



**BUDGET** The United States  
Department of the Interior  
**JUSTIFICATIONS**

and Performance Information  
Fiscal Year 2027

**NATIONAL PARK  
SERVICE**

NOTICE: These budget justifications are prepared for the Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittees.



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# National Park Service FY 2027 Budget Justifications



## Executive Summary

### Introduction

The National Park Service (NPS) FY 2027 budget provides funding levels necessary to ensure that parks remain open and accessible by prioritizing operational funding at the park level, focusing on core operations such as law enforcement and safety, visitor services, and facility operations and maintenance. The FY 2027 budget also prioritizes balancing and restoring confidence in America’s fiscal management. These funding levels continue to support many national treasures, while fulfilling the urgent need to streamline staffing and utilize State, local, and private sector management to ensure the long-term health and sustainment of the National Park system.

In support of the Administration’s commitment to provide a streamlined and effective government that is responsive to the needs of the American taxpayer, the 2027 NPS budget implements cost efficiencies and workforce optimization efforts underway across the Department of the Interior. This budget reduces redundant operations by streamlining burdensome administrative processes; reduces the size of the Federal government through efficiency improvements and consolidations and prioritizes high-impact investments. The Administration is committed to providing a streamlined and effective government to the American taxpayer. The budget supports the unification and optimization of administrative functions within the Department in order to achieve effectiveness, accountability and cost savings for the American taxpayer. This unification includes human resources, information technology, financial management, training and development, international affairs, contracting, communications, Federal financial assistance, and other administrative functions.

In support of the Administration’s priority of maintaining our parks’ key assets and reducing deferred maintenance across the park system, the budget prioritizes facility and deferred maintenance needs in park base accounts to enable park managers additional funding to utilize in a manner that best suits the unique facilities needs at their parks, and provides additional funding specifically to our Crown Jewel

parks to address facility and defensible space safety needs for NPS assets. These targeted investments in parks provide park managers with the autonomy and funding necessary to address the most urgent and critical needs.

As part of the Administration’s commitment to enhancing access for American residents, the Department is also implementing America-first entry fee policies. U.S. residents will continue to enjoy affordable pricing at \$80 for an Annual Pass, while nonresidents will pay a higher rate of \$250 to help support the care and maintenance of America’s parks. Nonresidents without an annual pass will pay a \$100 per person fee to enter 11 of the most visited national parks, in addition to the standard entrance fee. Revenue generated from new fee policies will be invested directly back into America’s national parks, supporting upgrades to visitor facilities, essential maintenance, and improved services nationwide.

The NPS proposes targeted funding for the U.S. Park Police (USPP) that would maintain the force's capacity to address President Trump’s Executive Order 14252, Making the District of Columbia Safe and Beautiful. This funding supports a surge of law enforcement officers and the enforcement of quality-of-life laws to protect against drug use, unpermitted demonstrations, vandalism, and public intoxication, and the maximization of immigration enforcement to apprehend and deport dangerous illegal aliens. Additionally, this effort supports replacement or modernization of operational equipment such as vehicle and motorcycle fleets, IT infrastructure, and communications and computer equipment. This funding also maintains support for additional officers plus associated equipment and training for the Secretary’s protection detail.

## Bureau Mission

### *The NPS Organic Act, 1916*

*“...The service thus established shall promote and regulate the use of the Federal areas known as national parks, monuments, and reservations hereinafter specified by such means and measures as conform to the fundamental purposes of the said parks, monuments, and reservations, which 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 manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations...”*

The NPS serves a vital role connecting our republic and our citizens to our environment, our past, and each other. It is the NPS that is responsible for safeguarding the irreplaceable magnificent natural wonders and significant historical and cultural resources. Because parks serve so many — welcoming 323 million visitors in 2025 — the National Park System is a driver of economic activity for our communities. While visitors have inspirational, educational, and recreational experiences, they also provide an economic boon to communities.

## Budget Overview

The FY 2027 discretionary budget request for the NPS is \$2.21 billion. Recreation fee revenue and other mandatory funding sources are estimated to provide funding of \$11.76 billion. The total budget authority for the FY 2027 request is \$13.96 billion, which supports the Administration’s priority of balancing and restoring confidence in America’s fiscal management and includes the authorization and establishment of the new \$10.0 billion Presidential Capital Stewardship Program in order to carry out priority construction and rehabilitation projects in the Washington, D.C. area.

Operation of the National Park System (ONPS) –The FY 2027 budget request for this appropriation is \$2.14 billion. This includes \$185.4 million for Resource Stewardship, \$226.2 million for Visitor Services, \$561.6 million for Park Protection, \$578.8 million for Facility Operations and Maintenance, \$419.5 million for Park Support, and \$169.3 million for External Administrative Costs. These funding levels support streamlining burdensome administrative processes, while maintaining core operations such as law enforcement and safety, visitor services, and facility operations and maintenance.

National Recreation and Preservation (NR&P) – The FY 2027 budget request for this appropriation is \$6.04 million. NPS cultural programs support public participation in preservation of the country’s cultural heritage through National Register Programs.

Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) – The FY 2027 budget request for this appropriation is \$11.0 million to fund grants-in-aid to Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) to support preservation of historic structures on HBCU campuses, while refocusing the budget on primary Federal responsibilities.

Construction – The FY 2027 budget request for this appropriation is \$48.7 million. This appropriation funds construction projects, management, planning, and operations.

**2027 President’s Budget<sup>1</sup>**

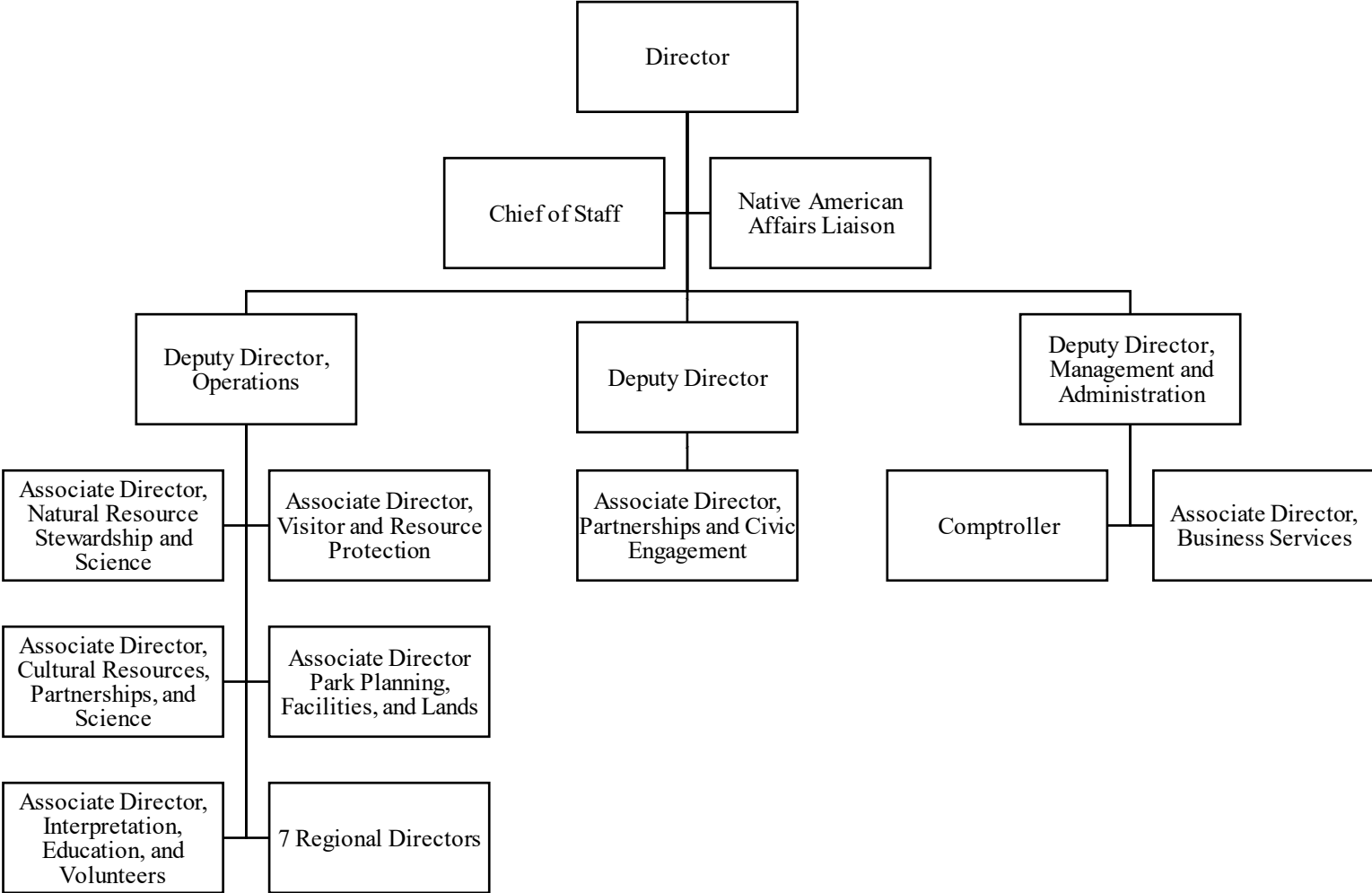
**National Park Service**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

