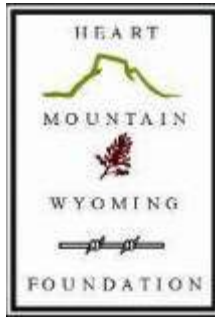


## THE CONSERVATION FUND

*Partners in land and water conservation*



**Friends of Minidoka**

September 16, 2009

Dear Friend:

Thank you for your interest in the work of our organizations to preserve historic lands at Minidoka National Historic Site (NHS) and Heart Mountain Relocation Center. We seek your help to secure federal funds for Minidoka land acquisition and legislation to authorize land acquisition funding for Minidoka and Heart Mountain in the annual appropriations bill for the U.S. Department of the Interior, pending in Congress.

Last year, The Conservation Fund (TCF) acquired a 100 acre property, located just to the north of the entrance to Minidoka NHS, which features the site of the hospital, barracks blocks #7,8,9 & 10 and the military police barracks. (This property is located just to the west of the 128 acre Farm-in-a-Day property).

To permanently protect the 100 acre property, the National Park Service included \$350,000 in its Fiscal Year 2010 budget request to Congress to acquire the property as part of the park. Thanks to leadership of Representative Mike Simpson and Representative Norm Dicks, the Fiscal Year 2010 House Interior appropriations bill includes the \$350,000 in funding for Minidoka land acquisition as well as authorization legislation for Minidoka and Heart Mountain land acquisition.

Unfortunately, the Senate bill does not include the funding or the legislation. With your help, we can help ensure that the final version of the bill (the conference version) includes \$350,000 in Minidoka funding and the authorizing legislation for Minidoka and Heart Mountain.

Please contact your U.S. Senators and let them know how important the provisions in the House bill are to you, the Japanese American community and the nation. Key message points:

- Highlight your personal connection to Minidoka/Heart Mountain.
- Support full funding of the National Park Service request and the House funding level for the Minidoka land acquisition program--\$350,000 – in the FY 2010 Interior appropriations conference.
- Support legislation in the House bill that would authorize additional land acquisition at Minidoka and Heart Mountain (Sec. 116 of H.R. 2996)

The future of this important initiative is now in our hands. With your support, we can preserve key properties at Minidoka and Heart Mountain so that this chapter in our nation's history is never forgotten. If you have any questions about this project, please contact us.

Sincerely Yours,

Dan Sakura  
Vice President  
The Conservation Fund

Emily Momohara  
Chair  
Friends of Minidoka

Dave Reetz  
President and Executive Director  
Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation

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