

To

Date:

Address:

Dear

**Do you realize that by voting to close California's state parks you are destroying educational, historical and recreational treasures that Americans throughout history have fought to create and protect?**

As a strong supporter of **Plumas-Eureka State Park**, I am writing to express outrage at the budget cuts that will result in the closing of it and approximately 100 other California state parks.

The impact to Plumas County alone will be devastating.

**Plumas-Eureka State Park** attracts, conservatively, approximately 50,000 visitors each year. As your own report showed last year, for every \$1.00 the state's General Fund provides to the park system, \$2.35 is returned. This is largely through economic activity generated in the communities surrounding each state park. This return does not include the revenues generated by state park fees.

Plumas County and its residents have already suffered enough during this terrible economic downturn with the closure of the mill in Quincy. Now, tourism provides vital jobs and incomes.

**Plumas-Eureka State Park** is the only state park in our county and helps drive visitor-related employment opportunities for people of all ages – seniors who have had to return to work as well as young people. Tourists come from all over to share our Park's unparalleled beauty, rich history, educational opportunities and low-cost family-oriented activities. Along the way, they provide income to our local merchants and service providers.

In addition to an economic impact, there will be an educational one. State parks are second only to schools in providing education to our children. Every year, **Plumas-Eureka State Park**, hosts students from C. Roy Carmichael Elementary and other schools in the county so teachers, parents and docents can bring history to life. Student learn first-hand what our forefathers experienced as they built our great state. Students learn about the vital role California's mining, lumber, railroad, cattle and agricultural industries played in the growth of our nation. To have these opportunities eliminated is tragic.

**Plumas-Eureka State Park** serves a critical function in providing respite and renewal for county and state residents in times like these. With the tough economic circumstances and the high cost of gasoline, Californians are staying closer to home. They appreciate affordable ways to strengthen family ties, broaden their children's view of the world and instill in them pride and appreciation for our great state.

Disregard for these opportunities, our state's heritage and the beautiful natural treasures we want to pass on to our children and grandchildren is unacceptable. We do not support short term solutions that will have devastating long-term results.

As a California resident, taxpayer and voter, I feel I deserve to know how and why this untenable decision came about. What leadership are you providing exactly, to us and future generations?

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely

Address: \_\_\_\_\_