

1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 39
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5 A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF
6 MONTANA SUPPORTING THE PROTECTION AND RETENTION OF NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS.

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8 WHEREAS, Montanans have a deep love and affection for our shared national public lands and the
9 innumerable benefits they provide; and

10 WHEREAS, Montana and the American West contain a variety of national public lands, including
11 national parks, national forests, wildlife refuges, national monuments, wilderness areas, and other public lands;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Montanans' affection for public lands extends to protected areas from the Going-to-the-
14 Sun Road in Glacier National Park to the Capitol Rock Natural Landmark in the Custer Gallatin National Forest
15 and all of the acres of public lands in between managed by federal agencies that feature iconic working
16 ranches, mountain bike trail systems, world-class climbing, outstanding whitewater rafting, historical centers,
17 museums, and incredible hunting and angling opportunities; and

18 WHEREAS, our public lands reflect many of our most noble democratic ideals because public lands
19 offer valuable recreational, economic, cultural, and spiritual opportunities for everyone, regardless of one's
20 socioeconomic status, race, or gender or whether one lives in an urban or rural area; and

21 WHEREAS, our public lands provide defining features of Montana and the foundation for our quality of
22 life by supporting the vitality of our communities, as well as representing Montana's common heritage.

23 WHEREAS, our national public lands in Montana feature an amazingly diverse range of landscapes,
24 from the snowcapped peaks of the Rocky Mountains down to rushing rivers, from canyons to sagebrush seas,
25 and the tree-lined mountain valleys that are treasured by Montanans for outdoor recreation, such as hunting,
26 angling, downhill and cross country skiing, and snowmobiling; and

27 WHEREAS, our public lands provide important wildlife habitats, clean water, clean air, and natural
28 amenities that contribute to Montanans' quality of life and Montana's climate resiliency; and

