



For Immediate Release

October 8, 2008

Contact:

Kendra Barkoff

202-228-6367

Casey Applauds Forest Service's Decision to Keep Campgrounds Open in Allegheny National Forest

WASHINGTON, DC- U.S. Senator Bob Casey (D-PA) applauds the decision announced by the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) to keep campgrounds open in the Allegheny National Forest.

“I am pleased that, after hearing from concerned Pennsylvanians, the Forest Service has decided not to close any of the slated recreation facilities in the Allegheny National Forest,” said Senator Casey. “This is the right decision due to the popularity of these campgrounds and parks. I plan to work with the Forest Service on both their budget and potential partnerships with non-government organizations to repair the facilities so that Pennsylvanians can continue to enjoy them for generations to come.”

The USFS announced that the campgrounds in the Allegheny National Forest will remain open for at least the next three to five years. The USFS had previously announced its intention to decommission and reduce services to many facilities, including the campgrounds at Twin Lakes Park, Loleta Recreation Facility and Kiasutha Park.

Last month, Senator Casey sent a letter to the Chief of the U.S. Forest Service, Abigail R. Kimbell, expressing his concern over recommendations by the Forest Service to close or decommission several campgrounds and recreation facilities in the Allegheny National Forest.

###