

MARK PRYOR
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TRANSPORTATION
HOMELAND SECURITY AND
ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
SMALL BUSINESS AND
EMPLOYMENT
POLICE AND ADMINISTRATION
SELECT COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

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<http://pryor.senate.gov>

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 21, 2012

Secretary Ken Salazar
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington DC 20240

Dear Ken,

I hope you will consider speaking to the Senate Prayer Breakfast sometime in 2012. As you know, this group has been meeting for over sixty years, and it is a time when we drop the partisan labels and enjoy our time together. I know everyone would love to see you.

This year, Jeff Sessions and I lead the group, and I am responsible for lining up our presenters on the following dates:

March 14th
March 28th
April 25th
May 16th
June 6th
June 20th
July 11th
July 25th

This gets us only through the August recess, but I don't want to try to schedule that far out.

The doors open at 8:00 a.m., but the first wave normally shows up at about 8:15 a.m. We try to begin the program promptly at 8:30 a.m. and end by 9:00 a.m. Typically, the speaker has about fifteen minutes, and most like to talk for about ten minutes and leave a little time at the end for questions and discussion. We do not expect a theological discourse, but something more personal about your life, family, or faith journey.

Please let me know which date works best on your end. You can always call me at 501-786-4488 or email me at MLPryor@pryor.senate.gov, or if you'd prefer, email my scheduler, Becca Bradley, at Becca_Bradley@pryor.senate.gov.

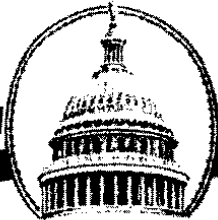
Sincerely,



Mark Pryor

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SENATE OFFICE



REPRESENTATIVE J. DENNIS HASTERT

Speaker, House of Representatives

SENATOR BILL FRIST

Senate Majority Leader

SENATOR LARRY CRAIG

REPRESENTATIVE STEVE BUYER

Chairmen, Senate and House Veterans' Affairs Committees

SENATOR NORM COLEMAN

SENATOR MARK PRYOR

Presidents, Senate Prayer Breakfast

REPRESENTATIVE LINCOLN DAVIS

REPRESENTATIVE TOM OSBORNE

Presidents, House Prayer Breakfast

REPRESENTATIVE BOB GOODLATTE

Request the honor of your presence at

THE 2005 CONGRESSIONAL FLAG & INDEPENDENCE DAYS CELEBRATION

Theme: **"HOME OF THE BRAVE"**

A Salute to America's Soldiers and Veterans

Tuesday, June 28, 2005

2:00 - 3:30 p.m.

Concert Prelude 1:20 p.m.

Caucus Room - 345 Cannon House Building

Independence Avenue and New Jersey Avenue, S.E., Washington, D.C.

Free Admission, RSVP 202-797-0700 or Fax 202-797-0771

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EXHIBIT

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EH 58 2

Featuring

Eric Braeden (The Young and the Restless) and Mara Liasson (NPR and FOX News), Hosts

With

Soprano Brenda Tucker and Mezzo Soprano Joy Bishal Singing "Flower Duet" from "Lakme"
Soprano Charity Sunshine Singing "On This Day"; "God Bless America"
Soprano Sabrina Coleman Clark Singing "Home Sweet Home"
Tenor Antonio Giuliano Singing "Bring Him Home" from "Les Miserables"; "Funiculi Funicula"
Baritone Joe Harrell Singing "Battle Hymn of the Republic" and "The Veterans Hymn"
The Chorus Performing "O Fortuna" from "Carmina Burana"; "God Who Gave Us Life"
The Orchestra Playing "American Salute" (When Johnny Comes Marching Home); "Intermezzo"
from "Cavalleria Rusticana", and the Finale of Tchaikovsky's "1812 Overture"

And

Adrian Cronauer (Good Morning Vietnam)
James "Moby" Carney, (Moby in the Morning)
Representatives of our Troops, Veterans and Families
The VA-National Medical Musical Group Chorus and Symphony Orchestra
Victor Wahby, MD, Founder and Director

WITH PATRIOTIC AND INSPIRATIONAL READINGS BY
MEMBERS OF THE U.S. SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

VA NMMG is the recipient of the 2002 Congressional Medal of Honor Society's Bob Hope Award

HONORARY COMMITTEE: Mrs. Laura Bush (Chair), Mrs. Elaine Cheney, Hon. John Boehner, Hon. Leonard Boswell, Hon. Bill Boyrs, Hon. Steve Buyer, Thomas Cochran, Dr. Jony Comstock, Hon. Norm Coleman, Gen. Stephen Condon, Hon. Liza Clapp, Hon. George Datas, Hon. Lincoln (Doris) Dr. Thomas Dolan, Craig Duering, Hon. Jo Ann Emerson, John Eales, Kenneth Fisher, Hon. Tom Harkin, Hon. Kent Hironaka, Hon. Byron Franks, Hon. Bill Frist, Hon. Bob Casvallato, Hon. J. Dennis Hastert, Hon. Ted DeLoe, Mrs. Annette Lantos, Hon. Lisa Lantieri, Hon. Carl Levin, Art Linkletter, Dr. Jacob Lysada, Dr. Leo Alcock, Hon. Robert Michel, Anne Muller, Hon. Steve Pearce, Hon. Peter St. Ven, Colin Powell, Hon. Mark Pryor, Richard Schneider, Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf, Hon. Bobby Scott, Dr. Samuel Spagous, Hon. Lesca Tawilski, Hon. Stephanie Tubbs Jones, Hon. James Walsh, Dr. The Wesel

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Jeff Sessions
Mark Pryor

United States Senators

NATIONAL PRAYER BREAKFAST CO-CHAIRS

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MIKE MONTGOMERY
JEFF MILLER

November 13, 2012

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001

Dear Mr. Secretary and Mrs. Salazar:

On behalf of the Congressional Committee, we have the pleasure of inviting you to join us for the 61st National Prayer Breakfast, which will be held on Thursday, February 7, 2013, at 7:30 a.m. at the Washington Hilton in Washington, D.C.

Annually, Members of Congress, the President of the United States, and other national leaders gather to reaffirm our trust in God and recognize the reconciling power of prayer. Friends and leaders throughout the United States and from more than 140 countries come in the spirit of friendship to set aside differences and seek to build and strengthen relationships through our love for God and care for one another. Although we face tremendous challenges each day, our hearts can be strengthened both individually and collectively as we seek God's wisdom and guidance together.

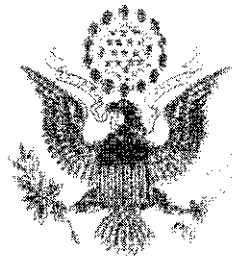
Your prompt response is essential and greatly appreciated. We hope you will be able to join us for this special occasion.

Sincerely,

Jeff Sessions

Mark Pryor

NR112



National Prayer Breakfast

Members of the Congress
of the United States of America
request the pleasure of your company at the

*the Annual
National Prayer Breakfast*

with
The President of the United States

and other national leaders in the Executive,
Judicial and Legislative Branches
of our government

Thursday, February 7, 1979
at 8:00 a.m. at
Willow Washington
International Ballroom
Washington, D. C.

Seeds in the world
for 7:30 a.m.

Admission
by 8:30 a.m.

The foundations of our society and our government rest so much on the teachings of the Bible that it would be difficult to support them if faith in these teachings would cease to be practically universal in our country.

Thomas Jefferson

In extracting the pure principles which Jesus taught, we should have to strip off the artificial vestments in which they have been embodied...there will be found remaining the most sublime and benevolent code of morals which has ever been offered to man.

Thomas Jefferson

America was founded by people who believed that God was their rock of safety. I recognize we must be cautious in claiming that God is on our side, but I think it's all right to keep asking if we're on His side.

Ronald Reagan

Every thinking man, when he thinks, realizes that the teachings of the Bible are so interwoven and entwined with our whole civic and social life that it would be literally impossible for us to figure ourselves what the life would be if these standards were removed.

Thomas Jefferson

Historically the leadership of our nation has turned to Almighty God for strength and guidance.

In this spirit, the United States Senate and the House of Representatives breakfast groups, which meet to deepen friendships, to pray and counsel together, inaugurated the National Prayer Breakfast to specifically seek the Lord's guidance and strength as well as to reaffirm our faith and to renew the dedication of our Nation and ourselves to God and His purposes.

This event in the nation's capital, which is organized privately by members of the Senate and House breakfast groups, seeks to encourage men and women throughout the United States and the world to recognize their privileges and responsibilities before God.

With the desire to deepen the spiritual life and moral fiber of the people through a leadership led by God, there have been, in all fifty states, similar breakfasts inaugurated by governors, mayors and other responsible persons.

As a natural outgrowth of such gatherings, many people throughout the world are finding through the teachings, example, and spirit of Jesus of Nazareth ways to build relationships which can strengthen the family of nations and further the cause of peace and justice.

MARK PRYOR

ARKANSAS

COMMITTEES:

APPROPRIATIONS

COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND
TRANSPORTATION

HOMELAND SECURITY AND
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

SMALL BUSINESS AND
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LITTLE ROCK, AR 72201
(501) 324-6336

TOLL FREE: (877) 259-9602

<http://pryor.senate.gov>

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 11, 2009

Secretary Kenneth L. Salazar
United States Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar,

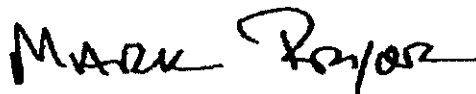
We miss you here in the Senate, but we are all very proud of you and the work you are doing at the Department of the Interior. I know the department has many challenges, but you have my confidence and my support.

Please accept this letter as a formal invitation to visit Hot Springs National Park.

The hot springs of Arkansas have the distinction of becoming the first ever federal reservation in 1832. That is four years before statehood. In the past, the city of Hot Springs and the Park Service have enjoyed a healthy symbiotic relationship. This close partnership is legendary and, in fact, the first national park director, Steven T. Mather, asked the city to change its name to Hot Springs National Park, Arkansas back in 1918. I have always felt that Hot Springs National Park and Hot Springs, Arkansas, had an exemplary relationship that was a model of cooperation and harmony.

Given the federal government's 177 year history with Hot Springs, we would gladly welcome you to visit one of the nation's great national parks. I know that you have a very busy schedule, but I might suggest something in the August time frame. In addition to the Hot Springs National Park visit, I hope you will consider seeing other sites in our state. I will be glad to work with your office on the details of the trip.

Cordially,



Mark L. Pryor

P.S. I hope you will also consider visiting the Little Rock Central High School Museum and Visitor Center. It focuses on a very important chapter in our nation's history.

RECEIVED

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 15, 2013

The Honorable Sally Jewell
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Jewell,

We write in regard to Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 funding for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) National Fish Hatchery Operations. We strongly support our nation's mitigation fish hatcheries and request that they be fully funded for FY 2013.

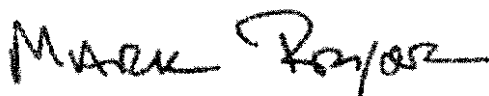
The U.S. FWS National Fish Hatchery Operations account has historically supported two mitigation hatcheries in Arkansas – Greers Ferry and Norfolk. According to the U.S. FWS, these two hatcheries received approximately \$1.5 million in federal funding in FY 2012 and were responsible for a total local economic impact of approximately \$166 million. Further, these hatcheries support an estimated 2,000 jobs in rural Arkansas and generate approximately \$5.8 million in federal tax revenues. We believe that a program costing the federal government an estimated \$1.5 million annually and resulting in an estimated \$166 million in economic output annually should serve as a model for other federal programs.

Public Law 113-6 requires the Department of Interior and many other Federal agencies to submit a spending, expenditure, or operating plan for FY 2013. Within those plans, we request that the U.S. FWS ensure that there is sufficient funding to provide for the continued operation of the mitigation fish hatcheries.


Congress addressed mitigation fish hatchery funding in FY 2012 through H.Rept.112-331, which accompanies P.L. 112-74. This report states that "future budget requests must ensure that Federal partners have committed to make sufficient funding available to reimburse the Service before the Service proposes to eliminate funding for mitigation hatcheries so that operations at these hatcheries are not disrupted." We request that the FY 2013 spending, expenditure, and operating plan reflect the intent of Congress on this issue.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. We look forward to your response. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can provide additional information.

Sincerely,



Senator Mark Pryor



Senator John Boozman



Congressman Rick Crawford



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Washington, D.C. 20240



MAY - 2 2013

The Honorable John Boozman
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Boozman:

Thank you for your letter of April 15, 2013, to Interior Secretary Jewell, co-signed by Senator Mark Pryor and Congressman Rick Crawford, expressing concerns with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 budget and operating plan and its impact on the future operations of Greers Ferry and Norfolk National Fish Hatcheries in Arkansas. Secretary Jewell requested that the Service respond directly to you.

The Service shares your views about the economic and recreational benefits provided by the production of fish at these mitigation hatcheries. In the past decade, the Service intensified efforts to obtain reimbursement for mitigation fish production so the National Fish Hatchery System base funds could be redirected to recovery and restoration of native species and their habitats. The President's FY2012 budget proposed that mitigation fish hatcheries be funded by the Federal agencies that operate the projects for which the mitigation is occurring. This type of user-pay approach would allow federal water development agencies to mitigate for the adverse effects of their projects. The President's FY2013 and FY2014 budgets propose the same user-pay approach.

In the FY2013 continuing resolution, funds have been provided for the Army Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation to reimburse the Service for these costs. The Service has signed an agreement with the Tennessee Valley Authority to obtain reimbursement as well. We're pleased to respond that mitigation fish production at the Arkansas hatcheries is funded through the combination of reimbursement funding and the Service's FY2013 operating plan.

The Service supports production of fish for these important recreational fisheries. However, the Service believes responsible agencies should reimburse for the cost of these fish. In these tight budget times, the Service is funding the highest aquatic species conservation priorities.

If you have any questions please contact me directly or have your staff contact Mr. Jeffrey Underwood, the Service's Acting Assistant Director for Fish and Aquatic Conservation at (202) 208-5317.

Sincerely,

DIRECTOR



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Washington, D.C. 20240



MAY - 2 2013

The Honorable Mark Pryor
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Pryor:

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Sincerely,

DIRECTOR



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Washington, D.C. 20240



MAY - 2 2013

The Honorable Rick Crawford
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Representative Crawford:

Thank you for your letter of April 15, 2013, to Interior Secretary Jewell, co-signed by Senators Mark Pryor and John Boozman, expressing concerns with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 budget and operating plan and its impact on the future operations of Greers Ferry and Norfolk National Fish Hatcheries in Arkansas. Secretary Jewell requested that the Service respond directly to you.

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Sincerely,

DIRECTOR

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

November 15, 2012

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

The Honorable Daniel M. Ashe
Director
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Suite 300
Arlington, VA 22203

Dear Secretary Salazar and Director Ashe:

We have been made aware of a recent decision by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) to view "ratoon," or second growth, crops that have been rolled as baited fields. We are concerned that this interpretation will unfairly penalize Arkansas farmers and sportsmen simply because the farmers have followed standard agricultural practices. As you can imagine, this will have a detrimental impact on Arkansas's economy. We respectfully request that you review this decision and ask for leniency in its enforcement for the reasons stated below.

As is common and long-established agricultural practice, Arkansas farmers roll the remaining stubble after harvesting their rice to return nutrients to the soil. This practice is recognized as "normal" agricultural practice and, in fact, recommended by the University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service. Further, the FWS website directs those with questions on what farming practices are considered "normal" to contact their respective state's Cooperative Extension Service office. To that end, until last week, a farmer would have been misinformed by the Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service about rolling stubble.

Ratoon crops are rare in Arkansas, occurring when unusual weather conditions allow for regeneration of the crop without any further action by the farmer. While each of the past two years have allowed some ratoon cropping in Arkansas, it is much more common for Arkansas farmers to raise only one crop of rice or corn per year. Many Arkansas farmers and duck hunters have already rolled and flooded their rice fields, and we do not want to see them penalized because of an administrative decision concerning ratoon crops that regenerated without any action by the farmer.

Arkansas is proud to be the home of one of the most important migratory waterfowl wintering areas along the Mississippi Flyway. Additionally, waterfowl hunting contributes almost \$100 million annually to Arkansas's economy.

As you are aware, Arkansas's waterfowl season opens on Saturday, November 17, 2012. While there are efforts underway to inform farmers and sportsmen of FWS's interpretation of the regulations concerning ratoon crops, we are concerned that many will be caught off guard and subject to penalties for simply following customary agricultural and hunting practices.


The Honorable Ken Salazar
The Honorable Daniel M. Ashe
Page 2 of 2
November 15, 2012

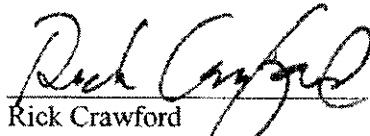
We are happy to work with FWS to clarify the laws and regulations concerning ratoon crops and baiting. However, given that Arkansas's waterfowl season opens in under a week, we request that you review FWS's interpretation of the regulations and provide leniency to Arkansas farmers and sportsman to prevent an unfair and unnecessary disruption of the state's waterfowl season, which would significantly affect the state's economy.


We appreciate your consideration and attention to this important issue.


Sincerely,

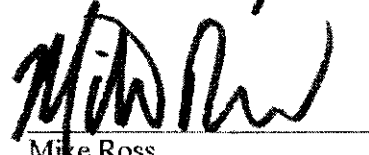

Mark Pryor
United States Senator


John Boozman
United States Senator


Rick Crawford
Member of Congress


Tim Griffin
Member of Congress


Steve Womack
Member of Congress

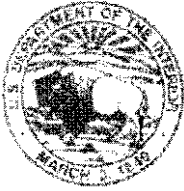

Mike Ross
Member of Congress

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United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Washington, D.C. 20240

The Honorable Mark Pryor
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

DEC 25 2012

Dear Senator Pryor:

Thank you for your letter of November 15, 2012, to Secretary of the Interior Salazar, concerning waterfowl hunting over second-growth crops that have been rolled. The Secretary has asked that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to respond directly to you.

The Service understands the difficulty farmers face in the situation you have described. While we certainly consider the circumstances under which potential violations of conservation laws occur, the Service must also enforce Federal baiting regulations fairly, accurately, and uniformly, according to accepted rules of law. The Service's position in this matter is consistent with previous application of these regulations in other parts of the country.

Under 16 U.S.C. 704(b)(1), it is unlawful to take migratory game birds by the aid of baiting, or on or over a baited area, where a person knows or reasonably should know that the area is baited. Nothing prohibits taking waterfowl over unharvested standing croplands, flooded standing croplands or croplands where seeds or grains have been scattered solely as the result of a normal agricultural planting, harvesting, post-harvest manipulation or normal soil stabilization practice. In the regulations implementing this statute, a normal agricultural planting, harvesting, or post-harvest manipulation is defined as a planting or harvesting undertaken for the purpose of producing or gathering a crop, or manipulation after such harvest and removal of grain, that is conducted in accordance with official recommendations of State Extension Specialists of the Cooperative Extension Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

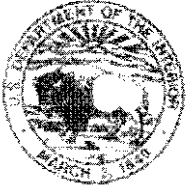
While hunting may occur over a field which has been harvested or manipulated, hunting may not occur over a ratoon crop that is established and producing grains, unless the grain is removed or harvested. The University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service's website offers a link to a brochure entitled "Waterfowl Habitat Management Handbook for the Lower Mississippi Valley," which refers to ratooning on page 13 and states, "You cannot manipulate ratoon crops in hunted areas, because this is baiting."

Unfortunately, possible misinformation has created problems and concerns with respect to waterfowl hunting in the State. Our position on this issue, however, must be consistent with our position on all baiting issues. Only through fair and uniform enforcement of migratory game bird hunting regulations can the Department effectively support both the sport of waterfowl hunting and the conservation of migratory birds for Americans to enjoy today and in the future.

If you would like to discuss this matter further please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 208-4717.

Sincerely,

DIRECTOR



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Washington, D.C. 20240



The Honorable Mike Ross
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

DEC 26 2012

Dear Representative Ross:

Thank you for your letter of November 15, 2012, to Secretary of the Interior Salazar, concerning waterfowl hunting over second-growth crops that have been rolled. The Secretary has asked that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to respond directly to you.

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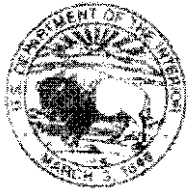
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If you would like to discuss this matter further please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 208-4717.

Sincerely,

DIRECTOR



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Washington, D.C. 20246

The Honorable Steve Womack
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

DEC 26 2012

Dear Representative Womack:

Thank you for your letter of November 15, 2012, to Secretary of the Interior Salazar, concerning waterfowl hunting over second-growth crops that have been rolled. The Secretary has asked that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to respond directly to you.

The Service understands the difficulty farmers face in the situation you have described. While we certainly consider the circumstances under which potential violations of conservation laws occur, the Service must also enforce Federal baiting regulations fairly, accurately, and uniformly, according to accepted rules of law. The Service's position in this matter is consistent with previous application of these regulations in other parts of the country.

Under 16 U.S.C. 704(b)(1), it is unlawful to take migratory game birds by the aid of baiting, or on or over a baited area, where a person knows or reasonably should know that the area is baited. Nothing prohibits taking waterfowl over unharvested standing croplands, flooded standing croplands or croplands where seeds or grains have been scattered solely as the result of a normal agricultural planting, harvesting, post-harvest manipulation or normal soil stabilization practice. In the regulations implementing this statute, a normal agricultural planting, harvesting, or post-harvest manipulation is defined as a planting or harvesting undertaken for the purpose of producing or gathering a crop, or manipulation after such harvest and removal of grain, that is conducted in accordance with official recommendations of State Extension Specialists of the Cooperative Extension Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

While hunting may occur over a field which has been harvested or manipulated, hunting may not occur over a ratoon crop that is established and producing grains, unless the grain is removed or harvested. The University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service's website offers a link to a brochure entitled "Waterfowl Habitat Management Handbook for the Lower Mississippi Valley," which refers to ratooning on page 13 and states, "You cannot manipulate ratoon crops in hunted areas, because this is baiting."

