

National Parks

The Magazine of
The National Parks
Conservation
Association

Everglades
Restoration

Homeland Parks

David McCullough
at Adams

Vacation Guide

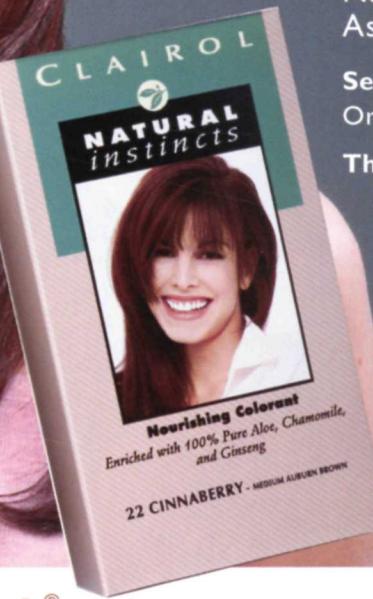
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National Parks

Vol. 76, No. 1-2
January/February 2002

The Magazine of the National Parks
Conservation Association

FEATURES**30****Reviving the Everglades**

Widely viewed as useless swamp 50 years ago, the Everglades are now the focus of the largest ecosystem restoration effort ever. The system provides habitat for thousands of creatures as well as water to three national parks.

By Phyllis McIntosh

35**Climate Change**

Last spring, President Bush was extensively criticized for his environmental and energy policies, but in the aftermath of the tragic events of September 11, conservationists fear environmental issues will suffer and park funding might become expendable.

By Todd Wilkinson

39**Looking Homeward**

In addition to their national significance, some national park units face the challenge of telling very personal family stories.

By Kim A. O'Connell



COVER: A multi-billion dollar restoration effort is under way in the Everglades, where 68 plant and animal species are considered threatened or endangered.
Photo by Stan Osolinski.



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State of the Parks is not designed as a quick fix; just like park protection itself, it will require perseverance.

By Thomas C. Kiernan

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Historic Importance

State of the Parks is not designed as a quick fix;

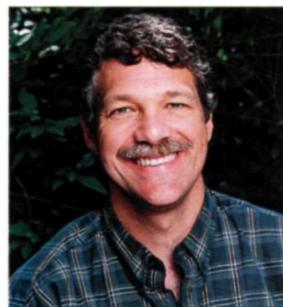
just like park protection itself, it will require perseverance.

Have you ever felt yourself to be in the presence of our nation's history? Experienced in a very personal way a sense of connection to our country's past?

This fall, along with a number of NPCA members and friends, I had the opportunity to walk the same ground as our second president, John Adams. Just for a few moments, with the help of Adams' biographer and Pulitzer-prize winner David McCullough, we sensed the momentous period when he conceived America's need for a "declaration of independency."

We were visiting Adams National Historical Park in Quincy, Massachusetts. McCullough joined us to release NPCA's first State of the Parks report and to celebrate Adams' 266th birthday. He highlighted the importance of our findings for current and future researchers, and he brought home to all of us the need to preserve the letters and other artifacts found at the site. (See page 50 for McCullough's remarks.)

NPCA's State of the Parks program is the first attempt by an organization outside the National Park Service to assess the natural, cultural, and historic features of national parks. We began with Adams, a cultural site, to highlight the importance of history to America's spirit, as embodied in our parks.



CHAD EVANS/WYATT

I am happy to report that, for the most part, this is a healthy park. The park scored 72 out of 100, which is a good but not a great score. The park staff has done an excellent job of engaging the local community in pro-

tecting the park, but as we summarized for members of the press and Congress who attended the event, funding shortfalls and other stresses have left more than 20,000 artifacts uncatalogued and, therefore, unavailable for researchers and public viewing. Steps must be taken over the next decade to finish cataloguing the archives and to address the 88 percent increase in visitation over the last five years.

Our State of the Parks program is not a quick fix for the parks. It will take years to implement throughout the system and will require the continued cooperation of the National Park Service. One of the key lessons we have learned through 82 years of work as a park advocate is that park protection requires perseverance. We look forward to working with you, our members and supporters, as we move through challenging times for the sake of our parks and the sake of our country.

Thomas C. Kiernan
President



EDITOR'S NOTE

A New Look



CHAD EVANS WYATT

We all make New Year's resolutions, and if we don't, we feel we ought to. A new year is a chance to begin anew, to re-evaluate, to fulfill long-delayed resolutions. We at *National Parks* magazine made a resolution last year, shortly after we received the results of our reader survey, to give the magazine a new look, to make it more engaging, lively, and, to coin a word, browsable. Even though a majority of you said that you read all or most of each issue of the magazine and 75 percent of you were satisfied, we wanted to do better.

We know many things compete for that rarest of commodities, your time. According to the firm that conducted our readership survey, the average doctor receives 70 pounds of mail a week and has time to read only five of those pounds. And that's just competition from the mail. That doesn't include television, the Internet, or any other activity you may choose to engage in during your leisure time. We wanted to make the time you choose to spend with *National Parks* as enjoyable and informative as possible.

With this first issue of the new year, we bring you a new design. The biggest changes are typographical. The body text is a more elegant, easier-to-read font. The headlines are not as heavy and give the pages a lighter feel. The photographs and the captions are larger, more engaging. We plan with the next issue to bring a few more changes to the Notes and News sections.

We hope this new issue of the magazine finds you and your family well, and we look forward to spending even more time with you in the days and years ahead. Happy New Year!

Linda M. Rancourt
Editor-in-Chief

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About NPCA

WHO WE ARE

Established in 1919, the National Parks Conservation Association is America's only private, nonprofit, advocacy organization dedicated solely to protecting, preserving, and enhancing the U.S. National Park System.

WHAT WE DO

NPCA protects national parks by identifying problems and generating support to resolve them.

WHAT WE STAND FOR

The mission of NPCA is to protect and enhance America's National Park System for present and future generations.

HOW TO JOIN

You can become a member by calling our Membership Department, extension 213. *National Parks* magazine is among the benefits you will receive. Of the \$25 membership dues, \$3 covers a one-year subscription to the magazine.

EDITORIAL MISSION

The magazine is the only national publication focusing solely on national parks. The magazine creates an awareness of the need to protect and properly manage park resources, encourages an

appreciation for the natural and historic treasures found in the parks, and informs and inspires individuals to help preserve them.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Members can help defend America's natural and cultural heritage. Activists alert Congress and the administration to park threats; comment on park planning and adjacent land-use decisions; assist NPCA in developing partnerships; and educate the public and the media. For more information, contact our grassroots coordinator, extension 222.

HOW TO DONATE

For more information on Partners for the Parks, contact our Membership Department, extension 213. For information about Trustees for the Parks, bequests, planned gifts, and matching gifts, call our Development Department, extension 145 or 146. You can also donate by shopping online at www.npca.org, where 5 percent of your purchases is donated to NPCA at no extra cost to you.

HOW TO REACH US

National Parks Conservation Association, 1300 19th St., N.W., Suite 300, Washington, DC 20036; by phone: 1-800-NAT-PARK; by e-mail: npca@npca.org; and www.npca.org.



LETTERS

Cars in Parks, Conservation Corps, Cemetery at Valley Forge



Cars in Parks

I strongly support efforts to reduce the number of cars within national parks ["The National Park or Parking System?" July/August 2001]. Yosemite has a good start with the YART system. I would go one step further and require all visitors to park cars outside the park except for those with overnight reservations and those with disabilities.

Daytrippers could be bused into the park and use the efficient shuttle system. Given the vast geographic area of some parks, it may be important to require all cars to be left outside the boundaries. Every effort should be made to reduce traffic in the most heavily frequented parts of the parks, with a combination of buses and shuttles.

*Kathy Carpenter
Waitsburg, WA*

Civilian Conservation Corps

Thank you for the very illustrative article on the Civilian Conservation Corps ["The Corps of Conservation," September/October 2001]. I am 90 years old, and I lived through that era when the only thing that saved the younger generation was President Roosevelt's CCC. I was raised in a Republican family, but have been a Democrat to this day.

You had to live through that time to realize what these programs meant to so many people. In later years, my family was among the many who were able to enjoy our national parks, which had been enhanced by the work of the CCC.

It is too bad that our present government does not do enough to maintain our natural resources in conditions that would benefit us all.

*Laura A. Harders
Renton, WA*

I am a native of Germany and have been a U.S. citizen for the past 50 years. I had never heard of the Civilian Conservation Corps. It was a great idea of President Roosevelt to create it. Perhaps, it could be revived for young jobless men and women desperate to find direction in life, persons whose employment benefits run out, and immigrants without skills who would normally join the welfare system. Thank you for the very enlightening article.

*Irmgard Martino
Philadelphia, PA*

Cemetery at Valley Forge

As a member of NPCA and the wife of a disabled American veteran who fought in Vietnam, I am against a military cemetery at Valley Forge [News, September/October 2001]. The park is not only part of our history but also commemorates what soldiers suffered during the winter of 1777 and 1778. Hallowed ground should not be disturbed.

I think putting a military cemetery at another location near the park is a better alternative. Relatives could then visit gravesites, separate from tourists and history buffs, in more privacy.

*Carol Ford
Washington Township, NJ*

Reaching Out

One aspect of outreach that was not covered in your story ["Reaching Out," September/October 2001] is whether the National Park Service is making an effort to hire employees of diverse ethnic backgrounds. Once people of different ethnicities work in the parks, citizens

with these ethnic backgrounds would be more comfortable using the parks. This would possibly alleviate some of the social barriers perceived by people with different ethnicities.

*Heather Wilson
New Orleans, LA*

Editorial Reply: The Park Service is, in fact, doing just that with the encouragement of NPCA.

A Time to Protect

The letter "The Healing Power of Parks" [Letters, November/December 2001] is well written and says beautifully that we should respect our parks as places of healing. As such, I feel that adequate money should be spent for enough rangers as needed to protect the parks.

*Roberta Hodges
Titusville, FL*

To see more letters on these and other topics, please visit our web site at www.nPCA.org.

CORRECTION

Canyonlands National Park [Photo Contest, November/December 2001] is located near Moab, Utah.

WRITE TO US

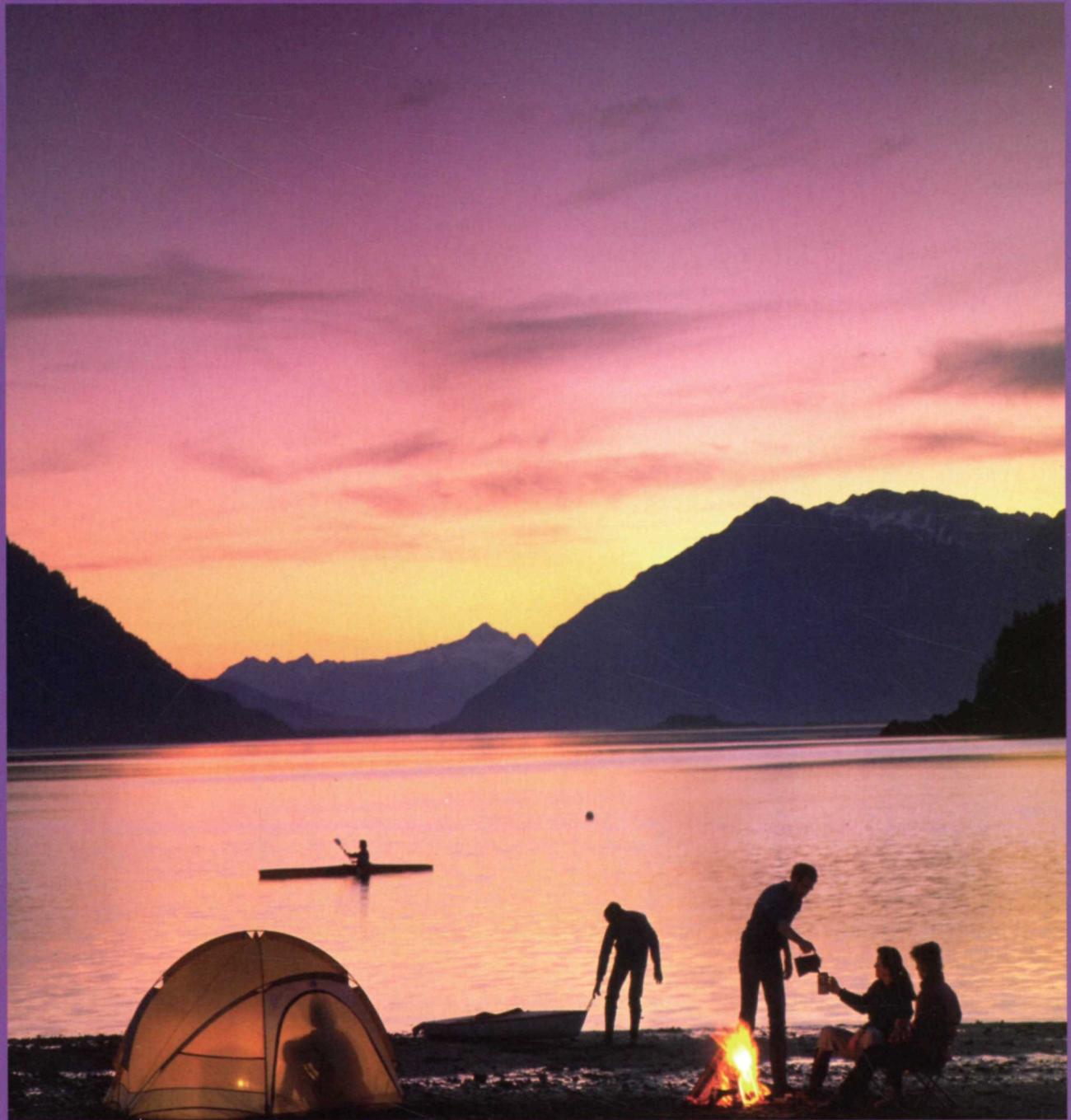
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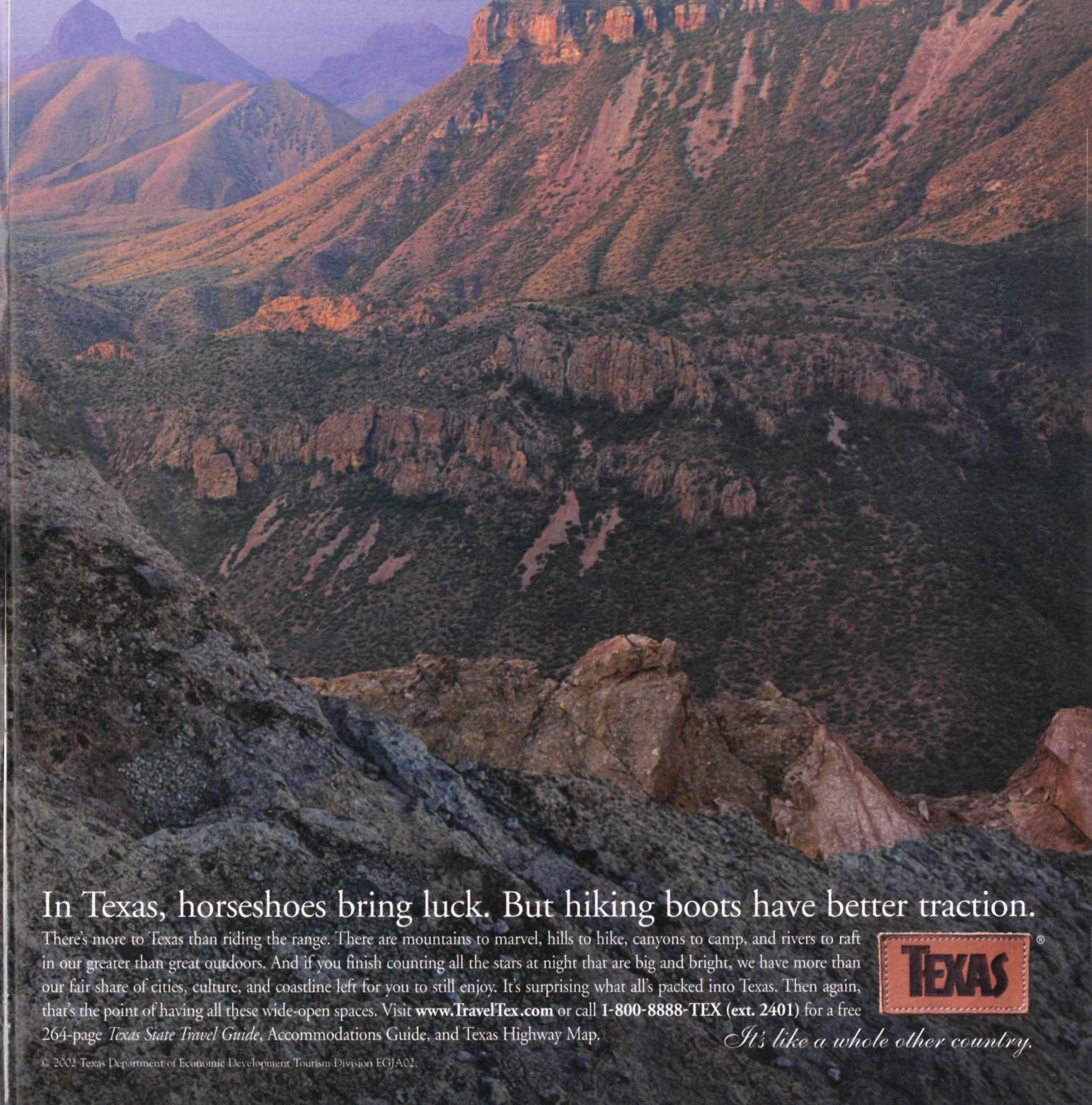
*Answer: Yellowstone National Park,
Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming*

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Sunset at Kachemak Bay, Alaska



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T E X A S

Deep in the Heart of Texas

If you think big and think birds, then you have to think Texas. The Lone Star State is among the most popular birding destinations in the country. Over the past five years, members of the American Birding Association list Texas as the most popular destination for birding tours. And it's no wonder. Birdwatchers can see more than 300 species in this state alone, including the nearly extinct whooping crane. Many birds, such as Canada geese and pintails, winter in Texas, making the Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge, Padre Island National Seashore, and the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge prime birding destinations in the winter months. But warmer weather brings some of the regulars, such as orioles and flycatchers as well as the more exotic collared forest falcon of Argentina and the endangered red-cockaded woodpecker.

The Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, just northeast of Rockport, is the principal wintering ground for the whooping crane and more than 300 other bird species. Visitors also may be lucky enough to spot javelina or white-tailed deer. Birdwatchers may also travel to Padre Island National Seashore, an 80-mile stretch of undeveloped beach, where they can see birds as well as nesting sea turtles, including the rare Kemp's Ridley. Tropical birds as well as jagurundi, ocelots, and other wildlife rarely seen in the continental United States can be found at the Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge, just south of Alamo on the banks of the Rio Grande.



