



P.O. Box 519
Crested Butte, CO 81224
Phone: 970.349.7231
Fax: 970.349.7231
www.rmbll.org

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To Whom It May Concern:

The Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory (RMBL) was established as an independent field station in 1928. Facilities for working in the field are critical not only for making certain that scientists have the infrastructure they need to work, but field stations can also serve as a loci about which knowledge aggregates and which can serve to deepen our understanding of the world. Over 1300 peer-reviewed scientific publications have been generated by scientists working at our particular facility. The historical work done at the Lab serves as a foundation upon which future scientists can stand in order to ask the deep and meaningful questions that our complex world deserves.

There are too few terrestrial field stations in the world and the existing institutions fail to capture the incredible diversity among the various Earth ecosystems. We need more facilities dedicated to understanding the world. As Executive Director of the RMBL, I support the efforts to establish the Aragonese High Mountain Flora and Fauna Research Center. Based upon our experience at the RMBL, establishment of such a center will become a point of national pride as well as provide an important economic benefit to local communities. We wish the endeavor good fortune.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ian Billick". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Ian Billick, PhD
Executive Director