	2025 Actual		2026 Enacted		2027 Request		Change from 2026 Enacted	
<b>Budget Authority</b>	<b>Budget Authority</b>	<b>FTE</b>	<b>Budget Authority</b>	<b>FTE</b>	<b>Budget Authority</b>	<b>FTE</b>	<b>Budget Authority</b>	<b>FTE</b>
Current	3,337,172	13,497	3,267,311	11,913	2,206,470	9,206	-1,060,841	-2,707
Permanent	1,311,460	5,044	1,768,095	4,126	11,757,183	3,913	+9,989,088	-213
<b>Total, Budget Authority</b>	<b>4,648,632</b>	<b>18,541</b>	<b>5,035,406</b>	<b>16,039</b>	<b>13,963,653</b>	<b>13,119</b>	<b>+8,928,247</b>	<b>-2,920</b>

1/ Excludes supplemental funding and transfers

National Park Service Organizational Chart



## **Justification of Major Mandatory and Legislative Proposals**

### **Presidential Capital Stewardship Program**

As the capital of the greatest country in the history of the world, Washington, DC should showcase beautiful, clean, and safe public spaces. However, many historic park features and public-facing infrastructure throughout the city show signs of decay, years of heavy public use, and inadequate maintenance. Under the President's leadership, the Administration is committed to making Washington, DC – a once-great city – safe, clean and beautiful again. The budget includes \$10 billion in permanent funding to establish the Presidential Capital Stewardship Program within the National Park Service to coordinate, plan and execute targeted, priority construction and beautification projects in and around Washington, DC. Once complete, these projects will improve safety and accessibility, rehabilitate historic buildings and landscapes, and enhance architectural grandeur so that Americans can once again be proud of their country's capital. In addition, this generational investment in the restoration of Washington, DC will drive economic development in the city, increase visitation from across the world, and lower future infrastructure lifecycle costs.

### **United States Park Police Modernization**

The President's Budget proposes legislation to modernize the USPP pay framework, which is a longstanding outlier among Federal law enforcement. Most Federal law enforcement organizations are part of the Federal personnel system administered by the Office of Personnel Management, with established flexibilities to manage pay and address recruitment and retention needs. By contrast, USPP pay is largely governed by a 1958 D.C. Police and Fire pay law, a framework that leaves USPP pay and staffing reliant on recurring Congressional action to keep pace with its Federal law enforcement counterparts.

The Administration supports legislation that would transfer USPP pay provisions into Title 5 of the U.S. Code to align USPP pay with the broader Federal personnel system, providing USPP access to government-wide pay tools, including hiring flexibilities based on superior qualifications and accelerated step progression available to other Federal law enforcement employees. Such modernization would ensure that America's oldest Federal uniformed law enforcement agency, established in 1791 and faithfully protecting public spaces and National icons that belong to all Americans, can sustain the workforce needed for this critical mission.

### **National Parks and Public Lands Legacy Restoration Fund**

The budget proposes to reauthorize the LRF for an additional five years, maintaining the current funding level of 50 percent of qualified energy development revenues from the preceding fiscal year, up to \$1.9 billion annually. Investments made under this reauthorized fund will not only enhance operational efficiency and public safety but also improve service delivery, reduce liabilities associated with deferred maintenance, and ensure that facilities on public lands adequately serve both visitors and communities. Additionally, these investments will significantly benefit recreational assets and access, promoting a more enjoyable experience for all visitors.

## **Good Accounting Obligation in Government Act Report**

The Good Accounting Obligation in Government Act (GAO-IG Act, P.L. 115-414) enacted January 3, 2019, requires that Agencies report the status of each open audit recommendation issued more than one year prior to the submission of the Agency's annual budget justification to Congress. The Act requires Agencies to include the current target completion date, implementation status, and any discrepancies on closure determinations.

The Department of the Interior leadership takes audit follow-up very seriously and considers our external auditors, to include the Government Accountability Office (GAO) and Office of the Inspector General, valued partners in not only improving the Department's management and compliance obligations but also enhancing its programmatic and administrative operations. As stewards of taxpayer resources, the Department applies cost-benefit analysis and enterprise risk management principles in recommendation implementation decisions. The Department's GAO-IG Act Report is available at the following link: <https://www.doi.gov/cj>

