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COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

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Congress of the United States Bouse of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515 December 12, 1989

Mr. Jack Connelly Idaho Section Officer 1035 Serrey Lane Blackfoot, Idaho 83221

Dear Jack:

As you may know, I recently introduced legislation which would create a Craters of the Moon National Park and Great Rift National Preserve in southeastern Idaho. The proposal was introduced at the request of a group called the Craters of the Moon Development, Inc.

Because of your interest in public lands issues, I wanted to let you know about this proposal. Copies of the bill may be obtained by contacting one of my offices.

It is important to emphasize that this bill does not represent a final product, but only serves as a starting point for discussion. I recognize that there will be questions raised about the potential impact a park might have on grazing, and I welcome your comments.

Since grazing is an integral part of the traditional land use, the legislation provides that grazing shall continue to the same extent as it is today. Further, the bill provides for the maintenance of range improvements and allows for permittees to continue to use sheep camps and off-road vehicles to support grazing operations.

I urge you to reserve final judgment on the park proposal until you have carefully reviewed it. By working together, I believe we can provide protection for the livestock industry while achieving a goal of a national park during next year's state centennial celebration.

In order to share information with you and to better understand your views, I invite you to a meeting in Blackfoot on December 22 to discuss the proposal. The meeting will be held at the Bingham County Courthouse, Courtroom Number 1, from 11:00 a.m. to noon.

Sincerely

Richard H. Stallings Member of Congress