

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

December 9, 2015

Neil Kornze  
Director  
Bureau of Land Management  
1849 C Street NW, Room 5665  
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Director Kornze:

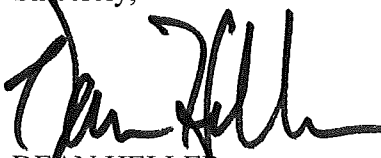
We write to you today to bring your attention to the degradation of the Bonneville Salt Flats, located just across the Nevada border in Utah. The Bonneville Salt Flats has become world renowned for hosting land speed record-setting events, and has provided a dramatic backdrop for numerous Hollywood productions. This year, however, every single racing event has been canceled due to the poor condition of the Salt Flats.


As representatives of the state of Nevada, we have worked together to bolster opportunities for the many rural economies throughout the state. During the annual racing events at the Bonneville Salt Flats, racers, fans, event and productions employees, and others, who travel to the events each year, often stay in the nearby town of West Wendover, Nevada, providing an important source of revenue for its local economy. With the cancelation of racing events this year, and the continued loss of salt content from the Flats, which imperils future racing events, it is clear that something needs to be done now to ensure the continuation of high-speed racing at the Flats, and the economic activity that it brings to Nevada.

Given the current conditions of the area, it is important that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) take additional actions to restore this unique resource. We request that the BLM work with stakeholders to develop and implement a plan that will address the factors causing the degradation of the Flats, and will ensure that it becomes suitable for racing again. Additionally, if further events have to be cancelled due to the Salt Flats being unsuitable, we request that the BLM work with the high-speed racing industry to identify alternative racing sites that could be used instead. We would like to note that there are several good candidates in Nevada.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of further assistance.

  
HARRY REID  
United States Senator

Sincerely,  
  
DEAN HELLER  
United States Senator

  
BRIAN SANDOVAL  
Governor of Nevada