



Glenwood Hot Springs Protection Act

U.S. Senators Michael Bennet (D-Colo.) and John Hickenlooper (D-Colo.), and U.S. Representative Jeff Hurd (R-Colo.)

Glenwood Springs is home to one of Colorado's most iconic geothermal hot springs and cavern systems. Culturally significant to the Ute Tribes since time immemorial, this geothermal network has supplied mineral-rich, therapeutic spring water for millions of years. Glenwood Springs was one of Colorado's original tourist destinations, beginning in the 1880s.

In June, the BLM announced that Rocky Mountain Industrials (RMI), the owner of the Mid-Continent Limestone Quarry, had completed its application to triple the gravel quarry's size. The BLM's actions could pave the way for approval of the expansion and threaten the local community's hot springs, economy, and way of life. Garfield County and the Glenwood Springs Citizens Alliance previously sued RMI, citing concerns about noncompliance.

The gravel quarry sits on top of the limestone formation that feeds Glenwood's hot springs, and additional mining at the site could put the geothermal resources critical to the hot springs at risk. The expansion would also increase truck traffic, with the potential for excessive noise pollution and traffic safety concerns in residential neighborhoods and to the City's more than 1 million annual visitors. The City of Glenwood Springs, the local business community, and thousands of residents have spoken out against the expansion. Senator Bennet has led efforts to oppose the expansion of the quarry since 2019.

The Glenwood Hot Springs Protection Act would prohibit the Secretary of the Interior from processing or approving any application for the expansion of the Mid-Continent Limestone Quarry.

The Glenwood Hot Springs Protection Act is supported by the Southern Ute Indian Tribe, the City of Glenwood Springs, the Glenwood Springs Citizens' Alliance, the Glenwood Springs Chamber, Glenwood Hot Springs Resort, and Iron Mountain Hot Springs.

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