under an un-funded mandate since the Colorado Noxious Weed Act was passed in 1996 and then amended in 2003. As a result, a majority of local government programs have been unable to comply with state law, due to lack of funding.

SB10-098 will allow Counties to cooperate and/or contract with conservation districts and weed programs utilizing existing Conservation Trust Fund allocations. This gives counties, conservation districts, and weed programs the option to work together on local conservation and weed control projects, subject to approval and review by the County Commissioners.

We respectfully request your support of Senate Bill 10-098. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,  


Steven A. Boand, Chair  
Douglas County Board of Commissioners