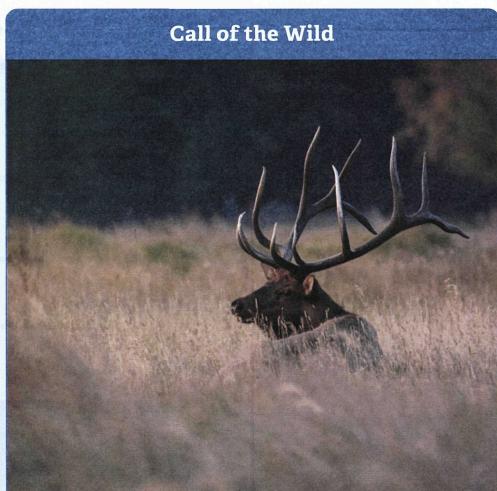


The smallest national park is **Hot Springs National Park** located in Arkansas. Although Yellowstone is considered the first national park, Hot Springs was actually the first federally protected piece of land in 1832 and was finally named a national park in 1921. Before national parks were conceived, Hot Springs was a spa town. For hundreds of years, Americans bathed in the hot springs waters that flow from the slopes of Hot Springs Mountain, believing the warm waters to be medicinal. Despite its small size, there are over 26 miles of walking and hiking trails within the park. At 5,550 acres, Hot Springs National Park could fit inside the largest park, Wrangell-St.Elias National Park, over 2,000 times!



avid Kennedy/NPS

Visit **Rocky Mountain National Park** this fall, and you might just hear the dulcet tones of bull elk bugling. Elk are among the largest members of the deer family, and they have large, distinctive behaviors to match. During their mating season, usually September and October, adult male elk migrate down from the high country to compete with one another over female elk, called cows. They often use their bugles to intimidate other bulls. Bull elk also scare off the competition with their strong musks and antlers, which can grow to five feet long, and sometimes even use them to wrestle with each other. Our National Parks preserve our history, culture, and magnificent natural landscapes. The National Park Foundation helps ensure these treasures continue to enrich our lives. That's why we support projects that help **protect** America's special places and **connect** people to the parks, inspiring the next generation of national park stewards. **This map is a keepsake and a reminder that your support for the National Park Foundation protects this vast national heritage for all people and for all time**.

### Where Nature Overflows

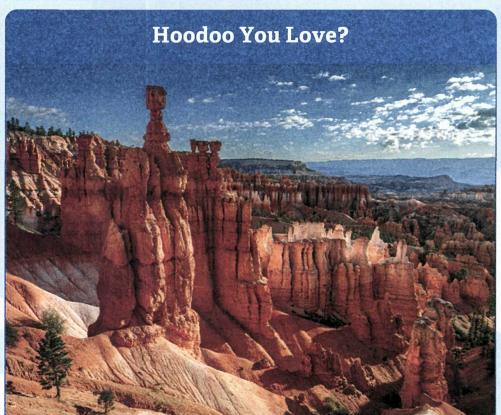


Located in **Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park**, Mauna Loa Volcano is the largest volcano on earth both in terms of volume and height above its base. It rises an astonishing 30,000 feet from the bottom of the sea, a greater height than Mount Everest. By itself, the land mass that Mauna Loa encompasses is almost equal to twice all of the other Hawaiian islands combined. The ocean floor actually bends under its weight.

