

**For Immediate Release:** Contact:Neal A. Patel

January 13, 2015 202-224-6244

**Heller Fights for Transparency on Endangered Species Listings**

**(Washington, DC)**– United States Senator Dean Heller (R-NV) has introduced the Common Sense in Species Protection Act (S. 112), a measure designed to force the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to take into account the full economic impact of proposed critical habitat designation for endangered species candidates like the greater sage-grouse. Today, Heller issued this statement:

**“Nevada relies heavily on industries like mining, ranching, and energy development. With one stroke of a pen, the USFWS can greatly limit those types of activities on millions of acres of land.  Introducing this legislation avoids disrupting the Silver State’s economic comeback and ensures transparency at the federal level when it comes to listing endangered species. No doubt, a listing of the sage-grouse would devastate Nevada’s way of life, and this bill forces the Department of Interior to be forthright about a listing’s economic impact.”** said Senator Dean Heller.

*Heller’s bill would require the USFWS to take into account the true economic impact of locking up federal land under the guise of protecting candidate species, like the sage grouse.  The legislation requires additional public input to the economic impact analysis developed by the USFWS.*

###