# **GROUND ZERO**

The Anti-Conservation Movement's Common Ground With Domestic Terrorists

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# **Executive Summary**

Long before the insurrection at the U.S. Capitol on January 6th, 2020, "sagebrush rebels" in the American West attempted violent takeovers of iconic national landmarks.

The Bundy family and their allies have tried to take public lands from the American people through force to serve themselves at the expense of American taxpayers. Their bid to end national ownership of these lands is supported by the same powerful conservative elected officials who threaten democracy.

The standoffs in Nevada and at the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge set the stage for violent extremists to storm the capitol to overturn the 2020 elections. Anti-government extremists have now infiltrated every level of government, from county Commissioners to Attorneys General to Congress.

This new report from Accountable.US shows the attacks on the US capitol are identical to the attacks on landscapes that belong to all Americans. The press and public officials must address anti-conservation initiatives accordingly – as attacks on American democracy.

 Before the Oath Keepers tried to overturn the 2020 election, they participated in multiple armed attacks on public lands in Nevada, Oregon, and Montana. [The Atlantic, 09/30/20; Vox, 11/07/16; Montana Public Radio, 08/12/15]



• Cliven Bundy declared "Range War" on the federal



government prior and supported the forcible occupation of the capitol during the January 6 riot [Reno Gazette Journal, 01/08/21; Vox, 05/14/15].

• Arizona Congressman Paul Gosar encouraged lawbreaking at the January 6 insurrection and the selling off of public lands [Business Insider, 10/24/21; Paul Gosar, D.D.S., 07/15/16].  Colorado Congresswoman Lauren Boebert collaborated with extremists comparing protecting public lands to Hilter and Stalin and was reported to have been in prior contact with the organizers of the January 6 attacks. [Washington Post, 01/19/21; Rolling Stone, 10/24/21; The Guardian, 05/14/21].





 Right-wing talk show host Trent Loos, who has been a leading critic of campaigns to protect nature, supported violence during the capitol riots and participated in the occupation of Malheur wildlife reserve [Facebook, 01/11/16; The Oregonian, 01/02/16; High Plains Journal – Op Ed by Trent Loos, 4/3/21].

#### **Elmer Stewart Rhodes**



Source: Oath Keepers

**SUMMARY:** Elmer Stewart Rhodes is the founder and leader of the Oath Keepers, a far-right anti-government militia whose members claim to be defending the Constitution of the United States. The Oath Keepers were present in the Capitol on January 6<sup>th</sup>, and Rhodes is currently under investigation for his role in the insurrection.

Rhodes played an outsized role in promoting the false narrative of a stolen election in 2020, and convinced many of his group's members to travel to D.C. for January 6<sup>th</sup> to prevent the certification of the vote. He allegedly directed members of his group to "come to the South Side of the Capitol on steps," minutes before members of the group breached the building from this location. Rhodes has been banned by Twitter and Facebook for inflammatory remarks in his posts before.

Rhodes has given the support of the Oath Keepers to various anti-public lands movements before, including multiple armed standoffs they joined with the Bureau of Land Management in opposition to public lands management.

Stewart Rhodes Is The Founder Of The Oath Keepers Militia. His Paramilitary Efforts Have Been Central To Both The January 6 Riot And Armed Standoffs Opposing Public Land

#### Stewart Rhodes Is The Founder Of The Oath Keepers Militia

Rhodes Is The "Center Of Gravity" For The National Rightwing Militia Group

**The Oath Keepers Is An Anti-Government Militia Group.** "The Oath Keepers are an anti-government, right-wing political organization committed to supporting and defending their interpretation of the U.S. Constitution against all enemies, both foreign and domestic. They are associated with the militia movement, an extremist umbrella organization founded on the belief that the federal government is part of an evil conspiracy intent on stripping Americans of their natural rights and freedoms." [Center For Strategic International Studies, <u>06/17/21</u>]

• Stewart Rhodes Is The Oath Keepers' "Leader And Center Of Gravity." "What would it mean for Oath Keepers if Rhodes were to face criminal charges? Rhodes is the central figure of the organization. He is the founder, leader and center of gravity for the group. In theory, then, an indictment against Rhodes could lead to the group's collapse. But Jackson argues that the overall impact would be limited because Oath Keepers is only one part — albeit a big part — of the broader anti-government militia movement." [NPR, <u>04/10/21</u>]

#### <u>Rhodes Is Actively Under Investigation For His Role In The Organizing And</u> <u>Executing The January 6<sup>th</sup> Insurrection</u>

Stewart Rhodes Claimed His Oath Keepers Were Ready For Violence And "Bloody War" After Trump Lost The 2020 Election

**Rhodes Claimed That The 2020 Election Was Stolen And That There Was Massive Fraud.** "[The election] was stolen. It was massive fraud. They could not win clean, and so they stole it... They stole the ballot in multiple ways." [Twitter, <u>11/14/20</u>]

The January 6<sup>th</sup> Committee Subpoenaed Rhodes, Claiming He "Repeatedly Suggested That The Oath Keepers Should, Or Were Prepared To, Engage In Violence To Ensure Their Preferred Election Outcome." "In written and spoken remarks delivered prior to January 6, 2021, you repeatedly suggested that the Oath Keepers should, or were prepared to, engage in violence to ensure their preferred election outcome. On election day, you declared that 'an honest election' could only result in a win for Donald Trump, called for Oath Keepers to operate as 'undercover' poll watchers, and encouraged your members to 'stock up on ammo' and prepare for a 'full-on war in the streets.'" [January6th.house.gov, 11/23/21]

 In The January 6<sup>th</sup> Committee Subpoena Alleged That Rhodes Claimed The Oath Keepers Would Mount A "Much More Desperate [And] Bloody War" If Trump Did Not Invoke The Insurrection Act. "On December 12, 2020, you gave a speech in Washington, D.C., calling for then-President Trump to invoke the Insurrection Act, warning that the Oath Keepers would mount a "much more desperate [and] bloody war" if he did not do so. On January 4, 2021, you wrote a post on the Oath Keepers website, stating that it is "CRITICAL" for your followers to support "President Trump's fight to defeat the enemies foreign and domestic who are attempting a coup, through massive vote fraud and related attacks on our Republic," and exhorted them to come to Washington, D.C. on January 6, 2021." [January6th.house.gov, <u>11/23/21</u>]

# Leaked Messages Show Stewart Rhodes May Have Directed Oath Keeper Members To Enter The Capitol Building.

**Rhodes Summoned The Oath Keepers To Come To D.C. For The January 6<sup>th</sup> Insurrection Several Days Before.** "On Jan. 4, Stewart Rhodes, the founder of Oath Keepers, an anti-government group, went online to summon his army of followers into action. In an urgent plea on the Oath Keepers website, Rhodes wrote... 'We Oath Keepers are both honor-bound and eager to be there in strength to do our part.'" [Voanews.com, <u>03/07/21</u>]

**Rhodes Messaged Members Of The Oath Keepers To "Come To The South Side Of The Capitol On Steps," Minutes Before They Breached The Building.** "During the height of the insurrection—which forced dozens of elected leaders into hiding and ultimately killed five people—Rhodes directed his Oath Keepers to 'come to the South Side of the Capitol on steps.' Minutes later, Oath Keepers had breached the building." [Daily Beast, <u>03/09/21</u>]

#### Stewart Rhodes Said He Had "Men Stationed Outside" Of DC To On Election Night To Protect Donald Trump From A Supposed "Benghazi-Style" Attack

**Rhodes Claimed The Oath Keepers Had Men Stationed Outside Of D.C. "As A Nuclear Option, In Case They Attempt To Remove The President Illegally."** "In October, Rhodes, echoing Trump, said that a Biden victory would be illegitimate and evidence of fraud, telling Jones, the conspiracy theory peddling host of InfoWars, that members of the Oath Keepers would be 'posted' outside Washington to prevent a 'Benghazi-style' attack on the White House on election night. After Trump lost the election, Rhodes repeated his warnings. 'We've men already stationed outside D.C. as a nuclear option, in case they attempt to remove the president illegally, we'll step in and stop,' Rhodes told Jones on Nov. 12, two days before attending a Million MAGA March in Washington." [Voanews.com, <u>03/07/21</u>]

#### Stewart Rhodes Was Banned From Twitter After Threatening Black Lives Matter Activists

**Twitter Banned Rhodes In 2020 For Warning About "Open Warfare Against The Marxist Insurrectionists By Election Night."** "In September, Twitter banned both Rhodes and the Oath Keepers after the group warned about 'open warfare against the Marxist insurrectionists by election night.' Marxist insurrectionists is the militia's shorthand for Black Lives Matter." [Voanews.com, <u>03/07/21</u>]

# Stewart Rhodes Believes That The Biden Administration Will "Take Out The Power Grid" As Part Of A Scheme Culminating In "Targeted Strikes On Conservatives."

**Rhodes Warned Followers That The Biden Administration Would Supposedly Take Out The Power Grid And Begin Carrying Out Targeted Strikes On Conservatives.** "Rhodes warned followers of the 'very high possibility' that the Biden administration would supposedly take out the power grid and begin carrying out targeted strikes on conservatives... Rhodes told Oath Keepers on Jan. 13. 'The purpose of such a comms down/blackout will be to minimize our ability to communicate and to pin people in their homes as the black hats and their terrorist allies conduct a "night of the long knives" decapitation strike to arrest or otherwise take out patriot leaders, potential leaders, and highly skilled personnel.' (The reference to the 'night of the long knives' was the second time Rhodes compared the Biden administration to Nazis in that email.)" [Daily Beast, <u>10/01/21</u>]

Stewart Rhodes Is A Militant Anti-Public Lands Activist Who Has Lent His Militia To Several Armed Occupations Opposing Public Lands Management

#### Stewart Rhodes And The Oath Keepers Have Supported Anti-Conservation And Public Lands Movements, Joining The 2014 Bunkerville Standoff

Stewart Rhodes Joined The 2014 Standoff In Bunkerville Nevada, Taking Up Arms To Protect Cliven Bundy From Paying To Graze His Cattle On Public Lands

**In 2014, Rhodes And The Oath Keepers Joined An Armed Standoff Between Patriot Groups And The BLM In Nevada On Behalf Of Cattle Rancher Cliven Bundy.** "In 2014, Rhodes and the Oath Keepers joined an armed standoff between Patriot groups and federal authorities in Nevada on behalf of the cattle rancher Cliven Bundy. The next year, they led another standoff, at the Sugar Pine Mine in Josephine County, Oregon. Both times, what started as a dispute over land-use issues became a rallying cry on the militant right. Both times, the authorities backed down." [The Atlantic, <u>09/30/20</u>]

Cliven Bundy Started The Armed Standoff To Avoid Paying Federal Lands Grazing
Fees. "The law was clear: Cliven Bundy's cattle had been grazing on public land — illegally
— for years. The Bureau of Land Management said so, and so did the U.S. Department of
Justice. The federal courts agreed. But when the BLM tried to enforce the law — by seizing
the Nevada rancher's livestock in 2014 — a ragtag band of militiamen rode to Bundy's
defense. After an armed standoff in the desert, federal officials released Bundy's cattle and
retreated, soundly defeated." [LA Times, 01/07/16]

Stewart Rhodes's Oath Keepers Led An Armed Standoff To Protect An Illegal Mine In Oregon In 2015

After The Bureau Of Land Management Noticed A Small, Unauthorized Mining Operation In Oregon, The Miners Thought They Were Being Threatened. "On the unpatented Sugar Pine claims, the archaeologists discovered a large manmade clearing, a residence, poured concrete, a recently buried water pipe system and several trailers — none of which had been approved by the BLM. Two months later, in early April, a BLM law enforcement officer and a sheriff's deputy had visited the Sugar Pine property to hand-deliver a letter to the mine's owners, Rick Barclay and George Backes. The agency offered three options: Cease mining; file a plan of operations to account for the level of surface activity; file an appeal — or else. The or else in this case, local BLM spokesman Jim Whittington admits, would have probably just amounted to more letters, possibly for years to come." [High Country News, <u>02/02/16</u>]

 "After the miners spoke, Rice called for an informal vote: Should the local Oath Keepers help Backes and Barclay defend their property rights against the feds? The room overwhelmingly voted yes. With that, Operation Gold Rush was ignited, becoming what was the latest flare-up in a new generation of the decades-old Sagebrush Rebellion." [High Country News, 02/02/16]

Armed Oath Keepers And Sagebrush Rebels Flocked To Josephine County Oregon To Participate In A Standoff To Protect The Unauthorized Sugar Pine Mine. "It was impossible to tell how many people were actually coming. The JoCo Oath Keepers' former public information officer, Mary Emerick, told me at least 700 volunteers passed through over the course of several weeks. An Oath Keepers associate involved in the operation just shook his head and said quietly to me, 'You don't need to know that.' [...] Sugar Pine invigorated sagebrush insurgents West-wide. In Montana last year, after the federal government sued two miners for shirking regulations, several JoCo Oath Keepers became closely involved, traveling there or supporting the defendants from afar." [High Country News, <u>02/02/16</u>]

In 2014, Rhodes And The Oath Keepers Joined An Armed Standoff Between Patriot Groups And The BLM In Nevada On Behalf Of A Cattle Rancher, And Joined Another Standoff At An Oregon Mine Against The BLM In 2015. "The next year, they (Oath Keepers led another standoff, at the Sugar Pine Mine in Josephine County, Oregon. Both times, what started as a dispute over land-use issues became a rallying cry on the militant right. Both times, the authorities backed down." [The Atlantic, <u>09/30/20</u>]

#### Members Of Stewart Rhodes's Oath Keepers Militia Joined The 2016 Armed Takeover Of The Malheur National Wildlife Refuge

**The Oath Keepers Showed Up For The Armed Takeover Of The Malheur National Wildlife Refuge In Oregon In 2016.** "More recently, Oath Keepers showed up for the armed takeover of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in Oregon by a militia group led by Ammon and Ryan Bundy earlier this year, though the Oath Keepers say they were there merely to 'keep the peace' between the occupiers and law enforcement, not to participate in the actual takeover of the wildlife refuge." [Vox, <u>11/07/16</u>]

# Members Of Stewart Rhodes's Oath Keepers Staged An Armed Protest To Oppose The US Forest Service In Montana In 2015

Armed Oath Keepers Showed Up In Lincoln, Montana In 2015 To Oppose The Forest Service In A Dispute Over A Mining Claim. "Groups of armed self-described constitutional advocates are calling on reinforcements to join more than a dozen of their members roaming a Montana town in support of a mine owner who is in a dispute with the U.S. Forest Service over his claim. Members of Oath Keepers, Pacific Patriot Network and 3% of Idaho said they came to Lincoln — the former hometown of Unabomber Ted Kaczynski — at White Hope Mine owner George Kornec's request." [Flathead Beacon, <u>08/16/15</u>]

• Armed Militants Went To Lincoln Despite Understanding That Residents Were Concerned About Seeing Them Around Town With Rifles And Fatigues. "Ret. U.S. Army Sgt. Maj. Joseph Santoro, who is among the men who traveled to help protect the mine, said he understands why Lincoln residents might be concerned about the men wandering the streets with rifles. 'Because it's a small town, they're very concerned with seeing us in our camies and carrying around guns open carry,' he said." [Flathead Beacon, <u>08/16/15</u>]

#### A Judge Later Ruled That The Miners In The Wrong And Ordered Them To Remove Their Locks From Public Gates

**Without Evidence, The Oath Keepers Claimed Credit For The Mining Dispute Going To Court.** "The Oath Keepers and other groups put the word out late last week that they needed help to guard the mine site against "unlawful action" by the Forest Service. McIntire won't say how many people made the trip to Lincoln to help out, but he says their mere presence spurred the Forest Service to file suit against the miners in Helena Federal court on Tuesday, rather than using force to resolve the matter. 'With our presence here we basically forced the United States Forest Service into a legal discussion, forcing the matter into court." [Montana Public Radio, 08/12/15]

A Judge Later Ruled In Favor Of The Forest Service And Ordered The Miners To Remove Their Unauthorized Locked Gates And Explosives. "A federal judge has ruled in favor of the U.S. Forest Service in a dispute between federal officials and Lincoln-area miners that brought the Oath Keepers to the mountain town in 2015. On Thursday, U.S. District Judge Charles C. Lovell ordered Intermountain Mining and Refining, LLC to remove locks from gates, signs, explosives, and a garage from an unpatented mining claim east of Lincoln." [Helena Independent Record, 03/04/19]

#### **Trent Loos**



Source: Facebook

**SUMMARY:** Trent Loos is a right-wing media personality who works closely with anti-public lands extremists to spread conspiracy theories and anti-government messaging.

Trent Loos is a vocal supporter of zealots who have attacked federal land, frequently praising the Bundy-led group that held an armed occupation of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge. Loos even joined the militants at the refuge to help them spread their anti-public lands rhetoric. Loos has complained that Bundys and other anti-government militants who fight public land protections have been maligned by the media and are "true patriots."

Trent Loos extended that same support to the Trump-aligned insurrectionists hoping to overturn the 2020 presidential election, voicing solidarity with them on January 6 while aware that the capitol was being breached. Loos has defended the use of violence and perpetuated lies about election fraud. Loos has made repeated comparisons between the insurrection and the Malheur Wildlife Refuge occupation, defending both as unfairly attacked by a media that vilifies anyone "stand[ing] up for truth and liberty."

Right-Wing Media Personality Trent Loos Is An Anti-Public Lands Extremists Who Participated In The Malheur National Wildlife Refuge In 2016 And Supported The January 6, 2021 Capitol Riot

#### <u>Trent Loos Is A Right-Wing Media Personality Who Works Closely With</u> <u>Anti-Public Lands Group American Stewards Of Liberty.</u>

**Trent Loos Is A Nebraska Rancher And Radio Host.** "The evening's M.C. was Trent Loos, a sixth-generation farmer from central Nebraska, best known among patriots for hosting "Loos Tales Podcasts" and "Rural Route Radio," shows about rural America." [*New York Times*, 01/18/18]

Trent Loos Works Closely With An Anti-Land Group Led By The Daughter Of Rancher Wayne Hage Who Fought The Government After Refusing To Pay Grazing Fees For Using Public Lands.

**Trent Loos "Works With The American Stewards Of Liberty Group."** "Loos, who works with the 'American Stewards of Liberty' group of Texas, just returned from a 'Freedom Festival' in Tulare, Calif., May 8, where he joined Donald Trump Jr. at a fund-raiser sponsored by U.S. Rep. Devin Nunes." [McCook Gazette, <u>5/14/21]</u>

American Stewards For Liberty Is Run By Margaret Byfield, The Daughter Of Wayne Hage, A Rancher That Fought Against The US Government Over Public Lands. "Margaret was raised on a large cow calf operation in central Nevada purchased by her parents, Wayne and Jean Hage in 1978. Her family experienced unprecedented regulatory pressures that eventually led to Hage v. United States, the first federal lands grazing case filed in the United States Court of Federal Claims. The case was in litigation for 27 years, during which time Margaret launched the property rights organization Stewards of the Range." [American Stewards of Liberty, accessed <u>03/30/21</u>]

- Like The Bundy Family, The Hage Family Refused To Pay Grazing Fees For Using Public Lands. "Before Cliven Bundy, there was Wayne Hage, a Nevada rancher whose quarrel with the federal government churned through the courts for 21 years. Hage, an outspoken critic of public-land management, held water rights predating federal ownership and argued that he therefore didn't need grazing permits." [High Country News, <u>09/12/12</u>]

#### Trent Loos Is An Anti-Public Lands Extremist And Conspiracy Theorist Who Has Routinely Aligned Himself With Zealots Seeking To Eliminate Public Lands

Loos Attended The 2016 Malheur Wildlife Refuge Occupation To Give The Bundys A Microphone

**Loos Interviewed Ammon Bundy During the Armed Occupation Of Malheur National Wildlife Refuge.** [Protect The Harvest, Accessed <u>5/19/21</u>]

• In 2014, The Bundy Family And Other Armed Militia Seized The Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, Threatening Violence And Saying They Would Not Leave Until Dwight And Steven Hammond Be Released From Jail. "The Bundy family of Nevada joined with hard-core militiamen Saturday to take over the headquarters of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, vowing to occupy the remote federal outpost 30 miles southeast of Burns for years. The occupation came shortly after an estimated 300 marchers -- militia and local citizens both -- paraded through Burns to protest the prosecution of two Harney County ranchers, Dwight Hammond Jr. and Steven Hammond, who are to report to prison on Monday. Among the occupiers is Ammon Bundy, son of Nevada rancher Cliven Bundy, and two of his brothers [...] Ryan Bundy said there were no hostages, but the group is demanding that the Hammonds be released and the federal government relinquish control of the Malheur National Forest. He said many would be willing to fight -- and die, if

necessary -- to defend what they see as constitutionally protected rights for states, counties and individuals to manage local lands [*The Oregonian*, 01/02/16]

**Trent Loos Participated In The Malheur National Wildlife Refuge.** Loos traveled to Malheur and joined Ammon Bundy in the wildlife refuge to interview Bundy and help spread the Bundys' anti-public lands message. [Facebook, <u>01/11/16</u>]



Source: <u>Facebook</u>

August 2017: Loos Called For The Freeing Of The Bundy Family

**Loos Called For Freeing The Bundy And Hammonds Families.** "Free #Bundy family #Hammonds NOW. The Trials with Not Guilty continue prove no crime Loos Tales Aug 23, 2017." [Twitter – Trent Loos, <u>8/23/17</u>]

Loos Believes Public Land Use Planning Is Rooted In Nazi Doctrine

**Trent Loos Claimed Hitler's Signing Of The Reich Nature Protection Act Was The Birth Of Environmental Permits, Impact Statements And "Environmental Totalitarianism."** "Historians have either overlooked or forgotten that sweeping Nazi environmental laws, all signed by Hitler and considered to be his pet projects, preceded the racially charged Nuremberg Laws, reflecting the fact that Nazi racism was rooted in ecology. By the summer of 1935, right before the Nuremberg laws were set up, Nazi Germany was by far the greenest regime on the planet. The Animal Protection laws were followed up by a strong hunting law for Hermann Goring in 1934. In 1935, Hitler also signed the Reich Nature Protection Act, the high water mark for Nazi environmentalism. Here is seen the birth of environmental permits, environmental impact statements and environmental totalitarianism." [High Plains Journal – Op Ed by Trent Loos, <u>4/3/21</u>]

Trent Loos Totes Around A Version Of The Conspiracy-Riddled Version Of The Constitution Favored By Militia Groups.

**In The Presentation, MC Trent Loos Held A Copy Of The Skousen Constitution.** [SD Trumpet on Facebook, <u>04/20/21</u> (00:19:15)]

The Skousen Constitution Is A Favorite Of Militia Groups And The Bundy Family, Who Have Led Armed Revolts Against The Government. "It's a message that rings clear to Cliven Bundy, who had a copy of the booklet during his 2014 standoff with federal agents on his Nevada ranch over unpaid grazing fees. His sons Ammon and Ryan brought it to the Oregon wildlife refuge. [...] Bundy gets his pocket Constitutions from a friend in Utah named Bert Smith, who buys 1 million at a time, storing them in a warehouse between distributions to Mormon groups, schools and soldiers overseas. Smith said that he was a longtime friend of Skousen, a Canadian-born onetime FBI agent who died in 2006, and that the booklet was Skousen's life work. Skousen founded the organization that prints and distributes the pocket Constitution, the Idaho-based National Center for Constitutional Studies." [*The Los Angeles Times*, <u>01/21/16</u>]

• But Mainstream Constitutional Scholars Say Skousen's Theories Are For "Paranoid Theocrats." Skousen has posthumously found a big audience, thanks to radio host and conservative ideologue Glenn Beck. Attracted by Skousen's conspiratorial view of secular government, Beck began promoting the author to his listeners five years ago. He wrote the foreword to a recent edition of The 5,000 Year Leap, a central text in the Skousen oeuvre. Mainstream scholars have been less kind. [...] 'There's conservative, there's right-wing and there's off the charts,' said Sean Wilentz, a Princeton University history professor. 'Cleon Skousen was off the charts.' Wilentz described Skousen and his allies as 'paranoid theocrats.'" [*Tampa Bay Times*, 12/09/13]

#### <u>Trent Loos Aligns Himself With Insurrectionists On January 6<sup>th</sup>, Routinely</u> <u>Making Positive Comparisons Between Insurrectionists And Anti-Public Land</u> <u>Zealots That Have Led Armed Revolts Against The Government.</u>

Trent Loos Spread Misinformation About Election Fraud In The 2020 Presidential Election.

**Trent Loos Tweeted About Election Fraud Days After The January 6<sup>th</sup> Insurrection.** "Even a blind man saw the election fraud that will be exposed this week" [Trent Loos, @trentloos, 01/14/21]

Trent Loos Voiced His Support For January 6<sup>th</sup> Protestors After Knowing The Insurrectionists Had Breached The Capitol, Supporting Violence If Someone "Violate[s] My Rights."

**Trent Loos Spoke To An Attendee At The DC Protests On January 6<sup>th</sup> As The Capital Was Breached.** "Hello everyone. I'm Trent Loos. Welcome to this Loos Tales Special Report on January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Coming to us from Washington, DC Missouri's finest, Dr. Tom Blumhorst. I hear a lot of activity taking place. You have been in Washington, DC all day with a group from

Missouri. [...] I happen to know, and I think maybe I have more information than you do because I've been watching proceeding and watching things. Someone carrying Trump flags, wearing the US flags, has stormed the capital." [Facebook, Trent Loos, <u>01/06/21</u>]



Trent Loos [left] Speaking With Dr Tom Blumhorst [right] With The US Capital Building And Multiple Police Cars In The Background. [Facebook, Trent Loos, <u>01/06/21</u>]

**Trent Loos Alluded To Doubts Regarding The Presidential Election Results And Aligned Himself With Protestors After The Capital Had Already Been Breached.** "Well the theme of the day has to be, and I've heard it pretty loud and clear and quite frankly heard it from both sides of the aisle. The elected officials work for the people. We live in a representative republic. And at the end of the day is I think you, and I know I and everybody that thinks like you and I do, what we want is what the people are saying. And the questions that we need to get answered are what exactly did the people say? That's what we need to know going forward. [...] Dr Tom Blumborst from Washington, DC as events and activities and we the people are speaking up for the future of liberty and freedom." [Facebook, Trent Loos, <u>01/06/21</u>]

**Trent Loos Agreed That Violence Is An Acceptable Response To "Taking Away Your Freedom And Your Democracy," Going On To Say "There Will Be Violence" If There's An Attempt To "Violate My Rights."** "[Co-Host:] No violence is ever right. Well, unless it's taking away your freedom and your democracy. Look are you telling me that the people in Hong Kong who have now been jailed, some of them for 13-25 years for wanting democracy are you telling me that you shouldn't actually stand up and fight for your own freedom? Because I think you should. [Loos:] Absolutely [...] You come to my house and attempt to violate my rights as Americans citizens or a human being, my God-given rights, there will be violence." [Facebook, Trent Loos, 01/07/21] Trent Loos Compared The Bundy-Led Armed Revolt Against The Government With January 6<sup>th</sup>, Arguing The Media Intentionally Misrepresented Groups That Stand "Up For Truth And Liberty."

