



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1454		DATE: 4/8/2025	
COMMITTEE: Government Efficiency			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ALLEN RAMSEY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 4/8/2025 12:00 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C."HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/8/2025 11:57 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			
I am in Support of this Bill on its Face.			



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CARLI WARREN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 4/8/2025 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DAMON CERNETISCH		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
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EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 4/8/2025 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DENNIS ELLIS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: EDWARD PIATT		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 4/8/2025 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: GERALD G. HUBBARD		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
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EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 4/8/2025 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: GREG ROWDEN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
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EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 4/8/2025 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: HERMAN KELLY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: SHANNON COUNTY COMMISSIONER		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE: MO	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:	SUBMIT DATE: 4/8/2025 12:00 AM	
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: KAREN S. DEARLOVE, THOMAS J. DEARLOVE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: karen.s.dearlove@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person		SUBMIT DATE: 4/3/2025 7:19 PM
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Historically, national parks were established out of existing federal lands under the management of various US agencies such as the BLM, Forest Service, FWS, etc., therefore a 'park boundary' was never really in question: it was the federal land within the park boundary set at its declaration by Congress. However, ONSR was only the second national park formed by the acquisition of private lands within a Congressionally designated 'purchase area boundary', i.e., the maximum extent of area within which private lands could be purchased. As the federal appropriations ran out, the National Park Service did not acquire all the land within the ONSR's designated purchase area boundary. Thus, the federal park lands held in fee or fee simple title are a patchwork across the landscape of the Current and Jacks Fork rivers. HB 1454 / HB 1137 will clarify and codify that the jurisdiction on all State lands is reserved to the State of Missouri - especially as the State has extensive forest landholdings, as well as public roads and state highways that fall within the 'purchase area boundary' but are not under any concurrent jurisdiction that provides for their management, maintenance, or operational expense. NPS ONSR patrols and enforcement actions on the rivers, trails, park roads, and park lands are where the limited federal resources are to be expended.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MARGARET POND		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: mmp4996@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/7/2025 8:54 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Last year we were riding our side x sides with a friend that was raised in Shannon County wanted to show us places that his relatives owned years ago, before the Park Rangers. We are all Seniors Citizens and purchase all permits from Shannon County for our Side x Sides. We own Property pay Property taxes, support the Businesses in the County. We drove to Log Yard Campground on the current river to set in river it was a hot day to cool off. As we past the Restroom's two Park Rangers were setting in the trucks they waved we drove down to the river got our chairs out setting in the river cooling off probably a hour past when a Black SUV and the two Park Rangers came to where we were setting told us we had to leave again we were not doing anything wrong except enjoying the water. He told us he would remember us and would give us a ticket if he see us again. Treated us like we were criminals we all are Senior Citizens. We left thought it was over reach for us to be treated like that. I believe we are paying for Federal and State property we should be able to use. The Missouri Conservation have never given us any problems in fact has always been very helpful.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MICHAEL BELL		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 4/8/2025 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: PHILIP D. WATSON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 4/8/2025 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ROB DAMOUTH		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL:	ATTENDANCE:		SUBMIT DATE: 4/8/2025 12:00 AM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ROBERT ROSS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: Rossformo@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/8/2025 1:40 PM
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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: STEVEN RAY HOGAN, SHERIFF SHANNON COUNTY		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: hogan1270@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/8/2025 7:35 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Ladies and gentlemen, Thank you for being here today. I stand before you not just as a resident of this community but as your elected Sheriff—someone who swore an oath to protect and serve each and every one of you. When I first took office, I made a promise to the people of Shannon County: You will live in peace, and I will stand beside you in the face of any government overreach that threatens your rights. This promise is one I take seriously, and it's one that has never been more important than now, as we are facing actions that I believe cross the line of lawful conduct by the National Park Service (NPS) Rangers. Our community is rich with history and beauty, and we take pride in the land we call home. But, unfortunately, the actions of some within the National Park Service are threatening to infringe upon the freedoms and rights of the very people who have lived here for generations. One of the most concerning issues we are seeing is the growing number of traffic stops conducted by NPS Rangers. These stops often involve minor infractions, like equipment violations, but quickly devolve into invasive questioning. Instead of focusing on the violation at hand, many of these encounters have seen NPS Rangers questioning citizens with intrusive, baseless accusations, asking things like, "Where are your drugs?" or "Where are your weapons?" This is unacceptable. It is not the role of law enforcement to use an equipment violation as an excuse to harass people with unfounded, sweeping questions that have no merit. This is not what law enforcement should be about. What is even more concerning is that these incidents are happening outside of the National Park Service's jurisdiction. To be clear, the NPS Rangers' jurisdiction does not extend far beyond the boundaries of the park itself. However, traffic stops and harassment are occurring many miles outside of their potential jurisdiction—an act that is both unlawful and an abuse of power. This is not just an overreach; it is an overstep that must be addressed. I want to make it clear that the Shannon County Sheriff's Office is currently investigating one of these incidents, which occurred outside the NPS's jurisdiction. We are treating this matter with the seriousness it deserves, and charges are expected to be filed in the near future by the Shannon County Prosecutor. We will ensure that those responsible for unlawful conduct will be held accountable. Our office will not stand by while any agency operates outside the bounds of the law, especially when it comes to harassing our citizens. It's also important to point out that the actions of the National Park Service Rangers are in stark contrast to the approach taken by the Shannon County Sheriff's Office and the Missouri State Highway Patrol (MSHP). Both agencies are dedicated to protecting our citizens and respecting their rights. Unlike the NPS, we don't conduct these kinds of unjustified stops or engage in harassment. We focus on serving our community with integrity, not intimidation. As your Sheriff, it pains me to admit that I myself avoid driving through areas under the jurisdiction of the National Park Service out of fear of harassment. It's a sad day when even the Sheriff of Shannon County feels that he may be targeted simply for driving through his own county. But it's even more tragic for the people of Shannon County who have to endure this harassment multiple times a day as they go about their peaceful, everyday lives. This is not the kind of treatment any citizen

