



February 18, 2010

The Honorable Ken Salazar  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Mr. Secretary:

The American Motorcyclist Association (AMA) was very disappointed to learn that the Department of Interior (DOI) is considering a recommendation to designate over 13 million acres of public lands as National Monument areas without any public debate whatsoever. We strongly encourage you to reconsider this approach and urge you to reach out to potential affected user groups, local and state elected officials and Congress for input before the disposition of any proclamations pursuant to the Antiquities Act of 1906 (Act).

Founded in 1924, the AMA is the premier advocate of the motorcycle community, and it represents 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 document recently obtained from the DOI indicates the consideration of new National Monument designations totaling 13 million acres in 11 western states: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming.

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.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our request. We look forward to your timely response to this important matter. Should you have any questions or request additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Rick Podliska, Washington Representative, by phone at 202-742-4302 or by e-mail at [rpodliska@ama-cycle.org](mailto:rpodliska@ama-cycle.org).

Sincerely,



Edward Moreland  
Vice President, Government Relations

Enclosure