

Rocky Flats Coalition of Local Governments

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For Immediate Release

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ROCKY FLATS COALITION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS APPLAUDS UDALL-ALLARD WILDLIFE REFUGE BILL

(Westminster — August 31, 2000) — David Abelson, Executive Director of the Rocky Flats Coalition of Local Governments, issued the following statement regarding Congressman Mark Udall and Senator Wayne Allard's Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge Bill:

"The Rocky Flats Coalition of Local Governments applauds Congressman Mark Udall and Senator Wayne Allard's commitment and leadership in protecting Rocky Flats for future generations. The buffer zone, which covers approximately 6,000 acres, is not just home to numerous plant and animal species, including the Preble's meadow jumping mouse, but through these lands run three important drainages — Woman Creek, Walnut Creek, and Rock Creek. The Coalition commends Congressman Udall and Senator Allard's efforts in working to ensure that the cleanup and closure is protective of human health and the environment and that the resources are protected for future generations. The cleanup and protection of Rocky Flats necessitates elected officials work together and Congressman Udall and Senator Allard's continued leadership is central to the long-term protection of the Site. The Coalition welcomes the continued opportunity to work with Congressman Udall and Senator Allard in refining the provisions in the bill and securing its timely passage."

The Rocky Flats Coalition of Local Governments was created in February 1999 by an intergovernmental agreement among the seven local governments that either border or own open space adjacent to Rocky Flats. The purpose of the Coalition is to provide an effective mechanism for local governments in the vicinity of Rocky Flats and their citizens to work together on issues of mutual concern relating to the safe, prompt, and effective cleanup and closure of Rocky Flats. The Coalition also works on future-use and long-term protection issues, and serves as a focal point for local government communication and advocacy with state and federal agencies regarding Rocky Flats issues.