

Fundamental resources and values are the most important systems, processes, features, visitor experiences, stories, scenes, sounds, scents, or other resources and values to be communicated to the public about a park. They warrant primary consideration during planning and management because they contribute to significance and are critical to achieving the park's purpose.

SCENERY

- Natural beauty, wildlife, clean air, relative lack of development
- Sagebrush flats provide platform for viewing

GEOLOGIC PROCESSES

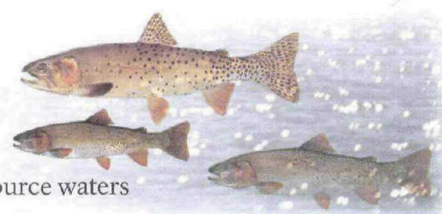
- Teton fault and other seismic areas
- Ongoing glacial/hydrologic processes
- Volcanic history and linked underground geothermal features and systems
- Braided river geomorphology

ECOLOGICAL COMMUNITIES

- Geography, location, size, and connectivity of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem
- Extreme topography in a small area leads to diverse vegetative communities
- Full complement of native birds and mammals – natural predator- prey interactions reflect the health of the ecosystem
- Natural occurrences, such as fire, landslides, flooding, drought, and insect infestations, are allowed to influence the landscape

AQUATIC RESOURCES

- Lakes and free- flowing water
- Riparian habitat for native species, including Yellowstone cutthroat trout and Snake River cutthroat trout
- Clean water, including outstanding natural resource waters



CULTURAL HISTORY AND RESOURCES

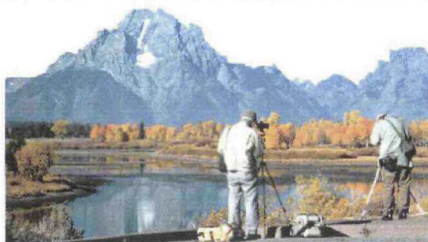
- American Indian use and spiritual reverence
- History of fur trade and westward expansion, reflected in place names, paintings, photographs, homestead structures, and dude ranches
- Story of "crucible of conservation" evident in structures such as the Maud Noble cabin, Murie Ranch, and the Rockefeller Parkway
- Mountaineering history of the Teton Range

NATURAL SOUNDSCAPES

- Sounds associated with predator avoidance, prey detection, mating and other behavioral interactions
- Biological sounds such as birds singing, fish splashing and elk bugling
- Physical sounds such as waterfalls, rapids, wind in vegetation and thunder

VISITOR EXPERIENCES IN AN OUTSTANDING NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

- Spectacular setting and quality natural environment
- Opportunities to observe wildlife
- Full spectrum of access, ability levels, activities, interpretation and educational opportunities are available year- round
- Wilderness character, opportunities for solitude, natural lightscapes, natural soundscapes



Other important resources and values may have particular importance that warrants special consideration during general management planning, even though they do not contribute directly to the purpose and significance of the park.

Other Cultural Resources

- National Historic Landmarks (Jackson Lake Lodge, Murie Ranch)
- Park development structures (i.e. Civilian Conservation Corps)
- Archeological resources



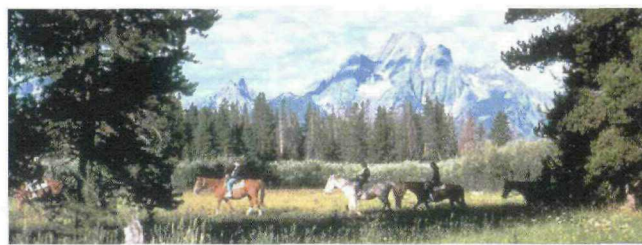
Vernon Collection

(American Indian items)

Park Museum Collection

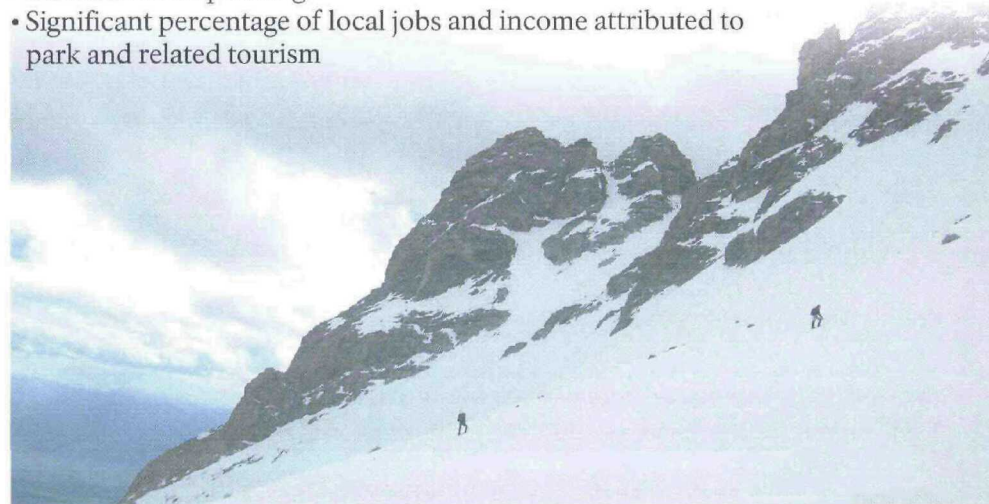
Existing Assets

- Facilities - roads, trails, buildings, utilities, concessions
- Base of support for research and education, such as UWYO- GRTE Research Center, Murie Center, and Teton Science School
- NPS operations (staff, annual operating budget)
- Concessions and commercial services
- Partners and volunteers

