

To:

Mr. Kenneth L. Salazar  
Secretary of the Interior  
1849 C Street NW  
Mail Stop 7229  
Washington, DC 20240

Mr. Salazar,

I am writing to you today to share my deep concern regarding the proposed lead ban policy in our national parks which was recently announced by the National Park Service. The intention to eliminate the use of lead in fishing tackle in national parks was made without prior consultation of the sportfishing industry or the millions of recreational anglers who fish within the national park system.

In his January 21, 2009, Executive Memo to federal agency and department heads, President Obama made it very clear that he expects the federal government to be transparent, participatory and collaborative and that 'executive departments and agencies should offer Americans increased opportunities to participate in policymaking and to provide their Government with the benefits of their collective expertise and information.' We expect the National Park Service to follow the President's order.

I encourage you to direct the NPS to meet with representatives of the fishing community to discuss: how this decision was reached, why it may be necessary, how this rule will be implemented and why there was no opportunity for public comment.

We (I) respectfully request that the National Park Service withdraw the current proposal in favor of a more transparent, public process for future actions