All Texas Photos: Texas Department of Economic Development



Country near San Antonio and Austin. A seasonal shower can bring a profusion of color from yuccas, ocotillos, and cacti. For the real wildflower enthusiast, the 42-acre Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, based in Austin, includes display and themed gardens as well as landscaped areas. The center is the only national nonprofit research and educational organization committed to the preservation and re-establishment of native plants in planned landscapes.

If hiking in a wild landscape is more appealing, the 800,000-acre Big Bend National Park is a hiker's paradise, with several hundred miles of trails ranging from short, easy nature walks to primitive trails for the more advanced. Tour spectacular canyons via a rafting or kayaking trip down the Rio Grande or explore

The state is such a popular birding destination that the World Birding Center Headquarters will be located in Mission in the lower Rio Grande Valley, and the state is developing a 500-mile Great Texas Birding Trail to ensure a rich and varied birding experience along the Texas coast. Here, visitors can see loons, pelicans, cranes, and roseate spoonbills among other species.

In addition to birding, Texas offers the outdoor enthusiast a variety of other activities, including fishing, rafting, hiking, and wildflower viewing. More than 5,000 species of wildflowers grow in the state's rich soil. Each spring, bluebonnets, buttercups, and Indian paintbrush line the highways throughout the Hill

trails on the back of a horse. Hikers may be lucky enough to spot a black bear, mountain lion, coyote, beaver, ringtail, or jackrabbit.

Less vigorous travelers can enjoy a scenic drive through the park. A 74-mile loop through the Davis Mountains leads to a host of choice mountain landscapes, including nine scenic roadside parks. El Camino del Rio or "The River Road" is the local name for the road that stretches from Lajitas northwest to Presidio and beyond. It is one of the most spectacular drives in Texas, plunging down mountains and through canyons along the sun-drenched Rio Grande.

Besides birding, fishing, hiking, and viewing fabulous scenery, any traveler to Texas should also spend some time at the state's beaches, found along the 600-mile coastline. The beaches three main areas are Galveston, Corpus Christi, and South Padre Island. Galveston Island, just an hour's drive from Houston, has 32 miles of beach and features a playground, outdoor pavilion, and volleyball courts.

Corpus Christi is about 200 miles south of the Galveston/Houston area and lies in the middle of the Texas Gulf Coast. The city is close to Padre Island, a 110-mile-long island offering one of the last natural seashores in the United States. Each end of Padre Island is developed with parks and resorts, but in between is a preserved, unblemished stretch of seashore.

Nature lovers and wildlife enthusiasts will appreciate and enjoy the ecologically significant and unspoiled beaches and sand dunes along the Gulf of Mexico. The wetlands that line the bayside also create an ideal habitat for many plant, animal, and bird species. While on South Padre Island, near Brownsville, visitors can learn more about sea turtles through Sea Turtle Inc., a nonprofit organization.

If learning about history is of greater interest, you might enjoy a journey to some of the Spanish Missions that dot the Texas landscape. Among the most famous are the San Antonio Missions, a chain of missions established along the San Antonio River in the 18th century. San Antonio Missions National Historical Park preserves one of Spain's most successful attempts to extend its New World dominion northward from Mexico. Today, the San Antonio Missions represent a virtually unbroken connection with the past. Bearing the distinctive stamp of generations of Indian and Spanish craftsmen, they live still as active parishes.



So whether you prefer history or a birding or beach vacation, or are inclined to do all of them, Texas has more than enough for everyone. Plan your own visit to Texas by calling 1-800-8888-TEX or go to the Texas Tourism's web site at www.TravelTex.com.



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Need help learning to fly-fish? Scale a cliff? Ride a mountain bike? Guides are available for hire and will plan day trips or full excursions specially designed to challenge your skills. Rent horses for a trail ride through magnificent wilderness lands. Or float the entire family down a river on inner tubes and watch them giggle as little fish nibble their toes. Fly a kite in a mountain meadow and watch the sunset with someone you love. Lie back in a fragrant field of flowers and gaze at the stars for just as long as you like.

The folks in West Virginia are easygoing, relaxed, and happy to chat or leave you in peaceful solitude, if that's your wish. The atmosphere of genuine hospitality can be found wherever you

stay, whether you choose simple or ultra-luxurious accommodations. You'll find it in the park ranger who points out your camping site in North Bend State Park (which features specially designed trails, planned to delight kids and provide access to people with disabilities). And you'll find that friendly West Virginia hospitality at the world-renowned Greenbrier Hotel. When you go, be sure to take the fascinating "hidden bunker tour" of the once-top-secret facility built to house the U.S. Congress in the event of a national emergency.

In your busy, rushed life, take some time and breathe deeply. Relax — you can count on West Virginia. It's as lovely, warm, and welcoming here as you wish it could be everywhere else.

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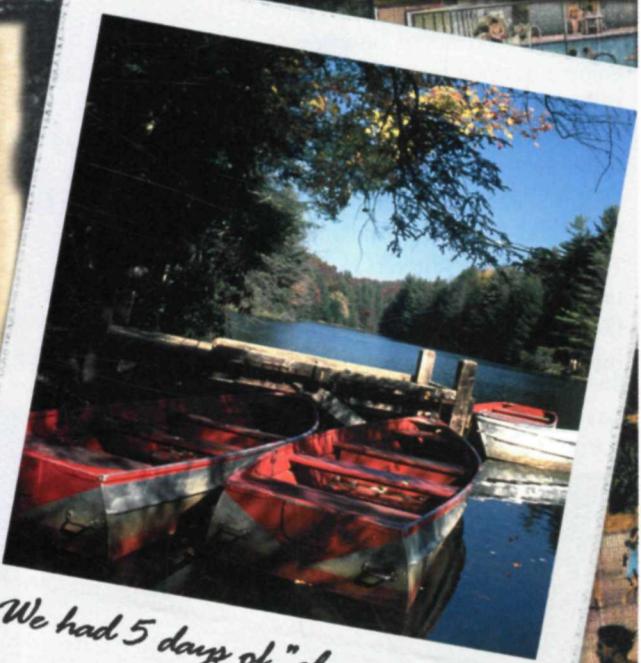
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The first-time visitor may be so overwhelmed by the immensity of choice in travel as to default to the most publicized form and cruise into their inaugural visit. Returning guests, and most all seem to return, build upon their first experience and perhaps dig a little deeper into the many opportunities of mysteries and riches that have lured adventurers for years. For those who choose to live in Alaska, one realizes that even with a lifetime of adventure, Alaska's whole story may well remain untold. Most long-time Alaskans learn to open their minds to the joy of adventure and continue to explore. However, even the most experienced Alaskan continues to ask advice and, whenever possible, find a knowledgeable guide.



Let Alaska Heritage Tours be your guide. Unique to Alaska, it is a company with cultural roots that are intertwined with its recorded history. More than 6,900 Alaska Native shareholders of predominately Athabascan and southeast Indian, Inupiat and Yupik Eskimo, Tlingit and Haida, and Aleut descent hold its parent company, Cook Inlet Region Incorporated.

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Take a bike ride along the gently rolling coast or take hang-gliding lessons at Jockey's Ridge State Park. With the tallest sand dunes on the East Coast and a constant, gentle breeze, it won't take long before you're soaring like a pro—and because the dunes have a gentle slope and soft, cushioning sand, you can go through your training in safety and with confidence.

Explore Wright Brothers National Memorial in Kill Devil Hills, where Orville and Wilbur Wright took their first sustained flight in

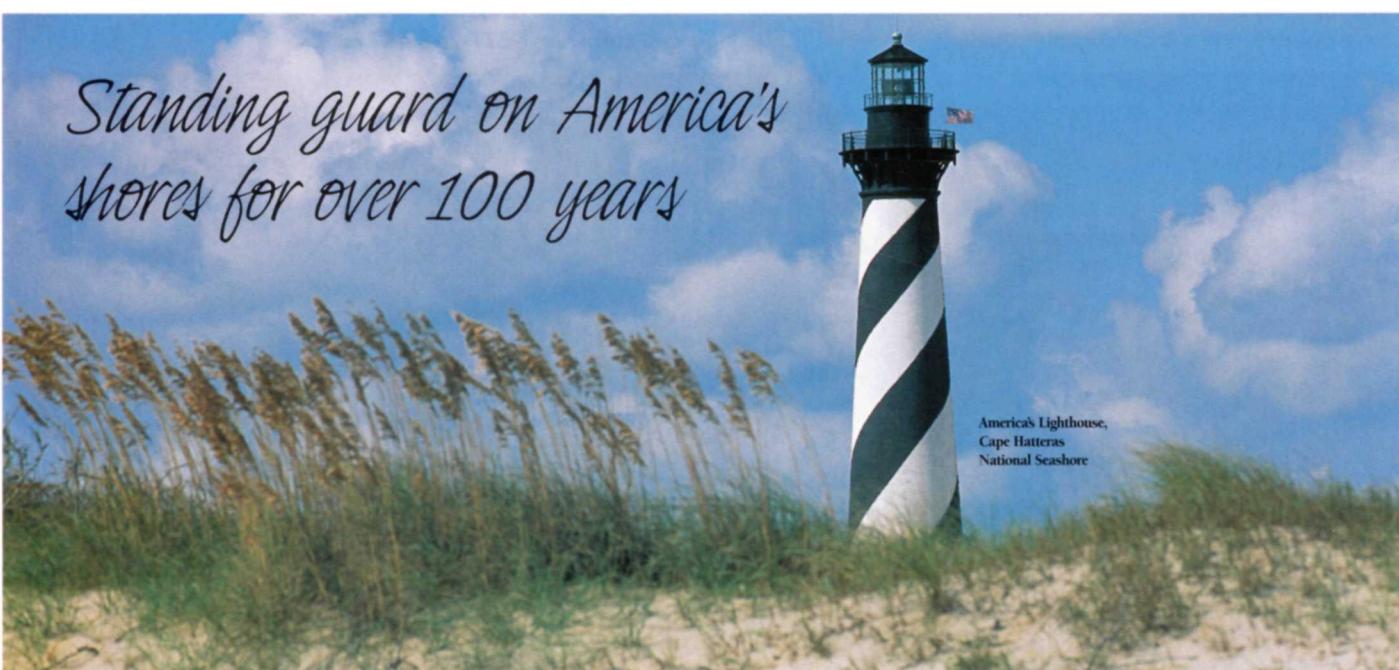
a heavier-than-air machine on December 17, 1903. Today we can fly across the ocean in mere hours, but nearly a hundred years ago, a 13-second flight made history and changed the world.

Head to Roanoke Island to investigate the disappearance of the "Lost Colony," the first settlement of Europeans on our shores. Although archaeologists and others speculate that famine, disease, or drought may have claimed the lives of these early colonists, no one is certain of their fate.

The Outer Banks offers a variety of other opportunities as well. Ride a galloping horse through the surf. Explore the wrecks in the "graveyard of the Atlantic," a site off the coast that has claimed more ships than anywhere along the East Coast. Try sea kayaking in the ocean or paddling the gentler sound waters. Hoist a sail and glide through the water on a sailboard. Build the finest sandcastle along a stretch of the barrier island beach that arcs into the Atlantic Ocean for 130 miles. Visit the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse, a famous striped landmark that recently was moved inland about 1,200 feet to avoid toppling into the sea.

Take time to visit Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge in the hopes of catching a glimpse of the elusive, re-introduced red wolf. Hike a maritime forest trail and sit quietly by a marsh to watch for birds and search for shells along the shore.

For more information on the Outer Banks of North Carolina, visit the official travel web site at www.outerbanks.org, or call the Outer Banks Visitors Bureau at 1-800-446-6262.



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THE OUTER BANKS
NORTH CAROLINA
It feels nice to be here.

NAP

Soft mists drift up from the stream, catching the faint pink of morning through the trees as sunrise breaks in the east. The gray, pre-dawn hush gives way to the first golden notes of a warbler greeting the new day.

Through it all, endless and clean and musical, water runs above rocks, over falls, through gentle bends, and dramatic oxbows. Missouri boasts an astonishing 55,000 miles of waterways across the state—from the Mississippi and Missouri rivers to trout streams and small brooks to natural springs bubbling with cool, crystalline waters.

Visitors can fish from these streams and lakes, kayak down quiet waterways or river-raft challenging rapids, sail, water-ski, swim, or simply lie back on a sun-warmed inner tube to drift with the current.

Marvel at the keel boat's open design—the kind of boat Lewis and Clark took on their epic exploration when they set off from St. Louis in 1804. Wander the Mississippi on a fancy paddle-wheel steamer and follow in the footsteps of Missouri's most famous son, Mark Twain.

Water has shaped Missouri both above and below the ground. There are an estimated 5,000 caves in the state, from treks that would challenge the most skilled spelunker to the world's only "drive through" cavern (a favorite for kids, the elderly, and the disabled). You can even tour Cameron Cave by lantern light.

MISSOURI

Where the Rivers Run

Meramec Caverns is one of the known hideouts of Missouri's most infamous son, Jesse James. His exploits are recorded across the state, and his legend lives alongside those of other notable figures from Missouri, including pioneer Daniel Boone, President Harry Truman, animator Walt Disney, and author Laura Ingalls Wilder.

Home to musicians Scott Joplin and Charlie Parker, the state is also known as a country music magnet, with more than 90 music and variety shows available for family fun.

Tap your toes to a riverboat's ragtime band. Lose yourself in the jazz of a St. Louis or Kansas City nightspot. Once it enters your soul, the music of Missouri is the best accompaniment to the timeless sound of water rushing down hills and mountains, through underground caverns.

For more information on a vacation in Missouri, call 1-800-519-1400 x261 or visit our web site at www.VisitMO.com.

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Discover Missouri, a land rich with history, where the past greets the future and the memories last a lifetime.

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Current River: Viewed from the Cardareva Bluff in the Ozark Heritage region.

A L A S K A

Because You've Waited Long Enough!

Alaska's vast untamed landscape remains an elusive dream for many of us, but travel to the "land of the midnight sun" needn't be. Why put off that dream any longer? The only difficulty will be choosing what to see and do.

Would you rather see your first glacier from the viewpoint of a soaring bald eagle or take the orca's-eye view, skimming along the surface of a still bay? Whether you decide to fly or go by kayak, a glacier is every bit as awe-inspiring as you've dreamed it would be. They don't absorb blue in the spectrum of light—they reflect it, giving these ancient rivers of ice a chilling, sublime color so intense that it might just look like trick photography when you show your vacation snapshots to disbelieving friends.

Will you decide to go fly-fishing in a remote mountain lake? Or will you seek a deep-sea trophy from the deck of a chartered boat? Either way, prepare to set a new record—Alaska is a land of extremes, and if you don't match the state's most impressive fish, chances are you'll find your own "personal best" in the pure and icy waters.

Will you choose to enjoy the nightlife in cities like Anchorage or Juneau or the northern lights in a mountain meadow? Perhaps your dream-come-true is a cozy bed-and-breakfast with a pre-dawn wake-up call to make the whale-watching boat before it departs.

One of the aspects of Alaska that no one should miss is the incredible wildlife. Visitors may see brown bears or wolves, 16 different species of whales in the state's waters, and hundreds of varieties of birds, including comical, colorful puffins along the sea and bald eagles.

Getting around the vast state can be a challenge, but you might want to try a biking tour, either as an independent or as part of a guided expedition. Consider seeing Alaska's islands and inlets by boat—a large luxury liner or a small, intimate boat. View the wilderness from the lush comfort of the dome car on the Alaska Railroad. Ride a raft on a challenging, swollen river or book passage on a plane. Alaska is so vast that air travel by small plane is a way of life. With water pontoons in summer and skis in winter, planes can easily reach isolated areas.

You might consider renting a car or a camper and planning your own route. The amazing Alaska Highway begins at "Mile 0" in Dawson Creek, British Columbia, and ends 1,422 miles to the north in Delta Junction, Alaska.

Once you've chosen a mode of travel, you'll have to decide on which parts of Alaska you want to see. Alaska features the last remaining temperate rainforest in the United States—the Tongass National Forest, a glittering necklace of



© Kristen Kimmerling/ATIA

islands and coastline tucked beneath sheltering mountains.

Or head to the far north, up to the roof of the nation, to Gates of the Arctic National Park or the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. The refuge is home to the Porcupine caribou herd. You can also spot musk oxen, timber wolves, and maybe polar bears lumbering out on the ice cap. The wildflower display in the summer is dazzling.

Wildlife is one of the key features of Denali National Park, which is carefully managed to limit human interaction. Buses take visitors into the park to view moose, bears, wolves, and mountain goats—plus a breath-taking view of Mt. McKinley, the continent's highest peak.

Glacier Bay National Park features no fewer than 13 spectacular glaciers and a rich marine habitat where humpback whales and orcas may be seen. The Russian influence is very strong here—onion-domed churches still grace the skylines of Sitka and smaller towns.

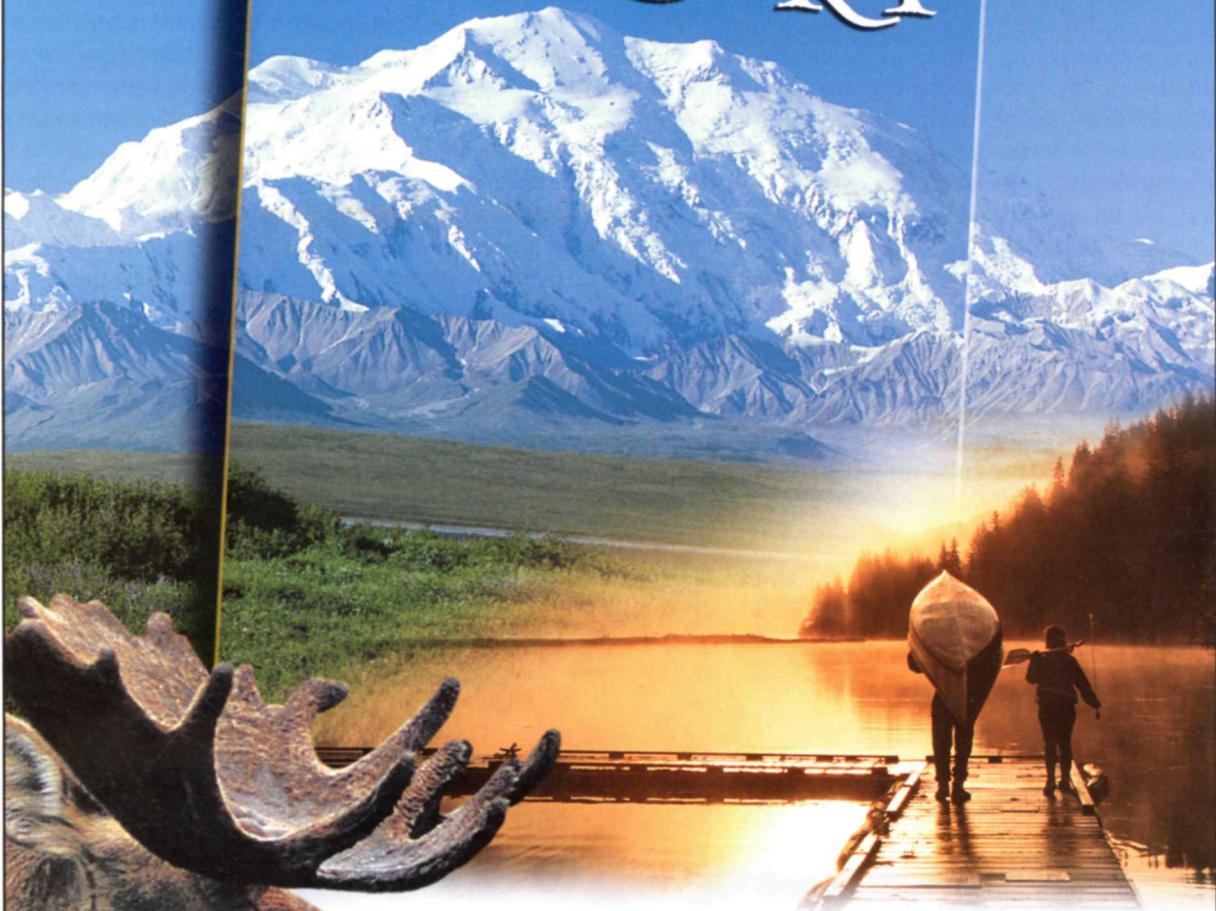
The isolated Pribilof Islands stretch far out to sea and are home to some of the most impressive wildlife colonies in the nation. St. George Island seems a tiny dot on the map—yet it's home to more than 2.5 million nesting sea birds, making it the largest known sea bird colony in the Western Hemisphere, and an unparalleled birder's paradise. To the north, St. Paul Island features a staggering population of fur seals who "haul out" on these broad beaches each summer to mate and calve.

