

USGS COALITION

June 18, 2015

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
Chairman
Senate Committee on Energy and Natural
Resources
709 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Energy and Natural
Resources
511 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Murkowski and Ranking Member Cantwell,

On behalf of the USGS Coalition, I would like to thank you for your support of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and to encourage your prompt consideration of the nomination of Dr. Suzette Kimball to be Director of the USGS.

The USGS Coalition is an alliance of more than 70 organizations committed to the continued vitality of the USGS and its ability to provide critical data and services that support responsible natural resource stewardship, improve resilience to natural and human-induced hazards, and contribute to the long-term health, security, and prosperity of the nation. These services suffer without the sustained, long-term leadership provided by a permanent director.

Acting Director Kimball's leadership at the USGS has helped strengthen and guide the Survey's mission to provide reliable scientific information to the nation. Dr. Kimball's scientific expertise and extensive experience make her an excellent candidate to lead the Survey. Dr. Kimball has held a number of positions within the USGS, including Deputy Director, Acting Associate Director for Geology, and Director of the USGS Eastern Region. Prior to joining USGS, Dr. Kimball worked for the National Park Service and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. She has been awarded the Presidential Rank Award for Meritorious Executive Leadership and the Secretary's Gold Award for Executive Leadership.

The USGS Coalition respectfully requests that the Committee prioritize the consideration of the nomination of Acting Director Kimball to be Director of the USGS.

Please contact me at rgropp@aibs.org or 202-628-1500 if we can be of assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Robert Gropp, Ph.D.
Chairman