

"RICHARD ARTLEY" <dart_55@q.com>

01/13/2010 11:23 PM

To "Tom Tidwell -- Chief" <ttidwell@fs.fed.us>, "FS WO staff Deputy Chief - Joel Holtrop" <jholtrop@fs.fed.us>, "Jbedwell" <jbedwell@fs.fed.us>

Cc [long list of congressional staffers]

Subject The Forest Service is about to place their last straw on the camel's back with this one

January 13, 2010

To: US Forest Service (USFS) Chief Tidwell, USFS Deputy Chief Holtrop and USFS Director of Recreation Jim Bedwell

Why are you all so afraid to serve the public as the USFS mission mandates?

Your latest stunt to place the profits of the corporate concessionaires (that currently take care of some campgrounds on public lands) at the expense of the elderly and handicapped Americans is beyond reproach.

The Forest Service is seriously considering the elimination of the 50% Senior and Disabled person discounts on camping in campgrounds on public land that has been in effect for decades. These Americans are already struggling financially. Why are you using their meager income to give to corporations? See:

http://www.missoulian.com/news/local/article_d2d46a8e-e3af-11de-acbb-001cc4c002e0.html

This move will surely speed up the process in Congress that gives national forest administration to the DOI. The national forests and national parks will all be under the umbrella of the new agency called "The Dept. of Natural Resources."

Sincerely,

Dick Artley (USFS retired)

dart_55@q.com

RESPONSE

From: Jim Bedwell

To: RICHARD ARTLEY

Cc: Tom Tidwell ; Joel Holtrop

Sent: Thursday, January 14, 2010 8:37 AM

Subject: Re: The Forest Service is about to place their last straw on the camel's back with this one

Dick, As noted in the article, the DOI agencies do not require their concessioners to offer ANY discount to holders of the Senior and Access passes, and that the 50% discount

would remain in effect for Forest Service operated sites IF these proposed regs were adopted.

Jim

James S. Bedwell
Director, Recreation, Heritage, and Volunteer Resources
USDA Forest Service
Voice: 202-205-1240 FAX: 202-205-1145 From RICHARD ARTLEY
<dart_55@q.com>

RESPONSE

To Jim Bedwell <jbedwell@fs.fed.us>,
kitty@westernslopenofee.org

cc[long list of Forest Service Washington Office officials]

date Thu, Jan 14, 2010 at 12:45 PM

subject Re: The Forest Service is about to place their last straw on the camel's back with this one

So just because the DOI chooses to increase concessionaire profits at the expense of the most vulnerable Americans does NOT mean that the USFS must follow suit. For 31 years I watched as USFS line-officers (at all levels) traded off the natural functioning of the public's natural resources for corporate profits. This is no different. Why didn't you USFS big shots even contemplate the fact that the DOI might be wrong? This is a non-rhetorical question and I expect an answer.

Bedwell how can you look at yourself in the mirror without being ashamed? Wait, I know. Your 6 figure salary makes you do it. By definition this makes you a [***].

There are several hundred past and current USFS employees who detest the corporate friendly development policies that the USFS implements on a daily basis . . . regardless of the damage that these actions inflict on the forested ecosystem.

We are not stupid. I have no doubt that we will be successful in bringing down the USFS in the next 5 years!

Having Rep. Raul Grijalva in our corner is no hindrance.

To get a lead on the USFS herd, you might begin looking for work at McDonalds if you think you are qualified.

With great disrespect,

Dick Artley (USFS retired)