Your ideal Alaska vacation is just a decision away, and no matter what you decide, you're sure to have the time of your life!

For help making those decisions, or for more information on planning your Alaskan vacation, call 1-888-921-8772 or visit our web side at <http://npm.travelalaska.com>.

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BUFFALO BILL

An American Experience

If you're planning a trip to Yellowstone this summer, you will want to stop by Cody, Wyoming, the town founded by Buffalo Bill Cody, frontier scout and master showman.

A small town with about 9,000 year-round residents, Cody is only an hour's drive from Yellowstone's East and Northeast entrances and boasts a fascinating cultural resource so vast that it's been called "The Smithsonian of the West."

The Buffalo Bill Historical Center is a 300,000-square-foot complex containing five museums. Admissions are good for two consecutive days. The center's five museums offer something to please everyone. If your trip to Yellowstone and Cody is planned for June or later, you will be able to tour the new Draper Museum of Natural History. Designed to "blow the dust off" traditional natural history exhibits, the Draper is an interactive experience.

Walk a fossil-lined path through slabs showing the region's geological ages, and explore current issues that affect Yellowstone National Park, such as wolf reintroduction.

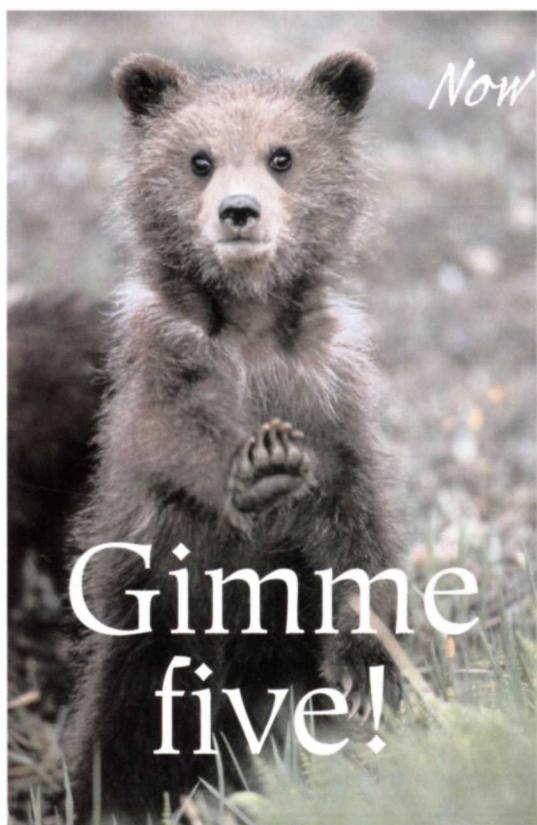
Then tour the wing devoted to William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody himself—perhaps the single most popular American of his day and the living embodiment of the frontier persona. His turn-of-the-century "Wild West" show took the United States and Europe by storm.

View one of the nation's largest and finest collections of Plains Indian art and artifacts at the Plains Indian Museum, reinterpreted in 2000. Trace the influence of firearms on the settlement of the West at the impressive Cody Firearms Museum, which includes firearms dating to 16th century Europe.

Then tour the Whitney Gallery of Western Art and sculpture gardens, which features masterworks of the American West along with the finest Western artists of today.

Finally, the McCracken Research Library, a renowned scholarly resource, includes a popular archive of traditional cowboy songs and range ballads. The McCracken also houses thousands of photographs, negatives, films, books, correspondence, and original manuscripts from artists and craftsmen throughout the West.

For more information on planning a trip to the Buffalo Bill Historical Center, visit our website at www.bbhc.org or call us at 1-307-587-4771.



Gimme
five!

Now there are *FIVE* reasons to see the Buffalo Bill Historical Center

In addition to four world-class western museums, the Draper Museum of Natural History opens in June, 52 miles east of Yellowstone National Park. Now you and your family can see five amazing museums under one roof for one admission price.

Buffalo Bill Museum
Whitney Gallery of Western Art
Plains Indian Museum
Cody Firearms Museum
Draper Museum of Natural History

Want to understand Yellowstone?

See the Draper.

The Draper Museum of Natural History.
Where the wild meets the West.



BUFFALO BILL HISTORICAL CENTER

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Partially funded by the National Science Foundation.

The Queen Anne's Revenge slipped neatly between the coastal islands, captained by a massive man with a bristling beard and armed with cutlasses, blunderbusses, and a broad bandolier carrying six pistols across his chest.

This was the infamous pirate Blackbeard, captain of a fleet of four ships and a crew of 300. He'd been lurking in the islands for months, preying on weaker ships and collecting a tidy fortune. It was here on North Carolina's magnificent Crystal Coast that Blackbeard is believed to have scuttled *Queen Anne's Revenge* in 1718 to keep more of the treasure for himself and a few carefully chosen mates. At least, that's the theory.

Marine archaeologists have uncovered the wreck of a 100-foot-long, three-masted ship that they believe might be the *Queen Anne's Revenge*. It's lying in about 20 feet of water near Beaufort, North Carolina.

The southern range of North Carolina's famed Outer Banks, the Crystal Coast is a beautiful region—in many ways unchanged since Blackbeard's day. Sunlight still pours down on small coastal towns, and wild, open land stretches across entire islands.

Horses roam wild at Cape Lookout National Seashore, documented to be the oldest continuous herd in North America. Today the horses share the island with campers, kayakers, and surf fishing enthusiasts.

Fishing is legendary in this area—in fact, giant bluefin tuna are caught here during the winter months.

The Crystal Coast is remarkably pure and pristine; it's been certified "Clean and Safe" by the Clean Beaches Council. The clear

NORTH CAROLINA'S CRYSTAL COAST

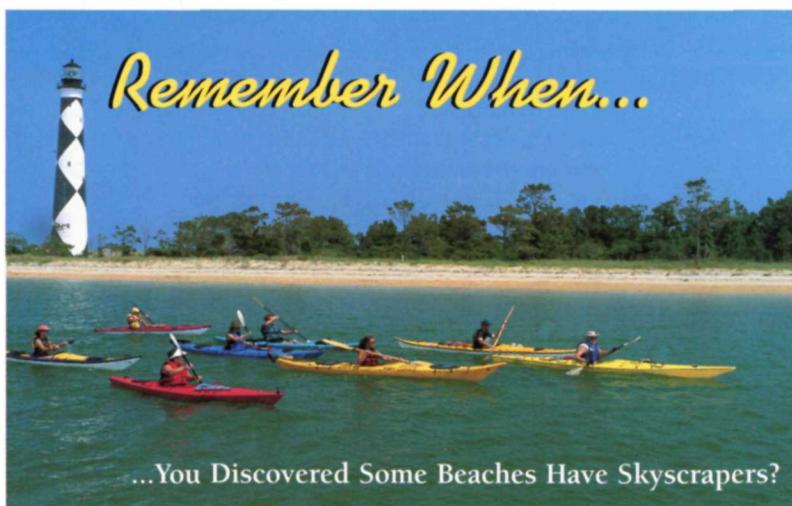
History in the Making

water and remarkable shipwrecks off the coast are why *Scuba Diving* magazine has consistently listed the Crystal Coast's Morehead City as the top overall dive destination in North America since 1993.

Understandably, this proud emphasis on the Crystal Coast's pristine 80 miles of white sand beaches leads to a choice selection of always-fresh seafood at local restaurants. Many believe the fishing improves as traditional beach weather passes, but the warm hospitality is a year-round constant.

For more information on vacationing on North Carolina's beautiful Crystal Coast, please call 1-800-SUNNY-NC (786-6962) or visit our web site at www.sunnync.com.

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- Rand McNally's Best Off-Road Trip: The Horses of Shackleford Banks.

North Carolina's
CRYSTAL COAST
ALONG THE SOUTHERN OUTER BANKS

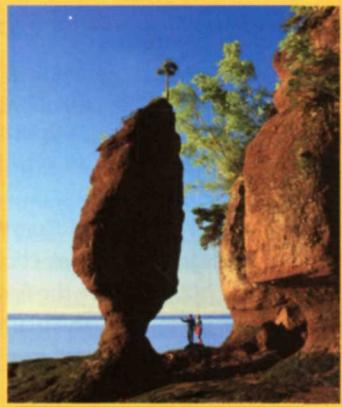
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Welcome to the Wonder... New Brunswick, Canada!

New Brunswick, Canada has so many wonders waiting to be experienced and explored. From the preserved sanctuaries of our National and Provincial Parks to breathtaking views and spectacular natural sites, we welcome you to the wonder of New Brunswick!

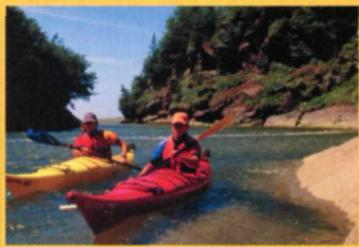


Rocks. Explore the base of towering flowerpot rock formations and just six hours later kayak the very same spot. At high tide all that remain of the Rocks are tiny islands.

Tour Two Spectacular Coastal Parks

Welcome to Fundy National Park, where the world's highest tides host a rich marine ecosystem teeming with whales, birds, and all kinds of plant life. From lush inland forests to towering seaside cliffs, it's 206 square kilometres (80 square miles) of wonder! Hike nearly

125 kilometres (78 miles) of incredible trails past hidden waterfalls, through deep river valleys and along awesome coastal vistas. Relax in a heated saltwater pool, take in a round of golf and learn the mysteries of the Bay at the interpretation centre. And stay the night in first-class camping facilities.



One of the wonders of the Acadian coast is Kouchibouguac National Park! Endless stretches of sand dunes, fragile grasslands, and incredibly warm water are the hallmarks of this park.

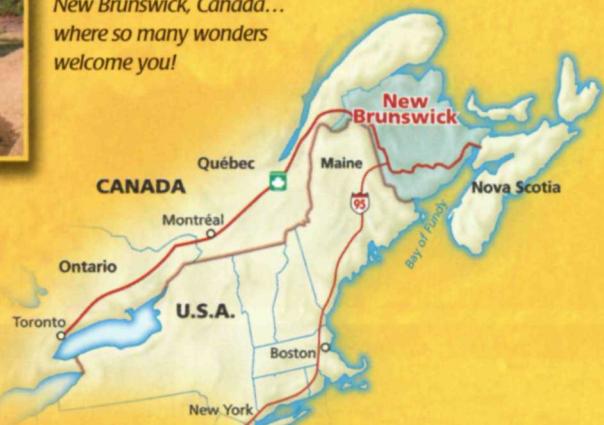
Kayak past a herd of seals sunning on a sandbar. Follow a series of boardwalks to some of the warmest salt water north of Virginia! The water is so warm that the lagoon here has been known to reach up to a high of 24°C (75°F)! Pristine forests, sprawling nesting grounds for hundreds of species of birds, and a near-perfectly preserved ecosystem...all part of the camping and exploration grounds of Kouchibouguac National Park.



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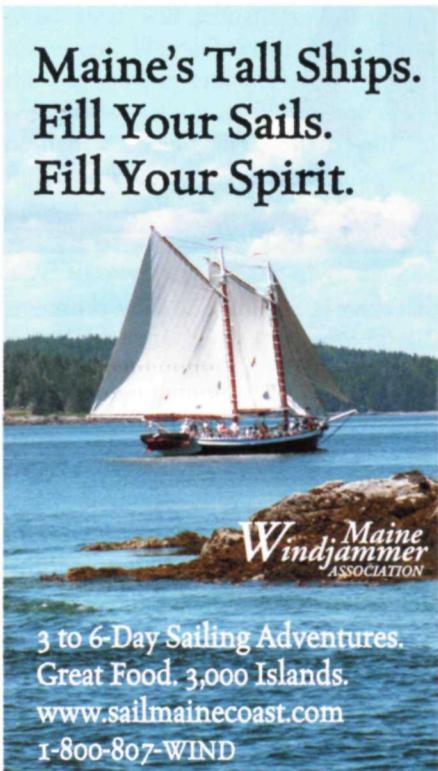
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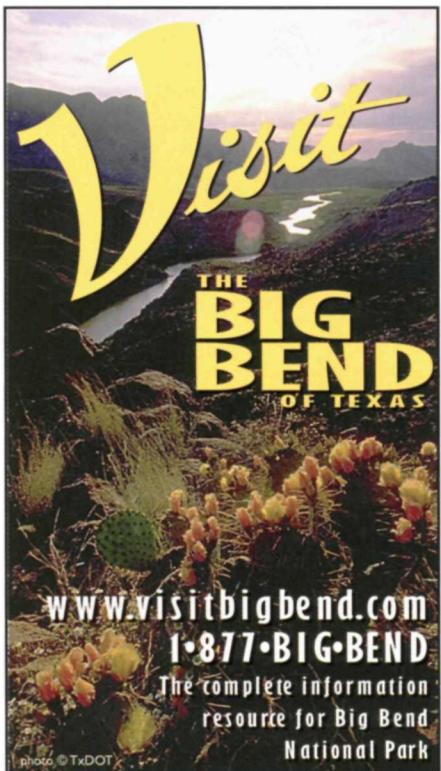


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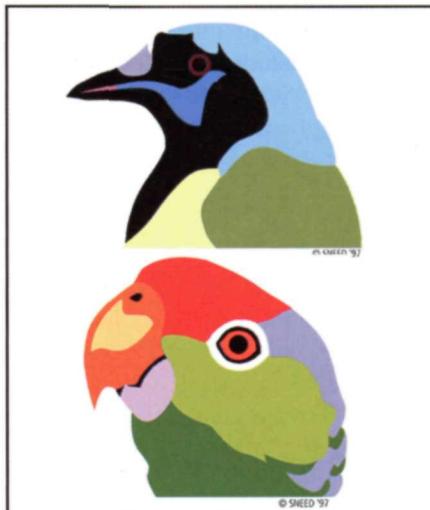
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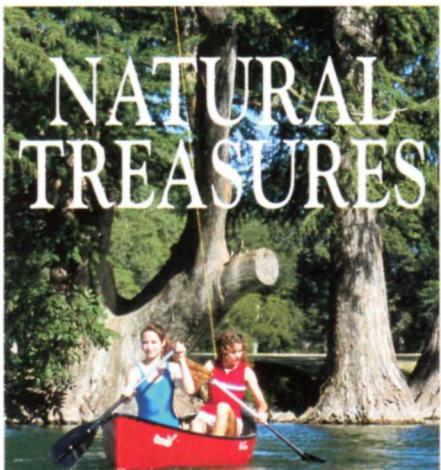
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Park News

BY ELIZABETH G. DAERR

ADJACENT LANDS

Dam Proposals Threaten Land in Big Thicket

Water authority considering rural reservoirs to sell water to cities.

BEAUMONT, TX.—Environmentalists and Texas water authorities have entered into a heated battle over two dam proposals that, if approved, could inundate parts of a wildlife management area, almost completely submerge a nearby state park, and possibly alter water flows through Big Thicket National Preserve. Though the proposals have yet to enter the first phase of the environmental review process, many local residents and conservation groups are gearing up to prevent what they believe is an unnecessary and destructive project that would flood thousands of acres of bottomland hardwood forests and disrupt an ecosystem across seven counties.

The proposed dam projects are part of a regional effort to supply water in the state, said Lower Neches Valley Authority (LNVA) engineer Scott Hall. "Texas routinely experiences droughts, and water planning is a forefront issue," he said. The agency is proposing the dams to the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB), and looking to the Neches River, 85 miles of which runs through Big Thicket, to boost state water supplies.

Enlarging the Town Bluff Dam, which creates Steinhagen Lake on the northern boundary of the preserve, and

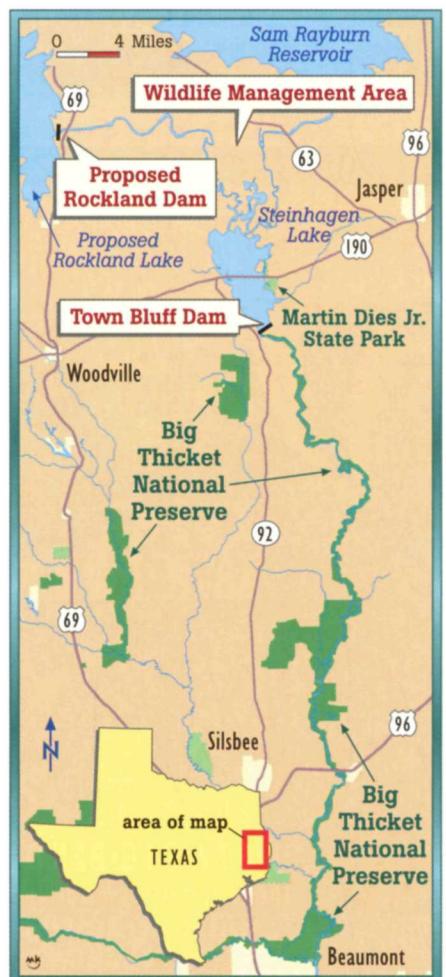
building Rockland Dam above Steinhagen are options that the agency is considering. The projects would enlarge Steinhagen Lake from 13,000 surface acres to 21,000 surface acres and create a 100,000-surface-acre reservoir at Rockland. Combined, they would inundate a 12,000-acre Texas Parks and Wildlife Management Area above the dam and submerge most of Martin Dies, Jr., State Park, a heavily used recreation site that complements the preserve. The impoundments could also increase daily mean water flow and decrease peak flows inside Big Thicket. These seasonal flows are essential to the health of the preserve's cypress, tupelo, magnolia, beech, and oak trees and the wildlife that depend on them.

