

Suggested Town Hall Talking Points

- **Thank you for past leadership!**
 - *Thank you* for your support of the Wilderness expansions in 2009.
 - Now more than ever we need you to stand up to special interests to ensure our wild places are adequately protected.
- **Oppose the “Westerman Bill” (HR 2936)**
 - This bill would suspend many of America’s bedrock environmental laws and limit the voice of the public in management decisions.
 - The bill prioritizes aggressive logging above all other uses of our public lands and would repeal the existing Wild Rogue Wilderness.
 - It also creates “categorical exclusion” zones where logging can be conducted with no analysis of environmental impacts.
 - *What will you do to defeat this outrageous bill?*
- **Stand up for the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument**
 - Right now, the Trump administration is reviewing National Monuments around the country to see which ones can be shrunk in size or eliminated altogether.
 - The Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument in S. Oregon is included in the review, despite the fact that the monument enjoys broad public support and was designated to protect unparalleled biodiversity.
 - *What will you do to stand up to the Trump administration as they attempt to remove widely popular protections for National Monuments?*
- **Public lands belong in public hands!**
 - Right now, there are numerous proposals to transfer or privatize our public lands, which would erode the public ownership of those lands.
 - Transferring land to the states is a slippery slope towards privatization, as can be seen with the example of the Elliott State Forest.
 - *What will you do to stop our National Forests, Parks, and Wildlife Refuges from being transferred or sold?*
- **Protect Wilderness and Recreation Areas**
 - I encourage you to expand protections for our natural treasures like Crater Lake and the Ochoco Mountains.

Town Halls - General Info

FORMAT:

Town halls typically follow a consistent format: Get there early to get a good seat, and if you want to ask a question/comment you will likely have to sign in upon arrival. You will likely be given a raffle ticket and staffers will pull numbers from a hat to determine who gets to speak, but there is no guarantee your number will get called, which is why it's important to make a statement in other ways: sign holding outside, talking to staffers afterwards, or holding your sign in the front row so the senator sees it the whole time.

TIPS ON HOW TO COMMENT:

Your comments don't have to be eloquent, but they should be ***short and to the point***. In order to be most effective, tie in ***personal connections*** you have to your issue (fav. camping area, water quality, recreation, wildlife, climate change threats to grandchildren, etc). Also, try to stay focused on topics that the senator can actually influence.

Be redundant to the point of polite annoyance. People sometimes hear someone reference the issue you were planning on talking about, and you feel like the topic has been covered so you either don't say anything or ask a question about a different topic. It is important to remember that the more the senator hears about a specific issue, the more she/he will focus on it.

Ask for their stance on an issue and what specifically they will do to address the problem. If they deliberately dodge your question, don't be shy to follow up and tactfully demand a clearer response. Remember, they work for you and everyone else in the room!