

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

March 13, 2007

Mr. Dirk Kempthorne  
Secretary of the Interior  
Interior Building  
1849 C Street, NW, Room 6156  
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Kempthorne,

Title 36 Section 2.4 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) for the Department of the Interior's (DOI) National Park Service, currently prohibits citizens from possessing a firearm in any national park, monument, memorial, or historic site administered by the National Park Service.

Title 50 Section 27.42 of the CFR for the DOI's Fish and Wildlife Service currently prohibits citizens with concealed weapon permits from carrying their firearms on national wildlife refuges.

We understand these prohibitions are in place for public safety and to prevent wildlife poaching. However, it does infringe on the rights of law abiding concealed weapon permit holders are required to meet state criminal background checks, we support an exception to 36 CFR 2.4 and 50 CFR 27.42 to allow concealed weapon permit holders to carry their firearms legally in National Park Service administered sites and in national wildlife refuges.

The revisions to the CFR could adopt the state law concealed weapons statute where the National Park Service's administrative sites and the national wildlife refuges are located. This would provide a consistent application of state concealed weapons laws across all land ownership boundaries.


This change in the regulation would eliminate the permit application requirements for these law abiding citizens.

We look forward to your response on this important issue.

Sincerely,



NICK J. RAHALL  
Chairman  
Natural Resources Committee



DON YOUNG  
Ranking Member  
Natural Resources Committee