

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY Washington, DC 20240

The Honorable Joe Manchin III Chairman, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I hereby transmit the enclosed Mill Springs Battlefield Special Resource Study. The study was completed pursuant to Public Law 113-291, which directed the Secretary of the Interior to evaluate the potential of establishing a unit of the national park system to commemorate and protect the site of the American Civil War Battle of Mill Springs. The study area, as defined in the legislation, encompasses the National Historic Landmark designation relating to the 1862 Battle of Mill Springs located in Pulaski and Wayne Counties in southeastern Kentucky. The study was conducted by the National Park Service (NPS).

Section 100507 of Title 54, United States Code, establishes the criteria to be considered in the study of an area for potential inclusion in the national park system, and the study was completed in accordance with this criteria.

Designated a National Historic Landmark in 1994, Mill Springs Battlefield is the site of the Civil War battle fought on January 19, 1862, as well as the Confederate army's 1861 winter encampment. The battle represents the larger offensive campaigns waged by both the Union and Confederate armies in the early days of the Civil War to control the key border state of Kentucky and foreshadowed the battle failures of the Confederate army in the Western Theater and the shifting of the war front into Tennessee. The study area encompassed approximately 650 acres divided among three discontiguous locations: the core battlefield; the Beech Grove fortified encampment; and the Mill Springs crossing fortified ferry landing/mill site.

In March 2019, as the NPS was completing the study process, Congress passed legislation establishing the Mill Springs Battlefield National Monument (Public Law 116-9, the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act), subject to a determination by the Secretary of the Interior that a sufficient quantity of land or interests in land has been acquired to constitute a manageable park unit. In accordance with the legislation, Mill Springs Battlefield National Monument was formally established as the 421<sup>st</sup> unit of the national park system in September 2020. Given the statutory directive, the study has been concluded. The study is now being transmitted to Congress simply to complete the study process and meet the requirement of

the law. NPS emphasis is now focused on planning to ensure the successful management of the area into the future.

Thank you for your interest in the National Park Service. A similar letter is being sent to the Honorable John Barrasso, Ranking Member, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate; the Honorable Raúl Grijalva, Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources, U.S. House of Representatives; and the Honorable Bruce Westerman, Ranking Member, Committee on Natural Resources, U.S. House of Representatives. Relevant members of the Kentucky delegation will also receive a copy of the report and this letter.

Sincerely,

Date: 2022.03.31 16:19:14 -04'00'

Shannon A. Estenoz Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks

### Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Harold Rogers

The Honorable Mitch McConnell



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY Washington, DC 20240

The Honorable Raúl Grijalva Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

### Dear Mr. Chairman:

I hereby transmit the enclosed Mill Springs Battlefield Special Resource Study. The study was completed pursuant to Public Law 113-291, which directed the Secretary of the Interior to evaluate the potential of establishing a unit of the national park system to commemorate and protect the site of the American Civil War Battle of Mill Springs. The study area, as defined in the legislation, encompasses the National Historic Landmark designation relating to the 1862 Battle of Mill Springs located in Pulaski and Wayne Counties in southeastern Kentucky. The study was conducted by the National Park Service (NPS).

Section 100507 of Title 54, United States Code, establishes the criteria to be considered in the study of an area for potential inclusion in the national park system, and the study was completed in accordance with this criteria.

Designated a National Historic Landmark in 1994, Mill Springs Battlefield is the site of the Civil War battle fought on January 19, 1862, as well as the Confederate army's 1861 winter encampment. The battle represents the larger offensive campaigns waged by both the Union and Confederate armies in the early days of the Civil War to control the key border state of Kentucky and foreshadowed the battle failures of the Confederate army in the Western Theater and the shifting of the war front into Tennessee. The study area encompassed approximately 650 acres divided among three discontiguous locations: the core battlefield; the Beech Grove fortified encampment; and the Mill Springs crossing fortified ferry landing/mill site.

In March 2019, as the NPS was completing the study process, Congress passed legislation establishing the Mill Springs Battlefield National Monument (Public Law 116-9, the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act), subject to a determination by the Secretary of the Interior that a sufficient quantity of land or interests in land has been acquired to constitute a manageable park unit. In accordance with the legislation, Mill Springs Battlefield National Monument was formally established as the 421<sup>st</sup> unit of the national park system in September 2020. Given the statutory directive, the study has been concluded. The study is now being transmitted to Congress simply to complete the study process and meet the requirement of

the law. NPS emphasis is now focused on planning to ensure the successful management of the area into the future.

Thank you for your interest in the National Park Service. A similar letter is being sent to the Honorable Joe Manchin III, Chairman, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate; the Honorable John Barrasso, Ranking Member, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate; and the Honorable Bruce Westerman, Ranking Member, Committee on Natural Resources, U.S. House of Representatives. Relevant members of the Kentucky delegation will also receive a copy of the report and this letter.