**Trent Loos Described The Media's Criticism Of The Bundy-Led Malheur Wildlife Refuge Occupation As "Practice" For The US Government To Control Messaging Around Insurrections.** "I see that NPR, National Public Radio, is latching on to the term insurrectionists have been in the West forever and they've always been agitators and anti-government. So it brings me to where I was five years ago this very week. [...] As a result of [Steve and Dwight Hammond's arrest], Ammon Bundy and a group of true patriots went to Malheur National Wildlife Refuge [...] and they occupied a Malheur National Wildlife Refuge to take a stand against this ask of overzealous government trying to rule people's lives instead of understanding we the people. [...] I was a part of the US Capitol controlling of the message five years ago. They were practicing." [YouTube, Trent Loos, <u>01/13/21</u>]

#### Trent Loos Argued The Story Of January 6th Was "Already Written" Prior To The Actual

**Events.** "[Co-Host:] You know I asked you the question this morning: is it normal that people go to their state capitals on inauguration day and you said no. And I said, well why have the Democrats asked for every state to have national guards at their state capital on inauguration day and I find that fascinating. [Loos:] I assure you the story's already written, waiting for something to happen." [YouTube, Trent Loos, <u>01/13/21</u>]

**Trent Loos Said The Media Uses The Term Insurrectionist To Describe Someone That "Stands Up For Truth And Liberty."** "That's the plan is to paint anyone who stands up for truth and liberty as an insurrectionist or as a wacko-jacko." [YouTube, Trent Loos, <u>01/13/21</u>]

Trent Loos Defended The Insurrection, Invoking A Quote From A Leader Of The Militant Occupation Of The Malheur Wildlife Refuge.

Trent Loos Attacked The Media For Described The Events On January 6<sup>th</sup> As An Insurrection, Adding A Photo Of Anti-Government Extremist LaVoy Finicum.



[Twitter, @trentloos, 01/13/21]

LaVoy Finicum Was A Long-Time Ally Of Ammon And Ryan Bundy And A Leader Of The Militant Occupation Of The Malheur Wildlife Refuge. "A week into the armed occupation of a wildlife refuge in eastern Oregon, LaVoy Finicum, an Arizona rancher and father of 11 who became a de facto spokesman for the protesters, took a seat in the compound and contemplated how the standoff might end for him. [...] Mr. Finicum was friends with Cliven Bundy, the Nevada rancher and father of Ammon and Ryan, who drew national attention for leading a 2014 standoff with the federal government over illegal grazing on public lands." [*New York Times*, 01/27/16]

• Trent Loos Has Called Finicum A "True Patriot." "Today I walk through my experiences in Harney County, OR in Jan 2016. The media always controls the narrative and tells people what to think not simply telling you what has happened. In addition Jeanette Finicum wife of true Patriot LaVoy Finicum joins in a conversation that took place after the Bundy's were found innocent." [Loos Tales, <u>01/13/21</u>]

#### <u>Trent Loos Told A Joke Suggesting Dominion Voting Machines Produce</u> <u>Inaccurate Results</u>

The Punchlines? Dominion Voting Machines Provide Incorrect Results And Lawyers Go To Hell

**In A Presentation, Trent Loos Cracked A Joke About Faulty Dominion Voting Machines Producing Wrong Results** Trent Loos told a joke on stage about a farmer who was mistakenly sent to hell instead of heaven upon death. Loos said, "Got caught wind of the fact that there was a farmer in hell causing problems. He was making hell comfortable. We can't have that. So God rings up the devil and says, 'hey devil. We understand you've got a farmer down there, well we made a mistake. We were using a Dominion machine..." There was supposed to be a farmer in heaven, not in hell." Punchline of the joke is that when god threatened to sue the devil, the devil pointed out that god was unlikely to have access to lawyers in heaven. [SD Trumpet on Facebook, <u>04/20/21</u> (00:28:46)]

• The Joke's Punchline Was That Lawyers Go To Hell. At the end of the joke, Loos said, "just checking to see who's leaving. Not many of our county commissioners are also attorneys." [SD Trumpet on Facebook, <u>04/20/21</u> (00:29:55)]

#### **Utah Attorney General Sean Reyes**



Source: Utah Attorney General's Office

**SUMMARY:** Utah Attorney General Sean Reyes signed on with other Republican attorneys general to attempt to overturn the 2020 election and promote misinformation about voter fraud.

Reyes is the executive director of the Republican Attorneys General Association (RAGA) and former chairman of the RAGA-offshoot, the Rule of Law Defense Fund (RLDF). The RDLF was one of the groups behind the January 6<sup>th</sup> rally that led to a violent insurrection, even sending robocalls to people encouraging them to go to the Capitol building to "stop the steal."

Sean Reyes has allied himself with anti-government extremists well before January 6<sup>th</sup>. Reyes has worked closely with American Land Council's Ken Ivory and refused to prosecute Ivory over fraud allegations. Reyes's office additionally worked hide documents regarding an investigation into anti-public lands idealogue Phil Lyman who previously led an illegal ATV on federal property in support of the Bundy militia.

Utah Attorney General Sean Reyes Has Routinely Aligned Himself With Extremists In His Rise Through The Ranks Of The Republican Party, Including By Protecting Anti-Public Land Zealots And Associating With The Insurrection-Affiliated Republican Attorneys General Association.

### Sean Reyes Is The Attorney General Of Utah And A "Rising Star" In The Republican Party.

**Sean Reyes Was Appointed Attorney General Of Utah In 2013 By Governor Gary Herbert.** "In 2013, at the age of 42, the Honorable Sean Reyes was appointed by Governor Gary Herbert as Utah's 21st Attorney General." [Utah Office Of The Attorney General, Meet Sean, accessed 07/16/21]

**The Republican National Committee Named Sean Reyes One Of Its Four "National Rising Stars" In 2015.** "After winning the election in 2014 by one of the largest margins nationwide, Reyes was selected in 2015 by the Republican National Committee as one of its four national rising stars." [Utah Office Of The Attorney General, Meet Sean, accessed <u>07/16/21</u>]

#### Sean Reyes Has Worked Closely With Anti-Public Lands Ideologues Including Ken Ivory And Advocated For Anti-Government Zealots Cliven Bundy And Phil Lyman.

Sean Reyes's Office Withheld Documents Investigating Phil Lyman's Abuse Of Office.

**Sean Reyes' Office Refused To Release Documents Pertaining To An Investigation Into Phil Lyman.** "The attorney general's office delayed responding to the request, then denied it, and refused to even explain why it had denied it. Knowing this behavior violated the law, Gehrke then appealed to the State Records Committee. Attorney General Sean Reyes asked for a private hearing to discuss the matter with the State Records Committee." [*Deseret Morning News*, 12/16/15]

• Lyman Was Under Investigation For Giving Favorable Tax Assessments To His Accounting Business Clients. "Last July, Robert Gehrke, a reporter for the Salt Lake Tribune, sought records from the Utah attorney general's office (under an open records request allowed by law) to determine whether an accusation by San Juan County Assessor Howard Randall against San Juan County Commissioner Phil Lyman had been investigated by the AG's office. The accusation was that Lyman had abused the powers of his office by giving favorable tax assessments to his accounting business clients." [Deseret Morning News, 12/16/15]

**Protest Leader Phil Lyman Praised Extremist Cliven Bundy, Organizing The ATV Event After Bundy Led An Armed Militia Against The Bureau Of Land Management.** "He speaks of "first principles," praises Cliven Bundy, the Nevada rancher who illegally grazes his cattle on public land, and he organized a May 10 ATV ride down a trail in Recapture Canyon, which is rich with archaeological sites and closed to motorized travel, to try to assert some local say over public lands. [...] Lyman's plans for a protest ride were made public shortly after the fracas at Bundy's Bunkerville ranch, in which armed militia members faced down Bureau of Land Management officers trying to round up Bundy's cows." [High Country News, 05/13/14]

Reyes Refused To Investigate Ken Ivory's Alleged Fraud Related To The American Lands Council.

Sean Reyes Has Worked Closely With Ken Ivory On Public Land Management Issues. "Reyes has worked closely with U.S. Senator Mike Lee, and state legislators like Keven Stratton and Ken Ivory to explore and prepare legal arguments or administrative/legislative fixes to return management of public lands to state and local control." [Sean Reyes, Public Lands, accessed 07/16/21]

**In 2017, Sean Reyes Refused To Prosecute Ken Ivory Over Fraud Allegations Related To Ivory And His Nonprofit, The American Lands Council.** "The Washington, D.C.-based Campaign for Accountability asked the Utah attorney general to investigate Rep. Ken Ivory,

R-West Jordan. The group said Ivory improperly used his legislative email to conduct official business for the American Lands Council. Ivory was a founder of the nonprofit and served as the group's president until December. He dismissed the allegations as politically motivated. [...] Last year, the Campaign for Accountability accused the lawmaker of fraud in his work with the nonprofit. Utah Attorney General Sean Reyes ultimately decided not to prosecute, after determining Ivory wouldn't likely be convicted." [AP, 03/16/16]

• As A Legislator, American Lands Council's Founder Ken Ivory Was "Principally Focused On Leveraging His Ability To Put Utah At The Forefront Of The Public Lands Battle Into A Source Of Funding For His Nonprofit, The American Lands Council, Which Is Now His Principal Means Of Personal Financial Support." "Furthermore, I think people are right to be concerned about the fact that Ivory seems to have, for all intents and purposes, become a single issue legislator principally focused on leveraging his ability to put Utah at the forefront of the public lands battle into a source of funding for his nonprofit, the American Lands Council, which is now his principal means of personal financial support. The American Lands Council is a 501(c)(4) tax exempt nonprofit funded principally through donations by political subdivisions and interest groups, who pay membership dues at varying levels, for the purpose of carrying on the public lands fight. It's principal expenses appear to be Ivory's salary (and the salary of a couple other employees, including, apparently, his wife) and travel expenses. All this is distasteful." [*Utah Political Hub*, 06/03/15]

**The American Lands Council Was Created By Ken Ivory, A Utah Legislator, To Use "Political Persuasion, Legislation, and Litigation" To Eliminate Federal Public Lands.** "Ivory created the American Lands Council, a tax-exempt nonprofit, in 2012, along with Elko, Nev., County Commissioner Demar Dahl at a brief meeting at Salt Lake City International Airport. According to its mission statement, the group 'channels the cooperative efforts of state and local governments, businesses, organizations, and individuals to secure and defend local control of land access, land use, and land ownership through: I. Education; II. Political Persuasion; III. Legislation (Local, State and National); IV. Litigation." [The Salt Lake Tribune, <u>05/19/14</u>]

• The American Lands Council Gets Funding From Mining And Oil And Gas Interests. "A prevailing thought among land transfer opponents holds that the significant financial burden on states managing such large parcels of land would result in their sale to private entities and a loss of public access. Membership in Ivory's American Lands Council – including mining construction companies, power companies and oil and gas interests that stand to benefit from such a sale – lends support to the theory." [Denver Post, <u>02/24/15</u>]

Sean Reyes Opposed The Bureau Of Land Management's Auction Of Cliven Bundy's Cattle When They Were Confiscated After Years Of Bundy Grazing His Cattle Illegally.

Sean Reyes Asked The Bureau Of Land Management To "Reconsider" Plans To Send Cattle Seized From The Bundy Ranch To Utah For Auction. "Utah Lt. Gov. Spencer Cox got involved in the situation Monday, traveling to Nevada with Attorney General Sean Reyes to ask the BLM to reconsider plans to ship seized cattle from Bundy's ranch to Utah for auction." [*Deseret Morning News*, 04/10/14] • Bundy's Cattle Were Rounded Up By The BLM After Bundy Failed To Acquire Grazing Permits Despite Multiple Requests And Warnings. "Bundy's cattle have been trespassing on BLM-administered lands for at least 25 years, according to the agency. The bureau obtained a court order in 1998 requiring the rancher to remove his livestock from public lands. Two similar orders were issued in 2013 - one in July and one in October. Armed with a court order, the BLM has started rounding up some of the nearly 1,000 cattle Bundy has run on public lands without the required grazing permits. The agency says he owes at least \$1 million in unpaid permit fees." [Deseret Morning News, 04/10/14]

#### Immediately Following The Designation Of Bears Ears As A National Monument, Reyes Announced Plans To Sue The Obama Administration And Applauded Trump's Rollback.

When Bears Ears National Monument Was Designated, Sean Reyes Sued The Obama Administration On Behalf Of The State Of Utah

**In 2016, Reyes Announced Plans To Sue The Obama Administration Over The Bears Ears Monument Designation.** "The Republican attorney general of Utah says he's going to sue over President Barack Obama's designation of the Bears Ears National Monument that spans 1.35 million acres in the state. Attorney General Sean Reyes said in a statement Wednesday that he's working with local officials to file a lawsuit. He said Utah also will look to work with President-elect Donald Trump to try to curtail the monument." [*AP*, <u>12/28/16</u>]

**Sean Reyes Defended The Trump Administration Monument Reductions Of Bears Ears And Grand Staircase Escalante In Court.** "Today, Reyes is vigorously defending in federal court President Trump's shrinking of the Bears Ears and Grand Staircase Escalante Monuments in Utah. This is a critical decision that affects millions of acres of public land in our state and will set precedent for future designations." [Sean Reyes, Public Lands, accessed <u>07/16/21</u>]

#### Sean Reyes Supports Uranium Mining Around The Grand Canyon.

Sean Reyes Filed An Amicus Brief Supporting Efforts To Allow Uranium Mining Around The Grand Canyon. "Arizona officials continue to support a federal court battle to allow new uranium mining operations on a million acres surrounding the Grand Canyon. [...] So Arizona, along with several other states, joined the National Mining Association in its efforts to overturn the federal government's order. [...] The U.S. District Court for Arizona upheld the order in 2014, and the mining association appealed. Utah Attorney General Sean Reyes filed an amicus brief last November on behalf of Utah, Montana, Nevada and Arizona in support of the mining association v. Jewell." [Inside Tuscan Business, <u>09/28/15</u>]

## Sean Reyes Perpetuated Lies About Election Fraud Leading Up To The January 6<sup>th</sup> Insurrection.

Sean Reyes Was Among The Attorneys General That Attempted To Overturn The 2020 Election.

**December 9, 2020: Utah Attorney General (AG) Sean Reyes Joined Texas' Baseless Lawsuit To Overturn Election Results In States That Trump Lost.** "*Amici curiae* are the States of Missouri, Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, and West Virginia. [...] Sean D. Reyes *Attorney General* STATE OF UTAH." [<u>Amicus Brief of Missouri et al.</u>, State of Texas v. Commonwealth of Pennsylvania et al., 12/09/20]

• Gov. Herbert And Governor-Elect Cox Condemned Reyes's Action As A Waste Of Taxpayer Money. "Utah's Republican governor and governor-elect condemned Attorney General Sean Reyes' decision Wednesday to join a court brief supporting a lawsuit in the U.S. Supreme Court challenging election results in Pennsylvania and other states that President Donald Trump lost. Gov. Gary Herbert and Gov.-elect Spencer Cox said in a joint statement that Reyes, also a Republican, did not consult them before signing onto the amicus brief, 'so we don't know what his motivation is.' [...] This is an unwise use of taxpayers' money," Herbert and Cox said." [Deseret News, <u>12/09/20</u>]

Reyes Even Traveled To Nevada And Alleged Voting Irregulates, But Didn't Provide Evidence

Sean Reyes Spent A Weekend In Nevada To Review "Alleged Voting Irregularities" In The States Election After It Voted For Joe Biden In The 2020 Election. "After spending the weekend in Nevada reviewing alleged voting irregularities, Utah Attorney General Sean Reyes says there are legitimate concerns that need to be examined and possibly remedied." [Deseret News, <u>11/09/20</u>]

**Reyes Said He Found "Evidence."** "There is evidence of voting irregularities that may have resulted in improper votes being counted or proper votes being rejected. How many? Will they make a difference? These are the answers we are seeking,' he said in a prepared statement Monday in response to a request for an interview." [Deseret News, <u>11/09/20</u>]

• **Reyes Did Not Describe The Evidence He Allegedly Found.** "Reyes' statement did not cite any specific incidents of alleged ballot counting abuse. Multiple national news outlets called the presidential election for Democratic former Vice President Joe Biden on Saturday. According to a running tabulation of votes reported Thursday morning by the Associated Press, Biden received 77.2 million votes to Trump's 72.1 million, and Biden holds an Electoral College lead of 290-217." [Deseret News, <u>11/12/20</u>]

#### Reves Is On The Executive Committee For The Republican Attorney Generals Association (RAGA) And Was Recently Chairman Of The Rule Of Law Defense Fund, Both Of Which Were Tied To Robocalls That Promoted The Rally Behind The Capitol Riot.

Sean Reyes Is On The Executive Committee For The Republican Attorneys General Association (RAGA). ["Executive Committee," Republican Attorneys General Association, accessed 01/26/20]

**Reyes Was Also Former Chairman Of The Rule Of Law Defense Fund (RLDF), Only Stepping Down From The Position In November 2020.** "Reyes is the former chairman of the RLDF, which is a 501(c)(4) nonprofit. He was replaced in November by Alabama Attorney General Steve Marshall." [Julie Jag, "<u>Utah A.G. Sean Reyes denies involvement in robocalls</u> encouraging 'patriots' to attend rally at U.S. Capitol," *The Salt Lake Tribune*, 01/10/21]

**RLDF, An "Offshoot" Of RAGA, Was One Of The Groups Behind The Rally That Led To The Capitol Riot.** "The leader of a Republican attorneys general group sought to distance his organization from Wednesday's deadly assault on the U.S. Capitol by supporters of President Donald Trump, saying staffers' decision to be involved in a rally before the riot wasn't authorized. The Rule of Law Defense Fund, an offshoot of the Republican Attorneys General Association, was listed as a participant in the 'March to Save America' gathering in Washington that turned into a violent raid on the Capitol after Trump and other addressed the crowd, according to an archived web link for organizers of the event which has since been taken down." [Erik Larsen, "Republican AGs Deny Backing D.C. Rally That Led to Riot," Bloomberg, 01/08/21]

• **RAGA And RLDF Share Funding, Staff, And Office Space.** "While Carr is the chairman of RAGA, he is not directly associated with the RLDL [sic]. However, the groups share funding, staff and office space in Washington, according to NBC News." [Adrianne M. Haney, "Georgia AG distances himself from group that sent robocalls urging Trump supporters march to Capitol," *11 Alive*, 01/09/21]

The Rule Of Law Defense Fund Sent Out Robocalls Calling On People To March On The Capitol Building To "Stop The Steal" On January  $6^{th}$ . "The recorded message urged people to attend a rally that turned into a deadly riot at the Capitol building in Washington, D.C., on Wednesday. The Rule of Law Defense Fund, a policy arm of the Republican Attorneys General Association, sent out the calls, which said, "We will march to the Capitol building and call on Congress to stop the steal. We are hoping patriots like you will join us to continue to fight to protect the integrity of our elections."" [Salt Lake Tribune, 01/10/21]

• Reyes Denies Having Any Involvement In The Robocalls Or Organizing The January 6<sup>th</sup> Protests. "Utah Attorney General Sean Reyes distanced himself from robocalls sent out by a Republican attorneys general group he recently led after a state legislator tweeted the source of the calls was "concerning." [...] "A.G. Reyes was not involved in organizing the rally in Washington, D.C.," a statement from the Utah Attorney General's Office said." [*Salt Lake Tribune*, 01/10/21]

#### Paul Gosar



Source: <u>Twitter</u>

**SUMMARY:** Representative Paul Gosar is among most vocal supporters of the January 6 insurrection in Congress. Gosar even encouraged Trump supporters to "join me in DC January 6" to "fight for trump." Gosar has purportedly offered a "**blanket pardon**" to rioters and has dismissed videos of the riot as "propaganda and lies."

Gosar has been an active opponent of federal public lands throughout his career in Congress. He has called for disposal of public lands, repeatedly introduced **anti-public lands** legislation, opposed **National Monument protections,** and has called for uranium mining near the Grand Canyon.

US Rep. Paul Gosar Was One Of The Most Vocal Members Of Congress With Regards To Supporting The January 6<sup>th</sup> Riots, Claiming The Election Was Stolen, And Allegedly Offering Pardons To Rioters After Asking His Followers To "Join Him" In D.C.

#### <u>Paul Gosar Played An Active Role In The Lead Up To January 6<sup>th</sup> Riots And</u> <u>LaterOffered To Help Rioters Get Pardons</u>

Paul Gosar Urged Trump Supporters To "Join" Him On January 6<sup>th</sup> To "Fight For Trump" Because He Believed The Election Was "Stolen." **Gosar Tweeted: "Patriots: The Time Is Now. Hold The Line. Join Me In DC January 6th. #Fightfortrump."** Gosar Tweeted: "Patriots: The time is now. HOLD THE LINE. Join me in DC January 6th. #FIGHTFORTRUMP" [Twitter, <u>01/02/21</u>]

**Gosar Tweeted, "We Haven't Come This Far And Fought This Hard To Have The Election Stolen From Us."** Gosar Tweeted, "We haven't come this far and fought this hard to have the election stolen from us." [Twitter, <u>11/04/21</u>]

#### Paul Gosar Is An Outspoken Defender Of The Rioters, Who He Calls "Peaceful Protestors" And That Videos Showing Otherwise Are "Lies"

**Gosar Referred To The Rioters As "Peaceful Protestors," And Claimed That Ashli Babbitt Was "Executed."** "[Gosar] has also been outspoken in his defense of US Capitol rioters, calling them 'peaceful protestors' who were being harassed by the Justice Department. One of Trump's most ardent supporters, Gosar also said that Ashli Babbitt, a protestor who was shot by Capitol Police on January 6 and later died from her wounds, was 'executed." [Business Insider, <u>10/24/21</u>]

**Gosar Claimed Videos That Had Been Released Thus Far On January 6<sup>th</sup> Insurrection Were "Propaganda And Lies."** "This week I offered an amendment, again asking for the release of all Capitol security footage on and before January 6. No more propaganda and lies. Show America the full videos. Why do Democrats oppose the truth?" [Twitter, <u>05/21/21</u>]

#### Paul Gosar Reportedly Offered A "Blanket Pardon" For January 6 Rioters

**Gosar Allegedly Offered A "Blanket Pardon" To Rioters For Another Investigation Ahead Of January 6<sup>th</sup>.** "GOP congressman Paul Gosar encouraged pro-Trump rally organizers to plan protests in Washington DC on January 6 by telling them they would get a 'blanket pardon' for another, unrelated investigation, according to two of the protest's planners." [Business Insider, <u>10/24/21</u>]

**Gosar Told January 6<sup>th</sup> Rioters How Much He Appreciated The Work They Had Been Doing Ahead Of January 6.** "The two anonymous sources said Gosar told them: 'I was just going over the list of pardons and we just wanted to tell you guys how much we appreciate all the hard work you've been doing,' according to the outlet." [Business Insider, 10/24/21]

• Gosar Tweeted, "After 4 Years Of #Notmypresident We're Expected To Roll Over And Let Them Steal An Election? I Don't Think So." "After 4 years of #NotMyPresident we're expected to roll over and let them steal an election? I don't think so." [Twitter, <u>11/07/20</u>]

Paul Gosar Has Repeatedly Claimed Without Evidence that The 2020 Election Was Fraudulent.

**Gosar Tweeted, "This Was Not The Most Secure Election In U.S. History."** "The people of Cuba are not protesting because lack of access to the vaccine. Republicans do not want to defund the police. This was not the most secure election in U.S. history." [Twitter, 07/13/21]

**Gosar Tweeted, "Listen To These Accounts Of Election Fraud Uncovered By The Audit. Don't Listen To The Big Lie."** "Listen to these accounts of election fraud uncovered by the audit. Don't listen to the Big Lie—'BeSt EVeR eLeCTIon.'" [Twitter, <u>09/29/21</u>]

**Gosar Tweeted About How Democrats Were Trying To "Steal The Election," In September 2020.** "Tune in at 3 PM EST to hear me discuss Biden's stance on immigration, how Democrats are trying to steal the 2020 election and much more!" [Twitter, <u>09/15/20</u>]

Gosar Is An Outspoken Critic Of Public Lands Who Has Continually Opposed National Monuments Protections While Supporting Selling Off Arizona's Public Lands, And Mining Anywhere And Everywhere.

#### Paul Gosar Is A Longtime, Outspoken Critic Of Public Lands Protections WhoHas Tried To Sell Off Arizona's Public Lands

Paul Gosar Introduced A Bill To Sell Off Arizona's Public Lands

In 2016, Paul Gosar Introduced A Bill He Said Would Deal With The Problem Of "Large Swaths Of Federal Land." "Today, U.S. Congressman Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S. (AZ-04) released the following statement after introducing H.R. 5836, the Hunting, Education and Recreational Development (HEARD) Act: 'Throughout my home state of Arizona, I have heard repeatedly about significant challenges local communities face due to poor federal land management policies and the existence of large swaths of federal land within their jurisdiction. The HEARD Act addresses these issues and ensures the people of Arizona have a voice in the decision making process. By facilitating locally-driven solutions and injecting transparency, this legislation ensures that public lands will be utilized more efficiently while also yielding significant benefits for stakeholders." [Paul Gosar, D.D.S., <u>07/15/16</u>]

• The HEARD Act Would Have Resulted In Selling Off Public Lands In Arizona. "The Hunting, Education and Recreational Development (HEARD) Act, establishes an orderly process for the sale, conveyance and exchange of federal lands not being utilized by public land management agencies that have been identified for disposal. The HEARD Act will yield significant benefits for education, sportsmen, agriculture and natural resource users, counties and states by establishing a revenue sharing mechanism that ensures a fair return for all." [Paul Gosar, D.D.S., <u>07/15/16</u>]

*Gosar Wants To Take Steps To Dispose Public Lands In Favor Of "Private Property Rights"* 

**Paul Gosar Has Called For Inventorying Public Lands "For Disposal."** "Rep. Gosar, who has a propensity for inflammatory proposals and rhetoric, recently called for the BLM to create an inventory of public lands that would be 'eligible for disposal' and criticized the recent review of the federal coal leasing program, calling it 'shameful.'" [Adventure Journal, 04/11/16]

**Rep. Gosar's Priorities For Land Use? Private Property Rights And Local Control.** "Gosar, chairman of the Congressional Western Caucus, said House Republicans are largely united on land-use issues. He noted many Freedom Caucus members and GOP leaders like Ryan and House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.) belong to the Western Caucus, which has long pushed a libertarian approach to federal land management. 'We all are committed to protecting private property rights, strengthening local control, fostering economic growth, preserving multiple use of public land and increasing energy independence,' said Gosar." [E&E, 05/17/21]

Some Conservationists Rank Gosar As Second Worst Congressional Attacker Of Public Lands In Congress. Gosar is ranked as the second worst congressional attacker of public lands according to the Center for Biological Diversity Action Fund, due to the 21 anti-public lands bills he has introduced. [Centeractionfund.org, Accessed <u>12/03/21</u>]

#### Gosar Is In Favor Of Mining Anywhere And Everywhere. Even On The Doorstep Indigenous Sacred Sites Like The Grand Canyon And Chaco Canyon

**Gosar Tweeted That It Was "Time To Mine Again In The U.S."** "Did you know solar panels, wind turbines & electric vehicles ALL require critical minerals from mining? If not mined here, these minerals are often obtained using slave labor w/ terrible environmental standards in other parts of the world. It's time to mine again in the U.S." [Twitter, <u>05/30/21</u>]

**Gosar Tweeted A Link To An Article About The Decision To Halt Mining At Chaco Canyon, Claiming It "Hurts Americans And In This Case Navajo Allottees."** "Once again, the Biden Administration's war on oil and gas (why you are paying more at the pump) hurts Americans and in this case Navajo Allottees. They were never consulted on this misguided, unscientific and directly harmful policy." [Twitter, <u>11/18/21]</u>

**Gosar Tweeted In Support Of Controversial Twin Metals Mine In Minnesota, Claiming That "Stopping Twin Metals Will Further Enslave Congolese Children."** "Children are dying in #Congo mining & Dems can't name a mine in America they support. Stopping Twin metals will further enslave #Congolese children. We should let union workers in MN free us from foreign dependence & liberate the children @NRDems." [Twitter, <u>09/30/20]</u>

Paul Gosar Says Raising The Federal Onshore Royalty Rate Would Be "The Final NailIn The Coffin" For The Domestic Oil Industry

Gosar Claimed Raising Royalty Rates Would "Drive The Final Nail In The Coffin Of Domestic Oil And Gas." "It already takes decades for drilling and mining projects to get through the permitting

process. Now, by raising royalty rates through the roof, Democrats will drive the final nail in the coffin of domestic oil and gas, forcing our own companies to take their business overseas." [Twitter, 10/28/21]

• The Royalty Rate Is Unchanged Since The Mineral Leasing Act Was Passed In 1920. "The current royalty rate, 12.5%, was established in 1920. Changing the royalty rate for new leases would not be expected to affect an operator's production from producing wells, but it could influence interest in future leases and impact bonus payments received during lease sales." [Congressional Research Service, <u>09/22/20</u>]

Paul Gosar Believes That Protecting Sage Grouse Is "One Of The Greatest Threats To The West."