"The trees can only take a certain level of inundation with flood and dry episodes; they can't live through extended periods of either," said Gary Calkins, a biologist with Texas Parks and Wildlife. Even if the dams were to be destroyed at a later date, the habitat is specialized and "regeneration of that habitat would be extremely slow," he said. "I imagine it would take several generations."

LNVA's Hall said that his agency has only begun looking into the projects and is surprised by the quick reaction of environmentalists. "It's too soon to say anything," Hall said. "We haven't even started the feasibility studies," the first step of environmental review. Even if the project is approved after the assessments are completed, he estimates it will be seven to ten years before the project is started.

But Chuck Hunt, a park biologist at Big Thicket said that the proposals have a fair chance of winning support because of strong business interests and believes

that there is ample cause to be proactive. Big Thicket is considered a biological crossroads of four ecosystems: the Southwest desert, the Central Plains, the Eastern forests, and the Southeastern swamps. The nine separate units of the preserve make up only a fraction of the total ecosystem that is home to bobcats, roadrunners, swallow-tail kites, marbled salamanders, and four of the country's five carnivorous plants.



MATT KANIA

The wildlife management area, the state park, and surrounding timber lands are all part of that web of life, Hunt said, and he fears that losing large portions of these areas will jeopardize the greater ecosystem. That concern is increased by the threat of several timber companies considering selling their land for development. "Logging has impacts on the forest, but it's a better alternative than suburbia," Calkins said.

In comments submitted to the TWDB over the proposed draft state water plan for 2002, park staff at Big Thicket urged the agency to "ensure that the plan fully assesses and mitigates impacts to the environment before the plan is implemented." The park offers the caution that, if not properly implemented from the start, the project could become "a future 'Everglades-type' situation where the federal government and the State of Florida are spending billions of dollars to undo the damage from poorly conceived water projects."

Big Thicket is not the first, or the last, national park unit to face the pressure of growing public water needs that might be satisfied by tapping these seemingly protected park resources. Conservationists say that LNVA is pursuing the project to profit by selling the water to communities in West Texas. According to a draft plan by the TWDB, the water needs of 20 counties in East Texas will be met until 2050 with only one new reservoir. That dam would be located farther north and would not directly affect the Big Thicket region.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Replanting to Aid Glacier's Grizzlies

Scientists plant whitebark pine to provide future bear food.

GLACIER N. P., MONT.—Grizzlies love seeds. And Glacier ecologist Tara Williams plans to produce enough seed-bearing trees to augment food supplies

for the region's grizzly bears for at least the next hundred years.

Williams and her crew have begun planting whitebark pine saplings in patches of recently burned subalpine forest in hopes of providing a sustainable food source for grizzlies. The intent is to keep the animals in the high country, away from human garbage cans and campsites where they seek food in lean years and are often destroyed as a result.

The whitebark pine's seeds are a favorite and valuable food source for the grizzlies, and the bears will feed exclusively on the fatty, high protein seeds from August to autumn if they are available, said Kate Kendall, a grizzly bear researcher for the U.S. Geological Survey. Unfortunately, the pine population has declined severely in the last several decades because of fire suppression and white pine blister rust, a fungus introduced in 1910 on a load of lumber from France.

The disease has killed nearly 45 percent of the whitebark pine trees in Glacier, and it's estimated that of the remaining trees, 85 percent are infected with the disease and unlikely to survive. Fire suppression has exacerbated the decline because the trees—which can live more than 1,000 years and grow so gradually as to be almost unnoticeable—need intense sunlight. Without fire to burn away large shrubs and trees, white-

bark pine saplings are shaded, and their seeds are robbed of the newly enriched soil needed to germinate.

Other species—squirrels and Clark's nutcrackers—play an integral role between grizzly bears and whitebark pine. Red squirrels cut the cones and drop the seeds to the ground, caching the cones in large middens that bears eagerly raid. Forgotten or unused nutcracker caches of up to 20 seeds can germinate into new trees.

Three years ago, researchers began collecting seeds by placing protective coverings on the tops of the trees and gathering them at a later time. They chose healthy trees in the midst of dying trees, hoping that the living trees had survived because of a natural resistance to the disease.

Of the 1,500 saplings that Williams planted last spring, nearly one-third were lost.

"We were grateful we didn't lose more during the severe drought conditions we had this summer, and it has made us think that it would be better to plant them in the fall."

When planted in autumn, the trees go into dormancy immediately and are spared risking the difficulties of surviving through drought conditions. The group planted an additional 1,500 this fall and will need to wait until next spring to see the results.



Rick Yates plants whitebark pine in a recently burned area of Glacier National Park overlooking Grinnell Glacier and Grinnell Lake.

NPS Trying to Buy Private Lands on Virgin Islands

Owners of a 400-acre estate may sell land to developers.

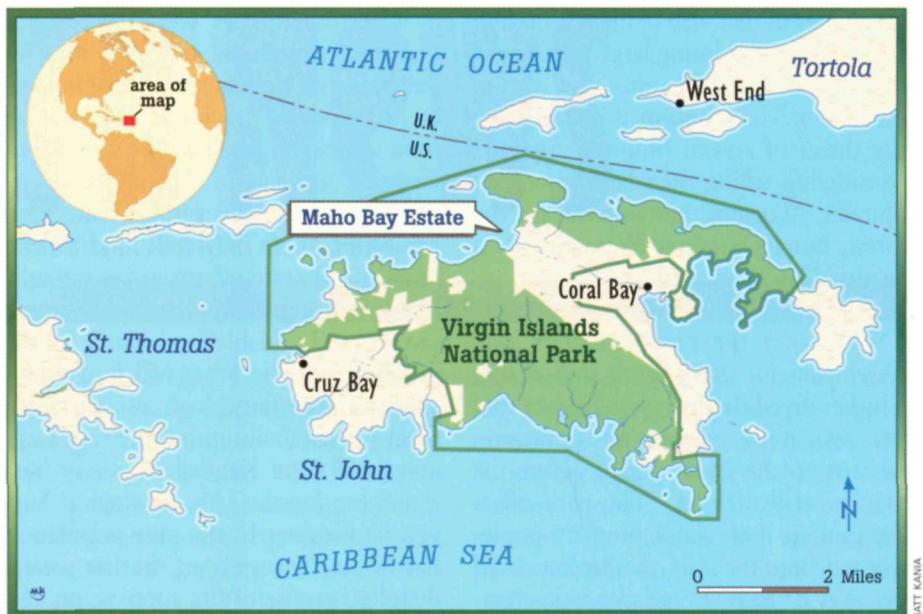
ST. JOHN, V.I.—The National Park Service (NPS) is scrambling to buy more than 400 acres that are under imminent threat of large-scale development inside Virgin Islands National Park. The property has been appraised by the Park Service to be worth between \$8 million to \$12 million.

The property, Maho Bay Estate, was inherited several years ago by 11 members of the Marsh Family and is relatively untouched. Three family members have already sold their shares to the Park Service, but the remaining land is split among eight others.

Currently, buying the property outright is unlikely. The federal government has given the Park Service only \$1.5 million to buy the land, and a private donor has offered \$4 million for the purchase, according to Deputy Superintendent Judy Shafer. NPS is working with the Trust for Public Land to seek alternatives, which might include land swaps of 12 NPS-owned parcels on the south side of the island or tax relief for the owners.

Assessments by the park resource management team report that development directly in the middle of the park will increase soil erosion, degrade water quality, and destroy habitat for migratory birds.

St. John includes important nesting sites for the threatened green turtle and endangered hawksbill turtle. Artificial light from development disorients baby sea turtles after they hatch; mistaking the lights for stars, they head inland instead of out to sea. Additionally, the estate's steep hillsides and valleys drain into Maho Bay, where sedimentation could damage coral reefs and seagrasses that



provide food and habitat for many marine creatures.

Beyond the degradation of the ecosystem and the loss of spectacular island scenery, there are also concerns about the potential damage to the area's cultural and archaeological resources.

The island has a rich history dating back to 710 B.C., when Indians migrating from South America first established residency. Around 300 A.D., the island supported a small community of Arawak Indians, and later, in 1694, Danish settlers arrived on the island, attracted by the opportunity to cultivate sugar cane.

Virgin Islands National Park protects several 18th century sugar and cotton plantation ruins, and those on the Maho Bay Estate are vitally important to preserving the island's history, said Doug Armstrong, a Syracuse University anthropology professor who has been

working with the Park Service for several years. Though deteriorating and covered in vegetation, remains of several small, neighboring plantations are visible on the estate and "provide a textbook setting to look at plantation systems," Armstrong said.

"In getting continuous estates, you don't have to piecemeal history. You have a congruent landscape of what the area historically looked like."

The loss of this property could have far-reaching effects, Shafer said.

"When you lose a huge chunk like this to development, right through the middle of the park, I wonder if we will still even qualify for national park status?" Shafer asked.

"It's as if you took 400 acres right out of the middle of Rocky Mountain National Park—it would have an enormous impact."

Majority of Americans Favor Snowmobile Ban

A comment period on the Interior Department's proposal to overturn the phase-out of snowmobiles in Yellowstone showed that 82 percent of respondents still support the original decision. Scientists from across the United States and Canada urged Interior Secretary Gale Norton to uphold the phase-out, saying that, "based on the scientific evidence, it is our professional opinion that snowmobiling results in significant direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts on wildlife, their behavior, and environment." They added that the recommendation was based on credible scientific evidence collected over ten years. Despite the comments, Norton plans to continue her review of the existing rule—at a cost of \$2.7 million.

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Idaho Farmers Receive Water from Teton Lake

Recreational activities suspended at drained Jackson Lake.

GRAND TETON N.P., WYO.—Late summer visitors to Grand Teton National Park may have been surprised to gaze across Jackson Lake “expecting to see a pristine, beautiful lake and saw a bathtub ring around a reservoir,” said Mike Bues, water operations manager for the Bureau of Reclamation. But the practice of taking water from this national park’s lake to irrigate farms in Idaho is not new—or even illegal.

This year’s draw from the lake, somewhat higher than normal because of recent drought conditions, caused Colter Bay Marina to close early and will most likely hinder winter activities on the lake, said Joan Anzelmo, park spokes-

woman. The lake was at its lowest legal limit, Bues said.

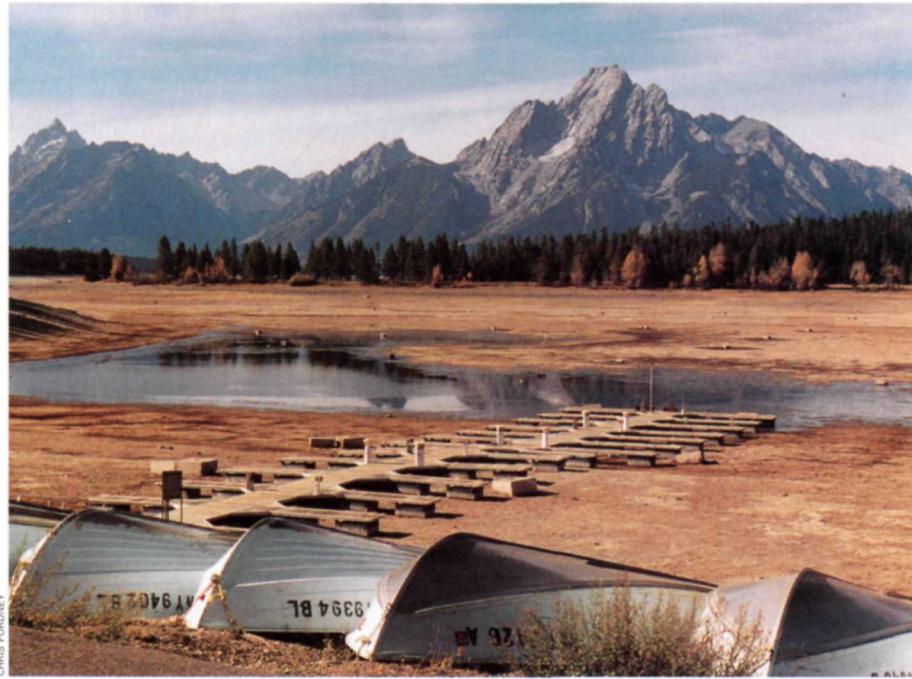
The National Park Service is also monitoring the effects on wildlife of lowering the lake, Anzelmo said, and is concerned that some cultural artifacts from the ranching and American Indian periods may be uncovered. The agency will not discuss where or what might be unearthed for fear of pilfering.

The situation at Jackson Lake arises from pre-existing water rights. The Bureau of Reclamation built Jackson Lake Dam in the early 1900s to channel water to local farms from the Snake River and increase the size of the natural Jackson Lake, which was smaller.

The park was not established until 1929 and maintaining those rights was integral to the creation of the park.

“This is a different kind of park, with existing uses already in place. We manage with those in mind,” Anzelmo said.

Grand Teton is just one of many parks with similar existing rights. The Park Service manages 483 dams, berms, and other impoundments within the system and monitors 260 others that affect park waters.



The Colter Bay Marina was closed late last summer because water was drained from Jackson Lake to irrigate farms in Idaho. The Bureau of Reclamation, not the Park Service, controls the water flow.

Americans Seek Solace in Parks After September 11

Initial drop in park visitation expected to rebound.

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The disbelief and brief suspension of daily life after the September 11 attacks on the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and in Pennsylvania reverberated to America’s national parks. Visitation dropped 6 percent compared with the same month last year, according to the Park Service. The greatest declines occurred in the National Capital area, dropping more than 19 percent, followed by the Northeast, which fell 10.2 percent.

Some of the declines in the Washington, D.C., and New York areas were caused by the immediate and indefinite closures of some park units, such as the Statue of Liberty and the White House, because of security.

Only the Midwest and Southeast regions reported minimal increases, 1.5 percent and .1 percent respectively. The National Park Service (NPS) noted that anecdotal information suggests that more local residents came to the parks as opposed to the average visitor who normally travels from a greater distance.

At Rocky Mountain National Park in Colorado, 14,000 additional people visited the park in September than over the same time last year—a 3 percent increase. Park Ranger Kathy Brown said some people she spoke with had come to the park as a result of the attacks.

“Some said they wanted to get a fix on reality, and others said they just wanted to have a fun, safe day with their family,” Brown said. “I think many were looking for a beautiful place to enjoy, and we fit the bill for that.”

Unseasonably warm fall weather was a draw as well, she added.

Parks that host a high percentage of

international travelers, such as Grand Canyon National Park, noticed an immense drop. The park recorded 50,000 fewer bus passengers, which are almost exclusively international travelers, and more than 125,000 fewer visitors in September, according to the agency. NPS does not expect to see a rise in international tourists while concerns about travel and safety persist.

Interior Secretary Gale Norton encouraged Americans to seek solace and enjoyment in the parks over the Veterans Day holiday weekend by waiving all entrance fees.

"It's tragedies like these [September 11] that make healing necessary," she said during a speech in Denver. "What better places to begin that healing process than in our parks, where Americans can draw strength from national icons of freedom and peace from splendors of nature. Federal Hall, though damaged [during the attacks], still stands as a beacon of hope and of American perseverance in adversity," she added.

Federal Hall in lower Manhattan was the site of the 1735 trial of John Peter Zenger over freedom of the press, where Washington took his oath as the first president of the United States, and where the Bill of Rights was adopted.

WILDLIFE

Denali Wolves Adopt New Alpha

The Toklat pack's alpha male killed during a research project.

DENALI, ALASKA—A wolf that was moved from its home range east of Fairbanks six months ago as part of a caribou recovery plan has joined the Toklat wolfpack in Denali National Park and Preserve. The wolf roamed nearly 200 miles to join the pack whose alpha male died in March after being darted for research.

The pack is the best known of Alaska's approximately 1,000 wolf packs, and an estimated 20,000 people catch a glimpse of the animals each year while visiting the park.

The transplanted male wolf was identified by park officials from an ear tag number. Lone wolves are sometimes adopted into a pack, especially in the absence of an alpha male. The wolf is one of two all-black wolves that joined the Toklat pack in May after being moved.

Wolf control has been a controversial wildlife management issue in Alaska for some time. Subsistence and recreational hunters have asked the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to shoot more wolves, arguing that the predators take too many moose, reducing the number available for hunters.

The Toklat pack has attracted attention in recent years because of efforts by animal rights and conservation organizations, including NPCA, to create a no-trapping, no-hunting buffer zone on state lands northeast of the park.

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J/F02

A New Marine Reserve Planned at Channel Islands

New no-take zones could help replenish fish stocks.

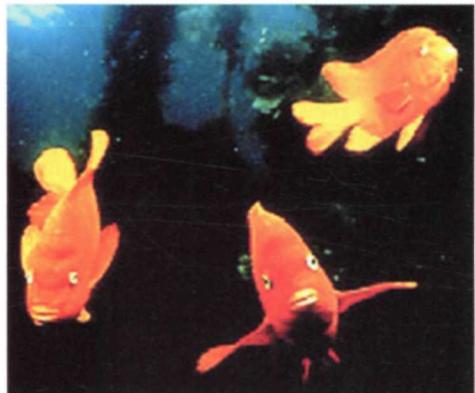
CHANNEL ISLANDS, CALIF.—The California Fish and Game Commission will decide in spring 2002 whether to implement a network of marine reserves, or no-take zones, within the Channel Islands Marine Sanctuary. The commission is considering five alternatives that range from 10 to 34 percent of the sanctuary, which extends for six miles surrounding the islands.

Conservationists say the reserves are needed to preserve the diverse ecosystem that is home to 26 species of marine mammals, more than 60 bird species, giant kelp forests, and innumerable fish

and invertebrates. Overfishing, habitat destruction, pollution, mismanagement, and global climate change have left pockets of the ocean almost bare of life, and high-tech equipment has allowed the fishing industry to catch more fish at greater depths.

Located 90 miles west of Los Angeles, Channel Islands is considered by some scientists to be the biological crossroads of the West Coast. Cold currents from Alaska meet the warm waters of Baja California, and the mix results in an uncommonly high level of biodiversity.

But with increasing pressure, many of those species cannot reproduce fast enough to replenish populations. White abalone have become so dispersed and rare that scientists fear they will be unable to find breeding partners. Marine mammals, such as sea otters, are disappearing because of limited prey, and purple sea urchins, usually eaten by sea otters, are overpopulating and destroying kelp beds.



