

### **MSP Disclaimer on Jay Nixon State Park Comments**

These comments do not reflect the opinion of the State of Missouri or the Department of Natural Resources' Division of State Parks, nor are these entities responsible for the content or the factual accuracy of the comments. The responses have not been edited or otherwise altered, except to remove names and other identifying statements, profanity and violent language.

## **Jay Nixon State Park**

**Comments received online Dec. 5, 2017 – Jan. 6, 2018**

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Zip Code: 63049

1. Keep the Park 2. To keep expenses down, set up the program with the Missouri College System. The State Parks would benefit with the help and the Missouri College System would benefit by keeping enrollment high. No money involved, just credits that benefits the State of Missouri. The program would be run like the CCC from the 1930's. The youth would commit to a 4 month period of work for the Missouri State Parks and be paid in credits. For 4 months of work equals tuition paid for 1 year at any Missouri College System Universities.

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Zip Code:

Mo state parks are a asset to our state, I want this state park to re open as soon as possible.

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Zip Code:

Preservation of this portion of the St. Francois Mountains and the unique glade landscapes is a role that Missouri State Parks can do very well. It would provide continuity with Taum Sauk Mountain State Park and provide excellent backcountry experiences for visitors. Limited development would ensure that the natural features are available for future generations to enjoy.

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Zip Code: 63129

I would like this to remain a MO State Park.

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Zip Code: 65804

This property is stunning and since it abuts Tom Sauk, it seems to me to be a 'no brainer' as they say. Please don't sell off this land and please DO keep the property, let it remain as undeveloped as possible until the budgets are under control and the state has breathing room to do improvements. Missouri tourism will benefit from retaining this property.

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Zip Code: 63011

Please do not sell this park. HOLD on to and develop this property for future generations. Park land is one of the few assets that all Missourians can access and enjoy.

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Zip Code: 63026

Please keep the parks open. Kids don't get out enough as it is and these parks are the one place my kids will put down devices for and instead explore the outdoors. It's something we can experience together. It gives us the chance to talk and walk together, which is also rare.

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Zip Code: 63119

I am glad that Missouri State Parks has purchased this unique property. Although I personally appreciate the love Governor Nixon had for our state parks and his efforts to add significant natural areas during his term that culminated in the Centennial Year for the Missouri State Park System, I believe that this property would be more appropriately added to the adjacent Taum Sauk State Park. It could be called the Jay Nixon Tract of Taum Sauk State Park, or the Jay Nixon Section of the Ozark Trail, or Jay Nixon Lake. There should be no rush to develop this property as a new park; historically MSP has developed many parks in stages allowing for assessment and planning. The public should be allowed access as soon as possible for those activities that can be supported by the natural environment while planning and assessment continues. I became aware during the public meeting held at Johnson Shut-Ins State Park on December 7, 2017, that local residents are concerned about a feud over the land and access resulted in a murder, and that some type of memorial to that loss of life might be needed. The concern of many locals about the ASARCO funds used to purchase the property could be addressed by incorporating a lesson in the geology of the area and the history of lead mining as well as restoration efforts. Another educational / local interest opportunity might be how settlement funds are handled and what actual remediation / cleanup efforts are taking place or are scheduled for the affected areas of nearby Ironton, Doe Run, Black River, etc. It gives me comfort to know that plants, wildlife and igneous glades unique to this property will be protected by Missouri State Parks in a natural area. Protecting the Black River watershed that provides water to rural and urban residents downstream is important for us and our children. I think minimal development would be needed. Primitive camping might be allowed and would be an attraction for backpackers and hikers along the Ozark Trail. Adding an access trail from the Ozark Trail to the lake at some point would protect the ecosystem by keeping people on a trail rather than randomly through the woods to the lake (if that is a possibility). I was confused that documents online advertising the availability of this property for sale stated that there was access from Highway N and showed some sort of Proffitt Mountain road to the dam that are not described in the MSP park documents. The condition of the dam is also not described in the MSP documents, presumably it is in good condition requiring minimal maintenance in the initial years. I realize that there must be a priority for deferred maintenance spending at the existing state parks and that staff are already over-extended; however, this park property is worth keeping for Missouri citizens and to provide public access to an important natural area in this accessible portion of the state. Staff are already

present at Taum Sauk and Johnson Shut-Ins State Parks that could cover the limited activities in this property.

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Zip Code: 63011

My husband is from this part of Mo. and we have spent hundreds of hours hiking in parks in this area. It is a beautiful part of our state and the park should be preserved. Do not sell Missourian's land to private interests.

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Zip Code: 63146

This would be another property to preserve for future generations. With the other properties it is adjacent to it would become such a nice place for Hiking and other activities. With it being so close to Arcadia it would help the area with more access to the beautiful woods to experience. With the Ozark Trail so close on this property and adjacent properties it would help make it possible to make Hiking loop Trails.

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Zip Code:

I am one of the many that voted overwhelmingly continue to keep our state's parks running with our tax dollars. I was thrilled when Eleven Point State Park, Ozark Mountain State Park, Bryant Creek State Park and Jay Nixon State Park were created & how the new parks could benefit the local economies. Our state is blessed with these scenic areas, Missourians support our state parks, Governor Greitens listen to your constituents & reopen and develop these newest parks.

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Zip Code: 63129

Our parks are a great resource and should not be for sale - they are for everybody to enjoy. We need clean air and water and protected spaces to enjoy them. Quit trying to sell off our public lands to essentially pay for tax cuts and bribe donors - it's disgusting. We should be paying more to invest in Missouri's future, not less. I will proudly support our beautiful, natural spaces and will work to ensure those who don't respect them are voted out.

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Zip Code: 63301

"In the end, our society will be defined not only by what we created, but by what we refuse to destroy" John Sawhill, President of the Nature Conservancy The State of Missouri Department of Natural Resources in my option has been given the responsibility and our taxes to protect Missouri's natural resources for current and future citizens of our state as well as visitors to appreciate and enjoy, as well as maintaining habitat for fauna and flora. I fully support the purchase and forthcoming stewardship of Jay Nixon State Park.

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Zip Code: 65681

I am totally supportive of retaining the Jay Nixon State Park as a low-impact development property. I'm OK with changing the name, if necessary.

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Zip Code: 64118

I think it should be kept and saved. Just take our time and save the land. Conservation is a big deal in Missouri and with its location in the Arcadian valley tourism will be up because of the other 4 parks in the immediate area. Also it has a lake so that would be income for the park. Just work one park at a time and do what is possible with finances till it is complete then move on to creating the next new park.

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Zip Code: 63124

State parks are very important to Missouri residents, and continuing to add facilities to the park system is very important. Any threat to liquidate a park is a major cause for concern because of how such action diminishes the opportunities Missourians have to spend time in the natural world. Our State parks are natural resources that belong to all Missourians and should be held "in trust" for them, not treated as property that can be disposed of on a whim. Wilderness areas can't be easily replaced when they are lost and the land sold off. The beauty of Missouri's wilderness resides in our State park system. I am totally against removing this park from the State Park System or selling off its land. I want this area to be maintained as a park for now and the future.

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Zip Code:

Eric Geitens is a monster that can not be allowed to shutter and sell our precious parks. People need access to connect with wild lands now more than ever. Think of the future, not the profits.

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Zip Code: 65466

I would propose consideration of forming support groups within the three park areas to assist with fundraising, formation of volunteer groups, liaison work between Missouri citizenry, the public and Jefferson City elected officials.

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Zip Code: 65109

This property should be retained for its magnificent scenery and largely undisturbed natural landscapes. The property should be united with Taum Sauk Mountain State Park.

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Zip Code: 63017

Please keep Jay Nixon State Park in the state park system. It's been said that we can't afford to maintain the new parks. Why develop this park. Just set it aside in its natural state, or perhaps let a volunteer organization plan and maintain the park. Once pristine land is developed, it's ruined forever. Remember that Missourians in every single county voted nearly 80% in favor of continuing the Parks, Soils, Water Sales Tax. Adding state parks to the system is a bipartisan tradition in our state that should continue for today and future generations.

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develop this property. Do not call this property Jay Nixon State Park.

Zip Code: 63028

Keep this open as additional land for Taum Sauk.

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Zip Code: 65203

Please keep this park. I have tried to write a comment, but for some reason your comment form simply won't allow to. But please keep this park. Name it what you will. Postpone development if need be, but keep the park.

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Zip Code: 63131

I would like to see these lands that were purchased or given to Missouri residents remain in our park system. This is a unique area and would be an addition for the people of Missouri to enjoy for generations to come. These beautiful areas of Missouri cannot be recreated by man and once they are developed or stripped of natural vegetation, forest, etc the land is forever changed.

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Zip Code:

Keep the park and the name, don't make it political. It doesn't matter what political party, religion, color, education, or wealthy, the honoree is, as long as the honoree has done for the state of Missouri. This park is beautiful and should be kept as such and not as be ruin by commercialism.

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Zip Code: 63123

As on other new state parks, it is ours to enjoy! /do not sell, but build for all Missouri citizens and visitors to enjoy!

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Zip Code: 63130

Below is the text of a comment letter submitted by the Interdisciplinary Environmental Clinic on behalf of Sierra Club. Because the format provided for submitting comments does not allow for inclusion of the letter's numerous footnotes, and loses the letter's formatting, we are emailing a complete copy of the letter to Director Ben Ellis at ben.ellis@dnr.mo.gov. January 6, 2018 Missouri Department of Natural Resources Ben Ellis, Director, Division of State Parks Submitted via Missouri State Parks website:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FGB6WZB> and via email to ben.ellis@dnr.mo.gov Re: Comments on the Future of Jay Nixon State Park Dear Director Ellis: On behalf of Sierra Club, we submit these comments on the future of Jay Nixon State Park in Iron and Reynolds Counties, Missouri. Founded in 1892, Sierra Club has been an advocate for public lands and has worked to

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Zip Code: 64110

Oh my gosh - a new segment to explore on one of my favorite places to backpack in Missouri from Taum Sak to Johnson's Shut-ins. Last time I was there, we really had to search for a place to camp that had water and a large enough space for a group. This would be perfect because it has that beautiful lake not to mention you have just come off of the Ozark Trail with all the great geology along the trail including the falls and Devil's Tollgate. This could become an incredible hike where you see all of these great natural features in one weekend. Our kids need a place that is real and exciting like this so they get off their dang phones and appreciate the wonders of their own state of Missouri. Please develop ASAP as I am getting older and want to see this!!!

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Zip Code:

This area should not be a separate State Park, but should be added on to Taum Sauk SP, as was originally intended, and should be managed as a backcountry wild area. That land was was originally proposed as an addition to Taum Sauk SP. Even after it was purchased, there was no public notice of making it its own State Park, until the last week of Jay Nixon's governorship. Changing the name was a desperate narcissistic attempt to memorialize his name. That name should be removed and it should be managed as an addition to Taum Sauk. It should be managed as a wild area with no roads or permanent amenities, and only basic hiking trails. There is no road access so it is not feasible to do anything else. The original budget awarded to this purchase included over \$150,000 for stewardship and natural resource management. According to your fact sheet, that should last between 6 to 25 years. It is dishonest to say that MSP does not have the money to manage that property. Also, the ASARCO money used to purchase that property came from mining facilities in Iron and Reynolds Counties, less than 20 miles away. That is about as close as you can get to the polluted area, so this purchase is totally within the scope of the intended use of ASARCO money. Do not sell this property. Do not

protect and increase access to them for well over a century. In furtherance of its mission to promote recreation, education, and conservation, Sierra Club organizes thousands of trips, outings, and hikes every year, including hundreds across the state of Missouri, to engage people in the outdoors and promote appreciation and protection of the natural environment. As such, the future of Jay Nixon State Park is of critical interest to Sierra Club and its approximately 10,300 members in Missouri. Sierra Club recommends the following with regard to Jay Nixon State Park:

- Preserve the 1,278 acres in perpetuity for use and public access as a state park, whether as an independent park or as part of adjacent Taum Sauk Mountain State Park, the purpose for which Superfund settlement funds were provided to the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to acquire the park. Do not sell the park.
- Re-open the park for public use and access, but leave it undeveloped with the exception of trails, parking, and vault toilets to preserve its natural character while minimizing development and operation and maintenance costs.

Manage the park pursuant to the goals and objectives described in DNR's Hennessey Tract Acquisition Proposal, which provided the basis for the use of Superfund monies to acquire the park property.

#### I. DNR Should Not Try To Sell The Park.

Missouri's state parks are immensely popular, and Missourians willingly show their support for them with both their feet and their wallets. The number of people visiting the parks each year has increased by more than 5 million over the past decade and topped 21 million in 2016, an all-time high. Missourians voted overwhelmingly in 2016 to reauthorize the one-tenth-of-one percent parks, soils, and water sales tax, which provides the bulk of the park system's operating funds; 80 percent of voters statewide supported reauthorizing the tax, it passed in every single county, and 70 percent and 56 percent of voters in Iron and Reynolds Counties, respectively, voted to reauthorize the tax. Missourians also benefit economically from state parks. According to the State Parks Division: The Missouri state park system ... has a positive economic impact on the state and local communities. ... Results of an economic impact study released in 2012 estimate that total annual expenditures of state park visitors in 2011 were approximately \$778 million. The overall economic impact of these expenditures is estimated at \$1.02 billion in sales, \$307 million in payroll and related income, and \$123 million in federal, state and local taxes. Also, visitors' expenditures support 14,535 jobs. For every dollar spent by Missouri State Parks to operate the state park system, Missouri's economy saw a \$26 return on investment. These impacts show that Missouri state parks enhance our state's economy as well as improve visitor's health and well-being. Adjusting for the increase in attendance since 2011, park visitors would

have spent approximately \$946 million in 2016 (the latest year for which attendance information is currently available), resulting in a total economic benefits of more than \$1.7 billion. Given the popularity of Missouri's state parks and their economic and other benefits, it would be contrary to the interests of Missouri residents, including Iron County and Reynolds County residents who showed their strong support for the parks by voting to reauthorize the parks, soils, and water sales tax in 2016, for DNR to try to sell Jay Nixon State Park. As set forth below, such a move would be both unwise and unlawful.

#### II. Jay Nixon State Park Provides Extraordinary Conservation Opportunities.

DNR acquired the property that became Jay Nixon State Park (i.e., the Hennessey tract) with the goal of incorporating it into adjacent Taum Sauk Mountain State Park. The property includes significant natural resources and provides landscape-scale conservation due to its proximity to Taum Sauk Mountain State Park, the Ketcherside Mountain Conservation Area maintained by the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC), and the St. Francois Mountains Natural Area maintained by MDC. The Hennessey tract represents a unique natural conservation and restoration opportunity from the perspective of both its high quality dry igneous woodland-glade habitat, which represent the unique ecoregion of the St. Francois Mountains Knobs and Basins, and its ability to provide connectivity on an ecosystem level with existing areas of natural resource conservation. . . . All [the Hennessey tract and nearby park and conservation areas] are included within an Audubon Important Bird area because of the extensive habitat for conservation priority birds requiring large areas of forest and glades. . . . Of significance is the extent of high quality existing natural communities on the Hennessey tract, the potential for discovery of Mead's milkweed populations, and the opportunity for inclusion in the larger St. Francois Mountains Natural Area. The St. Francois Mountains Knobs and Basins Land Type Associations are identified by the Audubon Society as a globally significant region for the conservation of woodland and grassland-shrub land bird species including significant migratory songbird populations. The Nature Conservancy identified the area as a Conservation Portfolio Area in the Ozarks Eco-regional Conservation Assessment . . . The acquisition of Jay Nixon State Park therefore provided enormous ecological benefits to both the State Parks system and the conservation mission of the Missouri Department of Conservation.

#### III. The Park Was Purchased With Funds Dedicated to Natural Resource Preservation, Which Cannot Be Used For Other Purposes.

DNR acquired Jay Nixon State Park (as well as Eleven Point State Park) entirely with funds obtained under the federal Superfund law. ASARCO LLC and other companies caused significant

contamination resulting from lead mining and related activities in Southeast Missouri. The federal government and the State of Missouri sought clean-up costs and compensation for natural resources damages under Superfund, which makes parties responsible for contamination liable to clean it up (or pay for others to do so) and also to reimburse federal, state, and tribal trustees of public resources for natural resource damages. The litigation settled, and ASARCO agreed to pay the U.S. and Missouri \$37,500,000 for clean-up costs at several sites as well as \$34,767,000 for compensation for natural resources damages. In addition, DNR received \$1,250,000 for past natural resource damage assessment costs and future oversight and/or maintenance response costs. The natural resources damages portion of the settlement was paid jointly to the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) as the federal natural resources trustee and DNR as the state trustee, and deposited in DOI's Natural Resources Damage Assessment and Restoration Fund, with specific Restoration Accounts for each of the contaminated sites. Both the Superfund law and Missouri state law expressly limit the use of natural resource damage recoveries "only to restore, replace or acquire the equivalent of such natural resources by the state." Accordingly, the Settlement Agreement states: The trustees shall use the funds in the Restoration Accounts ... for restoration activities at or in connection with each Site as directed by the Missouri Trustee Council [DOI and DNR]. In accordance with Superfund practice and regulations, the federal and state trustees prepared the Southeast Missouri Ozarks Regional Restoration Plan to evaluate options for redressing the natural resources damages covered by the ASARCO settlement. As the state trustee, DNR subsequently prepared a specific project proposal explaining why the acquisition of the Hennessey tract property that became Jay Nixon State Park would fulfill the goals of the restoration plan.

[T]he Department submits the following proposal related to the purchase of natural resources which are substantially similar to those injured by the mining activities of ASARCO. The Departments' [sic] intent, outlined within, is to acquire compensatory restoration property to compensate the public for lost resources due to the release of hazardous materials by ASARCO from the Sweetwater mine and mill complex and Glover smelter site. . . . This project lies within the restoration boundaries of the Southeast Missouri Restoration Plan. The Hennessey tract is located 7 miles from the Glover Smelter and approximately 29 miles from the Sweetwater Mine and Mill Complex natural resource injury sites. Its proximity provides a conservation and restoration opportunity with a direct nexus to the ASARCO injuries from which the current proposed restoration project funds are derived. The close proximity of the Hennessey

Tract to the site of injury provides direct compensation to the public for those lost resources. The Missouri Trustee Council issued a Resolution approving the project proposal: The cooperating natural resource trustees (trustees) for the Southeast Missouri Lead Mining District Viburnum Trend Sub-District (including the State of Missouri and the U.S. Department of the Interior) have consulted and determined that acquisition and subsequent restoration of property containing high quality, terrestrial natural resources in Reynolds and Iron Counties should be funded from funds recovered through the ASARCO, LLC bankruptcy settlement. The trustees agreed ... that the purchase and donation of the "Hennessey Tract" to Missouri State Parks will compensate the public for lost terrestrial natural resources and associated services resulting from the release of hazardous substances from the Sweetwater Mine and Mill and Glover Smelter facilities at one time owned and operated by ASARCO. . . . Missouri State Parks will acquire and permanently hold fee title of this parcel of land to compensate the public for the loss of natural resources and the services they provide resulting from the release of hazardous substances at the Glover and Sweetwater facilities. Funds withdrawn pursuant to this Resolution will fund the purchase of the land and initial restoration costs for Missouri State Parks including the design and implementation of a five year program of prescribed fire, glade restoration, and restoration monitoring. As stated in the Resolution, DNR was given \$1,659,375 to acquire and develop the Hennessey tract (Jay Nixon State Park). The project proposal explains that \$1,507,300 fully covered the land acquisition costs, and in addition \$152,075 was provided for restoration and management of the Park for a five-year period (including a 10-year monitoring and diversity inventory effort). Although DNR has not invited comment at this time on Eleven Point State Park, it bears noting that DNR acquired that Park pursuant to the same ASARCO natural resources damages settlement. Settlement funds fully covered Eleven Point State Park's land acquisition costs as well as restoration and management costs for a three-year period. Because State Parks acquired Jay Nixon State Park entirely with settlement funds that may only be used – under both federal and state law – to "restore, replace or acquire the equivalent of such natural resources" damaged by ASARCO related activities, those funds could not have been used for other, pre-existing parks. Moreover, apart from DNR's lack of legal authority to sell the Park (see below), any attempt to sell Jay Nixon State Park would require that the proceeds be returned to the U.S. Department of the Interior's Natural Resources Damage Assessment and Restoration Fund for the sole purpose of preserving and restoring natural resources damaged by ASARCO activities. The funds could not be used for State Parks

operations at pre-existing parks and could not be directed to other state programs. In addition, if the sale proceeds did not equal or exceed the acquisition cost, DNR would also be in violation of CERCLA and state law by wasting natural resource damage funds. IV.

DNR Does Not Have Legal Authority To Sell The Park. While DNR has both constitutional and statutory authority to acquire and maintain state parks, it lacks authority to sell state parks. DNR is only authorized to dispose of park property if it consists of five acres or less, is being sold for the specific purpose of resolving a park boundary conflict with adjacent property owners, and DNR receives land in exchange that is of equal or greater value. In light of the state's constitutionally-grounded commitment to expand, develop, and maintain the state park system, and DNR's narrowly-circumscribed authority to trade – but not sell – park property, any effort by DNR to sell Jay Nixon State Park or portions thereof would be unlawful. Sierra Club urges DNR to dispel the cloud that it has cast upon the future of Jay Nixon State Park and the three other closed parks, and to re-open the park for public access. Respectfully submitted,  
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On behalf of Sierra Club

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afford access to Missourians for recreation. Not to mention the ecological aspects of preserving these acres in their natural state. There is not question in my mind that doing these things is a very good way for our revenue to be spent. I am a Missourian who is very proud of my state parks. We have so much beauty in this state, please safeguard our natural beauty and keep all of these properties in our state park system. Make plans to take care of them and keep them safe for the future. Missouri should invest more money in these parks for future generations.

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Zip Code: 63357

I think these parts should be reopened as soon as possible with limited facilities. As money comes available and as traffic patterns develop over time, the public can give input as to what sort of improvements can be explored over a five-year than 10 year and even 20 year time span. I am absolutely opposed to any idea or notion that would include selling this land or harvesting the natural resources that are on them today.

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Zip Code:  
Keep our parks

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Zip Code: 63104

This is a once in a lifetime chance to save and preserve a rugged, remote area of Missouri. The upkeep on this park would be minimal and in preserving it Missourians will get maximum benefit for their dollars. Not to mention increases in the local economy due to increased tourism. Do the right thing for all Missourians and keep this and the other parks under review in the system. Thanks.

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Zip Code: 63132

Please preserve this park for future generations. We only have our state parks because previous Missouri generations had the foresight to preserve and protect our natural resources. State parks have a lasting positive effect on the local economy--this has been shown many times over. It also helps promote our state nationally and will potentially bring in tourist dollars from elsewhere because it includes part of the Ozark Trail, which appears in trail guides and other publications worldwide--it is already known to hikers from other states I have met personally..

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Zip Code: 63043

Having a park with a lake would be nice in this area.

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Zip Code: 63301

I believe before any further development is done on this park it should be given a more appropriate name. There are many one could propose, but I would suggest a name that is reflective of the park's geographical location might be more appropriate. I find it offensive that the park is named for a politician. There are many Missourians who have done much for the state, its people, and Missouri parks. Most were volunteering their efforts and not receiving a salary from the state like Mr. Nixon.

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Zip Code:

Reduce the acreage which restricts hunting and trapping to allow better mgmt of wildlife within the carrying capacities. Please do not build any more monsters like echo bluff this is destructive to the environment and is an unnecessary burden to all tax payer \$ ..... 11 point property should be turned over to mdc. and allow mgmt. by them including timber mgmt.and multi use recreation including hunting..... Thanks, [REDACTED]

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Zip Code: 63366

I have read about the state parks under consideration and the revenue needed to keep them, improve them, and

Zip Code: 65084

Please add this beautiful area to the adjacent park! We are returning to missouri for the love of the country. It can only help Missouri's revenue if we have Parks with natural attractions. It is an investment that will return its cost.

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Zip Code: 63143

Please protect this state park and make it become a reality. Protecting the natural heritage of our state is important for so many reasons. Protected land provides clean air, filters water, removes carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and provides valuable habitat for wildlife. The granite geology of this area along with the lake make this a unique park that will inevitably attract many visitors. Visiting or viewing a forest scene has been documented to have a positive effect on psychological healing and well-being in terms of recovering from stress, improving concentration and productivity, improving the psychological state, particularly for people from urban environments. As more of our land becomes developed, we must balance this by protecting whatever wild land we can. Land that can be managed for sustainable harvest of such things as lumber, fishing and possibly hunting is critically important to future generations. Local communities will benefit from the tourism dollars generated by peoples using these parks. Please protect this park!

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Zip Code: 63935

We need to save our state parks and keep them all open to the public for family enjoyment.

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Zip Code: 63141

I have hiked and floated throughout Missouri and am very familiar with this exceptional area adjacent to the Taum Sauk Mountain State Park and it's shared border with Ketcherside Conservation Area. The purchase of land for this park was the perfect opportunity to protect these watersheds and mountains for the future and to offer Missourians additional outdoor opportunities. Please maintain the park at minimum as a wilderness area with limited facilities until a long term management plan can be developed.

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Zip Code:

This looks to be a fantastic place to take my grandkids hiking. Please keep this park for our generations ahead to enjoy. Thank You

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Zip Code: 63069-3155

This park should be reincorporated into Taum Sauk State Park and some new trails added within this portion of the park.

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Zip Code: 65109

Jay Nixon State Park is located in possibly the most picturesque area of our state and Missouri State Parks

Zip Code: 63011

1. Costs to simply hold the property for further development at some future unspecified time are minimal. It is not necessary to know how our grandkids will want this developed in 25 or 50 years. But it would be difficult or impossible to reacquire it for public use then if disposed of now. 2. Transferring ownership to the Department of Conservation for use as a conservation area, perhaps as an expansion of Ketcherside Mountain CA, would preserve the property for public use, and for use in more ways than are allowable in a state park. Local citizens who may not like to see large amounts land locked up by the state may like to have hunting access to the area, e.g.

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Zip Code: 62220

How small and miserly to take away these parks from the public. It's so sad that politics influences this body of legislatures to this degree. Please leave the parks alone. These are incredibly beautiful areas. As someone who works in the great state of Missouri and explores the Ozark areas regularly, I have been impressed to see my tax dollars used to preserve and make accessible to all.

should retain and develop it as time and resources permit. It is simply the right thing to do.

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Zip Code: 63119

Please, did not sell our parks. They are precious resources for Missouri families.

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Zip Code: 65612  
NO SELLING OF ANY STATE PARK!!!

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Zip Code: 65247

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Zip Code: 64114  
Please keep all three of these properties as state park land. My preference would be for them to retain as much of the natural beauty as possible, with limited development/"improvements."

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Zip Code: 63122  
Jay Nixon was never intended to be a high maintenance park, just a backpacking destination. We don't have too many of those. This is a park that can operate with very little expense or supervision from the state. It should be reopened and used as originally planned. The people of Missouri value their state parks and want to see them cared for by the state.

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Zip Code: 63141  
I have hiked and floated throughout the Ozarks and am very familiar with this exceptional area bordering Bell Mountain. The purchase of land for this park was the perfect opportunity to protect these watersheds and mountains for the future and to offer Missourians additional outdoor opportunities. Please maintain the park at minimum as a wilderness area with limited facilities until a long term management plan can be developed. Thank you,

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Zip Code: 63031  
Great place for a park, Best hiking in the state is in that area. What an awesome addition this would make! Please keep it in our park system and open it asap - Thanks

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Zip Code:  
The state far overstepped its bounds in the purchase of these parks. The money was meant for other uses. After the way echo bluff land was bought in a highly suspect bidding process and then a ridiculous amount of money was spent while other state parks are in desperate need of maintenance I don't trust the process by which this

land is bought and managed. I am in favor of selling the land.

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Zip Code: 63123

The overwhelming voter support for the conservation tax shows that Missourians consider their parks and natural resources to have tremendous value. The availability of these lands in Missouri is limited. Only about 6% of Missouri land is publicly held, compared to 33% nationally. These lands were chosen because of their natural value and this is great opportunity to retain their natural state. If sold, the changes made to the land would be irreversible. The economic benefits to the state, if sold, would be short lived, where the benefits as a state park would last for generations; benefits such as the money spent locally by visitors and the state and full-time and part-time employment at the park and local businesses. Amenities such as parking, picnic and toilet facilities, and hiking trails can be constructed at a relatively low cost. More elaborate facilities could be added as funds become available.

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Zip Code: 63117  
I strongly support continued operation of this park. I hope the governor will accept the new rail trail offered as a gift to Missouri. Our park system is excellent. It's something we do well. I would support increased payment for upkeep & maintenance

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Zip Code: 64131  
Open the parks as finances allow. Do a better job of managing other parks and money will become available. Ask me how.

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Zip Code: 63132  
I understand the backlog of projects and funding for our parks. Utilizing this area as a wilderness area with no improvements would be a fantastic use of this park. Its a shame that politics have gotten involved in our parks. I was at Bell Mountain Wilderness a few monthes ago doing an overnight backpacking trip, and the lack of resources and established campsites is exactly what drew me to the area. I hope that this and the other parks can be kept in public hands. It would be a shame to lose something that would be almost impossible to replace. Thank you for listening.

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Zip Code:  
Sell. Use proceeds to reinvest in existing parks that are years and years behind on maintenance. Montauk, Sam A Baker, and Trail of Tears are years behind in maintenance and upkeep.

Zip Code: 65692

I don't see any issues with Jay Nixon State Park. It is not suitable for agriculture, and isn't very valuable for timber. The park could be maintained for very little expense. It shouldn't be sold. If there is concern about the name and politics, give it a non-partisan name based on the geography. What I would suggest is a minimal road for entry, opening it for special events and groups, and for easy patrols. Install at least one simple multi-use building with running water and toilets. A water tank and solar power/battery system could suffice for electricity. It could be a showpiece for off-the-grid sustainable living. Tax credits could be made available to solar power companies that want to provide the equipment for a low cost. Build a simple campground with some concrete or gravel pads, for special events and groups. Build a primitive campground for backpackers that use this as a backcountry getaway from the increasingly popular Taum Sauk Ozark Trail. Allow the Ozark Trail Association to build a hiking trail around the lake with their experienced volunteer labor. Put in a few concrete platforms or wooden docks for handicap fishing access. A really special place could be created with little expense.

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Zip Code:

The park would protect a portion of the Ozark trail, so it is important. I would suggest a different name, naming after politicians is a poor practice

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Zip Code: 63775

Do not sell the Jay Nixon State Park (although you could rename it). Our state parks are precious treasures. Perhaps establish and use a private fund for the maintenance, improvement and even expansion of our state parks. Plenty of people would be more than happy to give money to directly benefit our state parks. Allow contributions to be tax deductible and even hold fundraising events, such as dinners and auctions. It takes work, but can be extremely profitable. Also, consider ways to use our parks, outdoor wedding, corporate events? We should be looking to add state parks, not sell them.

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Zip Code: 63026

This looks like a beautiful potential park that I would like to visit. MO has one of the best state park systems in the country. The properties are well managed and maintained. I am sure these new properties will be properly maintained and developed as funding allows. We only have one chance to preserve wilderness areas, let's not lose that opportunity here.

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Zip Code: 63017

I STRONGLY recommend you not sell or close any land that has been acquired or donated for the purpose of preservation. This land may not seem like it is necessary to certain short sighted interests of our state. But while there may not be an obvious use to some, I'm sure there likely will be in the next 50 to 200 years. And THAT is the main reason the land has been placed in your charge for us - PRESERVATION!!! In fact, I think these parks should be opened immediately any way, to hikers and people who just want to see what we as citizens own. It does not need a playground, and paved parking, a wheelchair path, signs with arrows, wood bridges or even a designated path. But the citizens of this state should be able to - and have the right to - view what they own at any time, regardless of facilities. As well, these spaces make our state more attractive to visitors, and can add to the state's income. This is what Missouri is known for - beautiful waterways, lakes and forests to be enjoyed by all. There are only pluses to keeping this land and space. You are maintainers of property owned by the people of the state. Your job is NOT to divest itself of the very thing it is there to protect and manage. YOUR job is to preserve, protect, defend, and maintain that which has been placed in your care.

Zip Code:

I strongly support expansion of State Parks. My wife and I are frequent visitors to state parks. When we visit, we stop at nearby restaurants, gas stations, and other local businesses. Missouri is a better place to live and visit with more parks. The associated counties should be encouraging parks so that people will visit and spend money at local businesses.

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Zip Code:

Please keep and open the park

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Zip Code: 65401

I am in favor of the Missouri State Parks Association position on this park. Please return it to Taum Sauk State Park as an additional wilderness area accessible from the Ozark Trail for all Missourians to enjoy.

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Zip Code: 65203

I support the creation of this park. I think this area should be added to the state park system because the lake provides a unique opportunity for recreation opportunities for people in the eastern Ozarks.

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Zip Code:

It is important for our society to have these parks available. It is important to our environment . It must remain in the budget as a priority.

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Zip Code: 63118  
We need to keep this park.  
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Zip Code:  
Please open OUR parks and keep them open. We need more public parks not private land. We should preserve these parks for our children and grand children.  
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Zip Code: 63376  
Do Not sell OUR parks!  
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Zip Code: 63303  
His should not be up for debate. This land should be added to the Taum Sauk park system. The terrain seems prime either add the adjacent preserve or develop additional camp sites and trails.  
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Zip Code:  
DO NOT close our state parks! My family spends large chunks of our time out in Missouri nature. Save our state parks!  
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Zip Code: 63119  
I am an avid user of Missouri State Parks and know that they are a huge asset to not only Missouri residents but to the tourism industry of Missouri and bringing in revenue to areas normally without outside revenue. This park is pristine land, that if not preserved, will never again be available. It contains a beautiful lake, and protecting the watershed that feeds into the Black River is essential. Degradation of the Black River would create a huge negative impact on southern Missouri in terms of recreation and financial impact to their economies. This will also help maintain a cohesive block of land that contains the Ozark Trail and a true wildlife area. Minimum dollars will be required to make this accessible to hikers and fishermen, and Missourians have always supported parks through our taxes and voting specifically to parks and outdoor recreation. I feel strongly that it would not be prudent, and would be extremely short sited, not to keep this as a park and at least provide minimum access, trails, and rustic facilities. We can always upgrade later, but once this land is gone, it is gone forever. [REDACTED]  
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Zip Code: 63119  
Keep this and all parks open and run by MO Conservation Department. They do great things for the environment and education.  
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Zip Code: 63368  
I would like to see at least some development but at a minimum “bank” the land for the future. Never heard anyone say we have too many parks.  
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Zip Code: 63122  
Do not sell off Natural Resources. Land in itself is simply a resource. Missourians already own this land. Hold this ownership without development except for parking, simple trails, and the vault toilet. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
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Zip Code:  
Jay Nixon state park should remain as a valuable asset in Missouri's public land portfolio and as open to public recreational use as possible.  
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Zip Code:  
I support the opening of Jay Nixon State Park for the recreational activities and economic boost it would provide Missouri. However, I think the name should be changed to reflect the local character of the park or just annex it to the other park nearby.  
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Zip Code: 29403  
I no longer live in Missouri, but I have family there and many fond memories of visiting and camping in Missouri State Parks during my youth in Missouri. We still try to visit them when we are visiting my Mom. My dad was [REDACTED]. It's my opinion that Missouri has one of the very best state park systems in the country, and that absolutely everything possible should be done to preserve and maintain these parks and to provide access to residents even if the parks remain undeveloped. Parks are precious access points to nature, and can shape lives in ways that are immeasurably positive. That certainly happened for me. I have particularly fond memories of Johnson's Shut Ins  
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Zip Code: 63112  
Please do not close this park. It is a great park that my family visits.  
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Zip Code: 63109  
This has been a beautiful and beloved place for Missourians to visit. Please do not sell off. We need these places more than ever!! I have to live in the city. I need these parks to regain peace, and science has proven how important getting outdoors is to kids and adults alike!!  
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Zip Code: 65340

Please consider the positive impacts on local communities, counties, and the state. I strongly support moving forward with Jay Nixon State Park, albeit since it's actually right next to Taum Sauk, keep that name. It is just an addition anyway. The facts are that it will positively impact the local economy as well serve as a great place for Missourians to visit while protecting the last of some superb natural communities. Management of those areas needs to happen ASAP and only activities that are in keeping with maintaining the quality of habitats should be considered, i.e. don't use if for motorized recreation or anything else that may alter the integrity of the area.

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Zip Code: 64078

We are adamantly opposed to the closing of any of Missouri's state parks including Ozark Mountain, Bryant Creek, and Jay Nixon State Parks. The "current lack of funds for development" is not a legitimate reason for selling any of our parks since there is no need to rush into development of any of the more recently acquired parks. Development can take place over time as resources become available to do so. These recently acquired parks are sound and proven investments with the realization of a return to occur over time through the tourism industry and recreation. It is also a sound and highly important investment in the welfare of the citizens of our state as well as out of state visitors. A growing population surely doubly underscores the need to retain these park lands. It seems essential that our state provide increasing numbers of parks to ensure our citizenry has access to high quality areas to enjoy and learn from natural surroundings and to have opportunities to recreate in quality out-of-door parks. Retaining ownership of these four parks also ensures protection for some of Missouri's very special landscapes. Please make the decision for the well-being of our state and its citizens and refuse to act to sell these important parks.

