



# NPS *Accountability Report*



**Fiscal Year 2000**

**U.S. Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

# NPS *Accountability Report*



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The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

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EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

**Cover photos clockwise from left:** Balcony House, Mesa Verde National Park; Tuskegee Airmen veterans, Tuskegee Airmen National Historic Site; Statue of Liberty National Monument; tattered flag from Fort Sumter National Monument; NPS Volunteers in Parks brochure; environmental education at Assateague Island National Seashore; Zion National Park transit system; grizzly bear studies, North Cascades National Park; eastern spadefoot toad, Great Smoky Mountains National Park; building models from the Save America's Treasures Millenium Project adorn a White House tree; traditional dancers at the Border Folk Festival, Chamizal National Memorial; Mojave National Preserve; Old Bedlam Officers' Quarters, Fort Laramie National Historic Site.

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Jefferson National Expansion Memorial provided a symbolic backdrop to the National Park Service Discovery 2000 General Conference. The Servicewide gathering provided a gateway for the discussion of new ideas for the 21st century.

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Education programs at parks such as Assateague Island National Seashore work to help visitors discover the rich cultural and natural heritage that connects them to the National Park System.

## A Message from the Director

I am pleased to present the National Park Service (NPS) Accountability Report for Fiscal Year 2000. Over 20,000 dedicated men and women in more than 380 designated areas manage the National Park System across our country. This report offers a glimpse of the complexity and breadth of the NPS mission and responsibilities.

During this past year we have continued to make progress with several important initiatives. The Natural Resource Challenge represents a significant financial commitment to expand our inventory of information about natural resources in parks. We are also a significant partner in the largest ecosystem restoration effort ever undertaken, to restore the Everglades while maintaining water supplies for a growing South Florida. Other significant NPS accomplishments include: the development of our first 5-year maintenance and capital improvement plan, the continued success of the recreation fee demonstration program, leveraging federal dollars through several partnership programs, and continuing our commitment to the diversity action plan.

The successful audit of the NPS financial records and system represents a significant accomplishment and reflects our commitment to management and financial accountability. The National Park Service is the first Department of the Interior bureau to undergo and successfully complete an audit of its financial statements by a public accounting firm (KPMG, LLP). The extraordinary effort that went into the preparation of these statements, resulting in an unqualified opinion, is a reflection of the value we place on being entrusted as stewards of our nation's most valuable resources.

I encourage you to read this report so that you may better understand and appreciate the mission and accomplishments of the National Park Service.

Sincerely,



Denis P. Galvin  
Acting Director  
National Park Service



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