**Gosar Claimed That Sage Grouse Protections Were One Of The Greatest Threats To The West.** "The Obama Admin's #SageGrouse listing & 20-year mineral moratorium on 10 mill acres of land has been 1 of the greatest threats to the West." [Twitter, <u>10/25/17</u>]

• The Sage Grouse Is A Keystone Species In Whose Protections Would Have Reverberating Positive Conservation Effects In Sagebrush Ecosystems. "The Greater Sage-Grouse is considered a keystone species for the entire sagebrush ecosystem, since sufficient conservation efforts for the bird would in effect protect an additional 350 species of wildlife as well as the viability of the agricultural landscape. The bird is a candidate for Endangered Species Act (ESA) protection, for which the US Fish & Wildlife Service (FWS) must make a listing decision by September 2015. Before that deadline, FWS officials must judge whether state and federal plans for 11 Western states are sufficiently strong enough to protect the Greater Sage-Grouse without an ESA listing." [Audubon, 02/12/15]

#### Paul Gosar Opposes National Monument Protections

Gosar Introduced A Bill Which Would Have Prohibited New National Monument Designations Of More Than 5,000 Acres. "Rep. Gosar introduced H.R. 3946, which would require an unattainable level of public input and local approval conditions for the establishment of new national monuments. The proposed bill would also prohibit new national monument designations of more than 5,000 acres and national monument designations within 18 western counties. Additionally, Rep. Gosar has cosponsored eight bills that would facilitate land seizures or undermine the Antiquities Act. Rep. Gosar, who has a propensity for inflammatory proposals and rhetoric, recently called for the BLM to create an inventory of public lands that would be 'eligible for disposal' and criticized the recent review of the federal coal leasing program, calling it 'shameful.'" [Americanprogress.org, 04/11/16]

Gosar Supported Completely Eliminating Arizona's Four National Monuments Which Were Under Review During The Trump Administration. "The current chairman of the anti-public lands Congressional Western Caucus, Gosar supports completely eliminating Arizona's four national monuments caught up in the Trump administration's dangerous and unnecessary review. Gosar even went further than the Trump administration, which has said they will not be making changes to Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument." [LCV.org, <u>08/16/17</u>]

#### **AZ State Senator Wendy Rogers**



Source: Arizona Senate Republicans

**SUMMARY:** In the days leading up to January 6<sup>th</sup>, Arizona State Senator Wendy Rogers pushed lies about the 2020 election while encouraging supporters to "stand firm" and "defends their rights" in a country "under siege." After the insurrection, Rogers chose to continue spreading myths about election fraud and blamed "radical Antifa mobs" for the capitol violence.

Despite attempts to blame the left, Wendy Rogers is a proud member of the Oath Keepers, a militia that trained for and escalated the violence on January 6<sup>th</sup>. In addition to their role in the insurrection, Oath Keepers have been aligned with anti-public land militias, supporting the Bundys in their occupation of the Malheur Wildlife Refuge.

In addition to the Oath Keepers, Wendy Rogers has aligned herself with extremists who have supported anti-public lands violence to continue to push election fraud myths. Rogers spoke at a QAnon conference with Mark Finchem and works with Phil Lyman on an "election integrity caucus." Both Finchem and Lyman have pushed lies about the 2020 election and are active supporters of the Bundys and Hammonds.

Arizona State Senator Wendy Rogers Is Proudly Aligned With Insurrectionists And Anti-Public Lands Extremists, Drumming Up Violence Leading Up To January 6<sup>th</sup> And Spreading Conspiracy Theories.

Arizona State Senator Wendy Rogers Is A Proud Member Of The Oath Keepers, A Militia That Has Been A Major Player In Anti-Government Violence Including The Malheur National Wildlife Refuge Occupation And The January 6<sup>th</sup> Insurrection. Wendy Rogers Is An Arizona State Senator Representing The State's 6<sup>th</sup> Legislative District. [AZ Senate Republicans, Wendy Rogers, accessed <u>12/09/21</u>]

**Wendy Rogers Is A Member Of The Oath Keepers, Praising Their "Dedication To Our Constitution And To Our Country" After The Insurrection.** "Had a great time speaking to the Cottonwood Oathkeepers tonight. I am a member of the Oathkeepers and I really like their dedication to our Constitution and to our country. Thank you for having me!" [Twitter, @WendyRogersAZ, 03/06/21]

• The Oath Keepers Have Been Described By The US Department Of Justice As A "Militia" Pushing Conspiracy Theories About The Federal Government. "In charging documents, the U.S. Justice Department described the Oath Keepers as a "large but loosely organized collection of militia who believe that the federal government has been co-opted by a shadowy conspiracy that is trying to strip American citizens of their rights."" [Salt Lake Tribune, 10/13/21]

Oath Keepers Participated In The Malheur National Wildlife Refuge Occupation Led By The Bundy Family

Oath Keepers Participated In The Bundy-Led Armed Standoff Against The Federal Government. "Those feelings changed when armed Oath Keepers flooded into southern Nevada in a prolonged standoff with Bureau of Land Management agents over ranchland leased to the Bundy family." [*Buzzfeed*, 10/20/21]

Oath Keepers Have Been Accused Of Planning For And Escalating The January 6<sup>th</sup> Insurrection, With At Least Two Dozen People Connected To The Group Charged With Crimes Related To The Capitol Invasion.

**Two Dozen People Connected To The Oath Keepers Have Been Charged With Crimes Related To Their Role In The January 6<sup>th</sup> Insurrection.** "In the months since the Capitol insurrection, as two dozen people linked to the Oath Keepers have been charged with crimes, including conspiracy, for their roles, several of those elected officials have continued to voice support for the organization." [*Buzzfeed*, 10/20/21]

• The Oath Keepers Participated In, Trained For, And Helped Escalate The January 6<sup>th</sup> Insurrection. "Their leaders sent top-down messages ordering members to protest and fight. Some trained before they came and brought armor, tools and weapons. They raised money for protective gear and travel to D.C. Some attacked police. In many cases, prosecutors say, members of far-right groups helped escalate the rally into a full-on attack." [*Tampa Bay Times*, <u>09/23/21</u>]

Wendy Rogers Has Perpetuated Election Fraud Myths And Conspiracies Throughout 2021, Encouraging Supporters To "Stand Firm" And "Defend Your Rights" In The Days Leading Up To The Insurrection. In The Days Leading Up To January 6<sup>th</sup>, Wendy Rogers Encouraged Supporters To "Stand Up" And "Defend Your Rights," Claiming The Country Was "Under Siege" And She Would Do "Whatever Is Needed" To Make Trump President.

Wendy Rogers Said She Would "Vote For Whatever Is Needed" To Give Arizona Electors To Donald Trump Following The 2020 Election. "I will be sworn in soon. When that happens, I will vote for whatever is needed to award our Arizona electors to @realDonaldTrump if given the opportunity." [Twitter, @WendyRogersAZ, <u>01/05/21</u>]

Wendy Rogers Tweeted There Would Be "A Lot Of Melting Down" Following January 6<sup>th</sup>, Encouraging Supporters To "Stand Firm." "There will be a lot of melting down after January 6th. Be ready and stand firm! Backbones and facts are our friends." [Twitter, @WendyRogersAZ, 01/02/21]

**Two Days Before The January 6<sup>th</sup> Insurrection, Wendy Rogers Tweeted That The U.S. Is "Under Siege" And Encouraged "All Patriots To Stand Up" And "Make Sure Your Elected Officials Defend Your Rights."** "We will prevail. We must prevail. Our nation is under siege. It is time for all patriots to stand up and be counted. Make sure your elected officials defend your rights and the integrity of our elections. If they don't, get ready to replace them." [Twitter, @WendyRogersAZ, 01/04/21]

Wendy Rogers Spoke At An Arizona "Stop The Steal" Event On January 6<sup>th</sup>. "I will be speaking today at the Arizona #StopTheSteal event. Come on down, join us, and save the Republic." [Twitter, @WendyRogersAZ, 01/06/21]

Wendy Rogers Has Perpetuated Lies About The 2020 Election, Pushing For Audits And Spreading Antisemitic Conspiracy Theories.

Wendy Rogers Attacked The Justice Department's Plans To Scrutinize Post-Election Audits, Calling The Department "One Of The Most Corrupt Institutions In The USA." "You will not touch Arizona ballots or machines unless you want to spend time in an Arizona prison. Maybe you should focus on stopping terrorism. The Justice Department is one of the most corrupt institutions in the USA." [Twitter, @WendyRogersAZ, 01/11/21]

Wendy Rogers Claims George Soros "Spent A Fortune" Regarding The 2020 Election While Continuing To Push For More Audits And Decertification. "I am fighting hard to audit the rest of Arizona. I am fighting hard for arrests and perp walks. I am fighting hard for decertification. I am fighting hard to pass bills that fix 2020. I have called for a special session. I voted against Sine Die. Soros spent a fortune" [Twitter, @WendyRogersAZ, <u>11/29/21</u>]

#### Wendy Rogers Blamed Insurrectionist Ashli Babbitt's Death On Congress.

**Wendy Rogers Blamed Congress For The Death Of Insurrectionist Ashli Babbitt.** "Congress caused the killing of a peaceful unarmed Air Force veteran today because of their ignoring of the requests from the people. She was shot her in the neck & is now deceased. All they had to do was allow for an audit of the machines and votes. This could have been avoided." [Twitter, @WendyRogersAZ, 01/06/21]

### Wendy Rogers Has Falsely Blamed "Radical Antifa Mobs" For The Violence On January 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Wendy Rogers Falsely Claimed The Insurrectionists Were "Radical Antifa Mobs."** "I condemn the radical Antifa mobs for attacking the Capitol and I condemn the Democrats for wanting to defund the very police who protected them." [Twitter, @WendyRogersAZ, 01/07/21]

#### Wendy Rogers Spoke At A QAnon Conference About The Partisan Election "Audit" With Mark Finchem, An Anti-Government Extremists Aligned With The Bundys And Hammonds

**Wendy Rogers Spoke Alongside Mark Finchem At A QAnon Conference About The Partisan** "Audit" In Arizona Of The 2020 Election. "Biasiucci and Rogers spoke alongside Rep. Mark Finchem, who is running for secretary of state, and Sen. Sonny Borrelli on a panel discussing the Arizona Senate's partisan "audit" of the 2020 election. That self-styled audit was marred by controversy and conducted by conspiracy theorists who had no background in elections or knowledge of Arizona election law. It found no evidence of the fraud that the four GOP legislators and tens of millions of Republican voters nationwide say stole the election from Donald Trump. Instead, the "audit" concluded that Joe Biden won Arizona." [AZ Mirror, 10/28/21]

- Arizona State Rep. Mark Finchem Is Aligned With Anti-Public Lands Extremists Including Hammonds And The Bundy Militia, Calling The Bureau Of Land Management "Bureaucratic Terrorism." "State Representative Mark Finchem served as "Arizona Coordinator" for the Coalition of Western States, a group that supported the infamous armed occupation of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in Oregon in 2016. The Coalition of Western States (COWS) describes itself as a group of elected legislators and "grass roots leaders" in the Western United States "dedicated to stopping federal overreach" and the "bureaucratic terrorism" of the Bureau of Land Management, according to a December 2015 news release from the organization. The group publicly backed the Hammond family of Oregon ranchers, whose dispute with the federal government over public land management inspired the armed militia occupation of the Oregon wildlife refuge. Some members of COWS met with the militia members and fed them information." [*Phoenix New Times*, 10/01/20]
- Mark Finchem Attended Pro-Trump Protests In Washington, DC On January 6<sup>th</sup>. ""We have substantial evidence that this election was a fraud in six states," Representative-Elect Mark Finchem, (R-LD 11) told to ABC15 Arizona, while walking the streets of Washington DC the morning of the riot. "If there's violence, it will be at the hands of Antifa."" [*ABC 15*, 01/07/21]

#### The Panel Wendy Rogers' Participated In Featured Conspiracy Theories And Antisemitism.

"The panel discussion opened up with a video by a company that makes QAnon memes and videos, many of which center on debunked conspiracies in them or antisemetic messaging. None of the legislators refuted any of the conspiratorial or antisemitic themes in the video. [...]

One video found by the Arizona Mirror that was created by the company used by Patriot Double Down stated that the Titanic disaster was a hoax, Hitler faked his death and babies blood is being harvested as part of a popular QAnon conspiracy about Hollywood elites. Another video also superimposed the Star of David among images of the 9/11 attacks." [AZ Mirror, 10/28/21]

#### Wendy Rogers Worked With And Praised Anti-Public Lands Extremists And Called For Eliminating Public Lands

Wendy Rogers Praised Opening Public Lands To Extractive Industries.

Wendy Rogers Praised The Trump Administration's Decisions To Open Offshore Waters And The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge For Drilling. "In Arizona's 1st Congressional District, incumbent Rep. Tom O'Halleran (D) defeated Wendy Rogers (R), who praised Trump's decision to open offshore waters and the pristine Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil and gas drilling." [HuffPost, <u>11/09/18</u>]

Wendy Rogers Praised The Pardoning Of The Hammonds, A Due Convicted Of Arson On Federal Land, While Attacking Federal Land Management

**Wendy Rogers Called For Eliminating Federal Public Lands.** "Glad to see this. Federal land grabs are a huge problem out here in the West. I will work to give federal lands back to the states when in Congress. #AZ01 #FlipAZ01" [Facebook, Wendy Rogers, <u>07/10/18</u>]

- The Hammonds Inspired The Armed Takeover Of Malheur National Wildlife Refuge. "President Trump signed full pardons on Tuesday for Oregon cattle ranchers Dwight Hammond Jr. and son Steven Hammond, whose long-running dispute with the federal government ended with prison sentences for arson — and later inspired the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge occupation. [...] Protesters who rallied to support the Hammonds included Ammon Bundy, who was part of the self-styled militia that broke into the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in 2016, beginning a 41-day standoff with the U.S. government over how it handles rangelands throughout the Western states." [NPR, <u>07/10/18</u>]
- The Hammonds Were Convicted Of Arson On Federal Public Lands In 2012. "The Hammonds were convicted in 2012 of setting fires that spread on government-managed land near their ranch. The elder Hammond was initially sentenced to three months in prison, while his son was ordered to a year and one day behind bars. But those sentences fell short of five-year minimums for arson committed against federal property. Prosecutors appealed, and the Hammonds were ordered to serve the full five-year terms." [NPR, <u>07/10/18</u>]

Phil Lyman, The Leader Of An Illegal ATV Protest In Support Of The Bundy Militia, Signed On To Wendy Rogers' "Election Integrity Caucus."

Anti-Public Lands Extremists Phil Lyman Is A Member Of Wendy Rogers' "Election Integrity Caucus." "Rep. Steve Christiansen, R-West Jordan, and Rep. Phil Lyman, R-Blanding, are among 41 state legislators nationwide who are part of an "election integrity caucus" formed by Arizona state Sen. Wendy Rogers." [Salt Lake Tribune, 09/29/21]

- Utah Legislator And Then-County Commissioner Phil Lyman Staged An Illegal ATV Protest In Utah's Archeologically-Significant Recapture Canyon In 2014. "On paper, Phil Lyman, Commissioner of San Juan County, Utah, comes across a bit like a standard libertarian do-away-with-federal-land extremist. He speaks of 'first principles,' praises Cliven Bundy, the Nevada rancher who illegally grazes his cattle on public land, and he organized a May 10 ATV ride down a trail in Recapture Canyon, which is rich with archaeological sites and closed to motorized travel, to try to assert some local say over public lands. Lyman's plans for a protest ride were made public shortly after the fracas at Bundy's Bunkerville ranch..." [High Country News, 05/13/14]
- Recapture Canyon Is An Archeologically-Rich Area Sacred To The Navajo People. "Protesters who say the Bureau of Land Management has no right to criminalize use of ATVs in Utah's Recapture Canyon plan to demonstrate today by illegally riding their vehicles through the protected land - a move that has drawn the ire of Native Americans and displaced a veterans retreat. [...] 'This opportunity for healing, to help these men and women has been postponed due to the threats of illegal activities by San Juan County Commissioner Phil Lyman on behalf of those who desire to drive their ATV toys over the sacred ruins of others,' wrote Greyeyes in a letter to The Salt Lake Tribune." [UPI, <u>05/10/14</u>]

#### **Yvette Herrell**



Source: <u>Rep. Yvette Herrell</u>

**SUMMARY:** Representative Yvette Herrell has a long history of opposing public lands, and has promoted legislation whilst in New Mexico's state legislature that would have **eliminated federal public lands in New Mexico for industrial use.** She has repeatedly criticized President Biden's policies on federal lands, including recommendations from the Interior Department's leasing report, and has been an **adamant supporter of oil and gas leasing on federal lands**.

Herrell also openly called into question the legitimacy of the 2020 election, voting against certifying the election and that **"unconstitutional election changes in numerous states disenfranchised my constituents in New Mexico."** Herrell also **voted against creating an independent commission to investigate the January 6<sup>th</sup> attacks,** and touted her endorsement from a group whose leader was later arrested for his role in that day's violence.

Herrell Has Expressed Her Belief That The 2020 Election Was Stolen, Objected To Certifying The Vote, And Has Close Ties To Insurrectionists Who Attacked The Capitol.

#### <u>Yvette Herrell Believes That The 2020 Election Was Stolen And Has Close</u> <u>Ties ToThe Insurrectionists Who Attacked The Capitol On January 6.</u>

Yvette Herrell Voted Against Certifying The Results Of The 2020 Election
**Yvette Herrell Objected To Certifying Joe Biden's Electoral Victory.** "[Newly-elected] Congresswoman Yvette Herrell pledged to object to certification of Joe Biden's Electoral College victory on Jan. 6... Herrell's campaign said the congresswoman will 'object in order to shed light on the numerous cases of irregularities and unlawful procedures used by several state governments during the election.' The campaign said she is objecting because 'millions of Americans feel like this election was not conducted with integrity and fairness.''' [KOB.com, <u>01/01/21</u>]

#### Yvette Herrell: "I Kept My Promise To Object To The Certification Of The Electoral College

**Tallies.**" "Late last night, I kept my promise to object to the certification of the Electoral College tallies from the two states for which votes were permitted: Arizona and Pennsylvania. No other objections for any other state, including New Mexico, had the required backing of at least one U.S. Senator that would have allowed a vote on the House floor. The unconstitutional election changes in numerous states disenfranchised my constituents in New Mexico. I hope that by joining so many of my House colleagues in objecting we can shed light on the problems with the 2020 election and move towards solutions that restore integrity and confidence to our electoral system." [KTSM.com, 01/07/21]

## Yvette Herrell Was Endorsed By A Group That Participated In The January 6 Attack On The Capitol And Voted Against Investigating The Attack On The Capitol

**Herrell Voted Against Creating An Independent Commission To Investigate January 6<sup>th</sup> Attacks.** "Pointing to investigations already underway, U.S. Rep. Yvette Herrell voted Wednesday against the creation of an independent commission to investigate the Jan. 6 assault on the U.S. Capitol... Herrell, R-N.M., said bipartisan hearings conducted by the Senate have been enough, and she said the FBI and other law enforcement agencies are also investigating the riots which occurred the day of the congressional certification of President Joe Biden's election win." [Las Cruces Sun News, <u>05/21/21</u>]

Herrell Was Endorsed By Cowboys For Trump, A Group Who's Founder Was Arrested In Connection With The January 6<sup>th</sup> Insurrection. "U.S. Rep. Yvette Herrell, R-N.M., put distance between herself and one of her most flamboyant political supporters Monday as her campaign's social media account deleted posts highlighting the endorsement of Cowboys for Trump and the group's founder, Couy Griffin... Herrell had posted on her campaign Facebook page that 'Cowboys For Trump is truly oneof the endorsements I am most proud of! Keep up the great work, Couy!' But on Monday, the post had been removed. Griffin, an Otero County, N.M. commissioner from Tularosa, was arrested by the FBI in Washington, D.C. over the weekend on charges stemming from the Jan. 6 riot at the U.S. Capitol. Griffinspoke openly about his presence at the Capitol during the riot, including in a video, posted to social media, shot in the midst of the event. An arrest affidavit quotes from another video in which Griffin vowed to return to the Capitol on Jan. 20, the day President-elect Joe Biden is to be inaugurated." [Las Cruces Sun News, <u>01/18/21</u>] Herrell Has Called For The Elimination Of Federal Public Lands, And Has Opposed All Biden Plans On Federal Leasing.

## **Rep. Yvette Herrell Is An Anti-Lands Extremist Who Has Called For The Elimination Of Federal Public Lands**

*Yvette Herrell Sponsored A Bill To Dispose Of Millions Of Acres Of Public Lands In New Mexico* 

**Yvette Herrell Sponsored Legislation In 2013 That Proposed Transferring Millions Of Acres Of Federal Public Land To New Mexico.** "New legislation was introduced in the New Mexico Legislature that proposes to shift management of public lands from the federal government to that of the state. If the idea sounds familiar, it's because it was patterned after Utah's own 'Transfer of Public Lands Act' that Gov. Gary Herbert signed on March 23, 2012. [...] Sponsored by N.M. Rep. Yvette Herrell and co-sponsored by a handful of others, the bill proposes transferring millions of acres of federal land over to the state, with the notable exceptions of national parks, national monuments, tribal lands, and so forth. The transfer of lands would be overseen by a task force which, if the bill passes as drafted, will hold its first meeting sometime before July 1, 2013, and will be disbanded by July 1, 2016." [*St. George News*, 01/30/13]

• Yvette Herrell's Anti-Public Lands Bills Died In The Legislature And Were Opposed By Sportsmen And Other Public Lands Users. "Sportsmen, hikers and mountain bikers plan to lobby lawmakers at the state Capitol on Thursday against bills that seek transfer of federal public lands to state control. [...] Rep. Yvette Herrell, R-Alamogordo, introduced bills in past sessions to study transferring federal lands to the state, but those bills died. Proponents of transferring federal lands say the state would do a better job of managing the lands and potentially earn more revenue from development, logging, grazing, and oil and gas royalties. Sportsmen think state control over federal lands is a bad deal for hunters, anglers and others." [Santa Fe New Mexican, 01/28/15]

Herrell Said Eliminating Public Lands Was Necessary Because "We Are Not Getting The Full Use Of The Land". "Legislation that would move the ownership and management of U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management lands in New Mexico to the state has been introduced at the Roundhouse. The Transfer of Public Lands Act is sponsored by Rep. Yvette Herrell, R-Alamogordo, and Sen. Richard C. Martinez, D-Espanola. In a prepared statement, Herrell said New Mexico has a rich history of farming, ranching, hunting, fishing and oil drilling... [Herrell commented,] 'we are currently not getting the full use of the land that could be available. Instead, we are paying a management fee to the federal government in order to allow them to make the rules on how our land is used." [Ruidoso News, 01/31/13]

## Rep. Yvette Herrel Has Opposed Any Biden Administration Policies On PublicLands Leasing

## Herrell Mischaracterizes Biden Policies As A Ban. In Truth, Leasing Continues

**Herrell Mischaracterized Biden Conservation Policies As A "Ban" On Oil And Gas Leasing.** "New Mexico, like many other Western states, is a checkerboard of state, federal, tribal and private lands," Herrell wrote. 'That equilibrium has now been damaged by the ban on new leases on federal lands. An attack on the oil and gas industry is an attack on the future economic sustainability of our state and future of our children.'" [Carlsbad Current-Argus, <u>04/20/21</u>]

• Herrell Tweeted That She Cosponsored The Saving America's Energy Future Act "To Prevent The Biden Admin From Placing A Moratorium On New Oil & Gas Leases On Federal Land." "This 60-day fracking ban cannot be allowed to become a permanent ban. I've cosponsored @RepPfluger's Saving America's Energy Future Act to prevent the Biden admin from placing a moratorium on new oil & gas leases on federal land." [Twitter, 01/21/21]

Herrell Claimed That Renewable Projects On Federal Land Would Fail To Provide As Much Revenue As Oil And Gas Leases For New Mexico's Budget. "Even optimistic estimates for land-lease payments and taxes on proposed wind and solar projects fail to fill the hole the loss of oil and gas revenue will leave in our state budget if the #BidenBan remains in place." [Twitter, <u>03/29/21</u>]

## **Cliven Bundy**



Source: <u>NPR</u>

**SUMMARY:** Cliven Bundy is a rancher and anti-public lands extremist who is most well-known for the armed standoff he led against the federal government in 2014 over defaulted public lands grazing fees. Bundy had grazed cattle on public lands for years without paying, resulting in over \$1 million in outstanding grazing fees. Cliven is the father of Ammon Bundy, who organized a subsequent standoff in Oregon in 2016 over federal land management.

In addition to his well-documented history of anti-public lands comments and stances, Bundy supported the January 6 attempted insurrection. He praised the rioters who stormed the capitol. Bundy even said the rioters should have stayed in the capitol until Congress listened to them an overturned the 2020 election results.