## National Park System Units

### In Alphabetical Order

- |  |  |   |  |
|--|--|---|--|
| 1. Abraham Lincoln Birthplace NHP                    | 40. Blue Ridge Parkway                         | Buffalo Soldiers NM                       | 123. Fire Island NS  |
| 2. Acadia NP   | 41. Bluestone NSR                              | 80. Chattahoochee River NRA               | 124. First Ladies NHS                                      |
| 3. Adams NHP   | 42. Booker T. Washington NM                    | 81. Chesapeake & Ohio Canal NHP           | 125. First State NHP                                       |
| 4. African Burial Ground NM                          | 43. Boston African Amer. NHS                   | 82. Chickamauga and Chattanooga NMP       | 126. Flight 93 NMem  |
| 5. Agate Fossil Beds NM                              | 44. Boston Harbor Islands NRA                  | 83. Chickasaw NRA                         | 127. Florissant Fossil Beds NM                             |
| 6. Alagnak Wild River                                | 45. Boston NHP                                 | 84. Chiricahua NM                         | 128. Ford's Theatre NHS                                    |
| 7. Alibates Flint Quarries NM                        | 46. Brices Cross Roads NBS                     | 85. Christiansted NHS                     | 129. Fort Bowie NHS  |
| 8. Allegheny Portage RR NHS                          | 47. Brown v. Board of Education NHP            | 86. City of Rocks NRes                    | 130. Fort Caroline NMem                                    |
| 9. Amache NHS  | 48. Bryce Canyon NP                            | 87. Clara Barton NHS                      | 131. Fort Davis NHS  |
| 10. Amistad NRA                                      | 49. Buck Island Reef NM                        | 88. Colonial NHP                          | 132. Fort Donelson NB                                      |
| 11. Andersonville NHS                                | 50. Buffalo NR                                 | 89. Colorado NM                           | 133. Fort Frederica NM                                     |
| 12. Andrew Johnson NHS                               | 51. Cabrillo NM                                | 90. Congaree NP                           | 134. Fort Laramie NHS                                      |
| 13. Aniakchak NM                                     | 52. Camp Nelson NM                             | 91. Constitution Gardens                  | 135. Fort Larned NHS                                       |
| 14. Aniakchak NPres                                  | 53. Canaveral NS                               | 92. Coronado NMem                         | 136. Fort Matanzas NM                                      |
| 15. Antietam NB                                      | 54. Cane River Creole NHP                      | 93. Cowpens NB                            | 137. Fort McHenry NM & Historic Shrine NM                  |
| 16. Apostle Islands NL                               | 55. Canyon de Chelly NM                        | 94. Crater Lake NP                        | 138. Fort Monroe NM  |
| 17. Appalachian NST                                  | 56. Canyonlands NP                             | 95. Craters of the Moon NM                | 139. Fort Necessity NB                                     |
| 18. Appomattox Court House NHP                       | 57. Cape Cod NS                                | 96. Craters of the Moon NPres             | 140. Fort Point NHS  |
| 19. Arches NP  | 58. Cape Hatteras NS                           | 97. Cumberland Gap NHP                    | 141. Fort Pulaski NM                                       |
| 20. Arkansas Post NMem                               | 59. Cape Krusenstern NM                        | 98. Cumberland Island NS                  | 142. Fort Raleigh NHS                                      |
| 21. Arlington House, The Robert E. Lee Memorial NMem | 60. Cape Lookout NS                            | 99. Curecanti NRA                         | 143. Fort Scott NHS  |
| 22. Assateague Island NS                             | 61. Capitol Reef NP                            | 100. Cuyahoga Valley NP                   | 144. Fort Smith NHS  |
| 23. Aztec Ruins NM                                   | 62. Capulin Volcano NM                         | 101. Dayton Aviation NHP                  | 145. Fort Stanwix NM                                       |
| 24. Badlands NP                                      | 63. Carl Sandburg Home NHS                     | 102. De Soto NMem                         | 146. Fort Sumter and Fort Moultrie NHP                     |
| 25. Bandelier NM                                     | 64. Carlisle Federal Indian Boarding School NM | 103. Death Valley NP                      | 147. Fort Union NM   |
| 26. Belmont-Paul Women's Equality NM                 | 65. Carlsbad Caverns NP                        | 104. Delaware Water Gap NRA               | 148. Fort Union Trading Post NHS                           |
| 27. Bent's Old Fort NHS                              | 66. Carter G. Woodson Home NHS                 | 105. Denali NP                            | 149. Fort Vancouver NHS                                    |
| 28. Bering Land Bridge NPres                         | 67. Casa Grande Ruins NM                       | 106. Denali NPres                         | 150. Fort Washington Park                                  |
| 29. Big Bend NP                                      | 68. Castillo de San Marcos NM                  | 107. Devils Postpile NM                   | 151. Fossil Butte NM                                       |
| 30. Big Cypress NPres                                | 69. Castle Clinton NM                          | 108. Devils Tower NM                      | 152. Frances Perkins NM                                    |
| 31. Big Hole NB                                      | 70. Castle Mountains NM                        | 109. Dinosaur NM                          | 153. Franklin D. Roosevelt Memorial, NMem                  |
| 32. Big South Fork NR&RA                             | 71. Catoctin Mountain Park                     | 110. Dry Tortugas NP                      | 154. Frederick Douglass NHS                                |
| 33. Big Thicket NPres                                | 72. Cedar Breaks NM                            | 111. Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial        | 155. Frederick Law Olmsted NHS                             |
| 34. Bighorn Canyon NRA                               | 73. Cedar Creek and Belle Grove NHP            | 112. Ebey's Landing NHR                   | 156. Fredericksburg/Spotsylvania Battlefields Memorial NMP |
| 35. Birmingham Civil Rights NM                       | 74. César E. Chávez NM                         | 113. Edgar Allan Poe NHS                  | 157. Freedom Riders NM                                     |
| 36. Biscayne NP                                      | 75. Chaco Culture NHP                          | 114. Effigy Mounds NM                     | 158. Friendship Hill NHS                                   |
| 37. Black Canyon of the Gunnison NP                  | 76. Chamizal NMem                              | 115. Eisenhower NHS                       | 159. Gates of the Arctic NP                                |
| 38. Blackstone River Valley NHP                      | 77. Channel Islands NP                         | 116. El Malpais NM                        | 160. Gates of the Arctic NPres                             |
| 39. Blackwell School NHS                             | 78. Charles Pickney NHS                        | 117. El Morro NM                          | 161. Gateway Arch NP                                       |
|  | 79. Charles Young                              | 118. Eleanor Roosevelt NHS                | 162. Gateway NRA   |
|  |  | 119. Emmett Till and Mamie Till-Mobley NM | 163. Gauley River NRA                                      |
|  |  | 120. Eugene O'Neill NHS                   | 164. General Grant NMem                                    |
|  |  | 121. Everglades NP                        | 165. George Rogers Clark NHS                               |
|  |  | 122. Federal Hall NMem                    | 166. George Washington                                     |

Birthplace NM	NMP	Battlefield NM	288. Natchez Trace Pkwy
167. George Washington Carver NM	208. Hot Springs NP	252. Little River Canyon NPres	289. National Capital Parks
168. George Washington Memorial Parkway	209. Hovenweep NM	253. Little Rock Central High School NHS	290. National Mall
169. Gettysburg NMP	210. Hubbell Trading Post NHS	254. Longfellow House – Washington’s Headquarters NHS	291. Natural Bridges NM
170. Gila Cliff Dwellings NM	211. Ice Age NST	255. Lowell NHP	292. Navajo NM
171. Glacier Bay NP	212. Independence NHP	256. Lyndon B. Johnson Memorial Grove on the Potomac NMem	293. New Bedford Whaling NHP
172. Glacier Bay NPres	213. Indiana Dunes NP	257. Lyndon B. Johnson NHP	294. New England NST
173. Glacier NP	214. Isle Royale NP	258. Maggie L. Walker NHS	295. New Orleans Jazz NHP
174. Glen Canyon NRA	215. James A Garfield NHS	259. Mammoth Cave NP	296. New Philadelphia NHS
175. Golden Gate NRA	216. Jean Lafitte NHP & Pres	260. Manassas NBP	297. New River Gorge NP&Res
176. Golden Spike NHP	217. Jewel Cave NM	261. Manhattan Project NHP	298. Nez Perce NHP
177. Governors Island NM	218. Jimmy Carter NHP	262. Manzanar NHS	299. Nicodemus NHS
178. Grand Canyon NP	219. John D. Rockefeller, Jr. Memorial Parkway	263. Marsh-Billings-Rockefeller NHP	300. Ninety Six NHS
179. Grand Portage NM	220. John Day Fossil Beds NM	264. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial	301. Niobrara National Scenic Riverway
180. Grand Teton NP	221. John F Kennedy NHS	265. Martin Luther King, Jr. NHP	302. Noatak NPres
181. Grant-Kohrs Ranch NHS	222. John Muir NHS	266. Martin Van Buren NHS	303. North Country NST
182. Great Basin NP	223. Johnstown Flood NMem	267. Mary McLeod Bethune Council House NHS	304. North Cascades NP
183. Great Egg Harbor NS&RR	224. Joshua Tree NP	268. Medgar and Myrlie Evers Home NM	305. Obed Wild & Scenic River
184. Great Sand Dunes NP	225. Kalaupapa NHP	269. Mesa Verde NP	306. Ocmulgee NHP
185. Great Sand Dunes NPres	226. Kaloko-Honokohau NHP	270. Middle Delaware NSR	307. Olympic NP
186. Great Smoky Mountains NP	227. Katahdin Woods and Waters NM	271. Mill Springs Battlefield NM	308. Oregon Caves NM&Pres
187. Greenbelt Park	228. Katmai NP	272. Minidoka NHS	309. Organ Pipe Cactus NM
188. Guadalupe Mountains NP	229. Katmai NPres	273. Minute Man NHP	310. Ozark National Scenic Riverways
189. Guilford Courthouse NMP	230. Kenai Fjords NP	274. Minuteman Missile NHS	311. Padre Island NS
190. Gulf Islands NS	231. Kennesaw Mountain NBP	275. Mississippi National River & Rec Area	312. Palo Alto Battlefield NHP
191. Hagerman Fossil Beds NM	232. Keweenaw NHP	276. Missouri National Recreational River NW&SR	313. Paterson Great Falls NHP
192. Haleakala NP	233. Kings Canyon NP	277. Mojave NPres	314. Pea Ridge NMP
193. Hamilton Grange NMem	234. Kings Mountain NMP	278. Monocacy NB	315. Pearl Harbor NMem
194. Hampton NHS	235. Klondike Gold Rush NHP	279. Montezuma Castle NM	316. Pecos NHP
195. Harpers Ferry NHP	236. Knife River Indian Village NHS	280. Moores Creek NB	317. Pennsylvania Avenue NHS
196. Harriet Tubman NHP	237. Kobuk Valley NP	281. Morristown NHP	318. Perry’s Victory & International Peace Memorial NMem
197. Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad NHP	238. Korean War Veterans Memorial	282. Mount Rainier NP	319. Petersburg NB
198. Harry S. Truman NHS	239. Lake Chelan NRA	283. Mount Rushmore NMem	320. Petrified Forest NP
199. Hawaii Volcanoes NP	240. Lake Clark NP	284. Muir Woods NM	321. Petroglyph NM
200. Herbert Hoover NHS	241. Lake Clark NPres	285. N Park of American Samoa, NP	322. Pictured Rocks NL
201. Hohokam Pima NM	242. Lake Mead NRA	286. Natchez NHP	323. Pinnacles NP
202. Home of FD Roosevelt NHS	243. Lake Meredith NRA	287. Natchez Trace NST	324. Pipe Spring NM
203. Homestead NHP	244. Lake Roosevelt NRA		325. Pipestone NM
204. Honouliuli NHS	245. Lassen Volcanic NP		326. Piscataway Park
205. Hopewell Culture NHP	246. Lava Beds NM		327. Point Reyes NS
206. Hopewell Furnace NHS	247. Lewis & Clark NHP		328. Port Chicago Naval Magazine NMem
207. Horseshoe Bend	248. Lincoln Boyhood NMem		329. Potomac Heritage NST
	249. Lincoln Home NHS		330. Poverty Point NM
	250. Lincoln Memorial, NMem		331. President William Jefferson Clinton
	251. Little Bighorn		