Unfortunately, possible misinformation has created problems and concerns with respect to waterfowl hunting in the State. Our position on this issue, however, must be consistent with our position on all baiting issues. Only through fair and uniform enforcement of migratory game bird hunting regulations can the Department effectively support both the sport of waterfowl hunting and the conservation of migratory birds for Americans to enjoy today and in the future.

If you would like to discuss this matter further please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 208-4717.

Sincerely,

DIRECTOR



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Washington, D.C. 20240



The Honorable Tim Griffin
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

DEC 21 2012

Dear Representative Griffin:

Thank you for your letter of November 15, 2012, to Secretary of the Interior Salazar, concerning waterfowl hunting over second-growth crops that have been rolled. The Secretary has asked that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to respond directly to you.

The Service understands the difficulty farmers face in the situation you have described. While we certainly consider the circumstances under which potential violations of conservation laws occur, the Service must also enforce Federal baiting regulations fairly, accurately, and uniformly, according to accepted rules of law. The Service's position in this matter is consistent with previous application of these regulations in other parts of the country.

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If you would like to discuss this matter further please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 208-4717.

Sincerely,

DIRECTOR



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Washington, D.C. 20240



The Honorable Rick Crawford
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

DEC 26 2012

Dear Representative Crawford:

Thank you for your letter of November 15, 2012, to Secretary of the Interior Salazar, concerning waterfowl hunting over second-growth crops that have been rolled. The Secretary has asked that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to respond directly to you.

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If you would like to discuss this matter further please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 208-4717.

Sincerely,

DIRECTOR



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Washington, D.C. 20249



The Honorable John Boozman
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

DEC 16 2012

Dear Senator Boozman:

Thank you for your letter of November 15, 2012, to Secretary of the Interior Salazar, concerning waterfowl hunting over second-growth crops that have been rolled. The Secretary has asked that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to respond directly to you.

The Service understands the difficulty farmers face in the situation you have described. While we certainly consider the circumstances under which potential violations of conservation laws occur, the Service must also enforce Federal baiting regulations fairly, accurately, and uniformly, according to accepted rules of law. The Service's position in this matter is consistent with previous application of these regulations in other parts of the country.

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If you would like to discuss this matter further please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 208-4717.

Sincerely,

DIRECTOR



United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Washington, D.C. 20240
<http://www.blm.gov>



AUG 23 2012

The Honorable Mark Pryor
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Pryor:

Thank you for your August 3, 2012, letter regarding the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board (Board). I appreciate your support for appointing Fred Woehl, Jr., to the Board. His nomination, along with others for this Board, is proceeding through the selection process.

The Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act established this Board of citizens who represent various interests, including wild horse and burro advocacy groups, research institutions, veterinarians, natural resource organizations, humane advocacy groups, wildlife associations, livestock organizations, and members of the public with a special knowledge of equine behavior. The Board is solely advisory, and the BLM greatly values the contributions of its members.

Thank you for your interest in the Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board.

Sincerely,

Mike Pool
Acting Director

MARK PRYOR
ARKANSAS
COMMITTEE
ENVIRONMENT
COMMERCE, ENERGY, AND
TRANSPORTATION
NATIVE AMERICAN AFFAIRS AND
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
SMALL BUSINESS AND
ENTREPRENEURSHIP
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SELECT COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

255 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-2353

500 President Center Building
Suite 5140
City Hall Plaza
1501 324-3338
Toll Free: 1-800-259-9682
<http://pryor.senate.gov>

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

August 3, 2012

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington DC 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar,

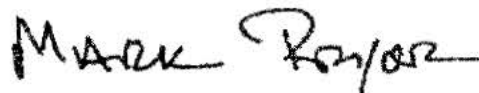
I write to you today to recommend Mr. [nonresponsive] to serve on the national Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board (Advisory Board). Enclosed is a copy of [nonresponsive] nomination letter and resume.

RECEIVED
2012 AUG -9
10:11 AM

nonresponsive

With Mr. [nonresponsive] breadth and depth of experience, I believe he would add an important perspective to the work of the Advisory Board, and I am happy to recommend him. If I may provide any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Mark Pryor

Enclosures (2)

Cc: Sharon Kipping, Wild Horse and Burro Program, Bureau of Land Management

Ms. Sharon Kipping
Wild Horse and Burro Program
Department of Interior/BLM
1849 C Street, N.W. Room 2134 LM, WO-260
Washington, D.C. 202040

Dear Ms. Kipping,

Please accept this as a nomination letter for the Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board.

Name:

Address:

Email:

Phone :

nonresponsive

Enclosed is my educational background, relevant biographical information, references and endorsements.

There are two categories I am highly qualified to fill: Public interest (with special knowledge of wild horses and burros) and Livestock Management.

I believe I am unique qualified to serve on the Bureau of Land Management's Wild Horse and Burro National Advisory Board.

The controversial issues involved requires someone who has experience in working with groups and individuals with polar opposite opinions and finding the middle ground.

nonresponsive

and other venues. I fully understand the problems facing BLM and the mustangs. I have completed compliance reviews, handled problem cases and represented BLM at events. I have trained and owned horses for a lifetime and have worked with or have had contact with the groups concerned with the welfare of horses. My knowledge, skills and experiences will enable me to work with these groups in a positive manner.

Thank you for your consideration.

nonresponsive

RESUME

nonresponsive

nonresponsive

Other Activities:

nonresponsive

Educational background:

nonresponsive

MARK PRYOR
ARKANSAS
COMMITTEES
APPROPRIATIONS
ENERGY, SCIENCE, AND
TECHNOLOGY
NOMINEE SECURITY AND
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
SMALL BUSINESS AND
FARM PROMOTION
RULES AND ADMINISTRATION
SELECT COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

266 DIRksen SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510
(202) 224-2353

500 PRESIDENT CLINTON AVENUE
SUITE 401
LITTLE ROCK, AR 72201
(501) 324-8336
TELE FREE: (877) 253-9602
<http://pryor.senate.gov>

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 21, 2012

Secretary Ken Salazar
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington DC 20240

Dear Ken,

I hope you will consider speaking to the Senate Prayer Breakfast sometime in 2012. As you know, this group has been meeting for over sixty years, and it is a time when we drop the partisan labels and enjoy our time together. I know everyone would love to see you.

This year, Jeff Sessions and I lead the group, and I am responsible for lining up our presenters on the following dates:

- March 14th
- March 28th
- April 25th
- May 16th
- June 6th
- June 20th
- July 11th
- July 25th

This gets us only through the August recess, but I don't want to try to schedule that far out.

The doors open at 8:00 a.m., but the first wave normally shows up at about 8:15 a.m. We try to begin the program promptly at 8:30 a.m. and end by 9:00 a.m. Typically, the speaker has about fifteen minutes, and most like to talk for about ten minutes and leave a little time at the end for questions and discussion. We do not expect a theological discourse, but something more personal about your life, family, or faith journey.

Please let me know which date works best on your end. You can always call me at 501-786-4488 or email me at MLPryor@pryor.senate.gov, or if you'd prefer, email my scheduler, Becca Bradley, at Becca_Bradley@pryor.senate.gov.

Sincerely,

Mark Pryor

510106

RECEIVED
2012 MAR -9 AM 9:30
SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

**THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE
REFERRAL**

February 02, 2012

TO: DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

ACTION COMMENTS:

ACTION REQUESTED: DIRECT REPLY W/COPY

REFERRAL COMMENTS:

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 1071980

MEDIA: LETTER

DOCUMENT DATE: December 15, 2011

TO: PRESIDENT OBAMA

FROM: THE HONORABLE MARK PRYOR
UNITED STATES SENATE
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

SUBJECT: REQUESTS THAT THE PRESIDENT FY13 BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR THE U.S.
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE CONTAIN ADEQUATE FUNDING FOR THE
OPERATION OF MITIGATION FISH HATCHERIES

COMMENTS:

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT,
UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE UNDERSIGNED AT (202) 456-2590.

RETURN ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE (OR DRAFT) TO: DOCUMENT TRACKING UNIT,
ROOM 85, OFFICE OF RECORDS MANAGEMENT - THE WHITE HOUSE, 20500
FAX A COPY OF REPOSE TO: (202) 456-5861

**THE WHITE HOUSE
DOCUMENT MANAGEMENT AND
TRACKING WORKSHEET**



DATE RECEIVED: December 19, 2011

CASE ID: 1071980

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE MARK PRYOR

SUBJECT: REQUESTS THAT THE PRESIDENT FY13 BUDGET PROPOSAL FOR THE U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE CONTAIN ADEQUATE FUNDING FOR THE OPERATION OF MITIGATION FISH HATCHERIES

ROUTE TO: AGENCY/OFFICE	(STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
		CODE	DATE	TYPE RESPONSE	CODE
LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS	ROB NABORS	ORG	12/21/2011		

ACTION COMMENTS:

DOI

R 2/2/12

ACTION COMMENTS:

ACTION COMMENTS:

ACTION COMMENTS:

ACTION COMMENTS:

COMMENTS: 1 ADDL SIGNEE

MEDIA TYPE: LETTER

USER CODE:

ACTION CODES	TYPE RESPONSE	DISPOSITION	
A = APPROPRIATE ACTION B = RESEARCH AND REPORT BACK D = DRAFT RESPONSE I = INFO COPY/NO ACT NECESSARY R = DIRECT REPLY W/ COPY ORG = ORIGINATING OFFICE	INITIALS OF SIGNER (W.H. STAFF) NRN = NO RESPONSE NEEDED OTBE = OVERTAKEN BY EVENTS	DISPOSITION CODES	COMPLETED DATE
		A = ANSWERED OR ACKNOWLEDGED C = CLOSED X = INTERIM REPLY	DATE OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OR CLOSEOUT DATE (MM/DD/YY)

KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING LETTER AT ALL TIMES
REFER QUESTIONS TO DOCUMENT TRACKING UNIT (202)-456-2580
SEND ROUTING UPDATES AND COMPLETED RECORDS TO OFFICE OF RECORDS MANAGEMENT - DOCUMENT TRACKING UNIT
ROOM 85, EEOB.

Scanned by
ORM

1071980

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

December 15, 2011

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

We write in regard to the importance of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) National Fish Hatchery Operations. We request that your Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 budget proposal for the U.S. FWS contain adequate funding for the operation of mitigation fish hatcheries. This critical program is an economic engine that is important to the State of Arkansas and to the nation.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's National Fish Hatchery Operations account has historically supported two mitigation hatcheries in Arkansas - Greers Ferry and Norfolk. These two hatcheries receive approximately \$1.6 million in annual federal funding. With \$1.6 million in federal support, these hatcheries are responsible for creating an estimated \$150 million annually in economic output. The Arkansas hatcheries employ 14 U.S. FWS experts, support as many as 1,750 jobs in rural Arkansas, and according to Arkansas's Department of Parks and Tourism, generate approximately \$5.5 million in federal tax revenues.

We understand the current budgetary constraints facing our nation, and we are aware of the many tough decisions that must be made to put our fiscal house in order. While these decisions are made, it is important to remember the economic impact budget cuts have on rural communities.

We believe that a program costing the federal government an estimated \$1.6 million annually and resulting in \$150 million in total economic output should serve as a model for other federal programs. Funding for mitigation fish hatcheries should not be jeopardized by proposing elimination of the program in the Administration's FY 2013 U.S. FWS budget or by proposing to fund the hatcheries through the activities of multiple federal agencies. The U.S. FWS mitigation hatcheries are U.S. FWS facilities and employ U.S. FWS employees. The U.S. FWS should budget appropriately to keep these hatcheries operating.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. We look forward to your response. Please do not hesitate to contact us or our staffs if we can provide additional information.

Sincerely,



Senator Mark Pryor



Senator John Boozman

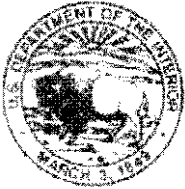
Cc: The Honorable Ken Salazar, Secretary of the Interior; The Honorable Dan Ashe, Director, United States Fish and Wildlife Service; The Honorable Jo Ellen Darcy, Assistant Secretary of Civil Works, Department of the Army

OFFICE OF THE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

2012 FEB -7 AM 10:04

RECEIVED

508936



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Washington, D.C. 20240



In Reply Refer To
FWS/AFHC-FARC-DTS 050670

The Honorable John Boozman
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Boozman,

Thank you for your letter of December 15, 2011, to President Barack Obama, co-signed by Senator Mark Pryor, expressing concerns with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 budget proposal and its impact on the future operations of Greers Ferry and Norfolk National Fish Hatcheries in Arkansas. The Whitehouse referred your letter to the Department of the Interior Secretary Salazar who requested that the Service respond directly to you and we apologize for the delay.

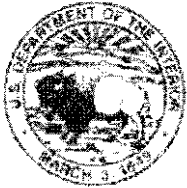
The Service shares your views about the economic and recreational benefits provided by the production of fish at these mitigation hatcheries. In the past decade, the Service intensified efforts to obtain reimbursement for fish mitigation production so the National Fish Hatchery System base funds could be redirected to recovery and restoration of native species and their habitats. The President's FY 2012 budget proposed that mitigation fish hatcheries be funded by the Federal agencies that operate the projects for which the mitigation is occurring. This type of fee-for-service system would allow federal water development agencies to mitigate for the adverse effects of their projects. The President's FY 2013 budget proposes the same fee-for-service system.

In the 2013 President's Budget, funds have been set aside for the Army Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation to reimburse the Service for these costs. The Service is working with the Tennessee Valley Authority to obtain reimbursement as well.

The Service supports production of fish for these important recreational fisheries. However, the Service believes responsible agencies should reimburse for the cost of these fish. In these tight budget times, the Service is funding the highest aquatic species conservation priorities.

Sincerely,

Deputy DIRECTOR



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Washington, D.C. 20240



In Reply Refer To
FWS/AFHC-PARC-DTS 050670

The Honorable Mark Pryor
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Pryor,

Thank you for your letter of December 15, 2011, to President Barack Obama, co-signed by Senator John Boozman, expressing concerns with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 budget proposal and its impact on the future operations of Greers Ferry and Norfolk National Fish Hatcheries in Arkansas. The Whitehouse referred your letter to the Department of the Interior Secretary Salazar who requested that the Service respond directly to you and we apologize for the delay.

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Sincerely,

Deputy

DIRECTOR

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

501280

May 12, 2011

The Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20520

The Honorable Kenneth L. Salazar
Secretary of the Interior
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20240

2011 MAY 11 AM 11:00
RECEIVED

Dear Secretaries Clinton and Salazar:

We are writing to follow-up on the October 6, 2009 letter to Assistant Secretaries Kurt Campbell (DOS/EAP) and Anthony M. Babauta (DOI/OIA) in which several of us requested assistance in developing policy options to manage the growing cost of providing healthcare to migrants to the U.S. from the Freely Associated States of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of Palau (the "FAS"). These costs, as well as other social service costs, are a consequence of the policy established under the Compact of Free Association Act of 1985 (P.L. 99-239), and continued under the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003, ("CFAAA") (P.L. 108-188) which provide FAS citizens with the privilege of being admitted into the United States "to lawfully engage in occupations, and establish residence as a nonimmigrant."

The earlier letter stated the belief that the policy of allowing FAS citizens to enter the U.S. for work, study, and residence is sound. However, recent trends indicate that the current implementation of that policy is unsustainable. FAS migrant's increasing reliance on social services in the United States, and the costs associated with that reliance, is greater than was anticipated when the Compact was negotiated twenty five years ago, and it well exceeds the \$30 million provided under the CFAAA to defray these costs.

After consideration of possible options available, we believe that a portion of Compact sector grant assistance should be utilized to mitigate the costs associated with Compact migration. During the bilateral meetings to be held this summer, we ask that the United States Government formally express the concerns of the U.S. regarding compact impact costs, and request formal adoption of the policies outlined below.

First, we believe it is important for potential FAS emigrants and those residing in the U.S. to understand that the privilege of entering the U.S. as a nonimmigrant is primarily intended to provide educational and employment opportunities, so that FAS citizens can return home with skills and experience that will permit them to contribute to

the development of their nations. Or, for those who remain in the U.S., that they will obtain steady employment and not become overly reliant on U.S. social programs. Specifically, we request that a portion of Compact Education Sector grant funding be used to fund a program to educate FAS citizens on the intent of the open migration policy and the expectations of those who enter the U.S. under the Compact.

Second, it appears that the single greatest compact impact cost is for services to those who need long-term medical treatment for conditions such as diabetes. Accordingly, we request that a portion of the Infrastructure Sector and Health Sector grant funding be committed to the establishment and operation of dialysis treatment facilities in the FSM and the RMI so that patients will not need to seek treatment in the U.S.

Third, we believe that consideration needs to be given to reducing the number of migrants who are likely to become a public charge. Accordingly, we request that the bilateral meetings consider screening measures that could be implemented by the FAS governments to reduce the rate of migration of persons who are likely to develop an over-reliance on social services.

Finally, we ask that you report to Congress by October 1, 2011 on the outcome of the bilateral talks including the decisions made regarding the policies outlined above. It is in the interest of all parties that the increasing costs of Compact migration be effectively managed before they become a source of serious friction in relations.

We expect that these policies will be agreed to during the upcoming bilateral meetings and that all parties will remain committed to the spirit of cooperation that has ensured the success of the Compacts for twenty-five years.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of our requests.

Sincerely,



Lisa Murkowski
U.S. Senator



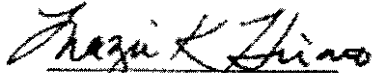
Jeff Bingaman
U.S. Senator





Daniel Akaka
U.S. Senator

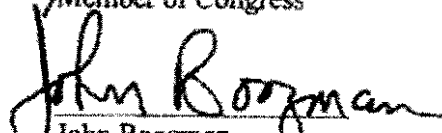



Daniel Inouye
U.S. Senator


Maze Hirono
Member of Congress


Colleen Hanabusa
Member of Congress

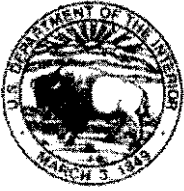

Madeleine Bordallo
Member of Congress


John Boozman
U.S. Senator


Mark Pryor
U.S. Senator

CC: The Honorable Lorin Robert
Secretary of Foreign Affairs
Federated States of Micronesia

The Honorable John Silk
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Republic of the Marshall Islands.



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF INSULAR AFFAIRS
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Assistant Secretary

NOV 17 2011

The Honorable Daniel Inouye
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Inouye:

I appreciate the opportunity to report on the U.S. Department of the Interior's efforts to address your concerns related to the cost of providing health care and social services to migrants from the Freely Associated States (FAS) of the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI), Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), and Republic of Palau. Since receiving your May 12, 2011, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar and I, have worked to engage stakeholders including the executive leadership of the affected jurisdictions, members of Congress, officials from the Freely Associated States, and federal agencies.

Attention within the Department on the Compact migration issue has been enhanced. Along with an assembled team of my senior staff, I have initiated interagency and bilateral efforts to develop short-to-long-term proposals that will strengthen relationships and enhance cooperation under the Amended Compacts of Free Association with the RMI and FSM (P.L. 108-188) and Compact of Free Association with Palau. The Department has dedicated significant hours and funding to enable Office of Insular Affairs (OIA) staff to travel to the FSM and affected jurisdictions of Guam and Hawaii. Further, deliberate action has been taken to assemble the appropriate staff and officials with the necessary expertise and knowledge to identify and discuss considerations and complexities that may impact policy options. On multiple occasions, the Department was informed that these meetings often served as the first formal occurrence for officials from affected jurisdictions, the FAS, and federal agencies to meet.

Prior to detailing initiatives that the Department has completed and will plan to undertake in light of the May 12, 2011 letter, I am providing updates on meetings that focused on ways to better address health, education, and screening measures for citizens of the Freely Associated States. In addition to the meetings listed below, OIA conducted a number of interagency meetings that involved the Department of Defense (DoD), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and Department of State (State).

- On June 10, 2011, my senior staff and I hosted a meeting with officials from the FAS that included FSM Ambassador Yosiwo George, RMI Charge d' Affaires Charles Paul, and Republic of Palau Ambassador Hersey Kyota, as well as staff from the U.S. Congress and colleagues from the Department of State. At this meeting Congressional staff were able to directly raise their concerns with FAS officials and acquire an understanding of the challenges confronting each stakeholder. This initial dialogue acknowledged the

historical relationship between the United States and Freely Associated States and commitment to work together on these issues of mutual interest.

- On June 14, 2011, Secretary Salazar and I met with Senator Daniel Inouye and Lt. Governor Brian Schatz from the State of Hawaii to discuss the impact of FAS migrants residing in Hawaii. A follow-up meeting was held the next day with myself and my senior staff, Lt. Governor Schatz, and Senator Inouye's staff. Recognizing the costs incurred by the State of Hawaii, it was suggested that health and education Compact sector grants be diverted for the purpose of reimbursing Hawaii. I clarified that the intent of the sector grants are to support health, education, infrastructure, environment, private sector, and capacity building programs and services in the FSM and RMI. Given the annual reductions in U.S. sector grant assistance, pursuant to the respective Compact agreements with the U.S., these governments are confronted and challenged to do more with less. Any additional reduction or diversion of sector grants away from their original purpose would significantly impact the level and type of public services and the quality of life in the FSM and RMI. Further, it was recognized that even if the entire education or health sector grants were diverted, it still would not meet the stated costs.
- On July 7, 2011, the OIA co-hosted with our State Department colleagues an interagency meeting that brought together representatives from the DoD, DHS, HHS, and Department of Education to discuss the recommendations raised by members of Congress. It was clear at that meeting that these agencies have been looking at how to best address the Compact Impact issue with their respective authorities and programs.
- On July 15, 2011, the OIA Director met with FSM and RMI Embassy officials to discuss the fact that multiple federal agencies were engaged on the Compact migration issue, and the actions the FAS leadership could take to focus on addressing health and education issues that would demonstrate a commitment to work collaboratively toward solutions. There was shared recognition that having reliable data and statistics associated with FAS health and education needs were critical to inform policy decisions.
- On July 18, 2011, the OIA Director hosted a meeting with RMI Foreign Affairs Minister John Silk who reported that Compact Impact had been added to the Micronesian Chiefs Executives' Summit (MCES) agenda for discussion by the three FAS Presidents and the Governors of Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Minister Silk confirmed three dialysis units had been donated and that the RMI government would consider an assessment to identify equipment, operations, and staff needs. Beyond equipment requirements, capacity and financial sustainability were also discussed as significant challenges to address. Minister Silk reiterated the RMI Government's communication with its citizens that they do have responsibilities and should be good guests while residing in the United States.
- On July 26, 2011 and July 29, 2011, the OIA's Director and Senior Policy Advisor traveled to Honolulu, Hawaii, and Guam, respectively, to meet with Congressional and executive leadership as well as representatives from the State and territorial Departments of Health, Human Services, and Education of these affected jurisdictions. There was

agreement that while the governments of Guam and Hawaii report annually on the impact of the Compacts of Free Association, the collection and analysis of accurate data better informs policy decisions. While in Hawaii, OIA met with the FSM and RMI Honolulu Consulates to discuss their current involvement with their communities and how the Consulates may better facilitate or assist in addressing the health, education, and employment needs of their migrant populations.