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Zip Code: 63019

Keep this park and join it with the Shut Ins. Please change the name to reflect the area and its attributes Please expand and protect MO State parks

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Zip Code: 63118

Please do not close Jay Nixon State Park. Not only Missourians, but all Americans need this network of parks and protected lands.

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Zip Code: 63118

Listen to the citizens of the state and quit playing cheap politics. We want parks. We can afford parks.

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Zip Code: 64658

I hope u will open these parks and make them available to the people of our state to enjoy.

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Zip Code: 63130

This park is an important asset to Missourians and should not be sold! Historically, new parks have not been immediately developed. State Parks are economic assets to the local communities, counties, and the state. While state parks contribute greatly to Missouri's tourism economy, the increased opportunity for recreation in the local area is just as significant. Lands of the natural qualities found in these four new parks are rare. The Missouri Park System has prospered for 100 years without resorting to the sale of its lands. Sale or disposal of these lands should not be an option!

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Zip Code: 65063

These comments are being provided on behalf of the more than 3200 members of the Missouri Parks Association. All three park properties are being addressed in one statement. All three properties, Ozark Mt, Bryant Creek and Jay Nixon have the resources that warrant their inclusion in the state park system and will be of great benefit to the citizens of Missouri. In fact park planning documents such as Missing Masterpieces and the State Park Expansion Plan have long called for the addition of properties in the Bryant Creek and bald knob area of the Ozarks in order to fill gaps in the existing state park system. While Jay Nixon State Park is a valuable natural and recreation resource, its primary value is as an addition to the existing Taum Sauk Mt State Park, for which it was acquired, and not as a stand-alone state park. MPA believes that all these properties possess the qualities to be included in the state park system and understand that professional state park staff have assessed these properties and believe they add value to the state park system. Therefore, the lingering concern that these properties might be sold or otherwise divested needs to be resolved and a clear statement made by DNR that such sales are not being considered. The sale of any existing state park is not in the public interest and would not set a good precedent should future politicians decide they want for some reason to start selling off the public estate. MPA realizes that the new state parks cannot be developed immediately because the funds to do so do not exist. DSP must focus on the current maintenance backlog and infrastructure needs. Restoration of each of these properties, however, should begin immediately with available stewardship funds. We believe DSP should follow the established Conceptual Development Plan

(CDP)process, which includes public input, for Ozark Mt and Bryant Creek; and it should incorporate Jay Nixon into Taum Sauk Mt State Park and update the CDP. Once the CDP and the full General Management Plans have been completed, some limited access to the properties should be considered via trails or special events. The closure of new state park properties until CDPs have been completed is appropriate and assures protection of the resource as well as public safety. Since these properties were in private ownership prior to being added to the state park system there will be no loss of public use opportunities.

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Zip Code:

This park provides an extension of public open space already within the area. Keep the park in the state park system.

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Zip Code: 63123

This seems to be more about politics than anything else. It would be very short-sighted to get rid of land already purchased, particularly an area so close to other existing state parks. Some might say that itself is a reason to sell it, that there are plenty of other parks nearby but it's actually the opposite. That's one of the features that makes it even more desirable, the opportunity to visit multiple parks in the same area. It has a large lake which makes it different from the other parks nearby. It's doable as a day trip from St. Louis which is another plus. Missouri's parks, conservation and natural areas are the jewels of the state. They bring revenue to the communities around them and are important to maintain for future generations. I believe people would be willing to support them financially in the form of higher taxes, if asked to do so.

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Zip Code: 63141

Please keep this park even if you have to wait until the state can afford to pay for development. My husband and I have stayed at a cabin at Johnson Shutins, and camped at Taum Sauk and at St Francois park. If I remember I think this Nixon park is along the Ozark trail, something my brother in law has helped maintain in the past and something my family wants to hike. We enjoy spending money for vacations to beautiful parts of Missouri such as this. Many people from out of state have asked us about visiting the Ozark trail and Johnson shutins. This is an amazing area geologically one of the oldest in the nation. Lava columns, ancient rock formations, fascinating plants and wildlife. Please preserve our state's natural beauty and geology.

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Zip Code:

I notice that each of the cost estimates provided is exactly the same. Is this accurate or a lack of due diligence? The parks are so different in every way that I cannot imagine these cost estimates to be exactly the same. A bit of a shame that. The park under question here, may need another option. I'm concerned about how much of the area's property is not taxable. There are several complex factors here. I'd love to keep the part, but not at the community losing valued property that can be part of the development and tax base.

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Zip Code:

As a life long resident of Missouri, who also grew up in the heart of the city of St. Louis on Jefferson Ave. and

Zip Code:

This is [REDACTED] in the Governor's Office. I am transcribing this information for constituent, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] who is a senior citizen and unable to record information electronically. This is as close to verbatim as I am able. BEGIN [REDACTED]: "I believe that Missouri Parks are best left alone. They don't belong in the hands of private citizens. The older I get the more I become an environmentalist. I don't think offshore drilling is good for our country. I don't think privatizing parks is good for our country either." ####

Zip Code: 63104

I want this park to remain a protected park.

Zip Code:

Shut it down if it's name after the former do nothing, Let me Burn and Riot Nixon, I have too play into the libs hands.

Zip Code: 63131

I am a regular user of Missouri State Parks, both with our Boy Scout Troop and on my own. I am particularly interested in the future of JNSP. We regularly use Johnson Shut-Ins SP and Taum Sauk Mountain SP, and sections of the Taum Sauk Trail. I see numerous possibilities for JNSP in conjunction with JSI SP, Taum Sauk SP, the OT, and the Ketcherside Mountain Conversation Area. The unique location of JNSP in relation to these wonderful State resources make it imperative that we hold on to JNSP, with an eye towards minimally developing this area to complement the other State Parks in the immediate vicinity. I certainly believe that development of hiking, biking and equestrian trails in the JNSP can be developed with minimal cost and will provide a beautiful recreation expansion near the largest population center in the State. Thank you.

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involved in the Boy Scouts, I believe that even the idea, that I must write a comment on some mediocre web forum to convince a room full of bureaucrats of the importance of state parks is unbelievably preposterous. This land is owned by the public, yes that is correct, the money taken from the checks of every hard working Missouri resident who in turn generates the income to pay for the upkeep of these parks, is now being put on a chopping block where my minute owner ship and the opportunity to immerse myself, and my children in nature and peace is stolen. What is also stolen in this proposed sale of state land is the opportunity of every future child of generations to find the peace, wisdom and calm contemplation that can only be found in nature, away from the violence of cities where children grow up accustomed to eating their dinner while the news broadcasts another murder. Our land is disappearing, not only in Missouri but nation wide, parts of our city are radioactive, there are soils so contaminated that it has given the residents cancer for decades, every year more raw land is bought and divided to make gated suburban neighborhoods further displacing wildlife that is already pushed to the limit, in turn further segregating the haves from the have-nots.

For what I ask? What possibly could replace this public land that would deem more valuable? Would it be better to raise the hills of the Ozarks, the oldest mountain range in the world mind you, and drop a Mc Donalds on the top, a Walmart? Could we instead put a factory to generate jobs for the area, that just may well employ a small part of the locals for 20 years or so before that too is torn down and the land now is toxic from chemical pollutants. Should it be sold to the public for sprawling hill top homes and in-ground pools that will then drain their yearly chlorinated water into the nearby stream where the last song of the spring peeper is heard, or where the owl catches his dinner as it has a late night drink? Well that really seems down right idiotic. Whoever is to buy this land is not only stealing it from the public, they are stealing our heritage as Americans. These shrinking plots of land called state parks are the last refuge for the idealist frontiersman and woman to leave the rat race of the modern world and enter a paradise of raw, untouched beauty. A formation of rocks where a child can find their first fossil, a stream where you can stir up a leopard frog until it disappears in a splash, as the ripples of water bring recognition of the importance of beauty, peace and harmony in our own lives, is far more valuable than any home, commercial building or factory will ever be.

This land is your land, this land is my land. Do not steal it from us and the generations after us. Thank You

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wonder, it should be preserved for all to appreciate and enjoy whenever possible. God isn't making more of it.

Zip Code: 63640

Jay Nixon State Park is a wonderful piece of mountain land that should be maintained for public access. The park should be merged with Taum Sauk Mountain State Park to provide a large swath of rugged St. Francois Mountains wilderness. Existing hiking trails can be extended into the addition to create a large backcountry hiking area and preserve the rugged area.

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Zip Code: 63303

Public parks benefit our state. I would like to see the park opened to the public.

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Zip Code: 63034

Keep this amazing park. If it's about politics you can change the name of the park, but don't deprive Missourians of this treasure.

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Zip Code: 63017

As a retired science educator, I can speak to the importance of science and the natural world in developing critical thinkers and life-long learners. Kids (and families) need more places to explore and enjoy nature. More state parks and conservation programming will pay for themselves in enriching the lives of our future leaders.

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Zip Code: 63131

Do not sell the Jay Nixon State Park. Keep it wild and a place where Missourians can experience nature in its natural state. I am opposed to the sale of this park. It would be a disservice to the citizens of Missouri. I will not vote for anyone, in the future, that has this attitude and is involved in this sale.

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Zip Code: 63074

I support more parkland, even if it can't be immediately developed. We need to maintain open spaces for future generations.

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Zip Code: 65109

I have visited and birded the neighboring state parks and they are wonderful! It would be awesome to keep such a large area together as natural as possible. I'm sure the fishermen in the state would love to have access to that 50 acre lake. Maybe you could start small with developing lake access and do more as funds become available. I would hate to hear that this property has been sold. Missouri is so fortunate to have so many

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Zip Code:

I believe the name should change but the park should remain. Missouri offers so much natural beauty and

wild areas open to public access, that is a tradition that we definitely need to keep going!

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Zip Code: 63117

I hope that the name of Jay Nixon State Park does not cause it to be overly politicized. I fully support the development and opening of this park. Missouri State Parks provide an excellent return on investment in terms of human wellbeing and conservation of our natural heritage.

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Zip Code: 63021

It is so important that we set aside land for recreational use by the public. Please don't close or cut back land for any MO parks!

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Zip Code: 63146

I would love for you to develop this land so that we the public can use it for recreation. The more land not developed in our state, the better in my opinion.

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Zip Code: 63021

Even though the park contains only a small portion of the Ozark Trail, the continued protection of this section of the trail is important. Keeping this land in the public domain will provide not only hiking but plenty of other outdoor recreational activities. Please keep this park open and accessible to all.

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Zip Code: 63005

If you cant afford to bring the tract up to date, leave it primitive. Do NOT sell to a developer.

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Zip Code: 63026

Please keep this area as part of the Taum Sauk State Park. Put Governor Nixon's name on the visitor center instead of the park. MO State Parks Dept. has had this area on its wish list for a long time.

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Zip Code: 65807

To Whom it may concern, Missourians need more State and National parks. We especially need the Jay Nixon State Park. We have a beautiful state and we need more public parks for our citizens to take advantage of the beauty of our great state. Studies show there are many health benefits to getting outdoors, from fighting our obesity epidemic to mental health benefits, and much more, state and national parks are an affordable way to help Missourians. Sincerely, [REDACTED]

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Zip Code: 63301

Please continue to hold this land in reserve for future park expansion - it is not necessary to develop park facilities or make improvements but please do not sell it. This is money in the bank for future expansion of the park system which will be needed if there is significant economic expansion or if our population grows for any reason. Selling it now will be seen as very short-sighted in the future.

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Zip Code: 63118

State parks are necessary to the makeup and integrity of the state they exist in. These are spaces that conserve necessary green spaces accessible to the public. These small decisions contribute against the brutal attack our current administration is making on the types of spaces. Part of what makes me proud to live in the Midwest and Missouri specifically are the beautiful spaces that exist in our state to let people freely breathe fresh air, hike, swim, and explore. To sell these off would be to doom these spaces for future generations.

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Zip Code: 63301

Don't close it

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Zip Code: 63129

Governor...open this park and quit playing "I'm running for President" with our parks. Your constituents have voted to tax themselves for parks and maintenance through the conservation tax. Work it into the budget. This is a great addition to our park system (50 acre lake). The estimate of 6K to 25K to maintain the park is a drop in the Missouri budget

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Zip Code: 63116

I am writing in support of keeping the three new state parks. I value Missouri's State Parks as a way to conserve nature, engage the community, be engines of local economies, and a way to pass on our heritage to the next generation. MO DNR has done an excellent job as the fiduciary of the parks the residents of Missouri. Each of these parks adds different benefits to the existing park system. I implore you to keep them, and continue to expand our public use spaces. [REDACTED]

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Zip Code: 63112

My family has long appreciated Missouri's state parks and the state's beautiful streams. We have camped and floated and hiked and taken our tourist dollars to those of the state where nature beckons. Economically speaking, outlying areas – those areas that have seen a loss of commercial and industrial concerns -- only benefit from the draw the state parks provide. Not only are jobs

created in the parks but services to tourists develop in the surrounding regions. In the case of Jay Nixon State park, this is not a new park but an addition to an existing park. Unfortunately, the name has permitted the Governor to treat it as a separate entity and to politicize its "creation." Had the additional acreage been understood as an addition to Taum Sauk, there would be more public outcry over the plan to sell off the land. That the three park areas in question have remained undeveloped should not be a factor in choosing to retain them as parkland. It's vital to have a period of planning before intelligent development takes place. In the meantime, maintaining their status as state parks insures the preservation of these beautiful natural areas. I believe that increasing the number of state parks should be the governor's priority, not reducing them. Please preserve the Ozark Mountain State Park, the Bryant Creek State Park and the Taum Sauk Mountain State Park addition.

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**Zip Code:**

Please continue to protect this state park! This area is home to the largest contiguous population of the federally threatened Mead's milkweed in the state of Missouri--I would not be surprised if populations are present in this area. This also contains high quality, intact plant communities that need to be protected. This is a very important part of our state's natural heritage that should be publicly protected and open for the enjoyment of MO residents!

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**Zip Code: 63017**

As a Missouri citizen, I am asking to please open this park and maintain it. It is important to the state's tourism industry and to us as Missouri citizens. Public parks are a precious state resource.

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**Zip Code:**

One of the biggest draws to Missouri to bring in money outside of the state is the potential to use the outdoors through ways such as camping, hunting, fishing, hiking. Denying access to this area is cutting the potential to draw in more funding and the potential to show someone what it's like to be able to have access to these areas that may not otherwise get the opportunity. Missouri has some of the best public land access across nearby states and should try to not only stay that way but keep improving the opportunities as well. The Ozark areas alone provide some amazing opportunities to be able to get out and see some of the best places in Missouri.

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**Zip Code: 63385**

Can the area be turned into a conversation area to protect the area till there is money in the future to make it a state park.

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**Zip Code: 65020**

**KEEP ALL MO PARKS**

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**Zip Code: 63139**

The re-consideration of the publicly-supported development of a State Park that is primarily primitive so close to the St. Louis region hopefully gives officials the strong message that the people of Missouri DO WANT this land to be used as a new State Park. My regret about this process is that the park was named for our former governor, which I believe has politicized the question of development of this park. I realize there are economic considerations for Missouri DNR when a new State Park is added to our already TERRIFIC system of parks. However, the data on Return on Investment for parks is incontrovertible. Being primarily a wilderness, vs. infrastructure-intensive site, "Jay Nixon State Park" will require minimal upkeep while giving St. Louisans, other Missourians and visitors of all ages and origins the opportunity to experience the NATURE of our state just a short drive from our major population center. Let's change the name of this site and PROCEED with development and operation of a new State Park adjacent to the Taum Sauk area. THANK YOU.

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**Zip Code:**

Do not sell. Beautiful land should remain in Missouri citizen ownership. Too many private ownership of land in the U.S. Land is something we cannot make or recover once it is gone. It should be maintained by our State.

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**Zip Code: 65203**

I think this area should be added to the state park system because the lake provides a unique opportunity for recreation opportunities for people in the eastern Ozarks.

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**Zip Code: 63130**

It would be great to have this added to the area around Taum Sauk. Love the lake and the valley. With minimal investment its another big draw for out of town folks to come explore the beauty of Missouri.

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**Zip Code:**

Missouri State Parks should strongly consider keeping open Jay Nixon State Park. Our state parks add an unquantifiable amount of benefits to the state and its residents. Keeping outdoor recreation areas open to the

public should be of the utmost importance, and I sincerely hope the parks department will consider the benefits of having Jay Nixon State Park open. In this day and age, more than ever, we should continue to protect natural areas within our state for young generations of Missourians.

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Zip Code: 63122

Please do not sell off our green spaces! We are so fortunate in Missouri to have so many beautiful green spaces to hike and recreate. It is one of the best reasons to live here and pay taxes. I believe this, and all our state parks are valuable gems, assets to our state and should not be sold for any reason. If funds are unavailable for development, then hold the property until they become available or allow cooperation with NGO to help with funding and upkeep.

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Zip Code: 63623

Jay Nixon State Park is an amazing opportunity to protect and preserve a unique and fragile landscape. This park, being adjacent to and surrounded by a huge amount of additional public lands and public recreation areas, is a key piece of the puzzle, of preserving a relatively unfragmented regional ecosystem. I am a nearby landowner, with property adjacent to Johnson Shut Ins SP and Bell Mtn Wilderness, and fully support this property staying in public hands, ideally with minimal development by DNR, to keep it in a natural state.

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Zip Code: 63125

My vote is for the State to hold onto this property. Once it is lost to private development, it will be gone for good.

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Zip Code: 63119

Once destroyed, natural wilderness is hard to recreate. So I support leaving the park the way it is unless there is some actual, unique opportunity presented otherwise. The opportunity to make a profit, to mine or log, to develop in other ways - there are other places in Missouri where companies can pursue the opportunities. There is no compelling reason to even spend resources developing the property as a park, any more than already is. Just leave it be, for future generations to decide the needs for it.

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Zip Code: 63044

We need to spend less on developing new parks. The parks we have now are not getting routine maintenance needed. The restrooms/showers were in terrible shape all last year at Montauk state park. Quit spending on new, if you can't take the existing parks

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Zip Code: 63011

I respectfully ask that the administration look past any politics associated with this issue and think long term. Missourians love to camp and be outside -- its part of our culture. Moreover, creating modern outdoor

Zip Code: 65560

Any parks closed should not be sold, at least for a period of no shorter than ten years, too reconsider alternative plans that may serve the public interest better.

Zip Code: 63107

public lands need to be kept for all and future generations

Zip Code: 63125

A great addition to the state parks system. Keep it wild. Limited development.

Zip Code:

Reopen this park. Public lands increase's Missouri's value as a whole by providing unique outdoor opportunities to experience nature.

Zip Code: 63368

I see no reason why these parks should remain closed. I would like to see them open and developed for the public's use Thanks

Zip Code:

DO NOT CLOSE ANY STATE PARKS.

Zip Code: 63031

I am in favor of keeping, developing and maintaining this state park and the other two in question.

Zip Code: 63383

The Govenor should keep this as well as the rest of the state parks in missouri open. They provide a great service to the people of the state, and were here long before this [REDACTED] Govenor showed up. I often travel down to the Shut Inns, have been for my entire life. It's a great place and should be kept open.

Zip Code:

Please open these parks to the public. The idiot legislators who have made this a political issue should be ashamed of themselves. Perhaps they didn't notice that the voters renewed the DNR sales tax with an overwhelming majority.

destinations (like Echo Bluff) is extremely popular with campers from not only Missouri, but throughout the US. This brings tax dollars and jobs to our economy. Finally, I like getting my kids off the couch and outside. We need to encourage our young people to get outside to fish, hunt, hike and camp. Families need parks. Keep these parks in the public domain -- the politics will subside but these special places will endure. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

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Zip Code: 63131

Please do not sell our state park lands. If the state leadership does not like the Jay Nixon name on the park, then change the name instead of selling the natural areas that are not replaceable. Let the citizens of Missouri enjoy these natural areas. Let the areas remain natural if funds are not available to maintain facilities. Let the people enjoy hikes in our wonderful state parks. If these lands are sold, this will be the most unpopular action even taken by the Missouri State Parks and the state's leadership. Everyone I have talked with, regardless of political affiliation, is opposed to the sale of park lands.

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Zip Code:

Reopen the parks!

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Zip Code: 63122

Please leave this land undeveloped and unused until the future. The sole reason this park exists was as a honorary gift to the former governor.

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Zip Code:

Close it and sell it! Get rid of the pork!

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Zip Code: 63130

I have been visiting Missouri State Parks my entire life. I go with friends from St. Louis. I take friends from out-of-town. Whether it is swimming at Johnson Shut-Ins, rock climbing at Elephant Rocks, or hiking and biking along the Katy Trail, or climbing the highest point in the state at Taum Sauk, I have been to every state park in eastern Missouri several times. All the parks are great and a testament to the natural beauty of our state and the foresight of Missourians to set aside land that should be preserved for tourism, recreation, and just to remain undeveloped. So some parks are more developed than others. That is just fine. This leads me to my first point, just because the state doesn't have the money to immediately develop state park land doesn't mean the land should be sold. Second, while this parcel of land might be named Jay Nixon State Park, it is in reality an expansion of Taum Sauk park and should be recognized as such. Expansion of state parks, funded extensively by federal natural resource damage money, is a good bargain for Missourians. The idea that the state might put this land up for sale for short sighted financial or partisan reasons is just wrong. If it isn't clear by now let me say one last time, I am opposed to the state selling the land that comprises Jay Nixon State Park. Keep it in the bank for future use and development. Sincerely,

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Zip Code: 65203

I am a citizen of Missouri and I highly value our Missouri State Parks. The Jay Nixon state park needs to be kept in the state's portfolio of parks. It does not need to be developed to contribute the fulfillment of the needs of humans to enjoy and explore our beautiful Missouri outdoors. It should be kept in the portfolio and opened with little to no development. It should be designated a wilderness area. The benefits of having this additional land next to an existing state park and conservation area are great for providing habitat for wildlife. They need room to roam and thrive. We need wildlife to maintain the balance of our ecosystem.

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Zip Code: 65203

Please retain Jay Nixon State Park within the Missouri state parks system. It is a relatively pristine area with abundant native vegetation and wildlife, outstanding scenic values and unusual geological features. In addition, it is valuable as part of a larger surrounding protected area. It is a Missouri treasure and should be kept for the public at large to enjoy and study.

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Zip Code: 63104

Please do not sell this or any state park / DNR land. The very thorough DNR analysis clearly justifies that this land has outstanding and unique qualities worthy of inclusion into the Missouri State Park system. For the sake of budget and for preservation of the outstanding natural qualities, I feel a minimal development plan would be fine. Hawn State Park is a good example of this approach. Also, in this particular situation, the Jay Nixon Park could easily just become an addition to the

adjacent Taum Sauk Mountain State Park and fit nicely with adjacent Department of Conservation lands. Trail development and access, if really necessary, could be worked out much later in the future while this would just remain back country preserved land. Many parks have inaccessible wilderness areas, which do not have direct access, yet are still technically parks open to the public. Under no circumstances should this or any DNR land be sold off to private interests or any non-conservation entity or user. Thank you for considering my comments.

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Please name it after one of the local peaks, or make it part of Taum Sauk or Johnson Shut ins.

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Zip Code: 65483

This park needs to continue to be open to the public as a State park. It needs to be developed as a State Park, not sold by the Governor. I would also propose that this park be renamed.

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Zip Code: 65101

Yes I want Missouri to keep this area as a state park so that people from all over the world may enjoy the beautiful surroundings. Natural areas are precious and need to be protected.

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Zip Code: 63146-3769

Regarding Jay Nixon State Park: My husband and I would use this park for hiking and bird watching. That's great that it's very close to the Tauk Sauk area, and part of the Ozark Trail where we've enjoyed hiking in the past. None of our state parks should be sold as the land is for Missouri residents and others to enjoy. We must ensure lands for wildlife exist, and our parks do just that. Our parks should not be for sale. Thank you,

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Zip Code: 63130

Missouri citizens need and want this park. It looks like a wonderful natural area that should be open for all of us to enjoy. It seems like the state should try to work with nature groups to develop hiking trails. The worst option is to sell this property. Voters overwhelmingly approved the park sales tax. We need to protect these natural areas for us and for our children and grandchildren. This particular park should revert to the Tatum Sauk Mountain State Park and connect it via the Ozark Trail. This would remove the political aspect of the name.

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Zip Code: 65109

Keep this park and develop it for primitive recreation and natural resource protection.

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Zip Code: 65203

I think this area should be added to the state park system because the lake provides a unique opportunity for recreation opportunities for people in the eastern Ozarks.

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Zip Code:

ALL state parks are resources for our citizens and visitors. We have some of the nicest state parks in the country. Keep the ones we have open and open the ones in question.

Zip Code: 63119

I believe it is important to keep all current State Parks. The State Parks provide a wonderful haven for Missourians and those visiting our area. We need more "special getaways". I also believe that State Parks provide economic growth for the cities and counties where the parks are located. KEEP OUR PARKS. It is too hard to get them back once they are gone.

Zip Code: 63116

Please reopen Jay Nixon State Park. Our state park system is a great treasure for Missourians--good for the critters and good for the visitors. Regarding wildlife and the environment, our state parks are vital for the education of residents and tourists.

Zip Code: 63130

Please keep Jay Nixon SP open! Missourians love their parks and need to have them available for a variety of uses. This park is in an extraordinary geological and ecological setting, which I have visited many times. It's closing would be a tremendous loss for naturalists, hikers, and others who would enjoy its many values.

Zip Code:

Do not sell off this state park land. Public demand for parks is high and evidenced by the number of people I have observed at Echo Bluffs State Park, Don Robinson State Park, Johnson Shut-ins State Park. Missouri residents have repeatedly demonstrated their value of public land by renewing the Park & Soil tax for the past 30 years. If we are willing to tax ourselves for public lands, we definitely don't want our public lands sold off. If there are insufficient funds to develop the park, hold the land until there are funds. Robertsville State Park is an example of a state park where the land was acquired and then later developed.

Zip Code: 63010

I would like to see a trail extended to the lake and possible have a back country campsite. I'm all for parks, but I'm not crazy about the name of this Park.

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**Zip Code:**

Hiking trails, scenic tour roads through park, look out towers or decks, informational signs or kiosks of the park and area.

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**Zip Code:**

Sell the property. It and all the "new" parks are an insult to Missouri and its citizens. It is a testament only to the hypocrisy of the Nixon administration. He continually withheld money from other state departments, as well as state parks, with the excuse of not having enough income to cover the entire budget yet he found money to not only buy new properties but to develop a worthless out of the way park that is not needed. Existing State parks are suffering from budget shortfalls as it is yet you want to add more expenses to an overextended budget, just to put Jay Nixon's name on a park. He was not that great of a governor. Scrap the plan sell the property and put the money to better use in existing parks.

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**Zip Code: 63640**

Deed the property to mdc to education the public on sustainable timber management, controlling invasive species, and planting milkweeds for monarch butterflies.

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**Zip Code: 63012**

The Missouri State Parks system is one of the best in the entire country. I feel very fortunate that our State and our citizens continue to provide financial support and provide these wonderful parks for all to enjoy free of charge. This is fantastic! The State Park Dept. should not sell off ANY existing parks, whether they have been fully developed yet or not. The Jay Nixon State Park does not need to be developed immediately but it should be preserved and further study should be conducted to determine the most efficient and potential uses for MO residents and out of state tourists.

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**Zip Code: 63303**

The Missouri Park System should retain the Jay Nixon State Park property. This area contains outstanding St. Francois Mountains scenery of igneous glades and heavy forest, along with a large lake. Since it borders the St. Francois Mountains Natural Area, which was designated for its unique Missouri habitat, any buffer to that Natural Area is warranted. It also contains a portion of the Ozark Trail, a wonderful asset for Missouri to advertise to outdoor enthusiasts. Natural places like these are a tourist draw adding to the economic and tax base of the local communities. My husband and I have spent many of our vacations IN MISSOURI enjoying our parks. The property should be retained, but Jay Nixon State Park

should not be its own entity. This property should be merged into the existing and adjacent Taum Sauk Mountain State Park. Besides, tying public, natural land to a political figure causes partisan angst, where this beautiful area should be enjoyed by all. Natural resource management and restoration should begin in 2018, with a long term plan determined with public input. Due to this area's rugged and remote location, much care should be given to any infrastructure that might go into this property. However, Missouri State Parks should plan any property restoration over time in stages as funding and staff become available. The Missouri Park System has never in its 100 years sold property, and any sale revenue would never benefit the residents of the whole state of Missouri as this property does. With the overwhelming renewal of the State Parks, Soils, and Water Sales Tax last fall, the people of Missouri approve of their parks. Please retain and begin maintaining this property as part of the existing Taum Sauk Mountain State Park. Thank you!

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**Zip Code: 63640**

Use the land for timber management.

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**Zip Code: 65101**

The forest and glades of Jay Nixon State Park, as well as the St. Francois Mountains scenery make this park worthy of development. We need more parks like this, not fewer.

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**Zip Code: 63654**

open the state parks, thanks

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**Zip Code: 63124**

That part of the Ozark Trail goes through this park is enough to warrant keeping it in the Missouri State Park system. As the Trail has been developing, the national and international tourism attention and potential that it has is a great boon for the area. Anything we can do to preserve it is important. The adjacency to other public lands is also important, as it creates a larger undeveloped area that is important to migratory birds and many other animal as well as plant species. Keeping pristine areas preserved is important for the state of Missouri. I hope you will keep this park in the system, and open to the degree that funds are available.

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**Zip Code: 65109**

This could be a wonderful park! Please do not sell it. It is in a unique area, none like it in the country. Please hold onto it until it can be developed and used!

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Zip Code:

Trying to close Jay Nixon State Park sounds like a political maneuver by a disgruntled Republican Governor! We need more state parks because it is difficult to get reservations on weekends when the average working people are free to go. Some of our state parks are well utilized by "out of staters". Can we charge them a few more dollars for usage to help alleviate maintenance cost. Other states do this.

Shut-Ins SP and Elephant Rocks SP that are nearby. The cost to develop and operate it are minimal, especially compared to what the property offers.

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Zip Code:

We just passed a sales tax!!! Why would you sell off parks?! As the gap between rich and poor widens with the idiot administrations in Missouri and the nation, we need free and low cost recreation options for all people! WE WILL VOTE OUT THOSE WHO ARE NOT SERVING US!

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Zip Code: 64068

Missouri has many fine state parks and is recognized nationally for its conservation efforts. More than 20 million people per year visit Missouri parks. One thing we need more of is land for back country experiences. The Ozark Trail is gaining more national attention as a true back country trail. The area around Taum Sauk in the St Francois Mountains is connected to the Ozark trail and the additional land would add to the back country experience. If the name of the park is too political, change the name.

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Zip Code: 63141

We need to preserve as much of Missouri as possible as so much of it is being commercialized into more shopping malls. Getting kids to the outdoors provides them a new venue to discover and helps them in turn, to care about the future of the planet  
<https://www.nature.org/newsfeatures/kids-in-nature/kids-in-nature-poll.xml> Please do not sell this important land to preserve so others may enjoy it as well. It will still bring in tourism revenue.

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Zip Code: 63021

I have been to all of the state parks and state historic sites during the past two years. They are treasures! We Missourians should be proud of the whole park system. The people have spoken loudly in approving the Park, Soils, and Water sales tax amendment in 2016. When 79.88% of the public agrees that parks are important enough to support financially, that is a strong sentiment. The properties in question (Ozark Mountain, Bryant Creek, and Jay Nixon State Parks) should not be sold. It is appropriate to take time to develop a management plan for each park. Once that plan is in place, the park can be gradually opened for use. Thank you for your consideration.

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Zip Code: 63037

I would like to see this stunning parcel as a continuation of the Taum Sauk system in order to preserve its many

Zip Code: 65203

I hope this land becomes a state park. It would be great to have this park in the same area as Johnson's Shut-In's and Taum Sauk Mountain. The State Parks are one of Missouri's best features. Keep them growing.

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Zip Code: 63640

Fishing, swimming, and camping mainly primitive camping with limited electric or big campers around the shore line of the lake. Manage timber to have productive growth and eliminate invasive species. This can be best accomplished with collaboration with the Department of Conservation or just contributing the property to the DOC.

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Zip Code:

test

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Zip Code:

Jay Nixon state park should be kept in the Missouri State Park system. It contains unique geology, ecosystem, and beauty that is unmatched in the current state park system. There is no reason to shed it from the state park system which is widely supported by all Missourians and which protects some of the most precious and ecologically sensitive areas in the state. Jay Nixon state park is in an ideal area for eco-tourism and is in an area that many state residents absolutely LOVE to visit. It would be a shame and an affront to Missourians to get rid of this beautiful natural area that would be available to all Missourians, rather than just a few select elites who would develop it. Finally, if you have a problem with the name, just change it. There's no need for political differences to remove this park from the state system just to spite Jay Nixon and others of his political party.

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Zip Code: 65401

Jay Nixon State Park should lose the Jay Nixon name and be retained as an addition to Taum Sauk Mountain State Park. Its 50 acre lake with two miles of shoreline will be appreciated, especially by hikers on the Ozark Trail. It complements the extremely popular Johnson

exceptional qualities intact. No separate management, parking, trails, staff, or other expense will be needed. It needs to be part of the Taum Sauk umbrella, period.

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**Zip Code: 65203**

In general, I would support keeping and preserving this property as an addition to the State Park system, however I would consider it the lowest priority of the three tracts being considered because of the rather large amount of public land already in this area. Also, I would suggest that the park be renamed as I do not support naming State Parks for public politicians. Why not just make it part of Taum Sauk or Johnson Shut-Ins Park.

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**Zip Code: 97223**

This property contributes to the overall wilderness character of the region and should be preserved as part of the Taum Sauk Mt. SP. It contains significant natural resource values and definitely qualifies to be part of the park system. That said, it should not be a stand alone park with a separate name. It should just be added to the existing park. Selling the property will not generate significant resources to assist with the maintenance backlog. The property does not need to be extensively developed in order to contribute to the values of the Taum Sauk Mt. SP.

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**Zip Code: 65203**

Do not consider this a new state park. The land should be added to the existing Johnson's Shut-ins and Taum Sauk Mountain state park complex. Drop the name "Nixon." No state park acquisition should be named for a sitting politician. You have a unique opportunity with the "hike-in" lake. Provide no other access. Provide no additional staff. Provide no development beyond a single natural surface trail that connects to the existing Ozark Trail on the property's southern boundary. Do your home work with the local county commissioners. They don't understand the positive impact of state park expansion. Make sure the public knows that funds for this acquisition did not impact funds for environmental cleanup in the lead belt. Partner with MDC on development/management of lake access and use. Publicize partnership with MDC on control of feral hogs.

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**Zip Code: 63114**

Having a "survey" for consideration of state parks is misleading when the only questions is a complete fill-in-the-blank. How about a survey that gives the options to consider? Are you thinking of not developing the parks at all? Making them strictly hiking? Adding mini-golf courses? Using the lake for Iron Man competitions?

I would be happy to give my opinion if I knew what the parameters were.

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**Zip Code: 65203**

Please open up Jay Nixon State Park to the public.

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**Zip Code: 65738**

Change the name if you must and/or combine with Johnson Shutinns Park but please support the new parks. I am disappointed that the 11-Point State Park is not considered on this website. We need it most of all of the four. I have been told the reason and hope I have been told the truth and not a ruse for political purposes.

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**Zip Code: 65203**

I think it would make sense to fold this property into the adjacent existing Taum Sauk Mountain SP. This is an amazing piece of Missouri typography that should be protected as public land. As with all of the newly added properties, I am in favor of mothballing them if necessary to wait until funding is available to develop them to the high standards that Missouri State Parks are known for.

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**Zip Code: 64053**

The Jay Nixon State Park will continue to contribute significantly to the economic and natural scenic provision for all folks national and international that visit Missouri wild areas annually. We must preserve our small in number natural reserves and especially our wildlife rich waterways in order that we can visit and interact with refreshing landscape and hideaways. Once it is gone we cannot retrieve such beautiful spots in our great state of Missouri! Please continue to note the importance of the entire Johnson Shutin's landscape and waterway.

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**Zip Code: 65775**

It is important to me that this park, and the other two closed state parks remain in public ownership. THEY SHOULD NOT BE SOLD, and I look forward to the day when they are developed to the degree that they open for public use.

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**Zip Code: 63074**

Please do not sell park.

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**Zip Code: 63124**

Jay Nixon State Park contains outstanding St. Francois Mountain Scenery. It is adjacent to thje iconic Taum Sauk Mountain State Park and the Ketcherside Conservation area. It has a 50 acre lake and 800 species

of native plants. Missouri has a proud reputation for its parks which bring tourists from outside the state as well as Missourians to enjoy the beauty and natural qualities. This park should be added to the park system and open to the public.

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**Zip Code:**

Jay Nixon SP should be operated as an addition to Taum Sauk SP and drop the Nixon name. Perhaps a trail or the reservoir could be named for him to honor his contributions to Missouri State Parks. Either here or somewhere else. I would like to see Public access developed from the current Taum Sauk area and also from the area along the highway. I think the fishing lake as great possibilities. I would like to see initial cost effective development for public access with consideration for future development and improvements. I would like to see legislative support for an "over time" continued development program until the park becomes available for a wide variety of users and access to significant recreational elements. The wild character should be retained above all else in the back country portion of this tract. As with all Missouri State Parks, protecting and restoring significant resources should be given a priority and stick to the Missouri State Park mission statement. . Plan for initial limited staff additions but eventually work to provide adequate staffing to be responsive to public use and resource protection. Thank You

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**Zip Code:**

Keep it, open it to the public, and maintain our states public lands.

