



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

W3423 (2400)

AUG 16 2005

The Honorable Conrad Burns
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Burns:

Thank you for your correspondence concerning the National Park Service (NPS) firearms regulations. Your letter has been forwarded to my office for reply. As you know, Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 2.4 currently prohibits the carrying of concealed weapons within the NPS.

The NPS firearm regulation is designed to ensure public safety and provide maximum protection of natural wildlife resources by limiting the opportunity for unauthorized use of weapons, while still providing reasonable regulatory relief for persons living within, traveling through, or conducting activities on lands adjacent to park areas.

Recently the Secretary of the Interior asked NPS, together with Department of the Interior staff, to review the history of this regulation and evaluate its continued application. This review is currently at the Departmental level.

If you have any questions, please contact Jerry Case, Regulations Program Manager, at (202) 208-4206.

Sincerely,

Karen Taylor-Goodrich
Associate Director, Visitor and Resource Protection

Cc: Congressman Charles H. Taylor
Congressman Richard W. Pombo