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**AAA • America Outdoors • American Association for Nude Recreation  
American Bus Association • American Horse Council • American Motorcyclist Association  
American Recreation Coalition • Americans for Responsible Recreational Access  
The Coleman Company • Delaware North Companies  
Family Campers and RVers • Global Environment and Technology Foundation  
Good Sam Club • Government Solutions Group, Inc. • Kampgrounds of America  
League of American Bicyclists • Marina Operators Association of America  
National Alliance of Gateway Communities • National Association of RV Parks and Campgrounds  
National Marine Manufacturers Association • National Park Hospitality Association  
National Recreation and Park Association • National Tour Association • Outdoor Industry Association  
Personal Watercraft Industry Association • Professional Paddlesports Association  
The Recreation Roundtable • Recreation Vehicle Dealers Association  
Recreation Vehicle Industry Association • ReserveAmerica • Scenic America • SGMA International  
Southeast Tourism Society • Sport Utility Vehicle Owners of America  
Western States Tourism Policy Council • Westrec Marina Management, Inc.**

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July 20, 2004

The Honorable  
U. S. House of Representatives/U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20515/20510

Dear Representative/Senator :

The September 11, 2001, attacks have had an unintended, serious impact on our national parks and the millions of people who visit them every year. We are writing to ask your assistance in addressing this situation.

Parks and other unique public places were immediately recognized as important venues to help Americans deal with the tensions arising from the terrorist attacks. They provide a vital connection to America's natural, historical and cultural heritage. However, many of these same sites are also potential targets for terrorist acts. As a result, security issues at these locations assumed new meaning. Those units on our borders and associated with critical assets and infrastructure – such as the Statue of Liberty and in Washington, DC – were especially impacted.

Security requirements have imposed significant budgetary demands on the National Park Service, imposing burdens that were never contemplated as part of its mission or responsibilities. Many of these costs are not park-related – such as safeguarding dams and bridges. This situation is understandable, but over the long term, requires that additional resources be committed to meet the security needs within the parks. Left unaddressed, the situation will hamper efforts underway to reduce the large backlog of deferred maintenance and will slow visitor improvements which should result from new and higher park fees.

July 20, 2004

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The undersigned organizations are leading entities in the fields of travel and tourism, environment and conservation, recreation, transportation and safety. We are very concerned that the visitors to our parks, as well as our natural and cultural resources themselves, are being unfairly burdened and jeopardized even as visitation is increasing. We ask that the Congress take action immediately. Just as the Department of Transportation provides funds for roads in our parks, so should the Department of Homeland Security provide funding for non-visitor-related homeland security needs now estimated to exceed \$20 million annually.

Sincerely,

Susan Pikrallidas  
Vice President, Public Relations  
**AAA**

Gwen C. Wisler  
President and CEO  
**The Coleman Company**

David Brown  
Executive Director  
**America Outdoors**

Dennis J. Szeffel  
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**Good Sam Club**

Edward W. Moreland  
Vice President, Government Relations  
**American Motorcyclist Association**

Shari Boyer  
President and CEO  
**Government Solutions Group, Inc.**

Catherine A. Ahern  
Vice President, Member Services  
**American Recreation Coalition**

Jim Rogers  
President  
**Kampgrounds of America**

Larry Smith  
President  
**Americans for Responsible  
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Andy Clarke  
Executive Director  
**League of American Bicyclists**

James Frye  
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**Marina Operators  
Association of America**

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**National Alliance of  
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**National Marine  
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**National Park  
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**National Recreation and  
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**National Tour Association**

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**Outdoor Industry Association**

Jeff Ludwig  
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**Recreation Vehicle Dealers  
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**Southeast Tourism Society**

Barry McCahill  
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**Sport Utility Vehicle  
Owners of America**

Todd Davidson  
Chairman  
**Western States Tourism  
Policy Council**

William W. Anderson  
President  
**Westrec Marina Management, Inc.**

**Sent to:**

The Honorable Don Young  
Chairman  
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable James L. Oberstar  
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable James M. Inhofe  
Chairman  
Committee on Environment and Public Works  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable James M. Jeffords  
Committee on Environment and Public Works  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable C.W. Bill Young  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable David R. Obey  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Ted Stevens  
Chairman  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Robert C. Byrd  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Harold Rogers  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Homeland Security  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles H. Taylor  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Interior and Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Thad Cochran  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Homeland Security  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Conrad Burns  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Interior  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510