

## **RESOLUTION SEEKING SUPPORT OF SALE OF STATE LAND IN KELLY TO NATIONAL PARK SERVICE**

**Whereas**, the Wyoming Office of State Lands and Investments has set a series of in-person meetings to get public feedback on a proposal to auction off 640 acres of state land bordering Grand Teton National Park; and

**Whereas**, the meetings will start the first full week of November, with a meeting in Jackson set for 5:30 p.m. on Nov. 9 at the Teton County Library. There will also be meetings in Cheyenne on Nov 6, Casper on Nov 16 and Cody on Nov 28.

**Whereas**, the parcel has been appraised for about \$62 million, the least the state would be willing to accept, but the most the National Park Service would be willing to pay, per federal policy; and

**Whereas**, That raises the risk that the National Park Service and its partners, like the Grand Teton National Park Foundation, could be outbid in an open auction. Meanwhile, former Department of Interior officials have said the 640-acre Kelly parcel is likely the most important holding in the entire national park system; and

**Whereas**, an open auction would go to the highest bidder, public or private, with significant potential ramifications for public access, hunting, fishing access, and big game migration; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, The Teton County Democratic Party seeks the support of the Democratic Parties in other Wyoming Counties and the Wyoming Democratic Party in opposing an auction of the 640 acres of state land to the highest bidder and supporting an outright sale to the national park service; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, The Teton County Democratic Party requests assistance from the other county Democratic Parties in Wyoming in attending meetings and giving public comment specifically at the meetings in Cheyenne, Casper, and Cody for this important issue.