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**Zip Code: 64111**

I think preserving natural land is important even if those lands are currently being used for recreational purposes. Save the parks for future generations.

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**Zip Code:**

I think it is great to protect these areas (all three of the proposed parks) because of the unique landscape and flora/fauna that would be protected from development. We need to find ways to help the communities in these areas though, to replace the potential loss of property taxes.

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**Zip Code: 63663**

Wow what a beautiful property, and a perfect fit Adjoins Taum Sauk Mtn SP and Ketcherside CA and so close to Hwy N Develop public access with a road and medium size parking area..it will be needed, considering its close proximity to all the nearby parks and towns

Provide hiking, walking trails (primitive) and later a paved trail section/ This is going to need a Pit Latrine as funding allows Camping (primitive) similar to Taum Sauk would be an additional amenity at a later time, maybe a loop with just some tables and fire rings, self pay station Access to the lake (vehicles) would be a plus, as funding allows Recommend a parking fee donation (voluntary) Apply for RTP Grants to fund your "trail amenities" This is a spectacular parcel of land and should be prioritized, even minimally with providing public access Maybe a section of the Ozark Trail can be included in the plans Jay Nixon SP sounds acceptable in my opinion I look forward to seeing this become available to the visitors ASAP!

---

**Zip Code:**

I feel very strongly that this park should be retained/owned by the Missouri State Park system.

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**Zip Code: 62249**

My husband and I live in Highland Illinois, about 28 miles due east of St. Louis. I taught 23 years in Missouri and retired from Ladue Schools. My son and his family live in the Tower Grove south area. We love to take "field trips" in the summer with the grandchildren. For many years I was a contributor to Missouri Prairies. Taum Sauk is a great area for outdoor exploring/hiking. We value Taum Sauk, Meramec, Elephant Rock, and all the area parks. Teaching children the value of nature is very important. The inner peace that outdoor spaces provide for adults and children cannot be equaled. Thank you for the opportunity to speak in favor of state parks.

Highland, Illinois, 62249

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**Zip Code: 65201**

Please preserve this state park to be what it was intended to be: an area of pristine nature to which all may come and enjoy the wonder and beauty of our state's ecology. Do not sell it off.

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**Zip Code: 65401**

The location is great! Near two very popular parks! It connects to other state lands and helps complete a public land corridor. The lake opens many recreational opportunities. Keep it and slowly develop primitive facilities here.

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**Zip Code:**

Please keep Jay Nixon State Park as state park that is open to the public. If the naming of the park is too political charged for the public, perhaps rename the park after the St. Francois Mountain scenery in the area.

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Zip Code:

Keep this park! Do not sell! Just make it part of Taum Sauk or Johnson's Shut-ins. Doesn't need to be developed

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Zip Code: 63090

Please keep this property in state ownership and open it up to public use. This property could be managed inexpensively as primitive public land to the benefit of all Missourians for the purposes of primitive outdoor recreation, important wildlife habitat, and watershed protection. Thanks for your consideration!

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Zip Code:

Please SAVE the natural ecosystems within Jay Nixon State Park! Don't sell it! Missourians NEED open space and natural areas to remain healthy and happy in 2018 and beyond! The people of our state deserve high quality natural areas to visit. These places can provide opportunities to reconnect with the natural world and bring out our best. As our human population increases and more wild habitats are lost to development, present and future generations will gravitate to Missouri State Parks to experience beauty and biodiversity. This exposure to wildlife, both native plants and animals, in addition to various land forms and natural resources, will promote healthy human development now and for years to come. Please SAVE the natural ecosystems within Jay Nixon State Park, Ozark Mountain State Park, and Bryant Creek State Park! Don't sell them! We need these state parks to keep Missouri marvelous!

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Zip Code: 65203

Who cares what the name is... Republicans, that's who. I want more state parks. If you have a problem with the name because he was the Governor from a different party then make a rule like the postal service has that his name can't be used until a certain time has passed. But just to [REDACTED] a park, a park ready to be used because of a name is childish. If it is money then you haven't been listening to the voters of Missouri. They have passed a tax to support the parks. Listen to the voters - we want state parks and we want more of them.

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Zip Code:

The State Park system is a significant attribute of the state and must be preserved and further developed. Tourism is vital for our communities and state. It would be foolish to abandon the properties that have been secured.

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Zip Code: 63051

In lieu of having three separate state parks that lie adjacent to each other (Johnson's Shutins, Taum Sauk and Jay Nixon), combine Jay Nixon into Taum Sauk as it has similar environments. I don't see how this park/site would be a major draw on existing staff as it adds to existing park in lieu of establishing a brand new park. The lake would also be a good draw at some point.

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Zip Code: 64145

I think this property would make a great state park. The geologic formations and prairie and forest areas would be a great asset to the state park system.

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Zip Code:

I don't believe a park should be named after Nixon. He used a frivolous strategy to get funds to buy new parks. He appeared to be trying to "build" an impressive resume for the interior director job under the presumptive President Hillary. He used settlement money to buy these parks. Where would the money have been spent if DNR issued a fine instead?

----

Zip Code:

This park should have no development beyond a parking area and hiking trails. The name should also be changed to something that reflects the area not as a tribute to a Governor who acquired the park as a legacy project.

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Zip Code: 65101

Our Missouri State Parks preserve natural habitats, wildlife and plants for future generations. Jay Nixon State Park should remain a state park in order to bring these ecological and psychological benefits to those who are Missouri citizens and lack their own property.

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Zip Code: 63385

Beautiful area. Can you please change the name? Or did Mr. Nixon donate the land to the state? Why not name this park after one of our historians local to the area. Again, as I commented in the Ozark Park section, how will we be able to utilize this park? I saw one commenter remark about the States lack of a maintenance budget. Can the MO State Parks Department afford to build, improve and maintain these new thousands of acres and maintain and improve our existing State Parks?

----

Zip Code:

The state should not dispose of any state park lands it currently owns. It also should not close any such lands to use by the public. If funds do not exist to make improvements, allow the public to enjoy it in its natural

state. There are plenty of paved hiking paths for people in other locations. From looking at the maps, this park is adjoins the Tom Sauk Mountain State Park and other conservation area lands. It could be considered an expansion of an existing state park. I am aware of the political controversy of the state purchasing this land and naming it for a sitting state governor, but this land can be a great asset to the park system, and it would be irresponsible to sell it off at this point.

---

**Zip Code: 63137**

This piece of property should not be a separate state park. This should be added to either Johnson Shut-ins State Park, Taum Sauk Mountain State Park, or Ketcherside Mountain Conservation Area. Over the years these parks have grown in size tremendously through land acquisitions like this without each section of land becoming a separate park. If you want to honor the former state park supporting governor, call it the "Jay Nixon Tract" or name the lake "Jay Nixon Lake".

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**Zip Code: 63501**

The proposed Jay Nixon State Park should remain part of Taum Sauk State Park as there is no public access to the proposed new park except via a spur from the Ozark Trail. This land has real value and should not be sold.

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**Zip Code:**

The State of Missouri should pass on the Jay Nixon State Park. I feel the cost for these new parks will be excessive to develop & maintain which can leave less funds to operate the existing parks.

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**Zip Code: 63390**

Future funds should be designated to keep and open (even if delayed) the three state parks that were recently established, including Ozark Mountain, Bryant Creek and Jay Nixon state parks. Our natural resources are too precious to sell off. We need to keep, nurture and appreciate what we have.

---

**Zip Code: 65793**

I believe that the parks are costing Missouri very little to maintain. Outdoor activities are known to provide participants with a greater opportunity for exercise and to experience the natures of life. Please keep Jay Nixon State Park open for residents in the area to enjoy! If the name is objectionable, merely change it and still be able to provide the open spaces for others.

---

**Zip Code: 63621**

1st. Change Name 2nd. Should have counted the cost first. Lastly. Blend it into one of the other adjacent

parks, and do not improve until you can maintain what you have, before you rob the rest of the system for the new and unnecessary.

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**Zip Code: 63020**

Do not sell this valuable State park property. We will regret it later. Citizens can enjoy the property without expensive improvements. Improvements can be made in the future as we can afford it.

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**Zip Code:**

Open them up! The public is hungry for new and protected state parks!

----

**Zip Code:**

I want our state parks to remain in the hands of the public. Public lands provide us, we the people, with a better present and future. Public lands improve our quality of life so increasing, not decreasing our land is in the public's best interest. Every living thing needs plants to live. Every living thing needs animals to live. Trees give us the clean air we breathe. Our air is but one necessity. Volumes have been written about the need for vast amounts of natural habitat. When we take care of the Earth, the Earth will give us clean air, clean water, unpolluted food, and enriching outdoor experiences. Please allow the public to take care of all of us by protecting our public lands. We save our lives when we save our wild outdoor spaces. Thank you,

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**Zip Code: 65202**

In regard to Jay Nixon State Park, you must consider it is owned by the citizens of Missouri and should remain in public ownership as a state park (although you might consider a name change). Park land is a public trust and not meant for just today's Missourians, but those who will camp, float and hike generations from now. Keep this land and make park improvements on a gradual plan as budgets allow. Missourians have shown the importance of the parks by repeatedly approving sales tax initiatives over decades. Parks and the tourism industry in general provide a dynamic contribution to the economy of this state.

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**Zip Code: 65020**

I would like the authorities to consider permanently closing this state park. I think that the number of state parks that we do have is sufficient. I am in favor of maintaining well the current state parks that we do have and not spreading our resources thin.

----

Zip Code: 63069

I am aghast that anyone would consider selling off this outstanding piece of land that is surrounded by other parks and wildlife areas. DO NOT SELL ANY OF THE NEW STATE PARKS!!!!!! More than 90% of Missouri is privately owned. Most people depend on public lands for outdoor recreation. Future generations will remember us for what we leave them and scowl at us for what we trash. They do not have to be intensively developed for people to use them. Have some foresight.

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Zip Code: 65453

Rather than spend a few more millions of dollars to create new parks, spend the money on bringing existing parks up to the standards you set with Echo Bluffs!!

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Zip Code: 63088

1. Merge Jay Nixon with Johnson Shutins and get rid of the name controversy. As it is all the meetings for Jay Nixon have been at Johnson Shutins. 2. Drop the Hennessey house and replace it with a pit toilet and a large gravel parking lot. 3. Establish a marked trail from Hwy N to the Lake. 4. Establish a marked loop trail around the lake. 5. Establish a connector trail from the lake to the Ozark Trail. 6. Any primitive backpacking camping should be by permit and reservation.

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Zip Code:

Please don't waste taxpayer money by selling this property. We have already invested a lot of time and resources in this park and it should be kept by the state. Missouri will be paved over in 50 more years, we need more parks and natural areas, not less.

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Zip Code: 65109

"This park is a valuable addition to the Missouri state park system - don't sell it. It doesn't need expensive development to be enjoyed. Being a lifelong resident of Missouri it's my passion to be able to enjoy the beautiful parks in our state. This park in particular is one I'm excited to see through, as it's near my childhood home. Please don't end the possibilities this can bring to a starving community that needs more resources.

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Zip Code: 65203

I recommend if possible the conversion of this space from a 'state park' to a Missouri Conservation area since it is already adjacent to the existing conservation area between the parks. If there is potential or appetite for future development of a state park, can a memorandum of understanding be developed to temporarily setup as a conservation area (limited development) for 20 years with option to develop as future state park (reassess at 20 years). This would still maintain ownership of the state, retain / expand on public access, manage with potential expansion of resources (minimal) due to adjacency and allow for the potential to develop at a later time depending on future funding considerations.

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Zip Code: 63123

I urge you NOT to close Jay Nixon State Park. It already exists; it's a valuable addition to the Taum Sauk Park. With its rugged, heavily forested mountains, it is

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Zip Code: 65775

I would prefer that the state parks be developed as originally planned and not turned over to private owners for their personal use. Please consider making this park a reality for all Missourians and others to enjoy for many years to come.

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Zip Code:

This park is a valuable addition to the Missouri state park system - don't sell it. It doesn't need expensive development to be enjoyed by the public.

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Zip Code: 65076

Do not develop. How can DNR afford these additional State Parks? Will it impact our existing state parks with deferred maintenance? How many additional DNR staff will need to be hired to maintain these parks? Does additional equipment need to be purchased in order to develop and maintain these state parks. I understand DNR is reducing the size of its vehicle fleet, how can you justify adding more state parks during a period of downsizing? Using the average costs from your "Factors Under Consideration" my estimates show each of these 3 State Parks will cost an additional \$340,500 (\$1,021,500 for all 3 parks) - where does this funding come from? [REDACTED] sure don't name it Jay Nixon State Park!

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Zip Code: 63052

I don't think the the Jay Nixon State part should have its own name but to be included in with Taum Sauk State Park, has it does not have its own access directly. Just increase the size of Taum Sauk State Park.

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Zip Code: 65109

Gov. Grietens, This park belongs to the people of Missouri. Our parks can and have been enjoyed by the public without expensive upgrades. The Missouri parks system has always been a point of pride for our state. Thank you, A concerned voter.

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an outstanding example of Missouri's hills. It's proximity to the Ozark Trail, Taum Sauk and other parks, plus it's beautiful little lake, beg for continued support. It is short-sighted and backward thinking to excise an already existing area which adds to the surrounding environmental landscapes. Keep it!

---

Zip Code:

This park is a valuable part of the Missouri state park system - don't sell it. It doesn't need expensive development to be enjoyed by the public.

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Zip Code: 63128

Keep the property. Future inclusion in the existing park system is attractive. Mature and diverse native flora and fauna are worth keeping. Once it's gone it's GONE.

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Zip Code:

This property should remain a state park. I believe it to be the highest use of the land.

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Zip Code: 65402

Please keep this land as a state park, even if it doesn't have developed areas. It is an investment for the future.

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Zip Code: 64064

Please, do all you can to end the ridiculousness of even considering selling, or abusing our state park. Be good stewards of the legacy we have, in order to preserve it for our future generations, or history will reflect your greed over their future.

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Zip Code: 65401

Please do not sell. Stop wasting money and do not sell the land to get the money.

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Zip Code: 64145

Please Open this state park. If cost is a factor, consider charging Out of State visitors a modest entrance fee.

[REDACTED] Kansas City,  
MO 64145

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Zip Code: 63128

I have reviewed all three new proposed State Parks and the new Rock Island Trail and I guess all my comments would revolve around my kids and grandkids. I have 5 of each and they all love the outdoors. As our population increases every year we lose more and more open space. So I feel even if we can not develop immediately we need to at least bank these properties which we are getting the opportunity to do now. Ten years from now

that choice may be gone. I speak for me and other friends who camp and I can tell you one of the first things I look for when taking a trip is what does the state have to offer in their parks. Right now I would say Missouri is right in the middle and I think they can improve by adding more properties to take care of the future generations. Just as the state improves other departments ie better roads, health care, etc the parks can not just stay where they are. They are good for tourism and the health of our own citizens. We just recently approved the state 1/10 of 1% for parks and conservation so this is what Missourians want and are willing to pay for. As an example my kids are campers BUT pretty much give up on camping in state park because they are always full on weekends. Our newest park Echo Bluffs was one of the first new parks I can think of and it was full when we went to camp there. My kids are campers

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Zip Code:

This park is a valuable addition to the Missouri state park system - don't sell it. It doesn't need expensive development to be enjoyed by the public.

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Zip Code: 65775

Would like to see the land developed for public use.

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Zip Code:

Please keep the park. It is unlikely that Missouri would be able to repurchase similar properties in the future. However, I would be perfectly okay with changing the name of this park.

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Zip Code: 63116

Please do not close this important state park.

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Zip Code: 64133

I don't believe that any state park should be named after a politician in the state of MO. I also agree with one comment that the land proposed to be named after Jay Nixon should instead be incorporated into the nearby Taum Sauk Mountain State Park and adopt its name.

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Zip Code: 63139

Dear Park staff: My mother took me to Mina Sauk Falls when I was 12 and it was still a Boy Scout trail. I remember my aunt and father advising me how to find the old jeep trail and Devils Tollgate when I was older. While I could find the trail to Mina Sauk Falls and the view through the St Francois mountains I don't think I found the high point on Taum Sauk Mountain until it was developed as a Missouri state park--and I visited with my children. Thank you for the planning meeting to discuss Jay Nixon State Park. I believe it

should become part of Taum Sauk Mountain State Park and should not be a separate park. This property is a great addition to Missouri public lands in the St Francois Mountains and planning should begin immediately to protect and manage this resource. The property and lake are probably easy to access from Highway N which makes it so important for local recreation, interpretation and study in Reynolds and Iron County but also may be abused if not carefully managed. Protection of this parcel of the watershed in the East Fork, Black River by the Missouri State Park system will help protect Johnson Shutins SP and the Black River itself! Also, the proximity to a large population such as St Louis and IL addition of this property with its natural features will contribute to the economic benefit for the area. This property is important because an important leg of the Ozark Trail goes onto it and the surrounding park lands. The Ozark Trail Association is considering ways to work with towns and extend trails to those in the Arcadia Valley so additional land in this area may contribute to future plans and add even more value to the tourist trade for the whole area. Our Missouri state parks can be used by all citizens for many types of recreation. Missouri voters passed the Parks, Soils, and Water Sales tax by nearly 80% so use and support of our state parks is important to many of us. But please manage the property of Jay Nixon SP for low impact recreation and preservation of the areas' natural and cultural resources. Our state parks are the best in the USA! But to maintain them we must track and preserve the surrounding ecosystems and natural resources. They are a vital part of our human natural resources to protect healthy water systems and healthy air. Protecting diverse ecosystems throughout Missouri are essential and it is a miracle that we were able to purchase this property for the use and study of Missouri citizens. Please open this park for use by the public in the future as well as protecting the ecology found in the park. Please add other parcels to our Missouri state park system when there are reasonable opportunities. It is still critical to add to the Missouri state parks system when biologists believe the properties are examples of ecological value or geology like Jay Nixon SP which can be used for learning, training, protection of species, protection of geological features and protection of water quality.

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Zip Code:  
Do not sell this!

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Zip Code: 64429  
I feel the State Parks should be named for interesting facts or the lore of the immediate area including local points of interest. These Parks belong to Missourians and should not be named for egotistical political people.

Lets keep to the historical and often self explanatory for naming new parks. Thank you [REDACTED]  
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Zip Code: 63304  
In general, I see the preservation of currently undisturbed wildlife area to be a good thing. Wildlife habitat is shrinking both globally and in the United States, and loss of wildlife habitat results in cascading ecological impacts that ultimately damage human prosperity. Missouri already has a great park system... let's strengthen it even further and lead by example.

Zip Code: 65201  
Please do not sell this park. Our state parks are valuable places for people to enjoy nature, even though they may not have updated amenities.

Zip Code:  
get a move on. this should have been open before know.  
rob

Zip Code: 65203  
I would like to see this park retained by the state of Missouri with minimal development.

Zip Code: 63144  
Keep this park! Change the name - or just add it to Taum Sauk's name - but do NOT sell off parkland. St Louis is metropolitan. We need spaces where we can get into nature. Any parkland accessible to St Louis is important now, and will be for future generations. Even if this is not developed in the next 20 years - or perhaps never, just leaving it natural - it should be kept. I'm a Missouri Master Naturalist. I love being outdoors, and sharing that love with others. We need MORE green space in Missouri. Keep this Park!

Zip Code: 65301  
This is a GREAT addition to a rich Missouri State Parks region. There is no reason to let this property slip away. If people are that upset about the name, declare it part of Johnson's Shut-Ins or Taum Sauk and move on. Hiking opportunities abound with connection to the OT and the surrounding parks. Great way to expand camping availability in the summer when JSI is full, make it happen!

Zip Code:  
Please do not sell the land. The park can be rustic if the department has no money to develop it at this time. An alternative would be to give the land to Taum Sauk State Park for management.

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Zip Code: 65714

My comment is for all 3 parks. I would ask that careful consideration be given to development of the parks. There is no set timeline or specific expenditure that is required. They can remain in their natural vegetative state for everyone to enjoy as then they can be developed at a later date. If there is a belief that something must be done immediately then seek the help of the citizens of Missouri. Ask for help from the groups who support keeping these parks. There are areas and ways where we can all contribute, or dare I say it, an incremental 1/8 cent sales tax or another idea to generate revenue.

Happy to brainstorm many ideas. Here is the main concern; If you sell the parks off simply because there is a lack of current resources to develop them, then they are gone forever. Each a gem never to be recovered. Missouri is an amazing state where our state parks and forest's are part of our heritage and our future. Not many states can boast such a heritage. Let us preserve ours!

[REDACTED]

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Zip Code: 63144

Save this state park. Our parks save wilderness areas.

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Zip Code: 63125

Please combine this parcel and Taum Sauk state park and develop a spur to connect them. Our state has some of the finest parks available with diverse climate and species. Would be a shame to rob future generations of the enjoyment MO has to offer. Thank you,

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Zip Code: 63010

I would like to say that it would be a waste of beautiful natural areas to sell off any of these 3 state parks. As a hiker myself and many others would be happy to hike from a parking area near the main road to hike to a dirt trail to one of these beautiful areas to spend the day or to camp off trail. To help offset the cost of making dirt trails and parking lots do what the state forestry does charge a small fee to use, usually \$3.00 per car that the families or individuals place in a secure lock box and tear off a sheet off the corresponding envelope showing they paid on their dash.

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Zip Code: 65202

As a native Missourian, a long time biology and geology teacher, and quiet outdoorsman, the inclusion of Jay Nixon State Park in our park system is an extraordinary opportunity. To me, it is a critical piece of preserving the natural wonder of our state resources and ecological stability. Our wild landscapes in Missouri are becoming increasingly fragmented. Nixon Park includes

substantial unbroken, remote, and important ecosystems. Its location adjacent to other park and/or conservation lands increases the 'wildlands' of the region, importantly preserving large tracts of unbroken, unfragmented Missouri landscapes. Species diversity is critical to ecological stability; some species (both game and nongame animals, and many plants and fungi,) fail to thrive in fragmented forests. They simple must have broad expanses of habitat to sustain their populations. Missouri's ecological diversity, which directly underpins our great tourism industry, is important to me, my family, and to our great state's conservation heritage. I strongly support the inclusion of Jay Nixon Park in the State Park System for eternity.

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Zip Code: 63303

State Parks are a resource for the entire community. They provide much-needed wild spaces for both humans and animals alike. I would like to see this park improved for use.

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Zip Code: 65251

The countryside around Taum Sauk and Johnson Shut-ins is my ideal of the Ozark Frontier. Yes, this land is worth the expense. The birds, the mammals, the fish, the reptiles and amphibians, all the invertebrates, the trees, the wildflowers and all living things, the geology and the spirit of The Shepherd of the Hills are worth it. True some care little for the natural world; but, many of us find our way to gratefulness, compassion, pride and duty in natural surroundings. I am willing to pay my dues to keep our natural environments. I do believe government is limited in what it can do for its citizens. However, government is needed in protecting our natural environment.

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Zip Code: 65203

It should be clear to most legislators that most Missouri voters value State parks and expect them to be expanded and enhanced. Most of us gladly endorse taxes for such acquisitions and additions to the public domain. Yes, such investments cost money, but citizens treasure ownership of parks and are aware that the tourism economy benefits from the State's exploitation of these resources. This voter trusts that failure to support this public interest will result in changes in the makeup of our legislature.

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Zip Code: 65807

This is a unique Missouri property and offers the opportunity to expand the existing public lands. It could be developed for hiking even if it requires the purchase of a hiking pass for a nominal fee. We will never be able to replace it.

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Zip Code: 65109

Public spaces are important to Missouri. I support keeping this state park.

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Zip Code: 65018

THE PROPERTY COMPRISING JAY NIXON STATE PARK SHOULD BECOME A PORTION OF TAUM SAUK MOUNTAIN STATE PARK.

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Zip Code: 65203

Our Missouri State Parks are a treasure that is essential to our well being and joy, perhaps especially to children. Let's all do our part in keeping them flourishing!

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Zip Code: 65203

This property is important because of its boundary with Taum Sauk Mtn. SP. Drop the Jay Nixon name and incorporate it into Taum Sauk Mtn. SP. This property should be retained in the Missouri Parks system to protect its resources for future generations. It doesn't need to developed in the near future. Development can proceed in the future as funds are available.

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Zip Code: 65202

I am in favor of this area becoming a State Park, although it would make sense to combine the State Park with adjacent State Parks. This would make it more of an attraction and less confusing to the public and lower administrative costs. The area is not far from urban areas and would be used by the general public. The importance of a lake of this size would also draw opportunities to fish. The park will also help protect endangered species that live in the area.

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Zip Code: 63640

A primitive camping area that could be accessed by trail only, a spur off the Ozark trail, would be an inexpensive start to using the land. I would think that after the trail was laid out the Ozark Trail association could build it. This could be an quick easy use solution. Long range a campground or picnic area with easy access to the lake would be nice.

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Zip Code: 65201

This park is a valuable addition to the Missouri state park system - please don't sell it. It doesn't need expensive development to be enjoyed by the public.

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Zip Code: 65203

This park is a valuable addition to the Missouri state park system - don't sell it. It doesn't need expensive development to be enjoyed by the public.

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Zip Code: 63109

This piece of land is important to the Missouri State Park System as an addition to existing facilities and as a compliment to management rather than as a new state park. It is an important component of what many consider the high peaks area of the St.Francois Mountains. This site should be earmarked for very limited development. If funding is an issue then, for now, the qualifying lands are an important placeholder. For minimal cost the state should care take the valuable green space. Planning and development can await future funding.

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Zip Code: 63114

Missouri state parks are the property of Missouri residents. Greitens does not have the right to sell it. I'm sure he will benefit financially if he manages to do this. So far, he has done nothing to help our state. He has helped only himself (ie passing right to work) . He is a greedy [REDACTED] I want my children and grandchildren to have beautiful places to visit. If these parks disappear, they won't. State parks in all states should be kept for all residents to enjoy!!!

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Zip Code: 63110

Dear MO State Parks, I live and work in St. Louis and was unable to get to your public meeting about Jay Nixon State Park. However, I can assure you that my family takes every opportunity to enjoy our wonderful state parks – including multiple-day cabin stays at Montauk and Echo Bluff just this year – and we strongly believe these new parks should remain in our system and be developed for public use, even if just modestly. Missourians absolutely need these treasures for recreation, better health and rural job development. And we absolutely need these treasures as repositories for animals, birds, plants and all the other species on which we depend. In fact, my vote is always for MORE public land in Missouri, not less. Missourians seem to be evolving into a group of people who want to pay as few taxes as possible but still insist on getting “something for nothing” on just about everything. I have the opposite view: I willingly vote for every Parks and Soils tax that comes along and would be happy to pay even more to support MO State Parks, as well as other important functions of state government, because they support and enrich all our lives. Keep up your good work.

Many thanks, [REDACTED]  
St.  
Louis MO 63110

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Zip Code: 63130

This sounds like a beautiful addition to Taum Sauk State Park. Why not get some serious backpackers to help add on a loop from the Ozark Trail that goes through this new territory? The trail could lead to the lake and/or around it, with a few primitive campsites available for the backpackers. I bet there are a lot of people that would love to help out if someone would organize some weekends of work and fun. Some of us are not as strong as others, but could volunteer to do things like cook, keep the kids occupied while the adults work, plan some inexpensive family friendly activities, etc. It takes a village to raise a child; it takes a state to create and support a state park (or three). I wish I could have come to the meetings you held in early December, but I couldn't. I also wish I could have watched a video of them or seen the transcripts to know what was discussed at them--if anything specific was discussed.

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Zip Code: 65201

I would love to see the Jay Nixon State Parks remain as part of the Mo Park System including the Taum Sauk Mountain State Park. Its unique geographical formations should be protected as quality lands at a modest cost.

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Zip Code:

Citizen support has been evident in the history of the Missouri State Park system, specifically approving/renewing a sales tax by a large majority of MO voters. Evidently there are legislators ignoring the voices of their citizens. Outdoor recreation does enhance local economies. Outdoor recreational experiences provide healthful benefits. A prudent move is to save/protect the land of these four park sites for many generations to come. Yes, I am an avid hiker who enjoys parks around the country and the world, as well as those in my own backyard. One can always renovate/build new facilities, however it is not possible to create new land for outdoor recreation opportunities.

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Zip Code: 63139

It would be a shame to lose these properties. Not only because they will be developed quickly and we will lose natural resources but also because the wildlife will continue to have such a diminished area to thrive and live. These resources cannot be brought back and all of lose when these resources are lost. The price of selling this land will largely out the cost of what we will lose.

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Zip Code: 63116

Please keep this park sacred. Don't listen to the wealthy politicians who want to "starve the beast" to justify gutting public investments in natural resources they have deficit-rigged. Please tell Park critics to move to Kansas where tax money goes only to private billionaires. Thanks for all you do.

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Zip Code:

The only option is to keep the park a SP. Why should a few people benefit from selling and buying the land when ALL will benefit from enjoying the land recreationally for generations.

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Zip Code: 63122

Please preserve Jay Nixon State Park. Many citizens have more recently discovered Missouri state parks and they are being heavily utilized. As property values in Missouri rise, it is fiscally responsible to maintain the state park property we have, rather than acquiring more expensive land in the future, especially property with 50 acre lake. We have been, and will continue to be,

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Zip Code: 64064

Same as my comments on the other two parks, but a little added here specific to this park (I labeled my last comments as Nixon, but it was in fact about Bryant). I'm a relatively new Missouri resident, but one of the things I have been so impressed by are Missouri's State Parks. Developing more of them, increasing the opportunities for people to get into the outdoors, explore Missouri and its natural history, and preserve the landscape for future generations to enjoy is a great thing. I fully support spending state resources on developing and preserving these three parks. With this park - a lake! Of course let's preserve it, for fishing, for kayaking, for everything related. The description of this park is especially intriguing to me. I grew up hiking in mountains, in rugged conditions, so preserving a mountainous, rugged area is so important to me, and is something I would love the chance to share with my children. Thank you again for soliciting public input!

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Zip Code: 65203

Change the name to Profitt Mountain State Park and keep this valuable addition of high-quality habitat in the St. Francois Mountains Natural Area. it should remain primitive and needs only minimal development before it should be opened to the public. \$152K in Superfund settlement money was provided to fund 100% of anticipated restoration and management costs for the first 5 years of operation. It will increase recreational use of this area which will be a financial boon to the county. As Missouri's population increases, we also need to increase natural space that Missourians love and need. I have backpacked on the Taum Sauk trail in the past, and look forward to exploring this new addition to Missouri's park system. Thank you.

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citizens who often visit our state parks for hiking, camping and floating.

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Zip Code: 63367

Once Missouri takes ownership of park land, it should never be "given back" or sold for private or business use. DNR and MDC are all about protecting public resources for current and future generations. If funding is not available at the current time, then we must wait for future development of the park for public good. During the interval, the acreage should be protected as part of the public trust. Human connection to the natural world and a healthy environment count on this. I am a retired biology faculty member from one of our state universities. I was born in Missouri and remain a Missouri resident. I have spent countless days on my own, with friends, and with students enjoying and continuing to learn about our state public lands.

Thanks!

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Zip Code: 63021

I support keeping the Jay Nixon State Park in the park system and DO NOT support selling this park. Thank you.

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Zip Code:

Do not sell the park

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Zip Code: 63645

Bottom line - keep all of this "park" in public ownership and available to the public for enjoyment and better understanding of natural resources. Management of the site, including public use opportunities, should fit MDNR and MDC missions. Consider "swapping" the park with MDC, or USFS, if that makes more sense in the big picture. Maintain low-impact public access to the small lake, and allow fishing and use of non-motorized boats (paddle only).

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Zip Code: 65203

It is outrageous that state government is considering selling park land. Even if there are no funds available to develop the park at this time, there is no reason to sell the park eliminating any chance to develop the park years or decades from now. Many Dept. of Conservation properties open to the public have only a parking lot and no trails. But even without a parking lot the lands owned by state parks belong to the public. Please do not violate the public trust and sell the park, ruining the landscape for future generations. Try to have a long-term view instead of considering only the short-term. The mission statement of the parks is to protect Missouri's natural resources. Try to do that job.

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Zip Code: 63701

My wife and I have volunteered as campground host at several parks for the last 8 years. I would not like to see an expansion of the Missouri park system. Having been around the parks we know that many have maintenance and other issues often not known to the visiting public. These are due to budget shortfalls for many years. So the bottom line is - if you can not maintain what you have do not take on more. As far as a Jay Nixon park I think his family name is all over the Echo Bluff park with buildings named after many family members so why do we need more Nixons . The funding for Echo Bluff is something that many in the State Park system are at a loss to explain. Many of these professional managers do not know where the funds came from and are skeptical about how that all came about.

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Zip Code: 63050

This area needs a state park. How nice to have a lake in the park. Please do not sell off this land. Bank it for a future state park. Missourians love and USE their parks!!

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Zip Code: 63117

It seems to me the best option might be to make the property an addition to Taum Sauk Mountain State Park. The property adds to a large area of parks and MDC properties. Preserving these large contiguous areas of is important to preserving the wild nature of the area and protecting habitat for wildlife.

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Zip Code:

I feel this park should be considered & managed as an addition to nearby Taum Sauk State Park instead of a separate park.

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Zip Code:

As a private citizen who frequents Missouri State Parks with my family and friends, I urge you to entertain all options prior to sale of these properties. I appreciate the financial constraints but cannot ignore the natural resources and links to the region's cultural heritage the parks in question (Bryant Creek, Eleven Point, Jay Nixon, and Ozark Mountain) provide. With thoughtful stewardship, these properties offer a unique opportunity to preserve, educate, and enjoy for generations to come. If development of these parks by Missouri State Parks cannot be done at this time, might the best option be to delay? That is instead of selling them or making improvements at this time, leave them as is until financial constraints have been resolved. Thank you for your consideration.

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Zip Code: 64055

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement.

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Zip Code: 63070

First thing is to get over the name as at least he promoted our parks and trails. As for the park you should not be in any rush to develop it, Create a plan that protects it while still allowing us to use it. All parks do not need to be large RV camp grounds some are better as natural sites for hiking, wild life watching and hunting. You should add to our park system any time you can we are willing to wait for full development so our grand children will have outdoor places.

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Zip Code: 63114

Unbelievable that selling off a state park is even considered, what could possibly be the expense in simply leaving it alone, and maybe allowing primitive hunting and hiking with minimal or no development required. There is value in land that is simply just left alone.

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Zip Code: 65101

Dear Sir, I would like to see Jay Nixon State Park be included in Missouri's State Parks system. Opportunities to enhance and expand our State Parks don't come often. I supported the sales tax for our State Parks. Thank you. [REDACTED]

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Zip Code: 65708

Please keep this area protected for Missouri citizens. We need to have natural parks.

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Zip Code: 63348

Mountain bike trails, always mountain bike trails.

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Zip Code: 64050

The Jay Nixon State Park adds to the local Public Resources available to the Citizens of Missouri. The 50 acre lake and close proximity to the Ozark Trail make this a viable tourist attraction for the state and local economy.

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Zip Code: 65401

I think all of the four parks in question should be opened, as public parks and part of the Missouri state park system. Tourism is a very important industry in this state, and should be supported and expanded by providing places where people can visit and support the local economies. State parks give people a place to go in this state, rather than going to other states to enjoy park activities. Parks are a natural resource, which should be preserved and protected. Establishing and/or maintaining parks is a positive, constructive activity for the government to do, giving people recreational options. It is an opportunity for the state government to invest in the future, which reflects respect and responsibility for the environment. I am a Missouri native, long-time resident, and tax payer. I hope you consider my comments on this issue.

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Zip Code: 63620

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the management options for Jay Nixon State Park. We are local residents, living within a short walk of the Church

Mountain lease area of Taum Sauk Mountain State Park, so we are very familiar with the area. We also represent East Ozarks Audubon Society, a group of several hundred environmentally minded citizens over a 5 county area, including Reynolds County. In order to see the new acquisition in a broader context, we will also address some other issues regarding the Taum Sauk park system. \*We are very pleased to see this fine new addition to the State Park network in the St. Francois Mountains region. \*We would like to see the new acquisition managed as part of Taum Sauk Mountain State Park, where the primary goal is management for wilderness qualities. With the exception of the artificial lake, the Nixon addition fits very well with this. Merging the parks would also neutralize the unnecessarily provocative Jay Nixon name. (Even if the tract is retained as a separate park unit, we have no objection to renaming it Proffit Mountain State Park). \*We understand that development may take some time and depends on funds becoming available, but the first priority we would like to see is habitat restoration, especially for the rhyolite glade areas. Removal of pest species, especially feral hogs, should also be a priority. \*Eventually, hiking and/or biking plus equestrian trails should be developed to connect with the Ozark Trail, but the first priority for trail development in the area should be the long proposed and long promised Church Mountain and Taum Sauk Creek trail network. Both this and any new trails on the Proffit Mountain tract would connect to and enhance the versatility of the Ozark Trail. \*Our personal preference would be to remove the dam and return the valley to its natural condition. If the artificial lake is to be retained, we suggest developing it as a walk-in only fishing lake. We think something like this could be very popular with some of the fishing community, and may be unique in the State. Perhaps two management areas could be established: a more developed zone around the lake, with the remainder managed for wilderness qualities with hiking/ riding trails as the only development. \*To amplify on priorities for the broader area: The highest priority for the region is protection of the whole Taum Sauk Creek watershed and of the valley itself. This is one the finest pristine streams in the State, and only the headwaters are now protected. (The new tract helps with this, as it does include a small part of the Taum Sauk Creek headwater drainage.) Church Mountain, in addition to its own value, with high quality glades and endangered species habitat, forms the very center of the Taum Sauk Creek watershed. The State Parks division needs to establish a presence in the Taum Sauk Valley and on Church Mountain in the form of hiking trails. During the previous lease term, State Parks completely neglected this tract with the exception of posting some State Park boundary signs. The opportunity to incorporate this area into a broader long-term Park plan must not be missed

again! Ameren seems to have no short-term plan to develop Church Mountain but they have not necessarily given up on long term plans for a pumped storage plant. Losing Church Mountain and the Taum Sauk valley to massive industrial development would be a tragedy and would irreparably damage the integrity of the finest de facto wilderness area in the State. In discussions with State Park staff at the recent public meeting, we were told that there is some confusion over the terms of the lease – is State Park able to manage the tract under State Park regulations – e.g. do hunting regulations apply? There is no reason this issue could not be quickly resolved by consultation with State Park legal staff allowing appropriate development (trails) to proceed. \*This area has tremendous potential for "dark sky" designation if Ameren can be persuaded that lighting at the upper reservoir is not necessary. There could be a unique opportunity for one of the best and biggest dark sky areas in the Midwest.

