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Chairman Hastings' Statement on President Obama's Fort Monroe Monument Designation

WASHINGTON, D.C. – House Natural Resources Committee Chairman Doc Hastings (WA-04) today released the following statement in response to President Obama's announcement to use presidential powers granted under the 1906 Antiquities Act to designate part of Fort Monroe as a National Monument:

"In contrast to prior uses of the Antiquities Act that were done unilaterally and in the dark of night, this national monument designation was done with the backing and support of the Virginia Governor, the Congressional delegation and the local communities. Additionally, this designation affects only a small, historically significant military site and was not done to rob people of potential jobs and economic growth.

"While additions to the National Park System should go through the normal process and be approved by Congress, I do hope the Obama Administration will, at the very least, ensure that potential future land-use decisions have the demonstrated support of all local citizens as well as the united support of their elected officials."

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