



May 3, 2010

[AmericanMotorcyclist.com](http://AmericanMotorcyclist.com)

The Honorable Nick J. Rahall II  
Chairman  
Committee on Natural Resources  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Doc Hastings  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Natural Resources  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Rahall and Ranking Member Hastings:

The American Motorcyclist Association (AMA) urges you to support H. Res. 1254, which would require the Secretary of the Interior to disclose documents relating to potential national monuments designations, when it is brought for a vote before the full committee on May 5.

Founded in 1924, the AMA is the premier advocate of the motorcycle community. We represent the interests of millions of on- and off-highway motorcyclists. Our mission is to promote the motorcycle lifestyle and protect the future of motorcycling.

A Department of the Interior (DOI) internal document indicates the consideration to designate over 13 million acres of public lands in 11 western states as National Monument areas without any public debate under the Antiquities Act of 1906. The AMA strongly encourages the DOI to reconsider this approach and urges the Secretary to reach out to potential affected user groups, local and state elected officials and Congress for input before the disposition of any proclamations.

Several members of Congress have written recently to the Secretary of the Interior requesting that he disclose documents related to potential national monuments designations. To date, the Secretary has not responded. Therefore, Ranking Member Doc Hastings and Subcommittee Ranking Member Rob Bishop introduced H. Res. 1254 to require the Secretary to disclose all the documents relating to potential national monuments designations for the sake of transparency.

Many of the areas being considered for monument designation are currently being considered for other land designation including Wilderness. While the AMA supports the appropriate designation of Wilderness areas as they apply to the definition of the 1964 Wilderness Act, the AMA opposes any process that does not allow full public debate on the disposition of public lands. Indeed, each of these designations deserves to be considered individually to allow time for thoughtful deliberation and input from affected user groups, local and state elected officials and Congress before any proclamations are made pursuant to the Act.

Chairman Rahall II and Ranking Member Hastings  
May 3, 2010  
Page Two

For these reasons, the AMA strongly supports H. Res. 1254.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Edward Moreland", with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Edward Moreland  
Vice President, Government Relations

CC: The Members of the House Natural Resources Committee