The garibaldi is one of many species declining around Channel Islands.

A community-based Marine Reserves Working Group, made up of federal and state agencies including the Park Service, the fishing industry, recreational users, environmentalists, and other stakeholders has offered five alternatives for creating a network of reserves. Most differ by size and location, said Sean Hastings, a policy analyst with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The state and NOAA, which have overlapping jurisdictions, have developed a preferred alternative that would make 25 percent of the sanctuary a no-take zone.

Chris Miller, a local fisherman and part of the working group, said that it has taken time for many in the fishing industry to be open to the idea of marine reserves. "Most of the problem people had in accepting the reserve area is based on fear about how it will be implemented and if it will increase pressure on existing areas," he said. Some in the fishing industry, he said, are concerned that policy makers may think that creating reserves is the only answer to diminishing marine populations and will not pursue other strategies that may have less impact on the industry.

Take Action: To support the preferred alternative, write to Mike Chrisman, California Fish and Game Commission, 1416 Ninth St. Sacramento, CA 95814. To help NPCA track member activism, please send a copy of your letter to: *National Parks* magazine, 1300 19th St. NW Suite 300, Washington, DC, 20036.



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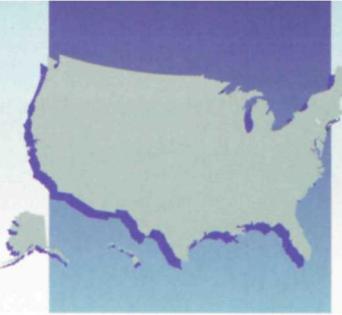


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REGIONAL REPORT

ON NPCA'S WORK IN THE PARKS

Text by Elizabeth G. Daerr

MID-ATLANTIC

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) blocked the state of West Virginia from issuing a permit to developers who wanted to dump treated sewage from a proposed 188-unit subdivision into the Shenandoah River. The tract, Murphy's Landing, is upstream of Harpers Ferry National Historical Park and is part of the historical range of the site. EPA said that the state Department of Environmental Protection had not shown that the permit meets the terms of West Virginia's stream anti-degradation law. Murphy farm has national significance because of its Civil War and civil rights history. The EPA has initiated a formal review of the historical significance of Murphy farm.

NORTHERN ROCKIES

A decade after authorizing a memorial to American Indians who fought at the Battle at Little Bighorn, Congress has appropriated \$2.3 million to have it built. The money was included in the Interior funding bill that at press time awaited President Bush's signature. The memorial will commemorate Lakota, Cheyenne, and Arapaho Indians who fought during the 1876 battle in southeast Montana where Lt. Col. George Custer staged a surprise attack.

His cavalry was overwhelmed by nearly 2,500 Indians, and all 263 soldiers were killed. Until now, very little interpretation has been focused on the American Indians at Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument.

PACIFIC

A federal judge dismissed a lawsuit filed by timber and off-road vehicle interests that challenged President Clinton's authority under the Antiquities Act to establish Giant Sequoia National Monument in California. The monument preserves more than 327,000 acres of forest ecosystem and some of the last unprotected giant sequoia groves in the Sierra Nevada.

"As our judge recognized, the Antiquities Act has been challenged six times, and courts have upheld its use each time," said Earthjustice attorney Michael Sherwood, who fought the challenge. A subsequent lawsuit on the president's use of the Antiquities Act was also upheld.

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MTMAGJF02

Reviving the Everglades

Widely viewed as useless swamp 50 years ago, the Everglades are now the focus of the largest ecosystem restoration effort ever. The system provides habitat for thousands of creatures as well as water to three national parks.

Phyllis McIntosh is a writer living in Maryland. She last wrote for *National Parks* about the Civilian Conservation Corps.



Anhingas at Shark River.

BY PHYLLIS MCINTOSH

To photographer Clyde Butcher, Florida's Everglades are "a creeping, crawling, spiritual system," a place where "you can feel the throbbing of the life forces." But over the past 50 years, those life forces have diminished at an alarming rate. Populations of wading birds such as wood storks and white ibis have plummeted by at least 90 percent. Sixty-eight plant and animal species are threatened or endangered. Each day 1.7 billion gallons of precious fresh water escape into the ocean. Invasive exotic trees infest more than 1.5 million acres of drained land in dense thickets impenetrable to wildlife. And without the natural filtering action of wetlands, chemicals from farms and sugar plantations to the north contaminate water quality, foster rampant growth of cattails that choke out grasses where wildlife lives, and destroy

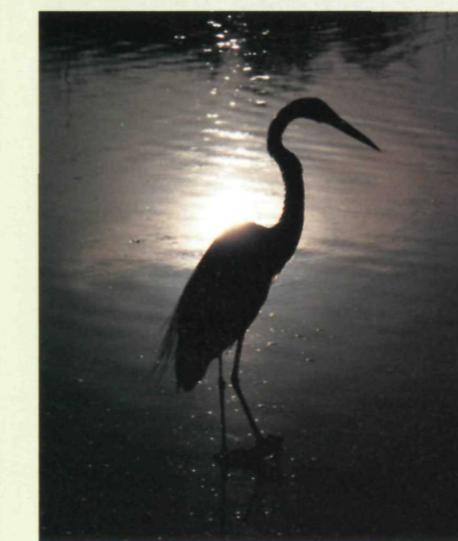


Spider lilies at Shark River.

algae on which fish and other aquatic species feed.

This widespread devastation is the consequence of decades of human construction, launched in a misguided attempt to clear the Everglades for development that has redirected 70 percent of the water that once nourished the system. Finally, however, a plan has been adopted to halt the damage and restore the Everglades in what is described as the largest ecosystem restoration effort ever undertaken. What remains to be seen is whether the plan will be satisfactorily implemented.

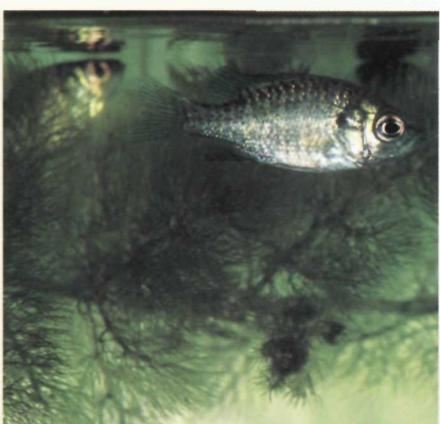
The problem started more than a century ago when the Everglades were



Great egret at Mrazek Pond.

widely viewed as useless swamps ripe for development if only destructive flooding could be tamed. In 1948, just a year after Everglades National Park was established to protect 1.5 million acres of an 8-million-acre ecosystem, Congress authorized the Central and Southern Florida Project to provide flood protection and fresh water to South Florida's expanding human population as well as for agricultural needs.

Over the next several decades, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers constructed 1,000 miles of canals, 720 miles of levees, and 200 floodgates and other water-control structures. These structures resulted in the virtual removal of



Juvenile sunfish in fresh water.

CONNIE TOOPS

By the late 1980s and 1990s, politicians and the public alike began to realize that all this human tinkering was a colossal mistake.

the slow, sheet-like flow of shallow water over millions of acres of wetlands—a system that had previously stored rainfall naturally, regulated freshwater flow into coastal estuaries, and provided habitat for a rich abundance of wildlife.

By the late 1980s and 1990s, politicians and the public alike began to realize that all this human tinkering was a colossal mistake. A massive seven-year "restudy" of the undoing of the Everglades culminated in late 2000 with congressional approval of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP). This \$7.8 billion plan consists of 68 components to be completed over 30-plus years under an unprecedented federal-state partnership between the Army Corps of Engineers and the South Florida Water Management District, with important roles by other federal and state agencies. Although the CERP is intended to provide continued flood control and drinking water supply for



Saw-palmetto, slash pines, and mangroves thrive in the wetlands of the Everglades in South Florida and provide habitat for countless species. Development threatens their health with pollution originating outside the park.

South Florida residents, the legislation makes it clear that restoration of the Everglades is the top priority.

The idea, in a nutshell, is to put the right amount of water in the right place at the right time. To do this, three main efforts are involved: more than 240 miles of levees and canals that now block natural water flow will be removed; water currently being lost to the ocean will be captured and stored in surface reservoirs or underground wells until needed; and urban and agricultural waste water will be cleansed by special treatment plants or by filtration through portions of the 35,000 acres of newly created wetlands.

These improvements should bring new vitality not only to Everglades National Park but to two other national parks in the region: Big Cypress National Preserve, immediately to the northwest, and Biscayne National Park, a mostly marine park off the Atlantic coast south of Miami. "We are finally looking at erasing park boundaries and reintroducing



the parks to their surrounding ecosystem," says Shannon Estenoz, director of the Everglades' program for the World Wildlife Fund.

To establish new connections, the Army Corps of Engineers will, among other things, remove a levee that now prevents free exchange of water between Everglades and Big Cypress and raise or breach a critical section of U.S. 41, the Tamiami Trail. (See sidebar, page 34.) Restoring wetlands and diverting or eliminating some canals should also deliver a cleaner and better-regulated flow of water to Biscayne National Park. Especially in the aftermath of storms, Biscayne Bay now receives surges of fresh water, often contaminated by runoff from the west, that alters salinity and water quality in offshore coral reefs and in the near-shore mangrove forests that shelter young fish and shellfish.

Even though the plan is massive, the reality is that the Everglades will see the benefits from the CERP emerge slowly over many years. Congress has authorized only six pilot projects, designed to test some of the new technology, and ten initial restoration projects. Actual con-

struction, even on the pilot projects, is not slated to start until 2003 or 2004—and the other ten projects, not for a year or two after that, according to Stuart Appelbaum, who directed the Everglades Restudy for the Corps of Engineers and is now chief of the Corps' Ecosystem Restoration Branch. "We expect most or all of the initial ten will be done by the end of the decade," he says. "We should then have the ability to save much of the water now lost to tide and see the beginnings of better connections between upstream areas and Everglades National Park."

The first step, however, is to complete a cumbersome planning process. Officials must develop specific project plans, as well as an analysis of the environmental impact, while providing ample opportunity for public comment and input from agricultural, environmental, tribal, and other interests along the way. By the end of 2002, the Corps also must come up with specific ground rules to ensure that the environmental restoration gets top billing and that water made available to sustain the ecosystem will never be taken away to



BRIAN KELLEY

The Everglades' populations of wading birds, such as the wood stork, above, have dropped by at least 90 percent since 1950.



FRED HIRSCHMANN

Human construction, meant to clear the Everglades for development, has redirected 70 percent of the water that once nourished the now-fragile ecosystem.



STEVE MULLIGAN



MARK ALLEN STACK/TOM STACK & ASSOC.

*An irrigation canal bordering
Everglades National Park
disrupts water flow.*

support development in South Florida. Experts agree that these guidelines will be an important litmus test for the future of the entire plan.

Two requirements are "absolutely essential" for the CERP to succeed, says Ron Tipton, NPCA's senior vice president for programs, who directed the World Wildlife Fund's Everglades campaign from 1994 to 1999.

The first, he says, is "an incredible level of federal-state cooperation, unprecedented in scope and magnitude." Second is "continued bipartisan political support between succeeding administrations and Congresses sufficient to guarantee the necessary political support over the next 25 to 30 years." Such bipartisan support will be needed because, despite congressional blessing for restoration in the CERP legislation, the Corps will still have to go back to lawmakers every two years for authorization of additional projects and every year for the money to implement them.

Understandably, there are varying perspectives on the prospects for this project. Some Everglades residents like Clyde Butcher, who's been photographing the area for 18 years, are convinced the plan is more about providing water to the greater Miami area than about restoring the ecosystem. Even some park officials are wary. At Biscayne, scientists worry

that the park, now often inundated with too much fresh water, may be short-changed under the new plan and that fancy technology may not adequately protect water quality.

But Bob Johnson, research director at the National Park Service's South Florida Natural Resources Center, is "optimistic." He predicts that at least 20 of the 68 threatened or endangered species will benefit substantially from the CERP. "It will start with the fisheries," he says, "because as we put more water in the marshes, the deep water sloughs should remain wet for seven to ten years at a time, as they did historically, and fish and invertebrates can restock. That will mean more food for wading birds."

Johnson concedes that certain species like the Florida panther that need wide ranges and depend on terrestrial habitat won't do a lot better, because most of the uplands have been developed.

Further, it will be impossible, he says,

to "go back to the super colonies with tens or hundreds of thousands of birds, because too much habitat around Everglades National Park has been lost." Still, he is especially optimistic about seeing "a big boost in the wading birds that people historically identify with the Everglades."

Scientists also hope that, as some areas are rehydrated, invasive trees such as the Australian melaleuca and Brazilian pepper will die out and be replaced by grass prairies, the preferred habitat of the critically endangered Cape Sable seaside sparrow.

"We're clearly not going to put the Everglades back to where they were 100 years ago, because half of the ecosystem has been lost forever," says the Corps' Stuart Appelbaum. "What we do expect to do is restore natural functioning in the 50 percent we have left and recover the essential characteristics that make the Everglades unique."

Blazing the Tamiami Trail

Perhaps the most visible—and many say the most symbolic—piece of the restoration puzzle is an 11-mile section of the Tamiami Trail that forms the northern border of Everglades National Park and acts as a giant dam, choking off the park's main source of water from the north. Both a previous proposal and one of the ten initial projects under the CERP propose to deal with this problem—at the least by constructing a 3,000-foot bridge over one portion and raising the roadbed and installing culverts in the rest.

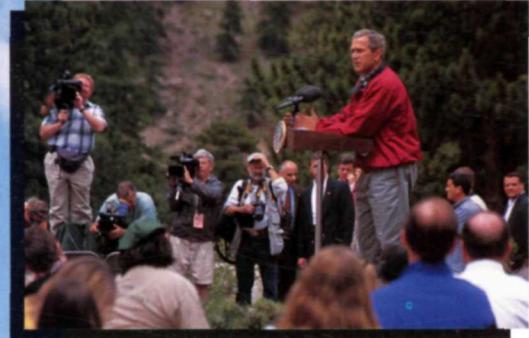
But NPCA and other environmental groups are pressing for action to accelerate and combine the projects into one massive effort to elevate the entire 11 miles as a causeway, which would require additional authorization and funding from Congress or elsewhere. This, they say, would restore virtually all of the natural sheet flow and in effect bring back the river to the "river of grass," in author and noted Everglades advocate Marjory Stoneman Douglas' memorable phrase. Such a significant effort, declares NPCA's Ron Tipton, senior vice president for programs, "would immediately affect both permanent and seasonal wetlands, immediately impact some of the best wading bird habitat in the system, and immediately provide much better ecological conditions for a huge chunk of the park."

Mary Munson, NPCA's director of South Florida and marine programs, agrees. "A lot of people see this huge, visible project, so important to the park, as a test for the entire restoration effort," she says. "If they do this right, they just might get the whole thing right."



Climate

Change



KENT DAWINER, FAR LEFT; BRUCE PARKER/DON STACK & ASSOC.

Last spring, President Bush was extensively criticized for his environmental and energy policies, but in the aftermath of the tragic events of September 11, conservationists fear environmental issues will suffer and park funding might become expendable.

BY TODD WILKINSON

When President Bush took office last year, Rep. Jim Hansen (R-Utah) greeted him with an eight-page memo. It outlined an agenda to "correct the misguided direction" of the Clinton administration "in their attempt to manage natural resources."

At the top of Hansen's priority list was halting the phase-out of snowmobiles from Yellowstone National Park; redraw-



ing the boundaries of national monuments to accommodate energy developers; and overturning restrictions on personal watercraft and air tour overflights.

Initially, it appeared that the Bush administration was in complete agreement with Hansen's agenda. Soon after Interior Secretary Gale Norton took office, she issued a temporary halt to the phase-out of snowmobiles at Yellowstone to allow time for more review, even though a multi-year review process had already generated thousands of comments, more than 80 percent of them in favor of the Clinton administration's phase-out decision. Prohibitions against personal watercraft use at parks and the use of all-terrain vehicles at Big Cypress National Preserve also came under review.

Some of the administration's actions went beyond the Hansen memo. The president issued an energy policy that considered weakening the Clean Air Act; Norton pushed to open up the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil drilling, despite evidence supplied by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service stipulating that it would harm the caribou population; and the secretary called for a moratorium on new parks even though the law stipulates new sites must be studied.

This past spring, Bush's environmental policies were costing him political support among crucial groups of voters. While the president pledged \$5 billion to eliminate the maintenance backlog in the national parks, his first year's budget did not follow through on this promise, and his policies on global warming, air quality, endangered species management, and motorized use in the parks have drawn criticism.

The pledge for additional park system money was one of the few pro-environmental issues the president was promoting. Even though a majority of the money would go toward construction and not science or wildlife, the announcement was something environ-

mentalists could hold out hope for.

But on September 11, 2001, everything changed. The tragic events in New York City, Arlington, Virginia, and Pennsylvania and the specter of another federal budget deficit growing out of new anti-terrorism programs and economic relief packages changed both the political and fiscal climates.

Conservationists feared that at best, environmental issues would take a back seat or at worst, environmentally harmful legislation might sail through Con-

parks," says former Yellowstone superintendent Michael Finley, who recently retired after 30 years with the Park Service. "In concert with members of Congress from some of the western states, the Bush administration has adopted a public lands policy that so far is nothing but smoke and mirrors where environmental protection is concerned."

And one of the more pivotal issues for parks is funding. The National Parks Business Plan Initiative, a pioneering study by NPCA and the National Park

Service, has revealed over the past four years just how deeply the decades of funding shortfalls have eroded the agency's capacity to protect parks. Fortunately, the initiative has also identified a series of management changes and creative strategies that would secure additional park funding from companies and individuals.

The funding shortfall in scientific research is of particular consequence for natural resource protection. According to Mark Peterson, director of NPCA's State of the Parks program, the lack of an ongoing commitment to research and science undermines the National Park Service's ability to comply with its own Organic Act, which mandates protection of wildlife, plants, and historic artifacts. It also forces managers to make key decisions without understanding all of the consequences.

In fact, the agency admits that not a single park has a complete inventory of all its plants, animals, and historic artifacts. As a result, the Park Service has been unable to control exotic, invasive species on 93 percent of its lands, which has dire implications for native flora and fauna; 63 percent of threatened and endangered species populations in parks are expected to decline over the next five years; and 67 percent of parks' cultural artifacts are estimated to be in poor condition.

"We have an administration that still professes its desire to do good by national parks, but they have not yet recom-

New Environmental Policy Shift



DOUGLAS MACGREGOR

gress without much fanfare or opposition. In addition, given the tremendous military, security, and health costs associated with September 11 and subsequent events, conservationists began to fear that the administration might look upon park funding as expendable.

Even though Bush was taking it on the chin for his environmental and energy policies last spring, groups are far more cautious in picking fights with him now that his approval rating is high.