Birthplace Home NHS	Preserve	383. Theodore Roosevelt Island NMem	409. Walnut Canyon NM
332. Prince William Forest Park	357. San Antonio Missions NHP	384. Theodore Roosevelt NP	410. War in the Pacific NHP
333. Pu'uhonua o Honaunau NHP	358. San Francisco Maritime NHP	385. Thomas Edison NHP	411. Washington Monument
334. Pullman NHP	359. San Juan Island NHP	386. Thomas Jefferson Memorial	412. Washita Battlefield NHS
335. Puukohola Heiau NHS	360. San Juan NHS	387. Thomas Stone NHS	413. Weir Farm NHP
336. Rainbow Bridge NM	361. Sand Creek Massacre NHS	388. Timpanogos Cave NM	414. Whiskeytown Unit NRA
337. Reconstruction Era NHP	362. Santa Monica Mtns NRA	389. Timucuan Ecological & Historic NPres	415. White House
338. Redwood NP	363. Saratoga NHP	390. Tonto NM	416. White Sands NP
339. Richmond NBP	364. Saugus Iron Works NHS	391. Tule Lake NM	417. Whitman Mission NHS
340. Rio Grande Wild & Scenic River	365. Scotts Bluff NM	392. Tule Springs Fossil Beds NM	418. William Howard Taft NHS
341. River Raisin NBP	366. Sequoia NP	393. Tumacacori NHP	419. Wilson's Creek NB
342. Rock Creek Park	367. Shenandoah NP	394. Tupelo NB	420. Wind Cave NP
343. Rocky Mountain NP	368. Shiloh NMP	395. Tuskegee Airmen NHS	421. Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts
344. Roger Williams NMem	369. Sitka NHP	396. Tuskegee Institute NHS	422. Women's Rights NHP
345. Rosie the Riveter/WWII Home Front NHP	370. Sleeping Bear Dunes NL	397. Tuzigoot NM	423. World War I Memorial
346. Ross Lake NRA	371. Springfield 1908 Race Riot NM	398. Ulysses S. Grant NHS	424. World War II Memorial
347. Russell Cave NM	372. Springfield Armory NHS	399. Upper Delaware Scenic & Recreational River	425. Wrangell-Saint Elias NP
348. Sagamore Hill NHS	373. Statue of Liberty NM	400. Valles Caldera NPres	426. Wrangell-Saint Elias NPres
349. Saguaro NP	374. Ste. Genevieve NHP	401. Valley Forge NHP	427. Wright Brothers NMem
350. Saint Croix Island IHS	375. Steamtown NHS	402. Vanderbilt Mansion NHS	428. Wupatki NM
351. Saint Croix NSR	376. Stones River NB	403. Vicksburg NMP	429. Yellowstone NP
352. Saint Paul's Church NHS	377. Stonewall NM	404. Vietnam Veterans Memorial	430. Yosemite NP
353. Saint-Gaudens NHP	378. Sunset Crater Volcano NM	405. Virgin Islands Coral Reef NM	431. Yucca House NM
354. Salem Maritime NHP	379. Tallgrass Prairie NPres	406. Virgin Islands NP	432. Yukon-Charley Rivers NPres
355. Salinas Pueblo Missions NM	380. Thaddeus Kosciuszko NMem	407. Voyageurs NP	433. Zion NP
356. Salt River Bay NHP & Ecological	381. Theodore Roosevelt Birthplace NHS	408. Waco Mammoth NM	
	382. Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural NHS		

**Account: Operation of the National Park System**

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## Appropriation: Operation of the National Park System

The Operation of the National Park System (ONPS) appropriation provides the operating funding for our country's national parks, trails, partnership wild and scenic rivers, and program and support offices.

The ONPS appropriation is composed of two budget activities: Park Management and External Administrative Costs. The Park Management activity covers the management and operation of park areas and service-wide programs. It is structured in line with the functional activities the NPS undertakes to fulfill its mission. The ONPS account may fund minimal needs for statutorily required functions previously funded by other NPS accounts.

The five functional activities included in the budget are:

- **Resource Stewardship** encompasses resource management operations that provide for the protection and conservation of unique natural, cultural, and historical features of the National Park System.
- **Visitor Services** includes educational and interpretive programs to enhance the visitor's experience. It also supports efficient management of commercial services for the benefit of visitors and the protection of resources.
- **Park Protection** includes law enforcement programs, the United States Park Police, and public health operations, which provide for the protection of park resources, visitors, and staff.
- **Facility Operations and Maintenance** encompasses the operations and maintenance of buildings, other facilities, and lands, as well as the protection of other government investments.
- **Park Support** covers the management, supervision, and administrative operations for park areas, service-wide programs, and partnerships.

The External Administrative Costs activity funds costs that are largely determined by organizations outside the NPS and for which funding requirements are less flexible. The requirements for these costs are mandated in accordance with applicable laws. To promote efficient performance, these costs are managed centrally. As described in the "Compliance with Section 403" special exhibit, a portion of costs previously charged to External Administrative Costs will be reallocated to other benefitting accounts.

**Summary of Requirements<sup>1</sup>**  
**National Park Service**  
**Appropriation: Operation of the National Park System**  
*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

Treasury Account/Activity	2025 Actual		2026 Enacted		2027 Request					
	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Program Changes (\$)	FTE Changes (+/-)	Budget Authority	FTE	Change from 2026 Enacted
<b>Park Management</b>										
Resource Stewardship	360,035	2,017	398,820	1,787	-145	-213,318	-845	185,357	942	-213,463
Visitor Services	267,848	2,151	277,635	2,007	-158	-51,281	-457	226,196	1,550	-51,439
Park Protection	460,926	2,174	426,076	2,526	+1,305	+134,248	+13	561,629	2,539	+135,553
Facility Operations and Maintenance	914,048	3,887	945,235	3,585	-283	-366,151	-613	578,801	2,972	-366,434
Park Support	671,355	2,722	652,217	1,583	-198	-232,505	-602	419,514	981	-232,703
<b>Subtotal, Park Management</b>	<b>2,674,212</b>	<b>12,951</b>	<b>2,699,983</b>	<b>11,488</b>	<b>+521</b>	<b>-729,007</b>	<b>-2,504</b>	<b>1,971,497</b>	<b>8,984</b>	<b>-728,486</b>
<b>External Administrative Costs</b>	220,212	-	201,212	-	-4,926	-27,031	-	169,255		-31,957
<b>Subtotal, Operation of the National Park System</b>	<b>2,894,424</b>	<b>12,951</b>	<b>2,901,195</b>	<b>11,488</b>	<b>-4,405</b>	<b>-756,038</b>	<b>-2,504</b>	<b>2,140,752</b>	<b>8,984</b>	<b>-760,443</b>
<i>External Mandated Transfer</i>	-48	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Transfer to 400 Year of African American History Commission</i>	-3,300	-	-3,300	-	-	-	-	-	-	+3,300
<i>Medical Services Fund</i>	1,351	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Transfer in for Drug Trafficking Deterrent Actions</i>	132	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total, Operation of the National Park System</b>	<b>2,892,559</b>	<b>12,951</b>	<b>2,897,895</b>	<b>11,488</b>	<b>-4,405</b>	<b>-756,038</b>	<b>-2,504</b>	<b>2,140,752</b>	<b>8,984</b>	<b>-757,143</b>

<sup>1</sup> Table does not include supplemental funding.