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#### Zip Code:

Please reopen this State land to public use. If money is the problem then leave it primitive. There is not a bathroom at Busiek State Forest and tons of people hike there. They go there to be in nature. "And into the forest I go, to lose my mind and find my soul"

Unknown

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#### Zip Code: 65810

Short and sweet since by now I am sure you have heard it all. It's always about the money! Keep this park, make it a semi-wilderness area, unimproved as needed with inexpensive parking and lets go forward. Changing the name to be more representative of the area and park land would also be a plus. -■■■■■

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#### Zip Code: 64114

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement. The DNR and Missouri State Parks should do everything they can to preserve this land as a park for the people of Missouri.

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#### Zip Code: 65401

As a democrat leaning voter, Nixon supporter, and an avid Missouri park lover (my spouse and I spend a total of a month a year in various Missouri state parks)...it pains me to say this, but we simply don't have the funds to start new parks and commit ourselves to the ongoing costs of parks. Especially those that likely do not have enough natural features to attract enough visitors to offset the park costs. After visiting Echo Bluff State Park, I have seen first-hand what throwing money at a

remote state park looks like when there simply aren't enough natural features to attract people. It was nearly empty, there was not much to do, the camping is not at all private, and the giant lodge and various landscaping features showed a blatant abuse of funds. Missouri parks should be about nature, outdoor activities, family fun, a simple home away from home. I have also seen firsthand the effects of deferred maintenance and improvements at other state parks in Missouri...aging and non-functional bathrooms and shower facilities, run down park buildings, unkempt trails, etc. It gives those parks a feel of a gross truck stop rest area...not at all how we should represent Missouri to our own residents, let alone to those park visitors from other states. I believe these park plans should be shuttered until funds are made available for the improvement and upkeep of Missouri's other wonderful state parks, most especially the Missouri Rock Island Trail.

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Zip Code: 63051

Jay Nixon state park is already funded for the first five years. Our state parks are valuable to all Missourians. Do not sell Jay Nixon State Park

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Zip Code: 63020  
please keep this park

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Zip Code: 63077

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Zip Code: 65041  
Please do NOT sell Jay Nixon State Park. Why on earth would you divest the public of a precious natural resource? My wife and I relocated to Missouri in part because of the state's decades-old commitment to protecting its natural resources and parks which are the envy of many other states. It is beyond belief that any government which by definition is tasked with working in the interests of the citizenry -- first and foremost -- not for the benefit of special interests and campaign donors, relatives and friends. Our decision to make Missouri our retirement home was made in the belief that current and future state governments would continue to make the state a leader in the preservation of natural resources and public parks. Our fear now is that state leaders will renege on Missouri's tradition as a leader in state parks.

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Zip Code:  
Leave the Great parks in Missouri alone where they are and how they are. It's the future we are looking out for.

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Zip Code: 65010  
I am retired and have spent the last two years traveling to our beautiful Missouri State Parks. My husband and I

have enjoyed the passport adventures. Mo Parks are for all Missourians and we should protect our natural resources. Save our parks. Open the parks for all.

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Zip Code: 65548

As voters and citizens of this beautiful state we want to voice our opinion about keeping all our state parks. We need to have these special places preserved for now and for all future generations to enjoy. Selling off any of these special places will lead to their destruction. Please preserve our heritage!

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Zip Code:

This is a lovely, peaceful setting; what a tragedy to give it up! Places like this are being commercialized and destroyed all over this country. Please do your part to save these wild lands for our grandchildren. We want them to know such quiet beauty once existed all over.

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Zip Code: 63026

The Jay Nixon property should be retained within the Missouri Park system. This property borders; Taum Sauk Mountain State Park, Ketcherside Conservation Area, St. Francois Mountains Natural Area, and is near U. S. National Forest land. Large, contiguous natural communities are essential to a number of wildlife species, especially neo-tropical songbirds. The property is located in the rugged, remote and mountainous St. Francois Mountains. Natural attributes include igneous glades, woodland and forest natural communities, and a 50-acre lake. These natural communities are continuations of those in adjacent public lands, increasing ecological functional values. These high quality natural communities should be preserved and enhanced with ecological restoration. If funds become available, public access can be improved. There is no need to add gravel roads, parking lots or asphalt trails. The land is best left in a natural state and managed to increase biodiversity (e.g. controlled burns).

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Zip Code:

What an awesome area! This would be a great addition. We spent our honeymoon at Elephant Rocks SP and Johnson Shut Ins SP. We have a scout troop that enjoys primitive camping! Can't wait to go camping!

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Zip Code: 63135-1337

Please don't sell our State Parks. Let the people of Missouri enjoy their natural beauty and peacefulness. Our state parks are important to our citizens and also to tourists who look for natural beauty and hiking opportunities. Please preserve our wild spaces.

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**Zip Code: 65790**

In reading the description of this state park as well estimated cost to open it. I feel that this park should be kept as minimally developed as possible yet open to the public to explore. This park is valuable to nature lovers. It can benefit hikers, bird watchers, and people who love to hunt, fish and do primitive camping. In time, maybe it can be developed a bit more to expand its use. But certainly, this park must not be sold! I recently retired and love to hike and photograph nature. My husband and I are excited about visiting this park when it opens. We look forward to adventures exploring nature with our grandchildren at this park. We hope the park will open soon!

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"The

Governors' State Park"

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**Zip Code: 63119**

We are well aware that the naming of this park for Jay Nixon is a sore point for many people, and we agree with those who propose that parks should not be named for living persons of either party. The solution here is to absorb the land into Taum Sauk, thus keeping it as part of a park without the controversial name. The important point is to retain the land for the people and the future of Missouri. It was a far-sighted acquisition and will mean more to each new generation. If funds for maintenance and upkeep of all parks are limited now, that is a short-term issue that suggests limited development of this unit, perhaps even continued closure for the time being. But it is most important to preserve this parkland for the people of Missouri and for our out-of-state visitors—all of whom will spend money and contribute to the local economy. We have one of the premier state park systems in the United States, with majority support in every county in the state in the recent tax reauthorization. This land must be retained as a park. Do not sell it!

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**Zip Code: 63357**

I am an avid outdoorsman and wish to see each of the three state parks in question, open and accessible to the public. I encourage the state to find funds by either increasing revenue or cutting costs elsewhere.

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**Zip Code: 63116**

Re-open and do NOT sell the Jay Nixon State Park. MO State Parks are important way to bring Missourians from all over the state to these national gems. And jobs in the parks and in the local area in the vicinity of the park are generated by tourism. People from throughout the nation and visitors from around the world, including birders, are attracted to the wonders of our beautiful state. The DNR made an intelligent choice in hopes of preserving this area for us, our children, grandchildren, our future.

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**Zip Code: 63050**

I am in favor of preserving this property for public use and access. I understand this property was purchased with the intention of creating a new state park. This park does not have to be developed right away but could be used as a conservation area until developed as a park.

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**Zip Code: 63143**

The taxpayers have spent a lot of tax dollars to pave roads and make this park a desireable place to visit and for someone to sell it off to a developer is criminal and they should be prosecuted. Missouri State Parks can be self maintained as peaceful places to visit and hike, all we have to do is have visitors who use the parks pay so much a car when they go in to use the parks. Once the property is sold we can NEVER, NEVER get It back

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**Zip Code: 63116**

Having camped in state parks across the US, Missouri has one of the best systems in the country. Besides beautiful settings and free entry, our campgrounds are heavily used for at least 8 months every year -- many states shut down their campgrounds due to lack of interest or funds. Evinced by the strong support of Missouri, let us not stagnate -- let us continue to grow. If in the beginning, even if the proposed Jay Nixon State Park is primarily a trail-head for a trail connecting Taum Sauk State Park to Ketcherside Conservation Area, it would be very attractive to both day-hikers and long distance back-backers. However, since numerous governors of both parties have contributed to Missouri's outstanding park system, I strongly recommend that the

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Shame on Gov. Eric Greitens and the republican dominated legislature for attempting to sell the Jay Nixon State Park in an attempt to develop and privatize our state treasures that also include several other state parks. This is just one of a great number of terrible decisions by a terrible governor who ran a campaign on transparency but, soon after his election, has distinguished his administration with secrecy and dark money from nameless contributors.

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**Zip Code: 65074**

I'm hosting a family reunion in the upcoming year and this was a site I was going to check out for the visit. It would be a shame if we had to go to another state for our

reunion because the current governor seems to have a grudge against the former one.

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Zip Code: 63021

A mountain top lake on a 1.5 mile spur off the already most popular section of the Ozark Trail is hard to beat. This park would be a priceless addition to Missouri's public lands in the area. Existing gravel roads in the park already serve as access trails. Even if it were not immediately developed (which I hope it never is beyond primitive facilities), I can't believe selling the property is being considered.

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Zip Code: 65023

Could someone be more arrogant than to demand a new state park be named after them upon its purchase? Jay Nixon State Park? [REDACTED]....you can't afford the parks you have now. Get rid of this land and DO not develop.

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Zip Code: 63139

Please do not sell Jay Nixon State Park or remove the park from the State Parks system. This is precious wild land that belongs to the public and to future generations of humans and other species. Furthermore, the first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement and there is no guarantee how money from sale of the park would be spent. The Missouri State Park system is excellent and needs to be preserved. Once a park is gone it will never be fully restored. Keep Jay Nixon State Park.

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Zip Code: 63301

We want you to keep Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. More parks, not less are better for the public and generate revenue for the area, especially rural areas. We are members of the Missouri State Parks Association and we love our state parks system. Why destroy it?

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Zip Code: 63026

Stop closing our state parks! Don't close Jay Nixon State Park or the others! If you must rename Jay Nixon State Park because you don't like him, then do that I guess, but I think it's a petty and obviously politically-motivated thing to do. These parks are treasures for Missourians, they are fully funded, and they bring tourism and money into the state. Please keep them open.

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Zip Code:

Please do not let politics get in the way of further enriching the lives of Missourian's an others by having access to this property. The naming of this property was

unfortunate and should be changed. It will only serve as a reminder of divisive politics. Please focus on the many benefits this property will provide. Given its location adjacent to other properties, it should be easier to utilize existing equipment and staff to maintain. The connectivity of this property to other public properties will enhance the value and use of those existing properties as well as the new properties. Missourian's have a proud history of supporting conservation. Let's build on this proud legacy and make the necessary investments to make this park available to the public.

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Zip Code: 64060

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Zip Code: 63074

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement.

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Zip Code: 63123

I would really like to see this Park opened. I think the benefits far out weigh the concerns. This Park would add more access for me and my family coming from St Louis

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Zip Code: 65203

This is the ultimate opportunity to add trail area and habitat to the Taum Sauk Mountain State Park It can be improved as time and budget allows consistent with the rest of Taum Sauk, the Ozark Trail, and Ketcherside Mountain Conservation Area.

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Zip Code: 64055

Don't allow the sale of Jay Nixon State Park - or any of our beautiful park land. Missouri is blessed with many great state parks and all are important, each in its own special way.

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Zip Code: 63366

I don't think any of the MO state parks should be reduced or sold off. Our public lands, and the MO Dept. of conservation and Natural Resources are some of the states greatest assets, and one of the Major Reasons that MO is a desirable place to work and live. The parks are a major outdoor recreational resource for most working citizens, and NOT private and just for the wealthy and well-connected!! They make MO a great place for ordinary people to come live and work, which is important because ordinary people are the folks to actually DO 99+% of the work needed to build and sustain our society. our state and our country, and contribute 99% of the service people needed to defend it when necessary!!! We spend most of our time working

productively in the economy and raising and keeping our families, not putting around on expensive private golf courses and in country club bars!! Do NOT destroy, degrade, and/or privatize our public parks, lands, and other assets !!!

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Zip Code: 64151

Please do not sell Jay Nixon State Park. Our public lands are important and need to be protected and expanded, not sold off to the highest bidder. I have not yet had an opportunity to visit Jay Nixon State Park, please preserve it so I might someday have the chance.

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Zip Code:

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Zip Code: 63129  
Keep Jay Nixon State Park public!

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Zip Code: 65041

I support the effort to grow Missouri's reputation as a prime destination for tourists interested in hiking, camping, and enjoying the great outdoors. All in a central location within the nation and at very affordable prices, families on tight budgets are looking for vacations options that let them enjoy beautiful surroundings. Missouri is an ideal place for them along with nature lovers from all income classes. Toward that end, we should be investing in our park system, not closing existing parks. I am proud of our state's remarkable traditions as stewards of our beautiful wild forests and rivers. It would be so regrettable to see us lose our way by closing parks and failing to honor those wise commitments we have made to safeguard our valuable natural areas for the enjoyment of Missourians and all Americans. Please consider re-opening Jay Nixon State Park and making it a vibrant member of our world class state park system. Thank you.

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Zip Code: 65243

Please do not sell this park or any park in Missouri. We should take great pride in our parks as they draw in tourists, are good for our future and our children's future. Few places remain the the country unspoiled. Please keep our parks our prize.

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Zip Code: 63026

I know that some politicians in Jefferson City are wanted to sell this park in order to wipe out the former governor's legacy. This is theft from the citizens of Missouri. All Missourians own that parkland--not the governor or the legislator. DNR is a steward, not an owner, from my perspective and from the perspective of many Missouri voters. I don't care one way or another

whether they rename it, but it must not be sold. I think the support of nearly 80% of voters in a politically divided state choosing to renew the state parks and soil conservation tax speaks plenty of the priority that state parks are to Missourians. That said, we are incredibly fortunate to have this particular park, partly due to its proximity to other public lands in the most scenic area of the state. I lived in Upstate New York for six years, and they have done incredible things with the Adirondack "forever wild" area in the northern part of New York. The Arcadia/St. Francois Mountains region of Missouri is the closest thing we have to something like the Adirondacks--and it's better because it can be enjoyed by most people year-round without tons of ice and snow in the winter and without swarms of black flies in the spring. One thing that makes the Adirondacks so attractive is both mountains AND lakes together--we finally have that in the most beautiful part of Missouri, now! The communities of Upstate New York thrive on the tourism in the Adirondacks, and Jay Nixon State Park and surrounding public land is even closer to St. Louis than the Adirondacks are to New York, Syracuse, and other major cities--the opportunity for surrounding communities to capitalize on tourism here is substantial. With the addition of Jay Nixon State Park, the park system gains a mountain lake and streams that are perfect for backcountry camping and hiking. This park doesn't need major facilities to be successful and to draw people. It needs primitive, single-track, dirt trails and primitive backpacking campsites. You could probably partner with the Ozark Trail Association to build those trails and sites and use volunteer labor--I would volunteer my time for that, so I'm sure others would, too. If you want to get fancy, then three-sided "Adirondack" shelters would be a great addition, but that's not necessary. Metal fire rings/fire pits would be nice, but an unnecessary luxury. The park would benefit from a gravel parking lot and a vault toilet, and maybe a well-water spigot, if possible, but I think it could do without those things, too. I can see potentially equestrian trails or mountain-biking co-existing with hiking/backpacking, but that's about it. Keep this one simple, keep it clean with leave-no-trace principles, and keep it open for us. I go to this area to hike or camp several times a year, so I would definitely use this park frequently.

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Zip Code: 63026

Please consider opening Jay Nixon State Park to the public. My family enjoys all of the State Parks. We often hike and camp at the wonderful parks in Missouri, and we look forward to seeing new ones. We visit Don Robinson State Park frequently, and have attended the Missouri First Hikes each year – as we plan on attending this year at Babler State Park. Since the new state parks were acquired with the plan to do minimal development, the cost to the State should be modest. On the other

hand, the benefits to Missouri would be substantial. State Parks are good for the local economy. Our state parks had 18 million visitors in 2016, ourselves included, a new record. Those visitors patronize local businesses for food, gasoline, rental canoes, and hotel rooms. That means more local jobs as well as more local tax revenue. Missouri State Parks do not charge an entrance fee, so low and moderate income Missourians have access to affordable outdoor recreation in our community. Accessible outdoor recreation means improved health for our children and families. In November 2016, Missourians voted to renew the sales tax for state parks and soil conservation. A majority of voters in every single County in our state voted yes for parks. We shared the joy with many rangers throughout the state when we stopped in the visitors centers. We hope you will take into consideration our comments, and allow for families like ours to enjoy Jay Nixon State Park.

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**Zip Code:**

Jay Nixon acreage should be retained and renamed to Proffitt Mountain Backcountry. It should be re-attached to Taum Sauk Mountain SP, as the original plans laid out. I was at the meeting at Johnson Shut-Ins, and looked at the maps. The state should make an offer to the owner of the property which is about two-tenths of a mile from Hwy. N, for road access or a corridor easement. A short road should be constructed, opening out on the first feasibly flat area to provide a parking area--gravel on the road and parking area is fine at first. A signboard with a hutch should have a map of the park, the rules and regulations for the Leave No Trace backcountry. Development should be limited to a connector trail to the OT, and perhaps to the lake. These trails and the perimeter of the parking lot should be hardened against ATV or 4-wheeler traffic going any further on all sides, even if you have to somehow cage in the area. Maybe the Missouri Red Quarry or the Traprock Quarry at Annapolis could furnish some huge-- and I mean HUGE-- stones to put around the vehicle area. Access beyond the parking lot should be only by foot or horse. Perhaps some local equestrian group like the BCH could be deputized to patrol it, and be used to bring out people with broken legs, instead of needing wheeled vehicles. Visitors should be hammered with Leave No Trace backpacker rules, including a sign in and sign out or possibly an online reservation website added to the camping reservations. Other activities by permit; and those need to go through the Taum Sauk park office. The state should look into the possibility of composting toilets, marine toilets or other "green" solutions which need only occasional servicing, to eliminate the need for running water lines or pumping privies. This would be a great venue to try them out. This piece of property might be opened to firearms turkey and deer hunting, where

you have a short, specific season which even city people know to stay out of the woods for. Of the three properties, this would be the most conducive to that -- maybe even open up other remote parts of Taum Sauk at those times. If you throw the hunters some sort of bone like this, they are likely to be much less against other parks, like the one overlooking Branson, being hunt-free. In short, this should be a backcountry, with stiff fines for vehicular traffic, and a hiker's paradise. I would not be opposed to permitting back country camping for people thru hiking the OT here; but with a permit, in designated areas, and a limit on how many permits are issued at one time. Other than the short road, connector trails, parking lot and composting or other privies, this property should not cost that much to manage on an ongoing basis. People should be made aware when they are in there, they are pretty much on their own. After initial construction, which can be done as money permits, occasional surveillance of the vehicular area should be all that is required except in an emergency. Is there someplace to land a medevac? I don't think there is much radio or cell signal out there anyway. Perhaps a half-time maintenance person should do it.

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**Zip Code: 63141**

Please do not sell any of the land recently purchased for State Parks. We should continue to set aside as much land as possible and protect from development.

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**Zip Code: 63116**

Turn it over to the MDC. We need more public hunting and fishing ground.

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**Zip Code: 63119**

I haven't had a chance to see the new Jay Nixon State Park but the presentation I saw about it several months ago convinced me that it an important connector for public lands that are already protected. Please protect Jay Nixon State Park so that I and my chldren can enjoy its lands. Do not sell off valuable land that should be saved for the benefit of future Missourians.

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**Zip Code: 64119**

Good afternoon, Thank you for opening this up as I was not able to visit any of the meetings. This is a really beautiful place. Hoping I can take my kayaks to enjoy the beautiful Taum Sauk Mountain area. Glad to see it presented to be maintained by the Missouri State Park system and named after Gov. Jay Nixon. He was very good for the state parks. Thank you for allowing the public to comment and I appreciate all the MO state parks. -2005/2006 Passport and 2016/2017 Centennial Passport fan -2007 Trail of the Month fan

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Zip Code: 63376

Instead of acquiring new land, please spend some money on maintenance items in existing parks. There are bathrooms & shower facilities that need improvement, along with road & picnic areas.

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Zip Code: 63139

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement.

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Zip Code: 63122

Keep All the Parks

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Zip Code: 63017

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement.

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Zip Code:

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Zip Code: 63301

Keep the park , if it can be developed at a later date great. This is a fabulous region.

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Zip Code: 63303

The Missouri Park System should retain the Jay Nixon State Park property. This area contains outstanding St. Francois Mountains scenery of igneous glades and heavy forest, along with a large lake. Since it borders the St. Francois Mountains Natural Area, which was designated for its unique Missouri habitat, any buffer to that Natural Area is warranted. It also contains a portion of the Ozark Trail, a wonderful asset for Missouri to advertise to outdoor enthusiasts. Natural places like these are a tourist draw adding to the economic and tax base of the local communities. The property should be retained, but Jay Nixon State Park should not be its own entity. This property should be merged into the existing and adjacent Taum Sauk Mountain State Park. Besides, tying public, natural land to a political figure causes partisan angst, where this beautiful area should be enjoyed by all. Natural resource management and restoration should begin in 2018, with a long term plan determined with public input. Due to this area's rugged and remote location, much care should be given to any infrastructure that might go into this property. However, Missouri State Parks should plan any property restoration over time in stages as funding and staff become available. The Missouri Park System has never in its 100 years sold property, and any sale revenue would never benefit

the residents of the whole state of Missouri as this property does. With the overwhelming renewal of the State Parks, Soils, and Water Sales Tax last fall, the people of Missouri approve of their parks. Please retain and begin maintaining this property as part of the existing Taum Sauk Mountain State Park. Thank you!

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Zip Code:

Leave the parks alone!! Do not destroy our parks!

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Zip Code:

Don't sell the park. Keep it open for the public. Thanks.

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Zip Code: 65616

Our State Parks belong to all of us to use and enjoy the natural beauty they behold. They are not for sale!

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Zip Code: 65250

It is very difficult to retain such wonderful properties in their pristine condition making them available to Missourians for their recreation and access. Please do not allow Jay Nixon State Park to be disposed of.

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Zip Code: 63021

Find funding for MO public parks! These are one of the few assets we have in the state. The public should be able to enjoy and share the outdoors. If we do not all share this burden to maintain lands, it will all be fenced off for individual use, or worse yet plundered for some non Missouri company's short term monetary gain.

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Zip Code:

Do not sell Jay Nixon State Park. Reopen it for the public. I come from a long line of Republicans on both sides of my family, and Gov. Greitens is no Republican. This is FASCIST B.S. Don't you dare sell off land that MY tax dollars have paid for. I'm a capitalist, and if I spend money on something, I want something in return. Keep the park open for all Missouri residents, who have paid for it with their hard-earned tax dollars.

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Zip Code: 64064

Our State Parks are NOT for sale! They belong to We, The People, and we want every single inch of them fully protected, staffed and funded! Thank you

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Zip Code: 63122

The only option there is is to not get rid of public land that the state already possesses. Find a way to retain these new acquisitions because once they are gone they maybe forever gone

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Zip Code: 63132

Please do not sell our state parks. I have lived in Missouri my entire life and often boast to my out-of-town visitors about Missouri's great park, recreation and conservation system. In fact I hold it up as a model to be followed. Enjoyment of these parks, can be done with minimal expenditure. They bring tourist dollars to local communities and selling off the land is short-sighted.

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operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement.

Zip Code:

Please keep the park, do not sell. Make the park a backcountry option/part of Taum Sauk Mountain State Park so there is less pressure to add infrastructure like parking and bathrooms. Don't sell the park. This is the perfect opportunity to provide a value-added experience (backcountry camping/hiking) with minimal investment.

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Zip Code: 63052

Please, keep this park. Missouri's State Parks are memory makers for residents and out of state folks. If you need money to develop, just wait until we have some. Bet voters might even pay a little more to get that done.

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Zip Code: 63112

Let's make the Jay Nixon State Park part of Taum Sauk Park so that it can be enjoyed and utilized by the people of the state. I am a bird watcher and not only value places I can visit to look for birds, but value all of the quality habitat which we can create for birds, whether I see them there or not. Birds are under so much pressure, so any help we can give them will have big paybacks.

Thank you!

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Zip Code: 63126

Please don't sell off the state parks. I live in the city but truly enjoy my weekends hiking in the woods away from hearing highways.

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Zip Code: 63122

Please do not allow Governor Greitens to sell this park or any other National or State Parks.

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Zip Code: 64012

Jay Nixon SP sounds like a lovely addition to the surrounding area. Even if it is not developed as a state park at this time, there is value in keeping it "as is" and I believe it would be an asset to the area. We have visited that region a few times over the years and would like to see as much of it preserved as possible. Thank you,

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Zip Code: 63122

It is a travesty that selling Jay Nixon State Park is even being considered at this point. PLEASE DON'T LET THIS HAPPEN!

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Zip Code: 65550

Do not sell Jay Nixon State Park! It will be a wonderful addition to Missouri's State Parks! People who appreciate nature will enjoy hiking and birding there; taking in the amazing Missouri landscape.

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Zip Code: 64109

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park

Zip Code: 65201

Please do not do away with any park land or decrease acreage of any. We need more access to nature. It is good for everyone and good for our environment.

---

Zip Code: 65202

I would like our land to be used for our enjoyment, not for a real estate company to make even more money than they need.

---

Zip Code: 65292

Our state parks should not be managed through a political lens. Rather, our parks and historic sites must be preserved for the benefit of future generations. If anything, we need to expand and fund our system to preserve our natural and cultural heritage in this great state. Please keep Jay Nixon State Park in the park system.

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Zip Code: 65026

Leave it alone I regret voting for the governor.

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Zip Code:

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Zip Code: 63119

Please, please, please keep Jay Nixon State Park intact and in Missouri's state park system! We need more protected wilderness in our state, not less. Thank you,  
[REDACTED] St. Louis, MO

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Zip Code: 65791

Our State Parks aren't for sale. They belong to us "WE THE PEOPLE OF MISSOURI"

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Zip Code: 64024

Please do whatever is needed to keep all of the new state parks.

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Zip Code:

Don't let a rogue, anti-environment politician sell-off part or all of a State park. Thank you.

---

Zip Code: 63901

Missouri is a beautiful state with diverse natural resources. We need to protect and keep state parks for our future, the ecology and economy.

---

Zip Code: 65559

Jay Nixon State Park and every other Missouri State Park are stars for our state. They are assets that every

Missouri citizen can enjoy. Also, our state parks are beautiful attractions for visitors. Our state parks attract tourism and improve the opinion others have of our state. I have no idea why Jay Nixon State Park has been closed or why there is thoughts of selling the park. If the reason is the cost to maintain the park and to keep it open, then we should be looking for citizen input on ways we can keep the park open without having a negative financial impact on the state. Don't give up on our state parks. We should all be proud of our parks.

---

Zip Code:

Protect all Missouri state parks.

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Zip Code: 65466

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Zip Code: 65109

Leave the park as is. Nature is so special and we need to protect it. Hiking....hunting...camping...outdoor theatre to watch the stars and moon. The animals need protection from man's destruction of their homes.

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Zip Code: 63028

Please don't sell off this valuable property. If we don't have funds to develop it then hold the property for a future time when funds are available. Missouri has a strong history of providing wonderful state parks. Let's continue that legacy.

---

Zip Code: 63049

Do not close this state park! This land belongs to the citizens of Missouri and should stay that way.

---

Zip Code: 65656

Keep. Our state parks intact. We need to avoid commercialization of our green areas.

---

Zip Code:

Change the name!!!!

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Zip Code: 63116

Do not sell this park, do not remove it from the park system. The first 5 years have already been funded for this park from Superfund settlement. If you want to rename it, fine. Pettiness is not what we need in this state. We need to preserve our lands for public use (which doesn't mean, converting to private use, it means, PARKS public PARKs for the PUBLIC).

**Zip Code:**

Greitens should resign after repaying the hundreds of thousands of dollars he paid himself from his charity. A state park belongs to the people, not the governor

----

**Zip Code: 64114**

Don't sell off our state parks for any last ditch efforts to harvest fossil fuels. Put our money into solar and wind and bio renewable fuels. Save the climate and the planet for our children and generations to come. To make our parks a waste land is insanity. Greed has an insatiable appetite and lacks common sense and vision for the future. DO NOT SELL OUR STATE PARKS.

----

**Zip Code: 65548**

We should never sell off our state Parks!!!

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**Zip Code: 65203**

I am opposed to any efforts to sell Jay Nixon State Park. I have read that there are no roads to the park and access would be difficult to create. Therefore, it makes the most sense to add the property to Taum Sauk Mountain State Park, which is adjacent, and then build hiking trails to access the property from Taum Sauk SP or from the Ozark Trail.

----

**Zip Code:**

If the name is really such a big deal to every one just change it. But open the park

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**Zip Code: 63108**

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement. Missouri currently has a great park system. Let's keep it great by continuing to add to it.

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**Zip Code: 63123**

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement.

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**Zip Code: 65202**

Please keep this state park open. We need all of our state parks to provide places for the people of Mo to go - not less.

----

**Zip Code:**

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement.

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**Zip Code: 64034**

KEEP THESE PARKS SAFE. Do not allow development and do not sell them.

**Zip Code: 63620**

Just connect this land to its neighboring state parks if you are to keep it in the park system. And PLEASE DO NOT NAME it jay nixon SP. An ugly reminder of one of Missouri's worst governors. So much money (Amerin breach, mining fines and tax revenue )has been misused by the DNR. This small insignificant land is just another example. I thought Missouri parks were focused on special, unique and historic locations. We have so many great parks....this land is NOT special in any way. Same

with Eco Bluff....another diabolical theft and expenditure by DNR (YES, face the truth)....DO NOT use the park system for some politically inflated ego abused by a governor (past, thank goodness). Too many of our other great state parks need repairs, maintenance and improvements that need money first before more is wasted on this land. Keep monies collected from these poor areas in these locations....or use it for its intended purpose (reclamation) Please DO NOT make this a new state park in case you are not sure what I am trying to say. [REDACTED], Iron Co.

---

Zip Code: 64113

Overwhelming support statewide and from the two counties involved is evident in the land soil and water conservation tax vote. Why would a few landowners (and/or a few local politicians waving the banner of a misnamed park) stand in the way of this park remaining open for recreation in its primitive state. As I understand it, the monies must be spent in the lead-mining area and this site qualifies. It is also a perfect pick in terms of habitat. The only reason to get rid of any state parks would be to further the upkeep of others. Realistically, this probably would not happen. Some excuse would be found to divert the money elsewhere. Roaring River State Park is filled with poison-ivy covered trails and dangerously-molded and mildewed CCC cabins which are still rented out to unsuspecting souls. Its lodge lower level bedrooms reek of smells and every surface is wet and slick. Only the above-ground, drive-up, motel-like lodging adjacent to the main floor of the lodge is even inhabitable. In our opinion. What a disappointment it was. Fishing areas were cramped and showed a lot of human impact. Echo Bluff is our jewel. Echo Bluff is what each developed Missouri State Park should offer its citizens. (And they do not all need to be developed.) Camping, lodging, landscaping and trails are state-of-the-craft experiences for Missouri residents at Echo Bluff.

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Zip Code: 63146

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement.

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Zip Code: 63119

Missouri State Parks are a valuable asset and should not be sold off or reduced in size. We have to hold on to these parks and protect them from any development or encroachment. Not just for our generation, but for generations.

---

Zip Code: 63119

State Parks are just that...state meaning public. It is not the right of the governor or anyone else in a government job to take that away from the public willy nilly. So much of our land is being sold off, built on, ruined. Wildlife left to forge for itself, dwindle, etc. It is our responsibility to make our land clean and in its original form. Do you realize the extend of urban heat islands that are affecting our climate? It's December 19th and it's 56 degrees today. Same tomorrow. We are in drought. Guess what helps to create moisture in our air so we have water? Yes, Trees, Shrubs, Plants. When we irresponsibly build more houses, buildings, malls, and roads where once was grass, trees, shrubs we lose that cooling effect. And when we have zero ordinances to replant large hardwood trees to cool down our earth, we get a huge impact to global warming. State and National Parks preserve what little we have left. If anything we should be adding more preserved open spaces to counter what we, as mankind, are doing to our Mother Earth. Please, stop being influenced by money. It will get you nothing in the end. At your death, what will you be remembered for? Wealth? Greed? Money? Or how you preserved our great state. How you influenced other states to follow your lead. How you implemented laws to require sustainable energy sources like wind and solar. How you implemented laws requiring all land developments to have hardwood large trees planted resulting in the structures and it's hard paved surfaces being shaded by 50% or more within 5-10 years. What will your choice be?

---

Zip Code:

Hello- thanks for the opportunity for feedback.  
Please do not sell J. Nixon Park. thanks you, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] columbia, Mo.

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Zip Code: 64118

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement. I would also recommend renaming Jay Nixon State Park. To literally anything else.

---

Zip Code: 63124

Jay Nixon State Park is a valuable addition to the Missouri State Park system. It should be maintained as an essential wilderness recreational site for hiking, kayaking, and fishing. For efficiency, it can be integrated into Johnson Shut-ins and Taum Sauk parks. Do NOT sell it!

---

Zip Code:

Looks like a great opportunity to expand the awesome natural resources of the existing parks in this region. It is the literal highest point in the state and an important destination in the Ozarks. Not sure why it needs to be a separate park as it seems it could also be managed as an extension of the existing Taum Sauk State Park

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Zip Code:

Why on earth would anyone think selling a state park is a good idea? We need more parklands, not fewer. Sadly another power grab by a governor supported by dark money. God help us all! It's a sad day when our politicians sell the people out at every turn.

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Zip Code: 63049

Add to taum Sauk...develop trail system to connect the 2

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Zip Code:

Do not allow our state parks to be sold!

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Zip Code: 63131

Please don't sell our state park. It belongs to all Missourians! We Missourians are proud of our state park system. They improve our economy and provide us with a beautiful natural resource.

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Zip Code:

Please preserve Missouri's State Park system. We should not be scaling it back.

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Zip Code:

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement

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Zip Code:

Don't sell Jay Nixon park or any other Mo state park. Citizens deserve access to the natural wonders of our state.

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Zip Code: 63144

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Zip Code:

Please continue to preserve our parks and natural areas in Missouri. We are proud of our standing as one of the best states to support conservation of our natural resources and hope you will continue this effort so future generations of Missourians will have these natural areas such as Jay Nixon state park for generations to come.

----

Zip Code: 65781

Please do not sell Jay Nixon State Park or remove it from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement, so there is no reason the park should be closed. Thank you and please do everything in your power to protect the citizens' state park system from this greedy and selfish governor.

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Zip Code: 63043

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement.

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Zip Code: 63074

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Zip Code:

Leave our state parks alone.

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Zip Code: 64651

Why would you even consider selling a beautiful natural area that is a wonderful example of what makes this a great state to live in. What will be left for our grandchildren and their children when being "short sighted" has left them with no legacy? Please reconsider and send a message that the citizens care about wildlife and our Missouri State Parks! Thank You

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Zip Code: 63117

I stand with the Missouri Sierra Club: Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement. Thank you for your consideration, [REDACTED]

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Zip Code: 64012

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Zip Code: 64075

NONE OF OUR PARKS ARE FOR SALE!!

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Zip Code: 65679

First of all there should be no plans to sell any State Park. This is only under consideration by Greitens since it was the product of Democrat Governor Nixon. It seems as though Greitens, like Trump only wants to tear down all good things that a Missouri Democrat has produced. Well, Governor Greitens, we can only hope you are a one term destroyer.

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Zip Code:

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Zip Code:

I would prefer all parks be kept open but I have a feeling our snarky governor (Drumpt want to be) will close it. He is slowly destroying our state. We are in serious trouble.

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Zip Code: 65202

Keep them well cared for and free for all the public to enjoy.

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Zip Code: 63775

save them, don't sell or destroy them

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Zip Code: 65793

1. KEEP THE PARK. 2. IT'S DEFINITELY A WIN-WIN. GOOD FOR OUR LOCAL ECONOMY; GOOD FOR OUR STATE; GOOD FOR ALL OF OUR CITIZENS. IT STIMULATES OUR STATE'S ECONOMY WHILE PROMOTING THE UNDERSTANDING OF HEALTHY CONSERVATION CONCEPTS FOR OUR FUTURE GENERATIONS.

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Zip Code: 65793

Please allow this wonderful park to be open to the public. The parks of Missouri are true wealth for all our citizens. And they stimulate the economy while promoting conservation. This park needs to be available to the public.

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Zip Code: 65065

Our state parks are an asset that draws visitors to the state and provides recreation and rejuvenation to our citizens. You must not sell our parklands, as it diminishes our state.