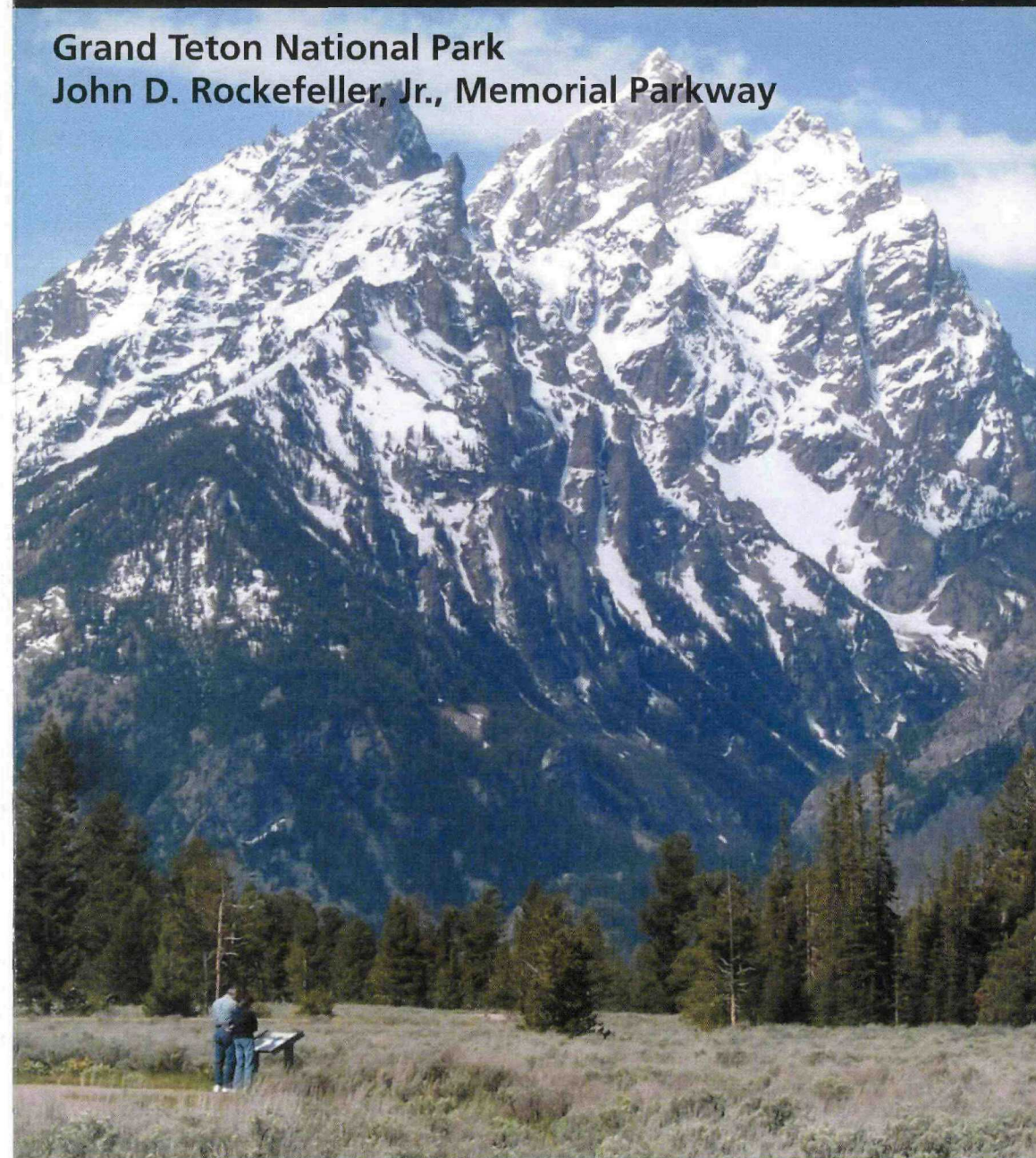


Sustainable Economic Contribution to the Regional Economy

- Visitor spending
- Direct federal spending
- Significant percentage of local jobs and income attributed to park and related tourism



**Grand Teton National Park
John D. Rockefeller, Jr., Memorial Parkway**



**Foundation
for Planning and Management**



Foundation for Planning and Management

Every park needs a formal statement of its core mission to provide basic guidance for all the decisions to be made about the park - a foundation for planning and management. As parks begin planning for their future, it is imperative that everyone has a shared understanding of what is most important about the park, as identified in the purpose, significance, fundamental resources and values, and other important resources and values.