- On July 27-28, 2011, OIA's Chief Counsel and Budget Director traveled to Pohnpei, FSM, to meet with the three FAS Presidents underscored the importance of addressing the Compact migration issue and the need for FAS governments to engage their communities domestically and abroad. These OIA representatives were also able to address the MCES leadership and other officials in attendances.
- On August 24, 2011, I met with the three FAS Foreign Affairs Ministers to emphasize the need for FAS leadership to enhance relations with the United States in the affected jurisdictions and with Congress and take meaningful action related to health and education. In addition to the establishment of an FSM Compact Impact Task Force chaired by FSM Vice President Alik Alik, the FAS Ministers reported that at the July MCES each was appointed to an FAS Compact Impact Task Force. While the FAS Consulates in Honolulu do meet with their citizens, it was acknowledged that more targeted outreach and coordination with State and federal officials, agencies, and non-governmental organizations could be pursued.
- On August 30, 2011, I convened a bilateral meeting with Hawaii's Governor Neil Abercrombie, Lt. Governor Brian Schatz, staff of the Hawaii Congressional delegation, and the FSM and RMI Foreign Affairs Ministers and their Honolulu Consulates. This was the first opportunity for the Governor to address senior FAS officials, share his commitment to work with their leadership, and request their leadership to reduce the burdens associated with Compact migration. The Governor acknowledged that the federal responsibility to address the issue extends beyond just the Department, though he valued the Department's leadership to bring the stakeholders together working hand-in-hand to develop mutual solutions. The FAS officials acknowledged the bilateral nature of their relationship with the United States and called for policies to be developed jointly and in compliance with the Compact agreements.
- August 31-September 2, 2011, the Departments of the Interior, State, and Health and Human Services convened the annual Joint Economic Management Committee (JEMCO, FSM) and Joint Economic Management and Financial Accountability Committee (JEMFAC, RMI) meetings held in Honolulu, Hawaii. Resolutions were adopted during the bilateral JEMCO and JEMFAC meetings focused on reducing personnel costs within the health and education sectors, establishing a comprehensive review of educational priorities, and allocating \$1.9 million for the renovation of the Pohnpei State, FSM, Hospital project. These resolutions support the Compact sector grants being utilized more efficiently and targeted for their intended purpose.

- On September 9, 2011, I and OIA staff met with the professional staff from the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee to report on on-going and planned efforts to promote effective use of Compact funds and strengthen coordination and support of existing programs and services.
- On September 15, 2011, I provided a briefing to Secretary Salazar on the Department's efforts to address the compact migration issue and the interagency work being done with HHS, DHS, State, and DoD. While the Department does manage the Compact sector grants and Compact Impact grants, we must recognize the contributions that other federal agencies can make. As such, Secretary Salazar plans to engage with DoD at the principal level to better understand what agency assets and resources can be targeted to addressing needs in the FAS and affected jurisdictions.

This brief summary is intended only to highlight the productive meetings that have been held on this issue. But I would also like to discuss other initiatives that the Department is pursuing. I am pleased to announce that the Department will be establishing an OIA Compact Impact Initiative, which will focus on bolstering our bilateral relationships and communication opportunities, while ensuring there is an annual forum to discuss issues of concern, make recommendations, and implement agreed upon policies. This initiative is comprised of the following components:

- 1) **FAS Senior Official Visits to Guam and Hawaii**—OIA will seek to facilitate travel by FAS Presidents to the affected jurisdictions to enhance relationships and coordination among territorial or state, federal, and FAS leadership and communities. This provides opportunities for coordinated messaging and information distribution from FAS and U.S. senior officials to FAS migrant communities. This forum will also facilitate discussion of important issues with all stakeholders, while exploring additional opportunities to partner and leverage resources. At my request, an October visit by FSM President Emanuel Mori to meet with the FSM community in Guam and other appropriate officials and stakeholders took place. The gathering by more than 200 FSM citizens was the first of its kind to have the participation of an FAS community, its President, federal, and elected local leadership from an affected jurisdiction. In addition to discussing the privileges and responsibilities of the Compact Agreement, a significant portion of the forum was dedicated to respond to questions from those in attendance.
- 2) **Annual Compact Impact Meeting**—OIA will also initiate a bilateral FAS and US officials meeting in March 2012. This Compact Impact meeting will coincide with the regularly scheduled mid-year JEMCO/JEMFAC meetings where relevant officials and staff will gather to focus on RMI and FSM Compact grant sector budgets. This bilateral meeting will provide a dedicated, annual forum where stakeholders can raise concerns, discuss solutions, and take mutual action on priority items. Further, this meeting will institutionalize a bilateral forum dedicated to gathering pertinent information and moving policy decisions forward. The first meeting is expected to focus on establishing a shared set of objectives, benchmarks to measure progress, and proposals that may be implemented.

- 3) **Establishment of Compact Impact OIA position**—OIA will seek to review and evaluate the ability, within existing resources, to develop a dedicated OIA staffer to lead the OIA Compact Impact Initiative. Given the unique history and complexity of this issue a dedicated staffer with specialized expertise can help facilitate interactions between the stakeholders such as the Department, Congress, and the governments of the affected jurisdictions, as well as the local and national leadership of the FAS governments.
- 4) **Interagency Efforts**—OIA is working with a number of federal agencies headquartered in Washington, DC, and the appropriate regional bureaus to use existing authority under the Compacts of Free Association, as Amended, and relevant federal statute(s).

In light of the limited funds available to meet the needs of FAS migrants and the affected jurisdictions, we reiterate our concern that diverting Compact sector grants away from the FSM and RMI will likely exacerbate the situation we are attempting to address with sector grant funds. I remain committed to working to avoid policies that could negatively impact conditions in the FAS and affected jurisdictions.

In addition to the Department's OIA Compact Impact Initiative, we are also addressing issues regarding education, development of health facilities, and possible screening of FAS migrants.

Education: Whether in pursuit of education or employment opportunities it is important that FAS migrants currently in the United States, and those seeking to emigrate as a U.S. nonimmigrant, acquire a better understanding of privileges, expectations, and responsibilities of the Compact of Free Association prior to entering the United States. The Department has supported and funded efforts by the FAS governments to provide educational materials to orient their citizens, prior to departing their country, about the challenges and responsibilities associated with residing in the United States. OIA will continue to review proposals submitted by the FSM and RMI that may further respond such educational needs.

In 2010, with an \$85,130 OIA technical assistance grant the RMI Government launched an orientation program consisting of a video and brochure that informs Marshallese migrants about their rights and responsibilities while living and working in the United States. OIA is presently reviewing a technical assistance funding proposal from the RMI to produce a radio-friendly format to expand distribution of orientation messaging among urban and outer islands, where radio is the main means of media distribution. OIA expects that upon Fiscal Year 2012 funding becoming available, this proposal may be given favorable consideration. The FSM is currently updating and translating existing orientation materials that are shared with their citizens to better prepare them for life in the United States.

During August, OIA awarded the FSM Government a \$60,363 technical assistant grant to conduct a Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HEIS) that will provide data on the distribution of income, compile its national accounts, provide nutritional information and food consumption patterns for families, and conduct a poverty hardship assessment. The survey, administered once every five years, is carried out by the FSM's Office of Statistics, Budget and Economic Management, Overseas Development Assistance and Compact Management. The

2010 HEIS coincided with the 2010 Census and was consequently delayed by a year. The expected completion of the survey is December 2011.

Medical Facilities: Pursuant to P.L. 108-188, annual Compact health sector grants are awarded to the FSM and RMI "...to support and improve the delivery of preventive, curative and environmental care, and develop the human and material resources necessary for the Government [of the Federated States of Micronesia and Republic of the Marshall Islands] to perform these services." Since reduced reliance on expensive tertiary medical referrals is among the Compact's top tier goal for the health sector, performance requires the strengthening of primary and secondary prevention. Further, for health sector grants the respective Compact Subsidiary Agreements for the FSM and RMI state, "Priority should be given to establishing sustainable funding mechanisms for operating a community-based system with emphasis on prevention, primary care, mental health, substance abuse prevention, and the operation of hospitals to provide secondary care at appropriate levels and reduce reliance on medical referrals abroad." As such, Compact health sector grants are devoted to health activities focused on primary care and prevention. Diverting this funding could lead to increased health care costs not only for the FAS, but for the affected jurisdictions.

While RMI has received three donated dialysis units and the FSM has received two donated dialysis units, to date those units are not operational. In Pohnpei, FSM it is our understanding that while there is no nephrologist on hand to oversee potential complications and no reverse osmosis purified water to mix the dialyzing reagents that two of three dialysis units are currently operating.

OIA has engaged in discussions with HHS, health officials from Hawaii and Guam, and FSM and RMI leadership about the establishment of dialysis facilities. In recognition of the substantial cost involved with establishing, operating, and maintaining dialysis facilities during these meetings it was acknowledged that challenges such as water quality, power reliability, limited presence of specialized medical professionals, and comprehensive projections for needs of existing and future patients were factors that would impact the size and cost of each facility. In order to inform decisions, OIA is in the process of contracting a feasibility and cost assessment for constructing dialysis facilities and necessary operation, resource, and staff requirements to support such facilities in the FSM and RMI.

Screening Measures: The FSM and RMI have been working with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to address issues associated with monitoring and controlling communicable diseases. OIA has been a partner in improving these conditions and in 2010 I signed a \$1,456,932 grant under the Compact health sector to combat the outbreak of Multiple Drug Resistant Tuberculosis (MDR-TB) in the RMI. In 2008, similar assistance in the amount of \$1,947,600 was provided to the FSM when an outbreak of MDR-TB occurred in the FSM State of Chuuk.

I have discussed the need for FAS leadership to bolster efforts to combat communicable disease among their citizens and their governments establishing health screening. Developing and implementing such screening demonstrates proactive and preventative approaches that help FAS citizens receive medical attention they need and limit the spread of communicable diseases.

Discussions by the Department with CDC and DHS, as well as FAS officials, continue to focus on addressing issues related to the screening scope, protocol, and cost of implementation.

The Department continues to explore other policy options that may directly or indirectly address health, education, and other needs of FAS migrants and priorities of the affected jurisdictions. A fundamental component of improving the effectiveness and efficiency of compact resources, including Compact sector grants and Compact impact grants is securing a better understanding of the needs of citizens in the FAS and the programs and services they access domestically and abroad.

While affected jurisdiction agencies and their bureaus collect data and contribute to annual Compact impact reports, all recognize that data gaps exist, including data describing demographics of populations and the type of state and federally funded services that are accessed, which could identify community needs not only in the affected jurisdictions, but also in the FSM and RMI. With such information Compact resources can be better aligned with addressing priority needs. The Department is committed to reviewing and making necessary changes to improve Compact impact reporting guidelines.

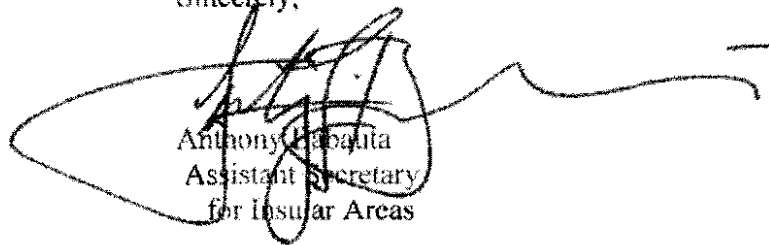
A unified and collaborative approach between the United States and the Freely Associated States will be needed to develop meaningful policies for implementation. I am encouraged that the FAS Presidents during the July Micronesian Chiefs Executives' Summit established a Compact Impact Task Force and appointed the RMI Minister of Foreign Affairs John Silk; FSM Secretary of Foreign Affairs Lorin Robert; and Palau Minister of State Victor Yano to lead the Task Force. The Task Force benefits from the experience of each FAS government and fosters opportunities to share and adopt strategies and ultimately implement appropriate policies.

In addition to FSM and RMI Consulates in Washington, DC, Hawaii, and Guam, the RMI established an Arkansas Consulate. In December 2009, I was joined by RMI Ambassador Banny deBrum and RMI Consul General Carmen Chong-Gum to meet with U.S. Senator John Boozman (then a U.S. Representative from Arkansas's Third District) and the Marshallese community leaders in Springdale, as well as staff from the St. Francis Community Clinic and State Department of Health in Little Rock. RMI officials coordinated these visits that helped nurture necessary discussion and interactions around the needs of the migrant Marshallese community.

As the United States Government strives to implement policies that alleviate the burden confronting affected jurisdictions, FAS leadership and cooperation are vital to address the needs of FAS citizens at home and abroad. While the Department will continue to be at the forefront of addressing the impacts associated with the Amended Compacts of Free Association, the expertise and exercise of authority by other federal agencies will be needed. I look forward to continuing to work with you to develop meaningful strategies to address this pressing issue.

Similar responses are being sent to the cosigners of your letter, Senators Jeff Bingaman, Lisa Murkowski, Daniel Akaka, Mark Pryor, and John Boozman, as well as Congresswomen Mazie Hirono, Colleen Hanabusa, and Madeleine Bordallo.

Sincerely,



Anthony Hanabusa
Assistant Secretary
for Insular Areas

CC: The Honorable Lorin Robert
Secretary of Foreign Affairs
Federated States of Micronesia

The Honorable John Silk
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Republic of the Marshall Islands

MARK PRYOR
ARKANSAS
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March 8, 2011

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar,

As you know, every penny the government spends is being scrutinized for potential savings as we seek to reduce our bloated budget and budget deficit. We can begin by eliminating inefficient, duplicative or outdated programs.

In a report released last week, the Government Accountability Office provided Congress with 81 areas of potential savings as a result of duplicative programs. As a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee and Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, I am prepared to turn many of their findings into cost-savings.

I would appreciate hearing from you whether you agree with the report's findings concerning the Department of Interior and the actions your agency has or plans to take in the short- and long-term as a result of the report to achieve cost-savings. If you are aware of duplicative or unnecessary programs within your agency that the GAO did not cite, please include a plan of action to eliminate those programs as well.

For your reference, the report, *Opportunities to Reduce Potential Duplication in Government Programs. Save Tax Dollars and Enhance Revenue*, addressed the following regarding the Department:

- Fragmented federal efforts to meet water needs in the U.S.-Mexico border region have resulted in an administrative burden, redundant activities, and an overall inefficient use of resources.
- Enterprise Architectures: Key mechanisms for identifying potential overlap and duplication.
- Consolidating Federal data centers provides opportunity to improve government efficiency.
- Strategic oversight mechanisms could help integrate fragmented interagency efforts to defend against biological threats.

- Further steps needed to improve cost-effectiveness and enhance services for transportation-disadvantaged persons.
- Ensuring the Federal government receives fair market value for its oil and gas resources could enhance Federal revenues
- Agencies could realize cost savings by disposal of unneeded Federal real property.

I would appreciate a response no later than March 21, 2011. If you have any questions, please contact Andrew Grobmyer at 202-224-2353.

Sincerely,



Mark Pryor

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THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

MAY 27 2011

The Honorable Mark Pryor
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Pryor:

This responds to your March 8, 2011, letter regarding the Government Accountability Office (GAO) report *Opportunities to Reduce Potential Duplication in Government Programs. Save Tax Dollars and Enhance Revenue*. I regret we were not able to meet your request to respond by March 21. We did not receive your request until March 23.

I share your interest in reducing the costs of government and identifying areas of savings. The Department of the Interior continues to be aggressive in identifying improvement and efficiencies to make programs work better and redirecting funding to mission critical needs.

I have reviewed the GAO report and can share the following responses relative to your specific questions:

1. **Federal Efforts to Meet Water Needs in the Border Region:** I agree that we can improve the coordination of efforts among Federal programs that deliver water and wastewater systems to rural areas. The GAO's recommendation to improve the targeting of resources in the border region is to conduct a comprehensive needs assessment. It is important to understand that the programs and projects funded by the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) are specifically authorized by Congress and existing authority does not allow the completion of a comprehensive needs assessment of rural water in the border region. Reclamation does have authority to provide limited cost-shared assistance to communities through competitive funding opportunities under its Rural Water, WaterSMART Basin Studies, and Title XVI Water Recycling and Reuse programs. It is a significant benefit to all agencies -- Federal, state, and local -- that our Fiscal Year 2012 budget for the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) includes \$10.9 million to commence comprehensive water supply and demand inventories that will provide baseline information needed by public and private water managers to work toward sustainable water supplies. This would begin an effort to estimate freshwater supplies, how they are distributed, and how they are changing over time. The USGS has targeted the Colorado River Basin, an area encompassing significant border regions, as one of the three basins where this assessment will be conducted with FY 2012 funding. An assessment of the availability and use of water resources in the United States was last completed over 30 years ago in 1978. We are hopeful that Congress will support this program that will go a long way toward helping to prioritize rural water needs.
2. **Enterprise Architecture:** Just as GAO recommends, the Department is using its award-winning enterprise architecture to guide the modernization of information technology infrastructure. The Department is underway with an Information Technology Transformation effort that will

leverage systems and investments from across the Department's diverse and geographically dispersed bureaus and offices in order to improve integration with business services and create an environment that better supports mission areas and program delivery.

3. **Consolidating Federal Data Centers:** Consistent with GAO's recommendations we are consolidating data centers throughout the Department as part of our Information Technology Transformation Initiative. We are working collaboratively with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) on its Data Center Consolidation Initiative to reduce hardware, software, rental space, and other costs related to data center operations.
4. **Strategic Oversight Mechanisms:** The Department has clear roles in defending against biological threats, including maintaining awareness, surveillance, and detection. Working through our coordinating mechanisms led by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), we are able to support these efforts with the expertise of the USGS. The USGS provides technical information and support to the DHS on newly emerging diseases, collaborates with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to investigate wildlife disease outbreaks, works with the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) on the detection of highly pathogenic avian influenza in wild birds, and provides expertise to Federal agencies on the role of wildlife and the environment in disease events. As the expert in wildlife health the USGS serves as the leader in this area.
5. **Transportation-Disadvantaged Persons:** The majority of the Department's programs relating to transportation are funded through the Department of Transportation (DOT), and we have significantly expanded our efforts to coordinate with DOT and our sister agencies, including the USDA Forest Service, to improve coordination of programs and services. In addition, our internal roads and transportation programs are conducted in a manner that leverages the DOT programs. Our recent involvement with OMB, DOT, and USDA has been to ensure coordination and collaborative approaches to transportation programs funded in upcoming transportation authorization legislation.
6. **Fair Market Value for Oil and Gas:** The Department is taking steps to encourage diligent development of oil and gas leases, ensure a fair return, and ensure that oil and gas produced are measured accurately.

To respond to GAO's specific recommendations we are taking the following actions:

- **GAO Recommendation:** Congress may need to take action to authorize or encourage Interior to revise its rental fee structure for non-producing leases.
 - To encourage diligent development of Federal oil and gas leases, both onshore and offshore, the Department included a \$4 per acre annual fee on non-producing, onshore Federal oil and gas leases in the FY 2011 and FY 2012 budgets, which would become effective upon Congressional action. Additionally, in 2009, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement (BOEMRE) began charging escalating rental rates for offshore leases extended beyond the initial term and shortened the length of the primary term for offshore oil and gas leases in 2010.

- GAO Recommendation: Interior should complete its study examining how other oil and gas resource owners select fiscal parameters for leasing and adjusting oil and gas royalty rates and use that information to adjust, as appropriate, its royalty rates to a level that ensures the government a fair return. In doing so it should ensure opportunities for substantive, two-way communication with program stakeholders.
 - In 2010, BOEMRE and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) initiated an economic study to compare the Federal Government's share of profits from Federal oil and gas leasing with 700 fiscal systems around the world. The report will include a composite index, including an index of revenue risk. The final report is scheduled to be completed in the summer of 2011.
 - GAO Recommendation: Interior should implement GAO's recommendations from prior reports addressing a variety of oil and gas measurement factors.
 - BLM is in the process of revising Onshore Oil and Gas Orders 3, 4, and 5. These Orders establish requirements for storage, site security and measurement of produced oil and natural gas. Onshore Orders 3-5 are scheduled to be issued in draft this summer. These Orders will help BLM to ensure a fair return for onshore oil and gas through production verification and accountability and are scheduled to be completed in FY 2012.
 - BLM is also developing Onshore Order 9, which will limit the amount of vented and flared natural gas permitted to be released without incurring royalty obligations. However, the Order will be unable to prevent the release of all fugitive natural gas from oil and natural gas operation facilities. This new Order is scheduled to be completed in FY 2012.
 - To fortify its inspection and production accountability processes, BOEMRE has issued inspection goals to ensure the accuracy of reported volumes of oil and gas produced from offshore Federal resources. The BOEMRE issued policy on September 13, 2010, addressing site-security inspections of measurement locations and the witnessing of royalty meter provings and/or calibrations. The BOEMRE policy requires more frequent inspections for "higher risk" measurement locations.
7. Unneeded Federal Real Property Disposal: One of the key missions of the Department is to serve as the custodian of a vast collection of national treasures and properties including the Washington Monument, Liberty Bell, and Statue of Liberty. The Department manages a collection of 159,400 constructed assets that is second only to the Department of Defense. Our efforts to manage these assets are challenged by ownership of lands and facilities that are geographically dispersed and visited extensively by the public. Our facilities management programs put a premium on the identification of assets that are not needed in order to focus our construction and maintenance budgets on highest priority needs and to reduce operating costs. In our 2009 report from the Federal Real Property Profile we identified 1,920 assets that are excess and are in the disposal process. Of those, 517 have already been disposed.

