



John Muir Correspondence (PDFs)

1908-05-12

Letter from James R. Garfield to John Muir, 1908 May 12.

James R. Garfield

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May 12, 1908.

Dear Sir:

I enclose a copy of my decision in the application of San Francisco for the Lake Eleanor and Hetch Hetchy reservoir sites. I had expected to close this matter several days ago, but delayed from day to day to consider most carefully the conditions under which the grant should be made. It must be remembered that the duty imposed upon the Secretary of the Interior in acting on grants of this kind prevents him from considering merely the preservation of the park in its natural state, but he must, as well, consider what use will give the greatest benefit to the greatest number.

I appreciate the spirit which prompted your objections to the use of the Valley for reservoir purposes, and thank you for the interest you have shown.

Very truly yours,

James H. Henshaw
Secretary.

✓
Mr. John Muir,

San Francisco, California

(1 Encl.)