

*News!*

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**HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS DEAR COLLEAGUE UPDATE**

As of Friday afternoon, there are 38 co-signers on the FY10 House Historic Preservation Programs funding letter - leaving a lot of ground to cover before next Thursday's signing deadline (April 2<sup>nd</sup>)! Over the next few days, please continue contacting your congressional offices and ask that they co-sign. The attached chart shows that many of the FY09 co-signers have yet to sign-on for FY10. Please don't assume that they will automatically sign again - they need to hear from you!

With the uncertainty of HPF funding in the President's Budget, and a nearly unprecedented fiscal environment, it's imperative that we show support for our programs from members of Congress. This year more than ever the appropriations subcommittees will be looking at all possible ways to cut or decrease program funding! Please feel free to contact me if you need any assistance contacting your members.



**PUBLIC LANDS/NATIONAL PARK SERVICE OMNIBUS PASSES HOUSE**

The House gave final approval of the omnibus public land package on Wednesday, March 25<sup>th</sup> by a vote of 285 to 140. The Senate approved the bill by a vote of 70-22 last week and it now awaits Presidential signing. At a press conference following the House vote Interior Secretary, Ken Salazar said "today is an important day in the history of America"

and that this legislation "protects our treasured places and landscapes."

Included in the bill is permanent authorization of the Save Americas Treasures and Preserve America and codification of the National Landscape Conservation Service. The bill also would designate 2.2 million acres of wilderness and more than 1,000 miles of wild and scenic rivers. Additional provisions include:

- **NEW NATIONAL PARKS:** Establish a Paterson Great Falls National Historical Park in New Jersey, a William Jefferson Clinton Birthplace Home National Historic Site in Arkansas, and a River Raisin National Battlefield Park in Michigan.
- **ADDITIONS TO NATIONAL PARKS:** Authorize additions to 17 existing national parks.
- **STUDIES OF NATIONAL PARKS:** Authorize studies of 12 sites, most as possible additions to the National Park System.
- **NATIONAL HERITAGE AREAS:** Designate ten new national heritage areas (NHIAs) and authorize studies of two

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NHAs. The new NHAs would be: Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area, Colorado; Cache La Poudre River National Heritage Area, Colorado; South Park National Heritage Area, Colorado; Northern Plains National Heritage Area, North Dakota; Baltimore National Heritage Area, Maryland; Freedom's Way National Heritage Area, Massachusetts and New Hampshire; Mississippi Hills National Heritage Area; Mississippi Delta National Heritage Area; Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area, Alabama; and Santa Cruz Valley National Heritage Area, Arizona. The study areas are Chatahoochee Trace in Alabama and Georgia and Northern Neck in Virginia,

- **PALEONTOLOGICAL:** Establish stiff new penalties for disturbance of paleontological resources on federal lands.
- **BATTLEFIELD PROTECTION:** Extend an existing American Battlefield Protection program through 2013



### FY10 BUDGET UPDATE

Along a party-line vote, yesterday the Senate Budget Committee approved their \$3.5 trillion FY2010 budget resolution. The House approved their \$3.45 trillion FY10 budget resolution on Wednesday. The Senate committee approved Democratic amendments that direct congress to consider the protection of oceans, coastal areas, national parks, and public lands in crafting energy legislation. Environmental groups have praised the budgets for paving the way for future action on climate legislation and the development of a “green” energy economy. The House and Senate budget plans do not assume climate revenues, but they do include a deficit-neutral “reserve fund” to accommodate future legislation on energy and climate change.

The budget resolutions are expected to be brought to the House and Senate floors next week. Budget resolutions are non-binding and do not go to the President for signature.



### NEWS FROM NEW MEXICO – Courtesy of Tom Drake, NM HPD

House Bill 360, which came about in part because of objections to state and county facilities being built in Santa Fe that did not conform to the city’s design ordinances, passed both houses. Slick is recommending the governor sign the measure, and commends House Speaker Ben Luján for promoting a solution to a problem where capital outlay projects sometimes were planned without consideration for local preservation ordinances. The bill amends the Historic Districts and Landmarks Act, which provided municipalities the right to pass ordinances regulating land use in historic districts. All eight of New Mexico’s Certified Local Government programs, which are overseen by HPD, would be affected by the change. They are Silver City, Deming, Lincoln County, Columbus, Taos, Albuquerque, Santa Fe and Las Vegas. Belen and Los Alamos have enacted ordinances and also would be able to invoke the new provisions, but are not yet designated as CLGs. The measure was introduced by Rep. Brian Egoff, D-Santa Fe.



### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

July 8—11

NCSHPO Board Meeting,  
Big Bend, TX