

1/29/2015

EXHIBIT 7  
DATE 1/29/15  
HB 263

Chairman Flynn and Members of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks Committee,

I thank you for the opportunity to speak on behalf of House Bill 263 that would remove Madison Buffalo Jump from the primitive parks list. This move would help ensure that Madison Buffalo Jump would be a preserved and protected historical treasure.

The removal from the primitive parks list would allow improvements to be made at the Jump that would permit mobile access to the interpretive plaza. With access to the interpretive plaza, visitors with limited mobility would now have the opportunity to engage in interactive learning, pay spiritual reverence, and witness the grandeur of this site.

I have been involved with Dave Andrus, Park Manager, and his excellent staff at the Headwaters State Park and the Madison Buffalo Jump State Park for a number of years. I am a teacher at Three Forks Public Schools, and in conjunction with my history curriculum, I take my sixth grade classes on an annual field trip to both of these State Parks. Sadly, there are students that do not get to fully participate in the on-site, outdoor learning at the Madison Buffalo Jump due to physical impairments or challenges.

I am a member of the Three Forks Historical Society, Friends of the Madison Buffalo Jump, active in other state history groups, and Parks volunteer. In the course of discussion, I have repeatedly heard people voice regret that they are unable to access the Madison Buffalo Jump due to the inability to traverse the hike to the interpretive plaza.

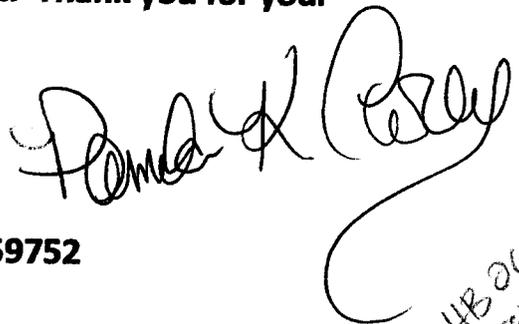
By removing the Madison Buffalo Jump from the primitive parks list the site would become more accessible to a greater number of visitors. It would also allow Montana State Parks to look to the future, and make improvements to the site as deemed necessary. I believe this would also allow the Montana State Parks department to better preserve the integrity of this site. It is my understanding there is no appropriation associated with this Bill 263.

I believe it would be in the best interests of the Madison Buffalo State Park for the Legislature to remove it from the primitive parks list. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Pamela K. Carey

Box 22

Three Forks, MT 59752



HB 263  
Carey  
⑥