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Zip Code:

The state parks belong to the people. They should not be for sale.

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Zip Code: 64151

Protect Jay Nixon State Park. No sale of state parks. No fracking, drilling and/or mining of state parks. Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement. Missouri Parks belong to all of us.

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Zip Code: 63139

Jay Nixon State Park (or whatever you want to call it) is on the border of the Taum Sauk Mountain State Park. If nothing else, make it a part of that park. But do not sell the land to private individuals. If short on funds, sit on the land for awhile or put a hiking trail through it. This is prime St. Francois Mountain wilderness between two state parks. Funding. That is a dilemma. Revisit income streams (fees, permits, taxes) and expenses.

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Zip Code: 63146

My family often hikes and take picnics in the state parks. We try to visit as many as possible and hope to see them all in the future. Each park is unique in itself, and we want to visit the Jay Nixon State Park. Please do not sell this park or any of the other Missouri state parks.

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Zip Code: 65101

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Zip Code: 64133

Leave it alone and open it

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Zip Code: 64093

Do not sell the park!

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Zip Code: 64113

Please re-open the Nixon State Park. By no means should it be sold.

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Zip Code:

DON'T SELL JAY NIXON STATE PARK!!! This park belongs to us all and visitors coming to visit our lovely state and this beautiful park. Leave OUR park alone. Let it be enjoyed and protected. DO NOT SELL MY, YOUR, EVERYONES PARK. SAVE JAY NIXON STATE PARK!!!

----

Zip Code: 65231

What is wrong with people who would do such a thing.....parks last for ever....they protect land from us and for us.... and it becomes a gift to the future Missourians and others.....this park needs to be saved for my children and their children.....only greedy

politicians would try this....the governor must owe someone some money and he pays it off this way, at all of us citizen's expense.....makes me sick.....really low life!!!!

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Zip Code: 63069

access to lake with a boat ramp,camping,hiking trails,and bird watching platform

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Zip Code: 63116

Our state parks are the places that people go for wonderful healthful outdoor recreation and occasions such as family get-togethers. They are the places in demand especially for an income bracket of folks who cannot afford pricey venues for such activities. We steadfastly encourage children and adults to realize the benefits of being in nature. There they learn to observe, to question, to think, and to appreciate. They learn how our world keeps its balance and provides us with necessary products for living. They can also learn to become courageous and independent. None of this can be accomplished as well via video or reading or lecture. Keep our state parks open and operating. All of us need and use them as often as possible. thank you sincerely.

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Zip Code:

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Zip Code: 63116

Please don't sell the Jay Nixon State Park!

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Zip Code: 63130

Instead of selling this land for short term gains please consider keeping this land in public hands for future generations, managing it as a wilderness area for hiking,hunting,horseback riding.

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Zip Code: 64131

Leave the state parks alone! We need our beautiful wilderness areas, as well as for the creatures that live in them!

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Zip Code: 63068

Missouri is known for its state park system. They are the crown jewels of our state, just as the national parks are the crown jewels of this great nation. Please keep our park system intact, including Jay Nixon state park and the other new parks. Please don't sell off our parklands.

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Zip Code: 63125

To enforce the rules against campers that bring dogs who's owners do not control their pets barking. If the pet owner can not control the dogs barking the camper should be asked to place the dog inside the camper or asked to leave the park.

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Zip Code:

Please just keep the park. Our Parks are a huge part of who Missourians are, and what we're known for.

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Zip Code: 63367

Do not sell Jay Nixon State Park and open the park to all Missourians.

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Zip Code: 64834

Do not sell our park land!

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Zip Code: 64111

Please keep Jay Nixon State Park a State Park for everyone to enjoy. Places like this are Missouri's assets and everyone should have the right to enjoy them. Anything else is short sighted.

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Zip Code: 65402

Please do NOT sell Jay Nixon State Park and remove it from the Missouri State Parks system. Please consider that the first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement. I have enjoyed visiting and hiking in several of our state's beautiful State Parks. I want to look forward to visiting more including Jay Nixon State Park.

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Zip Code: 65807

Do NOT sell off any of our state parks, new or old. We need to protect even more land for the public, not sell it!

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Zip Code: 63118

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Zip Code: 64114

Let's make protecting every park in our state for our children and grandchildren a priority.

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Zip Code:

Keep the park. Re-name it if that is the real issue.

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Zip Code:

State parks, Federal parks, and all parks are for all the people, not the connected [REDACTED] for private use. Public property is for the public. Keep it that way.

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Zip Code: 65063

Keep the Jay Nixon State Park for the citizens of Missouri. Nature heals and we need to spend more time in nature for our health and mental health. It just makes sense. Do the moral thing for Missourians.

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Zip Code: 63119

Don't sell the Jay Nixon State Park!

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Zip Code: 65043

Please do not sell off this park! This could be the start of a slippery slope not unlike what is happening to our national parks. Missouri has been blessed with beautiful parks that attract thousands of visitors to our state. These visitors stimulate our economy and keep many Missourians employed. Besides the economic benefit, the parks provide natural habitat for many species of animals, flora and fauna. Do not destroy our precious ecosystem by selling off Missouri park land. Thank you!

---

Zip Code: 63109

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement.

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Zip Code: 65802

state parks belong to the citizens of the state (you know, the people who pay your salary)...they are not yours to sell...especially because the reason you want to sell this one is because it's named after a democrat...what a stupid reason!!!!!!

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Zip Code:

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Zip Code: 63122

Please do not sell off this park. It would be better to keep the land and develop it as a state park.

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Zip Code:

State parks have been set aside for the people of Missouri. All state parks should be protected whether they are highly developed or left in a natural state.

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Zip Code:

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Zip Code: 63136

Do not sell off this park!!

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Zip Code: 64118

Please don't sell off the beautiful parks in Missouri, they are enjoyed year round.

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Zip Code:

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Zip Code:

Selling Jay Nixon SP is a stupid and petty political waste. Don't be a jerk, Greitens.

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Zip Code:

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Zip Code: 64077

The state parks that have been purchased and not open to the public should be opened to the public as soon as possible so that they can be enjoyed.

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Zip Code: 8406

Parks are a lot of work, Gov. Greitens, but they're worth it. Why would you want to sell off land that has already been replenished and is now suitable for outdoor activities? Planning to replace it with something more important? Like housing? Or a mall? No, that should be confined to the cities where what is there needs rehab for the masses. Open space can't be replaced. We need to keep what we have in place. Next time I'm in Missouri for a visit, I'll go by Jay Nixon and see for myself what you would eliminate from the public domain.

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Zip Code: 64075

Do not sell our parks.

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Zip Code: 64114

Do not sale Jay Nixon State Park

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Zip Code: 63021

I find it disconcerting that Governor Greitens has closed Jay Nixon State Park to the public and is considering selling off all this beautiful wilderness area. Besides being wonderful places for park visitors like me to experience nature, these areas are crucial for flora, fauna and the environment. State Parks boost the local economies of the surrounding areas; often in small rural towns that could really use it. Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement.

Zip Code: 65251

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Zip Code: 65622

Hiking trails!

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Zip Code: 63026  
In the state of Missouri we need more protected areas not less. This park is on the migratory bird fly over and that is one of the many reasons it should remain a park. NOT sold off to special interests but maintained as open, green space for the people of Missouri. We need MORE green spaces not less. The people of Missouri have shown their willingness to support our parks and natural resources. I vehemently disagree with Greitens wanting to 'sell off' our land in this state. Maybe he should take time to listen to the people of Missouri.

---

Zip Code: 63103  
Keep entry fee Low and maintain the park that we already have

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Zip Code: 63143

Don't sell it...Advertise it...get MORE people to come...to use it...enjoy it... Don't hide it !!! We're SO lucky to even have a place like this... The place....to relax, enjoy, hike, study nature, enjoy wild life..etc. etc. PLEASE.....

---

Zip Code: 65686

The State Parks are not for sale. They must be preserved for use by the public and be available for those in the future. DO NOT SELL ANY PARK LAND!!!!!!

---

Zip Code: 63109

State Parks are for the people, please don't sell off our State Parks. I will be very disappointed in the man I voted for if this comes to pass.

---

Zip Code: 63379

Please keep all the State Parks. My daughter, grandsons and I are making the rounds, camping at all the State Parks we can in Missouri. Loosing even one, would be a huge loss. We like the State Parks for camping best, as they are always clean and well run and we have a great time.

---

Zip Code: 63114

Please do not sell Jay Nixon State Park, a wilderness which can help to preserve priceless biodiversity.

---

Zip Code: 64424

Let us leave whAt few untouched places we have just that, untouched. My children and grandchildren need and want a few places to go to experience mother eArth and all the beauty and lessons to learn. Man has desecrated enough, let's leave this one alone. My grandbabies deserve to learn something first hand rather through Google or an encyclopedia.

---

Zip Code: 64506

Please keep Jay Nixon State Park open ans useable for now and future Missourians to enjoy!

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Zip Code: 63116

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Zip Code: 64063

Do not sell the park! Let the community continue to enjoy it as a public resource.

---

Zip Code: 63034

Please reopen Jay Nixon Park. We have enough land un-used in Missouri for unlimited parks. Somebody is being petty!

---

Zip Code: 63376

leep it up.We need a state park.

---

Zip Code: 63304

Please do NOT destroy what little natural beauty Missouri has left, you must consider that many people will leave the state if there are no public places to enjoy nature. I came from Arkansas and miss the Natural State and will probably retire if things keep getting worse here.

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Zip Code:

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Zip Code: 65807

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Zip Code:

Protect jay Nixon state park

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Zip Code:

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Zip Code: 63137

I request the Mo State Parks reopen this park as soon as possible.

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Zip Code: 63112

No sales of state park lands. Period.

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Zip Code: 64146

Please don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement.

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Zip Code: 63123

Don't see Jay Nixon State Park. It is a foolish move from any and every perspective.

----

Zip Code:

Don't sell any of our state parks. They are places to be preserved and protected. Once sold and destroyed, it cannot be replaced. Land is a finite resource. We can't destroy it and the homes of those animals who live there.

----

Zip Code: 64089

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Zip Code: 64030

Please do not sell Jay Nixon State Park. The land resources are for all of us to enjoy. It's safe habitat for the animals who call it home. Our children and all further generations deserve to have open spaces to connect to nature. Selling Jay Nixon State Park is a mistake with huge consequences that would impact many.

----

Zip Code:

Please keep Jay Nixon State Park. Animals depend on it and Missouri needs to keep nature a part of our state.

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Zip Code: 63376

What a spiteful thing to do! Do not sell off this park!

----

Zip Code:

Don't sell off Jay Nixon state park. We NEED all of our state parks!

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Zip Code:

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Zip Code: 65202

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement, and sale of Jay Nixon State park would be a waste of time, resources, and the Superfund settlement money that was used to purchase it originally.

----

Zip Code: 63021

Please save this state park. This is part of lands set aside for the people of Missouri and for visitors to be able to enjoy the outdoors and the beauty of Missouri. So much of what makes Missouri unique has been sold off and blighted with cheap commercial developments that spring up and then abandoned. The state parks preserve the beauty of our state and attract others to marvel, enjoy, and cherish these unique features. Much of this park has been funded by superfund money. I understand the current governor may not care for the park's name but that is not a reason to dispose of it. Missourians need its state parks.

----

Zip Code: 63366

I value having a large variety of Missouri parks to enjoy with my family. The more parks, the better! Now that my children are grown up, my biggest regret is that we didn't do more camping and visit more parks when they were young.

----

Zip Code: 63005

I believe state parks should stay, STATE PARKS. The individuals who set this up were clearly more foresighted than present Government officials. Selling off this land is unconscionable, just like TRUMP. BAD for AMERICA

----

Zip Code: 63901

Please do not sell or decrease the land size of any of our state parks. Parks are a gift to Missourians and all other visitors to our state. Parks can be enjoyed by all. The beauty is needed by all.

----

Zip Code:

Stop trying to sell off OUR state parks. The Jay Nixon park is already funded and ready to be enjoyed by CITIZENS of this state. Stop treating this like it is your personal property.

----

Zip Code: 64137

I enjoy our Missouri state parks & would like to see them protected for myself & other people to enjoy them.

----

Zip Code: 63119

State Parks belong to all of us in Missouri! Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement. Keep the park for our children and grandchildren.

---

Zip Code:

This park should remain a Missouri State Park open to all people in Missouri

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Zip Code: 65804

I strongly oppose the selling of Jay Nixon State Park. Missouri state parks are so valuable both to conservation and outdoor recreation. Some of my fondest memories are from hikes and adventures in Missouri state parks, and it is so important to protect one of Missouri's newest state parks. Jay Nixon State Park should be open for the public to enjoy.

---

Zip Code: 63119

Please don't sell Jay Nixon State Park!

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Zip Code: 65340

PLEASE DON'T SELL THE PARK or remove it from the State Parks System

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Zip Code: 63303

Please do not sell off Jay Nixon State Park and other newly acquired public lands. Funding for the park has been secured. Funding for environmental cleanup has already been allocated. With statistics showing an increase in visitors and polls showing overwhelming bipartisan support for Missouri State Parks, it only makes sense to protect these public lands for the people of Missouri and our visitors. Investing in the parks means investing in local economies through tourism. Protecting these parks secures future revenue for local economies rather than selling them off. While Jay Nixon State Park's name may be questionable, the act of protecting land for the people and future generations is not. Do not sell these newly acquired parks. Keep public lands in public hands. Capitalize instead on Missouri's shared love of our state parks. Thank You,

[REDACTED] St Charles, MO 63303

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Zip Code: 64114 1317

As many parks in Missouri as possible should be open and maintained for people and wildlife to enjoy. No one person has the right to close any park.

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Zip Code: 63125

With all the suffering and tension in the world these days, it is imperative that our citizens have places to renew their spirits and energy. Our public parks are very important in this effort. Please take steps to protect the future of Jay Nixon State Park.

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Zip Code:

Keep what we have & get more!

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Zip Code: 64866

State parks are the ultimate family friendly vacation and recreation spots, for Missourians, and for tourists from out of state also. It is short-sighted and foolish to sell off public assets, and it seems suspiciously like political retribution when it involves a park named after a Democratic Governor who served two terms successfully, including overseeing the recovery from the Joplin tornado. It also hints at potential impropriety on the part of the state executive branch, whose staff are using an application on their phones to delete their emails instantly. Could some of those deleted messages include hidden agreements relating to the sale of said park? The Sunshine Law was created to prevent such potential corruption. Trying to circumvent that law is not a good sign for transparency and accountability in government.

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Zip Code: 63654

Do not sell Jay Nixon park please

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Zip Code: 63376

The people of Missouri need more Parks!

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Zip Code: 64055

This land is not yours to sell.

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Zip Code: 63038

Please maintain this park. Do not sell it.

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Zip Code: 65203

Please do not sell off any park land

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Zip Code: 63146

Please do not sell any park or conservation lands. People as well as wildlife need vast open spaces. They make us healthy. Once the areas are gone, there is no getting them back. Think of long term use not the immediate dollar amount. Care about the world you live in.

---

Zip Code: 63020

It should remain as it is.

---

Zip Code: 64068

do anything to keep all of them. tell that gov. NO<NO.

---

Zip Code: 65063

We need to protect our state parks, national monuments, and national wildlife while the is a few left !!

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Superfund settlement. We need more protected public lands, not fewer natural spaces like parks.

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Zip Code:

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system.

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Zip Code:

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Zip Code: 63122

First of all, let me say that this park should not be sold. I think this land should be minimally developed - perhaps a spur trail off the OT that leads up to the mountaintop reservoir and maybe a few hike-in campsites and a privy. I wonder if this land may make the area eligible for International Dark Sky recognition. Star gazing atop Proffitt Mountain sounds like an outdoorsman's dream. If it helps in anyway, I am not hooked on the idea of retaining the name of Jay Nixon State Park... perhaps this can simply be absorbed into the Taum Sauk Mountain SP.

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Zip Code: 63119

I would like this State Park to be available to all of the citizens of the state of Missouri. The natural beauty of this state should not be exploited to enrich developers.

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Zip Code: 63116

Now more than ever we need natural environments to escape to for peace of mind and relaxation. It is imperative that you not sell off our state parks or close them!

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Zip Code:

Our new governor is out of touch with Missouri's love of their public lands. His attempt to mimic president trumps assault on parklands ,so that privatization by rich donors can occur ,needs to end. Please do your best to stop the loss of any of our precious state park holdings.

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Zip Code: 63376

None! Leave them alone!!! These parks are for us - the citizens, NOT the politicians!!!

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Zip Code: 63114

We need to hang on to all the parks and wilderness areas we have left! Do not sell Jay Nixon State park!

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Zip Code: 63146

I want to see Jay Nixon State Park remain as a Missouri State Park. It is important to set aside land as natural

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Zip Code: 63122

My expectation is that our parks will be preserved not treated as an economic commodity to be bought and sold as real estate. Our park lands will only increase in value as natural and rare treasures over time. Take the long view of a preservationist, not the expedient route of just a money maker.

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Zip Code: 64098

Pet access to the parks.

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Zip Code: 64114

PLEASE do NOT SELL OFF the NEW Jay Nixon STATE PARK. Don't remove the park from the State parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement. That would be a WASTE OF MONEY! OUR STATE PARKS are for all the PEOPLE, TO USE.

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Zip Code: 64081

Please reopen and preserve this beautiful wilderness area.

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Zip Code: 63109

Missouri has one of the best state park systems in the country and we need to do our best to protect and to promote it. Adding a new state park/site to the system isn't an everyday occurrence, but we should celebrate when it does. Please don't sell off this state park, but I would recommend renaming it. Thank you for hearing my comments and considering them in your decision.

----

Zip Code: 65807

As a Missouri resident I cherish our State Parks. For every \$1 spent on our States Parks the local economies notice \$27 in added revenues as well state and local taxes that are then generated. Missouri economy is dependant on local and out of state tourism. Every year we have visitors from all over the world traveling Route 66 and making many side trips to hike float and camp in our beautiful state. Closing our State Parks which are the jewels of our states natural beauties is horribly short sighted.

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Zip Code: 63031

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a

habitats and for public recreational uses. There is plenty of land in Missouri for agriculture and manufacturing. This park is a result of misuse of the land and the ensuring settlement. It seems appropriate to use some of this money for a state park. I feel strongly about this issue and will be following decisions made about Jay Nixon State Park. Thank you for your consideration.

---

Zip Code: 63026

Missouri parks are among the best in the nation and are enjoyed by a wide variety of user groups. We are proud of our state's conservation department and department of natural resources. Missourians have common sense, know how to reasonably manage their resources, and know how to protect the treasures that are part of our wonderful state. Jay Nixon State Park is a great addition. Whether it is called "Jay Nixon State Park" or not is not the relevant point. The point is to promote our great state and encourage others to visit.

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Zip Code: 65714

There is need to preserve our parks for our families, our children & to protect our wildlife. Please do this for our state

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Zip Code: 63114

THE PEOPLE OF MISSOURI SHOULD HAVE ACCESS TO PUBLIC PARKS AND RECREATIONAL AREAS. NOT ONLY IS HAVING ACCESS TO NATURAL RESOURCES THE RIGHT OF CITIZENS FOR RELAXATION AND ENJOYMENT BUT IT IS VITAL TO PRESERVE THE BEAUTY AND RESOURCES OF OUR STATE. NO ONE SHOULD BE ABLE TO REMOVE THESE RIGHTS WITHOUT THE CONSENT OF THE PEOPLE OF MISSOURI. VOTE ON IT! THIS SHOULD NOT BE A POLITICAL LAND GRAB BY POLITICAL GREED !

---

Zip Code: 64123

I support State Parks for a number of reasons: They, and the surrounding communities, are great places to visit (I tire of the concrete jungle), the monies spent in and around them not only supports people in areas that are often "depressed" -- increasing income and income and sales taxes paid, wildlife needs wilds to live, etc... My suggestion is to keep Jay Nixon open, as well as all of the other parks, conservation areas, wildernesses...

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Zip Code:  
Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park

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Zip Code:

Shame on you for you greedy ways---Parks should be protected.

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Zip Code: 64660

This is a beautiful area that deserves to be protected from encroachment of and tinsel development. Get the thing ready to open it for responsible public use, which is you folks (DNR -- Park Department) managing it.

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Zip Code: 63109

Don't sell the park! I love hiking our MO state parks, and I believe they are an important part of our state's future!

---

Zip Code: 63016

Please don't sell Jay Nixon State Park. I work in the Environmental Science field, and don't make an exorbitant amount of money. Missouri's state parks and conservation areas are used by my family for our relaxation and release. Please allow us to continue to enjoy these resources.

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Zip Code: 63121

NOT selling any of our state parks is the only option even if they are only left as wild spaces for now.

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Zip Code: 65101

Please do not do anything to diminish ANY of Missouri's state parks. They are one good thing (in a rapidly decreasing list of things of which to be proud) for which Missouri is known. Please don't harm this system. It would certainly affect the governor's popularity, as well as, legacy within the state and country. Thank you,

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Zip Code: 63119

Don't give or sell away our Missouri Parks. What a terrible thing to even consider. An active voter.

---

Zip Code:

This is a state park for the people...do not sell it off for who knows what? fracking, oil drilling or some kind of rape of the land and its resources. We need wild lands for the wild ones and for us humans to enjoy and steward. Don't see out. Thank you.

Independence, MO

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Zip Code: 64083

Please preserve our state parks for all people and future generations.

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Zip Code: 65807

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Zip Code: 63368-7348

Given the legal settlement, I do not understand how Greitens thinks it is OK for him to try to sell the land. The ONLY problem I see with the state park is the name--not sure why it was given a politically charged name of a living and now-former governer. If the legislature wants to rename it to St. Francois State Park or a moniker that helps people understand what the park is, that would be a common-sense and easily fixed solution.

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Zip Code: 63108

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Zip Code: 65804

Please do not sell. It is/will be a great addition to our State Park system.

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Zip Code: 64014

We love to visit state parks and see wildlife that are safe to live there.

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Zip Code: 64152

DO NOT SELL, DO NOT SELL ! DID YOU HEAR ME ? DO NOT SELL !!

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Zip Code: 63126

Change the name from Nixon to greiten. And tell them [REDACTED] to leave things the way they are.

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Zip Code: 63105-3741

Please don't close the Jay Nixon State Park. It's a beautiful property and belongs to all of us.

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Zip Code: 63026

Parks need to be available for all to use. They are a source of our well-being. Creating, supporting and paying for our park system is important. Jay Nixon State Park is part of that system. It should not be sold or used for mining or other industrial use. It should be open and available for use by the people.

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Zip Code: 64024

Our state parks are invaluable resources for Missourians for health, wellbeing and education. They provide us with exercise and their unique appearances from one park to the next provides mental and emotional health. They provide exploratory education for Missouri's

children. Please don't close and sell Missouri's invaluable parks. Compared to most thriving states Missouri is considered as much as 40 years behind the times, preserving our parks can help us create a Missouri that is unique and thriving by providing beloved natural resources to Missourians and visitors. Take Seattle, WA for example: thriving in both the city and natural resources open to the public. Seattle is forever revitalizing its state; drawing in visitors and business innovators, which in turn creates jobs and unique experiences. I believe we could do the same, but with Missouri flare.

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Zip Code: 63108

The Jay Nixon State Park should stay as a public access area open to all.

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Zip Code: 65810

Do not sell the Parks. We need to preserve for future generations. Keep the natural beauty.

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Zip Code: 63368

Missouri Parks belong to all of us, including our children and grandchildren. Please do not let government spoil another natural area for monetary gain. We need to be less short-sighted when it comes to preserving nature. Teddy Roosevelt had the right idea, we need to follow in his footsteps and fight to KEEP state parks like Jay Nixon State Park.

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Zip Code: 64056

Missouri's parks are not for sale! Please don't follow the dangerous path of the deranged and incompetent President, and sell our preserved lands to the dirty fuel industry. You must save our lands for future generations.

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Zip Code: 64116

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Zip Code: 63146

Do not sell the Jay Nixon state park!

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Zip Code:

This is the people of Missouri's property, not the politicians!

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Zip Code: 64074

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement.

Zip Code:  
Don't sell off Jay Nixon State Park

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Zip Code: 65203  
Open the park.

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Zip Code: 64111  
Don't get rid of what little nature we have left! State parks are not only for family fun, they are appreciating nature, escaping the fast paced life we live, and teaching the next generations to respect the Earth! DO NOT CLOSE THIS PARK!

----

Zip Code: 63049  
This tract of land is adjacent to the Taum Sauk Ozark Trail spur, and the entire Taum Sauk region. It needs to be left in its natural state and remain a part of this area for future generations to enjoy. No matter the acquisition issues, this was not stolen from citizens and belongs to Missouri. Let's make good use of it instead of trying to liquidate it.

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Zip Code: 65459  
Please do not remove this State park from our system. Our natural resources should not be sold to the highest bidder and special interests.

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Zip Code: 64050  
Sounds like current Missouri governor is "chip off the old block" of 45, trump (doesn't deserve any other description). Think Greitens is just one of the "brown shirts".

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Zip Code:

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Zip Code:  
Do not sell off our park, they are too hard to come by.

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Zip Code: 63118  
OUR PARKS ARE NOT FOR SALE!! SAVE THE HEALTH OF OUR RIVERS !!

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Zip Code: 64030  
Gov. Greitens, leave our parks alone! They belong to the PEOPLE not you! Just because Trumpenfuhrer has decided to earmark the nations parks doesn't mean you have to copycat to make yourself look good to the rest of the Repugs! Disgusting...hopefully you will be a one term governor ??

Zip Code:  
Why is it GOP is so set on destroying national and state parks just for money? These parks are utilized by Missourians and American citizens. Please follow what your constituents desire - and keep Jay Nixon State Park in tact. Thank you.

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Zip Code: 63501

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Zip Code: 63119  
I consider our parks (including Jay Nixon state park) to be part of our state heritage and not for sale.

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Zip Code: 63670  
Good God, do not betray your constituents and all citizens by selling our national heritage!

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Zip Code: 65804  
Don't sell off our land. You are taking it away from the people and giving it to a couple rich people

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Zip Code: 63348  
The parks belong to the state leave them alone

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Zip Code: 63015  
Do not sell our parks. If you live in our cities or close in urban areas you then only have city parks to see the nature around us. There are way to few state parks now

----

Zip Code: 63119  
No one ever regretted that we preserved and protected natural environments and places of interest for public enjoyment — except those who want to exploit that land for their own private profit. It is RARE that we have an opportunity to acquire public land in the first place; to sell it off is a fool's tragedy of monumental proportion. DO NOT aid, abet or enable in any way this governor's capricious, shortsighted liquidation of our state's legacy of common ground and public land.

----

Zip Code: 64108  
Please don't sell, remove, take Jay Nixon SP out of the state parks system or any other action that might harm it. State parks are an enormous benefit to Missouri quality of life and boost local economies through tourism spending. Plus, the first five years of operation have already been paid for via federal Superfund spending. So there are only benefits and no costs to Missourians at this time. Thank you.

Zip Code:

Leave our parks alone Gov. Greitens. If you hate your predecessor so much, rename the park.

---

Zip Code: 64155

This gathering place is important to Kansas City and should never be sold off. It should remain a state park. Tourists will come because that state park is close to all the important attractions in Kansas City. Location, location, location!!!

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Zip Code: 63123

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement.

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Zip Code:

Jay Nixon State Park should be re-opened to the public because sufficient funds of \$35 million in additional funding after cleanup of lead mining and smelting sites is to be used only to restore or replace damaged natural resources or to acquire equivalent resources, which is what DNR did by purchasing the park. Before this purchase the property taxes were only \$842 on the more than 1,000-acre property in 2014. The local economy will thrive with this state park open to tourists. There is also \$152,075 in settlement money to fund 100% of anticipated restoration and management costs for the first 5 years of operation, so re-opening the park will not divert state park funds from other uses.

---

Zip Code:

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement. My family so enjoys MO State Parks, and I want my children, nieces and nephews and their kids to enjoy Jay Nixon State Park as well. That park belongs to all of us, including our children and grand children. We don't need premium facilities, just the park. Thank you.

---

Zip Code: 64801

What, exactly, is his reasoning on this? And what is the proposed target from any money saved and/or obtained by its sale? I'm having a hard time imagining the money being put to better use than preserving our natural resources.

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Zip Code: 63020

Please keep these properties. These parks do not have to be immediately developed, but should be preserved and

studied for the most efficient and potential uses for state residents and tourists for years to come. The public supports our state parks. We are very proud of our wonderful state park system and its value added to our state.

---

Zip Code: 63114

I oppose Gov. Greitens closing of Jay Nixon State Park. The money is there: 100% of the funds used to purchase the park came from a Superfund settlement that provided approximately \$35 million for natural resource damages associated with former lead mining and smelting sites in southeast Missouri owned by the American Smelting and Refining Company. These settlement funds may be used only for natural resources protections. \$152,075 in settlement money was also provided to fund 100% of anticipated restoration and management costs for the first 5 years of operation, so re-opening the park would not divert state park funds from other uses. The desire of Missourians is there: About three-fourths of state parks operating funds are provided by the one-tenth-of-one percent parks, soils and water sales tax, which must be reauthorized by voters every ten years. Support for the tax is stronger than ever; in 2016, 80% of Missouri voters state-wide supported reauthorization. In Iron and Reynolds Counties, home to Jay Nixon State Park, 72% and 56% of voters supported reauthorization in 2016. The natural beauty of our state is its greatest asset. Please preserve and protect our parks!

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Zip Code: 63146

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement.

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Zip Code: 63130

I am completely opposed to the sale of the Jay Nixon State Park or any other of our state parks. As more and more land is developed, wild areas become increasingly important for people and wildlife. My understanding is that the first 5 years of park operations has already been funded with money from a superfund settlement.

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Zip Code: 64137

Please Protect the new Jay Nixon State Park.

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Zip Code: 63122

Save Jay Nixon State Park as a state park. Please do not get rid of state park land at this location or anywhere else.

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Zip Code: 64063-3400

\*DNR purchased Jay Nixon State Park to restore and preserve over 1,200 acres of high quality dry igneous woodland-glade habitat in the St. Francois Mountains Natural Area and thereby connect large tracts of habitat for significant migratory bird populations and protect them from deforestation or fragmentation by development, and to provide for public use and enjoyment of the land. \*100% of the funds used to purchase the park came from a Superfund settlement that provided approximately \$35 million for natural resource damages associated with former lead mining and smelting sites in southeast Missouri owned by the American Smelting and Refining Company. These settlement funds may be used only for natural resources protections. \*\$152,075 in settlement money was also provided to fund 100% of anticipated restoration and management costs for the first 5 years of operation, so re-opening the park would not divert state park funds from other uses.

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Zip Code:

DEPORTING TRUMP,GREITENS,BLOUNT AND THE REST OF THE DEPLORABLES,ALONG WITH FAKE DEMS AND ALL HATE GROUPS AND ALL MEMBERS OF SAID GROUPS..DEPORT THEM ALL TO NORTH KOREA=PEACE TREATY...DONT FORGET ALL REPUBS AND TRUMP SUPPORTERS,MOST OF THE SENATE....

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Zip Code: 65721

Greitens and our government do not own the parks. Put it up for a vote by all missourians who own them.

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Zip Code: 65256

The state should not sell any land already within the state park system.

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Zip Code:

Save and open all state parks. It is my land too. Protect what we have left.

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Zip Code: 89110

Trump is giving billions of dollars away to his friends, so I suggest that the ultra rich should pay for it.

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Zip Code: 65203

I believe this land now belongs to all the citizens of Missouri and should be kept as a state park so that it can be shared by all of us. Some may feel the DNR has too much land to manage but we need to look to the future. Our cities keep expanding and taking over more farmland, woods, and natural places of every kind. And

our population keeps growing. It will not be long before our current parks cannot provide the kind of experiences so many people seek in parks, including simple peace and quiet. We must also remember that green places are the lungs of the planet, taking up our growing carbon emissions while giving us oxygen. And they are important sources of clean water for so many of us. In the grand scheme of things these parks will provide a better future for our children and grandchildren and that's far more important than any short-term gains for ourselves.

----

Zip Code: 63563

Please don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Please don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement.

----

Zip Code: 63130

Do not sell the park. It's a wonderful asset for all in Missouri. The state park is a treasure and should be kept. Improve the trails and that will be a benefit for users. Keep all of the State Parks.

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Zip Code: 64855

Are state parks are for us!The people of Missioui & people who travle threw! Not for rich rude mean peoplet to just private use or to build fancy condos on to make more money this world has come to nothing but greed which is a huge sin! God gave us this land who are you to take it sale it! Its a state park for the people of Missouri! Leave it that way!

----

Zip Code: 65616

Please don't close or sell off State Parks.

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Zip Code: 65326

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Zip Code: 63119

Please don't sell Jay Nixon State Park and certainly don't remove the park from the State Parks system.

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Zip Code: 63379

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. State Parks provide affordable family fun. Without our State Parks many families and seniors would not be able to afford family vacations. We must conserve what little nature areas are still left.

----

Zip Code: 65810

Political special interests must not be allowed to interfere with our state parks. Missouri needs, and an expanding population demands increased park acreage to provide the environment and opportunity for residents and tourists to enjoy our natural resources without overcrowding. Primitive areas and habitat that is essential for wildlife populations must be protected in significant amounts as well as regulated development.

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Zip Code: 63021

Don't sell it off.

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Zip Code: 63116

maintain it, let it stay wild with access for hiking and camping. WE NEED MORE STATE PARKS, NOT FEWER! I am one of thousands of citizens that enjoy our parks peace and quiet as well as outdoor activities that are AFFORDABLE. Thanks.

----

Zip Code: 63021

should stay with the park system were losing so much land every second to development these people we have in power now don't care about all the wildlife that is disappearing in just the last 50 years the same for the rock island corridor leave it as a natural area we don't need another trail.

----

Zip Code: 64086

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement.

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Zip Code: 64110

Protect the Jay Nixon State Park! Do not remove it from the system of State Parks! Funding for the first five years of park operations is in place. Please do not sell off our natural legacy. State Parks belong to all of the citizens of Missouri.

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Zip Code: 64014

Please do not sell off Jay Nixon State Park. These public lands belong to the people and future generations to enjoy, not corporations and developers. Let Missouri be known for its integrity and let our children know we protected cared for these lands for them.

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Zip Code: 65401

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Zip Code:

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Zip Code:

State parks do not need to be industrialized, if we can't live without doing this, we sure aren't saying much about our state government. It only has to do with greed, somebody wants to get rich off of the people of the state. Very sad.

----

Zip Code: 63122

Please do not sell this park. We need undeveloped spaces both for human beings to learn to appreciate those places, for those who already do, and for the plants and animals that make up this space. Once gone, it is irreplaceable. Thank you for your consideration. Jan Schmidt

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Zip Code: 63119

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Zip Code: 64131

ARE YOU KIDDING ME? Selling off a park?  
Governor Greitens - this land is NOT YOURS to dispose of as you please. And believe me, selling off a park of a former governor, and one of the Democratic party will insure your legacy as a Donald Trump suck-up. It looks like crass grand-standing - and it is. I realize your campaign ads consisted of you shooting at trees and lakes (and literally nothing else) but this is taking that way too literally.

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Zip Code: 63034

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Zip Code: 64158

Please follow through on Jay Nixon State Park. State parks are low cost vacation spots for working families. That's where my family went on several vacations when I was growing up. We need to preserve wilderness areas for future generations to enjoy. Don't reduce the number of destinations available.

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Zip Code: 64801

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Zip Code: 63116

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Zip Code: 65804

Please do not sell Jay Nixon State park. It is the wild places that attract visitors to Missouri and we have to preserve the few wild places left. This park has been a great attraction and to sell it would be a loss to the citizens of Missouri

----

Zip Code: 65804

We need wild areas that are kept wild, pure and forested with hiking trails and accessible to all citizens. It is important to have wild forested areas with densely populated forest that all human citizens can access and enjoy for their health and well being. This is scientifically documented by the Japanese scientist who studied the beneficial factors of trees and forests. In Japan they call it Shinrin Yoku or Forest Bathing. The Japanese go out into the forest to immerse themselves in the forest and breathe deeply and walk or immerse themselves in the forest. The denser the forest the more beneficial it is to the human. This is healing to the human body and is documented. Citizens have the right to parks and everyone is entitled to have parks accessible and available to them. It would be criminal for parks to be removed from the public domain and privatized so only a few would profit from them. It is also important to keep areas wild for diversification of species and maintenance of ecosystems.

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Zip Code:

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Zip Code: 65201

Do not sell the park. Do not sell ANY Missouri parkland unless there is broad public input that the park is no longer useful or wanted. Any form of private land grabs of Missouri parkland are unacceptable. We should have several Missouri parks that are minimally developed wilderness areas set aside for hikers and backpackers and useful for primitive camping, geocaching, birding and wildlife observation. The need not be expensive to own or operate.

----

Zip Code: 63116

Protect our parks! They are our greatest resource! They bring in tourists, clean our air and water, and bring in money to our state.

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Zip Code: 63119

Protect the Jay Nixon State Park

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Zip Code: 65252

This park, like others, belongs to the people of Missouri. I don't know what is wrong with the governor, but selling off OUR public lands so he can benefit one of his cronies is wrong. We need our parks, our wild places both for humans and for our wildlife to thrive and be safe and protected. Our parks are a place we can go to refresh and rejuvenate, to learn and understand that the actions of humanity affect more than just people. What we do changes, sometimes drastically and irreparably, the natural world.