**Justification of Fixed Costs Changes  
National Park Service  
Operation of the National Park System**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

<b>Fixed Cost Element</b>	<b>2026 Enacted Change</b>	<b>2026 Enacted to 2027 Request Change</b>	<b>Description</b>
Pay Raise	+26,734	+4,658	The President's Budget for 2027 includes one quarter (October-December 2026) of the 1.0% pay raise for 2026 and 0.0% pay raise for 2027. Pay raises are consistent with the published OMB Circular A-11.
FERS Employer Contribution	0	-4,137	The estimates reflect adjustments to the employer contribution for FERS and Law Enforcement FERS for FY 2027. This information is consistent with the published OMB Circular A-11.
Departmental Working Capital Fund (WCF)	+2,866	-1,314	The estimates reflect Department decisions on the FY 2027 Working Capital Fund Central Bill.
Workers' Compensation Payments	+784	-120	The amount reflects final chargeback costs of compensating injured employees and dependents of employees who suffer accidental death while on duty. This amount reflects the final Workers Compensation bill for FY 2027 payable to the Department of Labor, Federal Employees Compensation Fund, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 8147(b) as amended by Public Law 94-273.
Unemployment Compensation Payments	-1,527	0	The amount reflects projected changes in the costs of unemployment compensation claims to be paid to the Department of Labor, Federal Employees Compensation Account, in the Unemployment Trust Fund, pursuant to Public Law 96-499. This estimate reflects an applied annual inflation factor of 3.0% to the 5-year average of actuals between 2020-2024.
GSA and Non-GSA Rents	-3,214	-3,492	This estimate reflects the FY 2027 President's Budget Exhibit 54s as submitted. The amounts reflect changes in the costs payable to General Services Administration (GSA) and others for office and non-office space as estimated by GSA, as well as the rental costs of other currently occupied space. These estimates reflect Udall Building rent, Security, Federal Reserve Parking, and Operations and Maintenance, distributed by bureau and office, based upon OFAS provided Udall Building occupancy levels. Costs of mandatory office relocations, i.e. relocations in cases where due to external events there is no alternative but to vacate the currently occupied space, are also included.
<b>Total, ONPS 2027 Fixed Costs</b>	<b>+25,643</b>	<b>-4,405</b>	

## Appropriations Language

*For expenses necessary for the management, operation, and maintenance of areas and facilities administered by the National Park Service and for the general administration of the National Park Service, \$2,140,752,000, of which not to exceed \$15,000 may be for official reception and representation expenses: Provided, That funds appropriated under this heading in this Act are available for the purposes of section 5 of the Act of August 18, 1978, Public Law 95-348.*

*In addition, for purposes described in section 2404 of the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act, Public Law 116-9 (54 U.S.C. 102712 note), an amount equal to the amount deposited in this fiscal year into the National Park Medical Services Fund established pursuant to such section of such Act, to remain available until expended, shall be derived from such Fund.*

## Appropriations Language Citations

### **1. For expenses necessary for the management, operation, and maintenance of areas and facilities administered by the National Park Service**

Division A of subtitle I of title 54, United States Code, creates the NPS, defines the National Park System, and provides authorities related thereto, including authority for management, operation, and maintenance of areas and facilities administered by the NPS.

Other parts of the United States Code provide authorities related to certain subjects, as follows:

5 U.S.C. 5901(a), Uniform allowance for employees of the National Park Service.

54 U.S.C. 1019, Concessions and Commercial Use authorizations.

16 U.S.C. 21 – 450ss-7, 459 to 460a-11, and 460m –460-kkk, Specific national park areas or categories of National Park areas.

16 U.S.C. 6801 note, Recreation fees and fee collection and use.

54 U.S.C. 102303-102304, 320101-320104, 320106: Acquisition, operation and management of historic and archeological sites, buildings, and properties.

16 U.S.C. 1131-1136: National Wilderness Preservation System.

16 U.S.C. 1241-1249: National Scenic and National Historic Trails.

16 U.S.C. 1281(c): National Wild and Scenic Rivers System components.

54 U.S.C. 102701 Authorizes the law enforcement activities of the U.S. Park Police.

### **2. and for the general administration of the National Park Service, \$2,140,752,000,**

54 U.S.C. 100101, 100301-100302, which creates the NPS, authorizes this provision, which is included because of the desire of Congress to collect the majority of the agency's general administrative expenses in one appropriation.

### **3. of which not to exceed \$15,000 may be for official reception and representation expenses:**

Enables NPS to use up to \$15,000 of appropriated amounts for courtesy and social responsibilities associated with official duties, primarily for Tribal consultation.

### **4. Provided, That funds appropriated under this heading in this Act are available for the purposes of section 5 of the Act of August 18, 1978, Public Law 95-348.**

Authorizes appropriations to be allocated to American Memorial Park.

- 5. In addition, for purposes described in section 2404 of the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act, Public Law 116–9 (54 U.S.C. 102712 note), an amount equal to the amount deposited in this fiscal year into the National Park Medical Services Fund established pursuant to such section of such Act, to remain available until expended, shall be derived from such Fund.**

Allows the NPS to utilize funds collected in the National Park Medical Services Fund, as authorized by section 2404 of the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act (P.L. 116-9), for the purposes of executing that section.

**Activity: Park Management**

The Park Management activity covers the management and operation of park areas and service-wide programs. It is structured in line with the functional activities the NPS undertakes to fulfill its mission, including actively managing and promoting conservation practices and providing opportunities for recreation on our country's public lands.

**Activity: Park Management<sup>1</sup>**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

Sub-Activity/Program Element	2025 Actual		2026 Enacted		2027 Request					
	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Program Change (\$)	FTE Changes (+/-)	Budget Authority	FTE	Change from 2026 Enacted
<b>Resource Stewardship</b>										
Natural Resource Stewardship	239,350	1,317	253,475	1,161	-96	-143,041	-615	110,338	546	-143,137
Cultural Resource Stewardship	109,024	670	133,684	604	-49	-58,616	-208	75,019	396	-58,665
Everglades Restoration & Research	11,661	30	11,661	22	-	-11,661	-22	-	-	-11,661
<b>Visitor Services</b>										
Interp & Education	256,634	2,085	266,031	1,955	-153	-48,086	-428	217,792	1,527	-48,239
Commercial Svcs	11,214	66	11,604	52	-5	-3,195	-29	8,404	23	-3,200
<b>Park Protection</b>										
Law Enforcement and Protection	419,141	1,977	386,856	2,329	+1,319	+123,252	+13	511,427	2,342	+124,571
Health and Safety	41,785	197	39,220	197	-14	+10,996	-	50,202	197	+10,982
<b>Facility Operations Maintenance</b>										
Facility Operations	392,026	2,331	378,013	2,128	-170	-17,085	-427	360,758	1,701	-17,255
Facility Maint.	522,022	1,556	567,222	1,457	-113	-349,066	-186	218,043	1,271	-349,179
<b>Park Support</b>										
Management, Policy and Development	175,670	751	192,094	544	-55	-52,620	-246	139,419	298	-52,675
Administrative Support	495,685	1,971	460,123	1,039	-143	-179,885	-356	280,095	683	-180,028
<b>Total, Park Management</b>	<b>2,674,212</b>	<b>12,951</b>	<b>2,699,983</b>	<b>11,488</b>	<b>+521</b>	<b>-729,007</b>	<b>-2,504</b>	<b>1,971,497</b>	<b>8,984</b>	<b>-728,486</b>

<sup>1</sup> Table does not include supplemental funding

### **SubActivity: Resource Stewardship**

The Resource Stewardship subactivity supports the NPS mission by protecting, conserving, and restoring natural and cultural resources, as well as providing the knowledge and information necessary to ensure their proper management. Conservation stewardship of these treasures is a key component of the NPS mission to protect and manage America's resources for the benefit of current and future generations. The resource stewardship subactivity consists of the following areas of responsibility:

#### **Natural Resource Stewardship**

Supports parks by providing park and resource managers with knowledge gained through systematic and critical investigations, responsive technical assistance, continuing education for park personnel, and cost-effective research programs that address complex landscape-level management issues. Manages natural resources in the National Park System to meet NPS's statutory responsibility to conserve resources unimpaired for future generations. NPS also works a wide array of partners to provide recreational opportunities within the National Trails System and Wild and Scenic River System.