Sincerely,

Date: 2022.03.31 16:19:57 -04'00'

Shannon A. Estenoz Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks

## Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Harold Rogers

The Honorable Mitch McConnell



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY Washington, DC 20240

The Honorable John Barrasso Ranking Member Committee on Energy and Natural Resources United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

#### Dear Senator Barrasso:

I hereby transmit the enclosed Mill Springs Battlefield Special Resource Study. The study was completed pursuant to Public Law 113-291, which directed the Secretary of the Interior to evaluate the potential of establishing a unit of the national park system to commemorate and protect the site of the American Civil War Battle of Mill Springs. The study area, as defined in the legislation, encompasses the National Historic Landmark designation relating to the 1862 Battle of Mill Springs located in Pulaski and Wayne Counties in southeastern Kentucky. The study was conducted by the National Park Service (NPS).

Section 100507 of Title 54, United States Code, establishes the criteria to be considered in the study of an area for potential inclusion in the national park system, and the study was completed in accordance with this criteria.

Designated a National Historic Landmark in 1994, Mill Springs Battlefield is the site of the Civil War battle fought on January 19, 1862, as well as the Confederate army's 1861 winter encampment. The battle represents the larger offensive campaigns waged by both the Union and Confederate armies in the early days of the Civil War to control the key border state of Kentucky and foreshadowed the battle failures of the Confederate army in the Western Theater and the shifting of the war front into Tennessee. The study area encompassed approximately 650 acres divided among three discontiguous locations: the core battlefield; the Beech Grove fortified encampment; and the Mill Springs crossing fortified ferry landing/mill site.

In March 2019, as the NPS was completing the study process, Congress passed legislation establishing the Mill Springs Battlefield National Monument (Public Law 116-9, the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act), subject to a determination by the Secretary of the Interior that a sufficient quantity of land or interests in land has been acquired to constitute a manageable park unit. In accordance with the legislation, Mill Springs Battlefield National Monument was formally established as the 421<sup>st</sup> unit of the national park system in

September 2020. Given the statutory directive, the study has been concluded. The study is now being transmitted to Congress simply to complete the study process and meet the requirement of the law. NPS emphasis is now focused on planning to ensure the successful management of the area into the future.

Thank you for your interest in the National Park Service. A similar letter is being sent to the Honorable Joe Manchin III, Chairman, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate; the Honorable Raúl Grijalva, Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources, U.S. House of Representatives; and the Honorable Bruce Westerman, Ranking Member, Committee on Natural Resources, U.S. House of Representatives. Relevant members of the Kentucky delegation will also receive a copy of the report and this letter.

Sincerely,

Date: 2022.03.31 16:19:36 -04'00'

Shannon A. Estenoz Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks

### Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Harold Rogers

The Honorable Mitch McConnell



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY Washington, DC 20240

The Honorable Bruce Westerman Ranking Member Committee on Natural Resources U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

## Dear Representative Westerman:

I hereby transmit the enclosed Mill Springs Battlefield Special Resource Study. The study was completed pursuant to Public Law 113-291, which directed the Secretary of the Interior to evaluate the potential of establishing a unit of the national park system to commemorate and protect the site of the American Civil War Battle of Mill Springs. The study area, as defined in the legislation, encompasses the National Historic Landmark designation relating to the 1862 Battle of Mill Springs located in Pulaski and Wayne Counties in southeastern Kentucky. The study was conducted by the National Park Service (NPS).

Section 100507 of Title 54, United States Code, establishes the criteria to be considered in the study of an area for potential inclusion in the national park system, and the study was completed in accordance with this criteria.

Designated a National Historic Landmark in 1994, Mill Springs Battlefield is the site of the Civil War battle fought on January 19, 1862, as well as the Confederate army's 1861 encampment. The battle represents the larger offensive campaigns waged by both the Union and Confederate armies in the early days of the Civil War to control the key border state of Kentucky and foreshadowed the battle failures of the Confederate army in the Western Theater and the shifting of the war front into Tennessee. The study area encompassed approximately 650 acres divided among three discontiguous locations: the core battlefield; the Beech Grove fortified encampment; and the Mill Springs crossing fortified ferry landing/mill site.

In March 2019, as the NPS was completing the study process, Congress passed legislation establishing the Mill Springs Battlefield National Monument (Public Law 116-9, the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act), subject to a determination by the Secretary of the Interior that a sufficient quantity of land or interests in land has been acquired to constitute a manageable park unit. In accordance with the legislation, Mill Springs Battlefield National Monument was formally established as the 421<sup>st</sup> unit of the national park system in September 2020. Given the statutory directive, the study has been concluded. The study is now being transmitted to Congress simply to complete the study process and meet the requirement of

the law. NPS emphasis is now focused on planning to ensure the successful management of the area into the future.

Thank you for your interest in the National Park Service. A similar letter is being sent to the Honorable Joe Manchin III, Chairman, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate; the Honorable John Barrasso, Ranking Member, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate; and the Honorable Raúl Grijalva, Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources, U.S. House of Representatives. Relevant members of the Kentucky delegation will also receive a copy of the report and this letter.

Sincerely,

Date: 2022.03.31 16:20:18 -04'00'

Shannon A. Estenoz Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks

### Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Harold Rogers
The Honorable Mitch McConnell