Even so, work remains to be done.

"I believe we are at a pivotal juncture with respect to management of national



mended significant increases in funding," says Ron Tipton, NPCA's senior vice president for programs. "The \$91 million increase in the fiscal year 2002 Park Service budget resulted largely from congressional initiatives."

Yet beyond specific funding issues, challenges to the parks arise out of the Bush administration's lack of commitment to environmental protection. Back-pedaling on the snowmobile ban provides just one example. The administration has also sent signals it may retreat from regulations on personal watercraft in park waterways.

"In effect," says Finley, "the president, through Interior Secretary Gale Norton, is reversing hard-fought gains that have been won for park protection, and she's doing it under the guise of 'local control.' The problem is that this administration says it believes in the wisdom of local citizens, yet when locals rise up and reject activities that are being promoted at the expense of park resources [such as with snowmobiles], they [the president's advisors] turn around and say local control isn't good."

But the Bush administration's approach is not the only political challenge facing the parks. The congressional delegation of Alaska is in a league of its own when it comes to attempting to decide how individual parks are managed. Until Vermont Sen. James Jeffords left the Republican Party to become an Independent, shifting control of the Senate to the Democrats, the Alaska congressional delegation controlled three of the four committees in Congress most crucial to national parks.

Together, Rep. Don Young, who still

oversees the House Resources Committee, Sen. Frank Murkowski, and Sen. Ted Stevens hatched a flurry of bills and riders that attempted to mandate taxpayer-supported construction of a road and hotel complex in Denali National Park; grant off-road vehicles rights of way in several parks; and authorize use of helicopters and other motorized vehicles

number of cruise ships in Glacier Bay.

"The Stevens amendment sacrifices park resources and endangered species in favor of an industry that has demonstrated repeated environmental insensitivity and disregard of U.S. pollution laws," said Kevin Collins, NPCA's director of government affairs. The court ruled that the number of cruise ships could not be increased until an environmental impact statement (EIS) was done. Stevens' rider allows the number of ships to increase immediately, insists on a two-year wait before an EIS is done, and provides no funding to do the study.

In his eight years as president, Bill Clinton vetoed more than 70 such anti-environmental riders attached to general spending bills. In 2002, when similar riders are attached to spending bills that reach the desk of President Bush, the outcome may be very different.

Former National Park Service director Roger Kennedy says that short-changing the park system will be a costly mistake for the president and his allies in Congress. He points to Jeffords' leaving the Republican Party as proof that moderate politicians, who represent the majority of voters, consider the administration's pro-business, anti-environmental agenda out of step with

mainstream America. Public opinion polls agree, as does Deb Callahan, president of the League of Conservation Voters.

"Where once President Bush saw smooth sailing for his anti-environmental agenda," she says, "he now faces a strong headwind from the Senate Democratic Leadership, which he must navigate with regard for the many mem-



in some park wilderness areas.

The tool of choice for getting anti-environmental legislation through Congress is the rider, a provision that is frequently attached to key funding bills and often difficult to detect. Stevens, for example, attached a rider to the 2002 Interior Appropriations bill that overturns the opinion of a federal court judge who upheld a reduction in the



FUNDING THE PARKS

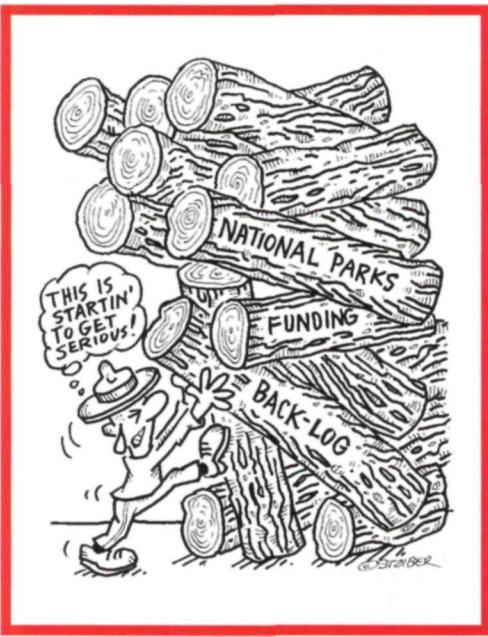
Building a sustainable financial future for the National Park System is fundamental to preserving and protecting the 385 sites.

For more than two decades, national parks have not received the support they deserve, creating a nearly \$5 billion backlog that has delayed natural and cultural resource protection projects, stalled restoration and infrastructure repair programs, and put on hold efforts to update and improve interpretive exhibits.

NPCA has launched the Americans for National Parks Campaign, a coalition that is calling on Congress and the administration to address the diverse needs of the National Park System.

The campaign seeks to secure full funding for the park system within the next five years and aims to educate the public and key decision makers about the importance of allocating at least half of new money to support park conservation, resource protection, and visitor interpretation—including \$600 million of annual, recurring needs.

One of the campaign's strengths comes from research gleaned from more than four years of the Business Plan Initiative (BPI), a pioneering study by NPCA and the National Park Service that revealed just how deeply the decades of funding shortfalls have eroded the agency's capacity to protect parks. NPCA's analysis of the collected results has shown that, on average, each participating national park receives 32 percent less funding than the amount needed. BPI is also identifying ways of improving management efficiencies in the park and of garnering financial support from sources other than Congress. For more information on how you can help, go to www.americansfornationalparks.org.



bers of both parties who stand for strong environmental protection."

Further, Kennedy suggests, preserving the integrity of national parks is a patriotic issue in the eyes of citizens, who revere places like Yellowstone and Gettysburg as cultural icons. Recently, the proposed freeze on creation of new parks was rejected by Virginia's Republican senators, John Warner and George Allen, who are behind the campaign to protect the Cedar Creek Civil War battlefield and other sites in the Shenandoah Valley against sprawl. Their efforts to create a new national historic battlefield in the valley enjoy support from adjacent landowners, history buffs, and business officials.

Year after year, Kennedy says, the Park Service consistently ranks among the federal agencies held in highest esteem by citizens. Politicians who place the economic interests of a few ahead of national support for the parks risk alienating constituents at the voting booth. "There's nothing more American," he emphasizes, "than to support America's national parks."

TODD WILKINSON lives in Bozeman, Montana, and is a regular contributor to *National Parks*.





Looking Homeward

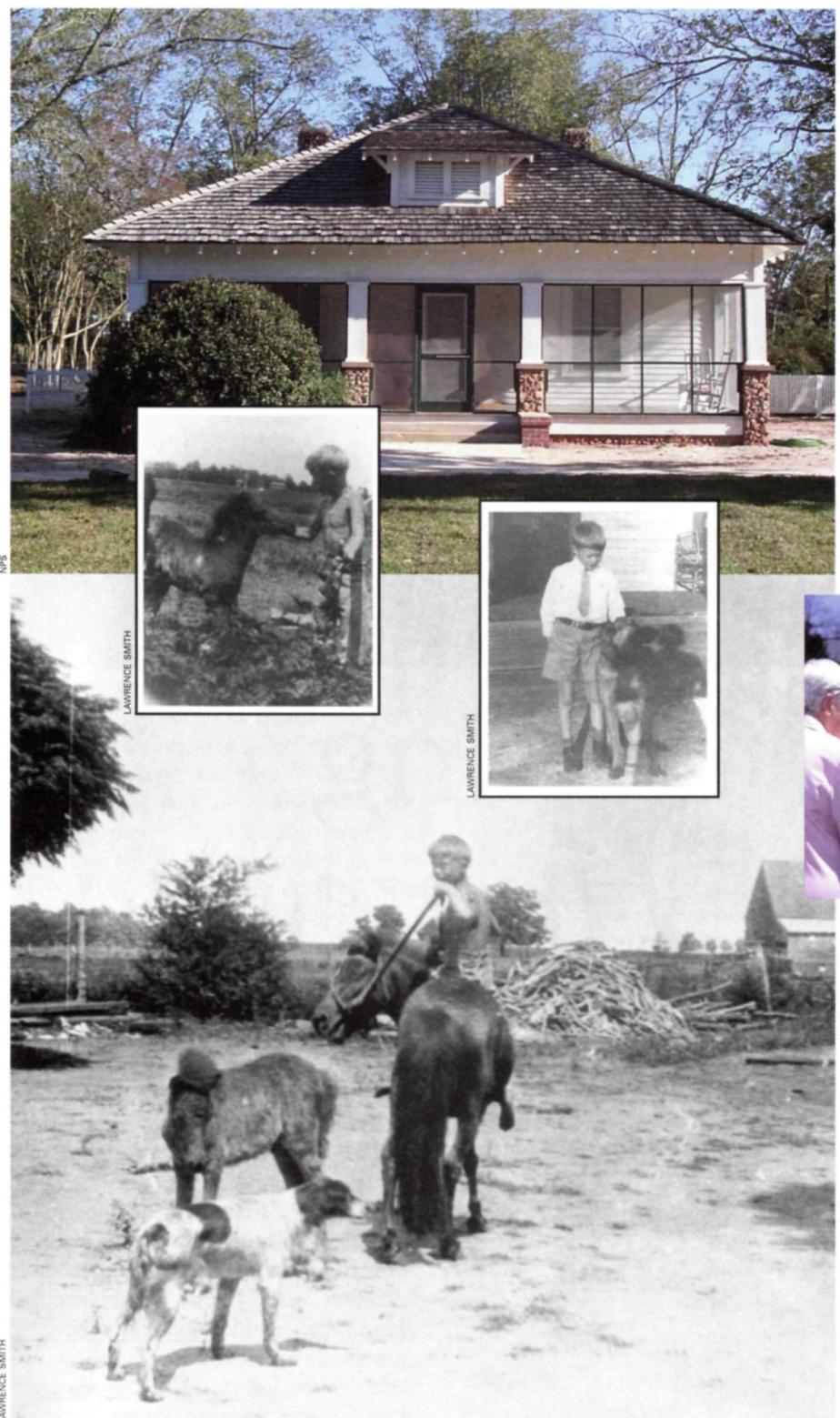
In addition to their national significance, some national park units face the challenge of telling very personal family stories.

BY KIM A. O'CONNELL

Two years ago, the National Park Service was busy developing and rehabilitating the working farm that was a part of President Jimmy Carter's boyhood home. The farm was to be a valuable addition to the Jimmy Carter National Historic Site, which showcases the 39th president's early years on a farm just outside Plains, Georgia. To this end, the Park Service had painstakingly employed

Annie Mae Hollis with Carter children.

Park Service employees at the Jimmy Carter National Historic Site describe the former president's childhood memories and his availability as unique resources.



archaeology, computer technology, and aerial photography to reconstruct a blacksmith's shop on the site. But when the president came to inspect the handiwork, he said he was positive the shop's location was off by about 20 feet. At first, National Park Service (NPS) staff and the contracted landscape architect found themselves in the difficult position of arguing with the president's memory. When the landscape architect double-checked, however, he found an error in the computer calculations. Sure enough, the president was right.

Memory is, of course, a powerful thing. At the Carter home, the Park Service has the rare opportunity to capitalize on the president's availability to contribute to the ongoing story the park is trying to tell. "I asked my contemporary at the Lincoln boyhood home, 'What would you do if you could have one hour with Lincoln?'" recalls Fred Boyles, superintendent of the Jimmy Carter site. "Well, the park staff would go nuts. We have that opportunity."

Although the Carter home is a particularly prominent example, several national park units have strong ties to certain families—aside from their national significance. Some families have connections to a site that predate the Park Service's presence there; for others, the park honors a family member of the past, often drawing families back for reunions. Although these family connections sometimes pose logistical, interpretive, and conservation-related challenges, they also immeasurably enrich the agency's knowledge as well as the visitor experience.

At the Jimmy Carter site, this is especially true. In addition to his reputation as a humanitarian and peacemaker, Carter is known as one of the nation's most hands-on public figures. Carter helped to raise private monies to turn the old Plains high school into the park visitor center. In 1999, the site hosted a



Carter and guests at his boyhood farm.

large Carter family reunion, and the president regularly greets visiting delegations from around the world. President Carter often surprises visitors by dropping in and regularly teaches Sunday School at Maranatha Baptist Church, which attracts hundreds of visitors weekly. He often will visit the park sites, and when he does, talks with visitors and poses for pictures. Carter and his wife, Rosalynn, built their current home in 1961-62 and have lived there since. The Park Service owns the home, but the Carters have a life-estate agreement with the government.

The park has made a point to record audio messages from the president for interpretive displays around the site, as well as gather oral histories from him and members of his family.

"Anytime we have an opportunity to meet with him, we put it on videotape," says park ranger Sarah Robinson. Only occasionally does park staff have to remind the president of NPS policies and limitations on each site imposed by the slow process of working through the agency's project backlog.

Government intervention is a delicate issue at another park—Nicodemus National Historic Site in north-central Kansas. A national park unit since 1998, Nicodemus is the sole remaining western town established by African Americans during the Reconstruction period after the Civil War. Every year since 1878, Nicodemus has hosted settlers and their descendants for an Emancipation Celebration, "Homecoming," held the last weekend in July.

Here, NPS is dealing with complex issues uncommon to most parks. The agency is working to complete a General



The Clark House on the Carter site.

Management Plan (expected by 2003), which must be uniquely crafted to accommodate the concerns of residents and descendants. Finding effective ways to communicate and gather input from "nonresident descendants" is challenging, according to Angela Bates-Tompkins, founder of the Nicodemus Historical Society. The respective duties of NPS, the Township Board, the Historical Society, and other communi-

ty entities—and how these groups will work together—are the focus of ongoing discussions, Bates-Tompkins says. The Historical Society, for example, has spent years establishing archival materials that would assist in telling the story. But issues of who will do the interpretation and how interpretation will be developed must be delicately defined.

In addition, because the park's enabling legislation prohibits NPS from

Although family connections sometimes pose logistical, interpretive, and conservation-related challenges for the Park Service, they immeasurably enrich the agency's knowledge, as well as visitor experience.



Historic schoolhouse at Nicodemus National Historic Site, Kansas.

owning or buying land or buildings on the town site, the park's five historic structures are privately owned—and all in major disrepair. The town has no suitable buildings to lease as a visitor center, so the park is temporarily using Township Hall, one of the historic structures, until a suitable solution is found.

However, for special events such as the Homecoming, NPS suspends its lease and removes property to accommodate these activities. During such events, the Park Service provides technical and logistical support, while working to better its relationship with the community. For example, Reginald Murray, an African-American park ranger, has developed a Junior Ranger program. During Homecoming, hundreds of young descendants can be seen wearing their badges proudly.

"You're dealing with a living entity; you're not dealing with a dead president's home," says Bates-Tompkins, author of a forthcoming book on Nicodemus called *It Took an Act of Congress*. "This is a great opportunity for NPS to showcase an example of what they can do if they take up the challenge of interpreting African-American experiences in the national parks."

Another site where this challenge exists is at Booker T. Washington National Monument in Hardy, Virginia. On this 207-acre tobacco farm, Washington, founder of the Tuskegee Institute, was born a slave in 1856. In June 2000, at the Park Service's invitation, Washington's family and descendants gathered at the monument for a family reunion. The visiting public was welcome to participate in many events, some of which included emotional discourses about slavery, specifically Washington's experiences as an enslaved child and his subsequent emancipation.

But the reunion, ultimately, became an opportunity for healing. Because the tobacco farm was owned and operated by James and Elizabeth Burroughs and has meaning for that family as well, reunion organizers invited Burroughs descendants to attend. "There's some sensitivity there—one side of the family was slave-owner and the other side was

slave," says Tina Orcutt, chief ranger and acting superintendent. The park has received genealogical information from both families, she says, which has contributed to a fuller understanding of the site's history. The only potential problem with the reunion, she adds, was access—

ensuring that the 105 attendees could get to the sites that were important to them without damaging the resource.

Access is one of most difficult challenges the Park Service faces when accommodating families. Prince William Forest Park in Triangle, Vir-



NPS

The Booker T. Washington National Monument was the site of a recent reunion of his descendants, at which Washington's slave history was discussed. Descendants experienced a healing effect.



TOM TILL

ginia, for example, contains about 40 family cemeteries that predate the park, which was created as a New Deal-era Recreation Demonstration Area in the 1930s. Many residents were displaced at that time. Today, the park facilitates access to these cemeteries by families and descendants with the use of tractor-type vehicles that can travel on park trails.

Still, some resentment remains, according to an oral history project for Prince William Forest undertaken by two Howard University graduate students in 2000. Among other things, the study found that families resented having to pay an entrance fee to visit what was once their own home and property. Attitudes toward NPS ranged from hostility and anger to ambiguity and lack of interest—something the park staff wants to address. “We owe these people a great amount of respect, both the living people and those who have passed on,” says Assistant Superintendent Kate Richardson. “We have a duty, as we can, to permit and assist with access to these areas.”

Perhaps the most notorious examples of family disenfranchisement can be found in the Appalachian Mountains—home to Shenandoah National Park in Virginia and Great Smoky Mountains National Park in Tennessee and North Carolina. In Shenandoah National Park,

the agency is working to mend relationships with families forced out when the park was created, recently revamping its introductory film to better reflect local families. “The history of Shenandoah is particularly complex,” says Joy Oakes, NPCA’s Mid-Atlantic regional director. “The park is working to acknowledge this history. The Park Service has a tremendous capacity to educate Americans about our history, and part of teaching history is telling the tough stories.”

At Great Smoky Mountains, staff also makes efforts to commemorate local families with historic ties to the park. Nearly 6,000 people were displaced when the park was created in the 1930s, and many descendants populate the surrounding towns. Through Old Timers’ Days and Decoration Days, families are invited to participate in reunions and to visit the cemeteries that remain in the

*Nicodemus park ranger
Reginald Murray developed a
Junior Ranger program that
encourages young people to spend
time in and learn from the site.*



park. The Park Service ferries visitors across a lake to reach the cemeteries.

Although the Park Service provides access to these historic gravesites, some local folks are pushing a North Shore Road to provide greater access. The road, part of a decades-long controversy, was originally seen as a way to renew economic and recreational opportunities in Swain County. A 1943 agreement promised that the road would be built, but the Park Service has opposed its construction, citing environmental concerns. NPS and NPCA assert that the road would expose acidic rock that produces acids and heavy metals, which could leach into park streams. “The scale of this road and the steep, isolated terrain create unacceptable risks for a national park,” says Don Barger, NPCA’s Southeast regional director.

Although NPS had been advocating for a cash payment to settle claims arising from the 1943 agreement, the 2001 transportation appropriations bill included \$16 million to build the road. NPS is preparing to evaluate the environmental impacts, in accordance with due process.

Despite the NPS position on the road, park officials recognize that they have a responsibility to honor these families while protecting park resources. “We’re interested in settling this issue,” says Bob Miller, park spokesman. “Elsewhere, the vast, vast majority of our neighbors whose families were displaced recognize that the park is a benefit.”