I hope this is informative to your questions.

Sincerely,



Ken Salazar

MARK PRYOR
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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 8, 2011

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Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
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Washington, DC 20240

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Sincerely,



Mark Pryor

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

December 21, 2010

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I write to express my concern regarding the Asian Carp Prevention and Control Act, which you signed into law (P.L. 111-307) on December 14, 2010. While I understand the rationale for implementing this law, I fear that it will cause significant economic harm to many aquaculture farms and small businesses in Arkansas. In addition, I worry that the law could even lead to greater environmental harm to the Mississippi River and Great Lakes region without mechanisms to ensure the proper disposal of the bighead carp currently sitting in aquaculture ponds in Arkansas, Mississippi and Alabama.

The new law adds bighead carp as an injurious species under the Lacey Act, therefore prohibiting the shipment of these live fish across state lines. This law will negatively impact several aquaculture farms in Arkansas by eliminating markets for these fish in locations outside Arkansas. Until the Asian Carp Prevention Act was enacted, these fish were legally sold to live fish markets in other states as a food product. Because this new law would prohibit transportation of these species to these markets, economic harm to bighead carp growers is certain. The only uncertainty resulting from the law is how these aquaculture farmers will dispose of these fish now that they are far less marketable under the new law. This uncertainty could lead to an unintended environmental danger without an attractive system to properly dispose of these fish.

As you may know, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service declined to list the bighead carp as an injurious species several years ago because of the large negative economic impact anticipated from such action. However, with this law Congress circumvented the normal injurious species listing process, which requires an economic impact study. The enactment of the Asian Carp Prevention Act is particularly damaging because private fish farmers that were raising bighead carp were not given adequate warning that they were about to lose the ability to sell their product to certain markets.

Today these farmers are faced with the difficult decision of draining the ponds that currently contain bighead carp, now of little value, so that they may begin another crop cycle with a different fish species. This process could lead to the potential release of large numbers of cultured bighead carp into the Mississippi River drainage, which could cause the environmental harm that I referred to in my first paragraph. Obviously, we need to work with these farmers to prevent such releases from happening.

For these reasons, I ask that you determine if there are existing authorities at the Department of Interior, the Department of Agriculture, or any other federal agency to assist affected aquaculture farmers in properly disposing of these fish and providing compensation for the economic losses resulting from the law. Given the immediate nature of the new law, I ask that you take equally expedient action in determining what compensation and disposal authorities exist in the Administration.

I look forward to working with you on this matter in the coming days, and I appreciate any assistance you can provide to farmers who are scheduled to suffer economic losses as a result of this new law. Finally, I ask that the Administration complete a detailed economic impact analysis of this new law to determine how it affects businesses previously engaged in the interstate shipment of this species.

Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "MARK PRYOR". The signature is written in a bold, cursive style with some capital letters.

Mark Pryor
United States Senator

Cc: The Honorable Ken Salazar, Secretary, U.S. Department of Interior
The Honorable Tom Vilsack, Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture

MARK PRYOR
ARKANSAS
COMMITTEES
INDEPENDENT
COMMERCE, COSMETICS AND
TRANSPORTATION
INDUSTRY AND SUSTAINABLE
GOVERNMENTAL SERVICES
SMALL BUSINESS AND
ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT
RUSTIC AND RECREATION
SELECT COMMITTEES ONLY

255 DIRKSEN SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510
(202) 224-2353

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 13, 2010

500 PRESIDENT CLINTON AVENUE
SUITE 401
LITTLE ROCK, AR 72201
(501) 324-6336
TOLL FREE: (877) 253-9602
<http://pryor.senate.gov>

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
U.S. Department of Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ken:

I am pleased to write in support of the City of McGehee, Arkansas', grant application which has been submitted to the National Park Service. I understand the proceeds will be used to renovate the Railroad Depot in McGehee which will be used as a museum and house the Japanese American Confinement Site display.

As you may know, Desha and Ashley County in Arkansas had the only Japanese American Confinement sites east of Wyoming. This museum will be of great benefit to the people of southeast Arkansas and, also, recognize and pay tribute to those interned in these camps.

This is an important project that is certainly worthy of funding. It is my hope that the United States Department of Interior will give positive consideration of the City of McGehee's application.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Mark Pryor

MLP/sj

RECEIVED
2010 APR 19 PM 2:58
485582



United States Department of the Interior



National Park Service
Midwest Region
601 Riverfront Drive
Omaha, Nebraska 68102-4226

A3615(MWR-PCL/PAL)

MAY 3 2010

The Honorable Mark Pryor
United States Senate
255 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Pryor:

Thank you for your April 13, 2010, letter to Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar (Secretary) stating your support for the City of McGehee's (City) grant proposal for the National Park Service's (NPS) Japanese American Confinement Sites (JACS) Grant Program. I have been asked to respond because the State of Arkansas is one of my areas of responsibility.

The City's proposal to rehabilitate the historic train depot as a museum to honor the two confinement sites located in Arkansas was a notable contribution to the fiscal year 2010 submittals. This project seeks to establish a location for an exhibit about the experiences of Japanese Americans held in the Jerome and Rohwer Relocation Centers during World War II.

The NPS received a total of 42 applications for the fiscal year 2010 grant cycle, requesting more than \$7.7 million in Federal funds. This amount is more than double the \$3 million appropriated by Congress for the 2010 JACS program. Proposals received by the NPS reflected a wide range of project types, including oral history, interpretation and education, documentation, planning, preservation, and capital projects.

During the week of March 15, 2010, an NPS review panel evaluated applications received for the fiscal year 2010 grant cycle. The review panel then submitted its recommendations to Secretary Salazar for final approval of the selected grant awards. We anticipate that the grant recipients and projects will be announced in late spring 2010 and the grant agreements will be finalized soon thereafter.

Again, thank you again for your endorsement of the City of McGehee's proposal submitted to the JACS Grant Program. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Regional program contact Rachel Franklin-Weekley at 402-661-1948.

Sincerely,

Ernest Quintana
Regional Director

TAKE PRIDE[®]
IN AMERICA 



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON
OCT 01 2009

The Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchinson
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Hutchinson:

Thank you for your letter of September 18, 2009, co-signed by your colleagues, expressing support for the Draft Proposed Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2010-2015. The Department of the Interior received your letter on September 30, 2009.

I sincerely appreciate your interest in this matter and you will receive a more detailed response in the near future.

Sincerely,

Ken Salazar



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON
OCT 01 2009

The Honorable Byron L. Dorgan
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Dorgan:

Thank you for your letter of September 18, 2009, co-signed by your colleagues, expressing support for the Draft Proposed Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2010-2015. The Department of the Interior received your letter on September 30, 2009.

I sincerely appreciate your interest in this matter and you will receive a more detailed response in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Salazar". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Ken Salazar



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON
OCT 01 2009

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Murkowski:

Thank you for your letter of September 18, 2009, co-signed by your colleagues, expressing support for the Draft Proposed Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2010-2015. The Department of the Interior received your letter on September 30, 2009.

I sincerely appreciate your interest in this matter and you will receive a more detailed response in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Salazar".

Ken Salazar



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON
OCT 01 2009

The Honorable Christopher Bond
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

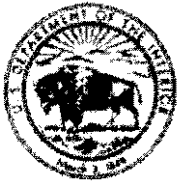
Dear Senator Bond:

Thank you for your letter of September 18, 2009, co-signed by your colleagues, expressing support for the Draft Proposed Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2010-2015. The Department of the Interior received your letter on September 30, 2009.

I sincerely appreciate your interest in this matter and you will receive a more detailed response in the near future.

Sincerely,

Ken Salazar



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON
OCT 01 2009

The Honorable Michael B. Enzi
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Enzi:

Thank you for your letter of September 18, 2009, co-signed by your colleagues, expressing support for the Draft Proposed Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2010-2015. The Department of the Interior received your letter on September 30, 2009.

I sincerely appreciate your interest in this matter and you will receive a more detailed response in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Salazar". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ken Salazar



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

OCT 01 2009

The Honorable Richard Shelby
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Shelby:

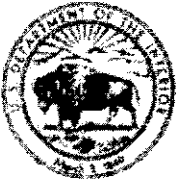
Thank you for your letter of September 18, 2009, co-signed by your colleagues, expressing support for the Draft Proposed Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2010-2015. The Department of the Interior received your letter on September 30, 2009.

I sincerely appreciate your interest in this matter and you will receive a more detailed response in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Salazar".

Ken Salazar



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON
OCT 01 2009

The Honorable John McCain
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator McCain:

Thank you for your letter of September 18, 2009, co-signed by your colleagues, expressing support for the Draft Proposed Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2010-2015. The Department of the Interior received your letter on September 30, 2009.

I sincerely appreciate your interest in this matter and you will receive a more detailed response in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Salazar". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ken Salazar



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

OCT 01 2009

The Honorable Jim Risch
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Risch:

Thank you for your letter of September 18, 2009, co-signed by your colleagues, expressing support for the Draft Proposed Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2010-2015. The Department of the Interior received your letter on September 30, 2009.

I sincerely appreciate your interest in this matter and you will receive a more detailed response in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Salazar".

Ken Salazar



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON
OCT 01 2009

The Honorable John Thune
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Thune:

Thank you for your letter of September 18, 2009, co-signed by your colleagues, expressing support for the Draft Proposed Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2010-2015. The Department of the Interior received your letter on September 30, 2009.

I sincerely appreciate your interest in this matter and you will receive a more detailed response in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Salazar".

Ken Salazar



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON
OCT 01 2009

The Honorable Johnny Isakson
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Isakson:

Thank you for your letter of September 18, 2009, co-signed by your colleagues, expressing support for the Draft Proposed Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2010-2015. The Department of the Interior received your letter on September 30, 2009.

I sincerely appreciate your interest in this matter and you will receive a more detailed response in the near future.

Sincerely,

Ken Salazar



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON
OCT 01 2009

The Honorable John Cornyn
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Cornyn:

Thank you for your letter of September 18, 2009, co-signed by your colleagues, expressing support for the Draft Proposed Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2010-2015. The Department of the Interior received your letter on September 30, 2009.

I sincerely appreciate your interest in this matter and you will receive a more detailed response in the near future.

Sincerely,

Ken Salazar



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

OCT 01 2009

The Honorable Blanche L. Lincoln
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Lincoln:

Thank you for your letter of September 18, 2009, co-signed by your colleagues, expressing support for the Draft Proposed Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2010-2015. The Department of the Interior received your letter on September 30, 2009.

I sincerely appreciate your interest in this matter and you will receive a more detailed response in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Salazar".

Ken Salazar



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

OCT 01 2009

The Honorable Richard Burr
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Burr:

Thank you for your letter of September 18, 2009, co-signed by your colleagues, expressing support for the Draft Proposed Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2010-2015. The Department of the Interior received your letter on September 30, 2009.

I sincerely appreciate your interest in this matter and you will receive a more detailed response in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Salazar".

Ken Salazar



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

OCT 01 2009

The Honorable Jeff Sessions
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Sessions:

Thank you for your letter of September 18, 2009, co-signed by your colleagues, expressing support for the Draft Proposed Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2010-2015. The Department of the Interior received your letter on September 30, 2009.

I sincerely appreciate your interest in this matter and you will receive a more detailed response in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Salazar".

Ken Salazar



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

OCT 01 2009

The Honorable Saxby Chambliss
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Chambliss:

Thank you for your letter of September 18, 2009, co-signed by your colleagues, expressing support for the Draft Proposed Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2010-2015. The Department of the Interior received your letter on September 30, 2009.

I sincerely appreciate your interest in this matter and you will receive a more detailed response in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Salazar".

Ken Salazar



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON
OCT 01 2009

The Honorable James Inhofe
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Inhofe:

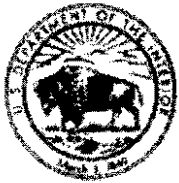
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Salazar".

Ken Salazar



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON
OCT 01 2009

The Honorable Mike Johanns
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Johanns:

Thank you for your letter of September 18, 2009, co-signed by your colleagues, expressing support for the Draft Proposed Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2010-2015. The Department of the Interior received your letter on September 30, 2009.

I sincerely appreciate your interest in this matter and you will receive a more detailed response in the near future.

Sincerely,

Ken Salazar



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON
OCT 01 2009

The Honorable Thad Cochran
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Cochran:

Thank you for your letter of September 18, 2009, co-signed by your colleagues, expressing support for the Draft Proposed Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2010-2015. The Department of the Interior received your letter on September 30, 2009.

I sincerely appreciate your interest in this matter and you will receive a more detailed response in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Salazar". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "K" and "S".

Ken Salazar



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON
OCT 01 2009

The Honorable Bob Corker
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Corker:

Thank you for your letter of September 18, 2009, co-signed by your colleagues, expressing support for the Draft Proposed Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2010-2015. The Department of the Interior received your letter on September 30, 2009.

I sincerely appreciate your interest in this matter and you will receive a more detailed response in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Salazar".

Ken Salazar



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON
OCT 01 2009

The Honorable David Vitter
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Vitter:

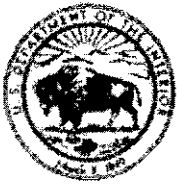
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I sincerely appreciate your interest in this matter and you will receive a more detailed response in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Salazar". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ken Salazar



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON
OCT 01 2009

The Honorable Robert F. Bennett
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Bennett:

Thank you for your letter of September 18, 2009, co-signed by your colleagues, expressing support for the Draft Proposed Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2010-2015. The Department of the Interior received your letter on September 30, 2009.

I sincerely appreciate your interest in this matter and you will receive a more detailed response in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Salazar". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Ken Salazar



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON
OCT 01 2009

The Honorable Tom Coburn
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Coburn:

Thank you for your letter of September 18, 2009, co-signed by your colleagues, expressing support for the Draft Proposed Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2010-2015. The Department of the Interior received your letter on September 30, 2009.

I sincerely appreciate your interest in this matter and you will receive a more detailed response in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Salazar".

Ken Salazar



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON
OCT 01 2009

The Honorable Pat Roberts
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Roberts:

Thank you for your letter of September 18, 2009, co-signed by your colleagues, expressing support for the Draft Proposed Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2010-2015. The Department of the Interior received your letter on September 30, 2009.

I sincerely appreciate your interest in this matter and you will receive a more detailed response in the near future.

Sincerely,

Ken Salazar

Ken Salazar



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON
OCT 01 2009

The Honorable Sam Brownback
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Brownback:

Thank you for your letter of September 18, 2009, co-signed by your colleagues, expressing support for the Draft Proposed Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2010-2015. The Department of the Interior received your letter on September 30, 2009.

I sincerely appreciate your interest in this matter and you will receive a more detailed response in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Salazar".

Ken Salazar



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON
OCT 01 2009

The Honorable Roger F. Wicker
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Wicker:

Thank you for your letter of September 18, 2009, co-signed by your colleagues, expressing support for the Draft Proposed Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2010-2015. The Department of the Interior received your letter on September 30, 2009.

I sincerely appreciate your interest in this matter and you will receive a more detailed response in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Salazar".

Ken Salazar



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON
OCT 01 2009

The Honorable Lamar Alexander
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Alexander:

Thank you for your letter of September 18, 2009, co-signed by your colleagues, expressing support for the Draft Proposed Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2010-2015. The Department of the Interior received your letter on September 30, 2009.

I sincerely appreciate your interest in this matter and you will receive a more detailed response in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Salazar".

Ken Salazar



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON
OCT 01 2009

The Honorable Mark Pryor
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Pryor:

Thank you for your letter of September 18, 2009, co-signed by your colleagues, expressing support for the Draft Proposed Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2010-2015. The Department of the Interior received your letter on September 30, 2009.

I sincerely appreciate your interest in this matter and you will receive a more detailed response in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Salazar".

Ken Salazar



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON
OCT 01 2009

The Honorable George V. Voinovich
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Voinovich:

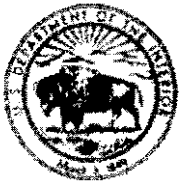
Thank you for your letter of September 18, 2009, co-signed by your colleagues, expressing support for the Draft Proposed Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2010-2015. The Department of the Interior received your letter on September 30, 2009.

I sincerely appreciate your interest in this matter and you will receive a more detailed response in the near future.

Sincerely,

Ken Salazar

Ken Salazar



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON
OCT 01 2009

The Honorable Orrin G. Hatch
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Hatch:

Thank you for your letter of September 18, 2009, co-signed by your colleagues, expressing support for the Draft Proposed Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2010-2015. The Department of the Interior received your letter on September 30, 2009.

I sincerely appreciate your interest in this matter and you will receive a more detailed response in the near future.

Sincerely,

Ken Salazar



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON
OCT 01 2009

The Honorable Charles Grassley
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

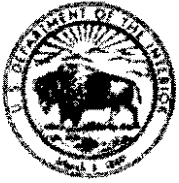
Dear Senator Grassley:

Thank you for your letter of September 18, 2009, co-signed by your colleagues, expressing support for the Draft Proposed Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2010-2015. The Department of the Interior received your letter on September 30, 2009.

I sincerely appreciate your interest in this matter and you will receive a more detailed response in the near future.

Sincerely,

Ken Salazar



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON
OCT 01 2009

The Honorable John Barrasso
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Barrasso:

Thank you for your letter of September 18, 2009, co-signed by your colleagues, expressing support for the Draft Proposed Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2010-2015. The Department of the Interior received your letter on September 30, 2009.

I sincerely appreciate your interest in this matter and you will receive a more detailed response in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Salazar".

Ken Salazar



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON
OCT 01 2009

The Honorable Jim Bunning
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Bunning:

Thank you for your letter of September 18, 2009, co-signed by your colleagues, expressing support for the Draft Proposed Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2010-2015. The Department of the Interior received your letter on September 30, 2009.

I sincerely appreciate your interest in this matter and you will receive a more detailed response in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Salazar". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "K" and "S".

Ken Salazar



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON
OCT 01 2009

The Honorable Mark Begich
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Begich:

Thank you for your letter of September 18, 2009, co-signed by your colleagues, expressing support for the Draft Proposed Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2010-2015. The Department of the Interior received your letter on September 30, 2009.

I sincerely appreciate your interest in this matter and you will receive a more detailed response in the near future.

Sincerely,

Ken Salazar
Ken Salazar



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON
OCT 01 2009

The Honorable Ben Nelson
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Nelson:

Thank you for your letter of September 18, 2009, co-signed by your colleagues, expressing support for the Draft Proposed Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2010-2015. The Department of the Interior received your letter on September 30, 2009.

I sincerely appreciate your interest in this matter and you will receive a more detailed response in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ken Salazar".

Ken Salazar



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON
OCT 01 2009

The Honorable Jim DeMint
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator DeMint:

Thank you for your letter of September 18, 2009, co-signed by your colleagues, expressing support for the Draft Proposed Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2010-2015. The Department of the Interior received your letter on September 30, 2009.

I sincerely appreciate your interest in this matter and you will receive a more detailed response in the near future.

Sincerely,

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Ken Salazar

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

September 18, 2009

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Mr. Secretary:

We are writing to convey our strong support for the Draft Proposed Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Oil and Gas Leasing Program (DPP) proposed by the U.S. Minerals Management Service (MMS). By opening up new offshore areas for natural gas and oil leasing and development and also allowing for the development of renewable energy as proposed in the DPP, the Department of the Interior can provide the United States with an opportunity to responsibly produce our own energy. This development will bolster our nation's economy, create new jobs and decrease our dependence on foreign sources of energy.

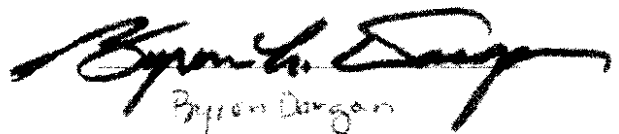

It is more important than ever that the federal government allow for development of domestic offshore energy supplies made available in the DPP. By offering new leasing opportunities, the DPP is appropriately expansive and provides the Department with maximum flexibility to properly utilize our nation's domestic resources.

Now is the appropriate time to promote long-term policies that responsibly encourage job creation while growing the economy. Important offshore areas, like those in Alaska, offer tremendous natural gas and oil resources. By some estimates, the Chukchi Sea alone off Alaska's coast contains as much natural gas and oil as the country has produced in the Gulf of Mexico since 1942.

Additionally, we urge MMS to move forward with the 2007-2012 Leasing Program while working to approve and finalize the new DPP. Implementing a sensible, forward-thinking energy policy will allow for responsible leasing and development of America's energy resources and will help industries and businesses here at home that rely heavily on natural gas and crude oil. It will also further our national security and energy security interests and, of course, spur jobs and economic growth as we open new areas to leasing and development.

In conclusion, we are pleased to see that the MMS has included new leasing areas in the DPP and has acknowledged the need for the United States to begin responsibly developing the abundant energy resources located off our coasts. We believe that the DPP is an important step in creating a robust, diverse, national energy policy which will help secure our energy future. We urge you to move forward on the DPP as you work to finalize a new five-year OCS plan. Thank you for your attention to this important matter. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of assistance to you.

Sincerely,



Byron Dorgan

The Honorable Ken Salazar

September 18, 2009

Page Three

Dil Vitt

Pat Roberts

Steve Bennett

Tom Cole

Sam Frankel

Ray Winter

Lamar Alexander

Mark Royce

George V. Voinovich

John G. Hatch

Chuck Grassley

John Barrasso

Jim Bunning

Mark Begich

Ben Rayburn

SEP 23 2009 10:43 AM

466795

September 18, 2009

Page Two

Joe Neuharth

Blanch R. Lincoln

Phil Bond

~~Blanch R. Lincoln~~

Michael B. Enzi

Jeri DeMont

Richard Shelby

~~Jeri DeMont~~

John McCain

Sally Chaudin

Jan Brindley

Jeri DeMont

John Thune

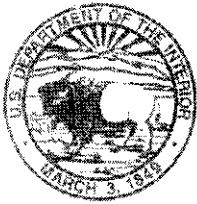
Mel Johanns

~~John Thune~~

Paul Cook

John Cornyn

Baucus



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

OCT 21 2009



The Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchinson
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Hutchison:

Thank you for your letter dated September 18, 2009, to Secretary Ken Salazar expressing your strong support for the 2010–2015 Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Draft Proposed Program (DPP). Secretary Salazar asked me to respond. A similar letter is being sent to each signer of your letter.