For more information regarding the National Trails System, please see: [NPS National Trails System](#)

For more information regarding the Wild and Scenic River System, please see: [NPS Wild and Scenic Rivers Program](#)

#### **Cultural Resource Stewardship**

Identifies, documents, preserves, protects, and commemorates the sites, landscapes, buildings, people, events, and objects that define the country's heritage. Maintains knowledge and inventories of these resources to facilitate appropriate and cost-effective preservation and protection, as well as access to resources. Guides the application of specific methods and techniques for preservation maintenance. Oversees NPS compliance with the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act and provides for technical advice, guidance, and training to NPS sites.

#### **Everglades Restoration and Research**

The South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force implements projects affecting Big Cypress NPres, Biscayne NP, Everglades NP, and Dry Tortugas NP. Projects included feasibility studies, pilot projects, and restoration projects.

**SubActivity: Resource Stewardship<sup>1</sup>**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

Activity/Sub Activity/Program Element/Budget Element	2025 Actual		2026 Enacted		2027 Request					
	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Program Changes (\$)	FTE Changes (+/-)	Budget Authority	FTE	Change from 2026 Enacted
<b>Park Management Resource Stewardship</b>										
Natural Resource Stewardship	239,350	1,317	253,475	1,161	-96	-143,041	-615	110,338	546	-143,137
Cultural Resource Stewardship	109,024	670	133,684	604	-49	-58,616	-208	75,019	396	-58,665
Everglades Restoration and Research	11,661	30	11,661	22	-	-11,661	-22	-	-	-11,661
<b>Total, Resource Stewardship</b>	<b>360,035</b>	<b>2,017</b>	<b>398,820</b>	<b>1,787</b>	<b>-145</b>	<b>-213,318</b>	<b>-845</b>	<b>185,357</b>	<b>942</b>	<b>-213,463</b>

<sup>1</sup> Table does not include supplemental funding.

**Summary of 2027 Program Changes for Resource Stewardship**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

<b>Program Changes</b>	<b>2027 Request Change</b>	<b>FTE Change</b>
<i>Operational Efficiency Savings</i>	-213,318	-845
<b>TOTAL Program Changes</b>	<b>-213,318</b>	<b>-845</b>

**Justification of Program Changes Narrative: Resource Management**

The 2027 budget request for Resource Stewardship is \$185,357,000 and 942 FTE, a program change of -\$213,318,000 and -845 FTE. At the requested level of funding, the NPS will carry out its mission and provide for the protection and preservation of resources and ensure visitors can safely enjoy and experience national park lands.

**Operational Efficiency Savings (-\$213,318,000 / -845 FTE)** – The 2027 Budget proposes funding levels that will reach balance and restore confidence in America’s fiscal management. The budget provides funding levels necessary to ensure that parks remain open and accessible by prioritizing operational funding at the park level, focusing on core operations such as law enforcement and safety, visitor services, and facility operations and maintenance. In support of the Administration’s efforts on government efficiency, workforce optimization, and responsiveness to the American taxpayer, this budget reduces redundant operations by streamlining burdensome administrative processes; reduces the size of the Federal government through efficiency improvements and consolidations; and prioritizes high-impact investments. This budget also continues to support many national treasures, while fulfilling the urgent need to utilize State, local, and private sector management to ensure the long-term health and sustainment of the National Park system.

### **SubActivity: Visitor Services**

The Visitor Services subactivity is central to the National Park Service mission, as it ensures meaningful experiences for park visitors through greater understanding and access to America's natural, cultural, historical, and recreational treasures. These experiences are facilitated through formal and informal experiential and educational platforms, leading to greater protection, appreciation, and enjoyment. Millions of visitors access Interior's public lands seeking inspiration and recreation, helping to grow the tourism and outdoor recreation industries. Visitors also come to learn and share the stories of our natural and cultural history. Visitor Services resources facilitate connecting to the great outdoors at NPS public recreation areas across the country and continue to expand access for the benefit of all Americans.

### **Interpretation and Education**

Interpretation and education programming advances the NPS mission by providing memorable interpretive, educational, and recreational experiences that will help the public create and understand the purpose and relevance of park resources and stories and inspire stewardship actions to protect and enhance those resources and stories. Park-based Interpretation and Education programs engage millions of people annually, providing valuable insights into our public lands. This visitor engagement inspires and connects visitors of all ages to America's natural and cultural heritage.

The NPS also works hand-in-hand with communities to engage people of all ages in meaningful and mutually beneficial volunteer opportunities. Sustained volunteerism on public lands reflects the interest of the American people to experience and protect national parks. NPS works in partnership with other Federal agencies to promote volunteer recruitment and management through Volunteer.gov; together, these agencies and bureaus using Volunteer.gov manage more than 280,000 volunteers who contribute more than 10 million hours of volunteer service annually, for an annual value of \$334 million.

### **Commercial Services**

Commercial Services oversees concession contracts and leases to ensure quality services and resource protection at park sites. Their collection of franchise fees and cost recoveries benefit the public, and they ensure affordable, appropriate visitor facilities and services.

The Department is also considering the development of a future proposal for a new authority to allow the Secretary of the Interior and the Department's bureaus to enter into agreements with appropriate entities to license their owned or controlled intellectual property. The authority proposal will address a gap in the Department's ability to charge licensing fees and to use revenues therefrom to support certain mission-related activities including but not limited to addressing deferred maintenance and reinvesting in DOI properties. Licensing fees retained under this provision would remain available until expended, ensuring sustainable funding to carry out the Department's mission. The Department looks forward to working with Congress on this idea.

**SubActivity: Visitor Services<sup>1</sup>**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

Activity/Sub Activity/Program Element/Budget Element	2025 Actual		2026 Enacted		2027 Request					
	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Program Changes (\$)	FTE Changes (+/-)	Budget Authority	FTE	Change from 2026 Enacted
<b>Park Management</b>										
<b>Visitor Services</b>										
Interpretation and Education	256,634	2,085	266,031	1,955	-153	-48,086	-428	217,792	1,527	-48,239
Commercial Services	11,214	66	11,604	52	-5	-3,195	-29	8,404	23	-3,200
<b>Total, Visitor Services</b>	<b>267,848</b>	<b>2,151</b>	<b>277,635</b>	<b>2,007</b>	<b>-158</b>	<b>-51,281</b>	<b>-457</b>	<b>226,196</b>	<b>1,550</b>	<b>-51,439</b>

<sup>1</sup> Table does not include supplemental funding

**Summary of 2027 Program Changes for Visitor Services**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

<b>Program Changes</b>	<b>2027 Request Change</b>	<b>FTE Change</b>
<i>Operational Efficiency Savings</i>	-52,601	-469
<i>National Garden of American Heroes</i>	+250	+2
<i>Lincoln Memorial Undercroft Operations</i>	+820	+8
<i>Desert Storm and Desert Shield Memorial Park Operations</i>	+250	+2
<b>TOTAL Program Changes</b>	<b>-51,281</b>	<b>-457</b>

**Justification of Program Changes Narrative: Visitor Services**

The 2027 budget request for Visitor Services is \$226,196,000 and 1,550 FTE, a program change of -\$51,281,000 and -457 FTE.

**Operational Efficiency Savings (-\$52,601,000 / -469 FTE)** – The 2027 Budget proposes funding levels that will reach balance and restore confidence in America’s fiscal management. The budget provides funding levels necessary to ensure that parks remain open and accessible by prioritizing operational funding at the park level, focusing on core operations such as law enforcement and safety, visitor services, and facility operations and maintenance. In support of the Administration’s efforts on government efficiency, workforce optimization, and responsiveness to the American taxpayer, this budget reduces redundant operations by streamlining burdensome administrative processes; reduces the size of the Federal government through efficiency improvements and consolidations; and prioritizes high-impact investments. This budget also continues to support many national treasures, while fulfilling the urgent need to utilize State, local, and private sector management to ensure the long-term health and sustainment of the National Park system.