Thankfully, in most cases, parks and families agree that the national parks offer beneficial opportunities to gather and remember. “Family relationships are recognition of the very fact that humans were an integral part of these landscapes from the beginning,” says Eileen Woodford, NPCA’s Northeast regional director. As long as the Park Service keeps the communication lines open for healing and history, the national parks will be living proof that you can go home again.

KIM A. O'CONNELL is based in Arlington, Virginia, and last wrote for National Parks about the USS Arizona Memorial.



Gems of the Pacific

A visit to the volcano-rich Hawaiian Islands offers hiking, birdwatching, and history.

BY KURAH MACKAY

The Hawaiian Islands adorn the continental United States with a slice of tropical paradise. The verdant archipelago 2,400 miles off the coast of California is among the most geographically isolated places on Earth. More than 90 percent of the native flora and fauna is found nowhere else in the world. The islands' human culture is also remarkable. Only seven of the islands are inhabited, but many of them preserve timeless pockets of traditional Polynesian culture and customs.

With six protected sites on the islands, the National Park Service cares for a broad spectrum of Hawai'i's rich traditional history and natural wonders. At any time of the year, a well-planned trip and a spirit of adventure will reward visitors with vividly colored bird species, lush rainforests and sparkling waterfalls, sacred temples and coastal villages, moon-like volcanic craters, animated marine life, and gleaming sunsets bathed by gentle ocean breezes.

KURAH MACKAY lives in Newburyport, Massachusetts, and is former news editor of National Parks.



JON GHASS



MINDEN PICTURES/PHANS LANTING

Visitors to the Hawaiian Islands can enjoy Polynesian culture and rare creatures, such as the i'iwi, an endangered honeycreeper.

lion years, these two volcanoes have oozed forth molten rivers of lava, which, when cooled, formed the foundation for an explosion of biodiversity.

Because of its layers of captivating cultural history and outstanding habitat diversity, the park has been recognized as an international Biosphere Reserve and World Heritage Site. Many of Hawai'i's thousands of plant, animal, fungi, and insect species originated from only a handful of hardy newcomers. Today, birdwatchers and wildlife enthusiasts can expect to spot the scarlet-colored Hawaiian honeycreeper, endangered goose called "nene," King Kamehameha butterflies, or even elusive Hawaiian hawks.

Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park

Some of the Earth's most powerful creative and destructive forces are on display at Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park on "the Big Island" of Hawai'i. With each eruption, Kilauea and Mauna Loa—two of the world's largest volcanoes—add to the island's overall landmass. Mauna Loa, for instance, rises nearly 56,000 feet from the ocean floor and surpasses Mount Everest's elevation above sea level. For more than 80 mil-

With more than 150 miles of trails, this rugged park is best explored on foot. Heart-healthy visitors may wish to tackle the 19-mile backpacking trail to the summit of Mauna Loa—usually a three-to four-day trip. Hikers should pay serious attention to warnings about volcanic eruptions: fumes and fallout make breathing difficult and are especially hazardous to people with heart and lung problems, small children, and pregnant women. Visitors should heed the instructions of rangers and obey all signs on roads and trails.

Those with less rugged inclinations can pursue one of several short drives or hikes. A good driving option is Crater Rim Drive, which circles Kilauea's steaming caldera and Halema'uma'u Crater for 11 miles. This drive passes through wind-swept desert and steamy rainforests and offers drivers opportunities to pull off the road and take photos or roam shorter trails. The 20-mile (one way) Chain of Craters Road offers a more comprehensive passage through the park. Descending 3,700 feet to the coast, this road passes the Holei Sea Arch, where motorists can see the results of a massive lava flow.

Friendly Park Service staff at the Kilauea Visitor Center can advise visitors about road and hiking conditions, safety precautions, and activities such as

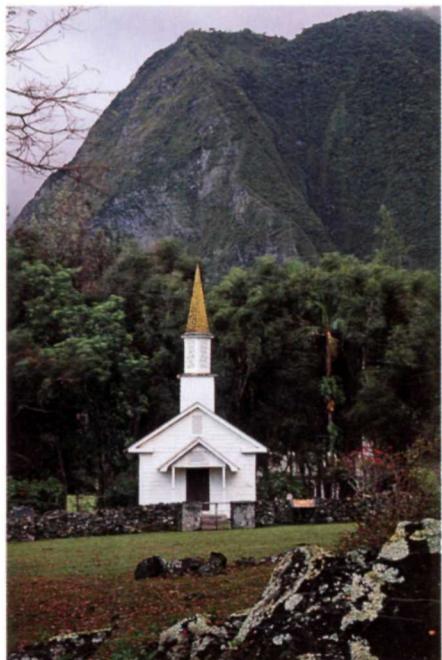
ranger-led walks, films, and lava flow watching. Accommodations are available at the Volcano House Hotel (808-967-7321)—perched on the rim of the Kilauea caldera—or in the cabins at the Namakani Paio campground, both of which require reservations. The campground also offers drive-in tent sites on a first-come, first-served basis. Check out www.nps.gov/havo for more information, or call 808-985-6000.

Haleakala National Park

The eastern end of the island of Maui is shaped by Haleakala, a shield volcano, whose sides have, over time, been gradually worn into valleys. Haleakala National Park, which includes the volcano, encompasses a variety of ecosystems on which the island's diverse and highly sensitive species depend for survival. The hinahina—a plant commonly referred to as silversword—thrives in the desolate, rocky conditions of the volcano's upper slopes and summit. The dense, silvery hairs that line its leaves help the plant conserve moisture and reflect the sun's harsh rays.

The wilderness area of the park contains 27 miles of hiking trails: Halema'u and Sliding Sands trails enter the wilderness from Haleakala's summit, and a third course takes hikers to the coast through Kaupo Gap and private property, which park visitors are allowed to cross as a courtesy. All hikers should stop at one of the two visitor centers for the latest weather and trail conditions. Motorists can visit park headquarters before beginning the twisting ascent up the volcano from Route 378. From the resort areas of Kihei and Ka'anapali, the summit of Haleakala can be reached in about two hours by car.

The only other road that enters the park—and very briefly—is Route 360, which rings the eastern end of the island and takes visitors to the Kipahulu Visitor Center, three to four hours by car from the resorts. At this end of the park, a 184-foot waterfall cascades through the Maui rainforest at Makahiku. The Kuloa Point Loop trail takes a half-mile circuit past a cultural demonstration area where thatched-roof long houses, fishing shrines, temples, canoe ramps, and

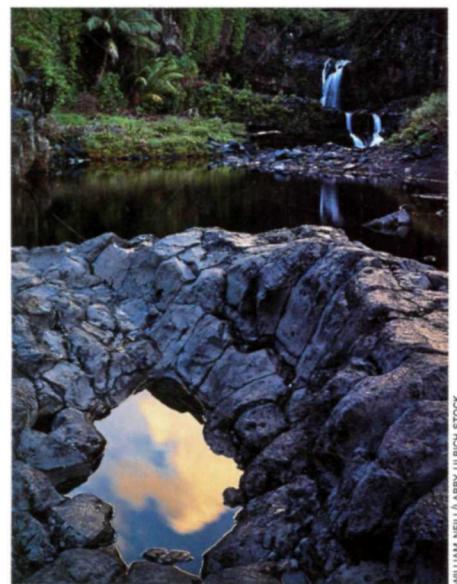


TOM TILL

Kalaupapa served as an isolation site for native Hawaiians suffering with Hansen's disease.

retaining walls stand as reminders of the area's early inhabitants. Trail-weary hikers can take a refreshing dip in the pools and waterfalls that line the lower stretches of the stream at Kuloa Point. Be sure to heed swimming safety precautions.

Visitors can bunk for the night at one of two park campgrounds or in a remote wilderness cabin. Ranger programs include scheduled hikes and talks on the park's natural and cultural significance. For more information, call 808-572-9306 or log on to www.nps.gov/hale.



Weary hikers can pause for a rest at waterfalls found in Haleakala National Park.

Kalaupapa National Historic Park

Part of the tiny island of Molokai is the Kalaupapa Peninsula, a monument to seclusion where endangered Hawaiian monk seals whelp, sea cliffs defy the Pacific surf, and lava tubes form intricate mazes. Yet this breathtaking spot also endured a tragic period in Polynesian history when the U.S. government forced native people to relocate beginning in 1865, and a year later Kalaupapa became an isolation area for people afflicted with Hansen's disease, formerly known as leprosy. The forced removal of Hawaiian people from where they had lived for more than 900 years irreparably



severed ancestral ties among families, friends, and the fertile land.

The park was established in 1980 to recognize this sorrowful period in Hawaiian history, educate visitors about the now-curable disease, and honor survivors and their families by teaching tolerance and respect for privacy. On the leeward side of the peninsula, which is still home to Hansen's disease patients, the park has implemented specific visitation rules to preserve tranquility.

No one can visit the park without prior authorization, which can be arranged through tours. Individuals cannot choose to visit independently of the tours. Visitors should begin their tour in Kalaupapa at the Americans of Japanese Ancestry Hall, where interpretive materials and peninsula artifacts are on display. A guided tour through the settlements of Kalaupapa and Kalawao can be arranged with Damien Tours (808-567-6171). Visitors also can arrange for a mule ride down the steep Kalaupapa Trail (800-567-7550) or view the peninsula from the overlook in adjacent Pala'u State Park, where camping is allowed.

There are no accommodations within park boundaries and no vehicular access. In addition to the activities mentioned here, visitors may also get to Kalaupapa by air. Visit www.nps.gov/kala for more information, or call 808-567-6802. For detailed information on getting to Hawaii and around once there, call the Hawaii Visitors Bureau, 808-923-1811.

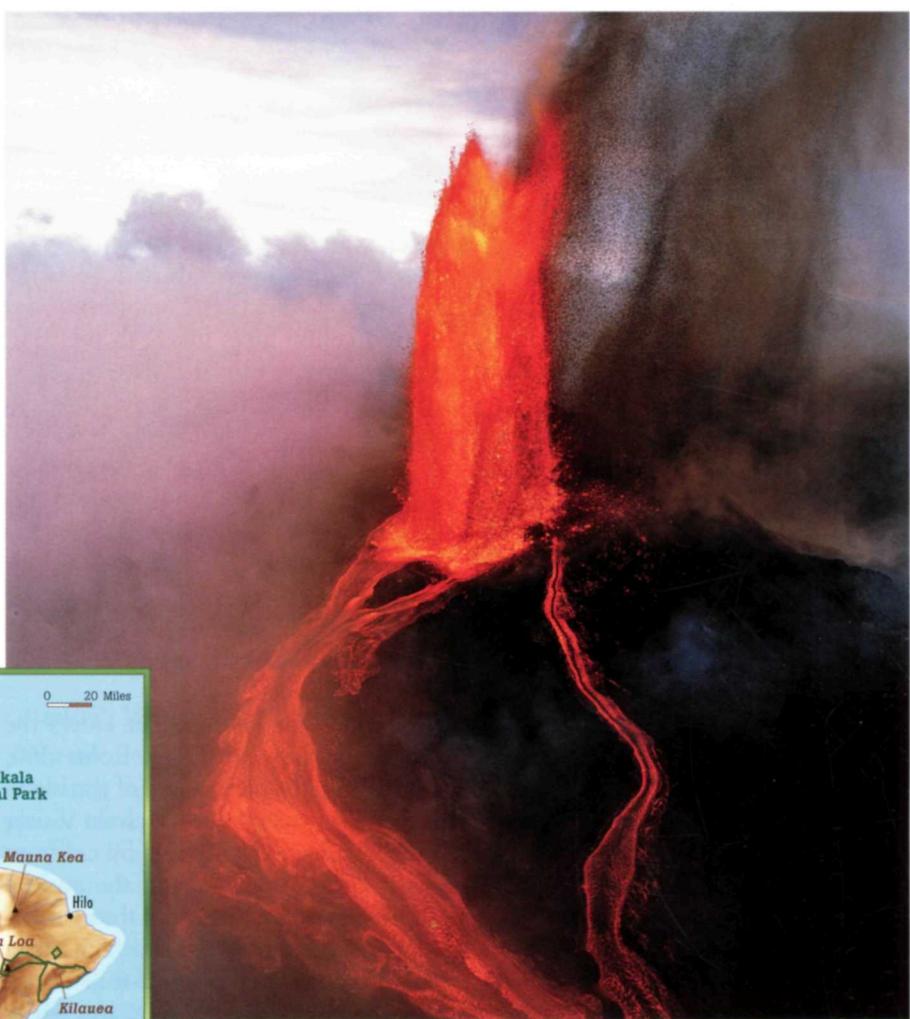
Other Notable Historic Sites

Other notable sites on the islands to consider visiting during your trip are the following:

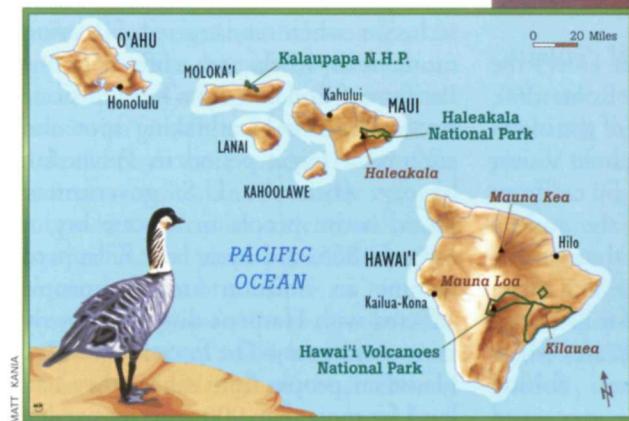
- **Kaloko-Honokohau National Historical Park** on the Kono Coast of the island of Hawai'i. A traditional Hawaiian settlement, the park encompasses 1,160 acres and has preserved a variety of agricultural, residential, and spiritual structures, including the Kaloko fishpond and a massive seawall that demonstrate how native people once subsisted on the ocean and bordering wetlands. Bird life is abundant, and the fishponds are essential for protecting the habitat of such endangered species as

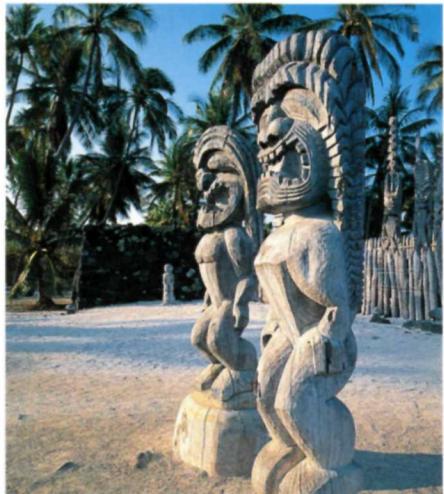
the Hawaiian black-necked stilt and the Hawaiian coot, both endemic to the Big Island. Visit www.nps.gov/kaho for more information, or call the park at 808-329-6881.

- At **Pu'uhonua O Honaunau National Historical Park** on Hawai'i, visitors can see how ancient Hawaiians who committed crimes against the gods were dealt with. The 182-acre park includes a spiritual sanctuary, where priests absolved offenders of their misdeeds, and defeated warriors took shelter during times of battle. The grounds were also home to the ruling chief and his palace. Royal Hawaiian chiefs were believed to possess special power, or mana, in their bodies, belong-



Kilauea erupting in Hawaii Volcanoes National Park on the Big Island of Hawaii.





Wooden carvings at Pu'uhonua, a site of sanctuary, and the volcanic landscape at Hawaii Volcanoes.

ings, and in the ground they walked upon. After death, these powers were locked away forever with their bones in the sacred temples called heiaus. Check out www.nps.gov/paho for additional details, or call 808-328-2288 for visitor information.

- The **USS Arizona Memorial** honors the 1,100 sailors who died

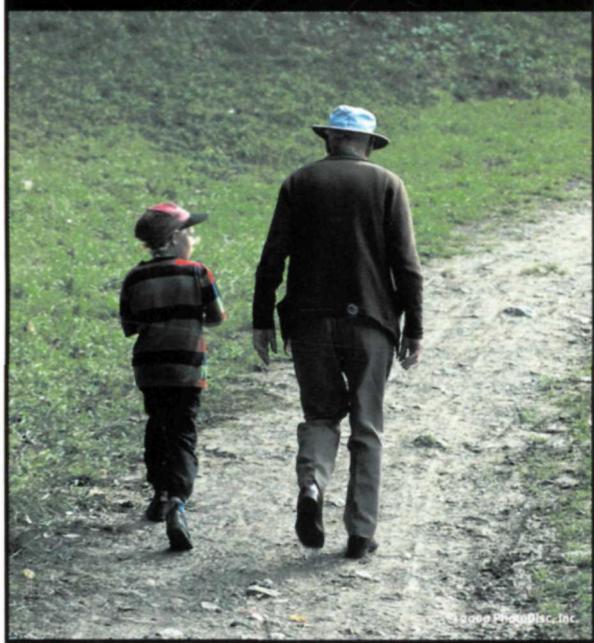


aboard the ship when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor December 7, 1941—a swift and traumatic blow that caused the United States to formally enter World War II. Resting above the sunken hull of the battleship, the memorial allows visitors to reflect on that day as they gaze into the still waters where the remains of the battleship still rest.

The National Park Service offers interpretive programs, including a brief talk by a ranger or a Pearl Harbor survivor and a documentary film about the attack, followed by a boat trip to the memorial site. For details about how to get to the park and transportation recommendations, visit www.nps.gov/usar, or call 808-422-0561.



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A State of Green

The Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park is the first site dedicated to the ethics of conservation and land stewardship.

BY RYAN DOUGHERTY

Vermont is known as the "Green Mountain State," a wonderland of rural beauty and unspoiled countryside. Had it not been for the work of three conservation-minded families, however, Vermont may not have remained as picturesque.

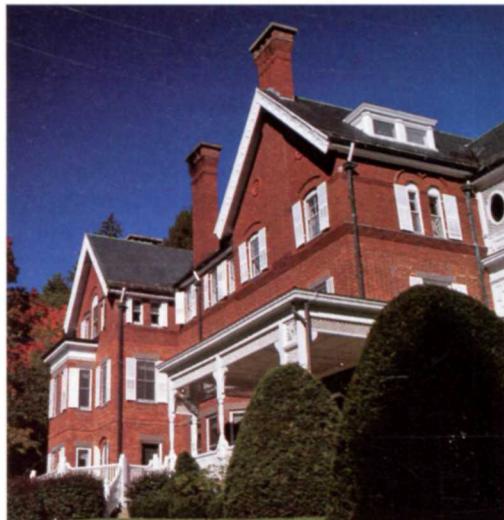
Settlers flooded into Vermont after the American Revolution, and by the middle of the 19th century, most of the state's forests had been destroyed. This caused drastic erosion and flooding—a true environmental crisis.