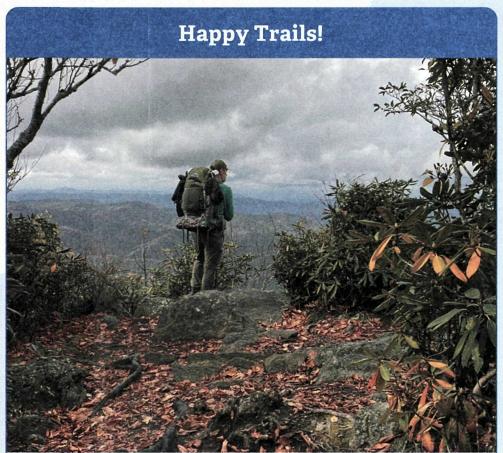
## The Healing Power of Nature



What could four men from different backgrounds, hometowns, and abilities have in common? Brian Donegan, Tony Escalona, Jon Knox, and Stuart Mayo are military veterans who were wounded in battle and now live with traumatic brain injuries and PTSD. For these brave men, returning to civilian life brought anxiety in crowds and difficulty leaving their homes. Thanks to a National Park Foundation grant, Shenandoah National Park and their partner, Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing, offered a way to connect the veterans to each other and with nature through fly fishing excursions.



What are hoodoos? These distinctive rock formations are one of **Bryce Canyon National Park**'s most characteristic features, and for good reason—Bryce has the highest concentration of hoodoos on Earth. Bryce's hoodoos developed in three phases: deposition of rocks, uplift of the land, and weathering and erosion. Sitting at a maximum elevation of 9,115 feet above sea level, Bryce Canyon's now-towering hocdoos began forming 50 million years ago at sea level as part of an ancient lake and floodplain system. Tiny particles of rock gradually accumulated, then plate tectonics uplifted the rocks to form plateaus. This tectonic activity turned the region into a "goldilocks zone," a perfect confluence of factors for the development of hoodoos. Weathering and erosion from ice and rain slowly carved the plateaus into the hoodoos, as we know them today.



The **Appalachian Trail** is a 2,190+ mile long public footpath that traverses the scenic, wooded, pastoral, wild, and culturally resonant lands of the Appalachian Mountains. It was first conceived in 1921 and built by private citizens, and completed in 1937. Today the trail is managed by NPS, in addition to the US Forest Service, Appalachian Trail Conservancy, numerous state agencies, and thousands of volunteers. More than 3,000 people attempt a thru-hike of the entire Appalachian Trail from Georgia to Maine every year! The National Park System encompasses 423 national park units covering over 85 MILLION acres.

There are more than 21,000 COMBINED MILES OF TRAILS in the national parks.

9.0

The National Park Service protects **11,000** miles of coastline and **2.5 MILLION** acres of water within **88** ocean and Great Lakes parks.

Abraham Lincoln and Theodore Roosevelt have the **MOST NATIONAL PARK SITES** named after them.

# The elements of the NATIONAL PARK SERVICE ARROWHEAD EMBLEM

symbolize key attributes of the National Park System. The sequoia tree and bison represent vegetation and wildlife, the mountains and water represent scenic and recreational values, and the arrowhead itself represents historical and archaeological values.

The National Park Foundation is the **OFFICIAL NONPROFIT PARTNER** of the National Park Service.

### THE MISSION OF THE NATIONAL PARK FOUNDATION

As the official nonprofit partner of the National Park Service, the National Park Foundation generates private support and builds strategic partnerships to protect and enhance America's national parks for present and future generations.

Chartered by Congress in 1967, the National Park Foundation is rooted in a legacy that began more than a century ago, when private citizens from all walks of life took action to establish and protect our national parks. Today, the National Park Foundation carries on that tradition as the only national charitable nonprofit whose mission is to directly support the National Park Service.

Your support of the National Park Foundation ensures that our nation's majestic landscapes and rich heritage remain protected and relevant.

### YOU CAN GIVE WITH CONFIDENCE

**Using Every Dollar Wisely**—the National Park Foundation has earned Candid's Platinum Seal of Transparency. This certification demonstrates the National Park Foundation's commitment to fiscal Platinum Transparency 2023 Candid.

transparency and strong financial stewardship, using what you contribute to help preserve and protect national parks as places of enjoyment, education, and enrichment for all people.



1500 K Street NW • Suite 700 • Washington, DC 20005 www.nationalparks.org

