

John Tillander
1699 Duarte Drive
Henderson, NV 89014
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TO: USDA Forrest Service
Outfitter Guide Prospectus Review Team

Gentlemen,

The purpose of this letter is to provide a reference for Mr. William Gibson, Master Guide. I have hunted and fished on guided, unguided and just fun outdoor trips with Mr. Gibson for a number of years and he is easily the best guide that I have been around in my forty years as a Nevada resident.

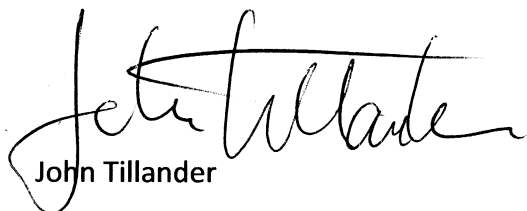
Mr. Gibson's knowledge of Nevada history, geology, geography, flora and fauna is unequalled. He is a conservationist and over and over I have heard him brag about the number of fish his clients have released, not kept. He is an environmentalist, deeply concerned about the effect that the increasing population is having on his beloved Ruby Mountains.

Mr. Gibson is also a protector of Nevada wildlife and when he observes a violation of Nevada's regulations is quick to take action. On an unguided waterfowl hunt with him in the Ruby Marsh in January of this year we watched an individual shooting in a closed area. Before we could get to him he shot a protected swan. Mr. Gibson immediately confronted him and urged him to go to the Refuge Headquarters and turn himself in. The individual refused, and left the marsh in a hurry. Mr. Gibson then went to the Refuge Headquarters and reported the incident along with a description of the poacher, his vehicle, and vehicle license number. The poacher was subsequently arrested. This incident was later reported incorrectly as an anonymous tip to Operation Game Thief.

In closing I can only say that Mr. Gibson has all of the qualities that you could hope for in a Nevada guide. I have recommended him as a guide to friends, family and fellow hunters and outdoorsmen. I sincerely hope that you will look at his application favorably.

NEVADA NEEDS GUIDES WITH THE INTEGRITY OF MR. WILLIAM GIBSON.

Sincerely,



John Tillander