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COEUR D'ALENE

IDAHO 83816

February 24, 2009

Mr. Latham Williams, Chairman  
Idaho Parks & Recreation Board  
P.O. Box 3639  
Ketchum, ID 83340

Re: Old Mission State Park

Dear Chairman Williams:

I write on behalf of the family of Harry F. Magnuson. I also believe it is fair to say that I write on behalf of thousands of North Idahoans, and Idahoans statewide, when I respectfully lodge this objection to the proposed cessation of state funding to the Old Mission State Park. I respectfully ask that you reconsider this course of action.

The Cataldo Mission is a jewel, if not the jewel, in the crown of Idaho. A decision at this juncture, to cease state funding for the park, is, with all due respect, inequitable, short-sighted, and contrary to the principles that make Idaho "Idaho."

The fact that the Mission still stands today, as an asset to all of Idaho and the generations of Idahoans to come, is a testament to years of multi-generational and multi-cultural foresight, cooperation, and dedication. Those efforts should be rewarded rather than punished.

I can make no stronger case for the continued state funding of the Mission than the case presented by my father to Governor Otter through my father's letter of January 15, 2009. I enclose a copy of that letter.

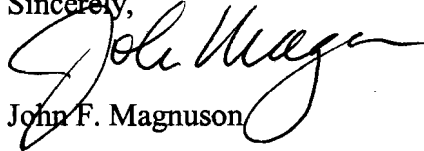
I also enclose for your consideration a copy of my February 18, 2009 letter to Governor Otter, wherein I noted the conditions under which my father authored and signed his letter, as well as what I perceive to be Governor Otter's honor to receive the last of my father's untold thousands of communiques regarding the need to preserve Idaho's treasured assets, such as the Mission, that form the historical backdrop for all that we are today.

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I respectfully request that you, as Chairman, as well as the remaining Board Members, abandon any plan, desire, or intention to terminate state funding for the Old Mission State Park. I think it safe to say that future generations of Idahoans will one day look back and thank you. I think it further important to note that the Old Mission State Park is an asset not only to North Idahoans, but Idahoans of every walk of life, wherever located in this great state.

Sincerely,



John F. Magnuson

JFM/krn

Enclosure

cc: Steve Klatt, Region I Board Member  
Randal F. Rice, Region II Board Member  
Ernest J. Lombard, Region III Board Member  
Jean S. McDevitt, Region V Board Member  
Douglas A. Hancey, Region VI Board Member

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cc: Hon. Butch Otter, Governor  
Most Reverend Michael P. Driscoll, M.S.W., D.D.  
Mrs. Colleen B. Magnuson  
Ms. Kathleen Magnuson Sheppard  
Mr. H. James Magnuson  
Ms. Mary Elizabeth Magnuson  
Mr. Tom Magnuson  
Father Tom Connolly, S.J.  
Mr. Chief Allan, Chairman, Coeur d'Alene Tribe  
Mr. Robert Meinen, Director, Idaho Dept. of Parks & Recreation  
Mr. David White, Idaho Dept. of Parks and Recreation  
Representative Mary Lou Shepherd  
Representative Robert Nonini  
Representative Marge Chadderdon  
Representative Frank Henderson  
Mr. Jerald J. Jaeger  
Mr. Robert Matt, Administrative Director, Coeur d'Alene Tribe  
Mrs. Maxine Lammers, Non-Profit Development Services  
Mr. Dale Lavigne  
Mr. Steve Klatt  
Mr. William Scudder  
Ms. Katie Brodie