**National Garden of American Heroes (+\$250,000 / +2 FTE)** – In support of Executive Order 14189 - Celebrating America's 250th Birthday, the NPS proposes new funding to support standing up operations at the National Garden of American Heroes. This funding will support park rangers to assist and educate visitors about the Heroes, law enforcement personnel to support the safety of the resources and our visitors, facility maintenance and operations, site leadership, and related costs. For Visitor Services, this \$0.25 million increase supports two interpretive park ranger positions. Across the budget structure, NPS proposes a total of \$1.50 million for the National Garden of American Heroes.

**Lincoln Memorial Undercroft Operations (+\$820,000 / +8 FTE)** – Funding will support visitor services and operations in the newly-renovated undercroft of the Lincoln Memorial. The renovation is planned for completion in late FY 2026 and will provide expanded opportunities for visitors to understand the significance of the memorial through extensive new museum exhibits and multimedia presentations. Funding will provide for staff to manage visitor flow and screening, interpretive rangers, custodial services, and maintenance for building systems and exhibits. For Visitor Services, this \$0.82 million increase supports eight park ranger positions. Across the budget structure, NPS proposes a total of \$2.82 million for the Lincoln Memorial Undercroft.

**Desert Storm and Desert Shield Memorial Park Operations (+\$250,000 / +2 FTE)** – Funding will support the operational needs of the forthcoming Desert Shield and Desert Storm Memorial, which commemorates and honors members of the Armed Forces that served on active duty in support of Operation Desert Storm or Operation Desert Shield. The memorial is currently under construction and anticipated to be completed in late 2026. Upon completion, the NPS will assume full responsibility for the memorial’s stewardship, including interpretive programming, daily educational services, and site operations. This funding will support increased utility costs and a comprehensive maintenance contract. Maintenance services will include mechanical, electrical, lighting, and plumbing systems, ensuring the memorial remains safe, functional, and accessible to visitors. For Visitor Services, this \$0.25 million increase supports two interpretive park ranger positions. Across the budget structure, NPS proposes a total of \$0.7 million for the Desert Storm and Desert Shield Memorial.

### **SubActivity: Park Protection**

Park Protection activities support the NPS mission by contributing to the protection and preservation of natural and cultural resources and ensuring visitors can safely enjoy and experience the national parks. Park Protection plays a key role in serving the public interest through modern, professional law enforcement; physical security; emergency services, risk management and public health; fire and aviation management; and wilderness protection. These efforts include the preparation, response, recovery, and mitigation activities necessary to address public health emergencies, natural disasters, and other impactful events.

### **Law Enforcement and Protection**

The NPS provides for law enforcement and protection in parks. This is an integral component in keeping our natural and cultural resources unimpaired for future generations, providing the public the opportunity to enjoy the national park units in a safe manner, and providing employees a safe place of employment.

NPS law enforcement personnel perform a variety of functions, including protecting and preserving resources, park lands and areas with special protection designations, such as wilderness areas and Icon status; ensuring the safety of visitors and providing search and rescue and emergency medical services; managing large-scale incidents and developing emergencies, including structural fires and natural disasters, such as hurricanes; and providing a level of on-the-ground customer service that has long been the tradition of the National Park Service.

Law Enforcement Operations – Park law enforcement rangers provide critical services to ensure visitor and employee safety and security, protection of park resources, deterrence of drug operations and other illegal activities in park areas, and apprehension of criminal violators. The United States Park Police (USPP) supports these efforts and provides law enforcement services to designated National Park Service sites in the metropolitan areas of Washington, D.C., New York City, and San Francisco.

Border Security –The NPS utilizes law enforcement park rangers and special agents to provide protection of park resources and ensure visitor and employee safety on park lands adjacent to international borders. The NPS collaborates with other Federal, State, and local law enforcement authorities on border security issues impacting park lands adjacent to international borders.

Counter-Drug Operations – The NPS works diligently to ensure that all pertinent Federal laws and regulations are enforced within park units. The NPS, in concert with the U.S. Forest Service, Department of Homeland Security, Drug Enforcement Administration, and other Federal, State, and local partners, actively combats illegal drug operations in park areas. Through these efforts, the NPS aligns with Federal drug control priorities by supporting the operations of agencies with drug enforcement missions within NPS lands and reducing drug production and trafficking. These efforts are an integral component in keeping our resources protected for future generations and providing the public the opportunity to enjoy parks in a safe manner.

National Icon Protection – The USPP and other law enforcement rangers work to protect each of the park units, and enhanced physical security is required at iconic national parks such as the Statue of Liberty, Mount Rushmore, Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell, the Washington Monument, and the Lincoln and Jefferson Memorials to address intrusions, vulnerabilities, and potential terrorist threats.

Since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, the NPS has maintained a proactive anti-terrorism stance in providing protection and police services at iconic national parks. For example, the USPP provides security on the National Mall through a variety of measures, including visitor screening at the Washington Monument, deployment of permanent perimeter vehicle barriers, and anti-terrorism training for USPP officers, other NPS employees, and concessionaires.

### **Health and Safety**

The NPS implements strategies to provide a safe and accident-free recreational and working environment for NPS visitors and employees. Service-wide efforts address visitor safety, search and rescue, critical incident response services, public health, occupational health and safety, aviation support activities, and structural fire prevention.

Emergency Services and Critical Incident Response – The NPS provides emergency management and search and rescue capabilities throughout all fifty States and territories, and medical oversight and credentialing of emergency medical providers that render aid to thousands of visitors and employees. Emergency services and critical incident response are provided by park personnel who are engaged in various lifesaving and emergency management disciplines critical to ensuring the safety of visitors and staff. Operational responsibilities also include emergency medical services, lifeguard activities, and search and rescue operations. Structural fire operations are provided, including prevention efforts and suppression activities. Aviation support is critical to furthering these efforts, as mission activities support search and rescue, law enforcement, backcountry patrol, wildland fire management, and natural resource management.

Public Health – The NPS promotes visitor and public health through NPS staff in parks and support by officers from the US Public Health Service (PHS), the uniformed service of the Department of Health and Human Services. The PHS has over a century-long tradition of service with the NPS. PHS officers serve as advisors and consultants on health-related issues associated with food, drinking water, wastewater, vector-borne and infectious diseases, emergency response, and backcountry operations. NPS staff and PHS officers also respond to public health emergencies, infectious diseases and natural disasters, such as Hurricanes Helene and Milton, and are involved in numerous ongoing health promotion and protection projects. The NPS also collaborates and partners with local, State, and other Federal health jurisdictions.

**SubActivity: Park Protection<sup>1</sup>**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

Activity/Sub Activity/Program Element/Budget Element	2025 Actual		2026 Enacted		2027 Request					
	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Program Changes (\$)	FTE Changes (+/-)	Budget Authority	FTE	Change from 2026 Enacted
<b>Park Management</b>										
<b>Park Protection</b>										
Law Enforcement and Protection	419,141	1,977	386,856	2,329	+1,319	+123,252	+13	511,427	2,342	+124,571
Health and Safety	41,785	197	39,220	197	-14	+10,996	-	50,202	197	+10,982
<b>Total, Park Protection</b>	<b>460,926</b>	<b>2,174</b>	<b>426,076</b>	<b>2,526</b>	<b>+1,305</b>	<b>+134,248</b>	<b>+13</b>	<b>561,629</b>	<b>2,539</b>	<b>+135,553</b>

<sup>1</sup> Table does not include supplemental funding

**Summary of 2027 Program Changes for Park Protection**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

<b>Program Changes</b>	<b>2027 Request Change</b>	<b>FTE Change</b>
<i>Operational Efficiency Savings</i>	-1,392	-8
<i>Support for United States Park Police</i>	+\$111,629	+0
<i>National Garden of American Heroes</i>	+\$600	+3
<i>Park Ranger LE Training</i>	+\$6,400	+5
<i>Lincoln Memorial Undercroft Operations</i>	+\$1,200	+0
<i>Crown Jewel Parks Facility and Defensible Space</i>	+\$11,291	+0
<i>Body-Worn Camera Data Storage</i>	+\$1,020	+0
<i>Investigative Services Special Agents</i>	+\$3,500	+13
<b>TOTAL Program Changes</b>	<b>+\$134,248</b>	<b>+13</b>

**Justification of Program Changes Narrative: Park Protection**

The 2027 budget request for Park Protection is \$561,629,000 and 2,539 FTE, a program change of +\$134,248,000 and +13 FTE. The NPS will carry out its mission and provide for the protection and preservation of resources and ensure visitors can safely enjoy and experience national park lands.

