



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Ozark National Scenic Riverways
404 Watercress Drive
P.O. Box 490
Van Buren, Missouri 63965

IN REPLY REFER TO:
D18 (xL76) (xN16)

April 10, 2009

Greetings:

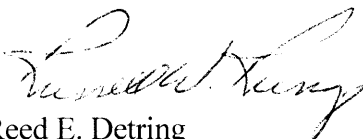
The National Park Service (NPS) - Ozark National Scenic Riverways (ONSR) seeks your input on the planning of upgrades to the facilities at the Welch Lodge site. We ask that you take a few moments to read this information and consider the impacts and benefits associated. If inclined, please respond to this proposed action by May 12, 2009 via the methods listed below.

You do not need to respond to this letter unless you have concerns you want to be sure we address. You will also receive a notice after the Environmental Assessment is prepared and released for public review, at which time you may want to respond.

Located on the Current River in the north district of the ONSR, the Welch Lodge site is on NPS Road 152 off Highway K in Shannon County. ONSR is planning to Renovate and update the structures, facilities and the Welch Lodge developed site to modern standards (including ADA access and safety standards), using as much environmentally green technology as economically feasible, in order to make it available for use in the future as an educational tool for sustainability. This plan will provide fully adequate and contained facilities at one site for cooperative organizations and park partners a place to conduct conservation educational programs and support research project groups.

Public participation in the planning process ensures the NPS fully understands and considers the public's interest as part of their national heritage, cultural traditions, and community surroundings. Please visit the National Park Service **Planning, Environment and Public Comment (PEPC)** Web site (<http://parkplanning.nps.gov>) or submit written comments by **May 12, 2009**, to: Superintendent, Ozark National Scenic Riverways, Attn: Welch Lodge EA, P.O. Box 490, Van Buren, Missouri 63965. Thank you for your time and consideration and we look forward to collaborating with you on this project and others.

Sincerely,


Reed E. Detring
Superintendent

Enclosure

Welch Lodge Developed Site Location

Ozark National Scenic Riverways

April 2009

