

MIKE LEE, Utah, *Chairman*
JOHN BARRASSO, Wyoming
JAMES E. RISCH, Idaho
STEVE DAINES, Montana
TOM COTTON, Arkansas
DAVID McCORMICK, Pennsylvania
JAMES C. JUSTICE, West Virginia
BILL CASSIDY, Louisiana
CINDY HYDE-SMITH, Mississippi
LISA MURKOWSKI, Alaska
JOHN HOEVEN, North Dakota

United States Senate
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6150
WWW.ENERGY.SENATE.GOV

MARTIN HEINRICH, New Mexico
RON WYDEN, Oregon
MARIA CANTWELL, Washington
MAZIE HIRONO, Hawaii
ANGUS S. KING, JR., Maine
CATHERINE CORTEZ MASTO, Nevada
JOHN W. HICKENLOOPER, Colorado
ALEX PADILLA, California
RUBEN GALLEGO, Arizona

WENDY BAIG, MAJORITY STAFF DIRECTOR
CHRISTOPHER PRANDONI, MAJORITY DEPUTY STAFF DIRECTOR
AND CHIEF COUNSEL

JASMINE HUNT, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR
SAM E. FOWLER, MINORITY CHIEF COUNSEL

September 29, 2026

Mr. Rob Manfred
Commissioner of Baseball
Major League Baseball
1271 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10020

Dear Commissioner Manfred:

I write to express strong opposition to Major League Baseball (MLB) hosting a baseball game at a national park. I strongly urge you to withdraw your proposal.

According to recent reports, MLB has approached the Trump administration about hosting a major league baseball game in Grand Teton National Park. This news is highly concerning. Grand Teton National Park holds a singular place in our nation's conservation history. First protected by Congress in 1929, the park preserves the Teton Range, the valley of Jackson Hole, and one of the most intact ecosystems in the lower 48 states. It is home to grizzly bears, moose, bison, and it sustains the pronghorn's ancient migration route, one of the longest land migrations in North America. The same land that makes the area attractive to construction is the same habitat these animals depend on for grazing, calving, and passage.

Since 1916, the mission of the National Park Service has been to conserve the scenery, natural and historic objects, and wildlife in the parks, and to provide for their enjoyment in a way that leaves them unimpaired for future generations of Americans.¹ This all makes national parks sacred ground and not a proper venue for a stadium built for a single commercial event. As Americans, we have an obligation to protect and preserve our national parks at every turn. The public and local communities deserve an opportunity to voice their concerns about visitor safety and the protection of federal lands and ecosystems. Neither MLB nor the Trump administration has sought public input. According to *The Washington Post*, Deputy Director Frank Lands

¹ National Park Service, Research Policies and Guidance (March 19, 2025)
<https://www.nps.gov/subjects/science/research-policy-guidance.htm>

recently visited Teton County, but made no mention of hosting an MLB game in Grand Teton National Park.²

Baseball is a treasured American pastime – drawing millions of fans to ballparks every year. MLB has its choice of at least 30 different stadiums all over the country to host a baseball game. Hosting a baseball game at a national park, however, should not be one of those venues given the heightened threat to local ecosystems and wildlife habitats. I therefore request that you withdraw your proposal to host a baseball game at a national park and instead pursue a more viable alternative venue.

Sincerely,



Martin Heinrich
United States Senator
Ranking Member, Committee
on Energy and Natural
Resources

cc: The Honorable Doug Burgum, Secretary
United States Department of the Interior

² “Trump administration considers building baseball park in Grand Teton National Park.” The Washington Post, September 28, 2026. Available: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/climate-environment/2026/09/26/trump-officials-weigh-mlb-game-grand-teton-national-park/>