The comment period on the DPP closed on September 21, 2009. The Minerals Management Service (MMS) received over 530,000 comments on the DPP. The MMS will summarize and analyze those comments as quickly as possible in order to move expeditiously to the next steps in the process, which include scoping of the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and publication of the Proposed Program and draft EIS. Your comments will be considered carefully in that endeavor.

On July 28, 2009, the U.S. Court of Appeals clarified that its ruling on the 2007–2012 Program delays only those sales in the Chukchi, Beaufort, and Bering Seas. However, it will be necessary to re-balance all sales in the 2007–2012 plan once the revised environmental sensitivity analysis is complete.

Thank you for your interest in the OCS program. Secretary Salazar and I look forward to working with you to move forward in developing a comprehensive Federal offshore energy plan for the benefit of the Nation. If you have any questions you may contact me or Ms. S. Elizabeth Birnbaum, Director, MMS, at (202) 208-3500.

Sincerely,

~~Wilma A. Lewis~~

Assistant Secretary
Land and Minerals Management

Similar letter being sent to:

The Honorable Byron L. Dorgan
The Honorable Lamar Alexander
The Honorable John Barrasso
The Honorable Mark Begich
The Honorable Robert F. Bennett
The Honorable Christopher Bond
The Honorable Sam Brownback
The Honorable Jim Bunning
The Honorable Richard Burr
The Honorable Saxby Chambliss
The Honorable Thad Cochran
The Honorable John Cornyn
The Honorable Bob Corker
The Honorable Tom Corbin
The Honorable Jim DeMint
The Honorable Michael B. Enzi
The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
The Honorable Orrin G. Hatch
The Honorable James Inhofe
The Honorable James Inhofe
The Honorable James Inhofe
The Honorable Mike Johanns
The Honorable Blanche L. Lincoln
The Honorable John McCain
The Honorable Lisa Murkowski
The Honorable Ben Nelson
The Honorable Mark Pryor
The Honorable James E. Risch
The Honorable Pat Roberts
The Honorable Jeff Sessions
The Honorable Richard Shelby
The Honorable John Thune
The Honorable David Vitter
The Honorable George Voinovich
The Honorable Roger Wicker

UNITED STATES SENATE
ARIZONA
ARIZONA
COMMITTEES:
ARMED SERVICES
COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND
TRANSPORTATION
HOMELAND SECURITY AND
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
SMALL BUSINESS AND
ENTREPRENEURSHIP
RULES AND ADMINISTRATION
SELECT COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

WASHINGTON, DC 20510
(202) 224-2353

500 PRESIDENT CLINTON AVENUE
SUITE 401
LITTLE ROCK, AR 72201
(501) 324-8336
TOLL FREE (877) 259-9602
<http://www.senate.gov>

337903

June 11, 2008

Secretary Dirk Kempthorne
Department of Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20240

Director Mary Bomar
National Park Service Headquarters
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Kempthorne and Director Bomar:

Thank you for meeting with members of the Arkansas Congressional Delegation on Tuesday, June 11, 2008. Senator Lincoln and Congressman Ross each told me after the meeting how appreciative they are for your time and attention to Hot Springs National Park.

I am following up on the three requests I made at the meeting. Please provide me the following as quickly as possible:

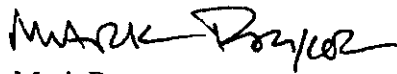
1. Any evidence or documentation that the use of the logo or the use of "Hot Springs National Park" or "Hot Springs National Park, Arkansas" by the City of Hot Springs or by the local Advertising and Promotion Commission has caused **confusion** among visitors to the Hot Springs area;
2. The Department of Interior's or the National Park Service's **written policy** that led to the filing of the Petition to Cancel and the date the policy was adopted; and
3. Any information or evidence establishing the basis for the belief by the Department of Interior or the National Park Service that the City of Hot Springs or the Advertising and Promotion Commission **fraudulently obtained** the trademark as alleged in paragraphs 17 through 22 of the Petition to Cancel.

RECEIVED
2008 JUN 17 PM 1:01
OFFICE OF THE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

If I can help work out a resolution between the Park Service and the community, I will be glad to assist in any way I can.

Again, I want to thank you for giving your time and attention to this matter. Hot Springs is an American treasure and I look forward to the day when things are better than ever.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Pryor". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent flourish at the end.

Mark Pryor



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

371072

IN REPLY REFER TO:

L58 (0120)

JUL 14 2008

The Honorable Mark Pryor
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Pryor:

copy

This letter is in response to your June 11, 2008 correspondence concerning the Hot Springs trademark issue. We are encouraged by your efforts to facilitate the working relationship between the City and National Park Service (NPS). Enclosed are examples of information that relate to your requests concerning the litigation before the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board (TTAB), *U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, Hot Springs National Park v. Hot Springs Advertising & Promotion Commission* (Cancellation No. 92049191).

The proceeding before TTAB is a quasi-judicial adjudicative proceeding. The parties to this litigation are currently complying with TTAB's disclosure and discovery requirements, in preparation for the briefings and trial that are to follow. Information relevant to the pleadings will continue to become available throughout this process. In the meantime, to protect the position of the United States in this litigation, we will respond to your current requests with examples of publicly available documents.

Enclosures 1 and 2 are examples of complaints directed to the National Park Service about non-Park businesses who use the Park's name. Enclosure 3 demonstrates the use of the trademark by the Hot Springs Advertising and Promotion Commission to promote such non-Park activities as horse racing, casino-style gambling, amusement parks, miniature golf, municipal tax collection, municipal law enforcement, and other municipal services.

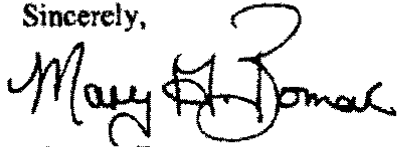
With regard to your inquiry concerning "policy," the action undertaken on behalf of the Department of the Interior and the National Park Service is an outgrowth of our responsibility under the Lanham Act (15 U.S.C. §§ 1051-1127) and the National Park Service Organic Act (16 U.S.C. §§ 1-4). Together they require the Department to defend the NPS, its name, and associated intellectual property values.

Enclosure 4, Trademark Application Serial No. 76308712, is an example of information containing representations relevant to the fraud count in the Petition to Cancel.

... duty to pursue the litigation before the
Trademark Trial and Appeal Board, we share your interest in seeing the matter resolved
to everyone's benefit and will continue to seek opportunities to settle the matter and work
with the City to advance the broader mutual interests.

We appreciate your concern about this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary A. Bomar". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "M".

Mary A. Bomar
Director

Enclosures

2007 OCT 12 PM 1:16
September 14, 2007

National Park Service - Hot Springs, AR

nonresponsive

Ms. Fernandez,

I am including a copy of the letter I sent to the Arlington Hotel in July of this year. I apologize for the time differential, but it has come to my attention that the National Park Service actually has no control over the Arlington. As you surely received this same letter in July, it was my understanding that the Arlington Hotel fell under the "jurisdiction", if you will, of the National Park Service. All of their advertisement indicates such and their address is even shown as "Hot Springs National Park".

In addition to my foul treatment at said purported "resort", I now find myself angered, yet again, by their false advertisement. Is there not a way to stop this from happening? To be honest, I believe that the Arlington has sullied the reputation of the Hot Springs National Park - and will continue to do so unless something changes.

I want to let you know, that I have spent an extraordinary amount of time in Hot Springs over the last three months. I have stayed at numerous other hotels and have received the most wonderful and courteous care. As I have stressed in the attached letter, I assure you that I will never stay at the Arlington again. I hope that you will be able to "make things happen" in regards to the false advertisement of the Arlington. Again, if I was under the impression that the National Park Service was associated with - and had control over - the Arlington, then how many others are under the same impression?

Please feel free to call on me if you have any questions or if I might be able to help in any way. Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Respectfully,

nonresponsive

nonresponsive

P.S. My home phone number is **nonresponsive** Thanks, again!

Enclosure 1

July 10, 2007

2007 JUL 16 AM 11:47

The Arlington Hotel
c/o the General Manager
239 Central Avenue
Hot Springs, AR 71901

Dear Madam or Sir:

On 07/07/07, my family and I were in Hot Springs for a dance competition at the Convention Center. I have been to Hot Springs many, many times, but my visits have always centered on Lake Hamilton. On this occasion, however, we needed to be in the downtown area. The Austin and Embassy Suites were filled to capacity with dancers. I then thought of the Arlington as it was very nearby. I had never stayed there, but I believed it to be a luxury hotel. I got online and was assured by the website that it was a luxury hotel -- an award winning "resort and spa". When I called to make my reservation, I was, again, told that the Arlington was a luxury hotel. Let me take you through my stay at the Arlington.

Upon arrival, I was unpleasantly surprised to find that the valet parking was full. I was then checked in by a disinterested employee. My mother, daughter, and I walked the dark, dank hallway to our room and we thought that we had been given the wrong key because none of us could get the door open. A maid that was walking past advised me that I would have to push in very hard because the door was sticking. She was correct; you just had to turn the key and really put your shoulder into

When I walked into the room I first noticed a horrible discolored place on the carpet. It almost looked as though a hot iron had been placed there and had burned the carpet. The bathroom was just inside the doorway and it was horrible. The tiles on the floor were mismatched, the shower tile was covered in mildew, and there were rust stains in the tub. It appeared that someone had begun to paint the bathroom, but stopped halfway through. The toilet was so close to the sink and an overhanging shelf that it was not only uncomfortable, it was almost dangerous. Needless to say, we spent as little time in the bathroom as possible and we could not bring ourselves to even get into the shower the next day.

When we returned from the Convention Center it was late. I checked on the valet parking, just to make sure, but was told that it was, indeed, full. I was then told that I could park in a parking garage about a block away. If that was full, I would have to park even further away than that. When I asked how we (my mother and daughter were with me) were supposed to get back to the hotel, I was assured that the "Arlington shuttle" would pick us up. The parking garage, of course, was full and I had to drive down to the old Majestic Hotel to park. We then waited on the shuttle and it soon arrived. It was a small, older car that could only accommodate four adults. We had to wait for the shuttle to take a couple to the hotel and return for us. Please note that we were waiting in a darkened parking lot.

When we finally made it to the hotel my daughter was wondering about the horse drawn carriage rides. I couldn't find any literature in the room on it, so I called the front desk. The night clerk that I spoke with could not answer any of my questions. I thought they were fairly simple and should have been known by the staff as the carriage rides began just outside of the Arlington. I only wanted to know the cost of the ride, how long they would be giving them, and how long the ride lasted. Again, my questions were answered with "well...", "I think", and "I would imagine".

Let me return quickly to the state of the room. My daughter was so uncomfortable that she did not rest well. She was afraid that bugs were going to come out once we turned off the light. The

.....

walls were so thin that I could hear the people in the next room sneeze. To top it all off, the television volume was not working properly. One moment you have to turn it up because you couldn't hear, the very next moment it was blaring. We just didn't watch any television.

The next morning we got ready to depart. As we were walking downstairs we passed a maid in the hallway. My mother spoke to her as we passed and it seemed to take a great effort on the part of the maid for her to respond in kind. We then waited in an overly warm hallway for the elevator, which finally came. My mother found out that breakfast was supposed to be included with our "Family Package". We had not been told about this at check-in. My mother mentioned this at check out and the clerk gave Mother three vouchers and directed her to the dining room - which was closed. I could not take any more "luxury" service. I returned to the clerk and asked about the "closed" dining room. He then looked at his watch and said, "Oh, well it closes at ten". It was five minutes after ten. I returned the vouchers to him stating that we obviously did not need them. I then advised him of how unhappy we had been with our stay at the Arlington and that we would not ever be back. He seemed to get angry and said "I'm sorry you feel that way."

There were only two people that were very pleasant and helpful. One was an African American bellhop. I did not get his name, but every time I saw him he was smiling and helping someone. The other was [nonresponsive]. After leaving the hotel, my mother noticed that a \$130 charge had been added to our bill. Apparently someone had been to the Fountain Room and had given our room number for the bill. Ms. [nonresponsive] very quickly assisted Mother in that correction.

Let me assure you that I have stayed in many luxury hotels. The Arlington is not one of them. Had we not needed to be in the downtown area on Saturday, I promise that we would not have stayed the night. I would have had better accommodations at a Motel6. To state, in any way, that the Arlington is a luxury hotel is false advertisement. The website is not just misleading - it's a lie.

I assure you that I will never return to the Arlington "Resort and Spa". I also assure you that I will tell others about my stay. It was the treatment that we received, as much as the accommodations, that was not to my liking. I had hoped to show my daughter a wonderful hotel that was rich with history. Such was not the case and it very nearly ruined our weekend trip.

Respectfully,

nonresponsive

cc: Hot Springs Chamber of Commerce
The Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism

Dear Mary,

CD-13470
JUN 25 2008
73

I am writing this letter to bring to your attention a situation that blackens the reputation of the National Parks and should be corrected as swiftly as possible.

While coming from the tiny state of Delaware my family has little direct contact with the National Parks. Despite this all of us have spent the past 50 years traveling to every one of your parks sites. Name it and in all probability we have been there.

It started back in 1958 when we made our first camping trip to 'Seawall' in Acadia National Park. Caught up in what we thought to be a forest fire we were rescued by your rangers. From that experience onward (and many subsequent ones) we developed a special relationship that can only be compared to the faith that one has in a religious figure. If we saw the word "NATIONAL PARK" we were certain that we would be dealt with fairly and would enter into a realm inhabited by decent human beings.

I am sorry to say that this worthy image has been badly damaged by a one week stay in Hot Springs, Arkansas. The emphasis should be on Hot Springs and not Arkansas for it is a beautiful state. We urged all of our friends here in Delaware to visit Arkansas but stay clear of Hot Springs. Unlike the "state of mature" it is a city of crooks who no doubt have come down from Chicago in the foot steps of Al Capone.

But the worst part about it is what Hot Springs

was done to hurt the reputation of that most noble of all American institutions, the National Parks.

What am I getting at?

Let me tell you about our experience in Hot Springs. We first visited the National Parks Reception Center at the Fordyce Center along Bathhouse Row. Oh what a wonderful place this is! Given the proper support it could be developed into a southern middle west "Williamsburg". The style of architecture alone is an amazing example of Americana.

We watched a film called "Vapors from the Valley" and it put all that we could observe in the proper perspective. It slyly made mention of "drummers" who took advantage of human gullibility but we never realized that we would be a victim of these self same "drummers" but of the 21st century variety.

These were Jabus who made glib use of the phrase "NATIONAL PARK" to exploit the ignorance of people like myself who had such admiration for all that this phrase suggested. Let me be specific:

They had big signs all around announcing "NATIONAL PARK" TOURS and just below that in equally big letters it said \$4. The price seemed very low but because it was associated with "NATIONAL PARKS" I could not but believe the truthfulness of the statement, after all they were part of the "NATIONAL PARKS". The "NATIONAL PARKS" wouldn't lie to us.

How wrong we were! When we got aboard the vehicle to take us on the tour we were asked for \$4 but \$13 per person. If you wanted the \$4 rate you would have to pay \$14. How this was computed I never understood but I quickly realized my family and I were caught up in a con game run by crooks who made use of the word NATIONAL PARKS to lure the suckers into their trap.

Quickly I put my wallet back in my pocket and yipped up the pocket fearing that there might be some NATIONAL PARK RANGERS about who might pick pocket me. But the saddest sight of all was an elderly gentleman who had invited 6 or 7 of his young grand children aboard with the idea that it might cost him a big \$50 only to find out that he was being wiped out by whom? Why none other than the NATIONAL PARKS.

So this is the situation my family and I encountered in Hot Springs. They are blatantly using the sacred phrase NATIONAL PARKS to mislead the public who put such great trust in these two words.

What are you going to do about it?

Sincerely
nonresponsive

nonresponsive

Our telephone # is

Play. Relax. Repeat.

Day & Night

Uniquely Hot Springs.

You'll find so many great things to do day and night, all year long. Go from a morning massage to a meeting at the racetrack or in the convention center, followed by some corporate bonding over dinner and games of skill and more. Beautiful botanical gardens, great golfing, elegant dining or down-home cooking - whatever you're looking for in an off-site meeting or convention facility, you're sure to find it here.

For a free Facilities Guide, visit hotsprings.org or call 1-800-922-6478.





Play. Relax. Repeat.

Day &

Uniquely Hot Springs.

Hop on a thrilling roller coaster or raise a toast to good times. Earn away your stress in a natural thermal spa or let it all ride on the ponies. Shop until you drop and then reward yourself with some fine cuisine or down-home cooking. Only Hot Springs National Park has so many unique things to do, day and night - all year long.

For free vacation planning information, visit hotsprings.org or call 1-888-SPA-CITY.



Play. Relax. Repeat.

Night & Day

Uniquely Hot Springs

Hit the jackpot at Oaklawn Park with gaming and racing and then spend a little of your winnings on an amazing day of shopping. Relax in our famous thermal spring waters and celebrate with a taste of the good life at our many fine dining restaurants. Only Hot Springs National Park has so many unique things to do, night and day – all year long.

For free vacation planning information,



Play. Relax. Repeat.

Day & Night

Uniquely Hot Springs.

Explore all the glories of nature at Garvan Woodland Gardens and entertain the whole family with fun activities all the way to bedtime. Go loop-to-loop at Magic Springs and

then shop till you drop all over town.

Only Hot Springs National Park has so many unique things to do, day and night, all year long.

For free vacation planning information,

visit hotsprings.org or call 1-888-SPA-TRIP



Play. Relax. Repeat.

Day & Night

Uniquely Hot Springs.

OPEN

Scream for joy on a thrilling roller coaster ride at Magic Springs and then dive into cool, clear water at Crystal Falls or any of our three beautiful lakes. Shop for the whole family and then treat your tastebuds to a world of wonderful flavors at our many restaurants. Only Hot Springs National Park has so many unique things to do, day and night — all year long.

For free vacation planning information,

visit hot-springs.com or call 1-888-688-6177.



w-mank's story



Play-Rite, Repair

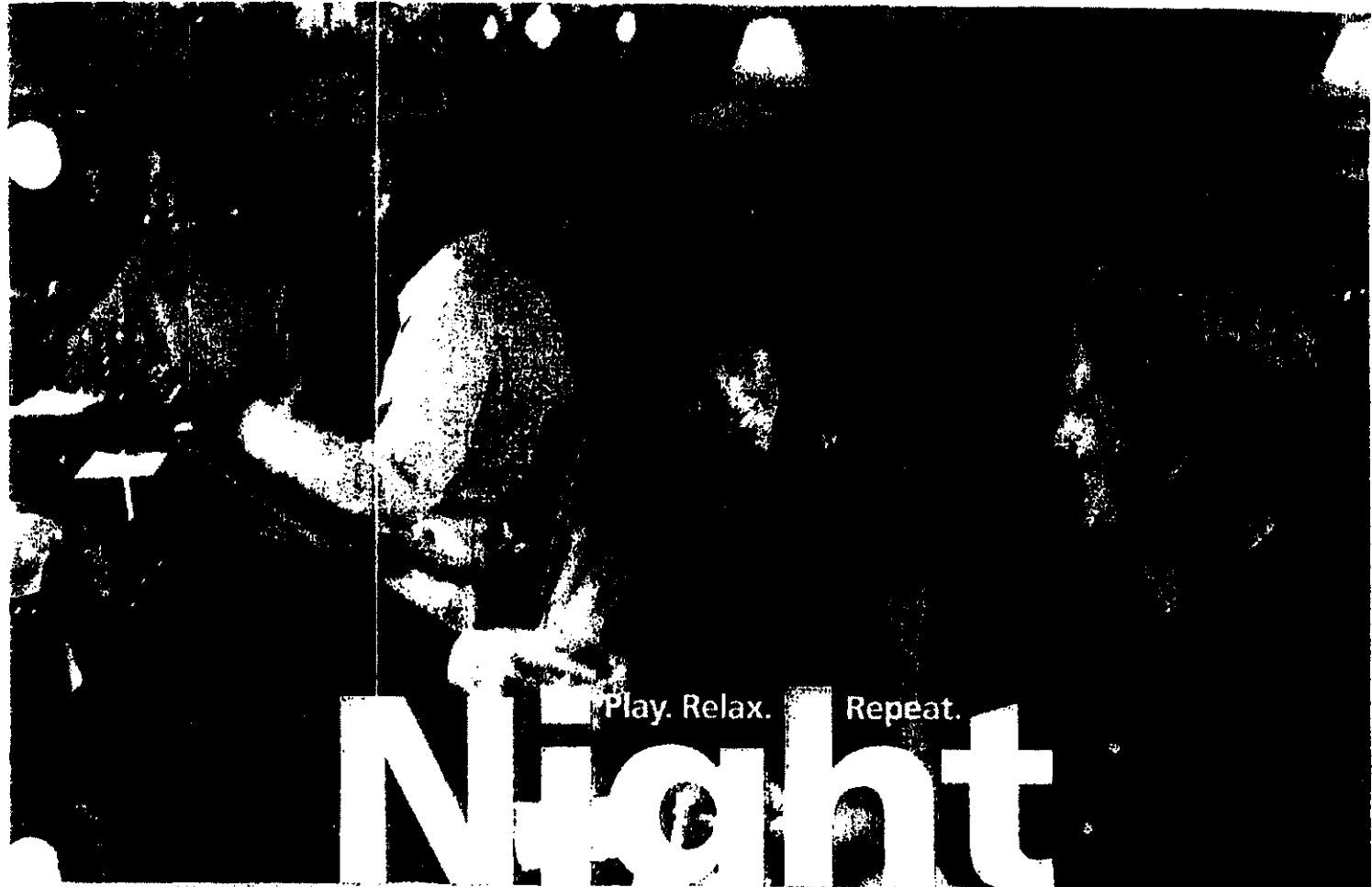
Day & Night

Uniquely Hot Springs.

