

An easy way to do a most important thing for Wilderness

Letters to the editor are a great way to reach a wide audience—not only are they generally one of the most read sections of the newspaper, but members of Congress and other public officials read and pay attention to them. Wilderness Watch encourages you to write a letter to the editor on Wilderness. Your letter could address a specific wilderness stewardship issue (such as the many posted on our website and in this and recent newsletters), especially if you live near or have visited the Wilderness you're writing about, or you can write a more general letter, perhaps talking about the value of Wilderness and why it matters to you.

Here are some tips for getting a letter to the editor published:

- Stay within your newspaper's word limit.
- Know to whom to submit your letter (You can usually find this information on a paper's editorial page or website.).
- Be concise. Choose one topic.
- Make it personal—relate an experience you've had or why this matters to you.
- Use a local hook if you can.
- Write about something happening or important right now.
- If you're responding to an article or editorial, mention it and the date it ran.
- Follow up. If your letter isn't printed, try to find out why and whether you can revise it to get it printed.

Happy letter writing! Let us know if we can help. 