The park **purpose** is the specific reason for establishing a particular park. Statements of the park's purpose are grounded in a thorough analysis of the park's legislation (or executive order) and legislative history, including studies prior to authorization which go beyond a restatement of the law that document shared assumptions about what the law means in terms specific to the park.

The purposes of Grand Teton National Park are to

- Preserve and protect the spectacular scenery of the Teton Range and the valley of Jackson Hole



- Protect a unique geologic landscape that supports abundant diverse native plants and animals and associated cultural resources

- Protect wildlands and wildlife habitat within the Greater Yellowstone Area, including the migration route of the Jackson elk herd

- Provide recreational, educational, and scientific opportunities compatible with these resources for enjoyment and inspiration



The purposes of John D. Rockefeller, Jr., Memorial Parkway are to

- Commemorate the many significant contributions of John D. Rockefeller, Jr., to the cause of conservation



- Provide both a symbolic and desirable physical connection between Grand Teton National Park and Yellowstone National Park



Park significance statements express why the park's resources and values are important enough to warrant national park designation. Statements of the park's significance describe why an area is important within a global, national, regional, and systemwide context and are directly linked to the purpose of the park.

The iconic mountain landscape of the Teton Range rises dramatically above the flat valley of Jackson Hole creating a compelling view that has inspired people to explore



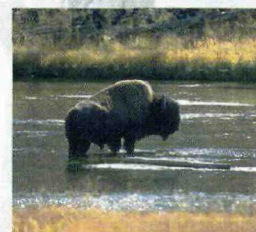
and experience the area for thousands of years. The sudden rise of rugged peaks contrasts with the horizontal sagebrush flats. Glacial lakes at the foot of the mountains reflect and expand the view. Opportunities to view an impressive array of wildlife are extraordinary. The awesome



grandeur of the ever present Teton Range under changing weather and seasons provides a superlative setting for unmatched visitor experiences.



Grand Teton National Park preserves one of the world's most impressive and highly visible fault block mountain



ranges which abruptly rises 7,000 feet and is juxtaposed with landscapes shaped by glacial processes and braided river geomorphology. The Teton Range is one of the continent's youngest mountain ranges, yet exposes some of the oldest rocks on earth.

Grand Teton National Park and the John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway are at the heart of one of the earth's largest intact temperate

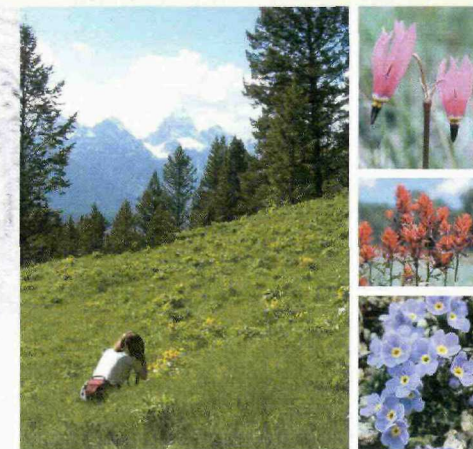


ecosystems with a full complement of native Rocky Mountain plants and animals, including grizzly bears, wolves, North American bison,



pronghorn, and one of the world's largest elk herds.

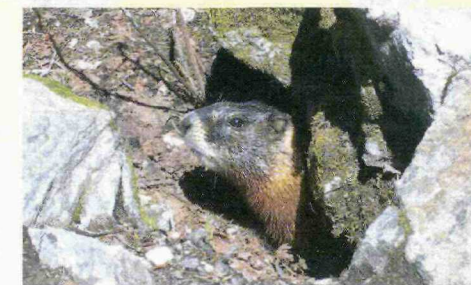
The park and parkway represent one of the most notable conservation stories of the 20th century which



continues to inspire present and future generations. The formation of the park, a process that took more than half a century, was a struggle between private economic interests and a concern for conserving the Teton Range and valley floor. From prehistoric times to present day, numerous diverse cultures, cultural trends, and values influenced the Teton Range and Jackson Hole valley.

Within the park and parkway, visitors can easily experience peaceful solitude, wilderness character, and a rare combination of outdoor recreational and educational activities, world- renowned wildlife and

landscapes, and the cultural amenities of a vibrant community throughout the year. Visitors of all abilities and interests can enjoy opportunities for physical, emotional, and inspirational experiences in an unspoiled environment.



As part of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, the park & parkway offer easily accessible and unparalleled opportunities for scientific research and educational study of temperate zone natural systems and processes in a range of elevations, and human relationships to these systems. The relatively pristine landscape serves as "control" or baseline for scientific study.