Cliven Bundy Has Long Been The Dean Of Anti Public Lands Extremism. Now He's Backing The January 6 Insurrection Attempt

## <u>Cliven Bundy Took To Facebook And Later Commented On The January 6</u> <u>Riots InInterviews, Lavishing Praise On The Rioters And Scorning Congress</u> <u>For Certifying The Vote.</u>

#### Bundy Is A Rancher And Longtime Opponent To Public Lands

**Cliven Bundy Is A Nevada Rancher And Anti-Government Extremist Who Has Opposed Public Lands For Decades.** "For 20 years, Nevada rancher Cliven Bundy defied the federal government by letting his cattle graze on federal lands without paying the proper fees. [...] Bundy wouldn't admit that the federal government owns the land at all, saying, 'I abide by almost zero federal laws.' He also said in the

past that he believes the land belongs to the state, and that the federal government has no business being there." [Vox, 05/14/15]

Cliven Bundy Posted A Message In Support Of The January 6 <sup>th</sup> Violence On Facebook, Remarking, "You Can't Clean The Swamp By Standing Off At A Distance And Smelling It."

e Bundy Ranch on Wednesday	Ø
You can't clean the swamp by standing off at a distance and smelling Bundy Ranch we had a job to do, go get it done, and We the People v forward and finished the job.	
Today President Trump had hundreds of thousands of people and he pointed the way - pointed towards congress and nodded his head go job done. We the People did clear the chambers of Congress and 100 should have spent the night in the halls and 100,000 should have pro- them.	0,000
Trump blew his trump of retreat and the sun goes down.	
Cliven D Bundy	

[High Country News, 01/08/21]

**Bundy Expanded On His January 6<sup>th</sup> Comments, Claiming He Would Have Kept Trump Supporters Inside The Capitol, "Until Congress Was Ready To Listen."** "In an interview with the USA TODAY Network, Bundy expanded his comments to add he would have kept Trump supporters inside 'until Congress was ready to listen... Where's justice in this land?' Bundy said." [Reno Gazette Journal, <u>01/08/21</u>]

**Bundy Praised The Capitol Rioters, But Said They Should Have Never Left.** "Bundy praised the Capitol rioters — the 'million, 100 million … maybe 3 million' (there were actually thousands) who heeded <u>Donald Trump</u>'s call to 'go and get the job done,' he said. The rancher said the rioters 'acted like patriots.' But they 'should never have left' the Capitol, he said, adding, 'I don't care how many troops they bring in.' Bundy said lawmakers shouldn't have been allowed to do their work until they were ready to do what the rioters demanded. Instead, the 'rotten buggers went about their dirty business,' he complained, and certified electoral vote results from a fair presidential election." [Huffpost.com, 01/18/21]

The Author Of A Recent Book About Bundy Claimed The January 6<sup>th</sup> Movement Was Empowered By Bundy's Acquittal For The BLM Standoff In 2014.

#### Author Of Book On Bundy Cited Acquittal Of Charges For Bunkerville Occupation As

**Empowering January 6<sup>th</sup> Movement.** "Those actions — and the inability of federal prosecutors to secure convictions for leaders of the Bunkerville and Malheur occupations, who clearly threatened federal agents and held federal land at gunpoint — emboldened anti-government extremists. After the acquittals,

the movement felt vindicated and victorious. 'It's a very heady thing to be involved in,' said Betsy Gaines Quammen, the author of American Zion: Cliven Bundy, God and Public Lands in the West. 'It was pivotal in empowering this movement and laid the groundwork for what we saw (on Jan. 6 in the Capitol),' she said." [High Country News, 01/08/21]

# Cliven Bundy Is Most Well Known For His Ardent Opposition To Federal Management Of Public Lands

## <u>Cliven Bundy's Staged An Armed Standoff Against The Federal</u> <u>Government InAfter Spending 20 Years Trying To Dodge Grazing Fees On</u> <u>Public Lands</u>

## Bundy Owed The Government Over \$1 Million And The Standoff Began After The BLM Confiscated His Cattle

**Bundy's Standoff With The BLM Began After They Confiscated His Cattle For Grazing On Federal Land Without Paying A Grazing Fee.** "For decades leading up to the spring 2014 confrontation, Cliven Bundy's cattle grazed on land near his Nevada ranch. But in 1993, the Bureau of Land Management increased its restrictions on grazing — in part to protect the then-endangered desert tortoise — and required Bundy to pay a fee if he wanted to keep grazing on federal land. Bundy simply refused to pay, and continued to graze his cattle there anyway. (He decided to submit a check to the county government instead, in protest of the feds, but the county returned it because of lack of jurisdiction.) In response, the federal government fined him, and he wouldn't pay that either. As of early 2014, he owed \$1 million in unpaid fees and fines, according to the BLM... On April 5, 2014, the Bureau of Land Management began confiscating the cattle Cliven Bundy had grazing on federal land. The BLM did so under authority given by a Nevada federal district court judge, and it planned to auction off the cattle later on... More than 100 cattle were confiscated that first weekend, and Bundy's son Dave was arrested for refusing to leave the temporarily closed federal lands. So, on the night of April 6, 2014, Bundy posted a message on the Bundy Ranch website: 'They have my cattle and now they have one of my boys. Range War begins tomorrow.''' [Vox, 05/14/15]

## Bundy Argued That The Federal Government Can't Own Or Manage Public Land, AClaim The Judge Said Was "Delusional"

**Bundy Claimed That The Federal Government "Has Nothing To Do With Public Land In Nevada."** "For two decades, Bundy's cattle have fed off government-owned land without paying grazing fees like thousands of other ranchers. He claims he won't do business with the federal government because, in his view, the Constitution doesn't say Americans can't use land owned by the federal government. He said he'd be willing to talk with state and local authorities. 'I'll be damned if this is the property of the United States. They have no business here,' he said on 'New Day.' 'This is a sovereign state, the sovereign state of Nevada. The federal government has nothing to do with public land in Nevada.' He said other ranchers are as frustrated as he is." [CNN, 04/25/14] A Nevada Judge Called Bundy's Legal Claims About Federal Land "Delusional." A Nevada judge has dismissed a lawsuit by rancher Cliven Bundy that had sought to declare that all Nevada's public lands belong to the state. The lands included the federal allotment in Bunkerville where Bundy grazes cattle without a permit. Nevada District Judge Jim Crockett called the Bundy patriarch's contention 'simply delusional.' He dismissed all of Bundy's claims in a ruling made public Tuesday. The judge noted that three prior court decisions have rejected Bundy's same arguments." [*The Oregonian*, 04/09/19]

## **Ammon Bundy**



Source: <u>ABC News</u>

**SUMMARY:** Ammon Bundy is an anti-government activist with a lengthy history opposing public lands management. Bundy has been involved in multiple armed standoffs against the government, including one in Nevada organized by his father, Cliven, and one in Oregon that Ammon organized, which resulted in one death and many arrests.

Bundy started a far-right anti-government group called "People's Rights," which has opposing Federal land management as one of its primary tenets. At least one of People's Rights former members was arrested for her involvement at the insurrection attempt at the Capitol on January 6.

Ammon Bundy believes that his string of anti-government standoffs may have inspired the rioters who stormed the US Capitol on January 6, 2021. Bundy also encouraged his group's members to travel to D.C. and use the rally as a recruitment opportunity.

Though Bundy was not in Washington, DC on January 6, he has prior experience storming capitol buildings. He led a group of rioters who broke into the Idaho Capitol in 2020.

Ammon Bundy Is A Long Time Anti-Government Activist Who Says His Protests May Have Inspired The Rioters At The Capitol. Bundy Urged His Followers To Travel To D.C. Ahead Of January 6<sup>th</sup> To Recruit New Members.

# Ammon Bundy Is An Anti-Government Militant Who Urged His Followers To Travel To D.C. To Recruit Members In Advance Of The January 6 Attack On TheUS Capitol

**Ammon Bundy Urged People To Travel To D.C. Ahead Of January 6**<sup>th</sup>. "Late last month, he posted a video urging his followers to go to Washington on Jan. 6. 'God bless you, drive safe, fly safe, don't wear a mask and stand for freedom,' Bundy said." [Northwest Public Broadcasting, <u>01/12/21</u>]

**Bundy Encouraged Members Of His Group To Attend The January 6<sup>th</sup> Rally To Recruit New Members, But Allegedly Condemned The Siege On The Capitol.** "[Bundy] encouraged his followers to go to Washington for the now-infamous Jan. 6 rally to distribute leaflets and display People's Rights banners to recruit more members. He said he condemned the siege on the Capitol." [LA Times, <u>02/09/21</u>]

**Group That Bundy Started Allegedly Told Members Attending January 6<sup>th</sup> Events To Use The Pro-Trump Rally That Day As A Recruitment tool.** "The People's Rights organization actively encouraged members who were planning to attend a pro-Trump rally on the day of the insurrection to use the event as a recruiting tool." [AP News, <u>08/04/21</u>]

**Member Of Group That Bundy Started Was Arrested In Connection With January 6** <sup>th</sup> **Riots.** "An Idaho woman has been charged with four misdemeanors after prosecutors said she participated in the Jan. 6 insurrection at the U.S. Capitol by loyalists of then-President Donald Trump. Like many other defendants who have been charged in connection with the siege, Pam Hemphill of Boise posted videos to social media sites that showed her in Washington, D.C., in the days surrounding the insurrection and at the Capitol when it was happening... Hemphill was an early and avid member of People's Rights, a far-right organization launched by antigovernment activist Ammon Bundy." [AP News, <u>08/04/21</u>]

# Bundy Claimed His Protests At The Idaho Capitol In 2020 May Have Inspired January 6<sup>th</sup> Rioters, And Others Have Referred To His Previous Standoffs WithThe Government As "Dress Rehearsals" For The Violence At The Capitol.

**Bundy Claimed His Group's Actions At The Idaho State House In 2020 May Have Inspired The D.C. Events On January 6<sup>th</sup>.** "People's Rights members were also part of a large group that protested at the Idaho Statehouse during a special legislative session in August 2020. In that case, angry protesters forced their way into an Idaho House gallery with limited seating, shattering the window of a door in the process. Bundy, who is running for Idaho governor in a crowded Republican primary, later said his Idaho protests may have inspired those involved in the Washington, D.C., siege." [AP News, <u>08/04/21</u>]

**Director Of Center For Western Priorities Called Bundy's Standoffs With The Government "Dress Rehearsals" For January 6<sup>th</sup>." "Given the lack of long-term consequences for the Bundys, Malheur and Bunkerville were 'dress rehearsals for what we saw on January 6,' said [Aaron] Weiss, who holds a** 

particular contempt for Ammon. Weiss came down with covid just days before he was scheduled to get a vaccine. He was still on oxygen when we spoke in April, and he sees Bundy's encouragement that his

followers resist mask mandates as homicidal. 'These are the same groups, the same extremist militias that we saw at Malheur, that we saw at Bunkerville. There's a straight line from what happened in both Oregon and Nevada to what happened in Washington, DC.''' [Mother Jones, <u>07/26/21</u>]

Bundy's Anti-Public Lands Stances Have Led To Armed Standoffs With The Government, And They Are Now A Major Part Of His Campaign Platform For Governor Of Idaho.

## Bundy's Anti-Public Lands Stances, Which Are Drawn From A Mormon Anti-Communist Crusader Who Wanted To Abolish The BLM, Have Led To Multiple Standoffs With The Government, And The Death Of An Individual DuringThe Armed Standoff That Bundy Led In Oregon.

**Bundy Is Allegedly A Longtime Follower Of W. Cleon Skousing, A Mormon Anti-Communist Crusader Who Believes The BLM Should Be Abolished.** "Bundy started by pulling out his pocket Constitution... This particular Constitution was published by the Idaho-based National Center for Constitutional Studies. The group was founded by the late W. Cleon Skousen, a Mormon anti-Communist crusader and conspiracy theorist whose work provided the intellectual framework for Glenn Beck's tea party dogma. It was Skousen who popularized the myth that the Constitution doesn't allow the federal government to own public land of any sort—especially not national parks, forests, or wilderness areas. He also called for the BLM to be abolished. The Bundys are longtime devotees of Skousen." [Mother Jones, <u>07/26/21</u>]

**Bundy Led The Malheur Armed Standoff Against The Government In Oregon In 2016, Which Resulted In The Death Of His Friend And Bundy's Arrest.** "In 2016, Ammon traveled to Oregon—claiming the Lord had sent him—where he led a 41-day armed takeover of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge to protest the reincarceration of two local ranchers who'd been convicted of arson on public land. During the occupation, Bundy's friend, a rancher named LaVoy Finicum, tried to charge a police blockade. Officers shot Finicum dead as he appeared to reach for his gun, yelling, 'Just shoot me!' Only then were Ammon, Cliven, and several Bundy siblings arrested and charged for their roles in the earlier Nevada standoff. Ammon and his brother Ryan were also charged for the Malheur takeover. But the Lord delivered: An Oregon federal jury stunned observers by acquitting the Bundys. The Nevada case ended in a mistrial after the judge ruled that prosecutors had engaged in 'gross misconduct' by improperly withholding evidence from the defense." [Mother Jones, <u>07/26/21</u>]

## Bundy's Campaign Website Touts His Desire To Take Back Idaho's Land, And ToUtilize Idaho's Natural Gas Resources Which Are Currently Under Federal Control.

**Part Of Bundy's Campaign Platform For Governor Of Idaho Calls For "Taking Back Idaho's Land."** On Bundy's campaign website, he discusses his plan to take back Idaho's land, writing, "Look, if it's our land, then it's our land. That land represents brand new cities, houses, businesses, mines, gold, silver, restaurants, resorts, telecom, roads, infrastructure, schools, churches, hospitals, non-profits, and all the jobs that go along with that. But right now, it sits mostly empty and useless. Every state in the country that has access to the largest portion of its own land is economically prosperous. Those that don't are economically stagnated. Idaho is included in that stagnant number. This is the main contributing factor to Idaho being a 'welfare state,' meaning we receive more money from the Federal Government than we send to them, which forces us into undue obedience to Washington D.C. in order to pay our own bills." [Votebundy.com, Accessed 12/09/21]

**Bundy Laments On His Website Over Idaho's Inability To Utilize Its Natural Gas Resources Due To Much Of Its Land Being Federal.** "Think about the states right now that are prospering like North Dakota, South Dakota, Texas, and others...what is the source of their economic prosperity? It's oil and natural gas. In short—energy! And guess what? Idaho has a tremendous amount of natural gas available within its borders. But, we can't get to it because the federal government won't let us." [Votebundy.com, Accessed <u>12/09/21</u>]

**Bundy Writes On His Website That He Will "See To It That The State Of Idaho Reclaims Our Own** Land That Is Rightfully Ours." "As governor, I will see to it that the State of Idaho reclaims our own land that is rightfully ours. Idaho can manage its own land. We don't need the federal government bullying us around and telling us what we can and can't do with our own land. So, let's use our land properly and efficiently and watch our economy explode here in Idaho. And my record and history demonstrate that I am willing to fight the feds to the very end to ensure that land rights stay with those to whom they properly belong!" [Votebundy.com, Accessed <u>12/09/21</u>]

**Bundy Tweeted About A Campaign Event Where He Would Be Discussing His Plan To Eliminate Federal Land Control.** "TWIN FALLS! You don't wanna miss this! Come hear Ammon's plans to eliminate property tax, federal land control & abortion, while securing liberty in Idaho. Now is your chance to meet & talk to him yourself. Nov 18th, 7pm in Twin Falls at Radio Rondevoo. 247 Main Avenue West." [Twitter, <u>11/14/21</u>]

## **Utah State Rep Phil Lyman**



Source: <u>Utah House Of Representatives</u>

**SUMMARY:** Utah State Representative Phil Lyman is a major opponent to federal public lands. Lyman has routinely taken extreme stances and fought to eliminate public lands protections.

Phil Lyman gained notoriety in 2014 with an illegal ATV ride through protected land sacred to the Navajo. Lyman was convicted and sentenced to brief time in jail, but was later pardoned by President Trump. Lyman praised the Bundy militia's occupation of Malheur Wildlife Refuge and argued that "shots will be fired" if things didn't change.

Phil Lyman continued his extremism through the 2020 election and perpetuated lies about election fraud. Lyman has aligned himself with Oath Keeper Wendy Rogers and praised former National Security Advisory Michael Flynn, a Trump official who pushed for martial law and supports a coup in the U.S. Lyman has tried to divert blame from January 6<sup>th</sup> insurrectionists and defended people willing to "stand up to power" just days after the violent capitol invasion.

Phil Lyman Became A Utah State Congressman After Leading An Illegal Anti-Public Lands ATV Ride, Spending His Time In Office Spreading Lies About The 2020 Election And Praising Insurrectionists.

#### Phil Lyman Is A Member Of The Utah State House Of Representatives

Phil Lyman Is A Utah State Representative Serving The State's 73<sup>rd</sup> District. [Utah House Of Representatives, Phil Lyman, accessed <u>12/10/21</u>]

• Phil Lyman Was The San Juan County Commissioner In Utah. "Four days of trial ended late Friday with guilty verdicts against San Juan County Commissioner Phil Lyman and one of his three co-defendants in an illegal ATV ride through Utah's Recapture Canyon." [*Salt Lake Tribune*, 05/02/15]

## Phil Lyman Has Spent Years Fighting To Eliminate Federal Public Lands Altogether.

Phil Lyman Requested State Funding For The American Lands Council, A Group Dedicated To Eliminating Federal Public Lands.

Phil Lyman Requested A Utah Legislative Appropriation For The American Lands Council, But He Didn't Say For How Much. Phil Lyman said, "In our Constitutional Defense Council meeting, that was the topic, is sovereign jurisdiction or original jurisdiction, and the Constitutional defense council felt it was in our best interest to get that question asked and answered at the Supreme Court, to find out, does the state have original jurisdiction, or do we not? And if we could answer that question, it would make all the difference. The state is pursuing that, and in conjunction with that, the American Lands Council, who have been great, they're kind of a result of this whole effort. And they've been extremely active, volunteering, and working very, very hard to get the message out. And the constitutional defense council felt that their effort would be very helpful running in advance of our effort to get a supreme court determination on original jurisdiction. So they've asked for some funding, and I've come to present that issue. So that's my presentation." [Utah Natural Resources Appropriations Committee, 02/14/20] (2:08:39)

• The American Lands Council Was Created By Ken Ivory, A Utah Legislator, To Use "Political Persuasion, Legislation, and Litigation" To Eliminate Federal Public Lands. "Ivory created the American Lands Council, a tax-exempt nonprofit, in 2012, along with Elko, Nev., County Commissioner Demar Dahl at a brief meeting at Salt Lake City International Airport. According to its mission statement, the group 'channels the cooperative efforts of state and local governments, businesses, organizations, and individuals to secure and defend local control of land access, land use, and land ownership through: I. Education; II. Political Persuasion; III. Legislation (Local, State and National); IV. Litigation." [The Salt Lake Tribune, <u>05/19/14</u>]

### Phil Lyman Was A "Key Player" In Rolling Back The Boundaries Of The Bears Ears And Grand Staircase Escalante National Monuments

**Phil Lyman Was A Key Player In Lobbying The Trump Administration To "Eviscerate" The Bears Ears And Grand Staircase Escalante National Monuments.** "The effort notched its greatest victory in late 2017, when the Utah congressional delegation, mining companies, and local officials persuaded President Trump to eviscerate Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monuments, which former President Obama had created in the southern part of the state. A key player in the lobbying effort was Phil Lyman, then a San Juan County commissioner, and a passionate proponent of local control." [*Mother Jones*, <u>12/29/20</u>]

### <u>Phil Lyman Led An Illegal Anti-Government ATV Protest Through Land That's</u> <u>Sacred To The Navajo People.</u>

**Utah Legislator And Then-County Commissioner Phil Lyman Staged An Illegal ATV Protest In Utah's Archeologically-Significant Recapture Canyon In 2014.** "On paper, Phil Lyman, Commissioner of San Juan County, Utah, comes across a bit like a standard libertarian do-away-with-federal-land extremist. He speaks of 'first principles,' praises Cliven Bundy, the Nevada rancher who illegally grazes his cattle on public land, and he organized a May 10 ATV ride down a trail in Recapture Canyon, which is rich with archaeological sites and closed to motorized travel, to try to assert some local say over public lands. Lyman's plans for a protest ride were made public shortly after the fracas at Bundy's Bunkerville ranch…" [High Country News, 05/13/14]

- Recapture Canyon Is An Archeologically-Rich Area Sacred To The Navajo People. "Protesters who say the Bureau of Land Management has no right to criminalize use of ATVs in Utah's Recapture Canyon plan to demonstrate today by illegally riding their vehicles through the protected land - a move that has drawn the ire of Native Americans and displaced a veterans retreat. [...] 'This opportunity for healing, to help these men and women has been postponed due to the threats of illegal activities by San Juan County Commissioner Phil Lyman on behalf of those who desire to drive their ATV toys over the sacred ruins of others,' wrote Greyeyes in a letter to The Salt Lake Tribune." [UPI, 05/10/14]
- A Federal Judge Convicted Lyman And Ordered Him To Pay Nearly \$100,000 In Damages That The Group Caused To Archeological Sites. "A federal judge Wednesday ordered San Juan County Commissioner Phil Lyman to pay for damage to a closed southern Utah canyon caused during an illegal ATV protest ride. Lyman and Monticello City Councilman Monte Wells were hit with a \$95,955.61 bill for assessing and repairing riparian areas and archeological sites in Recapture Canyon. The two men were earlier convicted of conspiring to organize and lead at least 32 others over a road that is off limits to motorized vehicles. [...] Lyman and Wells declined to comment as they hurriedly left the courthouse." [Deseret News, 10/28/15]

### Phil Lyman Continued to Dismiss Charges Against Him As A "Farce" And Obstruct Court Orders In The Months Leading Up To His Presidential Pardon By Donald Trump.

**Phil Lyman Was Pardoned By President Donald Trump In December 2020.** "President Donald Trump pardoned 15 people on Tuesday, including state Rep. Phil Lyman. Lyman (R-District 73) was convicted for organizing an ATV protest in Recapture Canyon in southern Utah in 2014 in an attempt to challenge federal management of public lands." [*KUTV*, <u>12/22/20</u>]

**Phil Lyman Has Repeatedly Refused In Hand Over His Tax Returns To US Courts In Continued Legal Battles Over His Illegal ATV Ride Through Recapture Canyon.** "U.S. Attorney John Huber and Assistant Attorney Allison J.P. Moon are seeking his tax documents to determine whether Lyman's restitution payments should be higher. The lawmaker led a 2014 protest of about 50 ATV riders down Recapture Canyon near Blanding, which the Bureau of Land Management closed to motorized traffic. A federal court convicted Lyman of a misdemeanor in 2015 and ordered him to pay \$95,955.61 in damages. He also spent 10 days in jail. Lyman, a certified public accountant, is currently making \$100 payments each month. In October 2019, the court ordered him to turn over tax returns from 2017 to 2019 by May 1, 2020, to determine his financial situation. That deadline came and went, as well as an extension, without the documents being turned over. Lyman also stopped responding to emails from Moon." [*Salt Lake Tribune*, 09/17/20]

**Phil Lyman Called The Charges Against Him A "Farce."** "He called his past charges a "farce," adding that he nevertheless "consistently paid my ordered restitution" even though he sees it as "nothing more than payment of extortion." [*Salt Lake Tribune*, <u>09/17/20</u>]

**Phil Lyman Sued The Bureau Of Land Management For \$10M Over His Arrest, Baselessly Citing The Bureau's "Collusion With Media."** "Acting as his own attorney, Rep. Phil Lyman filed the lawsuit in U.S. District Court Friday against the Bureau of Land Management. He is seeking \$10 million in damages he claims suffered to his reputation, business and political relationships. "The BLM's collusion with media, the U.S. attorney's office, special interest groups was malicious, knowingly inaccurate, and calculated as an effective form of character assassination against Mr. Lyman," the lawsuit said." [*Associated Press*, <u>11/13/19</u>]

### Phil Lyman Has Empathized With Violent Anti-Lands Protests, Defending The Bundy Militia At Malheur Wildlife Refuge And Threatening Gunfire If Things Don't Change...

Phil Lyman Said "Shots Will Be Fired" If Things Don't Change Regarding The Federal Government And Land

**Phil Lyman Threatened That There Would Be Violence If "Things Don't Change" In The Federal Government And Land Management.** ""If things don't change, it's not long before shots will be fired," Lyman said, joining other conservative lawmakers such as Chaffetz in warning of violence if the federal government didn't rein in the BLM. "We can avoid it. But it's not going to be by the people changing their attitudes and accepting more intrusion into their lives. It's going to be by the federal government acknowledging people's freedom."" {Southern Poverty Law Center, <u>07/10/14</u>]

Phil Lyman Praised The Bundy Militia's Occupation Of Malheur Wildlife Refuge, Staging His Protest Shortly After.

**Protest Leader Phil Lyman Praised Extremist Cliven Bundy, Organizing The ATV Event After Bundy Led An Armed Militia Against The Bureau Of Land Management.** "He speaks of "first principles," praises Cliven Bundy, the Nevada rancher who illegally grazes his cattle on public land, and he organized a May 10 ATV ride down a trail in Recapture Canyon, which is rich with archaeological sites and closed to motorized travel, to try to assert some local say over public lands. [...] Lyman's plans for a protest ride were made public shortly after the fracas at Bundy's Bunkerville ranch, in which armed militia members faced down Bureau of Land Management officers trying to round up Bundy's cows." [High Country News, 05/13/14]

## Phil Lyman Is Also A Supporter Of The January 6 Insurrection

#### Phil Lyman Praised Violent Protesters As Being "A Little Bit More Willing To Stand Up To Power" Days After The Insurrection And Compared "The Left And Big Tech" To Nazis

Days After The January 6<sup>th</sup> Insurrection, Phil Lyman Voiced His Support For Protests That Are Not "Agreeable All The Time," Speculating That Poland Could Have Fended Of Nazi Germany If People Were "A Little Bit More Willing To Stand Up To Power." "There's something in me that respects protest. It respects people who are willing to do more than sit at home and grumble about it. I look throughout history, you know, if people has been a little bit more willing to stand up to power... You know, in Warsaw, Poland, for example, during the Nazi invasion, you read about these things, and I'm not judging what they did [...] but if they had nipped that in the bud could they have changed the course of things and you're not going to do that by being agreeable all the time." [The Common Cause, 18:03, 01/09/21]

**Phil Lyman Compared The Outcry And Social Media Response To The Insurrection To The Nazi Regime.** "Sad parallel, but the left and big tech are using the same playbook that worked 90 years ago. Too many people are willingly fooled or pretend to be fooled and then attack the wrong target. False flags are nothing new." [Facebook, Phil Lyman, <u>01/10/21]</u>

• Headline: Nazis Used Reichstag Fire To Justify Silencing Opposition, Just Like The Left's Social Media Purge. [Facebook, Phil Lyman, 01/10/21]

**Phil Lyman Shared A Video Conflating Black Lives Matter Protests To The Insurrection And Arguing There Is A "Double Standard" For "Dangerous Rhetoric."** "I don't want to sow the seeds of hate and discontent, but seriously, when are we going to call this what it is? Those who are not up for the challenge, please step aside. Yes I am talking to you, Mitt, and to all the other RINOs propitiating to these swamp monsters." [Facebook, Phil Lyman, <u>02/13/21</u>]

• Ben Shapiro: WATCH: Outraged Leftists Have A Double Standard When It Comes to Dangerous Rhetoric. [Facebook, Phil Lyman, 02/13/21]

## Phil Lyman Has Perpetuated Myths About Election Fraud, Aligning Himself With Oath Keepers, QAnon Sycophants, And Coup-Supporters.

**Phil Lyman Has Pushed For An Audit Of The 2020 Election Despite No Evidence Of Fraud.** "Christiansen and state Rep. Phil Lyman were pushing the phony line that Utah needed a deep audit of the 2020 election, even though there is zero evidence that there was anything wrong with it. Legislative leaders — wisely, and at some political risk — quietly blew them off." [*Salt Lake Tribune*, <u>11/01/21</u>]

• Over A Year After The 2020 Election, Phil Lyman Continues To Perpetuated Baseless Claims About Election Fraud, Claiming Big Tech Companies Are Paying People To Say The Election Was Secure. "Election Integrity should be important to every state. (Or we could just keep taking Zucherbucks and saying that the 2020 elections were secure.) God bless Texas!" [Facebook, Phil Lyman, <u>11/19/21</u>] **Phil Lyman Praised Sydney Powell's Attempts To Overturn The 2020 Election.** "Everyone just be patient while Sydney Powell methodically dismantles the lying cheaters who are screaming that there was no lying and cheating." [Facebook, Phil Lyman, 11/14/20]

Phil Lyman Has Praised Michael Flynn – Trump's Former National Security Advisor That Called For A Coup In The U.S. – Speaking At A QAnon-Littered Conference Headlined By The Former Official.

