

Heller wants to prevent future Nev. wilderness designations

By Benjamin Spillman, Reno Gazette-Journal

Republican Sen. Dean Heller is seeking to leverage one-party control of Congress and the White House with an idea for a bill that would block future wilderness designations in Nevada.

Heller, who is running for re-election and considered the most vulnerable Republican in the Senate, says he plans to introduce legislation “within weeks” that would strip protections from potentially dozens of designated wilderness study areas.

A wilderness advocate who has worked with Nevada’s federal delegation on conservation legislation called Heller’s idea a “radical departure” from prior, bipartisan public lands bills.

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