Go wild along the roller coaster at Magic Springs or relax and unwind away the miles in our famous baths and spas. Cheer on some winners at Oaklawn Racing and Gaming or stroll through nature's finest at Garvan Woodland Gardens. Wrap it all up with great shopping, dining and the unique art galleries. Only Hot Springs National Park has so many unique things to do for you every day, every night - all year long.

For a free 5-day Tour of the Park, visit www.hot-springs.com or call 1-800-922-6478.





Play. Relax. Repeat.

Night and Day

Uniquely Hot Springs



Hit it big on fun at Oaklawn Park and then raise a toast to your good fortune at one of our many fine dining establishments. Restore your sanity at a beautiful spa resort and shop until you drop along our lively gallery row.

Only Hot Springs National Park has so many unique things to do, night and day, all year long.

For free vacation planning information,

visit www.hotsprings.com or call 1-800-451-7000.



MISSOURI



Play Park

24/7 Resort Day

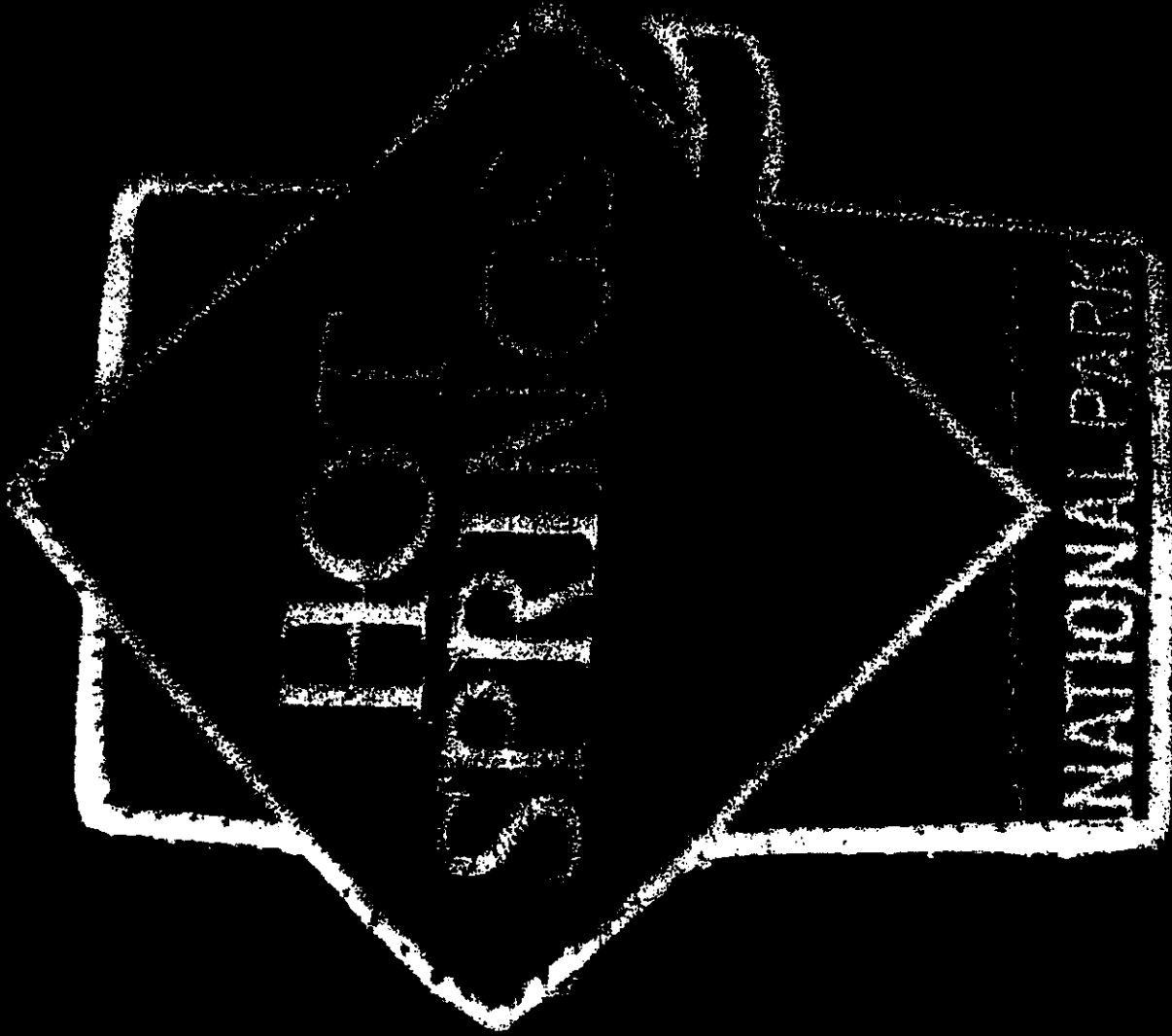
Uniquely Hot Springs.



Soak away your worldly cares in thermal spring waters and ride into the sunset on a jet ski loaded with horsepower. Fuel your appetite for romance with fine dining and explore the glories of nature in Garver Woodland Gardens. Only Hot Springs National Park has so many unique things to do, night and day – all year long.

For free vacation planning information,





Sleeve, City of Hot Springs Police Uniform

Cross Receipts Tax Permit

City of Hot Springs National Park
The Hot Springs Advertising & Promotion Commission
City 39 Cross Receipts Tax Permit

This tax is authorized by Act 626 of 1988 and City Ordinance 1001 and is to be collected in the same manner and at the same time as the tax levied by the Arkansas Cross Receipts Act of 1988, Act 626 of 1988, Act 1988-150.

Applicable to:

Lodging; the gross receipts of gross proceeds from the renting, leasing, or use of any building, structure, or other accommodations for sleeping, dining, or party room facilities for profit in the City of Hot Springs, Arkansas, but not to account for the sale of food, the rental of a vehicle, or the sale of any other goods, services, or commodities. The tax shall not apply to the gross receipts of any business, organization, or individual who is a resident of the State of Arkansas and who is engaged in a business, organization, or profession, except that such tax shall not apply to such gross receipts of any person or organization qualified under Section 501(c)(3) of the Federal Internal Revenue Code (I.R.C.) 2625.602 (b)(1)(A)(ii).

Permit Account No.	Date of Issue
--------------------	---------------

Issued to (Business, address, owner)

Chairman

NON-TRANSFERABLE from one permit to another. This permit shall be issued at the discretion of the Hot Springs Advertising & Promotion Commission • Convention Plaza • Box K • Hot Springs National Park, Arkansas 71901 • Phone (501) 325-2277. This tax must be collected from the consumer. NOTICE: This permit must be posted in a conspicuous place.

CITY OF HOT SPRINGS, ARKANSAS

09-04-2001

U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Form 279 (Rev. 10-16-97)

Applicant:

P.O. Address:

**First Use Anywhere:
First Use in Commerce:
Services**

Filing Correspondent:

Hot Springs Advertising
and Promotion Commission
P.O. Box 6000
Hot Springs National Park, AR
71902
May 15, 1987
May 15, 1987
Advertising and promotion of
services and facilities of Hot Springs
National Park in Class 35
(U.S. Cl. 101)
Speed & Rogers, P.A.
1701 Centerview Dr., Suite 125
Little Rock, Arkansas 72211
Phone (501) 219-2800
Email speedlaw@speedlaw.com



76308712

TRADEMARK APPLICATION SERIAL NO. **76308712**

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
FEE RECORD SHEET

09/10/2001 GTHMRS2 00006176 76308712

01 FC:361

325.00 OP

PTO-1555
(5/87)

U.S. Government Printing Office: 2000 — 468-232/29119

NPS 00002

GARY N. SPEED*
MARK ROGERS*

Speed & Rogers, P.A.

1701 Centerview Drive, Suite 125
Little Rock, AR 72211-4311
(501) 219-2800
Fax (501) 219-2879
www.speedlaw.com

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW
AND RELATED LITIGATION

*REGISTERED PATENT ATTORNEY

August 29, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Trademarks
Box FEE
2900 Crystal Drive
Arlington, VA 22202-3513

RE: Applicant: Hot Springs Advertising and Promotion Commission
Mark: HOT SPRINGS NATIONAL PARK ARKANSAS [WITH DESIGN]

Sir:

Enclosed are the following:

1. Trademark application with declaration, power of attorney and drawing for registration of the above-referenced mark.
2. Three specimens showing the mark.
3. Check in the amount of \$325 in payment of the filing fee.
4. Return postcard.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Very truly yours,



Gary N. Speed
Attorney for Applicant

GNS/gs

NPS 00003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
APPLICATION FOR TRADEMARK REGISTRATION

MARK: **HOT SPRINGS NATIONAL
PARK ARKANSAS [W/DESIGN]**

INTL. CLASSES: **35 (U.S. Cl. 101)**

TO THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS:

APPLICANT: **Hot Springs Advertising & Promotion Commission**

BUSINESS ADDRESS: **134 Convention Blvd.
P.O. Box 6000
Hot Springs National Park, AR 71902**

**CITIZENSHIP/STATE
OF INCORPORATION:** **A commission of the City of Hot Springs, Arkansas
with its principal place of business in Hot Springs
National Park, Arkansas**

Applicant requests registration of the above-identified trademark shown in the accompanying drawing in the United States Patent and Trademark Office on the Principal Register established by the Act of July 5, 1946 (15 U.S.C. §1051 et seq, as amended) for the following services:

**Advertising and promotion of services and facilities of Hot Springs
National Park in Class 35 (U.S. Cl. 101)**

The mark was first used in connection with the above-referenced services anywhere at least as early as May 15, 1987 and in interstate commerce at least as early as May 15, 1987; and is now in use in such commerce with such services.

NPS 00004

DECLARATION

I, Steve Arrison, Executive Director of Applicant, being hereby warned that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any registration resulting therefrom, declares that he is properly authorized to execute this application on behalf of the Applicant; he believes the Applicant to be the owner of the mark sought to be registered, or, if the application is being filed under 15 U.S.C. 1051(b), he believes Applicant to be entitled to use such mark in commerce; to the best of his knowledge and belief, no other person, firm, corporation or association has the right to use said mark in commerce, either in the identical form or in such near resemblance thereto as may be likely, when applied to the goods of such other person, to cause confusion, or to cause mistake, or to deceive; and that all statements made of his own knowledge are true and all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true.

POWER OF ATTORNEY

Applicant hereby appoint Gary N. Speed and Mark A. Rogers its attorneys to file this declaration with full power of substitution and revocation, and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office in connection therewith and to receive the certificate of registration and directs that all correspondence be forwarded to:

Gary N. Speed
Speed & Rogers, P.A.
1701 Centerview Dr., Suite 125
Little Rock, Arkansas 72211
Phone (501) 219-2800
Email speedlaw@speedlaw.com

Signed at Hot Springs National Park, Arkansas this 22 day of August, 2001.

APPLICANT:

Hot Springs Advertising and Promotion
Commission

By: 
Steve Arrison, Executive Director

09-04-2001

U.S. Patent & Trademark Office Form 01-071

Applicant:	Hot Springs Advertising and Promotion Commission
P.O. Address:	P.O. Box 6000 Hot Springs National Park, AR 71902
First Use Anywhere:	May 15, 1987
First Use in Commerce:	May 15, 1987
Services	Advertising and promotion of services and facilities of Hot Springs National Park in Class 35 (U.S. Cl. 101)
Filing Correspondent:	Speed & Rogers, P.A. 1701 Centerview Dr., Suite 125 Little Rock, Arkansas 72211 Phone (501) 219-2800 Email speedlaw@speedlaw.com



76308712

ARRANGED
COMMITTEES
COMMERCE, SCIENCE AND
TRANSPORTATION

HOMELAND SECURITY AND
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

SMALL BUSINESS AND
ENTREPRENEURSHIP

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

January 10, 2007

WASHINGTON, DC 20510
(202) 224-2353

500 PRESIDENT CLINTON AVENUE
SUITE 401
LITTLE ROCK, AR 72201
(501) 324-6336
TOLL FREE: (877) 259-9602
<http://pryor.senate.gov>

Mr. Matt Eames
Director of Congressional and Legislative Affairs
U.S. Department of the Interior
Mail Stop 6242
1849 C Street, Northwest
Washington, District of Columbia 20240

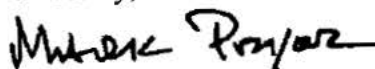
Dear Mr. Eames:

I write to you on behalf of my constituent, [nonresponsive], who has written me concerning the Department of the Interior's enforcement of concealed handgun restrictions within the Hot Springs National Park. Enclosed please find a copy of [nonresponsive] detailed concerns.

I would appreciate any assistance you can provide in having the proper authorities at the Department of the Interior respond to [nonresponsive] request. In addition, I would be grateful if you would provide me with the Department of the Interior's response on this matter. If you have any questions, or need any additional information, please contact Kim Cooper at (202) 224-2353.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Sincerely,



Mark Pryor

P.S. Due to increased security precautions, mail delivery to the U.S. Senate may be unpredictably delayed. Such delays often hinder my ability to respond to concerned Arkansans as quickly as I would like. I appreciate your patience and apologize for any delay in my response.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
OFFICE OF THE

2007 JAN 16 PM 5:38

RECEIVED

004043

5:05

SECRET
OFFICE OF THE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

nonresponsive

Email: david@ontargetfr.com

Web Mail Message

Dear Senator Pryor;

Would you please communicate with the Law Enforcement branch of the U.S. Department of the Interior to request them to relax the restrictions on the possession of concealed handguns by Arkansans who hold the Arkansas Concealed Handgun Licenses (CHL) while traveling through throughways within the jurisdiction of Hot Springs National Park.

Occasionally, local residents and visitors to Hot Springs prefer to use Guipha Gorge Rd. (U.S. Hwy. 70 B) to connect with Arkansas Hwy. 7 (Park Avenue) or U.S. Hwy 70 (East Grand Avenue). Additionally, numerous residents and visitors alike use Blacksnake Rd. to travel between Whittington Ave. and Mountain Pine RD. West of Hot Springs. Both public roadways are maintained by either Garland County or State of Arkansas Road/Highway Departments at the expense of those entities. I do not expect the National Park Rangers to open all of the roadways and trails to concealed handguns though.

Where CHL holders are concerned: their licenses are not handed out arbitrarily.

In order to qualify for a CHL the person must be a resident of the state for the previous 12 consecutive months and pass an FBI background check. He or she cannot have a history of mental illness or have a criminal record (including domestic violence). The local law enforcement authorities are queried, and are able to state their objections to the applicant. Finally, if the applicant has a history of drug or alcohol abuse the application can be refused.

Additionally, if the applicant is convicted of more than two DWI's in a three year period or consumes alcohol while in possession of a firearm, he or she can have their license revoked.

As an Arkansas Certified Concealed Handgun License instructor, I am aware that the state has issued more than 65,000 CHL permits since 1995. The Arkansas State Police Concealed Handgun Division now receives about 70 applications per day for processing.

Due to the fact that these CHL holders are required to receive legislatively mandated training, they are the least likely people in the state to indiscriminately use their handguns without provocation. Instructors vehemently caution students to avoid the use of lethal force except in the most extreme circumstances. In fact, they are cautioned to be observant of the actions of others around them and to steer clear of problematic situations.

In matters of the use of lethal force, FBI statistics indicate that out of about two million incidents where citizens lawfully draw their guns in self defense, the gun is only discharged about 2% of the time.

Since Hot Springs National Park is one of only two National Parks located in urban settings, the fact that the swollen population density of the area should

be taken into account with regard to the application of Title 36, Section 2.4- Weapons, Traps and Nets, (a) (3) Traps, nets and unloaded weapons may be possessed within a temporary lodging or mechanical mode of conveyance when such implements are rendered temporarily inoperable or are packed, cased or stored in a manner that will prevent their ready use. and . (b) Carrying or possessing a loaded weapon in a motor vehicle, vessel or other mode of transportation is prohibited. I am only asking that the Department of the Interior amend this section to allow an exception to legitimate holders of a CHL to travel through the Park's jurisdiction while reroute to another destination outside of the park's jurisdiction.

Hot Springs is a favorite destination of many Arkansans. It would be unfortunate if a visitor were to be arrested when they are carrying a firearm that is otherwise legal throughout the rest of the state. Even though ignorance of the law is no excuse, is it warranted to penalize someone to the extent of the arbitrary enforcement of a law that was adopted for the obvious protection of wildlife in a rural or wilderness setting?

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully yours,

nonresponsive



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Washington, D.C. 20240

COPY

W46 (2465)

FEB 01 2007

nonresponsive

355356

Dear Mr. nonresponsive

Thank you for your interest in our regulation that manages the possession of weapons when in a unit of the National Park Service (NPS). Your letter dated January 10, 2007, has been forwarded to me for response. I understand you feel it's important for personal protection. However, the NPS finds the current regulation, 36 CFR 2.4, to be very effective for these primary reasons:

- o Parks are safe places. While some crime does occur on NPS managed lands, statistics show that such crime levels are far lower than in other similarly-situated communities, especially when considering that the National Park System has approximately 280 million visits each year.
- o "Right to carry" laws do not reduce crime. In fact, armed citizens attempting to assist rangers create volatile situations, often putting the private citizen or ranger's life in jeopardy.
- o Firearms already may be transported in a vehicle through any park area. They need to be made inoperable or stored in such a manner as to prevent their ready use. The firearms regulation is designed to ensure public safety and provide maximum protection of wildlife resources by limiting the opportunity for unauthorized use of weapons, while still providing reasonable regulatory relief for persons living within, traveling through, or conducting activities on lands adjacent to park areas.
- o "Right to carry" laws do not protect visitors from wildlife. Most weapons carried for protection from wildlife are not adequate for that purpose. Untrained individuals attempting to protect themselves from dangerous animals often exacerbate the situation.

Therefore, the NPS does not support any change in the current regulation (36 CFR 2.4) which prohibits possessing, carrying, or using a weapon in virtually all units of the NPS. If you have further questions in regard to this issue, please contact Jerry Case, Chief Regulations and Special Park Uses, at 202-208-4206.

Sincerely,

Karen Taylor-Goodrich
Associate Director, Visitor and Resource Protection

cc: Honorable Mark Pryor
257 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

SENATORS:

NORM COLEMAN, CO-CHAIR
MARK PRYOR, CO-CHAIR

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840884

Norm Coleman

Mark Pryor

United States Senators

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ROBERT SCOTT
BART STUPAK
ZACH WAMP

October 24, 2005

The Honorable Gale A. Norton
The Secretary of Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001

Dear Madam Secretary and Mr. Hughes:

On behalf of the Congressional Committee, we have the pleasure of inviting you to join us for the 54th National Prayer Breakfast on Thursday, February 2, 2006, at the Hilton Washington in Washington, D.C.

Annually, Members of Congress, the President and other national leaders have gathered to reaffirm our trust in God and recognize the reconciling power of prayer. Friends and leaders from throughout the United States and more than 160 countries come in the spirit of friendship to set aside their differences, seeking to build and strengthen relationships through our love for God and concern for one another. Although we face tremendous challenges each day, our hearts can be strengthened both individually and collectively, as we seek God's wisdom and guidance together.

Your prompt response is essential and greatly appreciated. Please refer to the enclosed RSVP card for deadline information. We sincerely hope you will be able to participate in this special time.

Sincerely,

Norm Coleman

Mark Pryor

NPB 4

*Members of the Congress
of the United States of America
request the pleasure of your company at the*

*54th Annual
National Prayer Breakfast
with*

*The President of the United States
and other national leaders in the Executive,
Judicial and Legislative Branches
of our government*

Thursday, February 2, 2006

at eight o'clock

Hilton Washington

International Ballroom

Washington, D.C.

*Guests to be seated
by 7:30 a.m.*

*Adjournment
by 9:30 a.m.*

MARK PRYOR
ARKANSAS

COMMITTEES
ARMED SERVICES

GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

SMALL BUSINESS AND
ENTREPRENEURSHIP

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

November 21, 2003

217 RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510
(202) 224-2353

THE RIVER MARKET
500 CLINTON AVENUE
SUITE 401
LITTLE ROCK, AR 72201-1745
(501) 324-6336
TOLL FREE: (877) 259-8802
<http://pryor.senate.gov>

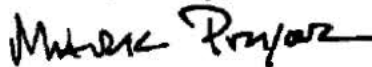
Mr. David Bernhardt
Director of Congressional and Legislative Affairs
United States Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Mailstop 6242
Washington, D.C. 20240-0001

Dear Mr. Bernhardt:

I am forwarding a letter to you from my constituent, **nonresponsive** has expressed a concern about Undersecretary J. Steven Griles. I would appreciate it if you would respond to her directly to address her questions.

Thank you in advance for your help with this matter. I appreciate your assistance.

Sincerely,



Mark Pryor

MLP/mjd
Enclosure

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
OFFICE OF THE

03 DEC -3 PM 1:54

RECEIVED

697660

Holyfield, Greg (Pryor)

From: nonresponsive
Sent: Sunday, September 14, 2003 5:42 PM
To: Public, Senator (Pryor)
Subject: Fire Griles immediately!

September 14, 2003

Sen. Mark Pryor
Washington, DC

Dear Sen. Pryor,

The following is a copy of a letter sent to the indicated recipient(s) on 9/14/2003:

Gale Norton

We demand that you fire Undersecretary J Steven Griles. He is still receiving payments of \$284,000 a year from his former lobbying firm while working for the government. He has violated his written promises to stop lobbying on their behalf. No one in the government should be allowed to personally profit from the plunder of our public lands and the weakening of environmental health standards.

Sincerely,

nonresponsive



United States Department of the Interior

85

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Washington, D.C. 20240

DEC 15 2003

nonresponsive

Dear Ms. **nonresponsive**

I am in receipt of your email to Senator Mark Pryor dated September 14, 2003, concerning Deputy Secretary J. Steven Griles. The Senator has asked me to reply directly to you.

The information regarding the structure of the payments to Mr. Griles from his former lobbying firm was provided to the Senate and considered during its process to confirm Mr. Griles as Deputy Secretary. This information was also considered by the Office of Government Ethics in reviewing Mr. Griles's financial disclosure report prior to confirmation.