**Phil Lyman Spoke About Election Fraud At A "Conspiracy-Fueled Conference" In October 2021 And Participated In Trump Sycophant Mike Lindell's August Symposium.** "In June, Christiansen traveled to Arizona to witness the audit firsthand. Both Christiansen and Rep. Phil Lyman, R-Blanding, were present at the August cyber symposium in South Dakota put on by My Pillow CEO Mike Lindell. He and Lyman spoke about election fraud at a conspiracy-fueled conference in Salt Lake City last week." [*Salt Lake Tribune*, <u>11/01/21</u>]

• The Conference Contained Multiple References To QAnon. "The right-wing conservative political conference also included multiple references to the QAnon conspiracy theory. The opening prayer asked for God's protection from a "satanic cabal." A central belief of QAnon is the world is run by a global child trafficking, Satan worshipping cabal. The opening prayer also referred to attendees as part of "the great awakening," which is an overt reference to a QAnon belief that mass arrests of government officials are coming." [*Salt Lake Tribune*, 10/22/21]

The October Conference Was Headlined By Michael Flynn, Trump's Former National Security Advisor That Encouraged Trump To Impose Martial Law Following The 2020 Election And Suggested A Coup Should Occur In The U.S. "The headline speaker was former national security adviser Michael Flynn, who was fired just a few weeks after being appointed to the position by former President Donald Trump. Flynn was a central figure in the postelection efforts to overturn the 2020 vote, suggesting that Trump impose martial law in several states to force a revote. More recently Flynn suggested a coup should take place in the U.S." [*Salt Lake Tribune*, 10/22/21]

**Phil Lyman Praised Michael Flynn.** "So proud of this great American General! The WeCANact Liberty Conference is about to kick off. You can attend virtually if not in person. Please sign in! Thanks General Flynn and all those who are ready for the next wave!" [Facebook, Phil Lyman, 10/22/21]

# Phil Lyman Signed On To An "Election Integrity Caucus" Led By Oath Keeper Wendy Rogers.

Anti-Public Lands Extremists Phil Lyman Is A Member Of Wendy Rogers' "Election Integrity Caucus." "Rep. Steve Christiansen, R-West Jordan, and Rep. Phil Lyman, R-Blanding, are among 41 state legislators nationwide who are part of an "election integrity caucus" formed by Arizona state Sen. Wendy Rogers." [Salt Lake Tribune, 09/29/21]

• Wendy Rogers Is An Arizona State Senator Representing The State's 6<sup>th</sup> Legislative District. [AZ Senate Republicans, Wendy Rogers, accessed <u>12/09/21</u>]

Wendy Rogers Is A Member Of The Oath Keepers, Praising Their "Dedication To Our Constitution And To Our Country" After The Insurrection. "Had a great time speaking to the Cottonwood Oathkeepers tonight. I am a member of the Oathkeepers and I really like their dedication to our Constitution and to our country. Thank you for having me!" [Twitter, @WendyRogersAZ, 03/06/21]

• Two Dozen People Connected To The Oath Keepers Have Been Charged With Crimes Related To Their Role In The January 6<sup>th</sup> Insurrection. "In the months since the Capitol insurrection, as two dozen people linked to the Oath Keepers have been charged with crimes, including conspiracy, for their roles, several of those elected officials have continued to voice support for the organization." [*Buzzfeed*, 10/20/21]

## Matt Rosendale



Source: Helena Independent Record

**SUMMARY:** Representative Matt Rosendale has long been an opponent of public lands, regularly voting against bills that would increase access to public lands while in the Montana legislature, and even touting in 2014 that, "I have long been on the record as an advocate for the transfer of federal public lands to the state." Rosendale wanted to have federal transfers of lands in Northwest Montana so that the state could log in protected areas, and supported legislation in 2011 that would have disallowed Montana from acquiring any new public lands.

Rosendale also was very vocal in his opposition to certifying the results of the 2020 election, claiming that there was widespread allegations of fraud and irregularities. Rosendale was one of the first Republicans to call for Liz Cheney to resign as Chair of the House Republican Congress for her support

for impeaching Donald Trump for inciting insurrection, and opposed the January 6<sup>th</sup> commission, claiming it was a political diversion. He was also one of 21 House Republicans who voted against a bill that would have awarded the Congressional Gold Medal to Capitol police officers who responded to the Jan. 6 Capitol siege.

US Rep. Matt Rosendale Publicly Opposed Certifying The Results Of The 2020 Election, Voted Against The January 6<sup>th</sup> Commission, And Called For Wyoming Rep. Liz Cheney's Resignation After She Supported Trump's Impeachment.

## Matt Rosendale Consistently Opposed Certifying The 2020 Election, CitingWidespread Fraud, But Has No Evidence

## Matt Rosendale Continued Believing The 2020 Election Was Marred By "Fraud And Irregularities" Even After January 6

**Rosendale Tweeted His Statement On His Opposition To Certifying The Vote, Claiming "It Is Clear That There Are Widespread Allegations Of Fraud And Irregularities In Many States."** Rosendale tweeted his statement on opposing certifying the vote, commenting, "It is clear that there are widespread allegations of fraud and irregularities in many states, and that these allegations have endangered the American people's faith in our electoral process... It's sad that Democrats and their lackeys in the media are so blinded by partisan hatred for President Trump that they're unable to live up to the precedent they have set and take appropriate action to safeguard our elections." [Twitter, <u>01/05/21</u>]

**Rosendale Continued To Oppose Certification Of Ballots, Even After January 6<sup>th</sup> Violence.** "Three days into his new role representing Montana's diverse 1 million residents as the state's only member of the U.S. House – and after a day of bloody insurrection – Rep. Matt Rosendale said he'd continue to oppose the certification of President-elect Joe Biden's win on Wednesday night... Despite the occupation and desecration of the U.S. Capitol and the violence that played out Wednesday, Rosendale stuck to his position and vowed to oppose the certification of ballots giving Biden the win. 'I will not be intimidated by mob violence from the left or the right. I will oppose certification of electors from certain disputed states,' Rosendale said in a statement." [Missoula Current, <u>01/06/21</u>]

### Matt Rosendale Could Not Cite Any Specific Instances Of Voter Fraud

**Rosendale Would Not Cite Specific Instance Of Voter Fraud Despite Opposition To Certifying The Vote.** "Both Rosendale and Daines had said there were credible voter fraud allegations before Wednesday, though neither identified a single instance despite being asked to. Both had planned to oppose the election results of states Trump lost." [Billings Gazette, <u>01/06/21</u>]

#### Matt Rosendale Lashed Out At Nancy Pelosi And The Media

**Rosendale Tweeted About The "Tyranny" Of Nancy Pelosi For Not Letting Every Republican Speak During The Vote Certification Process.** "In another example of her tyranny, @SpeakerPelosi tried to limit us to only 11 out of 211 Republican members on the floor while my colleagues and I attempted to fulfill our constitutional duties." [Twitter, <u>01/06/21</u>]

**Rosendale Referred To The Media As "Lackeys" And Disparaged The Outcome Of The Electoral College.** "On his second day in office (Tuesday), Rosendale chose to drive a divisive wedge into his chosen language, calling the media 'lackeys' and disparaging the outcome of the Electoral College and anyone who opposed the president. Seasoned Republican leaders took a more unifying tone, saying the nation needed to heal and place the divisiveness of the Trump era behind them." [Missoula Current, 01/06/21]

## Matt Rosendale Even Called For Republicans Who Didn't Support ImpeachingTrump To Resign

Matt Rosendale Was One Of The First Republicans To Call For Cheney's Resignation After She Supported Trump's Impeachment, And Tweeted A Banner With The Words "Mission Accomplished" After She Was Demoted.

**Rosendale Was One Of The First Republicans To Call For Cheney To Resign After She Backed Trump's Impeachment For January 6<sup>th</sup>.** "Montana's lone representative, Republican Matt Rosendale, was one of the first lawmakers to call for Cheney to resign after Cheney backed Trump's impeachment for incitement of insurrection... After Cheney's demotion, Rosendale tweeted an image of the historic "mission accomplished" banner that had served as the backdrop for former President George Bush's 2003 speech declaring the end to the Iraq war." [Billings Gazette, <u>05/28/21</u>]

# <u>Rosendale Opposed The January 6<sup>th</sup> Commission And A Bill Giving</u> <u>Congressional Gold Medals To Capitol Police Officers, Claiming Both To</u> <u>BePartisan Acts.</u>

**Rosendale Opposed January 6<sup>th</sup> Commission Because It Was "A Political Diversion."** "A Rosendale spokesman, Harry Fones, said the representative opposed the commission because Rosendale didn't think it was about the riot at all. 'Rep. Rosendale voted against it because this commission was a political diversion and politically controlled by the other party who are attempting to divert attention away from the failures of the Biden administration,' Fones said." [Billings Gazette, <u>05/28/21</u>]

**Rosendale Was One Of 21 House Republicans To Vote Against A Bill Awarding Congressional Gold Medals To Capitol Police Officers Who Responded To The Capitol Siege.** "Montana's U.S. Rep. Matt Rosendale is one of 21 House Republicans who voted against a bill Tuesday that would have awarded the Congressional Gold Medal to Capitol police officers who responded to the Jan. 6 Capitol siege... In a statement, a spokesperson said, 'Rep. Rosendale voted in favor of a bill to give gold medals to USCP in March. Unfortunately, Nancy Pelosi is continuing to play politics with the events of that day and months later brought a bill to the floor with an unrelated act of violence at the Capitol perpetrated by an Islamic extremist--attempting to pin that act on protesters months prior." [Nbcmontana.com, <u>06/16/21</u>]

Matt Rosendale Opposes Federal Land Management And Has Long Fought To Eliminate Federal Public Lands In Montana

## Matt Rosendale: "I Have Long Been On The Record As An Advocate For The Transfer Of Federal Public Land To The State."

Matt Rosendale Regularly Supported Anti-Public Lands Bills While In The Montana Legislature, Including A Bill To Disallow Montana From Acquiring Any New Public Lands.

**Rosendale In 2014: "I Have Long Been On The Record As An Advocate For The Transfer Of Federal Public Lands To The State."** "In 2014, when asked to participate in a Q and A with the Billings Gazette on the topic, [Rosendale] stated, 'I have long been on the record as an advocate for the transfer of federal public lands to the state." [Outsideonline.com, <u>07/16/19</u>]

• Rosendale Voted For A Public Lands Management Study Which Was Considered "A Backdoor Route To Starting Down The Road Of The Transfer Or Sell-off Of Public Land." "[Rosendale] voted for SJ 15 in 2013 to study public land management. The study was a backdoor route to starting down the road of the transfer or sell-off of public land. Rosendale voted again in 2015 for HB 496, creating a new legislative task force to study the same issue even after overwhelming public outcry kept any reference of sell-off or transfer out of the final report for SJ 15." [Mtvoters.org, Accessed <u>12/13/21</u>]

**Rosendale Wanted To Transfer Land From The BLM To Montana To Allow For More Logging In The State.** "A top priority is to transfer U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management lands to the state. Rosendale called that a critical step that would encourage more logging in the northwestern and southwestern parts of Montana." [Billings Gazette, 04/22/14]

## Matt Rosendale Has Worked To Prevent New Public Lands Protections In Montana

In 2011, While Serving In Montana's Legislature, Rosendale Voted For A Bill That Would Have Disallowed Montana From Acquiring Any New Public Lands. In 2011, Rosendale voted for SB 303, which would have "disallowed the state from purchasing new land for parks, wildlife habitat (including the Habitat Montana program), and even our university systems. a bill that would have disallowed Montana from acquiring any new public lands." [Mtaudubon.org, Accessed <u>12/13/21</u>]

**Rosendale "Torpedoed" A Conservation Easement Proposal In Montana.** "Members of our group, Public Land/Water Access Association, feel that State Land Board member Matt Rosendale torpedoed the Keogh Conservation Easement Proposal at the September Land Board meeting. Three generations of the Keogh Ranch family, 10 miles north of Whitehall, have always allowed recreational use of their property and worked around the large numbers of elk, deer and antelope on their extensive ranch... If the Keogh Conservation Easement had been accepted by the Land Board, it would have protected key elk, deer and antelope habitat, as well as water rights and existing agricultural uses forever. Now, generations of recreationists will be the biggest losers." [Billings Gazette, <u>10/26/17</u>]

## Rosendale Has Sides With The Wilks Brothers, Texas Billionaire Frackers Who Are Buying Up Land In Montana, To Close Off Access ToPublic Lands.

Rosendale Even Leased His Land To The Wilks Brothers

League Of Conservation Voters Put Rosendale On Its "Dirty Dozen" List Of 2018 For His Continued Opposition To Public Lands, And His Close Ties To Texas Developers. "Montana Senate candidate Matt Rosendale poses such an enormous risk to Montana's public lands that LCV Victory Fund put him on the Dirty Dozen — the list that targets some of the most anti-environment candidates... Rosendale is for major rollbacks to public lands protections and has called for land transfers that would make it easier for public lands to be sold off. This traces back to Rosendale's developer roots. He has connections to the Wilks brothers — Texas billionaires notorious for buying up property in Montana and blocking access to public lands. Rosendale's company has received thousands in royalties from the Wilks brothers, who lease two oil rigs on his property. Rosendale also supported legislation the Wilkses pushed that was criticized as a move toward the privatization of elk hunting. The Wilkses have repeatedly tried to block access to public land including Durfee Hills, a popular spot for elk hunting. Rosendale has a history of developing lands, not protecting them for Montanans to enjoy for generations to come." [LCV.org, Accessed 12/10/21]

Former Head Of Montana Conservation Voters: "From Supporting Efforts To Sell-Off Our Public Lands To Rolling Back Our Clean Energy Economy, [Matt] Rosendale Has Consistently Put Corporate Interests Ahead Of Everyday Montanans." "Commissioner Rosendale has consistently voted against Montana's outdoor heritage, clean air and water," said Juanita Vero of Greenough, chair of Montana Conservation Voters. "From supporting efforts to sell-off our public lands to rolling back our clean energy economy, Commissioner Rosendale has consistently put corporate interests ahead of everyday Montanans. Montana's outdoor industry generates \$7.1 billion in spending and creates 71,000 direct jobs; Commissioner Rosendale's voting record would jeopardize this critical part of our economy." [Mtvoters.org, Accessed <u>12/13/21</u>

## **Rep. Lauren Boebert**



Source: <u>Rep. Lauren Boebert</u>

**SUMMARY:** Rep. Lauren Boebert is a far-right congresswoman representing Colorado's third district. Boebert has routinely spread conspiracy theories and taken extremists positions, going so far as to say she hopes QAnon is real and calling federal control of land a "power-grab."

Lauren Boebert was a lead opponent of certifying the 2020 presidential election, voting against the results and planning to speak at a January 6<sup>th</sup> protests at the Capitol. Organizers of the insurrection state they spoke with Boebert's office on January 6<sup>th</sup> and the days leading up to the violent Capitol invasion.

Lauren Boebert is aligned or affiliated with multiple anti-government militias in the U.S connected to the January 6<sup>th</sup> insurrection. Her affiliations with militias have included: - Repeatedly being seen with Three Percenters and enlisting them for security detail at an event;

- An aide saying "Thank God" for the Proud Boys, a group deemed a terrorist organization by the Canadian government; and

- Keeper a member of the Oath Keepers as a "friend and advisor" despite the group's connection to violent anti-government events like the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge Occupation.

Lauren Boebert has quoted Wayne Hage - an anti-government extremist that helped birth anti-lands movements like the Sagebrush Rebellion and the Bundy family - and worked with his daughter's organization, American Stewards of Liberty. Boebert worked with the conspiracy-addled American Stewards of Liberty to get support for her anti-conservation legislation. Rep Lauren Boebert Is Closely Aligned With Militias, Extremists, And Conspiracy Theorists, Working With Groups Affiliated With The Insurrection And Fighting Government Control.

#### <u>Rep. Lauren Boebert Has Made A Name For Herself By Pushing Extremism,</u> <u>Conspiracy Theories, And Aligning Herself With Militias.</u>

Lauren Boebert Is A Member Of Congress Representing Colorado's 3<sup>rd</sup> District. [Congresswoman Lauren Boebert, accessed <u>12/13/21</u>]

**In A June 2020 Tweet, Boebert Wrote "I Am The Militia."** "I am the militia. #2A #WeThePeople."

<b>Lauren Boebert ⊘</b> @laurenboebert					
I am the militia. #2A #WeThePeople 12:30 PM · Jun 14, 2020 · Twitter for iPhone					
175 Retweets 68 Quote Tweets 866 Likes					
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[Tweet by Lauren Boebert, 06/14/20]

Lauren Boebert Has Spewed QAnon Conspiracy Theories, Saying It "Could Be Really Great For The Country."

When Asked Her Opinion On QAnon, Lauren Boebert Said She "Hope[s] That This Is Real" And It "Could Be Really Great For Our Country." "I am familiar with [the Q movement]. [...] Honestly, everything that I've heard of Q, I hope that this is real because it only means that America is getting stronger and better and people are returning to conservative values, and that's what I'm for. And so everything that I have heard of this movement is only motivating and encouraging and bringing people together stronger. And if this is real, then it could be really great for our country. " [Twitter, @RightWingWatch, <u>05/18/20</u>]

#### Lauren Boebert Has Supported The QAnon Position That "A Deep-State Anti-Trump

**Network" Exists.** "Boebert expressed enthusiasm for the fringe movement QAnon, a wide-ranging conspiracy theory that started on the notorious internet forum 4chan and has recently pushed the idea that the pandemic is part of a government plot to control the public. Boebert has distanced herself from some of the more extreme QAnon notions, including the idea that anyone opposing Trump are Satan-worshipping, blood-drinking pedophiles. But she has embraced the idea that there is a deep-state anti-Trump network." [Colorado Sun, <u>09/14/20]</u>

Lauren Boebert Hold Extremists Opinions On Public Lands And Spewed Conspiracies About A "Power-Grab" Of Federal Lands.

Lauren Boebert Supported Limiting Regulation And Expanding Drilling And Mining On Public Lands. "At her campaign event in Cortez — Tipton's hometown — Boebert claimed her victory was the subject of an investigation by the Republican National Committee, which discovered, she said, that her platform to protect Second Amendment rights, limit regulation and expand drilling and mining on public lands had energized Coloradans who don't usually vote." [POLITICO, <u>09/13/20]</u>

**Lauren Boebert Called 30x30 A "Land-Grab And A Power-Grab."** "The radical 30 x 30 program aims to lock up 30% of our lands and waters in the next nine years. That's more than twice the size of Texas! This is a land-grab and a power-grab, and I won't stand for it." [Facebook, Congresswoman Lauren Boebert, <u>05/11/21</u>]

## Lauren Boebert Is Closely Tied To January 6th, Speaking With Organizers, Refusing To Certify The Election Results, And Defending Insurrectionists After The Fact.

U.S. Rep. Lauren Boebert (R-Colo.) Voted Against Certifying The 2020 Election Results. [New York Times, 01/07/21]

Lauren Boebert Attended The Save America Rally On January 6<sup>th</sup> And Was In Washington For The December 12<sup>th</sup> Stop The Steal Rally. "This video makes clear that Boebert was in Washington on the day of the first "Stop the Steal" rally on Dec. 12, and also that on Jan. 6 Boebert and her mother visited the Save America rally at around 8:15 a.m., posing for photos with VIPs at the front of the stage." [*Salon*, <u>08/04/21</u>]

Lauren Boebert Was Seen Giving Tours Through A Tunnel In The Capitol The Day Before The January 6<sup>th</sup> Insurrection. "Now, two Democratic lawmakers say they personally saw one Republican — Rep. Lauren Boebert of Colorado — with a "large" group in a tunnel connected to the Capitol days before the attempted insurrection that left four rioters and one police officer dead. Rep. Steve Cohen (D-Tenn.) said on Monday that he and Rep. John Yarmuth (D-Ky.) had both seen Boebert in the tunnel outside the Cannon House Office Building with a group sometime in the three days before the riots." [*Washington Post*, <u>01/19/21</u>]

• Boebert Denies Accusations That The Tour Had Anything To Do With The Insurrection. "In a January interview with Salon, Boebert denied giving "reconnaissance tours" on Jan. 5, the day before the Capitol assault, saying, "I did not. No." She has issued similar denials to numerous other publications." [*Salon*, <u>08/04/21</u>]

## *Two People Who Helped Organize The Insurrection Were In Contact With Lauren Boebert's Office On January 6<sup>th</sup> And The Days Leading Up To It.*

**Two Sources That Helped Organize January 6<sup>th</sup> Claim To Have Spoken With Rep Lauren Boebert's Team Prior To The Insurrection.** "The two sources, both of whom have been granted anonymity due to the ongoing investigation, describe participating in "dozens" of planning briefings ahead of that day when Trump supporters broke into the Capitol as his election loss to President Joe Biden was being certified. [...] Along with Greene, the conspiratorial pro-Trump Republican from Georgia who took office earlier this year, the pair both say the members who participated in these conversations or had top staffers join in included Rep. Paul Gosar (R-Ariz.), Rep. Lauren Boebert (R-Colo.), Rep. Mo Brooks (R-Ala.), Rep. Madison Cawthorn(R-N.C.), Rep. Andy Biggs (R-Ariz.), and Rep. Louie Gohmert (R-Texas). "We would talk to Boebert's team, Cawthorn's team, Gosar's team like back to back to back to back," says the organizer." [*Rolling Stone*, <u>10/24/21</u>]

According To Rolling Stone, Both Organizers Were In Contact With Lauren Boebert On January 6<sup>th</sup>. "Rolling Stone has separately obtained documentary evidence that both sources were in contact with Gosar and Boebert on Jan. 6. We are not describing the nature of that evidence to preserve their anonymity." [*Rolling Stone*, <u>10/24/21</u>]

### Lauren Boebert Defended Insurrectionists After January 6<sup>th</sup>.

Lauren Boebert Appeared To Defend January 6<sup>th</sup> Rioters, Saying "You Can't Petition Your Government, You're An Insurrectionists If You Do That." "At a Republican party meeting in Montrose last night, Congresswoman Lauren Boebert appeared to defend those who stormed the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6, saying, "We already see in Washington, D.C., you can't petition your government, you're an insurrectionist if you do that."" [Colorado Times Recorder, 03/16/21]

### Lauren Boebert's Former Aide Sherrona Bishop Said "Thank God" For The Proud Boys, A Terrorist Organization That Played A Key Role In The January 6<sup>th</sup> Violence.

**Former Boebert Aide Sherronna Bishop Hosted A Facebook Video Where She Said "Thank God" For The Proud Boys.** "The video on the Facebook page of Sherronna Bishop, who worked alongside Boebert for more than a year is dated Sept. 20, 2019. Bishop regularly hosts live videos and often includes guests on a split screen function to discuss conservative politics. This one includes a Proud Boy only identified as Rob describing a group of protesters gathering outside the home of a warden of a Denver-area immigration detention center 'and four or five' other Proud Boys going to counter-protest. Bishop concludes the video by saying 'thank god for you guys and the Proud Boys." [ABC News, 10/15/20]

**The Proud Boys Are A Far-Right Extremists Organization That Has Been Labeled A "Terrorist Entity" By The Canadian Government Following Their Role In The Insurrection.** "In early February 2021, the Canadian government designated the Proud Boys as a terrorist entity, citing the role the group played in the Jan. 6, 2021, insurrection at the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C." [Southern Poverty Law Center, accessed <u>12/13/21</u>]

### Lauren Boebert Associated With The Three Percenters, An Anti-Government Militia.

**Three Percenters Are An Anti-Government Militia With Ties To The Oath Keepers.** "I The Justice Department also identifies the Three Percenters (or III% ers) as a domestic, anti-government militia with loose ties to the Oath Keepers." [*Salt Lake Tribune*, 10/13/21]

**The 3% United Patriots Of Colorado Were Asked By The Campaign "To Run A Small Perimeter Security Detail" For Boebert. "**According to a screenshot provided by a source, a member of the III% United Patriots militia posted a call on for volunteers to attend Boebert's appearance in Pueblo today. The request noted that the campaign invited the militia directly. 'Monday at 1pm, Lauren Boebert is gonna be in Pueblo. Some of us have been asked to run a small perimeter security detail for her. The event that raises more concern for her and myself is the flag waving that starts at 5:30pm Monday. There is a couple of events that are happening before that, one of which isn't open to the public. I wasn't going to go unless they invited us, which they did." [Colorado Times Recorder, <u>07/27/20</u>]

**Boebert Posed For A Photo Which Included A Man Wearing A Three Percenter Patch.** "She also posted this professional photo with the Colorado 'Boots on the Ground' Bikers for Trump group, which includes a man wearing a 'Three Percenter' patch." [Real Vail News, <u>01/12/21</u>]



#### [Real Vail News, <u>01/12/21</u>]

Lauren Boebert Was Photographed In December 2019 With At Least Three Men Flashing The Sign Of The Three Percenters. "Boebert, who was then just beginning her candidacy to unseat incumbent Republican Scott Tipton, is visible in a picture published on Facebook which shows her smiling on the Colorado state capitol steps with at least three men flashing the Three Percenter sign." [*The Daily Beast*, 06/22/21]

The Three Percenters Have Been Tied To The January 6<sup>th</sup> Insurrection.

At Least Six Men Connected To The Three Percenters Were Charged With Plotting To Assault The Capitol On January 6<sup>th</sup>. "Federal prosecutors filed a wide-ranging conspiracy indictment on Thursday accusing six California men said to be connected to a radical gun rights movement called the Three Percenters with plotting to assault the Capitol on Jan. 6, in the first charges lodged against anyone involved with planning any of the political events held the week of the attack." [*New York Times*, <u>06/10/21</u>]

# <u>"A Friend And Advisor" To Lauren Boebert Is A Member Of The Oath Keepers, A Militia Tied To Multiple Violent, Anti-Government Events.</u>

**Edward Wilks, "A Friend And Adviser Of Boebert's" Is Also A Member Of The Oathkeepers,** Edward Wilks, a friend and adviser of Boebert's who owns a gun shop near Boebert's Shooters Grill, said he would not comment because he didn't like how The Sun had characterized a group he belongs to in a past article. Wilks is a member of the Oath Keepers, a paramilitary organization made up of current and former law enforcement officials and military veterans. The Southern Poverty Law Center lists it as one of the largest radical anti-government groups in the country." [Colorado Sun, <u>01/14/21</u>]

# The Oath Keepers Are A Militia That Participated In The Malheur National Wildlife Refuge Occupation And The January 6 Attempted Insurrection.

**The Oath Keepers Have Been Described By The US Department Of Justice As A "Militia" Pushing Conspiracy Theories About The Federal Government.** "In charging documents, the U.S. Justice Department described the Oath Keepers as a "large but loosely organized collection of militia who believe that the federal government has been co-opted by a shadowy conspiracy that is trying to strip American citizens of their rights."" [*Salt Lake Tribune*, <u>10/13/21</u>]

**Oath Keepers Participated In The Bundy-Led Armed Standoff Against The Federal Government.** "Those feelings changed when armed Oath Keepers flooded into southern Nevada in a prolonged standoff with Bureau of Land Management agents over ranchland leased to the Bundy family." [*Buzzfeed*, 10/20/21]

**Two Dozen People Connected To The Oath Keepers Have Been Charged With Crimes Related To Their Role In The January 6**<sup>th</sup> **Insurrection.** "In the months since the Capitol insurrection, as two dozen people linked to the Oath Keepers have been charged with crimes, including conspiracy, for their roles, several of those elected officials have continued to voice support for the organization." [*Buzzfeed*, <u>10/20/21</u>]

## Lauren Boebert Has Worked Alongside American Stewards Of Liberty, An Extremist Group That Compared Federal Protection Of Lands To Hitler And Stalin.

