



# United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

10 (2608)

AUG 26 2014

Colonel James T. Currie, USA (ret.)  
Executive Director  
Commissioned Officers Association  
of the U.S. Public Health Service  
8201 Corporate Drive, Suite 200  
Landover, MD 20785

Dear Colonel Currie:

Thank you for your letter dated June 16, 2014, to Jonathan B. Jarvis, Director of the National Park Service (NPS), regarding the military version of the Interagency Annual Pass. Your letter was forwarded to this office since we manage the Interagency Pass Program.

The NPS recognizes the important contributions of Public Health Service (PHS) members in providing service and protection to this country. In fact, the NPS works side-by-side with the PHS in our headquarters and we have the utmost respect for the tremendous work they do. We recognize that PHS members, as well as firefighters, border patrol, law enforcement, and many other citizens in this country put on a uniform and serve and sacrifice for this country every day.

The Military Pass was put in place by the Director of the NPS as a gesture to support U.S. military men and women who put themselves in harm's way during a time of war. The five military branches were included in the program because they represent the armed services. It was felt that their additional sacrifices should be recognized at this time.

The Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act, which authorizes the interagency passes, will be coming up for renewal at the end of 2015. At that time there may be additional changes to the pass program concerning eligibility for discount passes and benefits. We will keep your concerns in mind as we move through the reauthorization process.

Thank you again for expressing your concerns about the military pass benefit. If you have any further comments, please contact Brooke Linford, Interagency Pass Program Manager, at (202) 513-7139, or via e-mail at: [brooke\\_linford@nps.gov](mailto:brooke_linford@nps.gov).

Sincerely,

Lena McDowall  
Associate Director, Business Services