



**United States Senate**  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3103

September 8, 2012

Ms. Cicely Muldoon  
Superintendent  
Point Reyes National Seashore

Dear Cicely:

Thank you for this opportunity to share a few words with you on the auspicious occasion of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Point Reyes National Seashore.

As many of you know, my father, Stewart Udall, was a tenacious champion of the environment. This beautiful, extraordinary place is part of his legacy, and one for which he was justifiably proud. He was very gratified to be here to celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

During his tenure as Secretary of the Interior for Presidents Kennedy and Johnson, Dad encouraged a revival in respect for our natural resources –something that he saw happening all over the nation. He believed we were finally beginning to recover a sense of reverence for the land.

*Reverence for the land.* According to *Webster's Dictionary*, reverence is “profound awe and respect and often love.” And that is what brings everyone here today to celebrate this remarkable place.

Today's commemoration is, first and foremost, the result of an idea. The idea that our scenic treasures are held in trust, not simply for our enjoyment, but for future generations as well. Point Reyes National Seashore is a sterling example of this. One need look no further than these majestic shores to fully appreciate the importance of preserving our national treasures.

We can all take great satisfaction in knowing that, for generations to come, Point Reyes National Seashore will be a source of wonder and appreciation. It will continue to inspire our reverence, just as it did fifty years ago, and just as it does today.

I extend to you my congratulations and very best regards.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Tom Udall". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping initial "T" and "U".

Tom Udall  
United States Senator