

Dear Congressman:

I am writing to invite you to visit *<insert park name>* as a guest of *<insert organization name>* during the upcoming congressional recess. As a partner with the Park Service for a centennial project (*funded in 2008/ not funded in 2008*), we want to show you first hand the benefit that enacting the Centennial Challenge—H.R. 3094— (*has already had a positive impact on our community/will positively impact our community if funding is received from the federal government*).

On May 7, the House Natural Resources Committee unanimously approved H.R. 3094, the National Park Centennial Fund Act. As you may already know, H.R.3094 would authorize the National Park Centennial Challenge program, a key component of the administration's Centennial Initiative that was announced by Interior Secretary Kempthorne over a year ago. The Centennial Challenge program will enhance and revitalize the park system in preparation for its 100th birthday in 2016 by creating a 10-year partnership between the federal government and private American citizens. Coupling new philanthropic and other non-federal contributions with federal funds to carry out needed projects and innovative, prototype programs in the national parks provides the opportunity to move beyond what is possible through the yearly federal budget and appropriations process.

*<Description of Funded (or eligible but not funded) Project>*

Today, our national parks are at a critical crossroads as to whether they will continue to serve, educate, inspire, and enrich the next generation of American families in a robust and meaningful way. Studies have shown for every dollar spent on the national parks, four dollars are returned to the nation's economy - a fourfold return on investment. The Centennial Challenge will allow park partners to work with the National Park Service and bring this investment to a higher level.

Please visit us between May 24 and June 1 so we can show you what we're trying to do to help our national park and the local economy. And please cosponsor and support enactment of the Centennial Challenge. For more information, please contact *<insert contact info>*. We look forward to seeing you in the park!

Sincerely,