One of the first to respond to the crisis was George Perkins Marsh, now considered one of the world's foremost environmental thinkers. He grew up in the early 1800s on the farm that later became the center of the Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller National Historical Park in Woodstock, Vermont.

Marsh quickly fell in love with nature, learning to identify native trees at a very young age. Many years later, while serving in the Vermont legislature and the U.S. Congress, Marsh lectured about the consequences of unfettered logging, lamenting the resulting changes in land and water.

He witnessed the profound impact humans had on the environment of the Mediterranean. Human activity there, Marsh said, had "brought the Earth to a desolation almost as complete as that of the moon."

In 1864, Marsh poured his observations into a classic book, *Man and Nature*:



The mansion contains an extensive art collection related to land conservation.

Physical Geography as Modified by Human Action, which analyzed the impact of humans on the environment and promoted responsible land stewardship. It was a watershed text for the environmental movement.

Marsh then served as U.S. minister to the newly united Kingdom of Italy until shortly before his death in 1882.

One of Marsh's Woodstock neighbors, Frederick Billings, had purchased the Marsh property in 1869. Billings made his first fortune as an attorney in California during the Gold Rush.

Returning to Vermont, he observed unhealthy rivers and lakes, a dilapidated countryside. Billings bought the Marsh property to establish a farm that would provide future generations with an example of wise stewardship. Billings

made his second fortune as a railroad tycoon in the 1870s. He supported the practice of replanting trees along railroads—a progressive conservation practice for the time.

In Woodstock, he developed one of the nation's first programs of professional forest management, based on Marsh's environmental principles.

"Many a barren hillside will once more glow with the glorious autumn foliage," he said, "and the quiet village will see itself back in its old life and power."

Billings died in 1890, but his goal was sustained by three generations of women—first by his wife, Julia, then their three daughters, and finally by his granddaughter, Mary French.

Mary French married Laurance S. Rockefeller in 1934, uniting two families committed to conservation. The Rockefellers had established or enhanced more than 20 national parks, and Laurance shared his family's convictions.

A trusted advisor to five American presidents, he helped place conservation and outdoor issues on the national agenda. Laurance and Mary gave their land to the United States in 1992.

It is the first national park to tell both the story of conservation history and the evolving process of land stewardship in America. It is as Laurance Rockefeller had envisioned.

"The message and vision of conservation stewardship and its importance for the future will once again go out across the nation," he once said, "from the hills of Vermont."

RYAN DOUGHERTY is publications coordinator.



On the Rebound

The removal of nonnative fish from several parks is helping the mountain yellow-legged frog jump back from an 80 percent decline.

BY ELIZABETH G. DAERR

It's a painful trade-off—killing fish to save frogs. But years of research among the high elevation lakes of the Sierra Nevada have proven that allowing stocked, nonnative fish to remain in once-fishless lakes means certain extinction for a unique frog that is an important link in the web of life above 8,000 feet.

In the last century, the mountain yellow-legged frog, *Rana muscosa*, has led the declining populations of amphibians throughout the Sierra Nevada, thinning to 20 percent of its historic territory. [*Muscus* is Latin for "smelly" and describes the strange garlic-like odor given off by male frogs during the breeding season.] Scientists believe that the species has evolved over 1 million years with the advance and retreat of glaciers in the area. As the ice sheets receded, glacial lakes formed, and the accompanying steep waterfalls prevented fish from colonizing any of the lakes.

Beginning in the 1850s, however, settlers began stocking the lakes with trout to fish for food and recreation. The practice continues even today in all national forest wilderness areas, and nearly 80 percent of the Sierra Nevada lakes now contain nonnative fish.

TROUT have been particularly problematic to this frog because of its extended metamorphosis. Unlike frogs that mature from a tadpole to an adult in one year, the mountain yellow-legged frog



The mountain yellow-legged frog takes three years to mature.

working on the project at Sequoia/Kings Canyon.

Although biologists say the evidence is overwhelming that predation by fish is taking its toll on the species, other factors are being researched. Pesticides and herbicides used for agriculture in the Central Valley may be compromising the frogs' immune systems. Scientists are also working to understand the possible impact of chytrid fungi, which are commonly found in the soil but have not been known to attack amphibians until recently. The fungi have been

linked to die-offs and extinctions in Australia and Central America. Red-leg disease, caused by the bacterium *Aeromonas hydrophile*, has also increased, and some scientists believe that the frogs are susceptible to it when stressed. As its name suggests, the infection turns their legs red and is fatal.

The species has yet to be listed under the Endangered Species Act even though a petition has been filed. According to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service spokeswoman Pat Foulk, a backlog of court-ordered listings has prevented the agency from pursuing research on the frog. The agency is working to push through the current petitions to get to the frog.

Initial results from fish removal projects indicate some success. A lake Knapp surveyed in 1996 had 20 frogs. All the fish were removed by 2000, and by last year 750 frogs were found. "Now when you walk the lake, they jump into it—sometimes five at a time."

ELIZABETH G. DAERR is news editor.



The Power of Place

"The whole world of what has preceded us is available not just through books, but through places."

Pulitzer-prize-winning author David McCullough spoke at Adams National Historical Park on October 30 as part of an event to launch NPCA's first State of the Parks report. McCullough's latest book, *John Adams*, is a biography of the second president.

The report on Adams National Historical Park is the first of what is expected to be a series that will provide a critical survey of the condition of a number of the 385 units within the National Park System.

The Adams assessment gave the park a good grade, but found that if current funding and staffing levels remain the same over the next ten years, the park's collections and archives are likely to deteriorate. More than 22,000 archival items, mostly family papers, have not been classified or catalogued and remain in storage. The park lacks sufficient staff to manage and preserve the collection, safeguard the park, and guide visitors through the park, which includes nine historic buildings on three separate properties. For more information on the program and this report, go to www.npca.org.

What follows are excerpts from the speech given by McCullough.

It was suggested years ago that to make people feel better about paying their

income tax you should be able to designate which department of government you would like your money to go to. Everybody thought that was a wonderful idea, until somebody pointed out that it would never work, because everyone

the real book in your hand.

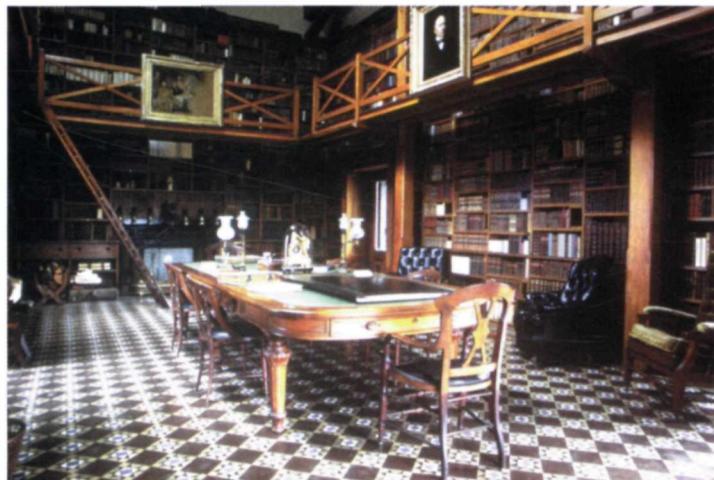
The feeling one gets from working with the real documents is very close to the feeling we get coming into a historic place. We feel something we cannot get from reading books or seeing a film. You tread the floors that they actually tread, with the light coming through the same windows in the same way. We can almost transport ourselves to that other time. It is in our nature to want to go back, to want to know what happened. Everything that can be done to make that voyage possible is a worthy endeavor.

Why do we care, why do we bother with these places? Because they mean so much. We need the past for our sense of who we are.

We need the past for a sense of our civic responsibility, how all these benefits and freedoms came to us, and what it is our duty to protect. But we also need the past because it is an extension of the experience of being alive. Just as music and painting and the theater and poetry are extensions of the experience of life. Why should we limit ourselves to this little bit of time that is allowed to us by our biological clocks when the whole world of what has preceded us is available?

Not just through books, but through places.

The Adams National Historical Park is a magnificent site. It is not just a home of a great American. It's the home of



The library at Adams National Historical Park contains more than 14,000 volumes.

NPS (2)

would want their money to go to national parks.

My connection with the national parks started with my first book, *The Johnstown Flood*. It took vision, confidence, and a sense of the importance of the site to create a park there. It's a place where people can come and feel history.

Future scholars who have to do their work from microfilm, microfiche, or some other device are going to miss that tactile connection with those vanished people from those distant times that cannot really be expressed in words, but comes from holding the real document,

great Americans. Two presidents, a premier historian, and one of the greatest and most important diplomats in our history, Charles Francis Adams, Lincoln's ambassador to Great Britain during the Civil War. It's the home of great women. Abigail Adams ranks as one of the great figures of that founding time, as does her daughter-in-law, Louisa Catherine Adams. And it's old by our American standards. The house is older than Mount Vernon, older than Monticello, older than the country. The two houses, the birthplaces, are older still.

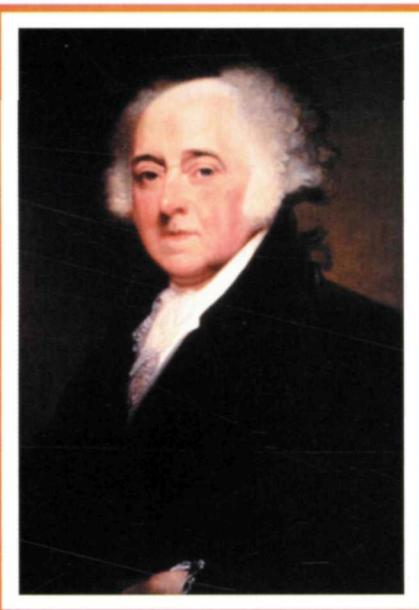
And what is so eloquent about those birthplaces is how small they are and how well made. How symbolically appropriate that they are so solid, so New England. You really can't understand America if you don't understand New England. This is where the whole concept of civic responsibility, civic good, community public service began.

John Adams was born 266 years ago on October 30 in this golden time in the calendar of New England. He was the son of a man who was a selectman, a deacon in the church, a member of the militia, who served year after year, never went anywhere else, never accomplished much in a worldly way. Never traveled abroad, never went out of New England, probably never left Massachusetts. His wife, who was a Boylston, probably was illiterate. But they were people who cared about their community, who cared about the responsibility of public service. And John Adams, the president, never failed to answer the call to serve his country. Irrespective of inconvenience, detriment to his livelihood, risk of death, and in a time such as we are in now, his example is one, if taken to heart, serves us all very well.

He was a man of moral courage; he did not give up. When I finished writing about his presidency in my biography and embarked on his final years, it was a somewhat daunting thought that here was this marvelous subject, this active, passionate, imperfect, warm-hearted protagonist, who had traveled farther than any other figure of his time in the service of his country, and yet when he came home, he never went anywhere ever again for the next 25 years. How

was I going to sustain that as a biography? In fact, in many ways for me it is the most interesting part of his entire life. Because it was then that the inward journey begins.

And to think that some of those superb things that he wrote, such as the letters to Jefferson, some of the finest letters ever written in the English language, let alone in American history, were writ-



John Adams

ten during that time. That beautiful passage that he wrote in one letter to a dear friend describing an ice storm outside his window when his beloved trees had been destroyed, and yet all he can see is the glory, the glitter, the spectacle of God's Earth. Here was a man who had seen death and suffering in his family, who hadn't a tooth left in his head, who had no hair on his head, who had every reason to be down, yet he is exalting over this spectacle of what really was the destruction of another beloved side of his life. "I have vowed," he said, "in the spirit of St. Paul to rejoice ever more," and then he adds that wonderful, "if I can."

So when you go into the house, you will see the desk at which he wrote the letters. There are eyeglasses that are his, and possibly they are even the same eyeglasses that he wore as he wrote the letters. You can look out the same window, you can turn to the corner and the very armchair where he delivered his last

wonderful statements to his fellow townsmen who came to ask what he might say that they could repeat at the 50th anniversary celebration of the Fourth of July. He said "I give you independence forever." And one of the men said, "wouldn't you like to add a little bit more to that Mr. President?" He said: "Not one word."

This place isn't just furnished with pieces of rare quality that maybe are like what he might have had. Everything is the real thing. And it isn't just one man's life, or one husband's or wife's lives; it's succeeding generations of family and American history. It provides a geological crosscut. You can see the layers of civilization and personal history as you can at no other historic site.

This is the first president who came from New England, first who went to college, first president who started his career as a schoolteacher. He is the president who signed into law the Library of Congress. The president who kept us out of the war with France that was so very close to breaking out full scale.

He is also the president who as much as any I know represents the miraculous transformation that comes with education. There is a misconception that John Adams was a rich, Boston blueblood. When you come here, you know he was not a Bostonian; he came from Quincy. He was not rich; he was a farmer's son. And he wasn't a blueblood. But because he got a scholarship to Harvard, he discovered books and hence he read, as he said, "I read forever more." He became the most deeply, broadly read American of his very bookish time. He believed in education. If you read the letters that he wrote to his children, that he wrote to his grandchildren, you know that he understood the power of education.

We have a clause in the Massachusetts constitution, written by John Adams at the desk in the library, that says it shall be the duty of the government to educate everybody. Then he names the institutions involved, not just colleges and schools. Had he known there would be a National Park Service, he would have included that, too. And believe me, the Park Service is very much in the business of education: higher education.



BY RYAN DOUGHERTY



NPCA Conducts Park Funding Meeting

► A two-day meeting for the steering committee and NPCA staff working on the Americans for National Parks campaign took place in early November in Washington, D.C.

The meeting gave NPCA staff and campaign leaders from across the country the opportunity to come together and work on the campaign strategy.

The Americans for National Parks campaign is dedicated to ensuring congressional appropriation of adequate funds to meet national park needs, with emphasis on meeting the operation requirements to protect natural and cultural resources and enhance visitor education.

Topics discussed included how best to approach and work with legislators, how to implement the campaign strategy on a regional basis, and the role

of the steering committee in sustaining the campaign.

NPCA staff and committee members conducted 25 congressional office meetings on November 6, to discuss the campaign. Those meetings were well received, NPCA staff said.

Organizations on the steering committee include the Greater Yellowstone Coalition, The Wilderness Society, Friends of Acadia, Friends of the Smokies, and Natural Resources Defense Council.

Martin Receives Mather Award

► NPCA has bestowed its prestigious Stephen T. Mather award on Stephen Martin, superintendent of Denali National Park and Preserve in Alaska, for his efforts to protect the park from motorized abuse and over-development.

"Steve Martin has worked tirelessly to build understanding, cooperation, and support for management decisions," said NPCA Alaska Regional Director Chip Dennerlein.

"Through Steve's leadership and outreach with others, Denali has deflected potentially destructive proposals and advanced positive initiatives that help people of all ages and abilities to enjoy this magnificent park."

Named for the first director of the National Park Service, the Mather Award is given annually to people who show initiative and resourcefulness in promoting environmental protection in the national parks and those who have taken action where others have hesitated.

NPCA's Barger Addresses Senate Committee Panel

► Don Barger, NPCA's Southeast regional director, participated in a Senate Environment and Public Works Committee stakeholder meeting in early October on potential changes to Clean Air Act regulations on power plant emissions.

Stakeholders met with committee staff to identify differences and seek resolution to move forward on multi-pollutant legislation.

Among several statements to the panel, Barger said that Great Smoky Mountains has the highest rate of nitrogen deposition in North America and that ground level ozone is affecting more than 30 species there.

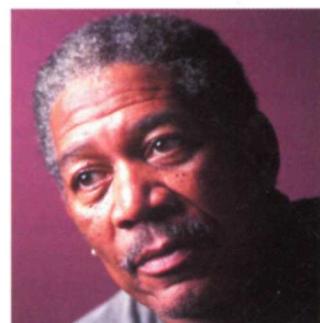
Despite the recent Title IV program—a plan administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to reduce acid rain in the United

States—there has been no improvement in visibility at Great Smokies, Barger said.

Committee Chairman Sen. Jim Jeffords (I-Vt.) and Clean Air Subcommittee Chairman Sen. Joe Lieberman (D-Conn.) have introduced a bill—S. 556, the Clean Power Act of 2001—that would reduce power plant emissions of sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxide, mercury, and carbon dioxide.

The bill differs from a Bush administration proposal that would exclude carbon dioxide emissions.

Barger filled one of ten environmental seats on the panel, along with an equal number of utility and state representatives.



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Freeman Records PSA for NPCA

► Oscar-nominated actor Morgan Freeman, star of such films as *Driving Miss Daisy* and *The Shawshank Redemption*, has recorded several public service announcements for NPCA.

The announcements, which will be released to radio stations across the nation, feature Freeman discussing the solace of parks in the aftermath of recent tragedy, as well as the importance of NPCA's Americans for National Parks campaign.

Anthrax Incidents Slow NPCA Mail

►NPCA apologizes for any inconvenience caused as a result of the closing of the Brentwood Post Office in Washington, D.C., after the discovery of anthrax spores in the facility.

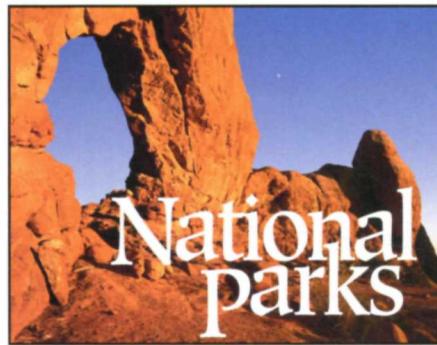
The Brentwood facility processes Business Reply Mail, which NPCA uses to receive correspondence and contributions.

Unprocessed mail was quarantined and re-routed and may have led to some members receiving additional renewal forms after payment had already been made.

NPCA's mailing contractors have said NPCA's mail is free of contamination.

Additionally, for those members who are concerned about the magazine, *National Parks* is mailed from Pewaukee, Wisconsin. NPCA has been informed that the postal facility that processes the magazine has reported no contamination.

For further information regarding NPCA's mail or membership contributions, please contact NPCA's membership services team at 1-800-628-7275.



To better serve our members, a year's worth of *National Parks* is now just a keystroke away. Look for the annual index of 2001 articles on our web site: www.npca.org

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F. COPIES NOT DISTRIBUTED		
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Golden Oldie

Catastrophic volcanic eruptions occurred at this park about 2 million years ago, then 1.2 million years ago, and again 600,000 years ago.



WILLARD CLAY

This park's rugged mountains, picturesque waterfalls, and thousands of hot springs and geysers, among other spectacular features, attracted more than 2.8 million visitors last year. Dozens of mammals, more than 300 species of birds, and varied species of fish roam the park. Among them are the endangered whooping crane and gray wolf, as well as the bald eagle and grizzly bear. At 3,472 square miles, this park is larger than Rhode Island and Delaware combined. Have you visited this park? Do you know which one it is? [ANSWER ON PAGE 6.]

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