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Zip Code: 63367-1958

Do NOT sell Jay Nixon State Park! Do NOT remove this park from our state park system. Let's preserve our great state's wilderness systems.

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Zip Code:

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Zip Code: 63146

Hello, I'm writing to you today to say please don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement. This is an opportunity to show that as Missourians we care about our land, the environment and taking care of spaces for people to create memories in. State parks are where countless of my childhood memories have been made, and has fueled my love for the outdoors. We must protect the Jay Nixon State Park for our children and countless others to enjoy.

----

Zip Code: 64117

There are no options as this and other lands in Missouri belong to the people not the legislature.

----

Zip Code: 63021

I am opposed to the sale of ANY state park. They are critical to the quality of life in Missouri.

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Zip Code:

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Zip Code: 65014

Parks are not only for visitors, they are also to maintain land for wildlife and plants to thrive. Please make it a priority to preserve lands for future generations.

times such as this when income inequality is so tremendous. Please do not take away this option.

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Zip Code: 64110

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Zip Code: 65201  
We need to preserve our natural areas for future generations to enjoy!!!! It is not all about money.

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Zip Code:

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement. !!!

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Zip Code:

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Zip Code:

Our state parks are a public treasure. We need them!

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Zip Code: 64093

Please do not sell any of our state parks. A one time infusion of cash does not solve Missouri's budget problems. Increase taxes or use the money from the superfund settlement as intended. Missouri is a large state and closing parks or public areas can mean that people that live near them have to drive a long way to enjoy nature. We have plenty of areas to develop in Missouri and should not follow Oklahoma's lead. They sold a large portion of their state parks and it has been left undeveloped and now 95% of the state is privately owned.

<https://stateimpact.npr.org/oklahoma/2012/06/11/oklahoma-mas-lake-texoma-bought-and-paid-for/> Find ways to transfer the land to cities or Native American tribes that will keep the land open to the public. Be creative, be thoughtful, don't sell out for a one-year bandage.

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Zip Code: 63017

We like to visit our state parks all the time. I have lived all over the country and when I moved to Missouri in the 1980s I was very impressed with the quality of the parks for family visits, day trips and overnight camping as well as Boy Scout outings. The is much in Missouri that doesn't measure up in quality of life. But the Parks were always a stand out. Don't ruin one of the few things the state has going for it.

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Zip Code: 64152

As a member of the Missouri Sierra Club, I am writing about the importance of preserving Jay Nixon State Park in Missouri. I hope that Jay Nixon State Park will not be

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Zip Code: 63129

Our Missouri parks are very importamt to us Missourians. Please keep them open and operational for us . Thanks, [REDACTED]

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Zip Code: 64080

Governor, Please remember you are in office to serve the citizens of the state of Missouri, and not to use the office as a way to grind your political ax. Beautiful areas of the state undistrubed by mans encroachment are becoming more and more rare. Your legacy would be remembered by history in a more favorable light by saving these natural areas, not by selling your power to corporate masters who would have you doing their greedy and destructive bidding.

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Zip Code: 63401

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement.

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Zip Code: 65203

We need all of the Missouri State Parks we have for the green space. Animals need the parks to live. Besides that people like to hike in them!

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Zip Code: 64081

Don't sell ANY of Missouri's State Parks!

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Zip Code: 63116

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Zip Code: 63139

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement.

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Zip Code: 64030

Missouri has too few state parks, not too many. We need to preserve the ones we have so that this and future generations will have natural places to go for recreation or to have a respite from the traffic and congestion of our cities. The money spent to preserve these parks is money well spent as it provides places for families to vacation without breaking their budgets, especially at

sold and that it will remain part of the Mo. State Parks System. The first five years of Jay Nixon State Park's operations have already been funded with money from the federal Superfund settlement. Please preserve this beautiful state park for use by current and future generations of Missouri families. Thank you for considering this important environmental and cultural issue.

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Zip Code: 64153

KEEP IT as it is, as a state park, do not sell it.

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Zip Code: 65802

Please open up the Jay Nixon State Park and keep the other state parks open and functioning. Green space is vital to the health of Missouri residents and out of state visitors.

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Zip Code: 63043

Preserve the land designated for parks.

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Zip Code: 63146

I have had the opportunity to recently enjoy 2 of Missouri's new state parks, Echo Bluff and Don Robinson. Both parks are heavily used and well received by Missouri residents. Missourians deserve more parks. Do NOT sell off our recently acquired park lands. If there are insufficient funds to develop visitor services in the parks, then leave them alone and develop services later.

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Zip Code: 63304

Please don't sell off Jay Nixon Park. It should be saved for the citizens of Missouri to visit and enjoy. I am a 34 year resident of St Charles County. Thank you.

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Zip Code: 65714

PLEASE don't destroy our state park system!!

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Zip Code: 64037

Dear Sir: Do not sell any of our state parks, no matter whose name is on it. State parks are our heritage to our children and grandchildren, not a political football! I am a veteran, and a voter. and I use and enjoy our park system. Please do not sell any of our land. Thank you,

[REDACTED] Higginsville, MO

64037

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Zip Code: 63144

Do not sell Jay Nixon State Park. Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park

operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement.

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Zip Code: 63110

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement.

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Zip Code: 63116

Do not sell off Jay Nixon State Park. We, the citizens of Missouri, want to keep our state and public lands. It belongs to us, not the politicians. There is no reason it should be taken from us.

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Zip Code: 63116

The citizens of Missouri have voted for the taxes to buy State Parks and we have some of the most beautiful in the country. Never should a Park be sold. We want more parks not less. I support our Parks with my taxes, license fees, and visiting Visitor Centers and campgrounds. I expect these funds to be spent as the people have voted them to be. Expand our parks NEVER sell them.

----

Zip Code: 65714

Stop selling out Missouri to the highest bidder! Reopen Jay Nixon State Park to the public and keep your hands off our public lands. Greitens is a shill for big business (as long as it lines his pockets, too.) Transparency in government my a\*\*. Greitens is tied to DARK MONEY and has to do these donors' bidding. Uniformed Missourians voted him into office. But we can vote him out next election.

----

Zip Code:

State parks are necessary for all Missourians. The governor is. Not thinking correctly. I visited Colorado this summer & I came back relaxed & ready to go on with my days here. As we the middle class will have less money, recreation & arts are the first thing to go. Shame on you governor!

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Zip Code:

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement.

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Zip Code: 64089

Please listen to the public. Don't sell off our parks.

Zip Code: 65203

Please don't sell Jay Nixon State Park. It's already paid for and can be used for many things. Even letting it sit for the most part as green space benefits everyone in the state. Once the land is out of state control, it is GONE forever. And hey, you can always change the name of it. Thanks.

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Zip Code: 64157

Please don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement.

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Zip Code:

Missourians WANT their state parks !! We need any and all protected areas, we are willing to use our taxes for this very particular reason. DO NOT SELL OFF OUR LANDS. You are a governor, not a dictator !!!

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Zip Code: 63456

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Zip Code: 64152-4418

This culture of selling off public lands, especially parks on the State and Federal level is incredibly disturbing given that they exist for the public benefit and not for the exploitation by the rich and well-connected.

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Zip Code: 64850

Natural beauty, once lost, can never be restored! If it is true the park has five years of funding from a superfund then this is not a money problem but a greed problem. I would suggest you look very closely at who wants this land and their ties to our current governor! Do not throw away this area, protected for future generations, to line someone's pockets!

----

Zip Code: 64056

Preserve the natural environment of our state parks so that our children and grandchildren will have the opportunity to enjoy the beauty of nature for generations to come.

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Zip Code: 63701

Try not following the Trump model of tax breaks for the wealthy and horrible, irreversible cuts to higher ed, parks and the environment.

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Zip Code: 63144

Serve Missouri not be a Trump puppet. Our land is not yours to sell.

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Zip Code:

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement.

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Zip Code: 63111

Develop and maintain more state parks - not fewer. Millions of tourists and Missouri residents utilize our green spaces. Voters have consistently supported conservation & parks.

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Zip Code: 64133

I would like you to reconsider this horrible idea of selling off Missouri land that has been earmarked for inclusion into the state park system. Keep some of our beautiful Missouri land free from development and open for our citizens to enjoy. Do not sell it off to developers.

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Zip Code: 63111

We need our State Parks more than ever! They are a necessary buffer against climate change, a place to bring children and everyone to enjoy our Missouri beauty and (almost) untouched natural places.

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Zip Code: 63367

What can I do to stop this?

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Zip Code: 641456

Don't close or sale off our State Parks or National Parks. I am a 75-year-old who still uses State Parks yearly.

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Zip Code:

Please leave all parks as mother nature intended them. Our grandchildren, and great grandchildren and on & on, deserve to see it's wonder. Don't let the history books write about you as the one who did damage of ANY kind to these beautiful places on earth.

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Zip Code: 63146

Please do not remove Jay Nixon State Park from the State Parks system. I LOVE hiking the various state parks. I moved here to Missouri just two years and was amazed by the beautiful parks throughout the state. I'm slowing working my way through each and every one. These days, we need as much community space as possible for residents to come together and enjoy. I understand that the first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement, so I do not see why this is even being considered as an option.

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Zip Code: 63043-1407  
Yeah-DON'T SELL ANY OF THEM !

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Zip Code: 63645  
SELL IT!!!! Superfund money is SUPPOSED to pay for cleanup of pollution. Politicians just couldn't keep their hands off. Buying land for YET ANOTHER state park will not remove the first pound of contaminated soil. And then, when the money is spent for fraudulent land purchase, EVIL GREENIES will come whining that even more money must be appropriated to clean the pollution the Superfund money was supposed to cover. I call this embezzlement of government funds.

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Zip Code: 63130  
Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement.

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Zip Code: 63385  
We the people are frustrated, angry, emotionally volatile, prone to lashing out. Parks are our medicine. Only nature can soothe & modify the behavior of so many thousands of people. Opium & pharmaceuticals cannot, psychologists cannot, politicians add to the fire more frequent than we know. Please .... the very least you can do for all of us...is let us walk off our stress by allowing us to have our parks to breathe in, to play in, to keep our kids safe in, to surround ourselves with this reliable relic of sanity. WE NEED OUR PARKS  
UNTOUCHED

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Zip Code: 63139  
Expand State parks and maintain them well.

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Zip Code: 63141  
Do not sell this park!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Parks are for people not just the governor to do with as HE wants. Terrible! Sounds like the president with Bear Ears, etc.

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Zip Code: 65203  
All MO state parks are precious jewels, which we visit as often as possible. None of them should be sold. They should be treasured and improved for future generations.

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Zip Code: 65066  
Director of Natural Resources, I want to let you know that I support Missouri State Parks including the three new ones: Ozark Mountain, Bryant Creek and Jay Nixon (change the name if that makes it more political

feasible). If necessary, place in some kind of hold, to develop and safeguard these lands until which time we can "afford" them. Thanks for listening. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Owensville, MO 65066

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Zip Code: 64124  
I feel strongly that we need to preserve the Jay Nixon State Park. It should not be sold, but retained and preserved for the enjoyment of future generations.

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Zip Code: 64082  
Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement.

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Zip Code: 64850  
Do not close this state park!

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Zip Code: 63116  
Leave your greedy hands off public land! There are earthquakes everyday in Oklahoma due to fracking, is that what you want for us?

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Zip Code: 64114  
Keep and maintain this park. Do not act like Trump who is trying to destroy the very fabric of our lives. Environmentalists will remember what you destroy in a grab for mineral rights that benefit only the rich.

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Zip Code: 63088  
Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement. Just don't be a dick about it, man. We love our State Parks. Leave them alone.

----

Zip Code: 63129  
He's just as dumb as the rest ,lucky he will be gone soon , never to be heard of again , [REDACTED]

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Zip Code:  
Our state parks help protect the natural environment - flora and fauna- for people of all ages to share. These areas of land must be protected by all of us and that includes our government officials.

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Zip Code: 63130  
We need to preserve our natural state lands. There is no second chance.

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Zip Code: 63139

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Zip Code:

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Zip Code: 63021

Missouri residents need places to enjoy Nature and the beauty of our great state that are reasonably close and have the majesty that soothes the soul. This majesty does not have to be spectacular in a commercial sense, but just peaceful and pristine that soothes the soul. Accessibility to these places are essential to attracting people to our great state and keeping our people here. Kansas is trying to bring back their former residents. Think about more taxpayers moving to this state. Our Conservation Commission is the most well regarded in the country. Try to emulate and therefore supplement their efforts. As large as Texas is in land area, there are few places for anyone to enjoy their natural environment. I have considered moving there, but decided that it was not a place I wanted to live given few parks to visit unless you travel hundreds of miles. You have to personally own large tracks of land and that is limiting by the expense for the common citizen. This land is for the people and not a few large land owners.

----

Zip Code: 65565

Missouri's state parks belong to every Missourian in this state and not to Gov. Greitens or the Republican party. Closing the park was a slap in the face for all of us who use and enjoy the parks, and selling it would be theft on the part of the governor.

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Zip Code: 65401

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Zip Code:

DON'T CLOSE JAY NIXON STATE PARK.

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Zip Code: 65233

Missouri has some of the finest, best kept state parks of any state we have encountered. It is one of the reasons we love living in Missouri. Please continue to maintain these high standards that have enriched the quality of life for Missourians and our visitors. We can't be selling off parks. We need all we can get.

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Zip Code:

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Zip Code: 64015

Our state parks and wilderness are important public lands for all to enjoy for generations to come. It is one of the most important legacies we can leave our children and grand children. It shows how much we care and

know that being able to get outside and experience nature is like no other gift. Once yo sell it off and make it private lands, there is no taking it back!

----

Zip Code:

We need to retain and keep all public park land for the benefit of our citizens now and for those who will come after us.Thanks

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Zip Code: 63119

The state of Missouri is filled with glorious and unique landscapes that rival sites in California and the east coast. When my visitors and family experience our parks they are impressed and very surprised, given our profile as an agricultural region. It's pretty quick and easy to access these parks from all sectors of our state. We have preserved a lot of that glory but there is still more that could be preserved. Jay Nixon State Park should be used and not sold off. We own it and just have to maintain it for a relatively small price. Selling it off would bring just a small, one-time income, and it would be gone. Why squander our treasure? Please preserve this park and use it to draw the world see our beautiful state. Promote our glory, don't destroy.

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Zip Code: 63501

They are the people's parks. They are not the playground for the governor!

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Zip Code: 63379

Do not close Jay Nixon state park and sell off the land! Our parks are not for sale.

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Zip Code:

DO NOT SELL ANY OF THE STATE PARKS. If the governor can not recognize the value of the parks for recreation and beauty he is blind in one eye and cannot see out of the other. Perhaps he should take his family on weekend trips to said areas or enroll his children in summer camp somewhere in the area. He might see the value beyond accommodating someone who contributed to his campaign with this in mind.

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Zip Code: 64113

Don't sellTrump!

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Zip Code: 63043

We need Jay Nixon State Park, for us, our children, our Grandchildren and on

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**Zip Code:**

These are not parks for you to sell Greitens. The parks are for people to enjoy. Why do you have to be like trump-take away everything that the Democrats did for the people.

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**Zip Code: 64118**

These parks belong to the citizens of Missouri. If any see is involved it should be voted on. You have no idea who uses what parks or why. We are the envy of many states for our beautiful parks,don't sell them off

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**Zip Code: 63090**

Please do not, sell or change Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of this parks operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement. No change is needed!

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**Zip Code: 65565**

Please do not let the Governor sell any of our state parks. They are a blessing in this busy world. They offer a place for families to bond and courtships to begin. They are wonderfully handicapped accessible for older adults. The state parks were the one place where I could take my father, who was in a wheelchair, that he could get outside to enjoy the places he loved in a state he loved. My fondest memories were all made in state parks whether as a child or adult. I know money is an issue. I have been to state parks such as Bothwell Lodge and the Thomas Hart Benton house that I know can use help. Please do not let this be the only reason to close a state park. They are a part of our world that needs preserving.

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**Zip Code: 65616**

I went to the meeting at Branson regarding the State Park here to learn. What I learned is, it is apparent we were there to be "sold" on the idea of selling the park. My fear is the same fear I heard voiced over and over at that meeting, the raping of our beautiful land to be used for TIMESHARE! We have the 2nd most timeshare units in America behind Orlando. The owners of the timeshare resorts are making a fortune raping our hillsides and putting up condos that sit empty much of the year. I can explain that if anyone cares to contact me. "WE" citizens own these parks. We want to keep what little bit of pristine Ozarks we still have. Please DO NOT sell this beautiful land off. It does not require any degree of maintenance, hence very little dollar cost.

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**Zip Code: 65807**

Don't sell this park!!!

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**Zip Code: 65085**

Please do not sell Jay Nixon State Park, or any of the other parks property. These parks, even the unopened one, secure our future for Missouri's outdoor areas. It would be very short-sighted to not develop these parks over time and provide a place for our people to recreate, and to preserve the land in as natural state as possible. Even in tight budget times, we must think that over the long term, maintaining our wilder spaces is worth it. It is also my understanding that there is an economic benefit to the state in having state parks for the community, so that local businesses can better thrive.

---

**Zip Code: 63108-2869**

keep it natural and intact

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**Zip Code: 65775**

Please re-open this park to the public. DO NOT sell it!

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**Zip Code: 63128**

The future generations.....need substantial Natural Areas.....and our State Parks are "Priceless".....for all Missourians...and our Tourist Visitors as well.

[REDACTED] ...Sunset Hills..

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**Zip Code: 63111**

I am opposed to the closing of this park.

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**Zip Code:**

Please do not sell Jay Nixon State Park. Why are you trying to sale the park?

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**Zip Code: 63109**

Our parks are not yours to sell! They belong to the people!!!

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**Zip Code: 64836-6130**

As sprawl and motor traffic take an increasing toll on our natural areas (the few which yet survive unexploited) it is urgent to save what we can for future generations so they may enjoy what we do, a window into the rapidly vanishing natural world. Zoos and Arboretums are fine, but they cannot compare to the pristine state of God's creations. To sacrifice these areas on the altar of Mammon is a betrayal to those who espouse Christianity as a faith and runs counter to Science. I firmly oppose any scheme to sell off any parks whatsoever; in fact more should be created, along with safe migratory corridors for all creatures, great and small. Man is the steward of the Garden and our race should protect, not utterly destroy it on behalf of the wealthy, commercial interests so beloved of our government(s).

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Zip Code: 63960

Public lands are essential to provide open space in an increasingly complex hectic society. There is increasing evidence that good health includes access to open space with natural values with vegetation and animals. Thus Missouri would be wise to expand public lands for a bright future.

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Zip Code: 64138

Please don't sell Jay Nixon State Park. Please leave all state parks alone. Jay Nixon State Park in particular isn't costing the state any money at all. All costs are entirely paid for the first five years, paid for with money from a Superfund settlement. Please don't spend that Superfund money on something else in Missouri. Please don't sell any state parks, forests, or wilderness areas.

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Zip Code: 63122

Please don't sell Jay Nixon State Park. This is a wonderful park that should stay in the Missouri Park system.

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Zip Code: 63116

MO

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Zip Code: 63011-2857

OUR State Parks are an asset to our outdoor state, the more the better.

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Zip Code: 65807

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Zip Code: 63501

I understand that we live in contentious and divided times and that a state park named to commemorate a Democrat might well be the sort of thing that a Republican super-majority would feel particularly inclined to eliminate. Please understand that the name does not matter: the ecosystem resources that the Jay Nixon State Park provide to Missourians of whatsoever political stripe are invaluable: from recreation to the local economy to protecting vital and quite rare ecological elements (both in terms of geology and live creatures), this park is an important part of Missouri's shared heritage. Opening it up in any way, no matter how small, (let alone removing it to the private sector) would be a net loss for our state and the Missourians of the future.

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Zip Code:

No you ??

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Zip Code: 63144

We need more parks, not less.

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Zip Code: 65301

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement.

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Zip Code: 63111

Do not sell any state park property. Change names if that is offensive, but the parks are there for all to enjoy. There is enough private land for the wealthy to enjoy, but the parks are therefor the rest of us who might not otherwise have access to the variety of natural wonders of the state.

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Zip Code: 64112

From everything I have read, selling off the park is a bad decision. I strongly oppose selling parkland, or diminishing our State Park System, which is one of the great strengths of our State. This particular park also has important benefits for migratory birds and other wildlife as it is contiguous with other park and conservation lands.

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Zip Code: 65203

Don't remove Jay Nixon State Park from the State Parks system. We need more state parks, not less.

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Zip Code: 63143

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement.

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Zip Code: 65255

It is totally wrong to close ANYpark in Missouri.

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Zip Code: 65201

No selling of plastic water bottles.

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Zip Code:

Our state parks are not for sale! They are a vast treasure of culture history and tradition for our state. They generate tourism, jobs, Providing big boost to our economy.

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Zip Code: 65672

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Zip Code: 63117

When people think of Missouri they first think of our beautiful wild spaces-- the rolling hills and mountains, the springs, the changing of the trees in the Fall... We need to protect these spaces. It would be an absolute misuse of state funds and time to sell the Jay Nixon State Park. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement. Further, state parks benefit the health of our state-- not just the physical and mental health of residents and visitors (walking in nature has been proven to benefit the body AND our mental health) but our economic health. State parks make our state money. We need money to have a thriving state economy. Do not sell this park land.

----

Zip Code: 64111

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Zip Code: 63135

I would love for the parks to be maintained and protected. There are various species that are rarely found anywhere else, and they play crucial roles in their habitats. Such resources must be shielded from greed and exploitation.

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Zip Code:

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! just keep it dormant to save money

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Zip Code: 64804

There is no justification for stealing parks from Missourians to sell for political profit. This is unacceptable and brazen theft of public lands. It will not be forgotten.

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Zip Code: 63021

I would urge you to please keep Jay Nixon State Park, as well as all of our state parks and public lands, in tact. The green spaces all over this country are rapidly being destroyed and developed. Wildlife that is meant to be in the wild is left dwelling in cities. Green spaces are important to our health. Parks and public lands provide peace and tranquility to our hectic lives. Once they are destroyed, they are irreplaceable. Please be a champion of our lands not an enemy.

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Zip Code: 64131

listen you [REDACTED] squid the state park in missouri are not for sell so you and you friend can get rich thats our land you thieveing sdon of a [REDACTED]

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Zip Code:

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Remember the reason it was made a State Park in the first place.

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Zip Code:

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Zip Code: 64138

what the hell is the matter with people wanting to get rid of State Parks and National Monuments! I'm sick and tired of hearing this crap. Who the hell does Greiten think he is. Another Trump? I'm fed up paying taxes to pay for [REDACTED] that want to take away from the public. This better stop!

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Zip Code: 63031

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement.

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Zip Code: 63119

Please don't sell the park! We need all the public spaces we can, to enjoy and for our future generations.

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Zip Code: 63026

Missouri State Parks belong to all of us and are not for sale. We deserve and need these sacred places to connect with nature so our spirits can be renewed.

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Zip Code:

State parks belong to the residents of Missouri, they are not for yours to do with as you wish.

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Zip Code: 63301

State parks should not be sold - even more land should be preserved. I live in St Charles County where we have converted former farmland to county parks, simply because the existence of open fields is endangered by housing and commercial development. The State should preserve forests and wilderness.

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Zip Code: 63139

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement. Please do not follow the Trump administration by giving away pieces of our beautiful country. Missouri has some truly unique features and they should be protected for recreation use and education.

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Zip Code: 65708

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement.

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Zip Code:

Please keep the park open.

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Zip Code:

Selling our state parks is one of the worst decisions anyone in the state can make. I wonder if the name wasn't Jay Nixon would the park would be up for closure. You need to think about the future of ALL children of Missouri, not just your own personal feelings toward an opposing party member. Setting aside land for state parks to be used by countless people who enjoy the outdoors is a crucial in our future as a state and humans. If you are an avid hunter, you would understand the concept of conservation of land.

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Zip Code: 63118

We need more state parks, not fewer. Our state parks and other wild areas belong to all Missourians, not to corporations, politicians or just the rich.

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Zip Code:

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Zip Code: 64113

Do not close Jay Nixon Park. It is a fabulous gift to Mo. to have it open and protected. The first five years of operations have already been funded. You do not have the right to take this land from the state and its people.

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Zip Code: 65775

Please keep our state parks! Their value is inestimable. I have seen the new Bryant state park and it is pristine! Please do not throw away our children's heritage

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Zip Code:

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Zip Code: 63105

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Zip Code: 64055

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Zip Code: 64133

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Zip Code: 63105

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Zip Code: 65401

Please reopen Jay Nixon State Park. It was purchased for valid reasons of reserving and protecting habitat. State parks are our favorite way to recreate. They are a boon to local economies. Please reopen Jay Nixon State Park.

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Zip Code: 63645

Enough of our parks have been sold off to outside parties. They are a natural resource that needs to stay protected.

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Zip Code: 63031

Please don't sell a Jay NIXON State Park. My husband and I enjoy visiting our state parks and the surrounding areas. Not only do these parks ensure that our children and grandchildren will be able to visit these unique parts of the state but they bring economic development to the area.

----

Zip Code: 63031

Keep our state parks INTACT and enhance the ones we have. Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement. Please consider that these precious natural resources are finite. We cannot recreate them after they have been destroyed by logging or mining or other mineral exploitation's. In addition, these parks bring tourism dollars to rural markets that benefit immensely from jobs. God gave us this world to protect and that includes the wild places and all the ecosystems within them. I intend to keep my covenant with God on this endowment to me. Please join me!

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Zip Code: 64625

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement.

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Zip Code: 63052

Protect the new Jay Nixon State Park .Don't sell it off. The first five years of the park has been funded with money from super fund settlement. Leave our State Parks to there natural beauty of our grandchildren.

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Zip Code: 64504

I would like to see it used as a protected wilderness area for camping, hiking, and recreation for all citizens. It would nice to have an abundance of such places in Missouri so that one would not have to travel to other states offering these opportunities.

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Zip Code: 65109

Greitens appears to be traveling down the same road as Trump. The Jay Nixon State Park is exactly that - a state park located in Missouri. It is for the people, NOT for our greedy elected head of state to do with as he wishes.

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Zip Code: 65037

Are you following in your bosses footsteps, and starting to sell Missouri's resources? Leave our wonderful parks alone. The one few things Missouri has going for them is the abundance of well maintained State Parks.

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Zip Code: 63304

Please stop taking away our natural resources found in our Missouri State Parks. We don't need any more home building, shopping centers, retail outlets, or corporate parks. Leave the homes of the wildlife alone. We are destroying God's green earth with man-made ideals.

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Zip Code:

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Zip Code: 65203

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Zip Code: 63122

Please do not sell the Jay Nixon State Park. The Park has funding for the first five years. Please open it and let us enjoy this great area.

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Zip Code: 65721

Not EVERY thing should have a price tag, or needs one. Why is this even happening, you need more greed money to line your pocket with?? I think it is time the government starts listening to We the People, after all that's what you are supposed to do!?

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Zip Code: 65810

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Zip Code: 63112

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Zip Code: 65401

Please keep Jay Nixon State Park as a state park!

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Zip Code: 64086

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Zip Code: 63501

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Zip Code: 63304

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement.

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Zip Code: 63139

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement

---

Zip Code:

I cannot believe our legislators would even CONSIDER selling off an important natural area like a Missouri State Park!! Once gone, THEY CANNOT BE REPLACED. Natural areas are not only important for slowing the human-created destruction of our planet's life-support systems, but they also are necessary for mental health.

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Zip Code: 63366

Please do not undermine the protections in place protecting our state parks. Don't sell out again!!!! Stand strong for our children.

---

Zip Code: 64138

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement.

---

Zip Code: 63301

Please do not sell this beautiful park. Our children and grandchildren will benefit from it. We need these green spaces. It is unconscionable to sell this park. Is the only reason Greitens wants to do this because it has the name of his predecessor, the same way Donald Trump is wanting to obliterate everything good that President Obama did? It would appear so. Please do not sell this park.

---

Zip Code: 63122

I'm grateful for all of you working on behalf of Missouri's State Parks. Our parks are rare gems, resources of tranquility, recreation and economic opportunity for our state. Your work to support our parks makes all of that possible. However, I must also say that in our current political and economic climate we have to do much better at promoting and maintaining and expanding our parks. We have to be more sophisticated, effective advocates, with creative and committed partners in politics, business and communities across the state. More resources, time and energy need to be

directed against campaigns like the one aimed at selling Jay Nixon park. When there are bad actors seeking to undermine our parks for their own narrow and short-sighted interests, they must be confronted more forcefully and persuasively. Thank you all again for your service and for listening to citizens in our state.

[REDACTED]

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Zip Code:  
Keep the Park!!!!!! Keep the Park!!!!!! Keep the Park!!!!!!

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Zip Code: 65648

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Zip Code: 63128  
Don't allow ATV's and drilling. Do not sell bottled water there. No guns. Limited reservations for camping.

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Zip Code: 65109  
Missouri is lucky to have so many beautiful state parks. They are truly a gem to behold. My family spends a lot of time in southeast Missouri, exploring Missouri state parks and we look forward to the opportunity to have another part to explore and to learn more about. It would be a shame if this property were sold for private use. This area of Missouri needs state parks to encourage tourism.

---

Zip Code: 63033  
Missourians are using public park lands at unprecedented rates. The last thing we need to be doing is closing down state parks!

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Zip Code: 64081  
Lets protect our state parks! We need to preserve them for all missourins.

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Zip Code: 63130

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Zip Code: 65203  
Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement.

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Zip Code: 63090  
Please don't sell state parks

Zip Code: 64116  
Protect our parks! As a lifetime hiker, I ask this in the name of those who came before me establishing these parks. Now we get to see how Native Americans, the Osage, dealt with their land being sold off. This must stop!

---

Zip Code: 63119  
Please keep Jay Nixon State Park alive, funded and intact. It is important to the State of Missouri to have these parks.

---

Zip Code: 63131  
Under no circumstances should Park land be abandoned ..... if current funding does not allow development it should still be held and maintained for the future .... that's what State Parks do.....

---

Zip Code: 65613  
To whom it may concern- Do NOT sell any of the current MO state parks whether they are open or or not.

---

Zip Code: 63011  
It should stay a state park. Leave it alone for the animals and nature goers to enjoy.

---

Zip Code:  
Jay Nixon State Park must not be sold off. This park is part of Missouri and belongs to the people of this state. Please Gov Greitens, protect our lands and keep Missouri parks for the people.

---

Zip Code: 63005  
Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement.

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Zip Code: 64110  
Please do not sell off Jay Nixon State Park!

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Zip Code: 64454  
all state and federal parks are very important or should be to all families in the united states, its one of the best ways for families to enjoy the outdoors together unless your fortunate enough to have your own land

---

Zip Code: 65686  
Parks are a jewel and enhance living in Missouri . Missouri shares the Parks with people all over the world.

Zip Code: 64057

Our state parks are part of Missouri beauty and you have  
know write to sell them so you can make money. Leave  
our parks free for people to see our beauty .

---

Zip Code: 65627

Is Greitans trying to be like our president? I hope not!!!

---

Zip Code: 65203

Keep all of our state parks open to the public and  
untouchable for selling. We need healthy, scenic, green  
space.....for now and the future. Have a conscience,  
man.....

---

Zip Code: 64151

Please keep all the Missouri State Parks, including Jay  
Nixon State Park.

---

Zip Code: 64113

A one time source of revenue, relatively small I'm sure,  
is a terrible option compared to generations of  
recreational use. DO NOT SELL THIS PARK. Reopen  
it for public use. I'm an avid user of our state parks and  
would love the opportunity to visit the area.

---

Zip Code:

We had seen the economic benefits firsthand, as well as  
the delight visitors experience. The value of our parks  
should not be underestimated as we preserve part of  
Missouri's beauty/appeal.

---

Zip Code:

intent is evil

---

Zip Code:

Our great grandchildren like to brag that they have been  
in every MO. STATE Park and we like to brag we took  
them to many of them and J. N. was one. Such hatred  
by this go over for anything just a it left apparently is  
hated. Typical!

---

Zip Code:

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Zip Code: 63301

Please do not reduce the size of any of our state parks by  
even an acre. Our state parks are a great benefit and of  
great solace to our citizens. They must remain whole and  
well cared for.

---

Zip Code: 65746

Missouri needs to keep and preserve all parks and  
recreation areas that it currently has. And consider  
purchasing more land in areas of the state were it's not  
easily accessible to the tax payers and the generation's to  
come.

---

Zip Code: 63103

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Zip Code: 65203

Do t sell our state parks, please. That is foolhearty at  
best.

---

Zip Code: 64111

Our public lands are disappearing at an alarming rate.  
Please don't eliminate any parks!

---

Zip Code: 65202

I would tell the Gov that these lands are not his to give  
away or sell. They belong to the State of Missouri, to the  
People. He should stop his political efforts to serve only  
his own future. His political bullshit games are self-  
serving and punish the rest of us. And clearly it is  
intention to punish. Stop politicizing public lands, Gov.

---

Zip Code: 63011

Missouri parks are one of our states Best recreational  
gifts

---

Zip Code: 63126

We are loosing undeveloped land every day. the state of  
Missouri should be prohibited from selling or allowing  
industrial activity on any land that it owns and protection  
of natural water resources must be a top state priority.

---

Zip Code: 64110

Please preserve this land. My family ancestors are from  
this area and so I am familiar with the rich history and  
the natural diversity. If it must be renamed to please  
politicians, I am okay with that. Our state parks are the  
jewels of Missouri, and I and many others will not  
support a Governor who has plans to sell them to the  
highest bidders.

---

Zip Code: 63126

A wildlife sanctuary

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Zip Code: 63501

Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The  
first five years of park operations have already been  
funded with money from a Superfund settlement.

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Zip Code: 63129

Please keep this part , I strongly oppose any effort to sell the land

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Zip Code: 65807

Parks and nature areas are vital for the citizens of Missouri and enrich the lives of residents as well as providing shelter, food, and homes for Missouri's wildlife. These natural spaces also attract significant tourist business benefiting our state economically.

----

Zip Code: 64834

It's one of the few parks I have walked. It's a wonderful park even disabled people a walk and should not be sold. Missouri doesn't need the money like other struggling states so why sell off our public lands? This park is already funded for the next 5 years. Are you selling it because it's named after a democratic governor?

----

Zip Code: 64118

Gov. Please do not eliminate and shut down state parks especially the Jay Nixon State Park

----

Zip Code: 63303

Don't follow in the footsteps of the POTUS. Be responsible and keep our parks protected and supported.

----

Zip Code: 63119

Do not decrease the number or size of our state parks. Missouri should be proud to preserve wilderness and historical sites for generations to come. Selling our state land to private interests is selling our future. Don't do it!

----

Zip Code: 63144

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement. Missouri Parks belong to all of us, including our children and grandchildren.

----

Zip Code: 63304

Republicans are [REDACTED] stupid. Stop wrecking everything you touch. Develop the park and put it to use. In this day of one party's destruction of the environment. Can we please have something nice for just a little while? Tell Greitens he can play with his machine gun there - that should get him to approve a useful facility.

----

Zip Code:

Do not reduce our state's natural treasures. They are an irreplaceable resource.

----

Zip Code: 64024

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Zip Code: 63119

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Zip Code: 63017

Do not close or sell and state parks in missouri.

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Zip Code: 63132

I've hiked in a lot of MO state parks and really enjoy them. Please keep and open Jay Nixon State Park. Our parks are one if the treasures of our state.

----

Zip Code: 63111

Do not sell Jay Nixon State Park! Do not remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have been funded with money from a Superfund settlement already.

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Zip Code: 64109

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Zip Code:

Missouri state parks are one of the best investments the state can make. The return on investment from tourism and the health benefits is huge. If this park is not reopened, Missouri citizens will be outraged.

----

Zip Code: 63089

Please do not sell ANY Missouri State Parks! We have been such good stewards of our public lands. Don't start reducing the acreage we have acquired. Our children and grandchildren deserve to have open spaces where they can explore our natural Missouri heritage.

----

Zip Code: 64153

Do not sell off our park land. Why sell it? Who would buy? What would they do with it? We need to conserve all the land we can in this country. All the beautiful lands and untouched lands are going away way to fast. Keep your hands off it.

----

Zip Code: 64068

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement.

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Zip Code: 63376

Don't sell the Nixon State Park. As a nature enthusiast, I strongly feel the Park is a necessity for Missouri.

---

Zip Code: 63146

While I personally do not visit many state or national parks, I strongly believe that it is our state's and nation's responsibility to preserve the natural treasures of land, nature and beauty that we have for the enjoyment of all our people and our future generations. Our mental and physical health and well-being require fresh air, peace and beauty. Parks provide all that and more and must be protected from those people and corporations who want to acquire these public lands for their own profit.

---

Zip Code: 63126

Save our precious resources and ecosystems for future generations instead of selling them off for a short term profit. Thirty years from now no one will remember how much money the state made selling off its parks. If they do remember how much money the state made selling off its parks, it won't be for a good reason.

---

Zip Code: 65256-9584

Public spaces are a great asset to Missourians such as myself. I support more funding for our public spaces and ask that Jay Nixon State Park be opened. I certainly oppose Governor Greitens proposal of selling it.

---

Zip Code: 64110

We need our State Parks and our State Parks need us. To consider selling them off for private gain is unconscionable but sadly not surprising. I had yet to visit Jay Nixon State Park and now I guess that will be indefinitely postponed. We need people in Jeff City who actually care not only about Missouri citizens but also our beautiful Missouri scenery, wildlife and environment.

