



## Anniversary Planning



### Yosemite Anniversaries

Several internationally significant anniversaries that honor the birth of the national park idea are fast approaching. The story of Yosemite National Park's past, present, and future is one shared by many diverse cultures and people and is momentous to the evolution of preservation. These anniversaries provide all Americans and the world a chance to increase our understanding of and dedication to the rich heritage of our national parks.

---

### Yosemite Grant 150<sup>th</sup> in 2014

Concerned by the effects of commercial interests, prominent citizens including Galen Clark and Senator John Conness advocated for the protection of Mariposa Grove and the Yosemite Valley areas (in what is now known as Yosemite National Park.) The Yosemite Grant Act, was signed by President Abraham Lincoln on June 30, 1864. The Act set aside the two tracts of revered land as a trust for the State of California.

This is the first instance of scenic, wilderness lands being preserved specifically for public use, resort, and recreation by action of the U.S. federal government.

The Yosemite Grant set a precedent for the 1872 establishment of Yellowstone as our nation's first national park.

The 150th Anniversary of the Yosemite Grant will occur on June 30, 2014.

---

### Wilderness Act 50<sup>th</sup> in 2014

Nowhere else in the United States is there a straight line of 150 miles that is roadless – from Bald Mountain north to Yosemite's Tioga Pass, no road crosses this part of the Sierra. Today, over 95% of Yosemite National Park is designated Wilderness.

The National Park Service preserves the most (56%) designated Wilderness of any land management agency in the United States.

The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Wilderness Act will occur on September 3, 2014.

Wilderness is recognized as an area where the earth and community of life are untrammelled by man and where man himself is a visitor who does not remain.

---

**Yosemite National Park  
125<sup>th</sup> in 2015**

Yosemite National Park was established as a national park on October 1, 1890.

Yosemite National Park is best known for its towering granite monoliths and waterfalls, but within its nearly 1,200 square miles, you can find deep valleys, grand meadows, and giant sequoias.

In 1906, the State of California ceded Yosemite Valley and Mariposa Grove to the federal

government, thereby completing the Yosemite National Park that we know today.

The 125th Anniversary of Yosemite National Park will occur on October 1, 2015.

---

**National Park Service  
100<sup>th</sup> in 2016**

The National Park Service cares for the American legacy. The Service was created on August 25, 1916 to manage those areas assigned to the U.S. Department of the Interior.

**Organic Act of 1916**

Specifically, under the Organic Act of 1916, the National Park Service preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations.

The National Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.

The 100th Anniversary of the National Park Service will occur on August 25, 2016.