Lauren Boebert Has Quoted Wayne Hage, A Rancher Whose Opposition To The Federal Government Helped Set The Stage For Anti-Land Groups Like The Sagebrush Rebellion And The Bundy Family.

**Lauren Boebert Quoted Wayne Hage On Twitter.** "Either you have the RIGHT to own property, or you ARE property. -Wayne Hage"



[Twitter, @laurenboebert, 05/06/21]

American Stewards For Liberty Is Run By Margaret Byfield, The Daughter Of Wayne Hage, A Rancher That Fought Against The US Government Over Public Lands. "Margaret was raised on a large cow calf operation in central Nevada purchased by her parents, Wayne and Jean Hage in 1978. Her family experienced unprecedented regulatory pressures that eventually led to Hage v. United States, the first federal lands grazing case filed in the United States Court of Federal Claims. The case was in litigation for 27 years, during which time Margaret launched the property rights organization Stewards of the Range." [American Stewards of Liberty, accessed <u>03/30/21</u>]

• Like The Bundy Family, The Hage Family Refused To Pay Grazing Fees For Using Public Lands. "Before Cliven Bundy, there was Wayne Hage, a Nevada rancher whose quarrel with the federal government churned through the courts for 21 years. Hage, an outspoken critic of public-land management, held water rights predating federal ownership and argued that he therefore didn't need grazing permits." [High Country News, 09/12/12]

**Hage's Legal Drama Helped Birth An Anti-Government Land Movement Called The Sagebrush Rebellion.** "That kicked off a long and complicated legal battle and fueled what's known as the Sagebrush Rebellion — a movement to fight government control of land in the West that dates back to the 1970s." [*Vice*, <u>05/13/21</u>]

# Lauren Boebert Produced An Anti-30x30 Bill That Mirrored The Arguments Used By The Extremists Group American Stewards Of Liberty.

Lauren Boebert Sponsored A Bill To Block The 30x30 Conservation Efforts. "Unfortunately, our lands and our waters are under attack by the Biden administration's proposed 30 x 30 initiative, which aims to lock up 30% of our Nation's lands and waters by 2030. I introduced the 30 x 30 Termination Act to protect multiple-use activities on public lands and block this radical initiative. I support community-led land-use decisions and oppose federal landgrabs." [Congresswoman Lauren Boebert, Energy And Natural Resources, accessed <u>12/13/21</u>]

Lauren Boebert's Anti-30x30 Bill Mirror's The Same Arguments Used By American Stewards Of Liberty. "Meanwhile, last Friday, a day after the Interior report came out, Boebert introduced her bill to cancel the 30 by 30 initiative altogether, which uses a similar argument to the one put forth by ASL — that 30 by 30 is a land grab. "Locking up 30% of all our land and water within the next decade is a dream killer for future generations and local economies," Boebert said in a statement. "In the West, we are all too familiar with government land grabs, and we can see this one coming from a mile away."" [*Vice*, 05/13/21]

• American Stewards Of Liberty Is An Extremist Group That Has Compared The Biden Administration's Conservation Plans To Hitler And Stalin. "On 4 May, a bill put forward by Lauren Boebert, a Republican congresswoman from Colorado, to prevent the federal government acquiring more land was first announced in a newsletter sent by American Stewards of Liberty, a property rights group whose members have likened the Biden conservation plan to a famine caused by Joseph Stalin, as well as to the actions of Adolf Hitler." [*The Guardian*, 05/14/21]

• Wayne Hage's Daughter, Margaret Byfield, Runs The Anti-Public Lands Group American Stewards Of Liberty. "Speaking on a stage in Rapid City, South Dakota, last month, in front of a presentation titled "LAND GRAB 30 X 30," Byfield explained why her opposition to Biden's big conservation plan is personal. Her father, rancher Wayne Hage, spent years locked in a fight with the federal government over the right to graze cattle on public lands. [...] The lawsuit and ensuing fight also gave rise to a new property rights organization, known as Stewards of the Range. That group later merged with another organization (that was run by Byfield's husband, Dan Byfield) to form American Stewards of Liberty, of which Margaret and Dan Byfield are the executive director and CEO, respectively." [Vice, 05/13/21]

Wayne Hage's Daughter And American Stewards Of Liberty Founder, Margaret Byfield Worked To Get Nebraska Governor Pete Rickett's Support For Lauren Boebert's Anti-30x30 Bill On Behalf Of Boebert's Office.

American Stewards Of Liberty's Margaret Byfield Requested Nebraska Gov. Pete Ricketts Offer A Comment Supporting Lauren Boebert's Anti-30x30 Legislation On Behalf Of Boebert's Office. "Jeff Small, Rep. Boeberts [sic] Chief of Staff would like to have a statement of support from the governor for the "30 x 30 Termination Act" she is planning to file this Friday. Would this be possible to do? If so, you can send it to me or to Jeff directly (his email is below)." [FOIA Response RR-0006371, Group 4, page 89, accessed <u>08/04/21</u>]

• May 7, 2021: Rep Boebert Issued A Press Release Announcing The 30 X 30 Termination Act That Included A Quote From Gov Ricketts. "Today, Representative Lauren Boebert (CO-03) introduced the 30 x 30 Termination Act to block the radical 30 x 30 program, a massive land grab being pursued by the Biden administration at the behest of extremist environmentalists, that seeks to lock up at least 30% of all lands and waters in the U.S. by 2030. [...] Nebraska Governor Pete Ricketts: "Thank you to Congresswoman Boebert and everyone who is stepping up to stop President Biden's radical climate agenda and the 30 x 30 plan. It will take an all-hands-on-deck effort to stop the Biden-Harris Administration. They are attempting to undermine the prerogative of states and private landowners to manage their land and natural resources. Together, we can push back on federal overreach and protect our way of life."" [Rep Lauren Boebert, Press Release, 05/07/21]

**Margaret Byfield Gave Gov. Ricketts' Office A "Heads Up" Before Boebert Filed Her Anti-30x30 Bill.** "Wanted to give you guys a heads up. The attached bill opposing 30 x 30 will be filed next Tuesday. They are circulating this now internally to get co-sponsors." [FOIA Response RR-0006371, Group 5, page 1, accessed <u>08/04/21</u>]

### Lauren Boebert Has Worked Closely With Trent Loos, A Right Wing Media Personality Who Helped Promote The Malheur National Wildlife Refuge Occupation.

**Trent Loos Was With Rep Boebert At Meeting In Cortez, Colorado About Nullification Of 30 X 30.** "Invigorating meeting in Cortez, CO about the nullification of Biden 30 x 30 #LandGrab. A huge part of the message in taking back our country is getting involved, getting loud at County level. Helping US last night @laurenboebert she is of the people for the people." [Twitter – TrentLoos,  $\frac{5/7/21}{2}$ ]

**Trent Loos "Works With The American Stewards Of Liberty Group."** "Loos, who works with the 'American Stewards of Liberty' group of Texas, just returned from a 'Freedom Festival' in Tulare, Calif., May 8, where he joined Donald Trump Jr. at a fund-raiser sponsored by U.S. Rep. Devin Nunes." [McCook Gazette, <u>5/14/21]</u>

**Trent Loos Participated In The Malheur National Wildlife Refuge.** Loos traveled to Malheur and joined Ammon Bundy in the wildlife refuge to interview Bundy and help spread the Bundys' anti-public lands message. [Facebook, 01/11/16]



Source: <u>Facebook</u>

## **AZ State Senator Sonny Borrelli**



Source: Arizona State Legislature

**SUMMARY:** Arizona State Senator Sonny Borrelli attempted to interfere at various stages of the Arizona certification and partisan audit of the 2020 election. In addition to peddling unfounded claims of "seditious and treasonous" voter fraud, Borrelli pushed lawmakers to accept "alternate" pro-Trump electoral votes, nullify the election results, and tried to direct alleged evidence of voter fraud to himself.

When Sonny Borrelli's claims of election fraud contributed to the violent January 6<sup>th</sup> insurrection, Borrelli chose to baselessly blame Black Lives Matter protesters. Borrelli continued to reject evidence after the Arizona election audit confirmed Biden's victory. Instead of accepting this result, Borrelli claimed there was a "cover up" akin to the work of Nazi propagandist Joseph Goebbels and tried to take millions in funding away from Maricopa County.

Sonny Borrelli opposed the federal government well before the 2020 election. Borrelli called for federal lands to be transferred to the states to skirt the "tyranny" of federal control, even going so far as to try and block private citizens from selling their land to the government without permission from the state.

Borrelli found allies in his anti-government and anti-land interests through fellow Arizona state congresspeople Wendy Rogers and Mark Finchem. Together, the three have continued to spread disinformation about the 2020 election.

In Addition To Pushing Election Disinformation And Trying To Free Our Public Lands From The "Tyranny" Of The Federal Government, Arizona State Senator Sonny Borrelli Attempted To Interfere In Various Stages Of The Partisan Arizona Election Audits And Compared Democrats To Nazis When The Audit Confirmed Biden's Victory.

Sonny Borrelli Is An Arizona State Senator, Holding Congressional Office In The State Since 2012. Sonny Borrelli Is An Arizona State Senator Currently Serving As Senate Majority Whip. "In 2020, Senator Borrelli was elected to his 3rd term at the Senate and was again elected by his colleagues as Senate Majority Whip, his 2nd term for this position, where among his duties he presides over Majority Caucus. He is a member on each of the Senate Committees on Government, Commerce, Judiciary and a member of the Senate Rules Committee." [AZ Legislature, Sonny Borrelli, accessed <u>12/14/21</u>]

Sonny Borrelli Was A Member Of The Arizona House Of Representatives From 2012 To 2016. "In 2012, Senator Borrelli was elected to the Arizona House of Representatives, where he served two terms and was the Chairman of the House Military Affairs & Public Safety Committee and Vice-Chair of the House Judiciary Committee. Senator Borrelli was elected to the Arizona State Senate in 2016, where he served as Vice Chair of the Senate Government Committee and later as Chairman of the Government Committee." [AZ Legislature, Sonny Borrelli, accessed 12/14/21]

## Sonny Borrelli Pushed Election Disinformation In The Days Leading Up To January 6<sup>th</sup>, Calling The "Voter Fraud" "Seditious And Treasonous" Only To Blame Black Lives Matter Protesters When The Capitol Riot Turned Violent.

Sonny Borrelli Tweeted "Stop The Steal!" In December 2020. "STOP THE STEAL!! MAGA!!!"[Twitter, @SonynBorrelli, <u>12/28/21]</u>

Sonny Borrelli Attended A November Hearing Where Rudy Giuliani And Jenna Ellis Spread LiesAbout Election Fraud. "He attended an unofficial November daylong hearing at the Hyatt Regency indowntown Phoenix where Trump lawyers Rudy Giuliani and Jenna Ellis continuously made unsubstantiated claims of widespread fraud." [*Copper Courier*, <u>03/10/21</u>]

Sonny Borrelli Tweeted That He Would Not "Surrender" Days Before January 6<sup>th</sup> In Response To AVideo Of Donald Trump Praising Mark Finchem's Election Disinformation Efforts. "SURRENDER is NOT in our CREED"



[Twitter, @SonnyBorrelli, 01/04/21]

Sonny Borrelli Tweeted A Meme Claiming Joe Biden Orchestrated Election Fraud In 2020 With ACaption Calling Election Fraud "Seditious And Treasonous."



[Twitter, @SonnyBorrelli, 01/02/21]

Sonny Borrelli Denies Trump Supporters Participated In January 6<sup>th</sup>, Instead Blaming Black Lives Matter Protestors And A "Radical Climate Change Activist."

Sonny Borrelli Attempted Paint An Insurrectionists As A "Radical Climate Change Activist" Instead Of A Trump Supporter. "Trump supporter? I don't think so. Capitol Hill "Coup" Antagonist is Radical Climate Change Activist." [Twitter, @SonnyBorrelli, <u>01/12/21</u>]

Sonny Borrelli Claimed Insurrectionists Were Black Lives Matter Supporters Instead Of TrumpSycophants. "Man Arrested Outside Capitol Black Lives Matter Supporter, Not Trump Supporter: Family" [Twitter, @SonnyBorrelli, <u>01/11/21</u>]

## Sonny Borrelli Attempted To Give Trump "Alternate" Electoral Votes, Redirect Alleged Evidence Of Voter Fraud To Himself, And Take Millions In Revenue From Maricopa County.

Sonny Borrelli Tried To Send "Alternate" Electoral Votes For Trump.

Sonny Borrelli Asked Lawmakers To Accept "Alternate" Electoral Votes For Trump Or To Nullify The State's Electoral Votes. "Borrelli was among the list of Arizona Republicans that signed on to a letter to Congress asking lawmakers to accept 11 "alternate" electoral votes for Trump or to have all of thestate's electoral votes "nullified completely until a full forensic audit can be conducted."" [*Copper Courier*, <u>03/10/21</u>]

### Sonny Borrelli Attempted To Redirect Potential Evidence Of Voter Fraud To Himself Instead Of The Attorney General.

Sonny Borrelli Told Two People Claiming To Have Found Shredded 2020 Ballots To Give Them ToHim Instead Of Turning The Evidence Over To The Attorney General. "A top-ranking Senate
Republican told a Pinal County woman who claims to have found shredded 2020 ballots in a trash bin thatshe should turn them over to him and warned against trusting the Republican attorney general with the "smoking gun" evidence of election fraud. [...] Borrelli told Staci Burk and another, unnamed woman thatshe should provide the shredded ballots to him and to the Senate's sergeant-at-arms. "If they seize that stuff from you, that stuff could disappear," Borrelli said of the Attorney General Mark Brnovich's office, which he said was uninterested in ferreting out election fraud. "If you turn it over to them, it's going to evaporate."" [*AZ Mirror*, <u>03/11/21</u>]

#### Sonny Borrelli Called For An Investigation Into Maricopa County's Election Audit, Imperiling Millions In Revenue For The County.

**Sonny Borrelli Tried To Have The Maricopa County Board Of Supervisors Investigated By The Attorney General Over Their Election Audit.** "A state senator has invoked a law to prompt an attorney general investigation into the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, one day after the board rebuffed a subpoena related to the ongoing audit of the November 2020 election. [...] Borrelli's request opens a newfront in the months long battle. He is asking Attorney General Mark Brnovich to investigate the supervisors' alleged failure to follow state laws regarding legislative subpoenas. Under a state law passed several years ago, lawmakers can request such investigations if they believe a city, town or county has adopted a policy that violates state law." [AZ Central, 08/03/21]

• Borrelli's Action Imperil Millions In Revenue For Maricopa County. "The request from Sen.Sonny Borrelli, R-Lake Havasu City, could imperil millions of dollars of sales tax revenue the state shares with the county." [AZ Central, 08/03/21]

### When The Arizona Election Audit Confirmed Biden Presidential Victory, Sonny Borrelli Continued To Call For The Results To Be "Nullified", Claiming It Was A "Cover Up" Akin To The Work Of Nazi Propagandist Joseph Goebbels.

**Sonny Borrelli Claimed That The Arizona Election Was A "Cover Up" On Steve Bannon's Podcast.** "Regardless, Borrelli insisted that the Maricopa County audit showed there was an Arizona election "cover up" during a Monday interview on former Trump adviser Steve Bannon's War Room: Pandemic podcast. "Obviously, what we have here – it's not a conspiracy theory anymore, that's what they called us, conspiracy theorists – but we actually have evidence of a conspiracy to cover up, Borrelli said. "That's been perpetrated by Maricopa County and the secretary of state's office. And perpetuated by the fake newsmainstream media." [*Newsweek*, <u>09/27/21</u>]

Sonny Borrelli Said The Democrats "Resurrected" Chief Nazi Propagandist Joseph Goebbels To Spread Election Disinformation. ""Now we're all experiencing... a psychological operation put forth by the propaganda machine of the left," he added. "The Democrats, the left, whatever it is. Whatever you want to call it. They just kind of resurrected [Nazi propaganda chief Joseph] Goebbels. Because what they're trying to do is a psychological operation of disinformation, misinformation." [*Newsweek*, <u>09/27/21</u>]

Sonny Borrelli Called For The 2020 Election To Be "Nullified" After The Partisan Arizona Election Audit Confirmed Joe Biden Won The State. "Republican Arizona state Senator Sonny Borrelli has called for the 2020 presidential election to be "nullified" after deeming the results of the controversial audit that again confirmed President Joe Biden's victory last week a "psychological operation." The results

of the audit, conducted by the firm Cyber Ninjas at the behest of the GOP-controlled state Senate, were released on Friday and showed that Biden beat former President Donald Trump by an even larger margin than in the official vote count. " [*Newsweek*, 09/27/21]

### Sonny Borrelli Opposed The "Tyranny" Of The Federal Government On Public Lands, Proposing Anti-Government Legislation And Aligning Himself With Other Anti-Public Land Officials.

Sonny Borrelli Called For The Removal Of Public Lands From The "Tyranny" Of Federal Control, Even Proposing A Bill To Block Private Citizens From Selling Their Land To The Government.

Sonny Borrelli Called For Federal Lands To Be Transferred To States, Saying We Need To "BreakThe Chains Of Tyranny By The Federal Government." "We need to "break the chains of tyranny" by the federal government. Favors local control and parental choice and getting rid of Common Core. If federal lands become state lands, there will be more money for education." [*Mohave Valley Daily News*, <u>07/23/14</u>]

Sonny Borrelli Proposed A Bill To Bar The Transfer Of Private Property To The Federal Government Without Approval From The State Legislature And Governor. "The identical proposals by Rep. Mark Finchem of Oro Valley and Sen. Sonny Borrelli of Lake Havasu City would prohibit the sale, gifting, granting or any transfer of an ownership interest in private land "without the express, affirmative consent of the Legislature and the governor." [...] At the heart of the issue is the complaint thatthe federal government already controls too much of the state's land." [*Tuscon.com*, 01/08/20]

• Borrelli's Bill Includes Language About The Federal Government Giving Up Land. "But both SB 1046 and HB 2092 also contain language that suggests larger issues may be at work, including language about forging "a political solution" that could require the federal government give up some of what it already owns." [*Tuscon.com*, 01/08/20]

Sonny Borrelli Voted Against Creating The Grand Canyon Watershed National Monument. "SenateConcurrent Memorial 1001: A Concurrent Memorial urging the Congress of the United States to oppose the designation of the Grand Canyon watershed national monument-in northern Arizona. AYES 36: Ackerley, Allen J, Barton, Borrelli, Bowers, Boyer, Brophy McGee, Campbell, Carter, Cobb, Coleman,Fann, Farnsworth E, Finchem, Gray, Kem, Lawrence, Leach, Livingston, Lovas, Mesnard, Mitchell, Montenegro, Norgaard, Olson, Petersen, Pratt, Rivero, Robson, Shope, Stevens, Thorpe, Townsend, Ugenti, Weninger, Speaker Gowan" [State Of Arizona, Journal Of The House Of Representatives 2015, p 290, <u>03/25/15</u>]

Sonny Borrelli Pushed The Partisan Arizona Election Audit With Mark Finchem, An Anti-Public Lands Extremist That Called The Bureau Of Land Management "Bureaucratic Terrorism."

Sonny Borrelli And Mark Finchem Did An Interview Together On The Partisan Arizona ElectionAudit. "Dr. Lyle Rapacki interviews Arizona Senator Sonny Borrelli and State Representative Mark Finchem about the Arizona Audit report and what is the next step." [Rumble, Arizona Today, <u>09/28/21</u>]

- Mark Finchem is A Member Of The Arizona House Of Representatives. [Arizona StateLegislature, Mark Finchem, accessed <u>12/14/21</u>]

**Sonny Borrelli And Mark Finchem Proposed Identical Bills To Bar The Transfer Of Private Property To The Federal Government Without Approval From The State Legislature And Governor.** "The identical proposals by Rep. Mark Finchem of Oro Valley and Sen. Sonny Borrelli of Lake Havasu City would prohibit the sale, gifting, granting or any transfer of an ownership interest in private land "without the express, affirmative consent of the Legislature and the governor." [...] At the heart of the issue is the complaint that the federal government already controls too much of the state's land." [*Tuscon.com*, <u>01/08/20</u>]

Arizona State Rep. Mark Finchem Is Aligned With Anti-Public Lands Extremists Including Hammonds And The Bundy Militia, Calling The Bureau Of Land Management "Bureaucratic Terrorism." "State Representative Mark Finchem served as "Arizona Coordinator" for the Coalition of Western States, a group that supported the infamous armed occupation of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in Oregon in 2016. The Coalition of Western States (COWS) describes itself as a group of elected legislators and "grass roots leaders" in the Western United States "dedicated to stopping federal overreach" and the "bureaucratic terrorism" of the Bureau of Land Management, according to a December 2015 news release from the organization. The group publicly backed the Hammond family of Oregon ranchers, whose dispute with the federal government over public land management inspired the armed militia occupation of the Oregon wildlife refuge. Some members of COWS met with the militia members and fed them information." [*Phoenix New Times*, <u>10/01/20</u>]

### Sonny Borrelli Worked With Oath Keeper And Anti-Public Lands Representative Wendy Rogers To Call For Decertification Of The 2020 Election.

**Wendy Rogers Praised Sonny Borrelli.** "Borrelli has the support of several of his Senate colleagues. Sen. Wendy Rogers, R-Flagstaff, posted her support on social media and said she hopes Brnovich "laysthe smack down. Throw the book at them!" [AZ Central, 08/03/21]

- Wendy Rogers Is An Arizona State Senator Representing The State's 6<sup>th</sup> Legislative District. [AZ Senate Republicans, Wendy Rogers, accessed <u>12/09/21</u>]
- Wendy Rogers Is A Member Of The Oath Keepers, Praising Their "Dedication To Our Constitution And To Our Country" After The Insurrection. "Had a great time speaking to the Cottonwood Oathkeepers tonight. I am a member of the Oathkeepers and I really like their dedication to our Constitution and to our country. Thank you for having me!" [Twitter, @WendyRogersAZ, 03/06/21]

**Sonny Borrelli Signed Onto Wendy Rogers' Letter Calling For Audits And Decertification Of The 2020 Election.** "Sen. Wendy Rogers unveils letter signed by 41 state legislators from across the country calling for forensic audits in each state, and urging their states to decertify the 2020 election if their auditresults mirror those in Arizona." [Wendy Rogers, <u>09/24/21]</u>

**Wendy Rogers Called For Eliminating Federal Public Lands.** "Glad to see this. Federal land grabs are a huge problem out here in the West. I will work to give federal lands back to the states when in Congress. #AZ01 #FlipAZ01" [Facebook, Wendy Rogers, <u>07/10/18</u>]

# AZ State Rep. Walter Blackman



Source: Gila Valley Central

**SUMMARY:** Walter Blackman is a member of the Arizona House of Representatives and has been representing the state's 6<sup>th</sup> district since 2019. Blackman was incredibly vocal after the 2020 election, claiming repeatedly that it had been stolen, alleging voter fraud, and referring to it as a coup. As a legislator, he supported a bill to limit the power of the Arizona Secretary of State in election lawsuits.

Walter Blackman took part in a rally in support of the "political prisoners" of January 6<sup>th</sup>, which was attended by the Proud Boys. The Proud Boys are a far-right terrorist group whom Blackman expressed an affinity for.

Walter Blackman sponsored numerous anti-public lands measures in the Arizona legislature, including a recent bill to invalidate the authority of the Bureau of Land Management, and an anti-conservation bill blocking individuals from transferring land to the federal government without state approval.

Walter Blackman Has Repeatedly Claimed That The 2020 Election Was Stolen, Taken Part In Rallies With The Proud Boys, And Voted For Legislation To Limit The Arizona Secretary Of State's Power.

## <u>Through Walter Blackman's Podcast And Twitter, He Has Shared His Belief</u> <u>That The 2020 Election Was Stolen, Bringing Up Claims Of Fraudulent Voting</u> <u>Machines, "Sharpiegate," And Dead Voters.</u>

**Blackman Tweeted That The "Election Was Stolen" Prior To The January 6<sup>th</sup> Riots.** Blackman tweeted, "President Trump won!!! The election was stolen by the democrats and on January 6th, the vice president counts the electoral votes, in front of a joint session." [Twitter, <u>01/02/21</u>]

**Blackman Tweeted, "All This Wrongdoing Over The Past Years Concerning Voter Fraud, And No One Has Been Arrested. It Time To Start Asking The Tuff Questions."** Blackman tweeted, "All this wrongdoing over the past years concerning voter fraud, and no one has been arrested. It time to start asking the tuff questions." [Twitter, <u>11/09/20]</u>

#### Blackman Described The 2020 Election As A Coup And Compared It To The Kennedy

**Assassination.** On Blackman's podcast, he compared the 2020 election to Handmaid's Tail, commenting, "Now, this coup, reminds me of that. Because this is nothing more than a coup. The last time there was a coup in this country was the assassination of John F. Kennedy. Because we know that Lee Harvey Oswald could not have gotten off three shots, two on top of each other, to kill the president. We know that. There's film to prove that. We just don't know who the shooters are. But that was a coup d'état. That was a combined collective effort by members of the government and those that are not in government. Now let's look at this election. This is an assassination on our country... And if we don't get after this. If we do not stand up as Americans, we are going to be sorely sorry." [The Walt Blackman Show, 01/03/21]

Walt Blackman Claimed January 6<sup>th</sup> Happened Because Democrats Stole The Election Through Faulty Voting Machines And Dead Voters. Blackman commented on his podcast, "As we know, on the 6<sup>th</sup> of January, there was a protest up at the Capitol, because the folks that stole this election, the liberal leftists, claim that there [were] no issues with the election. And we all know that. There was proof that the election was stolen. There's proof that the Dominion machine was broken. And there's also proof that dead voters had voted." [The Walt Blackman Show, 01/17/21]

**Blackman Tweeted About "Sharpiegate," A Debunked Voter Fraud Theory.** "As a leader, I know we need to take a harder look at sharpiegate. There are several individuals who were forced to use Sharpies and the system did not accept their votes..." [Twitter, <u>11/08/20</u>]

Blackman Retweeted A Post Claiming The Democrats Were "Stealing The Election" With Mail-In Ballots.

Bradley Scott
Image: Mail Blackman Retweeted

Image: Bradley Scott

My Dad has always told me that the Democratic Party is no different than the Mafia.

And here we are in 2020 & they're extorting us through violence in our cities & trying to steal the election with mail-in ballots.

Dad's right again!

8:47 AM · Sep 2, 2020 · Twitter for iPhone

1,305 Retweets 75 Quote Tweets 2,811 Likes

# Walter Blackman Took Part In A Rally With The Proud Boys In Support Of The "Political Prisoners" From January 6<sup>th</sup>, And Described The Proud Boys Attending One Of His Events As "One Of The Proudest Moments Of My Life."

