

JOSHUA TREE NATIONAL PARK GOALS AND OBJECTIVES  
1994-1999

These goals and objectives were developed by the staff of Joshua Tree National Park in the fall, 1993. The purpose is to "conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such a manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations". The first goal of 1994 will be to become a National Park, and at that time specific park purposes will be listed in the California Desert Protection Act. We remain committed to have no concessions or a shooting range inside park boundaries, and to hold the number of campground and picnic sites to those that are in place in 1993. We strongly encourage commercial activities to remain outside the boundaries of the park. Our roads, campgrounds, parking areas, waysides and infrastructure needs upgrading and rehabilitation, but facilities to accommodate more and more visitors needs limitations.

**Management.** Manage park to carry out mission of the National Park Service and Joshua Tree National Park.

1994 will see the General Management Plan (GMP) completed, and go through public review. The final plan will have the Regional Director's Record of Decision in 1995. This plan will include the Environmental Impact Statement for the GMP as well as all park roads. Most changes to management planning have already been accomplished in the 1993 draft, but the final plan will have those new lands included in the national park.

1994 - The new Land Protection Plan will have all land records up-to-date, and our land use map will clearly indicate those lands inside the park boundary yet to be acquired. Lands in the new park additions will have an acquisition or protection strategy that will apply to private and state lands.

1995 - An Outline of Planning Requirements will be completed for Joshua Tree National Park.

1996 - An agreement is made with the military to only conduct low flying aircraft maneuvers along park boundaries, and not inside wilderness.

1998 - Big Morongo Canyon Preserve and the connecting public lands to the west of the park are added to Joshua Tree National Park, and it is a cooperative effort with Nature Conservancy.

1999 - Carrying capacity study has been completed, and a new reservation system is installed to limit Joshua Tree National Park to 2,000,000 visitors per year.

**Administration.** Administer the park in an effective and efficient manner, while serving the employees of the National Park Service.

- 1994 - This will be the year to bring all files up-to-date, and send files to the Federal Disposition Center. All land files will be cataloged and placed in storage for protection.
- 1995 - Complete preparation for Local Area Network (LAN).
- 1997 - Installation of LAN
- 1999 - New Administrative Complex is completed to include warehouse space and stock for "stores" operation.

**Interpretation.** "...Provide for the enjoyment of the natural and historic resources of Joshua Tree National Park"

- 1994 - Interpretive Prospectus is completed and approved.
  - Interpreter on-site at Lost Horse for topside interpretation.
  - Joshua Tree NHA presents "State of Association" paper.
- 1995 - All new waysides are completed as listed in our Wayside Plan.
  - Cap Rock Nature Trail is made completely accessible.
- 1997 - New Visitor Information Station completed at Cottonwood.
  - Administrative History for Joshua Tree is completed.
- 1998 - Rehabilitate the 29 Palms JOTR Visitor Center, and complete the new Joshua Tree Cultural Center.
- 1999 - New Visitor Center at the west entrance.
  - Joshua Tree Natural History Association meets goal of \$500,000 gross sales.
  - Environmental Education Center - five year anniversary, and over 20,000 students participate in activities.

**Visitor Protection.** "...Protect Joshua Tree National Park by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations."

- 1994 - Fire Management is consolidated at Joshua Tree for all California Desert Parks. FMO is located here.
- Wilderness/Backcountry Management Plan is approved with a specific sections applied to Stock Use and Unpaved Roads. New designated wilderness recommendations are submitted to WRO for approval.
- Physical Security Plan is revised and made effective.
- 1995 - Revised Climbing Management Plan is approved. The three studies have been completed and analyzed, and their results included in the plan for information.
- Permanent Rangers patrol south boundary/new park lands.
- Permanent ARPA Ranger joins staff at Joshua Tree NP.
- Complete revision of Filming/Commercial Use regulations for Joshua Tree NP.
- 1996 - All fee collection activities are at standard, which includes fees for all entrances and campgrounds.
- 1997 - Concurrent jurisdiction is obtained for Riverside and San Bernadino Countys.
- 1998 - All Illegal Entry Points into Joshua Tree are effectively closed to further entry.
- 1999 - Structural Fire Plan is effective with sprinkler systems.

**Maintenance.** Maintain park facilities to provide for a safe and enjoyable visit, while protecting the natural and cultural resources of Joshua Tree National Park.

- 1994 - Establish a priority list for reconstruction of 60 miles of roads in accord with new GMP/Park Roads EIS.
- Rehabilitate the Lost Horse Ranger/Interpreter Station and utilize solar technology.
- Maintenance Rehabilitation of Pistol/Rifle Range.
- Reliable telephone service to Pinto Wye.
- 1995 - Maintenance Rehabilitation of Sheep Pass and other borrow pits, as well as acquired properties.
- Construct bunkhouse at headquarters to replace trailer.
- Enlarge/rehabilitate Indian Cove Entrance Station, and complete ranger station capability in the garage.
- 1996 - Construct the Administration/Maintenance wing of new administrative site, and rehabilitate existing one.
- Construct fee collection stations at North, West and Cottonwood.
- 1997 - Commercial electricity and telephones to Cottonwood.
- Construct the Protection/Interpretation wing of new administrative site.
- Reconstruct campground roads and improve CG facilities.
- 1998 - Construct restrooms to replace pit toilets.
- 1999 - Construct the Resources Management wing of new administrative site.

**Resources Management.** "Conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein..."

**Natural** (Vegetation/Wildlife) - 1994 - International Biosphere Reserve now includes DEVA, JOTR, Deep Canyon Research Area, and Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, and is expanded to include Mohave National Park and BLM wilderness areas of the California Desert.

- 1994 - Rehabilitate road entrances to Stubbe Springs and back entrance to Lost Horse Ranger Station.
- Physical Science Technician establishes air quality program for entire park.
- Resources monitoring (NPS member of team) of Eagle Mountain Landfill begins to acquire baseline data awaiting first load of trash to site along Joshua Tree National Park boundary.
- Develop tortoise management program in compliance with the recovery plan, and provide input in the issue of critical habitat.
- Input mapping/vegetation information into GIS computer.
- Complete first cooperative plant evaluation plot under MOU with Soil Conservation Service.
- Complete biological and social science research on impacts of rock climbing.
- 1995 - Rehabilitate old Pistol/Rifle Range site.
- Develop Inventory and Monitoring Plan as per RMP
- GIS expanded to include threatened and endangered plant and wildlife species.
- Expand interpretation of Center of Arid Lands
- 1996 - Nursery expands, and is utilized for all three California Desert National Parks.
- GIS expanded to provide all wildlife themes.
- 1997 - Plans of Operations for mines inside JOTR boundaries are complete for protection of park resources.
- GIS expanded to include maintenance themes.
- Evaluate all artificial water systems/guzzlers.
- 1998 - All valid and effective wildlife guzzlers are completely repaired, and are self sufficient - During drought years are supplied by helicopter.

**Cultural**

- 1994 - Move the entire collection into the new Museum Storage Building. Also move the park library to this building.
- Complete the stabilization of Keys Ranch.
- Replant orchard and complete restoration of water system at Keys Ranch.
- 1995 - Implement GIS possibilities for cultural sites in JOTR.
- Cultural resources staff catalogs incoming artifacts from Mohave National Park and is used for a storage facility.
- 1996 - Complete cultural resources studies on impacts on rock climbing.
- 1997 - Complete all cataloging up-to-date

**Social**

- 1996 - Establish a social science program at Joshua Tree NP.