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December 16, 2015

President Barack Obama  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

FirstLight Federal Credit Union strongly supports the designation of the Castner Range National Monument.

The Castner Range area is a crown jewel for west Texas and a monument designation would offer protection from future development for the cultural, historical, scientific and environmental connections to the region. Further, it would provide numerous boosts for the community, including benefits to public health, education, natural resource management, the local economy and the preservation of breathtaking views from El Paso's Northeast Side to the U.S.-Mexico border and beyond.

FirstLight Federal Credit Union feels that your preservation of these cherished resources will be a boon for our local economy. Each year, outdoor recreation drives more than \$646 billion in consumer spending into our nation's economy and creates over 6.1 million jobs. Right here in Texas, outdoor recreation generates nearly \$30 billion a year for the state's economy and supports nearly 300,000 jobs. Permanent protection of this region will improve economic opportunities for our local economy; increase coordination between federal agencies; provide well-managed recreation opportunities; safeguard the area's natural beauty, sensitive areas, wildlife and rare plants; and ensure the continued use and enjoyment of these lands for future generations.

We strongly urge you to permanently protect Castner Range by designating it a National Monument, and leave a legacy that protects the past – and future – of this national treasure for all time.

Sincerely,

Karl Murphy  
President/CEO  
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