

Cherry Creek State Park 4201 South Parker Road • Aurora, Colorado 80014 • Phone (303) 690-1166 • FAX (303) 699-3864 • www.parks.state.co.us

April 21, 2008

Linda Bruce Federal Aviation Administration Denver Airports Office 26805 E. 68th Avenue, Suite 224 Denver, CO 80249

Re: Federal Register Notice No. 73 FR 9847

Dear Ms. Bruce:

Colorado State Parks offers the following response to Centennial Airport's Noise Compatibility Program recommendations. Specifically, our comments are directed towards recommendation #3 which would alter the flight tract to a 010 degree heading during certain periods and #4 which would change the flight track to a 350-010 degree "fan" departure.

- 1. Both of these recommendations would put additional air traffic over Cherry Creek State Park and would adversely change the noise exposure map over the park. This negative impact to the noise environment is unacceptable and is not consistent with our agency's goal to manage the natural resources at the park. Specifically, a primary Colorado State Parks goal is to limit impacts and ensure that the condition of the resources, natural view-shed and ecological communities remain intact for future generations.
- 2. It appears that these recommendations will only shift residential noise complaints from the south and west side of the park to the east side of the park. It also seems that these flight track changes could potentially interfere with Denver International Airport and Buckley AFA traffic.
- 3. If these recommendations do move forward, Colorado State Parks would request a full environmental study on the effects of implementing these permanent flight track changes.

Cherry Creek State Park hosts 1.5 million people per year engaged in a variety of activities, 24 hours per day, year-round. The natural resource base is diverse and one of the most significant along the Front Range. It is important that we fully understand not only the impacts to the park and its visitors but to neighboring communities as well.

Colorado State Parks appreciates the opportunity to be involved in and provide input to the study. If you have any questions please contact Tim Metzger, our manager at Cherry Creek State Park, at (303) 699-1166 ext. 724.

Sincerely,

Dean Winstanley

Director, Colorado State Parks

cc: Larry Kramer

Dave Giger Tim Metzger Paul Orbuch