should have to endure. Let's be clear: The right to travel freely without undue harassment or infringement upon our personal rights is a fundamental one. This kind of overreach—whether from the NPS or any other agency—cannot be allowed to stand. Our citizens deserve better. They deserve to live in peace, without the constant fear of being unlawfully stopped or interrogated by overzealous officers. As your Sheriff, I will continue to stand by your side. I will fight against government overreach and ensure that your rights are protected. And as we continue our investigation into the recent unlawful traffic stop, we will make sure that justice is served. Thank you for your support, and let us work together to ensure that our community remains a place where our rights are respected and our freedoms upheld. Steven R. Hogan, SHERIFF Shannon County Sheriff's Office Office: 573-226-3615 Cell: 573-604-1118 Fax: 573-226-5561 "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ABIGAIL HERNDON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: abbymherndon@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/7/2025 5:50 PM

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This bill will have a negative ecological impact and is to build a prison farm which itself is a highly controversial human rights concern.



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: CONSERVATION FEDERATION OF MO		PHONE NUMBER: 573-634-2322	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: CONSERVATION FEDERATION OF MISSOURI		TITLE:	
ADDRESS: 728 W. MAIN ST.			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65101
EMAIL: tschwartz@confedmo.org	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/8/2025 5:51 PM

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The Conservation Federation of Missouri (CFM) is the largest conservation group in Missouri, comprised of over 100 conservation and outdoor affiliated organizations. We proudly represent hunters, anglers, birders, campers, floaters, and other outdoor enthusiasts, who collectively number over 80,000 Missourians. CFM was formed in 1935, when deer and turkey were nearly gone from Missouri, and our forests had been mostly cleared. Our members have been supporters of Ozark National Scenic Riverways since its creation. This beautiful resource provides recreation opportunities for all Missourians, and the preservation of these lands is essential to the local economies of many small communities in the Ozarks. The Current and Jacks Fork Rivers are two of the most beautiful examples of Ozark streams. Their clear waters harbor unique and endemic species that only exist in the Ozarks, while supporting endless fishing, floating, and other outdoor activities. These areas must remain protected by the National Park System for all to enjoy.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: EDWARD JOHNSON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: edwrd_jhnsn@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/8/2025 7:54 PM
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WITNESS NAME			
REGISTERED LOBBYIST:			
WITNESS NAME: ELIZABETH L SMITH		PHONE NUMBER: 573-694-5787	
REPRESENTING: THE NATURE CONSERVANCY		TITLE: EXTERNAL RELATIONS	
ADDRESS: 2011 WAYNE AVE			
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65109
EMAIL: e.smith@TNC.org	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/8/2025 8:11 PM

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Ozark National Scenic Riverways provides a framework for protection to some of the most ecologically and economically important Ozark streams. Our concern is that removal of such designation could threaten the protection that has made this area so such a draw for tourism and a stronghold for freshwater biodiversity.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JAMES CHURCHMAN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: jimchurchman@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/7/2025 6:19 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Dear Members of the Missouri House of Representatives, I am writing to express my concerns regarding House Bill 1442, which proposes to reduce the authority of National Park Service Rangers to perform law enforcement and emergency services within our national park areas. This legislation would effectively transfer these critical responsibilities to state and local resources already struggling with inadequate staffing and resources. Last year, National Park Service Rangers responded to over 1,200 incidents within the Ozark National Scenic Riverways, addressing a wide range of situations from law enforcement actions to emergency services. The loss of authority for NPS rangers to respond effectively to these incidents would place an overwhelming burden on local law enforcement agencies, many of which are already understaffed and under-resourced. The counties surrounding the Ozark National Scenic Riverways are among the poorest in the state of Missouri. These communities face significant challenges in providing adequate public safety and emergency services. Expecting local law enforcement to absorb the responsibilities currently managed by NPS Rangers, without the necessary personnel or funding to do so, will likely lead to decreased public safety and response times in critical situations. National Park Service Rangers are trained professionals equipped to handle the unique challenges of managing public safety within our national parks. They are deeply familiar with the park's landscape, regulations, and the specific needs of the visitors who frequent these areas. Reducing their authority will not only compromise the safety of park visitors but could also endanger the local communities that depend on the coordination of these efforts. I urge you to consider the negative implications of House Bill 1442 and its potential impact on the safety and well-being of both visitors to the Ozark National Scenic Riverways and the surrounding communities. Collaboration between the National Park Service and local law enforcement is essential for maintaining public safety in our shared environments. These proposed Bills appear to be in direct conflict with the Constitution of the United States of America. It seems to be land grab by a few representatives. The Federal Lands in the state of Missouri are part of what makes it a great place to live. Do your jobs! Do your research before wasting time and taxpayer money with silly Bills like these. Sincerely, James Churchman (Shannon County Resident and Lover of our Public Lands)



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JOHN FELDMANN		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: johnfeldmann@msn.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/7/2025 8:52 PM
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I have been a long time user of the ONSR. I have floated on the Current River many times and fished the trophy trout areas as well. I have floated on a number of other Ozark streams as well. The Current River is a special river with a number of springs that feed the river flow. Under ONSR management the river has maintained a pristine character that enhances the floating and fishing experience. I believe the ONSR designation increases tourist usage and revenue for businesses along the river. I believe the national park personnel are doing a good job balancing the user experience while conserving the resource. They are also dealing with frequent flooding and do a good job of keeping the river open to the public.