Sincerely,

David L. Bernhardt

Director, Office of Congressional and
Legislative Affairs and Counselor to
the Secretary

Copy to Senator Mark Pryor



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

OCT 21 2009



The Honorable Mark Pryor
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Pryor:

Thank you for your letter dated September 18, 2009, to Secretary Ken Salazar expressing your strong support for the 2010–2015 Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Draft Proposed Program (DPP). Secretary Salazar asked me to respond. A similar letter is being sent to each signer of your letter.

The comment period on the DPP closed on September 21, 2009. The Minerals Management Service (MMS) received over 530,000 comments on the DPP. The MMS will summarize and analyze those comments as quickly as possible in order to move expeditiously to the next steps in the process, which include scoping of the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and publication of the Proposed Program and draft EIS. Your comments will be considered carefully in that endeavor.

On July 28, 2009, the U.S. Court of Appeals clarified that its ruling on the 2007–2012 Program delays only those sales in the Chukchi, Beaufort, and Bering Seas. However, it will be necessary to re-balance all sales in the 2007–2012 plan once the revised environmental sensitivity analysis is complete.

Thank you for your interest in the OCS program. Secretary Salazar and I look forward to working with you to move forward in developing a comprehensive Federal offshore energy plan for the benefit of the Nation. If you have any questions you may contact me or Ms. S. Elizabeth Birnbaum, Director, MMS, at (202) 208-3500.

Sincerely,

ACTING

Wilma A. Lewis
Assistant Secretary
Land and Minerals Management

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

September 18, 2009

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Mr. Secretary:

We are writing to convey our strong support for the Draft Proposed Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Oil and Gas Leasing Program (DPP) proposed by the U.S. Minerals Management Service (MMS). By opening up new offshore areas for natural gas and oil leasing and development and also allowing for the development of renewable energy as proposed in the DPP, the Department of the Interior can provide the United States with an opportunity to responsibly produce our own energy. This development will bolster our nation's economy, create new jobs and decrease our dependence on foreign sources of energy.

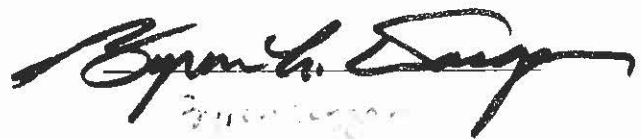
It is more important than ever that the federal government allow for development of domestic offshore energy supplies made available in the DPP. By offering new leasing opportunities, the DPP is appropriately expansive and provides the Department with maximum flexibility to properly utilize our nation's domestic resources.

Now is the appropriate time to promote long-term policies that responsibly encourage job creation while growing the economy. Important offshore areas, like those in Alaska, offer tremendous natural gas and oil resources. By some estimates, the Chukchi Sea alone off Alaska's coast contains as much natural gas and oil as the country has produced in the Gulf of Mexico since 1942.

Additionally, we urge MMS to move forward with the 2007-2012 Leasing Program while working to approve and finalize the new DPP. Implementing a sensible, forward-thinking energy policy will allow for responsible leasing and development of America's energy resources and will help industries and businesses here at home that rely heavily on natural gas and crude oil. It will also further our national security and energy security interests and, of course, spur jobs and economic growth as we open new areas to leasing and development.

In conclusion, we are pleased to see that the MMS has included new leasing areas in the DPP and has acknowledged the need for the United States to begin responsibly developing the abundant energy resources located off our coasts. We believe that the DPP is an important step in creating a robust, diverse, national energy policy which will help secure our energy future. We urge you to move forward on the DPP as you work to finalize a new five-year OCS plan. Thank you for your attention to this important matter. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of assistance to you.

Sincerely,



Byron Dorgan

September 18, 2009

Page Two

Jose Neuharth

Art Bond

Michael B. Enzi

Richard Shelby

John McCain

Jan Rhoads

John Thune

John Warner

John Cornyn

Blanche L. Lincoln

Chris

Joni DeMint

Jeff Sessions

Sally Clark

Jim Cooper

Mike Johanns

Paul Cook

Ben Ray Lujan

September 18, 2009

Page Three

Dil Vitt

Pat Roberts

Chris Bennett

Tom Coburn

Sam Brownback

Rep. Winter

Lamar Alexander

Mark Royce

George V. Voinovich

Don Stutz

Chuck Grassley

John Barrasso

Jim Bunning

Mark Begich

Ben Rayburn

466795

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

DH
12/6

November 30, 2012

Lena McDowell
Associate Director for Business Services
National Park Service
1849 "C" Street, NW
Room 2276
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ms. McDowell:

We are writing to you today about the implementation of risk management strategies in National Parks, specifically with regard to the contract under consideration for canoe rental operations at Buffalo National River in Arkansas. Ms. Jo Pendry graciously agreed to meet with us recently about several contracting issues which we think undermine visitor services in National Parks, including high liability insurance requirements.

Among our concerns in the Buffalo River contract are the Operating Plan, Exhibit B, and the manner in which the National Park Service arrives at solutions for risk management issues in general. The language in Contract Exhibit B, Operating Plan paragraph 2N(4) prohibits put-in activity by concessioners when river levels are determined to be "High", which represent swift water or Class II conditions on the Buffalo National River, unless:

- "The concessioner can verify that their client, and all members of the clients party, have canoeing experience on swift moving rivers;
- They possess good river canoeing skills, and;
- They are familiar with rescue procedures."

In response to an inquiry by concessioners on May 29, 2012, the Service wrote that this verification could be obtained by use of a "self-certification form". I think you will agree that "self-certification" is quite different legally and in practice than requiring the concessioner to "verify" or attest to the paddling skills of their clients. Therefore, a contradiction with confusing, potentially serious legal consequences may be created if the language in (4) remains as written. Is NPS going to allow concessioners to develop this document and self-certification language, which may not adequately fulfill the legal verification requirements outlined in (4) of the Operating Plan as it is currently written?

Providing appropriate warning and orientation to visitors at various water levels is an appropriate risk management consideration at Buffalo National River. However, if this risk management concern is appropriate for the visitors of concessioners then it would appear that the Service is obligated to apply the same concern and policy to the safety of those who rent boats outside the purview of NPS regulations and those who borrow or bring their own boats to the Buffalo River during similar water levels. If the river is only closed to the customers of concessioners, would that not encourage visitors to rent canoes or craft elsewhere without proper safety orientation or insurance coverage? We want to emphasize that we are not advocating procedures that

DEC 06 2012

complicate reasonable public access, increase the Service's or visitors' costs, or require the Service to raise fees for access to Buffalo National River. We are simply pointing out the incongruity in the Service's policy and its potential for unintended consequences which may increase risks to Park visitors.


This leads us to the process for arriving at these risk management solutions for concessioners in National Parks and at Buffalo River. While the operating plan is the appropriate place to address this specific issue, that plan and risk management strategies in general should be developed in collaboration with concessioners so that contradictory direction, which is inconsistent with the legal obligations of the contract and operating plan, are not created as may have occurred in this instance.


We ask that Exhibit B (4) and the verification process it refers to be revised before requiring concessioners to sign contracts which obligate them to abide by this provision. As an alternative, the contract may, for example, obligate concessioners to work in collaboration with NPS to develop appropriate risk management strategies when "High" water conditions are present.

The fact that we are writing to you on issues of such detail is indicative of a failure of the current concessions contracting process, which does not provide an avenue through which concessioners may effectively address legitimate issues. We suspect that operating plans may be developed with a higher level of collaboration in some Parks than occurred in this instance. However, we also know this issue continues to be a concern for several of the Buffalo River applicants especially if the language is not adjusted.

Thank you for your consideration of our concerns about this issue. We very much appreciate and support your desire to get this contract issued in a timely fashion so that Buffalo River concessioners can begin preparing for the 2013 season. We look forward to receiving your response as soon as possible.

Sincerely,


Senator Mark Pryor


Senator John Boozman

MARK PRYOR
ARKANSAS

COMMITTEES:
APPROPRIATIONS

COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND
TRANSPORTATION

HOVELAND SECURITY AND
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

SMALL BUSINESS AND
ENTREPRENEURSHIP

RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

255 DIRKSEN SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510
(202) 224-2353

500 PRESIDENT CLINTON AVENUE
SUITE 401
LITTLE ROCK, AR 72201
(501) 324-6336
TOLL FREE: (877) 259-9602
<http://pryor.senate.gov>

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

August 6, 2010

The Honorable Thomas L. Strickland
Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Strickland,

Per our conversation yesterday, I write to you to express concern over the Department of Interior's policy on commercial filming on Department of Interior properties, especially on National Park Service (NPS) properties. My particular concern is in regard to the Public Broadcasting System (PBS) Arkansas Affiliate, AETN.

Producer Chuck Dovish has a weekly TV series called, "Exploring Arkansas with Chuck Dovish" that airs on AETN. He has highlighted state and national parks and other outdoor adventure spots in Arkansas for 30 years. The last five years he has been a producer for AETN so every show he produces is seen statewide by thousands of our viewers.

He recently planned a film shoot at the lower portion of the Buffalo River to do a segment on the Native American Rock House. The 10,000 year old site once inhabited by Native Americans is a lesser known spot to visit in Arkansas. His segment would have educated Arkansans about a unique part of our history and culture, raised awareness of the Buffalo National River, and promoted tourism to the NPS facilities.

Unfortunately, he and his crew were told they were required to fill out permit papers and pay certain "cost recovery" fees that they were not accustomed to paying. According to AETN, these fees are not reasonable and are cost prohibitive.

Recent laws, including P.L. 106-67, were enacted in efforts to recover costs incurred as a result of filming activities taking place on park properties. These laws were primarily designed to recoup costs from the filming of high-grossing motion pictures like "Dances with Wolves." However, AETN's products are educational in nature and are composed for non-profit purpose. In addition, they do not have the resources that large production companies may have. Their programs educate the public, raise awareness of park facilities, and drive visitors to parks.

Existing laws, regulations, and NPS reference manuals grant authority and discretion to set reasonable fees and make waivers in certain instances where the NPS may see significant benefits from the production of certain public awareness programming that is consistent with the mission of the NPS.

Due to the public interest nature of AETN's programming, I encourage Secretary Salazar or the NPS Director to notify Arkansas NPS superintendents in writing that AETN should be treated differently under commercial filming regulations in accordance to Reference Manual 53 Appendix 13-3 "Other Media Coverage," and should have all Cost Recovery fees eliminated or significantly reduced.

I appreciate your consideration of this request. I look forward to working with you to clarify the intent of existing laws and regulations regulating filming on NPS properties to preserve unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. We hope the Park Service will cooperate with partners like PBS and its affiliates to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.

If you have any questions, please feel free to follow up with my Legislative Assistant, Andrew Grobmyer, at (202) 224-2353. Additionally, Carole Adornetto, Director of Production for AETN, would be happy to answer any of your questions. She can be reached at (501) 682-4124.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Pryor". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Mark Pryor

MARK PRYOR
ARKANSAS
COMMITTEES
APPROPRIATIONS
COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND
TRANSPORTATION
HOMELAND SECURITY AND
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
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RULES AND ADMINISTRATION
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255 DIRKSEN SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510
(202) 224-2383

500 PRESIDENT CLINTON AVENUE
SUITE 401
LITTLE ROCK, AR 72201
(501) 324-6336
TOLL FREE: (877) 259-9602
<http://pryor.senate.gov>

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 13, 2010

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
U.S. Department of Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ken:

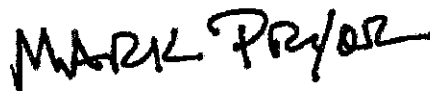
I am pleased to write in support of the City of McGehee, Arkansas', grant application which has been submitted to the National Park Service. I understand the proceeds will be used to renovate the Railroad Depot in McGehee which will be used as a museum and house the Japanese American Confinement Site display.

As you may know, Desha and Ashley County in Arkansas had the only Japanese American Confinement sites east of Wyoming. This museum will be of great benefit to the people of southeast Arkansas and, also, recognize and pay tribute to those interned in these camps.

This is an important project that is certainly worthy of funding. It is my hope that the United States Department of Interior will give positive consideration of the City of McGehee's application.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Mark Pryor

MLP/sj

RECEIVED
2010 APR 19 PM 2:48
485582

SENATOR BLANCHE LINCOLN

State of Arkansas

Phone: 202-224-4843

Fax: 202-228-1371

Little Rock Office

Phone: 501-375-2993

Fax: 501-375-7064



DATE: 6-18-10

FAX TO: Director Marcia McNutt

OFFICE: USGS

FAX NUMBER: 703 648 4454 DIRECT DIAL: _____

FROM: Senator Blanche Lincoln, Senator Mark Pryor, Congressman Mike Ross

SUBJECT: Letter to Secretary Uilsack and Chief Tidwell
regarding recent flash flooding in Arkansas.

NUMBER OF PAGES 2 (including cover sheet)

**Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515**

June 18, 2010

The Honorable Tom Vilsack
Secretary, U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20250

Chief Tom Tidwell
U.S. Forest Service
1400 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20250

Dear Secretary Vilsack and Chief Tidwell:

We are writing in reference to the recent flash flooding at the Albert Pike campground in southwest Arkansas that claimed the lives of 20 people. First, we would like to thank you for your agency's efforts in recent days to assist the many families in Arkansas that were impacted by the tragic flash flood. Your presence at the campground Saturday meant a great deal to Arkansas. We commend you and your staff for your response efforts and your ability to coordinate with state and local officials in their attempts to rescue and recover victims.

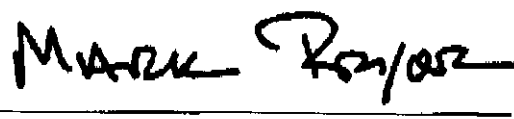
We hope that going forward we can continue such a coordinated effort to cleanup, rebuild, and reopen this majestic campground. In doing so, we would like for you to work with the United States Geological Survey, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and state and local officials to determine how to improve emergency warning systems for campground visitors at Albert Pike. We know the rugged terrain and remote location of Albert Pike, conditions that exist at a number of campgrounds located in our country's National Forests, pose cumbersome barriers to effective communication with the outside world. Innovative solutions will be needed to meet the challenges the terrain presents so we can help ensure the safety of the visitors in the area. We also ask that you work with us to find a way to properly memorialize those lives that were lost in this tragic flood.

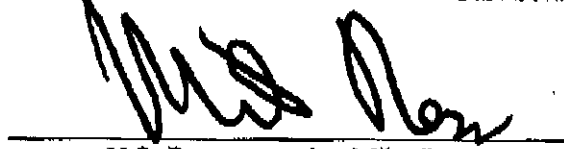
We are deeply saddened by the loss of life, and we believe we must consider additional measures going forward in an effort to prevent a similar event in the future. We look forward to working with you to enhance campground safety and emergency warning systems so that we may make this very popular campground better than ever.

Thank you for your attention to this letter.

Sincerely,


U.S. Senator Blanche L. Lincoln


U.S. Senator Mark Pryor


U.S. Representative Mike Ross

cc: The Honorable Marcia McNutt, Director, United States Geological Survey
The Honorable Jane Lubchenco, Administrator, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

MARK PRYOR
ARKANSAS
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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 8, 2011

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LITTLE ROCK, AR 72201
(501) 324-6336
TOLL FREE: (877) 259-9602
<http://pryor.senate.gov>

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar,

As you know, every penny the government spends is being scrutinized for potential savings as we seek to reduce our bloated budget and budget deficit. We can begin by eliminating inefficient, duplicative or outdated programs.

In a report released last week, the Government Accountability Office provided Congress with 81 areas of potential savings as a result of duplicative programs. As a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee and Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, I am prepared to turn many of their findings into cost-savings.

I would appreciate hearing from you whether you agree with the report's findings concerning the Department of Interior and the actions your agency has or plans to take in the short- and long-term as a result of the report to achieve cost-savings. If you are aware of duplicative or unnecessary programs within your agency that the GAO did not cite, please include a plan of action to eliminate those programs as well.

For your reference, the report, *Opportunities to Reduce Potential Duplication in Government Programs, Save Tax Dollars and Enhance Revenue*, addressed the following regarding the Department:

- Fragmented federal efforts to meet water needs in the U.S.-Mexico border region have resulted in an administrative burden, redundant activities, and an overall inefficient use of resources.
- Enterprise Architectures: Key mechanisms for identifying potential overlap and duplication.
- Consolidating Federal data centers provides opportunity to improve government efficiency.
- Strategic oversight mechanisms could help integrate fragmented interagency efforts to defend against biological threats.

-
- Further steps needed to improve cost-effectiveness and enhance services for transportation-disadvantaged persons.
 - Ensuring the Federal government receives fair market value for its oil and gas resources could enhance Federal revenues
 - Agencies could realize cost savings by disposal of unneeded Federal real property.

I would appreciate a response no later than March 21, 2011. If you have any questions, please contact Andrew Grobmyer at 202-224-2353.

Sincerely,



Mark Pryor

OFFICE OF
LEGISLATIVE
AFFAIRS
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U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

499667



United States Senator Craig Thomas

307 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510

To: Congressional and Legislative Affairs

From: Cindy Reed
Legislative Aide and Special Projects Manager
U.S. Senator Craig Thomas (R-WY)
(202)224-6441

Regarding: Centennial Challenge Letter

4 Pages following this cover sheet.

NOTES:

Please contact me with any questions.

- Cindy 202-224-1386

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 26, 2013

524150

The Honorable Sally Jewell
Secretary, U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240-0001

Dear Secretary Jewell:

We write in regard to the National Blueways System and the designation of the White River and the White River Watershed as the nation's second National Blueway. As part of the America's Great Outdoors initiative, we understand that the National Blueways System is intended to empower local communities. As the Department of Interior stated in announcing the designation of the White River Blueway, this designation "does not establish a new protective status or regulation, but rather is intended to recognize and support existing local and regional conservation, recreation, and restoration efforts."

However, recently many of our constituents have raised questions and concerns regarding the National Blueways System and the designation of the White River and its watershed as a National Blueway. They have informed us that they do not feel that they have been provided with the necessary information regarding the designation, or a fair opportunity to be involved in the process. Specifically, many of our constituents have expressed concerns about the impact of the Blueways designation on regulatory actions and private property rights.

Given that your program seeks to empower local communities, effective outreach from your agency and collaboration with local communities is essential. Unfortunately, based on the feedback we have received from our constituents, we do not believe that the Department of Interior has worked effectively to date with residents of the White River Watershed.

We respectfully request that you provide our offices with information regarding the steps your agency will take to improve the availability of information and communication regarding the National Blueways System and the designation of the White River Blueway.

Finally, we request that you promptly respond to the following questions, which have been raised by our constituents:

- 1) Please explain the Department's interpretation of what statutes authorize the National Blueways System.
- 2) Please provide the factors that were used to determine whether a "committed, diverse, stakeholder partnership or association" existed and the process used to make this determination.

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- 3) What is the Department's vision for the White River and its watershed if the designation continues?
- 4) Are any additional costs caused by or associated with this designation? Is there potential for savings?
- 5) Is there a process through which a State, non-federal entity, or individual may request to opt out of the Blueway designation? What would be the effect of this action, if it were to occur?
- 6) Will the Blueways designation result in the implementation of recommendations from the Blueways Nomination from the 26 organizations?
- 7) Will the Blueways designation have any effect on dams within the region?

We will be closely monitoring developments in this important matter. Thank you, in advance, for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

MARK ROYER

Gene McCallister

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 15, 2013

The Honorable Sally Jewell
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Secretary Jewell,

We write in regard to Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 funding for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) National Fish Hatchery Operations. We strongly support our nation's mitigation fish hatcheries and request that they be fully funded for FY 2013.

The U.S. FWS National Fish Hatchery Operations account has historically supported two mitigation hatcheries in Arkansas – Greers Ferry and Norfolk. According to the U.S. FWS, these two hatcheries received approximately \$1.5 million in federal funding in FY 2012 and were responsible for a total local economic impact of approximately \$166 million. Further, these hatcheries support an estimated 2,000 jobs in rural Arkansas and generate approximately \$5.8 million in federal tax revenues. We believe that a program costing the federal government an estimated \$1.5 million annually and resulting in an estimated \$166 million in economic output annually should serve as a model for other federal programs.

Public Law 113-6 requires the Department of Interior and many other Federal agencies to submit a spending, expenditure, or operating plan for FY 2013. Within those plans, we request that the U.S. FWS ensure that there is sufficient funding to provide for the continued operation of the mitigation fish hatcheries.

Congress addressed mitigation fish hatchery funding in FY 2012 through H.Rept. 112-331, which accompanies P.L. 112-74. This report states that “future budget requests must ensure that Federal partners have committed to make sufficient funding available to reimburse the Service before the Service proposes to eliminate funding for mitigation hatcheries so that operations at these hatcheries are not disrupted.” We request that the FY 2013 spending, expenditure, and operating plan reflect the intent of Congress on this issue.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. We look forward to your response. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can provide additional information.

Sincerely,



Senator Mark Pryor



Senator John Boozman



Congressman Rick Crawford



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Washington, D.C. 20240



MAY - 2 2013

The Honorable Mark Pryor
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Pryor:

Thank you for your letter of April 15, 2013, to Interior Secretary Jewell, co-signed by Senator John Boozman and Congressman Rick Crawford, expressing concerns with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 budget and operating plan and its impact on the future operations of Greers Ferry and Norfolk National Fish Hatcheries in Arkansas. Secretary Jewell requested that the Service respond directly to you.

The Service shares your views about the economic and recreational benefits provided by the production of fish at these mitigation hatcheries. In the past decade, the Service intensified efforts to obtain reimbursement for mitigation fish production so the National Fish Hatchery System base funds could be redirected to recovery and restoration of native species and their habitats. The President's FY2012 budget proposed that mitigation fish hatcheries be funded by the Federal agencies that operate the projects for which the mitigation is occurring. This type of user-pay approach would allow federal water development agencies to mitigate for the adverse effects of their projects. The President's FY2013 and FY2014 budgets propose the same user-pay approach.

In the FY2013 continuing resolution, funds have been provided for the Army Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation to reimburse the Service for these costs. The Service has signed an agreement with the Tennessee Valley Authority to obtain reimbursement as well. We're pleased to respond that mitigation fish production at the Arkansas hatcheries is funded through the combination of reimbursement funding and the Service's FY2013 operating plan.