Blackman Took Part In A Rally In Support Of Political Prisoners From The January 6<sup>th</sup> Insurrection. "A small rally in support of the 'political prisoners' of the January 6 insurrection in Washington DC was held on Saturday at the Arizona State Capitol, and featured Republican legislators alongside white supremacists and Nazi sympathizers, AZcentral reported... attending were state Rep. Walter Blackman and former state Rep. Anthony Kern, according to the report." [Jerusalem Post, <u>09/26/21</u>]

Blackman Claimed That The Proud Boys Coming To One Of His Events Was "One Of The Proudest Moments Of My Life." "Micajah Jackson is another speaker also facing federal charges with relation to the coup. The FBI alleges Jackson arrived at the Capitol with an Arizona chapter of the Proud Boys, a far-right neo-Nazi organization with a history of violence. The organization in question was also present at the rally, something Blackman pointed out. 'I believe those are the Proud Boys right there,' he said, according to AZcentral. 'Let me tell you something about the Proud Boys. The Proud Boys came to one of my events and that was one of the proudest moments of my life.'" [Jerusalem Post, <u>09/26/21</u>]

• The Proud Boys Are A Far-Right Extremists Organization That Has Been Labeled A "Terrorist Entity" By The Canadian Government Following Their Role In The Insurrection. "In early February 2021, the Canadian government designated the Proud Boys as a terrorist entity, citing the role the group played in the Jan. 6, 2021, insurrection at the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C." [Southern Poverty Law Center, accessed 12/13/21]

# Walter Blackman Has Used His Power As A State Legislator To Attempt To Block Certification Of The 2020 Election Results And To Limit The Power Of The Secretary Of State.

**Blackman Tweeted "We CAN NOT Certify This Election.**" Blackman tweeted, "If we as a legislative body sit back and don't do are jobs. Not certifying this past election, then we are as much the blame for this stolen election as the people that perpetrated this crime. We CAN NOT certify this election." [Twitter, <u>11/30/20]</u>

**Blackman Tweeted That The Arizona Legislature Had To "Fix This Mess" In Reference To The Election Results.** Blackman tweeted, "President Trump just called into the meeting to thank everyone. He's been there for us. Now. We need to be there for the President. We need to go back into a special session and fix this mess." [Twitter, <u>11/30/20</u>]

Blackman Sponsored A Bill Which Limits Power Of Secretary Of State In Elections, In Response To The 2020 Election. "In a move strongly supported by Arizona's 15 elected county recorders, the House Government & Elections Committee approved a bill Thursday which greatly limits the powers of the Arizona Secretary of State (SOS) when it comes to responding to and settling some election lawsuits. HB2302 stipulates that the SOS cannot settle 'or otherwise compromise' an election-related civil action without first consulting the state's 15 county recorders if the proposed settlement materially affects a county recorder... The bill, sponsored by Rep. Walt Blackman, is supported by the Arizona Association of Counties... Stevens says HB2302 is 'a direct result' of Secretary of State Katie Hobbs' actions prior to the 2020 General Election when she was named in a federal lawsuit which sought to extend Arizona's voter registration deadline past Oct. 5. Hobbs never informed the 15 recorders about the case, even as she negotiated a settlement that directly impacted the recorders and their staffs." [Azfreenews.com, 02/19/21]

Walter Blackman Introduced Legislation Seeking To Invalidate The Authority Of The Bureau Of Land Management In Arizona, As Well As Anti-Conservation Legislation Which Would Block Individuals From Transferring Land To The Federal Government.

### Walter Blackman Introduced A Law Aimed At Invalidating The Authority Of The Bureau Of Land Management In Arizona.

**Blackman Introduced A Law While In The Arizona Legislature Which Sought To Invalidate The Authority Of The Bureau Of Land Management In Arizona.** Blackman introduced HB 2252, a bill which read, "this state declares that all regulations imposed in this state by the United States Bureau of Land Management or any other federal agency before, on or after July 1, 2020 are void and of no effect in this state... this state shall provide for the proper use, protection and management of the lands and resources within the borders of this state... it is the duty of the legislature of this state to adopt and enact all laws and appropriations concerning land and resource management in this state... The rulemaking authority of the United States Bureau of Land Management is not authorized by the Constitution of the United States and violates its true meaning and intent as given by the founders and ratifying states." [Azleg.gov, Accessed 12/14/21]

Blackman Flipped From Originally Co-Signing A Bill To Ban Fracking To Promoting A Bill To Allow It Above An Aquifer. "Walter Blackman has flipped [from] originally co-signing a bill to ban fracking to now paving the way for fracking over the Coconino aquifer. Two years ago the Bureau of Land Management sold leases over the Coconino aquifer with no regard to their legal requirements under the National Environmental Policy Act, Endangered Species Act and National Historical Preservation Act... The Trump administration has now suspended 4,200 acres of oil and gas leases on public land in Arizona's Little Colorado River Valley as part of a joint motion filed in federal court today, Feb 5... However Representative Walter Blackman has introduced a bill HB #2252 to nullify these Federal laws in Arizona thus opening the door to

unrestrained fracking over such a crucial water source that feeds via Lake Mead, through the CAP and into Arizona's major cities." [Protect Our Water Arizona, Accessed <u>12/14/21</u>]

## Walter Blackman Co-Sponsored Legislation Blocking Individuals From Giving Their Land To The Federal Government, A Law Which Has Been Described As <u>A "Misguided Attempt To Restrict Conservation."</u>

Blackman Co-Sponsored Legislation In Arizona That Sought To Block Individuals From Giving Land To Federal Government Without Legislature And Governor's Approval. Blackman co-sponsored legislation in Arizona that sought to block individuals from giving land to the federal government without the express approval of the legislature and the governor. [Trackbill.com, Accessed <u>12/14/21</u>]

**The Bill Blocking Individuals From Transferring Land To The Federal Government Has Been Described As A "Misguided Attempt To Restrict Conservation."** "The identical proposals by Rep. Mark Finchem of Oro Valley and Sen. Sonny Borrelli of Lake Havasu City would prohibit the sale, gifting, granting or any transfer of an ownership interest in private land 'without the express, affirmative consent of the Legislature and the governor' … Taylor McKinnon, senior public lands campaigner for the Tucson-based Center for Biological Diversity, thinks the legislation is a bad idea. He said the Land and Water Conservation Fund has paid for thousands of state and local projects. 'It's troubling that legislators in the Grand Canyon state don't seem to grasp the natural and economic values of Arizona's spectacular public lands, ' he said. McKinnon said 'misguided attempts' to restrict conservation efforts threaten the state's \$1.4 billion outdoor recreation industry as well as local economies tied to that." [Tucson.com, 01/08/20]

# **OR State Senator Dennis Linthicum**



Source: Oregon Legislature, accessed 12/21/21

**SUMMARY:** Oregon State Senator Dennis Linthicum is an anti-public lands extremist that has called for federal lands to be transferred to states. In addition to being the first Oregon county commissioner to sign on to join the American Lands Council, a group dedicated to eliminating federal public lands, Linthicum has praised anti-land zealots that took violent action against the government.

Dennis Linthicum vocally defended the Hammonds and the Bundys in their assaults on the federal government. Linthicum called the participants in the militia occupation of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge "good hearted Americans," claiming the violence never would have occurred if more land was in state control. In defending the Hammonds, Linthicum compared the arsonists' sentencing to Stalin's Soviet Union and continued to blame the federal government for the assault.

Dennis Linthicum maintains his affinity for militias, proudly displaying on his website an endorsement from an Oath Keeper, a militia group closely tied to the January 6<sup>th</sup> insurrection.

Dennis Linthicum signed on to multiple letters attempting to undermine the 2020 election, including trying to block Joe Biden electors from casting their ballots in the month following the election. After the insurrection, Linthicum stuck to his anti-government bona fides, continuing to call the election "corrupted" and seeking audits in every state.

Oregon State Senator And Anti-Public Land Extremist Dennis Linthicum Has Frequently Supported Armed Attacks On The Federal Government, Praising The Bundys And Continuing To Claims Voter Fraud After The Insurrection.

# Dennis Linthicum Is An Oregon State Senator And Vocal Opponent Of Public Lands.

Dennis Linthicum Is An Oregon State Senator And Former Klamath County Commissioner. "Senator Dennis Linthicum is a businessman, rancher, irrigator, and former Klamath County

Commissioner who has been steeped in information technology for most of his career." [Oregon StateLegislature, Dennis Linthicum, accessed 12/17/21]

### Dennis Linthicum Called For Public Lands To Be Transferred To The States And Attacked The Creation Of A New National Monument.

**Dennis Linthicum Called For Public Lands To Be Transferred To States.** "I think we need to demandthat our public lands are actually returned to local control, not padlocked by some faraway bureaucracy for a politically-motivated reason." [Facebook, State Senator Dennis Linthicum, <u>04/16/14</u>]

**Dennis Linthicum Attacked Obama-Era Efforts To Create A New National Monument Around The Grand Canyon, Calling It A "Land Grab" And Criticizing The Antiquities Act.** "The headlines claimthis is "Obama's land grab." It is a federal land grab, organized and legislated by Congress. Congress gave the Office of the President this power and they can take it away. [...] The American Antiquities Act of 1906 (16 USC 431-433) authorizes the president, "in his discretion," to proclaim, "historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest that are situated upon the lands owned or controlled by the Government of the United States to be national monuments." Notice the gotcha here… "upon the lands owned or controlled by the Government of the US." Now that the "Waters of the US" is going full bore will this include that low soggy spot in your front lawn?"" [Facebook, State Senator Dennis Linthicum, <u>04/17/16</u>]

## Dennis Linthicum Was The First County Commissioner In Oregon To Join The American Lands Council, A Group Devoted To Eliminating Public Lands.

**Dennis Linthicum Was The First County Commissioner In Oregon To Join The American Lands Council.** "I am proud to have been the first County Commissioner in Oregon to join American Lands Council as they lead the movement for States to regain control of our public lands. This is a really informative article on the environmental movements and their front groups attempts to discredit and attackconservative ideas and leaders, especially those who support the growing movement to free our public lands from one-size-fails-all federal control." [Facebook, State Senator Dennis Linthicum, 05/05/16]

• The American Lands Council Was Created By Ken Ivory, A Utah Legislator, To Use "Political Persuasion, Legislation, and Litigation" To Eliminate Federal Public Lands. "Ivory created the American Lands Council, a tax-exempt nonprofit, in 2012, along with Elko, Nev., County Commissioner Demar Dahl at a brief meeting at Salt Lake City International Airport. According to its mission statement, the group 'channels the cooperative efforts of state and local governments, businesses, organizations, and individuals to secure and defend local control of land access, land use, and land ownership through: I. Education; II. Political Persuasion; III. Legislation (Local, State and National); IV. Litigation." [The Salt Lake Tribune, 05/19/14]

## Dennis Linthicum Defended Anti-Land Extremists That Took Violent Action Against The Federal Government.

Dennis Linthicum Praised The Bundys During Their Armed Standoff Against The Federal Government In Nevada, Warning Of Threat From The Bureau Of Land Management To Individuals. **Dennis Linthicum Praised The Bundy Armed Standoff Against The Federal Government In Bunkerville NV.** "I support the Bundy Ranch, not because they haven't made mistakes or because their approach has been perfect, but because I think they are a touchstone for a serious debate in American life. I believe the bullying of small-business and rural America by the Federal behemoth has gone on too long." [Facebook, State Senator Dennis Linthicum, 04/16/14]

Linthicum Argued That The Lesson From The Bundy-Led Standoff Is That The Bureau Of Land Management Is A Threat To Individuals. "Oregon, let's learn from the Bundys and start standing up forour own forests and land-rights, or the BLM will come knocking on our door, as well. As we've seen, theydon't ask nicely." [Facebook, State Senator Dennis Linthicum, 04/16/14]

Dennis Linthicum Praised The Bundy Militia's Occupation Of The Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, Calling Participants "Good Hearted Americans" And Blaming The Armed Conflict On Federal Control Of Lands.

**Dennis Linthicum Defended The Bundys And "So Many Good Hearted Americans" In Their Armed Opposition To The Federal Government.** "Now you have some insight into why the Bundys and so many good hearted Americans are in Harney Co. They are fighting the unconstitutional use of administrative law. Law, which by nature, ensures the illegitimate power of the federal bureaucracy." [DirtRoad Economist, <u>01/20/16</u>]

David Linthicum Shared An American Lands Council Article Defending The Militia Occupation Of The Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, Arguing The Hammonds Case That Sparked The Takeover Wouldn't Have Occurred If Land Was In Local Control. "Under local control, it is unlikely this controversy would have ever happened. The Hammond ranch situation would have been resolved under state law by local juries, judges, and officials accountable to their local communities. The conflict most likely would have been resolved with a whole lot more common sense, and in accordance with the will of the people." [Facebook, State Senator Dennis Linthicum, 01/27/16]

### Dennis Linthicum Eulogized Malheur Occupation Leader LaVoy Finicum And Claimed The Truth About His Death Was Hidden From The Public.

**Dennis Linthicum Praised LaVoy Finicum, Arguing The Truth About His Death Was Being Hid From The Public.** "Absolute power is not easily tamed. This is apparent when contemplating the life of LaVoy Finicum. Finicum was father to 11 children and a veritable host of grandchildren. He was a faithfuldefender of individual liberty and our constitutionally limited federal government. Finicum was killed during a confrontation with FBI and state police on a lonely stretch of highway between Burns and John Day, last Tuesday. The current information black-out is troubling because we are purposefully kept in the dark and find ourselves trapped in the web of manufactured information. The best way to quell the clamor about the unjustified taking of an innocent human life is to show the public the contrary evidence." [Dirt Road Economist, <u>01/28/16</u>]

LaVoy Finicum Was A Long-Time Ally Of Ammon And Ryan Bundy And A Leader Of The Militant Occupation Of The Malheur Wildlife Refuge. "A week into the armed occupation of a wildlife refuge in eastern Oregon, LaVoy Finicum, an Arizona rancher and father of 11 who became a de facto spokesman for the protesters, took a seat in the compound and contemplated how the standoff might end for him. [...] Mr. Finicum was friends with Cliven Bundy, the Nevada rancher and father of Ammon and Ryan, who drew national attention for leading a 2014 standoff with the federal government over illegal grazing on public lands." [*New York Times*, <u>01/27/16</u>]

### David Linthicum Supports The Hammonds, A Duo That Committed Arson On Federal Land, Comparing The Sentencing For Their Crimes To Stalin.

**David Linthicum Called For Giving Federal Lands To States Alongside An Article Titled "Why I Support The Hammond Ranch."** "Our daughter, Dani Nichols, wrote this...well worth reading to hear the heart of a millennial concerning the Hammond situation and the conflicts with Federal agencies farming and ranching families across the West are facing as they work to responsibly utilize our natural resources to supply our basic need for food, clothing, etc. I'm afraid this battle has been simmering for quite a few years and we are now seeing it escalate as the Federal government seeks more & more controlover our abundant natural resources. We must stay focused on the necessary goal of returning the Federal ownership of our land back to State and Local authority." [Facebook, State Senator Dennis Linthicum, 01/06/16]

• Dennis Linthicum Attacked Dwight And Steven Hammonds Imprisonment Under An Antiterrorism Act After The Hammonds Committed Arson On Federal Land In OppositionTo The Government. "Members of the Hammond family are facing a minimum of 5 years imprisonment under the Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act of 1996. Does anyone really believe this is an appropriate categorization for Dwight and Steve Hammond?" [Facebook, State Senator Dennis Linthicum, <u>11/23/15</u>]

**Dennis Linthicum Compared The Sentencing Of The Hammonds To Stalin's Rule In The Soviet Union.** "Under the leadership of Joseph Stalin, the administrative system of the state was enriched with resources and empowered with the facade of legality. The result was a multi-tentacled Russian monster that grew from its simple task of administrative enforcement to a full-fledged police state complete with surveillance and population management. [...] The political similarities embedded in our own nation's growing surveillance state cannot be missed. Common-place jurisdictional overreach, strangling regulatory regimes and unrelenting administrative takings all bear witness to unbalanced authoritarian rule. [...] This invokes a chilling reflection of the recent re-sentencing that Dwight and Steven Hammondreceived. A jury of the Hammond's peers in Harney County, suggested reducing the original minimum sentencing requirement." [Dirt Road Economist, <u>01/20/16</u>]

### Dennis Linthicum Attempted To Block Electors From Voting For Joe Biden And Claimed The 2020 Election Was Corrupted.

Dennis Linthicum Joined Onto A Letter To Oregon Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum Calling For Her To Join A Lawsuit Attempting To Block Electors From State's That Voted For Joe Biden From Casting Their Votes. "A dozen Republican state lawmakers wrote to Oregon Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum on Dec. 11, urging her to join the Texas lawsuit seeking to overturn presidential election results in four battleground states. "We the undersigned," the lawmakers wrote Dec. 11, "urge you to join the growing list of states joining the lawsuit filed by the State of Texas in which they have argued that electors from Georgia, Michigan, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin should not be allowed to cast their votes inpart because those states unconstitutionally changed their voting procedures during the coronavirus pandemic to allow for increased mail-in ballots."" [*Willamette Week*, 12/13/20]

**Dennis Linthicum Signed Onto A Letter Claiming The 2020 Election Was "Corrupted," And Calling For Voter Rolls To Be Scrubbed And Audits In Every State.** "Thatcher was joined by twoother Oregon legislators, state Sen. Dennis Linthicum (R-Klamath Falls) and state Rep. Lily Morgan (R-Grants Pass), in signing the partisan letter that was posted on social media by Arizona state Sen. Wendy Rogers. The letter claimed that an audit of 2.1 million ballots in Maricopa County earlier this yearproved there was "a corrupted election" and that all 50 states needed to be "forensically audited." The letter also called for voter rolls to be scrubbed in every state." [*Keizertimes*, <u>10/28/21</u>]

# Dennis Linthicum Received Endorsements From Those Affiliated With January 6<sup>th</sup> And Defenders Of The Insurrection.

*The Oregon Republican Party Endorsed Dennis Linthicum And Condemned Any Republicans That Supported Trump's Impeachment Over Inciting The January 6<sup>th</sup> Violence.* 

The Oregon Republican Party Condemned House Republicans That Voted To Impeach Donald Trump After He Incited The January 6<sup>th</sup> Insurrection. "Oregon GOP Condemns Betrayal by the TenHouse Republicans Who Voted to Impeach President Trump" [Twitter, @Oregon\_GOP, <u>01/19/21</u>]

**Dennis Linthicum Was Endorsed By The Oregon Republican Party.** [Elect Dennis, Endorsements, accessed 12/20/21]

Dennis Linthicum Was Endorsed By An Oath Keeper, A Militia Group Closely Tied To The Insurrection, Proudly Displaying The Extremist Group's Name On His Website.

Dennis Linthicum Was Endorsed By Oath Keeper Tim Harris.

> Tim Harris (R), Oath Keeper

[Elect Dennis, Endorsements, accessed <u>12/20/21</u>]

**Two Dozen People Connected To The Oath Keepers Have Been Charged With Crimes Related To Their Role In The January 6<sup>th</sup> Insurrection.** "In the months since the Capitol insurrection, as two dozen people linked to the Oath Keepers have been charged with crimes, including conspiracy, for their roles, several of those elected officials have continued to voice support for the organization." [*Buzzfeed*, <u>10/20/21</u>]

**The Oath Keepers Have Been Described By The US Department Of Justice As A "Militia" Pushing Conspiracy Theories About The Federal Government.** "In charging documents, the U.S. Justice Department described the Oath Keepers as a "large but loosely organized collection of militia who believe that the federal government has been co-opted by a shadowy conspiracy that is trying to strip American citizens of their rights."" [*Salt Lake Tribune*, <u>10/13/21</u>]

# Former WA Rep. Matt Shea



Source: Twitter, @RepMattShea, accessed 12/17/21

**SUMMARY:** Former Washington State Rep. Matt Shea is an anti-government conspiracy theorist and domestic terrorist. In the last seven years, Matt Shea participated in multiple violent conflicts with the federal government, promoted physical attacks on his political enemies, and spread extreme views denouncing the federal government and public lands.

In just three years, Matt Shea participated in three "armed conflicts of political violence against the United States Government." In 2014, Matt Shea attended the armed standoff led by Cliven Bundy against the Bureau of Land Management. In 2016, Shea continued his support of the Bundys, participating in and helping plan the "domestic terrorism against the United States" with the militant occupation of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge.

Matt Shea has aligned himself with multiple militant groups throughout his career. Shea led anti-government extremists include the Patriot Movement, the group behind the Oklahoma City bombing, and the Coalition of Western States, a militia-friendly organization fighting the "bureaucratic terrorism" of the Bureau of Land Management. Matt Shea also worked with far-right extremists to plan violent attacks on his perceived political enemies.

Matt Shea's anti-government zealotry continued through the 2020 election. Shea continually promoted baseless claims of election fraud and called for states to nullify the results.

Shea took it even further on January 6<sup>th</sup>, calling for "patriots" to "rise up" against an "illegitimate" government, arguing his followers were the only people that could "save the republic." Once January 6<sup>th</sup> turned violent, Matt Shea attacked Republicans that denounced the invasion, defended insurrectionists, and spread lies about FBI involvement and the death of Officer Brian Sicknick.

Former Washington Rep. Matt Shea Is A Domestic Terrorist And Conspiracy Theories That Has Participated Political Violence Against The US Government And Our Public Lands.

### Matt Shea Is A Former Washington State Representative That Repeatedly Participated In Acts Of Political Violence Against The United States Government.

**Matt Shea Served In The Washington State House Since 2008.** "Shea — a military veteran and attorney first elected in 2008 to the 4th Legislative District — denied the report's allegations." [*SeattleTimes*, <u>05/15/20</u>]

• Matt Shea Did Not Run For Reelection In 2020. "Controversial Spokane Valley state Rep. MattShea, who was suspended from the House Republican caucus after an investigation concluded he had engaged in domestic terrorism, will not seek reelection this fall." [*Seattle Times*, 05/15/20]

### Matt Shea Participated In Domestic Terrorism, Resulting In The Washington State House Removing Him From The Republican Caucus And Stripping Him Of His Committee Assignments.

A Report Found That Matt Shea "Planned, Engaged In And Promoted A Total Of Three Armed Conflicts Of Political Violence Against The United States" Over Three Years. ""Representative Shea, as a leader in the Patriot Movement, planned, engaged in and promoted a total of three armed conflicts of political violence against the United States Government in three states outside the state of Washington over a three-year period," according to the report released Thursday. "In one conflict Representative Shea led covert strategic pre-planning in advance of the conflict."" [*Seattle Times*, <u>12/19/19</u>]

Matt Shea Was Expelled From The Washington House Republicans Caucus And Stripped Of HisCommittee Assignments. "The report prompted House Republican leaders to expel Shea from their caucus and strip him of his committee assignments, including his ranking position on the Environment and Energy Committee. His name and picture disappeared Thursday from the House GOP website." [*Spokesman Review*, <u>12/20/19</u>]

### Matt Shea Holds Extreme, Conspiratorial Beliefs About Public Lands, Including Calling National Parks Unconstitutional And Claiming A United Nation's Resolution Is Designed To Subvert U.S. Property Rights.

**Matt Shae Co-Founded The "Stop Agenda 21 Caucus."** "That is why I co-founded the Stop Agenda 21Caucus and Stop Agenda 21 Washington Facebook Page." [Vote Shea, Solutions, accessed <u>12/16/21</u>]

• The Agenda 21 Conspiracy Theory Alleges That The United Nations Will Subvert American Private Property Rights Through A Nonbinding Resolution From 1992. "From one end of thecountry to the other, a 22-year-old, entirely voluntary United Nations planning document known as Agenda 21 has increasingly come under bitter attack from a wide array of far-right fearmongers. Led by nearly a dozen extremist groups and their propagandists, the plan — a document meant to help local communities deal with overpopulation, pollution, poverty and resource depletion — is being pilloried as a secret conspiracy to impose global governance. The end point, these ideologues insist, is the destruction of freedom and the onset of tyranny." [Southern Poverty Law Center, 04/01/14]

**Matt Shea Called Climate Change A Fraud Perpetuated By The Government.** "We constantly here from the leftist establishment that global warming is "indisputable" that anyone opposing must be beneathhumanity. The myths of climate change caused by elevated carbon dioxide levels are always presented asincontrovertible fact with which no reputable scientist disagrees. The reality is that the "scientists" who subscribe to this modern mythology are scientists on the government payroll or who those who are indirectly on the government payroll via government grants. The rest of the scientific community, made up of hundreds of thousands of real scientists around the world, doesn't buy the fraud. What is indisputable is that "global warming" is a fraud..." [Facebook, Matthew Shea, 07/09/13]

**Matthew Shea Called National Parks Unconstitutional.** "SO SOME UNEDUCATED LIBERALTRIED TO CLAIM WE WANT TO CLOSE ALL NATIONAL PARKS: Aside from the unconstitutionality of National Parks, this has nothing to do with National Parks. That is just simply toscare people." [Facebook, Matthew Shea, <u>08/29/16</u>]

### Matt Shea Planned And Participated In Multiple Violent Political Conflicts Against The Federal Government In Support Of Anti-Public Land Extremists.

A Report Found That Matt Shea "Planned, Engaged In And Promoted A Total Of Three Armed Conflicts Of Political Violence Against The United States" Over Three Years. ""Representative Shea, as a leader in the Patriot Movement, planned, engaged in and promoted a total of three armed conflicts of political violence against the United States Government in three states outside the state of Washington over a three-year period," according to the report released Thursday. "In one conflict Representative Shea led covert strategic pre-planning in advance of the conflict."" [Seattle Times, 12/19/19]

### Matt Shea Planned And Participated In Domestic Terrorism Through His Support Of The Armed Bundy-Led Occupation Of The Malheur National Wildlife Refuge.

Matt Shea Planned And Participated In The Ammon Bundy-Led Armed Takeover Of Malheur National Wildlife Refuge. "State Rep. Matt Shea planned and participated in domestic terrorism against the United States before and during the armed takeover at Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, an investigation commissioned by the Washington state House found. The 108-page report found that beginning in November 2015, Shea, working with militia leader Ammon Bundy, helped "in the planning and preparation" of the Malheur takeover, a six-week conflict in which dozens of armed protesters occupied the refuge in rural Eastern Oregon. The standoff ended after one protester was shot and killed and dozens were arrested." [Seattle Times, <u>12/19/19</u>]

• Shea Plotted "Resistance Against The Federal Government While At The Bundy Ranch And Collaborated With The White Supremacist Group, The Oath Keepers. "According to investigators, Shea visited the Bundy Ranch in Bunkerville for a couple of days. While there, he "developed a strategy for leadership over future Patriot Movement armed resistance against the federal government by creating" a coalition of western state leaders from Idaho, Washington, Arizona and Nevada. The Patriot Movement is a far-right, anti-government extremist group, according to the Southern Poverty Law Center. A core tenet is that the government should not own public lands. About two months after the Bundy Ranch standoff, the report notes a meeting between Shea and leaders of the Oath Keepers Militia at a restaurant in Spokane." [*NPR*, 12/20/19]

# *Matt Shea Participated In The Armed Bundy-Led Standoff Against The Federal Government In 2014.*

Matt Shea Participated In The 2014 Armed Standoff Between The Federal Government And The Bundy Militia. "The report also details Shea's involvement in the 2014 occupation of federal land nearBunkerville, Nevada, which began after Ammon Bundy's father, Cliven, refused to pay cattle grazing fees." [*Spokesman Review*, 12/20/19]

The Armed Standoff Between Militia Members And The Federal Government Occurred After Cliven Bundy's Cattle Were Confiscated After He Had Illegally Grazed Them On Federal Land ForTwo Decades. "For 20 years, Nevada rancher Cliven Bundy defied the federal government by letting his cattle graze on federal lands without paying the proper fees. So in the spring of 2014, the government sentarmed agents to confiscate the cattle. But hundreds of protesters — some of whom were armed militia members — assembled in support of Bundy." [*Vox*, 05/14/15]

### Matt Shea Led Multiple Anti-Government Groups That Support And Participate In Terrorism Against The Federal Government And Our Public Lands.