---

Zip Code: 63115

State parks are recreation spots for all leave them alone

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Zip Code:

Stop closing parks. Allow people to enjoy them.

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Zip Code: 65653

Leave the damn park alone.

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Zip Code: 65202

Please don't sell Jay Nixon State Park and don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money

from a Superfund settlement. It is so important to keep these parks and preserve them for our children so they get to experience and explore nature and understand how different each location is from the next. I appreciate your time and attention to this matter.

---

Zip Code:

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Zip Code: 65040

Do not sell any national or state parks. We have to hold on to and secure all public lands.

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Zip Code: 63143-2809

There MUST be a paradigm change from "sell off public lands to benefit campaign sponsors" back to "public lands are for ALL." Just because it's called Jay Nixon State Park doesn't mean it should be obliterated.

---

Zip Code:

State parks are precious to the people. Public lands are disappearing at an alarming rate. They should be protected, not sold. We need more public lands, protected from development, not fewer.

---

Zip Code: 65063

This state park needs to stay! Five years of funding is already in place. Once land like this is given away, it is gone forever. Like Teddy Roosevelt, we need to preserve places like this for future generations. Please do not sell Jay Nixon State Park! [REDACTED]

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Zip Code: 63130

Parks should be protected for the people to enjoy. As population grows and becomes more urban, this should become increasingly obvious to anyone who cares about people more than money.

---

Zip Code: 65016

We need to preserve not sell off our public lands. We use them often.

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Zip Code: 63109

Our wild places and wild things are suffering under the strain of the growth in human population. Our current government leaders are reversing decades of protections to our environment, endangered species, and national monuments. Lets lead by example and truly be the Show Me State by continuing to protect our parks and open spaces not only for our future human generations but for the all the non-human inhabitants of these places.

Zip Code: 65203

Do not sell off our public lands. This is our land. This land is for our children and their children. So that they may enjoy the outdoors.

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Zip Code:

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Zip Code: 63090

Please do not sell parks that are already purchased. Figure out a way to make them work. We have the best conservation department in the country. Something to be proud of in Missouri. Keep these lands for our future generations

----

Zip Code: 63136

Preserving Land must be a priority. "They don't make it anymore" to quote an old Missourian. Our parks are not for sale! They belong to ME and YOU.

----

Zip Code: 63144

Please don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! This beautiful wilderness area should be protected, not auctioned off to corporate developers who will destroy this precious natural resource.

----

Zip Code: 63139

Don't sell Jay Nixon State Park! Don't remove the park from the State Parks system. The first five years of park operations have already been funded with money from a Superfund settlement.

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Zip Code: 64024

Please maintain this new park!

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Zip Code: 63132-2102

Don't sell it off! Period!

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Zip Code:

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Zip Code:

Don't get rid of the park even though the name sucks

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Zip Code:

This land needs to remain protected and a park. This is a beautiful land/lake/mountains. I would love to go here with my kids to explore our natural parks in Missouri. Could utilize/create work for troubled teens, young adults, adults. They could work the park in return for treatment.

----

Zip Code: 63108

Adding Jay Nixon State Park to the other natural resources already in the area would be a great decision. For a relatively small amount of cost, it would expand and keep access to a beautiful part of the state for all Missourians.

----

Zip Code: 63119

I want the state of Missouri to open Jay Nixon State Park to the public, immediately. I will not tolerate any delay. I plan not to vote for anybody standing in the way of opening this park.

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Zip Code: 65793

It's time to move forward with this state park. People of Missouri overwhelmingly support state parks. Why there is a delay here is somewhat of a mystery. Can it just be mean-spirited? Let's all grow up and open these parks.

----

Zip Code: 65793

The Jay Nixon state park is one that everyone should be able to agree on (assuming the funds for this park were purchased lead pollution award money). This land is particularly attractive because it adjoins another state park and MDC lands. Please keep this park and create a low impact outdoor adventure opportunities which are sustainable.

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Zip Code: 65261

I urge you to please keep the Jay Nixon State Park in the Missouri State Park system. State parks are fantastic for local economies. They attract tourists from other areas of the state and country who spend money at restaurants, gas stations, hotels, and other local businesses such as canoe rentals, grocery stores, etc.. They are a show piece for the state by preserving and protecting our ecosystem, natural landscape, and history. They provide affordable outdoor recreation, unique education opportunities, and family bonding experiences. This particular park has part of the Ozark Trail running thru it. From personal experience, my husband & I recently hiked the 13 mile section of the Ozark Trail from Taum Sauk Mountain to Johnson Shut-Ins State Park. It was an incredible experience not only for the challenge of the hike but for the beauty of the area. The entire section of the trail was surprisingly busy with other hikers. We camped for 2 nights in Johnson Shut-Ins park and ate at local restaurants and purchased gas twice. We saw other hikers at the same restaurant the evening of our hike. This just proves the popularity of Missouri State Parks and the boost they are for local economies. Missourians have already gone to polls in 2016 and voted to renew our sales tax to support state parks and soil conservation. In fact, the majority of voters in

every single county in the state voted yes for our parks. Please do the right thing and honor what the voters of our great state want. We want our state parks and we support them! Please keep Jay Nixon State Park!

---

Zip Code: 63026

Always consider installing cabins for over-nite stays, etc. Charges are fine but within reason.

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Zip Code: 63052

The Jay Nixon State Park should be developed, maintained and opened for public access. State parks are especially important for public use considering the Federal Government's lack of concern for the environment and the lack of preservation of current Federal park lands. Please take the lead in making sure citizens have areas of undeveloped land preserved in their natural beauty and balance for this generation and future generations to enjoy and appreciate.

---

Zip Code: 63781

Why not just add the property to Taum Sauk Mountain State Park and develop it over a longer period of time.

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Zip Code: 64048

My wife, our 4 adult children and their families want all three of the new state parks developed and made available as they should be.

---

Zip Code: 63010

Use as rustic camping. Nedd water source somewhere on property plus two privy locations.. Open to hunting gun and bow. Some cleared areas for campers and tent. Sites. Have launch area on lake for small boats. Limited horsepower...

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Zip Code: 64151

Missourians care about our natural areas and too many of them are under siege. I wholeheartedly support developing and opening this state park, and any state park. I'm a lifelong Missourian and I support funding to maintain and develop natural areas here.

---

Zip Code: 65692

Sell it back to the people of Iron county so they can have a chance to homestead it. Dnr doesnt need any more land, you dont take care of what you have now. Stop this land grabbing.

---

Zip Code: 63650

I volunteer at the Arcadia valley visitor center. The #1 question I get from out of area visitors is where is great

place to hike. # 2 question where is a good place to eat. We are lucky to have both close by. So the Jay Nixon state park is just another crown jewel for our area. If we don't have the money at this time to fix it up maybe just put in a parking lot and ask for volunteer groups help build some trails. I hope this park will some day be another premier missouri park.

---

Zip Code: 63650

We hiked the Scour Trail at Johnson's shut-ins and were so impressed with the trail, the observation deck, the informative signs. We look forward to the addition of the Jay Nixon Park and would like to be part of a group of trail builders when the time comes to lay new paths through the park. This is a fantastic opportunity for growth in our county and tourist dollars and jobs for our residents! Thank you for all you do!

---

Zip Code: 65203

The opportunity to acquire these park lands now was probably the only chance we will have to ever acquire them. If there are not sufficient funds to develop them now, simply holding on to the land until the development resources are available will cost the state and Division of State Parks very little. Casting them aside for some one-time cash would be a terribly shortsighted move. The only winners would probably be entities who can acquire, exploit and destroy these natural areas. The losers would be the millions who value and enjoy our great state park system.

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Zip Code: 64152

I support keeping the Jay Nixon State Park in the Missouri park system. The park should be opened to the public with basic amenities (road, parking, pit toilet) and trails added in planned progression. Keep the Ozark Trail on public lands.

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Zip Code: 64083

I support developing and opening this state park.

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Zip Code: 64060

I support developing and opening this state park.

---

Zip Code: 64144

I strongly support opening this state park. My family and I have a goal to visit all the MO state parks and camp or stay in lodging at all those where that is possible. While we do this we visit and spend money in surrounding communities. I am strongly against the sale of these parks properties and believe the state has a duty to future generations to preserve the high quality habitat & land.

----

Zip Code: 66049

I support developing and opening this state park.

----

Zip Code: 64024

I think it imperative that this area be preserved for future generations .

----

Zip Code: 65618

I am in favor of permanent Park status for Jay Nixon State Park under a policy of minimal development.

----

Zip Code: 64429

I love this park. Please keep it in perfect condition.

----

Zip Code: 64151

Please retain, develop and open Jay Nixon State Park. Missourians supported state parks by 80% at the polls in November 2016. The 4 new state parks need to be developed and opened for all Missourians to enjoy.

----

Zip Code: 63090

Again another beautiful park with a lot of possibilities. Look like it might have a great swimming or fishing hole. If it does that makes for a great campground, just saying again full hookup is the way to go. Maybe horseback riding here would be great.

----

Zip Code: 63050

do not sell this property even if it cannot be opened in the near future.

----

Zip Code:

This tract should be added to Taum Sauk state park; only a fool would sell it.

----

Zip Code: 63010

This park should be preserved. Our state parks are what make Missouri the envy of the nation. This park will not only preserve priceless natural landscapes, but also help mitigate the deleterious effects of climate change.

----

Zip Code: 63122

Twice I have taken high school students from John Burroughs School cross country backpacking onto the Proffitt Mountain region which is mostly within the proposed boundary of Jay Nixon State Park (JNSP). We accessed this area from Taum Sauk State Park and the Ozark Trail. The students and I enjoyed the wild and remote features of Proffitt Mountain along with the

challenge of hiking in that terrain. I recommend that the proposed Jay Nixon State Park remain mostly undeveloped and be absorbed into Taum Sauk Mountain State Park as an official "wild area." Hence, I recommend the new acreage just be added to Taum Sauk State Park. Certainly trails could be added to this area along with back country camping sites. But, for the long term, Proffitt Mountain (JNSP) should just be an official "wild area" of Taum Sauk State Park. Thank you,

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
St. Louis, MO 63122

----

Zip Code:

Keep and fund the parks ! We can't have too much green space for our citizens to enjoy. Plus it saves the wildlife too. Thank you.

----

Zip Code: 63146

Please retain the property; make it a part of the Taum Sauk Mountain State Park, and work gradually to make this beautiful addition accessible to the public. We need to preserve such unique features such as glades. You can save money by just joining it with the above state park. We shouldn't be naming parks for incumbent politicians. Let history make that determination. I belong to STL Audubon and CFM, both organizations that strongly encourage the preservation and restoration of natural wildlife friendly habitat. This park is such a beautiful place with water, forest and glade habitats. It's attachment should increase tourist visits. Being attached to an existing state park should make it more affordable. Why not begin the habitat restoration in 2018 with some park staff and groups of volunteers. DO NOT SELL the property!

----

Zip Code: 63648

we have enough state parks for bird watching ect.... we need more land to hunt on and fishing lakes .and also used for hunting water fowl and access to deer and turkey hunting this location could provide both.... thx for letting the public voice their opinion on this.

----

Zip Code: 63020

Preserving natural land for public use is important and should be considered above the political fray. All three of the new park spaces under consideration should get the green light for development/preservation. If there is one thing that Missouri gets "right" is our state park system - among the best in the country!

----

Zip Code: 65066

This area would be a great addition to the state park system and the connection to the Ozark Trail increases

it's value. It's loss of the tax rolls should not be a consideration, given how little taxes are paid on "agricultural" land

----

Zip Code: 63601

Consider turning the area into a conservation area. Allow hunting, waterfowling, fishing and day use. Thank you.

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Zip Code: 63146

In my humble opinion, this would not be an issue where it not for the name of the park. Drop the name, merge this land into the Taum Sauk Mountain State Park and be done with it. Don't make our parks victims of petty politics.

-----

Zip Code: 63130

I believe the new state park should be retained and incorporated into adjacent state park properties. Little development is required for this park so costs should be small. The park land will provide a valuable addition to the surrounding parks.

-----

Zip Code: 63011

State parks are a public resource. They represent an economic and environmental asset to local communities, counties, the state and to visitors to our region from across the nation. Missouri's state park system is a crown jewel. Sale of land for public use in the state park system should not be an option. Once sold, the environmental and economic benefits the state park provides is lost for a more narrow, shorter term, and short-sighted benefit to developers and private investors. This comes at the expense of the public and future generations for whom the preservation of natural and cultural resources today will prove to be of lasting value and importance.

-----

Zip Code: 64640

These are similar comments that we've made about the other two possible parks. This one is closer to our home and we are very familiar with areas surrounding it. Again with Johnson Shut inns, Elephant Rocks, Taum Sauk, and Black River, why does the state feel the need to spend more money and other resources on developing a new area??? We questioned why the state bought this land when it did and still question the need for more money to be put here. Please use it to upgrade other existing parks. If the committee looking at this would spend two days in any close campground you could see existing areas of need like shower houses, cabins and camping areas. Ask any park employee and they could tell you where to spend state money wisely. We ask that

the land be sold and the money put back into the Taum Sauk settlement fund. Please take our comments seriously.

----

Zip Code: 63650

Please do not sell Jay Nixon or the other state parks. They are highly valuable to the public as access for rescues, endangered and threatened species protection, as gorgeous places to be enjoyed by the public instead of shut down and locked up, and are very valuable to be managed for natural resources and wildlife instead of used solely for commercial gain and abuse by private individuals. Keep Jay Nixon state park a public park. Maybe change the name to something different though please. Thanks!!

----

Zip Code: 63131

This area is adjacent to Johnson Shut-Ins State Park, Taum Sauk State Park, Ketcherside Mountain Conservation Area, Bell Mountain Wilderness, and also the Ozark Trail. This is a wonderful destination for hiking and experiencing nature. Opening Jay Nixon Park will only add to this and make the area even more attractive to tourism. It is important to preserve these green spaces as our population grows. They provide opportunities to connect with nature and also maintain plant life, rock formations, streams and animal habitat. Even if this property cannot be developed immediately, please bank this land so it can be developed in the future.

----

Zip Code: 65775

Missouri State parks are a valuable natural resource for every citizen. Please keep our parks accessible and open. Our parks enhance quality of life, bring in out of state visitors and support tourism and local economies.

----

Zip Code: 63130

We need more State Parks, not fewer ones. The people of the State of Missouri have continuously shown their support for their parks. Even if the money is not there at present to fully support the parks, it is short-sighted to think about eliminating them.

----

Zip Code: 64068

Why is this a separate state park? I think it should be part of Taum Sauk. At a minimum, change the name to something else non-political. It's Ozark Trail usage is very important and should be preserved. It would be great to be able to make a loop on the OT and this tract helps make that a possibility in the future. While development (camping, hiking) around the lake (and elsewhere) will be a great asset to Missouri, it can wait until resources are available. There are many animals,

especially birds, that need these large blocks of land and forests. Even undeveloped this land is very important, protecting watershed, plants and animals, and 'the scenery' which tourists come to see (and spend money while they are here). It should never end up in private hands.

----

Zip Code: 63011

This piece of property helps create a corridor of public land between other pieces of National Forest, State Park and Conservation Areas. The cost of maintaining would be minimal compared to the value it provides to the other parcels by creating a unified habitat. Please do not give up this small piece of property. You can change the name if you are just after political gamesmanship.

----

I believe shouldn't sell Jay Nixon state park. This is a really beautiful place that you can hike and fish at. Also, I think Jay Nixons state park has one of the prettiest lakes I have ever seen. I love to fish and if this state park stays open I will come.

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Zip Code: 63628

I do not think the state should sell the park because, there are not very many things to do in the area so taking away this state park would cause the area to lose money and tourists. Taking away this park would also cause the city to lose taxes on the park.

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Zip Code: 63601

i would like this land to be protected. The state should not sale this land, i would like to see a dock over the water.

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Zip Code: 63601

I think the state parks are very fun and entertaining, I love to see more animals. I do not want this state to sell this land. I have never been to the Jay Nixon State Park but I would love to.

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Zip Code: 63628

I would love this land to be protected. I do not want it to be sold. There should be some trails and some docks.

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Zip Code: 63601

I do not want this state to sell Jay Nixon state park. This state park should not be sold because there are people around the world who would love to see this.

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Zip Code: 63628

I believe that the land of Jay Nixon State Park should not be sold. Possible options for activities include having things like camping and horseback riding throughout the park for disabled. Instead of selling this landform for the money we could pay to get into the park or have volunteers come in and walk the trail and if the pickup trash from the park they get a free pass to get in or maybe a discount for helping the environment. I am sure I would come to the park and clean up with my family so that we could come back next time.

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Zip Code: 65804

Once land is set aside as a Park, it should remain a park. This park is near the St Francois natural areas. Saving it will connect and protect large tracts of land for migratory birds and keep it from deforestation and unwanted development. Missourians love their parks; parks bring much needed revenue to rural areas; we continually vote overwhelmingly for the tax that provides parks funds. Sometimes good things take time. Current fiscal situations will change and so if not now, when the money is available. Extensive development of this park is not necessary ... mainly trails and maybe bird-watching stands and such. Relatively unspoiled land is rare in our time. No more is being created. It should be treasured.

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Zip Code: 63601

I think you should make a board walk going into the lake for the people to fish and for people to sit and enjoy the water.

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Zip Code: 63628

I do not want the state to sell the land for Jay Nixon State Park. The land should be kept in its natural state. I would like a spur trail built connecting this park to the Ozark Trail. This should be kept a rugged backpacking destination.

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Zip Code: 63628

I don't think they should sell the Jay Nixon State Park. They should add a dock and a fishing boat to go across the lake.

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Zip Code: 63601

I believe that this land shouldn't be sold to other people and should be open for anyone to enjoy. Jay Nixon state park is a perfect place to spend time outdoors. Many groups of people, school field trips, family, and friends love going on hikes at beautiful state parks. I believe the park would get much use and would be a good way to get people outside instead of inside.

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Zip Code: 63601

In my opinion I think that we should not sell this land because it would be a huge benefit to the people and to the surrounding area.

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Zip Code: 63601

I do not want the land to be sold because without the park all of the beautiful things will be gone. Also, the state parks provide lots of money to the local area.

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Zip Code: 63620

I would like Missouri State Parks to keep their idea of adding the Jay Nixon State Park in the future. This would help our ecosystem and may help animals become more protected. This 12 Acre piece of land and a 50-acre lake is a beautiful place and it would bring in the tourists and more tourists means more money for our area. This state park will help our community in many ways. It will give our community more money for local things like stores and gas stations. It will protect more of the animals such as deer, different species of birds, and small animals. In the future, i would like to see this State Park have some campgrounds that have electric and some that don't. I would also like to see eating areas and maybe a shallower part of the lake that could be made into a swimming area. Thank you for taking this into consideration.

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Zip Code: 63401

First, I would like to note that it is very difficult for citizens of Missouri to make a decision based on a cost/benefit analysis when the actual cost of obtaining the property is not made public. This act of secrecy hinders public trust in the State Parks and DNR, and makes me skeptical of the entire project. Additionally, in reviewing the information, the subject property contributes nothing not already found in adjoining public land. There is already an abundance of the types of primitive access would provide, making it thoroughly unnecessary. A lake like the one found on the subject property could easily be constructed at a far cheaper price than the cost of developing this park and access to the lake on it. Additionally, there are already quite a few lakes in the area, as well as numerous other public lands that offer essentially the same exact thing the subject

provides. Additionally, the naming and acquisition of this park absolutely reeks of a politician utilizing his office for personal gain (in this case, having a park named after himself). Additionally, naming properties after non-deceased public figures is bad precedent. If Mr. Nixon were deceased, I would not object to having this park named after him, given the significance of the office he held. However, naming properties after people who are still alive and did not donate the property in question is simply an ego boost to them and of no public benefit. While I am thankful for Mr. Nixon's service to this state, I cannot advocate for this property to bear his name. The DNR and MO State Parks has a poor track record in managing properties, with many state parks in a run down condition, receiving less maintenance than they would receive if they were sold and returned to private landowners. It would be a mistake to entrust them with more when clearly funds are short. In my experience as a real estate appraiser, private landowners take far better care of their real estate from a conservation perspective than when it is held publicly. Additionally, public ownership removes a property from property tax obligations, which makes a huge difference for struggling local governments. My recommendation is to return this property to private hands, and use the proceeds to enhance nearby state parks properties. Should the State Parks choose to keep this property, it would be far less confusing for visitors to add it to the adjoining existing state park, rather than to create a new park. That way, all the information could be found in a single place online, rather than having to look up multiple parks.

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Zip Code: 65010

What is there to argue about. This are will provide more tourism income, more fishing opportunities. The St. Francis mountains hold wonderful geological discoveries and history. This area is extremely important to Missouri and should be protected at all costs. Missouri has always done an excellent job of protecting what is important and I have no doubt that the residents of Missouri will be able to see through the short sidedness of this administration and make the right choice.

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Zip Code: 65201

I cannot describe the effect that the Missouri State Parks system has had on the past two years of my life. I started doing the centennial passport program and really enjoyed the trips I would make over the weekends to go to every single one and experience the unique things each had to offer. My boyfriend and I had a lot of fun finding the parks and getting all the stamps. It was in Missouri state parks that I started trail running and now I have taken up the sport, training with others around my town in mid-Missouri, multiple days a week. I am in the

best shape of my life, have an entirely new appreciation for the outdoors, and have had some of the most memorable adventures in the past two years in Missouri parks than I have ever had before. If given the opportunity to develop more parks, no matter where, I say soundly, yes! I will travel to each and every one of them. Please keep this land and use it for the good of the people. Missouri state parks are available to all of Missouri citizens no matter what their socioeconomic status, and in this day and age, the people need some free fun that can bring families and friends together.

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Zip Code: 64086

This 1,231 acre property should be maintained as a Missouri State Park. No development is even currently needed if it could not be afforded. The property could be used to incorporate another small section of the Ozark Trail into public ownership, as well as protecting what is probably the oldest mountain range in North America. The igneous glades are worth preserving and someday interpreting to the public. In the future, when the state legislature actually adequately funds MDNR and the state parks, the area could be developed and interpreted. Since it is already adjacent to Tom Sauk a small addition to the staffing at Tom Sauk could be made and the staff there pick up some duties for management of Jay Nixon State Park. The people of Missouri deserve to have this unique habitat and its plants and animals preserved for future generations.

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Zip Code: 63131

I am an enthusiastic fan of our beautiful Missouri State Parks system. My family has lived in this state since before it was a state; it is my devout wish that our state parks survive and thrive so that my grandchildren and great-grandchildren can love and enjoy them as well. Right now our state is sadly divided, and I fear our state parks are being used as a political football. Please do whatever it takes to remove petty politics from our parks. Please don't name parks after living politicians; that just invites controversy where it doesn't belong. Our parks provide not only recreation, but an economic boost to surrounding communities. Our parks preserve our natural and our cultural heritage. Please do not consider selling off park lands. Instead, take the time and effort involved to think about appropriate development of these precious lands. Sincerely, [REDACTED]

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Zip Code: 63034

I was at the public meeting at Johnson Shut-ins State Park on December 7. I appreciated the opportunity to talk to park staff and listen to the concerns of fellow citizens. I am an avid supporter of state parks and visited all of them in this past year as part of the passport program. I very much want the Jay Nixon property to

remain a state park and would like to see minimum development. Keeping the area primitive makes sense economically, as well as being more beneficial for the area's natural resources. There are plenty of non-profit nature-related groups who would be willing to assist with natural resource tasks. [REDACTED]

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Zip Code: 65101  
protect this park, do not close it

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Zip Code:  
Sell it, Reynolds County schools can't afford to lose any more school taxes.

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Zip Code: 65203  
Location of property makes it an excellent addition to the adjacent public lands. Preserve our natural areas at every opportunity.

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Zip Code:  
Looks great! Please consider a simple name change to make part of Taum Sauk as backcountry. Keep this publicly accessible in some manner. Thank you.

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Zip Code:  
Of course I'd like to see this beautiful land available to the public, as full state park, backcountry or under some other agency. It would seem logical to just change the name -include it as part of Taum Sauk State Park, and make available immediately as part of it it's backcountry.

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Zip Code:  
Sell jay Nixon state park and use the money to cleanup st francis county lead contamination.

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Zip Code: 63638  
This property should be sold and the money that was used to purchase this property should be returned to the Asarco Fund. This fund was set up to remediate the mining properties in Reynolds and Iron counties not to buy more land with.

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Zip Code: 65010  
This is a beautiful, wild park adjacent to a popular destination (Taum Sauk) and includes a section of the Ozark trail which attracts visitors from all over the nation. It would be a shame for this land to be sold. Missourians love their parks- as evidenced by the passage of the last vote to keep a tax for park funding. No need to develop it. If you need to rename it to something less offensive to our Republican government, go ahead. But don't take this park away from us.

---

Zip Code: 65536

Without additional income you can only squeeze a turnip so hard. Figures get quoted but no idea what gets cut to provide these tangible funds and staff with a basically fixed income stream. The older parks have taken it on the chin for the last two decades or more. The parks that built this system need a lot more funding and staff or they will go back to dirt. New parks are great and needed but at the cost of major upkeep on the older parks the new parks are not worth it no matter the great deal or projected need. We take "free" funding from somewhere to buy land and out of date facilities and we just cut the systems overall ability to keep the current system on a cyclic maintenance and replacement schedule. Whenever the tax income grows so does inflation or cost of employee benefits. So basically that breaks even and we go further behind. Someone needs to grow some nerve and increase the tax rate for parks and then live within that income!

---

Zip Code: 64111

I am pleased to see the Nixon State Park added to the St Francois Mountains complex of parks and conservation areas and hope the park is developed--but lightly, allowing trail and auto access, and camping, but emphasizing the fact that the area is one of Missouri's most spectacular wild areas.

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Zip Code: 63110

I absolutely support the development of Jay Nixon State Park. I have spent hundreds of hours working with MDC on management, fireline, and prescribed burns as well as lots of time hiking and camping on public land in the area surrounding the proposed state park. Based on my time and experience there I know that the value to wildlife and the public of those lands is huge. Please go forward making this a state park!

---

Zip Code: 63944

The monies used to buy land for this park where to be used ELSEWHERE. What gives the State the authority to build another park when the money was designated for lead remediation? Once another park is built when then have to CONTINUALLY USE FUNDS TO MAINTAIN IT! It's NEVER ENDING, kind of like taxes..... I don't want another park, and why was this park named as such? Did we the people vote on it? I never saw it on a ballot. NO, get our money back, NOT AT A LOSS, AND SPEND IT WHERE IT WAS INTENDED!

---

Zip Code: 65804

Please keep this land, it is a gem for now and for future generations. If MDNR has budget challenges, consider lining up partners and keeping infrastructure costs low. When resources allow, please develop the park in a low-impact, sustainable way (financially, socially, and environmentally). My preference is for hiking and mountain bike trails, primitive camping, and river access.

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Zip Code:

Preserving and maintaining native habitat is extremely important as we have so little of it left. A site like this appears ideal for that purpose.

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Zip Code: 65203

State parks are important to the beauty and attractiveness of Missouri. They provide outdoor options for residents and tourists alike. Please open these parks and continue to make them a priority to our state's welfare.

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Zip Code: 63601

Sell this park you can't maintain the ones we have. We actually should sell all small parks with low usage.

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Zip Code:

Please keep the proposed Jay Nixon State Park and go ahead with plans to open it. Our State Parks are the envy of surrounding states for several reasons. People come here from other states to visit our state parks and they spend money. Our state parks had 18 million visitors in 2016, a new record. Those visitors patronize local businesses for food, gasoline, rental canoes, and hotel rooms. That means more local jobs as well as more local tax revenue. Additionally, accessible outdoor recreation means improved health for our children and families. In November 2016, Missourians voted to renew the sales tax for state parks and soil conservation. A majority of voters in every single County in our state voted yes for parks. Thanks for this opportunity to comment.

---

Zip Code: 65202

This parkland is very rugged and remote, and not suitable for extensive development. In my opinion, it would be best suited for wilderness camping, probably clustered around the little lake. I have read news reports that some legislators want to sell off this property. I believe this would be a considerable mistake. The public lands in this region have become a major tourist attraction and a foundation of the local economy, far beyond any other conceivable economic use of this property.

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Zip Code: 65066

Don't see any of the unopened state park land.

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Zip Code: 65802

Keep the parkland for preservation of undeveloped land. Minimal development of trails, toilet, parking lot. This land was purchased legitimately and should be retained for use by the public to explore the great outdoors.

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Zip Code: 630u7

JayNixon state park was purchased with funding that was also to have provided remediation /land clean-up. Will this cleanup be completed or abandoned

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Zip Code: 63650

Thank you very much for having the informative meetings for the 3 new parks! The Parks agents were just fantastic! We are fortunate to have these people as caretakers and stewards for our State parks, Forrests and Wilderness areas. Arcadia Valley is in a depressed county, but an absolutely RICH and gorgeous land! We have the potential of increasing our tourism. 736,000 visited the Shut-ins, Elephant Rocks and Taum Sauk parks last year and many visitors passing through our small town of Ironton stopped to eat, shop, gas up! We have some growth in our town recently and the potential for much more leading to more \$\$ coming in and more jobs. The Jay Nixon Park will eventually add to the equation by offering more trails, campsites, etc. free recreation for Missouri families plus life and growth in a struggling economy! If we can't afford to manage the land quite yet... at least hold it as a Wilderness area until such a time we CAN afford to develop it. Controlled burns would be a start.... A lakeshore trail would be awesome and a connection to the widely popular cross country Ozark Trail. Our Arcadia Valley Trail Association will likely volunteer to "Blaze the Trails' ... build them and maintain them. We have two new trails on Shepherd Mountain in Pilot Knob they recently opened. We are becoming a premier hiking and backpacking destination and with the recently opened Amtrak Station in Arcadia Valley.... Exponential growth is within reach with the right kind of promotion! Please, please, please do not cave in to pressure from the anti-environmentalists to sell our precious commodity! Thank you for this opportunity to voice my concerns and opinion. [REDACTED]

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Zip Code:

Please keep this park open as is. Minimize efforts for building roads, trails and paths. Primitive parks are the best ones. Personally, I think it's great that it's only

available via trail. Change the name if you want. I like the idea of calling it Proffitt Mountain Park.

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Zip Code:

I am submitting the same comments about all three parks. Since you are the Parks department, I really feel it is unnecessary to remind you of the many benefits our amazing state parks give everyone. (I find spiritual renewal in the parks in my area and think that many, many other people do, too.) I will just make a couple of points. First, land acquired for parks is often not developed or managed for years after acquisition. Second, the current Republican Evil that is looting our public institutions for private profit will pass. If we survive it, you will have a chance to develop these three areas later. If our republic is destroyed, it won't matter that they were not developed.

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Zip Code: 65550

What's not to love about this area! It has a lake and other parks and conservation areas connected or close to it. I'm all for it. Have the new governor name a park after himself. We need more places to hike fish and sit around looking at trees. Love it.

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Zip Code: 65401

To: The Southeast Missouri Natural Resources Damages Trustees managing the ASARCO Restoration Account. I appreciate the opportunity to offer my comments on the issue of what to do with these three proposed State Parks, and the larger tracts of land in Oregon County bought with ASARCO NRD Funds.

- It is my understanding that the Missouri Department of Natural Resources used money from the ASARCO Natural Resources Damage Settlement for the Southeast Missouri (SEMO) Sites to purchase the lands for the three possible state parks listed in the notices for the meetings the Department is holding. And, the even larger tracts of land down in Oregon County.
- My first comment is that in section 4, page 5, of the ASARCO SEMO NRD Settlement agreement with MDNR and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, there is a statement that, "The trustees shall use all of the funds in the Restoration Accounts, including all interest earned on such funds, for restoration activities at or in connection with each Site as directed by the Missouri Trustee Council, but they shall not be used to conduct assessment activities."
- Now, under normal Natural Resources Damage Activities, the Trustees can perform Restoration Activities, or Compensatory Activities. But, under the specific language in the ASARCO SEMO NRD Settlement the Trustees are clearly directed to only perform Restoration Activities with the ASARCO Funds. And, those Restoration Activities must be performed at, or in connection with the ASARCO Sites listed in the

Settlement Agreement. • Buying land for state parks is not a Restoration Activity, and it is not at or connected to the ASARCO SEMO sites. Therefore, all of ASARCO money used to purchase lands for any state parks should be put back into the NRD fund, immediately. Plus, all of the interest that money would have earned if it had stayed in the fund. It makes no difference where the money that is to be put back into the ASARCO NRD Fund comes from. Whether from selling the land, hopefully at a profit – to cover the lost interest. Or, from an appropriation from the General Assembly, which is unlikely. • St. Joe State Park, and the Missouri Mines Historic Site are both located on what were ASARCO operations. The ASARCO NRD money could., and should, be spent on their operation and maintenance making them among the top parks in the United States.. • My second comment contains a question. The Missouri Department of Natural Resources Division of State Parks does not, at this time, have the funding to properly operate and maintain our existing state parks. Where will the funds to operate these new parks come from? I voted for the original Parks and Soil and Water tax, and for its renewal. I will vote for it each time it comes up. I do believe that there should be a mechanism to increase the tax every time it is renewed to keep pace with inflation. Since there is not, I suggest that the individuals and groups speaking in favor of keeping these possible state parks, come together and put forth a referendum for the citizens of the State to vote on creating a new, tax that will more adequately fund the Missouri Department of Natural Resources Division of State Parks and the Soil and Water Conservation Program. Thanks, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Rolla, MO

65401 573-578-6442 [REDACTED]

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Zip Code: 65101

The only option is to value the unique assets this park adds to the Missouri Park system and develop short and long-term plans to develop the park for appropriate public use and enjoyment. Points to consider: Historically, new parks have not been immediately developed. The first parks acquired in the 1920's received their first significant development by the Civilian Conservation Corps and the Works Progress Administration in the 1930's. There were five undeveloped state parks when the Parks and Soils Sales Tax first passed in 1984. Any new parks need a period of assessment and planning. Development and staffing should follow in stages. Public access could occur within a relatively short time for activities that do not require extensive infrastructure, yet can be supported by the parks' natural environment. State Parks are economic assets to the local communities, counties, and the state. Studies have shown they have profoundly positive economic impact. The parks attract visitors

who spend money at local businesses. The state spends in the local area for operation and maintenance of the parks. The parks provide full and part-time jobs in the park and in businesses in the local area. These activities produce tax revenues for communities and counties. While it will take time for the lands to be developed and the tax benefits of tourism to be realized, this is an investment that should not be missed. While state parks contribute greatly to Missouri's tourism economy, the increased opportunity for recreation in the local area is just as significant. Lands of the natural qualities found in these four new parks are rare. The fact that these high quality natural areas still exist in today's world is something of a miracle. They offer unique opportunities to preserve, educate, and enjoy. Retention of the lands in State Parks for the benefit of present and future generations is an achievable goal, and should be considered necessary to the quality of life in Missouri. The Missouri Park System has prospered for 100 years without resorting to the sale of its lands. Sale or disposal of these lands should not be an option. No one can answer where the funds received from such a sale would be spent. It is extremely doubtful that another use for the funds would benefit so many people in the state, or that any part of the funds would be spent for the benefit of the local communities and counties in the areas of these new parks. Sale of these new park areas is a loss for every citizen of Missouri and a dangerous precedent for the future of the system. Jay Nixon State Park was acquired as an addition to the existing Taum Sauk Mountain State Park, and should not be considered a separate park requiring a separate name. MPA has passed a resolution recommending that Missouri State Parks develop a naming policy for new areas and avoid naming properties for incumbent elected officials. As is the case with this property, naming for incumbents tends to politicize the acquisition and involve state parks in partisan issues. Natural resource management and restoration of this property should begin in 2018. These are seasonal activities that could be supported at low cost with part-time personnel led by regional park staff. While the impact of these activities is long term, they are also a necessary step to prepare for public use. Planning for public use should begin immediately. Planning activities are typically led by regional and central office staff. The choice to begin planning activities is a choice of priorities rather than cost. Initiating a public planning process should begin with these public meetings. Planning for public access and park development should consider activities that are compatible with the natural and cultural resources of these park areas. As the Missouri State Park System Mission requires, recreation and public use of these new parks must be balanced with preservation and interpretation of the areas' natural and cultural resources.

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Zip Code: 63116

Do Not sell the property. It can wait until there are funds. In the history of state parks in Missouri many of them sat idle and undeveloped for long periods of time. There is no need to rush. The state park system provides jobs and creates job. Not only jobs directly connected to the park but all those that come about in the area because of the park. This particular park really does not need any major development considering where it is located.

Do Not sell the Property.

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park's are commercialized or sold off we will have nothing to show our future generations besides big cities and pavement when Missouri is so much more than that.

Zip Code: 63628

I support this state park and would like it to be used for primitive backpacking

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Zip Code: 63440

While I must agree that the park's name unfortunately makes it a lightning rod for controversy, the solution certainly isn't selling it or shrinking it. It is not fair to deprive our future generations of this park because of our contemporary politics.

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Zip Code: 63341

Keep the property-change the name. A bit audacious to name it after himself. Property appears to be worthy of protection for future generations with many features of interest. If DNR unable to manage tract, perhaps MDC with its better funding could manage as a Natural Area.

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Zip Code: 65109

A beautiful area that could use another jewel of the Missouri State Park system! Lots of people from all over the state and beyond consider this area a vacation destination leading to lots of needed money being brought into this beautiful area and providing jobs for local citizens.

