



Montana Audubon

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May 16, 2002

Senator Max Baucus
511 Hart Senate Office Building
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510-2602

Dear Senator Baucus,

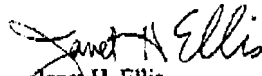
I am writing to express Montana Audubon's concerns over the current version of H.R. 3005, the "Bipartisan Trade Promotion Authority Act of 2002." Although the amendment you are proposing will help, it does not go far enough. We recently received the letter dated May 14, 2002 on this subject from Montana Attorney General Mike McGrath (enclosed). We concur with the Attorney General's opinion about the inadequacy of your amendment. We are asking you to support the amendment that Senator Kerry will offer to address these concerns.

Montana Audubon has worked on the "takings" issue during numerous sessions of the Montana Legislature. We are also aware that you, personally, have championed this issue at the federal level. For that reason, we think it makes sense that you to champion this issue in the free trade debate. This is an important issue for the public health, safety and welfare for Montana citizens, as well as those from other states. If the takings issue is not dealt with in an effective way in the free trade bill, it could one day jeopardize our right to a clean and healthful environment, as guaranteed by our constitution.

Montana Audubon is the coordinating entity for the ten Audubon Society Chapters in Montana. Currently there are approximately 3,200 Audubon members in the state. You may hear from other members of our Society.

Thank you for consideration of our concerns on this issue. Please call me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,


Janet H. Ellis
Program Director

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