

ISSUE: **CONFIRMATION OF LYLE LAVERTY AS ASSISTANT
SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE AND
PARKS**

BACKGROUND:

The President has nominated Lyle Laverty to serve as Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish and Wildlife and Parks. Hearings on the nomination have been held by both the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and the Committee on Environment and Public Works. The hearings have ably demonstrated the special capabilities and experiences of this nominee, who most recently served as Director of Colorado State Parks but also had a long and distinguished career with the USDA Forest Service. Support for the nominee is broad and enthusiastic. Both committees have now voted to report the nomination favorably.

Consideration of the nomination has been delayed by a hold placed on the nomination by Senator Ron Wyden. We are advised that his action is largely unrelated to the nominee but instead reflects his concerns about decision-making at the Department of the Interior relating to scientific evidence and opinions. We are also told that both Secretary Kempthorne and the nominee have sought to address the Senator's concerns.

The Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish and Wildlife and Parks is a key player in federal recreation policy matters and the recreation community has been challenged by the lack of a skilled official in this spot for more than 18 months

ACTION NEEDED:

We ask for your assistance in scheduling a vote on the nomination as soon as practical in a way that will allow Senator Wyden to display his concerns without preventing the confirmation of this talented nominee.

MORE INFORMATION:

Derrick A. Crandall, President
American Recreation Coalition
1225 New York Avenue, N.W., Suite 450
Washington, D.C. 20005
202-682-9530 FAX 202-682-9529
derrick@funoutdoors.com