The Service supports production of fish for these important recreational fisheries. However, the Service believes responsible agencies should reimburse for the cost of these fish. In these tight budget times, the Service is funding the highest aquatic species conservation priorities.

If you have any questions please contact me directly or have your staff contact Mr. Jeffrey Underwood, the Service's Acting Assistant Director for Fish and Aquatic Conservation at (202) 208-5317.

Sincerely,

DIRECTOR

MARK PRYOR
ARKANSAS
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August 3, 2012

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington DC 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar,

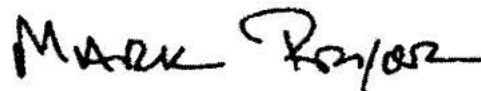
I write to you today to recommend Mr. (b) (6) to serve on the national Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board (Advisory Board). Enclosed is a copy of Mr. (b) (6) nomination letter and resume.

(b) (6) is uniquely qualified to serve on the Advisory Board. He spent over thirty years with the United States Department of Agriculture. With the USDA, he was responsible for working daily with farmers and ranchers on a range of issues, including loans, land management, and livestock management. As (b) (6) for the United State Department of Interior (b) (6) advised management officials of (b) (6) (b) (6)

Outside of his professional work (b) (6) has extensive experience that would be beneficial to his service on the Advisory Board. Serving as a volunteer for ten years with BLM's Wild Horse and Burro Program, (b) (6) has conducted mustang demonstrations, assisted with adoptions, and completed compliance reviews. He has also taught numerous classes at North Arkansas College covering areas such as horse production, farm management, and pasture management.

With (b) (6) breadth and depth of experience, I believe he would add an important perspective to the work of the Advisory Board, and I am happy to recommend him. If I may provide any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Mark Pryor

Enclosures (2)

Cc: Sharon Kipping. Wild Horse and Burro Program. Bureau of Land Management

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**Ms. Sharon Kipping
Wild Horse and Burro Program
Department of Interior/BLM
1849 C Street, N.W. Room 2134 LM, WO-260
Washington, D.C. 202040**

Dear Ms. Kipping,

Please accept this as a nomination letter for the Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board.

**Name:
Address:**



**Email:
Phone :**

Enclosed is my educational background, relevant biographical information, references and endorsements.

There are two categories I am highly qualified to fill: Public interest (with special knowledge of wild horses and burros) and Livestock Management.

I believe I am unique qualified to serve on the Bureau of Land Management's Wild Horse and Burro National Advisory Board.

The controversial issues involved requires someone who has experience in working with groups and individuals with polar opposite opinions and finding the middle ground.

(b) (6)



My over 30 years of working with farmers and ranchers, providing loans, management support and supervision also enables me to understand the issues involved with land management, stocking rate, managing a large livestock population and explaining the "why" of policies and procedures to diverse special interest groups.

Being a volunteer for the BLM's Wild Horse and Burro Program has given me detailed knowledge about the adoption process. I have successfully adopted mustangs and demonstrated them at adoptions

and other venues. I fully understand the problems facing BLM and the mustangs. I have completed compliance reviews, handled problem cases and represented BLM at events. I have trained and owned horses for a lifetime and have worked with or have had contact with the groups concerned with the welfare of horses. My knowledge, skills and experiences will enable me to work with these groups in a positive manner.

Thank you for your consideration.

(b) (6)

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RESUME

(b) (6)

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Work History:

(b) (6)

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Supervisor:

(b) (6)

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(b) (6)

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(b) (6)

Supervisor:

(b) (6)

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Supervisor:

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Other Activities:

(b) (6)



Educational background:

BS Degree in Agriculture-Business/Animal Science 1980

(b) (6)

Numerous (over 30 years) job related courses in management, personnel, appraisals, performance reviews, government regulations, policies and procedures.

Educational experience of operating a livestock operation (horse and cattle) for over 30 years.



United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Washington, D.C. 20240
<http://www.blm.gov>



AUG 23 2012

The Honorable Mark Pryor
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Pryor:

Thank you for your August 3, 2012, letter regarding the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board (Board). I appreciate your support for appointing (b) (6) to the Board. His nomination, along with others for this Board, is proceeding through the selection process.

The Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act established this Board of citizens who represent various interests, including wild horse and burro advocacy groups, research institutions, veterinarians, natural resource organizations, humane advocacy groups, wildlife associations, livestock organizations, and members of the public with a special knowledge of equine behavior. The Board is solely advisory, and the BLM greatly values the contributions of its members.

Thank you for your interest in the Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board.

Sincerely,

Mike Pool
Acting Director

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 8, 2011

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar,

As you know, every penny the government spends is being scrutinized for potential savings as we seek to reduce our bloated budget and budget deficit. We can begin by eliminating inefficient, duplicative or outdated programs.

In a report released last week, the Government Accountability Office provided Congress with 81 areas of potential savings as a result of duplicative programs. As a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee and Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, I am prepared to turn many of their findings into cost-savings.

I would appreciate hearing from you whether you agree with the report's findings concerning the Department of Interior and the actions your agency has or plans to take in the short- and long-term as a result of the report to achieve cost-savings. If you are aware of duplicative or unnecessary programs within your agency that the GAO did not cite, please include a plan of action to eliminate those programs as well.

For your reference, the report, *Opportunities to Reduce Potential Duplication in Government Programs, Save Tax Dollars and Enhance Revenue*, addressed the following regarding the Department:

- Fragmented federal efforts to meet water needs in the U.S.-Mexico border region have resulted in an administrative burden, redundant activities, and an overall inefficient use of resources.
- Enterprise Architectures: Key mechanisms for identifying potential overlap and duplication.
- Consolidating Federal data centers provides opportunity to improve government efficiency.
- Strategic oversight mechanisms could help integrate fragmented interagency efforts to defend against biological threats.

- Further steps needed to improve cost-effectiveness and enhance services for transportation-disadvantaged persons.
- Ensuring the Federal government receives fair market value for its oil and gas resources could enhance Federal revenues
- Agencies could realize cost savings by disposal of unneeded Federal real property.

I would appreciate a response no later than March 21, 2011. If you have any questions, please contact Andrew Grobmyer at 202-224-2353.

Sincerely,



Mark Pryor

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
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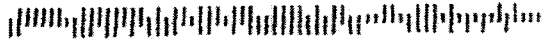
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THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON

MAY 27 2011

The Honorable Mark Pryor
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Pryor:

This responds to your March 8, 2011, letter regarding the Government Accountability Office (GAO) report *Opportunities to Reduce Potential Duplication in Government Programs, Save Tax Dollars and Enhance Revenue*. I regret we were not able to meet your request to respond by March 21. We did not receive your request until March 23.

I share your interest in reducing the costs of government and identifying areas of savings. The Department of the Interior continues to be aggressive in identifying improvement and efficiencies to make programs work better and redirecting funding to mission critical needs.

I have reviewed the GAO report and can share the following responses relative to your specific questions:

1. **Federal Efforts to Meet Water Needs in the Border Region:** I agree that we can improve the coordination of efforts among Federal programs that deliver water and wastewater systems to rural areas. The GAO's recommendation to improve the targeting of resources in the border region is to conduct a comprehensive needs assessment. It is important to understand that the programs and projects funded by the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) are specifically authorized by Congress and existing authority does not allow the completion of a comprehensive needs assessment of rural water in the border region. Reclamation does have authority to provide limited cost-shared assistance to communities through competitive funding opportunities under its Rural Water, WaterSMART Basin Studies, and Title XVI Water Recycling and Reuse programs. It is a significant benefit to all agencies – Federal, state, and local – that our Fiscal Year 2012 budget for the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) includes \$10.9 million to commence comprehensive water supply and demand inventories that will provide baseline information needed by public and private water managers to work toward sustainable water supplies. This would begin an effort to estimate freshwater supplies, how they are distributed, and how they are changing over time. The USGS has targeted the Colorado River Basin, an area encompassing significant border regions, as one of the three basins where this assessment will be conducted with FY 2012 funding. An assessment of the availability and use of water resources in the United States was last completed over 30 years ago in 1978. We are hopeful that Congress will support this program that will go a long way toward helping to prioritize rural water needs.
2. **Enterprise Architecture:** Just as GAO recommends, the Department is using its award-winning enterprise architecture to guide the modernization of information technology infrastructure. The Department is underway with an Information Technology Transformation effort that will

leverage systems and investments from across the Department's diverse and geographically dispersed bureaus and offices in order to improve integration with business services and create an environment that better supports mission areas and program delivery.

3. **Consolidating Federal Data Centers:** Consistent with GAO's recommendations we are consolidating data centers throughout the Department as part of our Information Technology Transformation Initiative. We are working collaboratively with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) on its Data Center Consolidation Initiative to reduce hardware, software, rental space, and other costs related to data center operations.
4. **Strategic Oversight Mechanisms:** The Department has clear roles in defending against biological threats, including maintaining awareness, surveillance, and detection. Working through our coordinating mechanisms led by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), we are able to support these efforts with the expertise of the USGS. The USGS provides technical information and support to the DHS on newly emerging diseases, collaborates with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to investigate wildlife disease outbreaks, works with the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) on the detection of highly pathogenic avian influenza in wild birds, and provides expertise to Federal agencies on the role of wildlife and the environment in disease events. As the expert in wildlife health the USGS serves as the leader in this area.
5. **Transportation-Disadvantaged Persons:** The majority of the Department's programs relating to transportation are funded through the Department of Transportation (DOT), and we have significantly expanded our efforts to coordinate with DOT and our sister agencies, including the USDA Forest Service, to improve coordination of programs and services. In addition, our internal roads and transportation programs are conducted in a manner that leverages the DOT programs. Our recent involvement with OMB, DOT, and USDA has been to ensure coordination and collaborative approaches to transportation programs funded in upcoming transportation authorization legislation.
6. **Fair Market Value for Oil and Gas:** The Department is taking steps to encourage diligent development of oil and gas leases, ensure a fair return, and ensure that oil and gas produced are measured accurately.

To respond to GAO's specific recommendations we are taking the following actions:

- **GAO Recommendation:** Congress may need to take action to authorize or encourage Interior to revise its rental fee structure for non-producing leases.
 - To encourage diligent development of Federal oil and gas leases, both onshore and offshore, the Department included a \$4 per acre annual fee on non-producing, onshore Federal oil and gas leases in the FY 2011 and FY 2012 budgets, which would become effective upon Congressional action. Additionally, in 2009, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement (BOEMRE) began charging escalating rental rates for offshore leases extended beyond the initial term and shortened the length of the primary term for offshore oil and gas leases in 2010.

- GAO Recommendation: Interior should complete its study examining how other oil and gas resource owners select fiscal parameters for leasing and adjusting oil and gas royalty rates and use that information to adjust, as appropriate, its royalty rates to a level that ensures the government a fair return. In doing so it should ensure opportunities for substantive, two-way communication with program stakeholders.
 - In 2010, BOEMRE and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) initiated an economic study to compare the Federal Government's share of profits from Federal oil and gas leasing with 700 fiscal systems around the world. The report will include a composite index, including an index of revenue risk. The final report is scheduled to be completed in the summer of 2011.

- GAO Recommendation: Interior should implement GAO's recommendations from prior reports addressing a variety of oil and gas measurement factors.
 - BLM is in the process of revising Onshore Oil and Gas Orders 3, 4, and 5. These Orders establish requirements for storage, site security and measurement of produced oil and natural gas. Onshore Orders 3-5 are scheduled to be issued in draft this summer. These Orders will help BLM to ensure a fair return for onshore oil and gas through production verification and accountability and are scheduled to be completed in FY 2012.
 - BLM is also developing Onshore Order 9, which will limit the amount of vented and flared natural gas permitted to be released without incurring royalty obligations. However, the Order will be unable to prevent the release of all fugitive natural gas from oil and natural gas operation facilities. This new Order is scheduled to be completed in FY 2012.
 - To fortify its inspection and production accountability processes, BOEMRE has issued inspection goals to ensure the accuracy of reported volumes of oil and gas produced from offshore Federal resources. The BOEMRE issued policy on September 13, 2010, addressing site-security inspections of measurement locations and the witnessing of royalty meter provings and/or calibrations. The BOEMRE policy requires more frequent inspections for "higher risk" measurement locations.

- 7. Unneeded Federal Real Property Disposal: One of the key missions of the Department is to serve as the custodian of a vast collection of national treasures and properties including the Washington Monument, Liberty Bell, and Statue of Liberty. The Department manages a collection of 159,400 constructed assets that is second only to the Department of Defense. Our efforts to manage these assets are challenged by ownership of lands and facilities that are geographically dispersed and visited extensively by the public. Our facilities management programs put a premium on the identification of assets that are not needed in order to focus our construction and maintenance budgets on highest priority needs and to reduce operating costs. In our 2009 report from the Federal Real Property Profile we identified 1,920 assets that are excess and are in the disposal process. Of those, 517 have already been disposed.

I hope this is informative to your questions.

Sincerely,



Ken Salazar

MARK PRYOR
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March 8, 2011

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20240

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I would appreciate hearing from you whether you agree with the report's findings concerning the Department of Interior and the actions your agency has or plans to take in the short- and long-term as a result of the report to achieve cost-savings. If you are aware of duplicative or unnecessary programs within your agency that the GAO did not cite, please include a plan of action to eliminate those programs as well.

For your reference, the report, *Opportunities to Reduce Potential Duplication in Government Programs, Save Tax Dollars and Enhance Revenue*, addressed the following regarding the Department:

- Fragmented federal efforts to meet water needs in the U.S.-Mexico border region have resulted in an administrative burden, redundant activities, and an overall inefficient use of resources.
- Enterprise Architectures: Key mechanisms for identifying potential overlap and duplication.
- Consolidating Federal data centers provides opportunity to improve government efficiency.
- Strategic oversight mechanisms could help integrate fragmented interagency efforts to defend against biological threats.

- Further steps needed to improve cost-effectiveness and enhance services for transportation-disadvantaged persons.
- Ensuring the Federal government receives fair market value for its oil and gas resources could enhance Federal revenues
- Agencies could realize cost savings by disposal of unneeded Federal real property.

I would appreciate a response no later than March 21, 2011. If you have any questions, please contact Andrew Grobmyer at 202-224-2353.

Sincerely,



Mark Pryor

MAILING :
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MARK PRYOR
ARKANSAS
COMMITTEES:
APPROPRIATIONS
COMMERCE, SCIENCE AND
TRANSPORTATION
HOMELAND SECURITY AND
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
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255 DIRKSEN SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510
(202) 224-2353

500 PRESIDENT CLINTON AVENUE
SUITE 401
LITTLE ROCK, AR 72201
(501) 324-6336
TOLL FREE: (877) 259-9602
<http://pryor.senate.gov>

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 13, 2010

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
U.S. Department of Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ken:

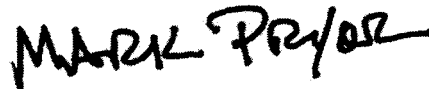
I am pleased to write in support of the City of McGehee, Arkansas', grant application which has been submitted to the National Park Service. I understand the proceeds will be used to renovate the Railroad Depot in McGehee which will be used as a museum and house the Japanese American Confinement Site display.

As you may know, Desha and Ashley County in Arkansas had the only Japanese American Confinement sites east of Wyoming. This museum will be of great benefit to the people of southeast Arkansas and, also, recognize and pay tribute to those interned in these camps.

This is an important project that is certainly worthy of funding. It is my hope that the United States Department of Interior will give positive consideration of the City of McGehee's application.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Mark Pryor

MLP/sj

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United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

Midwest Region
601 Riverfront Drive
Omaha, Nebraska 68102-4226



A3615(MWR-PCL/PAL)

MAY 3 2010

The Honorable Mark Pryor
United States Senate
255 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Pryor:

Thank you for your April 13, 2010, letter to Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar (Secretary) stating your support for the City of McGehee's (City) grant proposal for the National Park Service's (NPS) Japanese American Confinement Sites (JACS) Grant Program. I have been asked to respond because the State of Arkansas is one of my areas of responsibility.

The City's proposal to rehabilitate the historic train depot as a museum to honor the two confinement sites located in Arkansas was a notable contribution to the fiscal year 2010 submittals. This project seeks to establish a location for an exhibit about the experiences of Japanese Americans held in the Jerome and Rohwer Relocation Centers during World War II.

The NPS received a total of 42 applications for the fiscal year 2010 grant cycle, requesting more than \$7.7 million in Federal funds. This amount is more than double the \$3 million appropriated by Congress for the 2010 JACS program. Proposals received by the NPS reflected a wide range of project types, including oral history, interpretation and education, documentation, planning, preservation, and capital projects.

During the week of March 15, 2010, an NPS review panel evaluated applications received for the fiscal year 2010 grant cycle. The review panel then submitted its recommendations to Secretary Salazar for final approval of the selected grant awards. We anticipate that the grant recipients and projects will be announced in late spring 2010 and the grant agreements will be finalized soon thereafter.

Again, thank you again for your endorsement of the City of McGehee's proposal submitted to the JACS Grant Program. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Regional program contact Rachel Franklin-Weekley at 402-661-1948.

Sincerely,

Ernest Quintana
Regional Director

TAKE PRIDE[®]
IN AMERICA 



THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR
WASHINGTON
OCT 01 2009

The Honorable Mark Pryor
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Pryor:

Thank you for your letter of September 18, 2009, co-signed by your colleagues, expressing support for the Draft Proposed Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program for 2010-2015. The Department of the Interior received your letter on September 30, 2009.

I sincerely appreciate your interest in this matter and you will receive a more detailed response in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Salazar".

Ken Salazar

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

September 18, 2009

The Honorable Ken Salazar
Secretary
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Mr. Secretary:

We are writing to convey our strong support for the Draft Proposed Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Oil and Gas Leasing Program (DPP) proposed by the U.S. Minerals Management Service (MMS). By opening up new offshore areas for natural gas and oil leasing and development and also allowing for the development of renewable energy as proposed in the DPP, the Department of the Interior can provide the United States with an opportunity to responsibly produce our own energy. This development will bolster our nation's economy, create new jobs and decrease our dependence on foreign sources of energy.

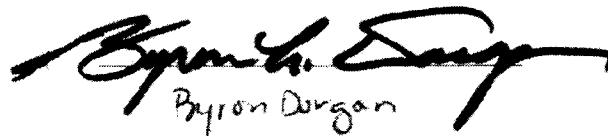
It is more important than ever that the federal government allow for development of domestic offshore energy supplies made available in the DPP. By offering new leasing opportunities, the DPP is appropriately expansive and provides the Department with maximum flexibility to properly utilize our nation's domestic resources.

Now is the appropriate time to promote long-term policies that responsibly encourage job creation while growing the economy. Important offshore areas, like those in Alaska, offer tremendous natural gas and oil resources. By some estimates, the Chukchi Sea alone off Alaska's coast contains as much natural gas and oil as the country has produced in the Gulf of Mexico since 1942.

Additionally, we urge MMS to move forward with the 2007-2012 Leasing Program while working to approve and finalize the new DPP. Implementing a sensible, forward-thinking energy policy will allow for responsible leasing and development of America's energy resources and will help industries and businesses here at home that rely heavily on natural gas and crude oil. It will also further our national security and energy security interests and, of course, spur jobs and economic growth as we open new areas to leasing and development.

In conclusion, we are pleased to see that the MMS has included new leasing areas in the DPP and has acknowledged the need for the United States to begin responsibly developing the abundant energy resources located off our coasts. We believe that the DPP is an important step in creating a robust, diverse, national energy policy which will help secure our energy future. We urge you to move forward on the DPP as you work to finalize a new five-year OCS plan. Thank you for your attention to this important matter. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of assistance to you.

Sincerely,



Byron Dorgan

The Honorable Ken Salazar

September 18, 2009

Page Three

Dan Vitt

Pat Roberts

Chris Bennett

Tom Cole

Sam Frankel

Ray Sticker

Lamar Alexander

Mark Royce

George V. Kenovich

John G. Hatch

Chuck Grassley

John Barrasso

Jim Bunning

Paul Beahm

Ben Ray

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
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September 18, 2009

Page Two

Joe Neuberger

Phil Bond

Michael B. Enzi

Richard Shelby

John McCain

Jan Brindley

John Thune

Gregg

John Cornyn

Blanche R. Lincoln

Tommy

Joni DeMint

Jeff Sessions

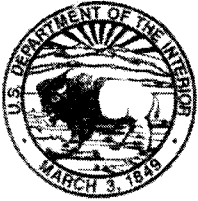
Sally Chaudin

Jim Cooper

Mike Johanns

Paul Cook

Baucus



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

OCT 21 2009



The Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchinson
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Hutchison:

Thank you for your letter dated September 18, 2009, to Secretary Ken Salazar expressing your strong support for the 2010–2015 Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Draft Proposed Program (DPP). Secretary Salazar asked me to respond. A similar letter is being sent to each signer of your letter.

The comment period on the DPP closed on September 21, 2009. The Minerals Management Service (MMS) received over 530,000 comments on the DPP. The MMS will summarize and analyze those comments as quickly as possible in order to move expeditiously to the next steps in the process, which include scoping of the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and publication of the Proposed Program and draft EIS. Your comments will be considered carefully in that endeavor.

On July 28, 2009, the U.S. Court of Appeals clarified that its ruling on the 2007–2012 Program delays only those sales in the Chukchi, Beaufort, and Bering Seas. However, it will be necessary to re-balance all sales in the 2007–2012 plan once the revised environmental sensitivity analysis is complete.

Thank you for your interest in the OCS program. Secretary Salazar and I look forward to working with you to move forward in developing a comprehensive Federal offshore energy plan for the benefit of the Nation. If you have any questions you may contact me or Ms. S. Elizabeth Birnbaum, Director, MMS, at (202) 208-3500.

Sincerely,

~~Wilma A. Lewis~~

Adm

Assistant Secretary
Land and Minerals Management

Similar letter being sent to:

The Honorable Byron L. Dorgan
The Honorable Lamar Alexander
The Honorable John Barrasso
The Honorable Mark Begich
The Honorable Robert F. Bennett
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