Matt Shea Is A Leader Of The Patriot Movement, An Anti-Government Militia Responsible For The Oklahoma City Bombing That Grew After Randy Weaver's Armed Standoff Against The Federal Government.

Matt Shea Is A Leader Of The Patriot Movement, An Anti-Government Group Including Organized Militia Members. "Representative Shea, as a leader in the Patriot Movement, planned, engaged in and promoted a total of three armed conflicts of political violence against the United States Government in three states outside the state of Washington over a three-year period," according to the report released Thursday. [...] The Patriot Movement is a loose organization of conservative groups and individuals in mostly rural areas that includes organized militia members and so-called sovereign citizens, who are generally united by deep suspicion and fear of the federal government." [*Seattle Times*, <u>12/19/19</u>]

The Patriot Movement Grew After A Standoff With The Federal Government In Ruby Ridge, ID And Was Responsible For The Oklahoma City Bombing. "The movement grew after standoffs at RubyRidge in Idaho and Waco, Texas, in the 1990s; the Oklahoma City bombing was carried out by Patriot Movement members." [*Seattle Times*, 12/19/19]

• Ruby Ridge Was An Armed Standoff Between The Federal Government And Fugitive Randy Weaver That Helped Birth "The Modern Militia Movement." "Twenty-five years ago this week, in a remote corner of northern Idaho, the modern militia movement was born in a firefight. On the streets of Charlottesville, Virginia, two weeks ago, observers could see from the presence of well-armed men in fatigues that that movement was still with us. But back in 1992, they hadn't yet formed. A firefight between six US marshals and two boys and a dog, changed allthat. On 21 August that year, the marshals went to a location that became known as Ruby Ridge, near Naples, to scout a location where they might ambush a fugitive, Randy Weaver. Weaver had been holed up for a year and half with his family in his cabin, having failed to attend his trial on firearms charges." [*The Guardian*, 08/26/17]

Matt Shea Was The Chairman Of The Coalition Of Western States, A Group Dedicated To Fighting The "Terrorism" Of The Bureau Of Land Management And Praising Anti-Government Militias And Arsonists.

Matt Shea Was The Chairman Of The Coalition Of Western States (COWS). "Shea was operating aschairman of the Coalition of Western States, or COWS, a group that included lawmakers from several other states, including Idaho state Rep. Heather Scott." [*Spokesman Review*, <u>12/20/19</u>]

**COWS Is A Group Opposed To The "Bureaucratic Terrorism" Of The Bureau Of Land Management That Has Publicly Aligned Itself With Anti-Government Militias And Terrorists.** "TheCoalition of Western States (COWS) describes itself as a group of elected legislators and "grass roots leaders" in the Western United States "dedicated to stopping federal overreach" and the "bureaucratic terrorism" of the Bureau of Land Management, according to a December 2015 news release from the organization. The group publicly backed the Hammond family of Oregon ranchers, whose dispute with the federal government over public land management inspired the armed militia occupation of the Oregonwildlife refuge. Some members of COWS met with the militia members and fed them information." [*Phoenix New Times*, 10/01/20]

• Dwight And Steven Hammond Were Charges With Domestic Terrorism After Committing Arson On Federal Land. "Dwight and Steven Hammond are ranchers from Harney County, Oregon. The father and son were serving sentences in federal prison for setting two separate fires common to the function of ranching. The fires leaked to nearby federal lands, burning 137 acres in the first fire and one acre in the second. In 2010, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) filed federal charges against Dwight and Steven Hammond as domestic terrorists under the Anti-terrorism Act of 1996." [*Michigan Farm News*, 07/25/18]

In Addition To Planning Violent Attacks On Political Enemies With Far-Right Extremists, Matt Shea Promoted Baseless Election Fraud Claims, Encouraged Supporters To "Rise Up" Ahead Of January 6<sup>th</sup>, And Defended Violent Insurrectionists.

# Matt Shea Is An Active Member Of The "Far-Right Patriot Movement" And Planned Violence Against His Political Enemies.

Matt Shea Is An Active Member Of The "Far-Right Patriot Movement," Is Preoccupied With "Military-Style Prepping," And Believes In An "Imminent Civil War And Government Collapse." "The report largely corroborates previous news stories about Shea's involvement in the far-right "patriot" movement, his preoccupation with military-style prepping and reconnaissance, his belief in an imminentcivil war and government collapse, his conspiracy theories about Muslims and liberals and his dream of achieving a Christian theocracy." [Spokesman Review, 12/20/19]

**Matt Shea Planned Violent Attacks On Political Enemies With Far-Right Extremists.** "A Washingtonstate Republican politician took part in private discussions with rightwing figures about carrying out surveillance, "psyops" and even violent attacks on perceived political enemies, according to chat records obtained by the Guardian. State representative Matt Shea, who represents Spokane Valley in the Washington state house, participated in the chats with three other men. All of the men used screen aliases. Shea's was "Verum Bellator", Latin for true warrior." [*The Guardian*, 04/20/19]

### Matt Shea Spread Lies About Election Fraud And Called For The 2020 Election Results To Be Nullified.

Matt Shea Posted Repeatedly About Election Fraud Allegations In The Days Following The 2020Election:

- November 5, 2021: ""The battle, sir, is not to the strong alone; it is to the vigilant, the active, thebrave." —Patrick Henry (1775) #StopTheSteal"
- November 6, 2021: "Sydney Powell just confirmed they have evidence HAMMER and SCORECARD were used in the election fraud. See my post below on my timeline for the videoon what those are."
- November 7, 2021: "Fraud Allegations Piling Up"
- November 7, 2021: "Oh, I almost forgot...even more allegations of fraud."

[Facebook, Matthew Shea, <u>11/07/20</u>]

Matt Shea Claims Dead People Voted In The 2020 Election With The Hashtag "Stop Election Fraud." "7,228 dead people voted. Who voted for them? #StopElectionFraud If the Republican Partydoesn't do anything will it become the #WalkingDeadParty?" [Twitter, @RepMattShea, <u>11/24/20</u>]

Matt Shea Promoted An Article Claiming State Legislatures Can Overturn A "Fraudulent" Election That "Did Not Fulfill The Will Of The People." "One of the ultimate checks in our system: "State legislators have the constitutional authority to overrule a certified vote count in presidential electionif they believe it was fraudulent or in error and did not fulfill the will of the people." Anyone saying something else (like the National Review) is simply lying." [Facebook, Matthew Shea, <u>11/24/20</u>]

Matt Shea Called For States To Nullify The 2020 Election Results And "Rise Up." "More states needto rise up and say no to China Joe, federal intimidation, and unconstitutional actions. Nullify and do not comply!" [Facebook, Matthew Shea, 05/06/21]

## Matt Shea Incited Violence On January 6<sup>th</sup> And The Days After, Calling On People To "Rise Up" To "Save The Republic" From An "Illegitimate Government" And Encouraging Followers To "Be Ready" For "Escalat[ing]" Civil Unrest.

Matt Shea Called For "Patriots" To "Rise Up" On January 6<sup>th</sup>, Calling The Government "Illegitimate." "Facebook seems to be suppressing us here. [...] Patriots are rising up all over the country. If you see this message, the message is rise up all over the country. [...] Americans always, always,

always fight for liberty. We always fight for liberty, that's what this is about. Any government that's elected by fraud is an illegitimate government by definition." [Facebook, Matthew Shea, 01/06/21]

Matt Shea Called For "Us To Save The Republic," Telling Followers To "Stand Up Now" And That They Are The Only People That Can Save The Country. "It's time for us to save the republic.

Americans will always fight for liberty, as I said before. We have got to stand up now. Now is the time. It's not going to be politicians that are going to do this. Its' going to be we the people who love liberty, who love freedom, that's going to stand up. If you're a praying person [...] pray that this isn't going to stop here soon that we're actually going to continue this until we have justice in this land." [Facebook, Matthew Shea, 01/06/21]

Matt Shea Told Followers To "Be Ready" With An Article Claiming "Civil Unrest Will AlmostCertainly Continue To Escalate."

Matthew Shea January 26 · 🔇

BE READY:



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### Be Prepared for 2021: Good, Bad & VERY Ugly

Civil unrest will almost certainly continue to escalate. America Church Deep State Economy Featured Liberty Sentinel Prepping Trump Be Prepared for 2021: Good, Bad & VERY Ugly By Alex Newman 4 weeks ago There is likely to be some very significant turbulence in the economy, society and culture. But t...

5 Comments 7 Shares

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[Facebook, Matthew Shea, 01/26/21]

Matt Shea Promoted Multiple Stop The Steal Protests In The Days Surrounding January6<sup>th</sup>, Even Attending A Rally In Spokane, WA On The Day Of The Insurrection.

Matt Shea Was At A Stop The Steal Rally In Spokane, WA On January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021. "Hi everybody it's Matt Shea broadcasting live from Spokane. Spokane Arena Stop the Steal rally, Save Our Republic rally." [Facebook, Matthew Shea, <u>01/06/21</u>]

Matt Shea Promoted Multiple Stop The Steal Protests From January 4th Through 9th.



ALERT: #SaveTheRepublic #StopTheSteal Rallies/Protests this week

PURPOSE: SAVE THE REPUBLIC; Support President Trump (as he has requested); Stop the Steal; Support

our Local Businesses HOW: -Peaceful protest that we do not consent to unconstitutional government actions and a government elected by fraud is illegitimate. We support President Trump 100%

-Bring Trump Signs & Flags, Patriotic Flags, and Well-made message signs. WHEN & WHERE:

January 4th, 11:45am @ Liguor Cannabis Board 1303 W Broadway Spokane, WA - Stop the Tyranny Against Business January 5th, 11:00am @ 1250 W Ironwood Dr, Coeur d' Alene, ID - Stop the Steal & Support

the President

January 6th, 11:00am @ Spokane Arena - Stop the Steal Car Rally (Route provide onsite) January 6th, 12:00pm @ Federal Building, Spokane, WA - Prayer Walk w/ Covenant Church Spokane

January 6th, 2:00 @ Spokane Arena - Stop the Steal, Stop the Tyranny March to City Hall January 9th, All Day @ Kettle Falls, WA - Support the Open Local Businesse

Keep up the fight!



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[Facebook, Matthew Shea, 01/04/21]

### Matt Shea Defended Insurrectionists, Denounced Politicians That Didn't Support The Violence, And Spread Conspiracy Theories About Brian Sicknick, An Officer That Died Following Attacks By Insurrectionists.

Matt Shea Defended Insurrectionist Ashli Babbitt, Blaming "Pelosi's Private Gestapo" For Her Death And Promoting #StopTheSteal.

Matt Shea Defended Insurrectionists, Arguing They "Just Wanted To Live Free" And "Fight For Liberty" With The Hashtags "DC Massacre" And "Stop The Steal." "...Both because Americans justwanted to live free. Americans will always fight for Liberty. #DCMassacre #SavetheRepublic #RememberDC #StoptheSteal" [Twitter, @RepMattShea, 01/06/21]

Matt Shea's Tweet Included A Graphic Photo Of Insurrectionist Ashli Babbitt After She Was Shot Under The Words "Pelosi's Private Gestapo." [Twitter, @RepMattShea, 01/06/21]

Matt Shea Claimed Facebook Removed His Post On "The Truth About Ashli Babbitt" In A "Purge" Signifying Impending "Actual Violence." "FB JUST RESTRICTED MY ACCOUNT AND REMOVED THE TRUTH ABOUT ASHLI BABBITT. THIS IS A PURGE. COMMUNISTS ALWAYSDO THIS RIGHT BEFORE THEY PERPETRATE ACTUAL VIOLENCE." [Facebook, Matthew Shea, 01/09/21]

Matt Shea Promoted An Article Denying That Officer Brian Sicknick's Death Was Caused By Insurrectionists.

Matt Shea Promoted A Conspiracy Theory Against Officer Brian Sicknick Who Died After Being Attacked By Insurrectionists On January 6<sup>th</sup>.



...

Facts beginning to emerge... The New York Times lied? Say it ain't so...



[Facebook, Matthew Shea, 03/18/21]

## Matt Shea Called January 6th A "False Flag Operation."

**Matt Shea Claims The Insurrection Was A "False Flag Federal Operation."** "More evidence is coming out that January 6th, may indeed have been a false flag Federal Operation..." [Facebook, MatthewShea, <u>06/16/21</u>]

*Matt Shea Supported Attacks On Republicans Denouncing The Violence Of The January* 6<sup>th</sup> Insurrection.

Matt Shea Retweeted A Post Criticizing Conservatives For Denouncing Violence On January 6<sup>th</sup>, Comparing The Insurrection To The American Revolution.



[Twitter, Matt Shea, <u>01/07/21</u>]

# **Oregon Representative Cliff Bentz**



Source: Natural Resource Report

**SUMMARY:** Congressman Cliff Bentz, who represents Oregon's 2nd congressional district, voted against certifying Pennsylvania's vote in the 2020 election. Bentz went on to claim that Trump was not responsible for the January 6<sup>th</sup> insurrection, voting against the former President's 2<sup>nd</sup> impeachment. Bentz instead blamed the protests that occurred in Portland the previous summer, and on Nancy Pelosi for not investigating claims of fraud in the 2020 election.

Cliff Bentz has held many anti-conservation stances over the years, including a longstanding opposition to the National Environmental Policy Act. He has fought for increased logging rights on public lands and reductions to owl habitat protections. Keeping with his defense of anti-government action, Bentz commended Trump's decision to pardon the ranchers who instigated the Bundy militia's occupation in Oregon against the Bureau of Land Management.

Rep. Cliff Bentz Voted Against Certifying Pennsylvania's Vote And Against Trump's Impeachment For Insurrection, Choosing To Fault Portland Protesters And Pelosi Instead

# <u>Cliff Bentz Voted Against Certifying Pennsylvania's Votes Baseless Election</u> <u>Fraud Claims, And Claimed He Wanted Those Who Doubted The Election</u> <u>Results "To Understand They Were Being Heard"</u>

**Bentz Voted Against Certifying Pennsylvania's Votes In The 2020 Election.** "Although Congress ultimately voted to certify the vote, Bentz was among a group of lawmakers who voted against the certification of votes in Pennsylvania. Bentz said his vote for the Jan. 6 commission and against the

certification were consistent because both followed the Constitution. Bentz said Pennsylvania didn't follow the Constitution when it bypassed its state legislature to extend absentee deadlines." [East Oregonian, 06/10/21]

**Bentz Voted To Reject Pennsylvania's Votes Because Of Its Mail-In Ballots.** "Bentz, in the later interview, said he had concluded that Pennsylvania's votes should be rejected, based on how the state handled certain mail ballots. Trump for months had told the country that mail ballots were rife with fraud." [Oregonlive.com, <u>01/12/21]</u>

**Bentz On Voting To Reject Pennsylvania's Ballots: "I Wanted People To Understand They Were Being Heard... These People Are So Angry About Being Left Out."** "Bentz said he was also mindful that voters across the country still doubt the election results. 'I wanted people to understand they were being heard,' Bentz said. 'These people are so angry about being left out.'" [Oregonlive.com, 01/12/21]

**Bentz Declined To Comment If He Would Vote To Certify The Election Even After The Capitol Had Been Stormed.** "After a mob of Trump supporters laid siege to the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday, the newest member of Oregon's Congressional delegation declined to say if he will vote to certify election results in all 50 states. Rep. Cliff Bentz, a Republican from Eastern Oregon, also declined to say whether he thinks Joe Biden is the rightful president-elect, though he acknowledged any outcome where Biden does not take office is 'highly unlikely.'" [Opb.org, <u>01/06/21</u>]

# <u>Bentz Claimed Pelosi And Portland Protesters Were Responsible For Inciting</u> <u>January 6<sup>th</sup> Violence, Not Trump</u>

**Bentz Claimed He Did Not Hold Trump Responsible For The Insurrection.** "Bentz said he did not hold the president responsible for Wednesday's insurrection: 'He [Trump] wanted a protest. I don't think he ever would have wanted it to turn violent,' Bentz said. 'The protesters are responsible, the people who decided to take it upon themselves to damage things,' he added, declining to clearly state whether or not he approved of Trump's reaction to the events. 'I hope that [President Trump] is emphatic in whatever statements he chooses to make, to tell people to avoid violence.'" [Opb.org, <u>01/06/21</u>]

Bentz Blamed The Unrest In Portland In 2020 For Setting A Bad Example That Inspired The Violence On January 6<sup>th</sup>. "Bentz instead blamed recent unrest in Portland for setting a bad example." [Opb.org, <u>01/06/21</u>]

**Bentz Blamed Pelosi Not Investigating The Election Results For Leading To The Violence On January 6<sup>th</sup>.** "He also singled out House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-California, but not other leaders in Congress. Three weeks ago, Bentz joined 25 other Republican Congress members-elect in sending Pelosi a letter, calling the election results into question, and petitioning her to create an investigatory commission. 'She ignored that... Had she acted promptly, perhaps that would have helped avoid this kind of thing where people think they're not being heard, think that they have to resort to this kind of violence to make their point,' Bentz said." [Opb.org, <u>01/06/21</u>]

# Bentz Voted Against Impeaching Trump For Role In January 6<sup>th</sup> Insurrection, Claiming The "Rush-To-Judgement Impeachment Proceedings Have Only Succeeded In Dividing Our Country Even More"

**Bentz Voted Against Impeaching Donald Trump For The January 6** <sup>th</sup> **Insurrection.** "Rep. Cliff Bentz, R-Ore., the new congressman from Oregon's Second Congressional District, voted against the impeachment of President Donald Trump in the U.S. House on Wednesday. In a statement, Bentz cited the importance of unifying the nation around a peaceful transition to the Biden Administration: 'I continue to share the emotions many are feeling in the aftermath of the unprecedented and unacceptable violence this past week. But the current rush-to-judgement impeachment proceedings have only succeeded in dividing our country even more.'" [KTVZ.com, <u>01/13/21</u>]

Rep. Cliff Bentz Has Longstanding Opposition To The National Environmental Policy Act, Persistently Led Efforts To Increase Logging Rights And To Reduce Owl Habitat Protections, And Commended The Pardoning Of Anti-Land Arsonists

# <u>Cliff Bentz Commended The Pardons Of Oregon Ranchers And Arsonists</u> <u>WhoInstigated The Bundy Land Takeover</u>

Bentz Commended The Pardons Of Oregon Ranchers Who Instigated The Bundy Land Takeover.

"U.S. Rep. Greg Walden (R-Ore.) encouraged Trump to grant the Hammonds clemency and state Sen. Cliff Bentz (R-Ontario), in whose district the Hammonds lived, celebrated the president's decision in a statement today. 'I also want to thank Congressman Greg Walden for his tireless efforts in support of these pardons,' Bentz said. 'Based upon my conversations with several of those involved I am relatively certain that without the Congressman's meaningful involvement this would not have happened."" [Willamette Week, <u>07/10/18</u>]

# <u>Cliff Bentz Praised Trump For Overhauling NEPA, Claiming The President's</u> <u>NewPlan Would "[Streamline] Government Bureaucracy And Inefficiency</u> <u>While Still Safeguarding The Environment"</u>

Bentz Applauded Trump For Overhauling The National Environmental Policy Act, Referring To It As A "Litigation Nightmare And A Time Sink." "I applaud President Trump's plan to update the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). NEPA is a litigation nightmare and time sink for many projects involving federal funding. To quote the President, when talking about how long it takes to get a permit to build, 'that's big government at its absolute worst.' Hopefully, the President's overhaul of these rules will speed up the NEPA review process and allow road improvements, fire prevention activities, timber sales, and land and water management to actually happen. The President's plan will ensure improved and increased local input and save taxpayer dollars by streamlining government bureaucracy and inefficiency while still safeguarding the environment. The President's action to speed up these litigation bound processes will help move activities across all of Oregon forward." [Cliffbentz.com, Accessed <u>12/17/21</u>]

# <u>Cliff Bentz Introduced Legislation To Limit Owl Habitat Protection, Citing The</u> <u>"FarLeft's Weaponization Of The Endangered Species Act."</u>

**Bentz Introduced Bill To Limit Northern Spotted Owl Habitat Protection, Claiming The Protection Was An Example Of The "Far Left's Weaponization Of The Endangered Species Act."** "Yesterday, Congressman Cliff Bentz (R-Ore.) introduced H.R.6019, a bill that would codify the Trump Administration's Northern Spotted Owl (NSO) Critical Habitat Revision, which would fine-tune the NSO's habitat designation and remove about one million acres of non-NSO habitat lands from the area designated as owl habitat. 'The Biden Administration's newly announced critical habitat designation for the Northern Spotted Owl is one of many examples of the far Left's weaponization of the Endangered Species Act,' said Bentz. 'I am fighting to restore the Trump Administration's habitat designation for the NSO because its designation balanced the needs of the owl against the needs of rural communities and the threat of massive wildfires.'" [Bentz.house.gov, <u>11/19/21</u>]

# <u>Cliff Bentz Has Regularly Advocated For Increased Logging Rights On Federal</u> <u>Lands By Fearmongering About Forest Fires.</u>

**Bentz Claimed That Fires On Public Lands Are Not Put Out Immediately Because Of "Bureaucrats In Washington DC," And Advocated For More Logging.** "The fires that start on private forestlands are quickly extinguished while the fires on public land are not put out immediately and they grow rapidly out of control. Waiting for bureaucrats in Washington DC to fight fires in Oregon has not been a successful model... we need to get back into the woods to log and remove massive amounts of timber both for the economic survival of local economies of Oregon and for the safety of the timber communities that are otherwise in real danger of burning up when the huge and ever-growing stockpiles of wood that surround them catch fire... I promise to advocate for sustainable and responsible management in our Federal Forests. We need approaches that reduce fuel loads, enhance salvage logging and practice sustained yield harvests." [Cliffbentz.com, Accessed 12/17/21]

**Bentz On Logging: "My Goal In Washington Is To Try To Get Us Back In The Woods."** "'My goal in Washington is to try to get us back in the woods,' Bentz said." [Malheur Enterprise, <u>11/11/21</u>]

# <u>Cliff Bentz Voted Against A Moratorium On Fracking In Oregon, And Had A</u> <u>23%Lifetime Score From The Oregon LCV</u>

**Bentz Voted Against A Moratorium On Fracking In Oregon.** Bentz voted against HB 2623 in Oregon, which would have imposed a moratorium on fracking. [Scorecard.oclv.org, Accessed <u>12/17/21</u>]

**Bentz Had A Lifetime Score Of 23% From The Oregon League Of Conservation Voters In 2019.** Bentz had a lifetime score of 23% from the Oregon League of Conservation Voters in 2019. [Scorecard.oclv.org, Accessed <u>12/17/21</u>]

# <u>Cliff Bentz Traveled To The Texas To "Survey The Impacts Illegal</u> <u>Immigration AndThe Biden Border Crisis Have On Sensitive Wildlife Habitats</u> <u>And Federal Lands Along The Border"</u>

#### Bentz Went On A Trip With Republican Members Of Congress To Assess The Environmental

**Impacts Of Undocumented Immigration On Federal Lands.** "House Committee on Natural Resources Ranking Member Bruce Westerman (R-Ark.) led a congressional delegation to McAllen, Texas to survey the impacts illegal immigration and the Biden border crisis have on sensitive wildlife habitats and federal lands along the border. U.S. Reps. Cliff Bentz (R-Ore.), John Moolenaar (R-Mich.) and Troy Balderson (R-Ohio) joined Westerman on the trip." [House Committee on Natural Resources, <u>07/23/21</u>]

Trump's Border Wall Has Been Environmentally Devastating, Harming Wildlife, Cutting Through

**Protected Lands, And Worsening Flooding.** "What's undeniable is that the 654 miles of walls and fences already on the US-Mexico border have made a mess out of the environment there. The existing barrier has cut off, isolated, and reduced populations of some of the rarest and most amazing animals in North America, like the jaguar. They've led to the creation of miles of roads through pristine wilderness areas. They've even exacerbated flooding, becoming dams when rivers have overflowed. The new sections of fence under contract are slated for the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas and will cut right through a federal wildlife refuge, a state park, Native American grave sites, and the National Butterfly Center." [*Vox*, 02/05/19]

# **Brady Knowlton**



Source: <u>New York Times</u>

**SUMMARY:** Brady Knowlton is a Utah resident who was charged for his role in the January 6<sup>th</sup> violence at the U.S. Capitol. Knowlton was charged for entering and remaining in a restricted building or grounds, disorderly and disruptive conduct, and a slew of other offenses from the day. Knowlton allegedly told officers to move out of the way as they left the Senate Gallery, and is quoted as telling the officers, "we don't wanna push through here," and, "this is happening. Our vote doesn't matter, so we came here for a change."

Prior to the insurrection Knowlton worked in financing for the oil and energy industry. He also is an avid noodler, a form of catfishing that has been critiqued for its effects on fish populations.

# Brady Knowlton Was Charged For His Role In The January 6<sup>th</sup> Insurrection, Where He Told Officers "Our Vote Doesn't Matter So We Came Here For A Change."

Knowlton Was Charged With Knowingly Entering Or Remaining In A Restricted Building Without Lawful Authority, Violent Entry And Disorderly Conduct On Capitol Grounds, And Obstruction Of Justice Or Congress. "He is charged in federal court with three counts: knowingly entering or remaining in a restricted building without lawful authority, violent entry and disorderly conduct on Capitol grounds and obstruction of justice or Congress." [Fox13now.com, <u>07/02/21</u>]

**Knowlton Told Officers, "This Is Happening. Our Vote Doesn't Matter, So We Came Here For A Change."** Knowlton told officers on January 6<sup>th</sup>, "this is happening. Our vote doesn't matter, so we came here for a change." [Fox13now.com, <u>07/02/21</u>]

# Brady Knowlton Previously Worked In Oil And Gas In Texas, And Was An AvidNoodler, A Form Of Catfishing That Has Been Critiqued For Its Effects On FishPopulations.

**Prior To January 6<sup>th</sup>, Knowlton Worked In The Oil And Gas Industry.** "Public records show Knowlton has spent much of his life in Texas. There, he worked in financing for the oil and energy industry." [Fox13.com, <u>04/08/21</u>]

Knowlton Is An Avid Noodler, A Risky Form Of Fishing That Has Questionable Effects On The Spawns Of Catfish. "'This is just a very unique thrill,' said Mr. Knowlton, a 30-year-old Dallas outdoorsman who has been hand fishing, or 'noodling,' since he was a teenager. But to get his hands inside a catfish's mouth legally, Mr. Knowlton must go to Oklahoma. Hand fishing is a Class C misdemeanor in Texas, punishable by a fine of up to \$500. But that may not be the case for much longer. State lawmakers on Thursday approved a bill to legalize hand fishing, and the bill is now on its way to the governor's desk. But noodling has its detractors. In what could be seen as fishing's class warfare, traditional rod-and-reel fishermen say noodlers tarnish the reputation of the up-and-coming sport of catfishing. And they worry that hand fishing could decimate the population of large male catfish." [New York Times, <u>05/19/11</u>]