ROCKY FLATS STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

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Jefferson County -- Boulder County -- City and County of Broomfield -- City of Arvada -- City of Boulder

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League of Women Voters -- Rocky Flats Cold War Museum -- Rocky Flats Homesteaders

Arthur Widdowfield

June 7, 2010

Secretary Ken Salazar

Department of the Interior

1849 C Street NW

Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar,

We are writing to urge you to include in the fiscal year 2011 budget and subsequent budgets funding for the Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge. As you often remarked as Senator and Attorney General, the Rocky Flats Refuge is the crown jewel of the northwest metro area. Without funding for the USFWS to implement the site conservation plan, this status as the crown jewel is compromised.

We recognize that there are many competing funding needs facing the Department of the Interior. Providing long-term funding for this refuge is core to meeting Congress’ intent in passing the refuge legislation in 2001. Funding also helps ensure that this property remains an asset for the local communities, and that our collective efforts to integrate this federal property with our open space is met. The Natural Resource Trustees’ decision in 2009 to fund a joint proposal our communities and community groups developed reflects that your goals in working with us on “Beyond the Fences” are being met. A critical missing piece to this regional vision, however, is adequate funding for the Rocky Flats Refuge.

We thus strongly urge you to include in Interior’s budget starting in fiscal year 2011 funding for the Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge.

Regards,

Lori Cox

Chairman

Cc: Senator Mark Udall

 Senator Michael Bennet

Representative Jared Polis

Representative Ed Perlmutter

Representative Mike Coffman