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Zip Code: 63051

My opinion is that, if they must be sold, and the state

cannot afford them, could you be swayed to sell them to an entity that would preserve them in perpetuity we need the green space in Missouri left that way green

----

Zip Code: 63640

I feel this park should be sold. My family camps at Sam

A Baker and Wappapello State Park - Asher Creek and

they both have programs that have been eliminated due

to unavailable funds as well as repairs/upgrades needed.

Maintain what beautiful parks we have instead of

spending money on another park(s).

----

Zip Code:

Given how popular lakes have been for boating and fishing at other state parks such as Cuivre River State Park, this park should be kept for future development when funding permits. The lake in the hilly setting has the potential of being a very scenic future park.

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Zip Code:

Keep it primitive and please whatever you do, DON'T SELL IT TO A PRIVATE PARTY. This could potentially jeopardize access to the land and keep others from enjoying it. Leave the land alone. Thank you

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Zip Code: 63640

The area fits nicely with Taum Sauk and the Ozark Trail. I would like the new park to be part of hiking as primitive space. StJoe, Hahn, other local parks are heavily used by people who want easier access to camping, etc. the new park as described, has some rare flowers and creatures best left in a natural state. Thank you

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Zip Code: 63341

I strongly believe the three parks should remain open and in the park system. They offer unique examples of Missouri landscape. Leave them as undeveloped to minimize their costs. The problem with selling them is once they are gone, Missourians will never get an opportunity to enjoy them.

----

Zip Code: 63051

My opinion is that, if they must be sold, and the state cannot afford them, could you be swayed to sell them to an entity that would preserve them in perpetuity we need the green space in Missouri left that way green

----

Zip Code: 63640

"This land is your land, this land is my land." Remember that before you sell off Missouri residents' land or decide to ruin its natural beauty for a quick buck. Money is temporary, the wilds that are located in MO parks have been there long before us and with our help will continue to last well past our lives. Keep MO parks pristine, wild and rugged. Adding amenities does nothing more than taking away from the natural beauty. Our wilds are in a league all there on with some of the oldest rock formations in North America along with countless caves, but the list could go on. MO parks were meant to be wild and natural, our parks are our state's best assets. Don't ruin our state's natural beauty in exchange for a quick check. I want to show future generations the places I was able to run wild and free as a young child. My childhood memories were shaped in either MO parks, woods or the wilds this allowed me to deeply connect with the areas that Mark Twain fictionally had buck finn and Tom Sawyer running through. If MO

Zip Code: 63640

Please keep this a primitive wilderness area that's accessible to the public. At most a simple walking path, no pavement or concrete, would be ideal. Missouri's Ozarks are one of its most appealing attributes, and the unadulterated areas are dwindling fast. Once these places go, they never come back.

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with wonderful experiences and family memories! We do not think MO has enough state parks. Do not sell our state parks as they all belong to Missourians! Once this land is sold the green space is gone forever. The Dept of Natural Resources should be protecting our state parks! The MO state govt has no right to sell off our state parks! We own that land! Shame on you for even considering it.

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Zip Code: 63021

I do not support selling Jay Nixon State Park. I supposed fully developing the park. I have used most of the Missouri State parks in every month of the year. My family and I have fished, swum, boated, floated, camped, hiked, and biked in Missouri state parks. They are a tremendous resource. They bring money into the state and support the surrounding communities by bringing in money which creates jobs. I supposed the use of my tax dollars to develop Jay Nixon Park and to maintain the already existing parks. We should not neglect them or sell them.

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Zip Code: 63122

Please do NOT sell any state park lands. As a citizen and taxpayer, I urge the legislature and administrative agencies to actively work to expand our park system. Worthy properties seldom come available, and I want the state to take advantage of these opportunities. Do not sell any park land, and work to grow the system for future generations. in addition to environmental benefits, state parks are a generator for economic activity that would not happen otherwise in underdeveloped areas of the state.

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Zip Code:

This park should be controlled by the Missouri Conservation Commission which owns adjacent land or even be added to Taum Sauk S.P. DNR should focus its funding on Historic Sites and let Conservation, which does a much better job with the same resources, focus on the nature parks. Under no circumstances should a state park be named for a living individual they personally donate the property, for free, to the state. If they want to name it after a Democratic governor, name it after Mel Carnahan.

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Zip Code: 65109

I fully \*support\* the development of Jay Nixon State Park as a primitive park. I would be personally interested in volunteering where it would make sense (trail building, etc.). And being adjacent to the Ozark Trail, there may be interest from the Ozark Trail Association (of which I am a member) in providing additional volunteer support to possibly build and connect new trail(s) to the existing Ozark Trail. I would also have no issues seeing this park simply being added to Taum Sauk Mountain State Park, instead of being a separately named park. Lastly, I fully \*oppose\* the sale of this property, particularly given its location adjacent to large tracts of existing parkland.

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Zip Code: 63357

This needs to remain a state park and be opened for public use as soon as possible. Conserving special natural resource areas of our great state is important for the health of our citizens and of our ecosystems.

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Zip Code: 72701

Jay Nixon State Park property must never be put up for sale, and it should never become "developed" either. It is what it is, and that is all it was meant to be. This is an open space park with a little fishing lake. That's all. I carried a petition to get a sales tax for Parks. It was designed to expand with the economy, to upgrade our decrepit state parks of those times, and above all, to acquire land for parks tomorrow. If it hasn't kept up with the perceived development needs, thank park's administration and get a grip on the purse, you've got plenty of money. Open space like Jay Nixon is the resource Missouri will need forever. All the fancy fixins are money burners. [REDACTED], lived half my life in Missouri, never far away.

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Zip Code:

The Jay Nixon State Park has much to be proud of with its natural beauty as shown by the photos. This area is filled with igneous glades that are seldom scene in other states. The 50 acre manmade lake would be a wonderful addition to the MO State Park family and we like the historical connection to the Ozark Trail. This is an area that all families would love to bring their children as it has potential for recreational opportunities if some of this land was developed. Other parts of the park could be used as a conservation area with limited hiking. We need the trees and vegetation to offset the increasing CO<sub>2</sub> levels due to climate change. Parks protect our environment and provide us with clean air, clean water, and view of the stars at night! Our state parks provide us

Zip Code: 63026

This property is a great addition to the State Park system, the region of Taum Suak Mountain is one of the best in Missouri, the Ozark Trail that passes through the property is the best in Missouri. A State Park with minimum development would be the best use of this property.

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Zip Code: 63751

I urge you to allow this park, regardless of the final name, to become a Missouri State Park available to all Missouri citizens. State lands constitute a very small percentage of the land mass of Missouri. State lands can be enjoyed and protected by and for all; private lands are available to the privileged few who own the land and is sometimes abused to the point of uselessness by the owner(s).

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Zip Code: 64068

While we may not attend the park, it seems like a shame to sell the park. The park can be slowly developed so it is not a financial drain. Why not rename the park so there is not a lot of political opposition.

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Zip Code:

Please keep this park!! It is a great example of Ozark natural plant communities and a refuge for all biodiversity in an increasingly developing world. Many endemic Ozark flora and fauna reside here. If it becomes owned by the private sector, as is usually the case, the endemic and rare flora and fauna will be at risk due to development or any number of commercial activities. Over 88% of Missouri is privately owned, giving the public much less opportunity to view such areas when compared to most other states. Transferring these properties to the private sector will not make a difference in any one local/county level economy to be worth the potential irreversible loss to bio-diversity. If transferred to private hands, the financial gains will likely be a one-time bump in the local economy, likely related to timber purchases, not enough to have any level of sustained significant increase. Upon harvest of merchantable timber, if converted to pasture for livestock production, as is the common practice in the Ozark region, the soils will not support a sustainable or thriving system of production. This fact can be evidenced in the many small, low-productivity tracts through out southern Missouri where off-farm income is essential to keep financially afloat. However, the potential economic gains due to eco-tourism would far outweigh any others the private sector offers, especially when projected out over the long-term. Suitable examples of this economic gain would be in the Ozark communities of Eminence, Van Buren, and Arcadia Valley, which see yearly tourism dollars supporting

business and families, directly related to the public's ability to access beautiful and healthy public lands. I hope my words do not fall on deaf ears. Missouri's citizens have a rich heritage in the conservation of our state's natural resources, a fact that is envied and replicated through out the nation. Ozark Mountain State Park is another page in that history, please keep this park!

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Zip Code: 63628

Concerning Jay Nixon State Park: Last night (12/7), my wife and I attended the meeting at the Shut Ins. Here are the thoughts we left with: 1) You all did a great job of managing the meeting. If you were frustrated or annoyed by the obese guy who thought he was in charge (as I would have been), you didn't show it. Nice work, and thanks. 2) Selling land you own borders on madness. Ask Warren Buffet; never sell. They aren't making more. 3) Why is the park closed? The land has been in its current state for decades or centuries. It's just fine as is. 4) Don't worry too much about development. What's wrong with a nearly pure wilderness park for those of us who know how to use a compass? 5) Pay as little attention as possible to the small-minded, short-sighted concerns of those who say the state is overreaching, that they need to hunt there, that the costs will hurt them. It is the state's job to protect its pristine resources; there are plenty of other places to hunt, and we'll personally pay the annual real estate tax if that really becomes an issue. 6) Only those who create stalking-horse concerns out of whole cloth care one whit what it's called. Name it whatever you want, although Jay Nixon deserves recognition. 7) Ask for the public's financial support if necessary to survey it, build one trail to the lake, dig a pit toilet, or whatever. There are many of us who will happily contribute. 8) I watched and participated as Ozark National Scenic Riverways was created. Huge animosity and resistance ensued. But if the land had not been protected, the rivers would have become sewers for an onslaught of cabins built too close to the water, high-horsepower jet motors would have degraded the banks beyond repair, and development would have taken advantage of the natural beauty for monetary gain and ruined the experience for all of us. If this land is not protected, four-wheelers will carve unauthorized trails, and Jeep drivers will change their oil in the lake. Preserving land that soothes us with its natural beauty, provides habitat for wildlife and generates clean air is a worthwhile goal even in the face of opposition. 9) Your website is terrible. I had to call for guidance to the button and the subsequent four clicks that let me make this comment.

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Zip Code: 63125

I'm really looking forward to visiting this new state park. It is in an area of Missouri that we visit often and we are looking forward to another place to hike.

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Zip Code: 64060

I support keeping Jay Nixon State Park. This tract of land connects National Forests with Conservation Areas and other State Parks, preventing potential fragmentation of forests and waterways by development. The natural glades are a critical habitat that we must protect for the unique natural communities that rely on them. The park also offers good potential to draw people to enjoy the lake; the woodlands, forests, and glades; and to access the Ozark Trail and/or to stop over while hiking the Ozark Trail. This property is an asset to the state park system and should remain, as designated, public land for all to enjoy now and in the future.

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Zip Code: 64068

What a Grinch thing to do - taking away State Parks! For Shame! The Missouri Park System has survived for 100 years without resorting to the sale of its lands...And the money for purchasing these lands came from dedicated tax monies separate from State general funds - where it looks you want the proceeds to go. So now you want to rob Peter to pay Paul? Jay Nixon State Park was acquired as an addition to the existing Taum Sauk Mountain State Park and should not be considered a separate park requiring a separate name. This confuses the issue. Naming anything after any elected official is never a good idea because it shapes perceptions and allows politics and partisan issues to get involved. New parks have historically not been immediately developed and many activities do not require extensive infrastructure. State Parks are economic assets to local communities, counties, and the state, and contribute greatly to Missouri's tourism economy. Planning for public use should begin immediately and should consider activities that are compatible with the natural and cultural resources of these park areas. Lands of the natural qualities found in this park and others on the chopping block are rare. It is a small miracle that they still exist. Retention of the lands in State Parks for the benefit of present and future generations is an achievable goal, and should be considered necessary to the quality of life in Missouri.

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Zip Code: 63070

I love hiking in Missouri and I live experiencing the outdoors. One of the things that makes our state so great is that we have beautiful parks for families and groups to enjoy. I would like to keep Jay Nixon State Park open and available to the public as parks are intended for. Please don't sell off this important natural experience.

Please consider Missouri families and the impact removing such a destination would have on our wellbeing and happiness. Parks are valuable to those who seek the outdoors and we would never wish for them to be sold off for profits. Please reconsider the ramifications for taking this away from the community.

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Zip Code:

This area is gorgeous and would be widely appreciated by nature fanatics in Missouri if opened to the public. The pictures of this State Park look breathtaking and the lake would be fun for kids to play in as well as kayakers and canoes.

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Zip Code: 64119

Jay Nixon State Park will add to an already nationally recognized Missouri State Park system. The new park can be developed at a relatively nominal cost and is an asset to the local community and our state. Please move forward on this plan.

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Zip Code: 64151

I support the re-opening of the Jay Nixon State Park to preserve, protect, and enjoy its 1200 acres of woodland-glade habitat. The funds from the American Smelting and Refining Company settlement were used legally and appropriately to acquire the land and re-opening the park will not divert state park funds from other uses. The park is in close proximity to the sites that generated the settlement funds. The park will boost to the local economy and outweigh any loss of property tax revenue.

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Zip Code: 63040

Jay Nixon Park is a valuable addition to the Missouri Parks system. Please do not sell this land. One idea for potential cost savings is to simply combine it with the adjacent Taum Sauk Mountain Park.

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Zip Code: 63119

The State should not sell off this new state park! Jay Nixon SP is important because: It expands recreation opportunities near the state's biggest metro area, St. Louis. This parcel is contiguous with Taum Sauk SP and Ketcherside Conservation Area, so provides an even larger protected area. The Ozark Trail crosses this property, so the new state park will protect this important trail corridor. \$152,075 in settlement money was provided to fund 100% of anticipated restoration and management costs of the first 5 years of operation, so there are funds available to move the park forward. This property generated negligible property taxes (\$842 in 2014), so the community will see an economic boost from the additional visitors to the area.

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Zip Code: 63501

The area around Taum Sauk mountain has developed into a real hub for outdoor activity in Missouri, and if the state has the opportunity to preserve more acreage in that region in perpetuity, I think it should be taken advantage of. I don't care what you name it--call it the Rush Limbaugh state monument if you want--but that land is of greater value as a park, open to the public and stewarded ecologically, than it would be in private hands.

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Zip Code: 63656

You need to sell Jay Nixon park and use the money as was intended to clean up the asarco lead mine. And since you don't have money to spare maybe someone else could do something with the area. The hogs are bad in this area and are destroying the farm land. The farmer's are having big expenses and spending time trapping and getting rid of them.

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Zip Code:

Need to sell the property in small acreage so that it can be homesteads for new property owners.

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Zip Code: 63089

This state park is best managed by DNR and should be held for its future protection and use by the citizens of Missouri.

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Zip Code:

This is a great opportunity to expand Missouri's vast system of parks. A good tribute to jay Nixon as well.

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Zip Code: 63019

State Parks are a treasured resource that should be protected and promoted for public access. In addition to providing outdoor enjoyment opportunities, all parks and these three in particular provide additional economic advantages for the areas of the state where they are located. Please find ways to allow residents to utilize these lands for years to come.

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Zip Code: 63628

Jay Nixon State Park is an extremely valuable natural area and should remain state property. I backpacked to Jay Nixon State Park on two occasions during the month the park was open to the public. On both trips, I encountered several other backpacking groups visiting the park. I backpacked to the park via the Ozark Trail. On my first trip, I backpacked to the park with my wife. We stopped for breakfast and to get gas in Ironton on

our way to the park, and stopped again for lunch on our way home. During my second trip to the park, I brought along 3 friends from out of state that had never been to the area. They had an amazing time and returned to Johnson's Shut Ins State Park with their families.

After our trip, we all also spent some time and money in the local area. The economic impact of keeping the park, far outweighs the minimal property taxes of around \$1000 for the park. I am a teacher at [REDACTED]

and [REDACTED]

Outdoor Adventures Club. Our focus in this club is learning outside of the classroom. I take students to many of the local state parks for day-trips and overnight backpacking trips and attach different learning objectives to each location. Our trips foster a love and appreciation for the outdoors, nature, and conservation. We have visited St. Francois, Hawn, Johnson's Shut Ins, and Taum Sauk Mountain State Parks. Jay Nixon State Park would be an excellent destination for our club if opened in the future. I would like to see the park remain a primitive backpacking destination. There are many backpackers that would utilize the park, and stimulate the local economy in the process. Backpacking is becoming increasingly popular and remote destinations such as this park are harder and harder to find. Keeping this resource for future generations should be of utmost importance. At most, a gravel parking lot could be built off of Highway N to provide closer parking access. A parking lot the size of the current Scour Trail parking lot would be plenty big enough. The name of the park has been highly politicized, but most people who support the park do not care about the name. The land could also be added to Taum Sauk Mountain State Park or Ketcherside Conservation Area. In conclusion, this park should remain a part of public lands. There are far more economic benefits to keeping the park instead of selling off the land to a private buyer.

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Zip Code:

All of our state parks should remain open.

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Zip Code: 65203

Glad to hear it! Sounds like a good way to save taxpayers money, balance the budget and continue to provide great facilities and services in currently used parks. Nice work!

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Zip Code: 63123

Please Keep It! We need spaces to escape crazy politics and scandals, more now than ever!

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Zip Code: 63376

Put a sign up with his name on it and a small parking lot. Leave it an undeveloped addition to the adjoining MDC

and other park properties. Quit over developing very parcel.

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**Zip Code:**

Missouri has a wonderful collection of state parks, however some are in need of repair and upgrades. Therefore I feel the latest three state parks should not have been added to the system when some of the present parks are in dire need of upgrades and repair. I feel available money should have been spent on the parks already in the system before others were added. Instead of developing the new parks I feel any available money should be used on upgrades and repairs needed on present parks. I also feel former Gov. Nixon should not have pushed for these new parks at the end of his last term in office. Naming one of the undeveloped parks and many of the features of Echo Bluff after Gov. Nixon I feel was inappropriate for reasons stated above.

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**Zip Code: 65560**

Do not sell this property to private interests. Keep the land in its present undeveloped condition until it can be properly and appropriately developed for the use of all Missourians. You might, however, consider using a different name than "Jay Nixon Park" since many people will see this as a self-serving gambit by the former governor. I believe Mr. Nixon was an excellent, progressive governor, but many people in the vicinity of this future state park will disagree, and using his name on it will always be a sore spot with many locals.

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**Zip Code: 63650**

Sell this property and give the money back to the community it should have gone to in the first place. This place would not be a respectable legacy.

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**Zip Code:**

First of all, I feel it was criminal to use money that was to be used to help Missouri's citizens recoup, repair, and better their own land damaged by the effects of mining. Secondly, the state is having trouble funding the upkeep of the parks we already have. Adding any additional parks and having to spend additional money on them is an unnecessary burden on the state.

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**Zip Code:**

I do not feel we need this park or any new parks at this time. We need to maintain the parks we have. We frequently camp at St. Francois State Park and it took far too long for the road and bridge to be repaired and the remainder of the road in and out still needs resurfacing. The bend in the new design is too sharp. I am boycotting the Echo Bluff Park as well. I do not believe it was

acquired in good faith. I feel funds from EPA for mine tailing cleanup were misappropriated. Purchases of other properties by individuals purporting to be private buyers and then handing over a check from the State of Missouri seems fraudulent and underhanded as well.

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**Zip Code: 65632**

This land is an irreplaceable natural resource that needs to be protected from over development. It belongs with the rest of the protected land in this area. This needs to continued to be protected for us now and for future generations.

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**Zip Code:**

Had I not known this was named after a governor, I would have applauded what appears to be an obvious addition to Taum Sauk Mountain State Park, which is to further complete protecting all of the magnificent and scenic mountains that make up this majestic state park. Like the rest of Taum Sauk, it has glades that protect Meade's milkweed (as the photo shows) and other glade plants and animals. And a portion of the historic Ozark Trail cuts across the southwest part of this property. Makes obvious sense the intent was to make, or should be to add this to Taum Sauk Mountain. One final note, I consider it a selfish, and dangerous precedent to have any governor purchase a piece of state lands and then name it after themselves. There's really no connection of his service to the state that would justify naming this or any other park after him. What then of any future governor wanting to do the same.

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**Zip Code: 63025**

This is a beautiful piece of property in a unique area of our state surrounded by other parks and state managed lands of the conservation department. Sounds like a perfect addition for Missouri State Parks and yet they are trying to decide if they want it? Something seems wrong with this picture. We own the property. It's a perfect setting for additional park use if not now certainly in the future. I feel that park supporters will understand that development may be delayed for several years because of tight funds and priorities but selling this property seems a strange solution or at best poorly thought through. Park policies need to be long term management plans that extend well beyond any political administration's short duration. Keep the park. Don't move backwards. Future generations will benefit from Missouri State Park's stewardship.

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**Zip Code: 65039**

Keep it as a state park!

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Zip Code: 63025

I don't recall the DNR ever asking the public for opinions about new state parks, but thank you for listening. Who wouldn't want this property to become a state park?!? Developers? If the money isn't available right now to open this as a state park, please KEEP IT anyway! Please don't sell this land. Ex. Gov. Nixon was RIGHT to get this property when it became available. If there is a dispute about the name of the park, name it after a natural or geological feature of the area rather than a person. But whatever you do, as a life long resident (60+ years) of Missouri who has visited almost all of our state parks, I beg you to NOT sell this land. Please keep it so that it may become a state park for all residents to enjoy. It would be very nice to have a state park in this part of the state with a lake. I'm concerned that these meeting you are having on the three unopened parks will be attended by local residents only. Input should be taken from the whole state, since we all pay taxes for the parks. Why no meetings in Jefferson City, St.Louis, Kansas City? Please don't let politics take our park lands away from us. Thank you.

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# SCHOOL OF LAW

## Interdisciplinary Environmental Clinic

January 6, 2018

Missouri Department of Natural Resources

Ben Ellis, Director, Division of State Parks

Submitted via Missouri State Parks website: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FGB6WZB>  
and via email to [ben.ellis@dnr.mo.gov](mailto:ben.ellis@dnr.mo.gov)

Re: Comments on the Future of Jay Nixon State Park

Dear Director Ellis:

On behalf of Sierra Club, we submit these comments on the future of Jay Nixon State Park in Iron and Reynolds Counties, Missouri. Founded in 1892, Sierra Club has been an advocate for public lands and has worked to protect and increase access to them for well over a century. In furtherance of its mission to promote recreation, education, and conservation, Sierra Club organizes thousands of trips, outings, and hikes every year, including hundreds across the state of Missouri, to engage people in the outdoors and promote appreciation and protection of the natural environment. As such, the future of Jay Nixon State Park is of critical interest to Sierra Club and its approximately 10,300 members in Missouri.

Sierra Club recommends the following with regard to Jay Nixon State Park:

- Preserve the 1,278 acres in perpetuity for use and public access as a state park, whether as an independent park or as part of adjacent Taum Sauk Mountain State Park, the purpose for which Superfund settlement funds were provided to the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to acquire the park.<sup>1</sup> Do not sell the park.
- Re-open the park for public use and access, but leave it undeveloped with the exception of trails, parking, and vault toilets to preserve its natural character while minimizing development and operation and maintenance costs.
- Manage the park pursuant to the goals and objectives described in DNR's Hennessey Tract Acquisition Proposal, which provided the basis for the use of Superfund monies to acquire the park property.<sup>2</sup>

### I. **DNR Should Not Try To Sell The Park.**

Missouri's state parks are immensely popular, and Missourians willingly show their support for them with both their feet and their wallets. The number of people visiting the parks each year has increased by more than 5 million over the past decade and topped 21 million in 2016, an all-time

<sup>1</sup> Missouri Natural Resources Trustee Council, Resolution No. SEMO-2015-001 (Jan. 20, 2015).

<sup>2</sup> DNR, Hennessey Tract Acquisition, Missouri Natural Resource Trustee Proposal at 6, available at <https://www.fws.gov/midwest/es/ec/nrda/SEMONRDA/pdf/HennesseyTractAcquisitionProposal.pdf>.

high.<sup>3</sup> Missourians voted overwhelmingly in 2016 to reauthorize the one-tenth-of-one percent parks, soils, and water sales tax, which provides the bulk of the park system's operating funds; 80 percent of voters statewide supported reauthorizing the tax, it passed in every single county, and 70 percent and 56 percent of voters in Iron and Reynolds Counties, respectively, voted to reauthorize the tax.<sup>4</sup>

Missourians also benefit economically from state parks. According to the State Parks Division:

The Missouri state park system ... has a positive economic impact on the state and local communities. ... Results of an economic impact study released in 2012 estimate that total annual expenditures of state park visitors in 2011 were approximately \$778 million. The overall economic impact of these expenditures is estimated at \$1.02 billion in sales, \$307 million in payroll and related income, and \$123 million in federal, state and local taxes. Also, visitors' expenditures support 14,535 jobs. **For every dollar spent by Missouri State Parks to operate the state park system, Missouri's economy saw a \$26 return on investment. These impacts show that Missouri state parks enhance our state's economy as well as improve visitor's health and well-being.**<sup>5</sup>

Adjusting for the increase in attendance since 2011, park visitors would have spent approximately \$946 million in 2016 (the latest year for which attendance information is currently available), resulting in a total economic benefits of more than \$1.7 billion.

Given the popularity of Missouri's state parks and their economic and other benefits, it would be contrary to the interests of Missouri residents, including Iron County and Reynolds County residents who showed their strong support for the parks by voting to reauthorize the parks, soils, and water sales tax in 2016, for DNR to try to sell Jay Nixon State Park. As set forth below, such a move would be both unwise and unlawful.

## **II. Jay Nixon State Park Provides Extraordinary Conservation Opportunities.**

DNR acquired the property that became Jay Nixon State Park (i.e., the Hennessey tract) with the goal of incorporating it into adjacent Taum Sauk Mountain State Park.<sup>6</sup> The property includes

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<sup>3</sup> DNR, State Parks Division, Missouri State Park Attendance for January-December 2016 (Jan. 23, 2017), available at [https://mostateparks.com/sites/mostateparks/files/FINAL\\_2016\\_Attendance.pdf](https://mostateparks.com/sites/mostateparks/files/FINAL_2016_Attendance.pdf); Record 20 million people visit Missouri state parks in 2016, Missourinet (Dec. 21, 2016), available at <https://www.missourinet.com/2016/12/21/record-20-million-people-visit-missouri-state-parks-in-2016/>.

<sup>4</sup> Election 2016, Missouri Amendment 1 – Keep Conservation Sales Tax – Results: Approved, New York Times (Aug. 1, 2017), available at <https://www.nytimes.com/elections/results/missouri-ballot-measure-1-keep-conservation-sales-tax>.

<sup>5</sup> DNR, State Parks Division, Facts And Figures, Economic Impacts of State Park System (emphasis added), available at <https://mostateparks.com/page/55072/facts-and-figures>. See also Cole, Shu Rian, et al., University of Missouri, 2002 State Economic Impacts of Missouri State Park Visitors, Submitted to Missouri Department of Natural Resources Division of State Parks (Feb 2003), and DJ Case & associates, Missouri State Park Economics and Benefits: An Update Based on 2011 Visitation, White Paper Prepared for Missouri Department of Natural Resources Division of State Park (May 2012).

<sup>6</sup> DNR, Hennessey Tract Acquisition, Missouri Natural Resource Trustee Proposal at 3, available at <https://www.fws.gov/midwest/es/ec/nrda/SEMONRDA/pdf/HennesseyTractAcquisitionProposal.pdf>.

significant natural resources and provides landscape-scale conservation due to its proximity to Taum Sauk Mountain State Park, the Ketcherside Mountain Conservation Area maintained by the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC), and the St. Francois Mountains Natural Area maintained by MDC.

The Hennessey tract represents a unique natural conservation and restoration opportunity from the perspective of both its high quality dry igneous woodland-glade habitat, which represent the unique ecoregion of the St. Francois Mountains Knobs and Basins, and its ability to provide connectivity on an ecosystem level with existing areas of natural resource conservation.

All [the Hennessey tract and nearby park and conservation areas] are included within an Audubon Important Bird area because of the extensive habitat for conservation priority birds requiring large areas of forest and glades.

... Of significance is the extent of high quality existing natural communities on the Hennessey tract, the potential for discovery of Mead's milkweed populations, and the opportunity for inclusion in the larger St. Francois Mountains Natural Area. The St. Francois Mountains Knobs and Basins Land Type Associations are identified by the Audubon Society as a globally significant region for the conservation of woodland and grassland-shrub land bird species including significant migratory songbird populations. The Nature Conservancy identified the area as a Conservation Portfolio Area in the Ozarks Eco-regional Conservation Assessment ...<sup>7</sup>

The acquisition of Jay Nixon State Park therefore provided enormous ecological benefits to both the State Parks system and the conservation mission of the Missouri Department of Conservation.

### **III. The Park Was Purchased With Funds Dedicated to Natural Resource Preservation, Which Cannot Be Used For Other Purposes.**

DNR acquired Jay Nixon State Park (as well as Eleven Point State Park) entirely with funds obtained under the federal Superfund law.<sup>8</sup> ASARCO LLC and other companies caused significant contamination resulting from lead mining and related activities in Southeast Missouri. The federal government and the State of Missouri sought clean-up costs and compensation for natural resources damages under Superfund, which makes parties responsible for contamination liable to clean it up (or pay for others to do so)<sup>9</sup> and also to reimburse federal, state, and tribal trustees of public resources for natural resource damages.<sup>10</sup> The litigation settled, and ASARCO agreed to pay the U.S. and Missouri \$37,500,000 for clean-up costs at several sites as well as \$34,767,000 for compensation for natural resources damages. In addition, DNR received

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<sup>7</sup> *Id.* at 3-4.

<sup>8</sup> The federal Superfund law is formally known as the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), 42 U.S.C. § 9601 et seq.

<sup>9</sup> 42 U.S.C. §§ 9606 and 9607(a)(1)-(4)(A)-(B).

<sup>10</sup> 42 U.S.C. §§ 9607(a)(1)-(4)(A)(C) and (f).

\$1,250,000 for past natural resource damage assessment costs and future oversight and/or maintenance response costs.<sup>11</sup>

The natural resources damages portion of the settlement was paid jointly to the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) as the federal natural resources trustee and DNR as the state trustee, and deposited in DOI's Natural Resources Damage Assessment and Restoration Fund, with specific Restoration Accounts for each of the contaminated sites.<sup>12</sup>

**Both the Superfund law and Missouri state law expressly limit the use of natural resource damage recoveries “only to restore, replace or acquire the equivalent of such natural resources by the state.”<sup>13</sup>** Accordingly, the Settlement Agreement states:

The trustees shall use the funds in the Restoration Accounts ... for restoration activities at or in connection with each Site as directed by the Missouri Trustee Council [DOI and DNR].<sup>14</sup>

In accordance with Superfund practice and regulations, the federal and state trustees prepared the Southeast Missouri Ozarks Regional Restoration Plan to evaluate options for redressing the natural resources damages covered by the ASARCO settlement.<sup>15</sup> As the state trustee, DNR subsequently prepared a specific project proposal explaining why the acquisition of the Hennessey tract property that became Jay Nixon State Park would fulfill the goals of the restoration plan.<sup>16</sup>

[T]he Department submits the following proposal related to the purchase of natural resources which are substantially similar to those injured by the mining activities of ASARCO. The Departments' [sic] intent, outlined within, is to acquire compensatory restoration property to compensate the public for lost resources due to the release of hazardous materials by ASARCO from the Sweetwater mine and mill complex and Glover smelter site.

This project lies within the restoration boundaries of the Southeast Missouri Restoration Plan. The Hennessey tract is located 7 miles from the Glover Smelter and approximately 29 miles from the Sweetwater Mine and Mill Complex natural resource injury sites. Its

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<sup>11</sup> Settlement Agreement Regarding the Southeast Missouri (SEMO) Sites, *In re ASARCO, LLC*, Case No. 05-21207 (S.D.Tx., Bankruptcy Ct., filed Mar. 3, 2008); Order Approving Settlement Agreement After Public Comment For The Southeast Missouri (SEMO) Sites, *In re ASARCO, LLC*, Case No. 05-21207 (S.D.Tx., Bankruptcy Ct., May 12, 2008).

<sup>12</sup> *Id.*, Settlement Agreement ¶ 4.

<sup>13</sup> 42 U.S.C. § 9607(f); § 640.235.3, R.S.Mo.

<sup>14</sup> Settlement Agreement Regarding the Southeast Missouri (SEMO) Sites, ¶ 4, *In re ASARCO, LLC*, Case No. 05-21207 (S.D.Tx., Bankruptcy Ct., filed Mar. 3, 2008);

<sup>15</sup> U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (Department of the Interior), U.S. Forest Service (Department of Agriculture, and DNR, Southeast Missouri Ozarks Regional Restoration Plan and Environmental Assessment (June 2014), available at <https://www.fws.gov/midwest/es/ec/nrda/SEMORDA/pdf/SEMOfinalRestorationPlanJune2014.pdf>.

<sup>16</sup> DNR, Hennessey Tract Acquisition, Missouri Natural Resource Trustee Proposal, available at <https://www.fws.gov/midwest/es/ec/nrda/SEMORDA/pdf/HennesseyTractAcquisitionProposal.pdf>.

proximity provides a conservation and restoration opportunity with a direct nexus to the ASARCO injuries from which the current proposed restoration project funds are derived. The close proximity of the Hennessey Tract to the site of injury provides direct compensation to the public for those lost resources.<sup>17</sup>

The Missouri Trustee Council issued a Resolution approving the project proposal:

The cooperating natural resource trustees (trustees) for the Southeast Missouri Lead Mining District Viburnum Trend Sub-District (including the State of Missouri and the U.S. Department of the Interior) have consulted and determined that acquisition and subsequent restoration of property containing high quality, terrestrial natural resources in Reynolds and Iron Counties should be funded from funds recovered through the ASARCO, LLC bankruptcy settlement.

The trustees agreed ... that the purchase and donation of the "Hennessey Tract" to Missouri State Parks will compensate the public for lost terrestrial natural resources and associated services resulting from the release of hazardous substances from the Sweetwater Mine and Mill and Glover Smelter facilities at one time owned and operated by ASARCO.

**Missouri State Parks will acquire and permanently hold fee title of this parcel of land to compensate the public for the loss of natural resources and the services they provide resulting from the release of hazardous substances at the Glover and Sweetwater facilities. Funds withdrawn pursuant to this Resolution will fund the purchase of the land and initial restoration costs for Missouri State Parks including the design and implementation of a five year program of prescribed fire, glade restoration, and restoration monitoring.<sup>18</sup>**

As stated in the Resolution, DNR was given \$1,659,375 to acquire and develop the Hennessey tract (Jay Nixon State Park). The project proposal explains that \$1,507,300 fully covered the land acquisition costs, and in addition \$152,075 was provided for restoration and management of the Park for a five-year period (including a 10-year monitoring and diversity inventory effort).<sup>19</sup>

Although DNR has not invited comment at this time on Eleven Point State Park, it bears noting that DNR acquired that Park pursuant to the same ASARCO natural resources damages settlement. Settlement funds fully covered Eleven Point State Park's land acquisition costs as well as restoration and management costs for a three-year period.

Because State Parks acquired Jay Nixon State Park entirely with settlement funds that may only be used – under both federal and state law – to "restore, replace or acquire the equivalent of such

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<sup>17</sup> *Id.* at 2, 5.

<sup>18</sup> Missouri Natural Resources Trustee Council, Southeast Missouri Lead Mining District, Viburnum Trend Sub-District, Resolution No. SEMO-2015-001 (Jan. 20, 2015) (emphasis added).

<sup>19</sup> DNR, Hennessey Tract Acquisition, Missouri Natural Resource Trustee Proposal at 6-7, available at <https://www.fws.gov/midwest/es/ec/nrda/SEMONRDA/pdf/HennesseyTractAcquisitionProposal.pdf>.

natural resources” damaged by ASARCO related activities, those funds could not have been used for other, pre-existing parks. Moreover, apart from DNR’s lack of legal authority to sell the Park (see below), any attempt to sell Jay Nixon State Park would require that the proceeds be returned to the U.S. Department of the Interior’s Natural Resources Damage Assessment and Restoration Fund for the sole purpose of preserving and restoring natural resources damaged by ASARCO activities. The funds could not be used for State Parks operations at pre-existing parks and could not be directed to other state programs. In addition, if the sale proceeds did not equal or exceed the acquisition cost, DNR would also be in violation of CERCLA and state law by wasting natural resource damage funds.

**IV. DNR Does Not Have Legal Authority To Sell The Park.**

While DNR has both constitutional and statutory authority to acquire and maintain state parks,<sup>20</sup> it lacks authority to sell state parks. DNR is only authorized to dispose of park property if it consists of five acres or less, is being sold for the specific purpose of resolving a park boundary conflict with adjacent property owners, and DNR receives land in exchange that is of equal or greater value.<sup>21</sup> In light of the state’s constitutionally-grounded commitment to expand, develop, and maintain the state park system, and DNR’s narrowly-circumscribed authority to trade – but not sell – park property, any effort by DNR to sell Jay Nixon State Park or portions thereof would be unlawful.

Sierra Club urges DNR to dispel the cloud that it has cast upon the future of Jay Nixon State Park and the three other closed parks, and to re-open the park for public access.

Respectfully submitted,



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<sup>20</sup> Missouri Constitution, Article 4, § 47; § 253.040, R.S.Mo.

<sup>21</sup> § 253.043, R.S.Mo.