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December 20, 2010

The Honorable Harry Reid
534 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Reid:

On behalf of the National Association of REALTORS® (NAR) and the REALTORS® Land Institute (RLI), we want to express our concerns regarding the America's Great Outdoors Act of 2010 (S. 303). This legislation would create national parks, monuments and wilderness areas as well as impose new restrictions on many waterways, including the Chesapeake Bay. We are hopeful that the Senate will not consider this legislation since there is not adequate time for a meaningful debate with the haste to adjourn before Christmas.

NAR and RLI are specifically concerned that this bill would spend millions of taxpayer dollars to impose new restrictions on public lands and waters when federal agencies have insufficient resources to manage their current portfolios. We are especially concerned that this legislation may place onerous restrictions on the property rights of landowners within these new areas, as well those who own land adjacent to these areas.

We urge the Senate to delay consideration of this legislation until all interested parties have had the opportunity to weigh in on this bill. NAR and RLI stand ready to engage members of the Senate in discussing our concerns with this bill, and we welcome the opportunity to do so. In the event that the Senate considers this legislation before the end of this year, we would be strongly opposed to it for the reasons given above.

Thank you for your consideration of our views on this bill.

Sincerely,

National Association of REALTORS®
REALTORS® Land Institute



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