



Citizens for Access to the Lakeshore (CAL)

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Jeannette Feeheley, President

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August 13, 2007

Superintendent Dusty Shultz
Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore
9922 Front Street
Empire MI 49630

Dear Superintendent Shultz:

RE: Additional Comments to GMP on Benzie Corridor

Thank you for posting access to the National Park Service's 1982 feasibility study for the Benzie Corridor in the June 2007 FAQ's on the NPS SLBE Web Site. I downloaded these materials and mailed them to each of our Board members. We had not been aware of the 1982 study or its maps; it answers many of the questions we believe were unaddressed in the GMP Newsletters on this topic. Our Board of Directors met on August 6, 2007, and, based on this new information, adopted the following resolution which I was instructed to send to you as additional comments on the GMP:

If the National Park Service chooses to continue to acquire land for the Benzie Corridor at Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, Citizens for Access to the Lakeshore (CAL) supports the idea of making it into a non-motorized biking and hiking path only.

RE: Additional Comments to GMP on Historical Preservation

Our Board of Directors on August 6, 2007, also adopted another resolution about historical preservation, which I am instructed to send to you as additional GMP comments:

Preserve Historic Sleeping Bear (PHSB) has provided comments on the GMP arguing that the enabling legislation should be reopened in Congress in order to insert something about historical preservation into the Park's purpose statement. While Citizens for Access to the Lakeshore (CAL) continues to support the fine work of PHSB and are empathetic to its concerns, we believe that the enabling legislation is already adequate. In particular, we point out Section 6 (b) and reiterate our July 16, 2007 additional GMP comments requesting that this section of the law be included in the GMP's Preferred Alternative and Final GMP's "purpose statement" and "overall vision":

Section 6 (b) of the enabling legislation (1970 Public Law 91-479) provides that the Secretary of Interior (through the National Park Service) shall:

"prepare and implement a land and water use management plan which will include specific provisions for –

- 1. development of facilities to provide the benefits of public recreation;***
- 2. the protection of scenic, scientific and historic features contributing to public enjoyment, and***
- 3. such protection, management and utilization of renewable natural resources as in the judgment of the Secretary is consistent with, and will further the purpose of, public recreation and protection of the scenic, scientific, and historic features contributing to public enjoyment."***

As we stated in our previous July 16, 2007 letter to you, we believe that, by reiterating in the GMP the enabling legislation's language protecting historic features, it will help eliminate concern about any possible consideration of neglect or "return to nature" of "scenic, scientific or historic features", and will reiterate, for future funding allocation purposes, the Congressional statutory directives to protect historic features.

RE: Insertion into the Record

We understand that the additional comments above cannot be inserted into the record of comments on the NPS March Newsletter 4, but we appreciate your continual assurance that all comments are reviewed never-the-less, and we ask that they be inserted into the record at the next available opportunity which we understand will be the next comment period following publication of the Preferred Alternative.

Sincerely,

Jeannette Feeheley
President, Board of Directors

cc: The Honorable Pete Hoekstra, U.S. Congressman
The Honorable Dave Camp, U.S. Congressman
The Honorable Carl Levin, U.S. Senator
The Honorable Debbie Stabenow, U.S. Senator
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish & Wildlife & Parks, U.S. Dept. of Interior
Ms. Mary Bomar, Director, National Park Service
Mr. Ernie Quintana, Director, Midwest Region, National Park Service
Ms. Sandra Washington, Chief, Planning & Compliance, Midwest Regional Office, NPS
Benzie & Leelanau County Commissioners and County Road Commissioners
Trustees, Various Cities, Townships and Villages
Preserve Historic Sleeping Bear
Manitou Islands Memorial Society
Citizens Council of the Sleeping Bear Dunes Area
Members and Friends

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(SB Add.Comments 8.12.07)

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