**Operational Efficiency Savings (-\$1,392,000 / -8 FTE)** – The 2027 Budget proposes funding levels that will reach balance and restore confidence in America’s fiscal management. The budget provides funding levels necessary to ensure that parks remain open and accessible by prioritizing operational funding at the park level, focusing on core operations such as law enforcement and safety, visitor services, and facility operations and maintenance. In support of the Administration’s efforts on government efficiency, workforce optimization, and responsiveness to the American taxpayer, this budget reduces redundant operations by streamlining burdensome administrative processes; reduces the size of the Federal government through efficiency improvements and consolidations; and prioritizes high-impact investments. This budget also continues to support many national treasures, while fulfilling the urgent need to utilize State, local, and private sector management to ensure the long-term health and sustainment of the National Park system.

**Support for United States Park Police (+\$111,629,000 / +0 FTE)** – The NPS proposes targeted funding for the U.S. Park Police (USPP) that would boost the force's capacity to address multiple urgent needs.

- \$6.1 million shores up the USPP's base funding to support 40 officers that are currently on board that had previously been funded from the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). With the rescission of unobligated balances of the IRA, the USPP must now fund those officers or risk losing that capacity. This increase funds the salaries and benefits for these officers in order to keep the USPP force strength steady.

- \$2.1 million supports six officers plus associated equipment and training for the Secretary’s protection detail. Funding will ensure the Secretary’s security is adequately staffed and trained and will allow for improved intelligence gathering and capacity to detect, deter, and mitigate dangers, threats, or civil disobedience directed towards the Secretary. Additionally, it will permit the Special Protection Detail the opportunity to provide the proper personnel coverage while allowing for mandated and advanced training opportunities and reduce the amount of overtime needed to fulfill unit requirements.
- \$103.4 million to support implementation of President Trump’s Executive Order 14252 - Making the District of Columbia Safe and Beautiful. Through his Executive Order, the President established the D.C. Safe and Beautiful Task Force, which is directed to surge law enforcement officers and enforce quality-of-life laws to protect against drug use, unpermitted demonstrations, vandalism, public intoxication, and to maximize immigration enforcement to apprehend and deport dangerous illegal aliens. To implement these bold policies, the National Park Service will hire by the end of FY 2026 at least 300 new sworn U.S. Park Police Officers in the D.C. area and provide the necessary training and equipment for these officers. Not only will this effort support the 300 new officers hired as of March 2026, but it will also support replacement or modernization of operational equipment such as vehicle and motorcycle fleets, IT infrastructure, and communications and computer equipment. Funds from the Working Families Tax Cut Act will support this surge in FY 2026, and recurring discretionary funds are necessary beginning in FY 2027.

**National Garden of American Heroes (+\$600,000 / +3 FTE)** – In support of Executive Order 14189 - Celebrating America's 250th Birthday, the NPS proposes new funding to support standing up operations at the National Garden of American Heroes. This funding will support park rangers to assist visitors and educate them about the Heroes, law enforcement to support the safety of the resources and our visitors, facility maintenance and operations, site leadership, and related costs. In the Law Enforcement and Protection subactivity, the FY 2027 budget includes a \$0.6 million increase to support three additional law enforcement officers at the park site. Across the budget structure, NPS proposes a total of \$1.50 million for the National Garden of American Heroes.

**Park Ranger Law Enforcement Training (+\$6,400,000 / +5 FTE)** – The NPS proposes to increase its capacity to hire, train and onboard needed law enforcement park rangers across the service. The NPS estimates that there are approximately 180 or more funded law enforcement ranger vacancies across parks, plus anticipated normal attrition of approximately 100 to 120 per year. Current program capacity to fill these vacancies is no more than 130 rangers per year. This funding would surge program capacity to achieve full LE ranger staffing by filling those vacancies and subsequently maintaining the NPS's throughput capacity. This funding would provide dedicated support for NPS LE instructors to support NPS-specific ranger training, the cost to send recruits to Land Management Police Training, an additional Ranger Specific Basic Training Program class, Field Training Officers specialty pay, and administrative costs associated with recruit classes such as medical and security clearances.

**Lincoln Memorial Undercroft Operations (+\$1,200,000 / +0 FTE)** – Funding will support visitor services and operations in the newly-renovated undercroft of the Lincoln Memorial. The

renovation is planned for completion in FY 2026 and will provide expanded opportunities for visitors to understand the significance of the memorial through extensive new museum exhibits and multimedia presentations. Funding will provide for staff to manage visitor flow and screening, interpretive rangers, custodial services, and maintenance for building systems and exhibits. In the Law Enforcement and Protection subactivity, the FY 2027 budget includes a \$1.2 million increase to support contracted visitor screening equipment and activities. Across the budget structure, NPS proposes a total of \$2.82 million for the Lincoln Memorial Undercroft.

**Crown Jewel Parks Facility and Defensible Space (+\$11,291,000 / +0 FTE)** – The FY 2027 budget prioritizes park operational needs by allocating additional funding that will give park managers the tools to target their highest asset management needs. Across NPS, this proposal provides \$22.6 million in additional funding that specifically targets the NPS's crown jewel sites, in support of their targeted facility maintenance and defensible space needs that protect NPS assets against fire risk. This funding will bolster parks' efforts to safeguard critical structures on park lands, many of which are historically significant and support fire prevention and education through comprehensive training and suppression programs. This increase supports parks in their implementation of the Administration's priority of maintaining and protecting our park's key assets and reducing deferred maintenance across the park system.

**Body-Worn Camera Data Storage (+\$1,020,000 / +0 FTE)** – The Office of Public Trust (OPT), plays a crucial role in supporting the body-worn camera (BWC) program, encompassing equipment, software licenses, data storage, and staffing for centralized law enforcement information management. Following the initial five-year BWC contract that is set to expire in mid-2026, data storage costs are expected to surge and BWCs and related equipment expenses are estimated to rise at least 20 percent. Without additional funding, NPS would reduce services below agreed-upon standards with partners and stakeholders. Risks include the use of outdated equipment by a portion of law enforcement officers, with potential gaps in camera coverage, and limits on data storage capacity.

**Investigative Services Special Agents (+\$3,500,000 / +13 FTE)** – Increased funding would support 13 additional specialized and highly skilled criminal investigators. Agents are currently stationed across the national park system and conduct complex, sensitive, and long-term criminal investigations, working closely with Law Enforcement (LE) rangers in the parks. These positions are critical to countering increasingly complex and cross-jurisdictional crimes, from resource theft and cultural property trafficking to drug-related offenses and violent incidents impacting millions of annual visitors and ensuring the integrity of our profession by investigating allegations of officer misconduct. There are currently 60-70 cases at any given time that are beyond the staffing capacity of the program. As capacity in the Investigative Service Branch (ISB) program has declined, workload has fallen back to park LE rangers who don't have equivalent specialized training. This funding would ensure there is sufficient expertise in the Special Agent program to address specialized criminal investigations and return capacity to park LE programs currently attempting to cover some of this complex workload. ISB investigations have led to major convictions for sexual assault, homicide, and resource theft, underscoring the critical role Special Agents play in deterring and prosecuting serious crimes. Enhancing investigative capacity will bolster deterrence, improve case closure rates, and ensure compliance

with federal mandates—preserving public trust and the integrity of park resources now and for future generations.

### **SubActivity: Facility Operations and Maintenance**

The Facility Operations and Maintenance subactivity supports the NPS mission by contributing to the protection and maintenance of natural and cultural resources, the knowledge and planning to manage those resources appropriately, and the modernization and renewal of employee and visitor facilities and infrastructure.

Facility Operations and Maintenance play key roles in fulfillment of the NPS mission, ensuring continued protection, preservation, serviceability, and use of park facilities and infrastructure and natural and cultural resources. The NPS maintains a wide range of recreational, public use, historic, and support facilities in dispersed locations and varied circumstances. These sites span time from prehistoric ruins into the 21st century. All park units come with myriad resources, facilities, and features, including many that are unique to specific sites. Each site must be properly maintained to achieve management objectives and to protect government, partner, and donated investments.

#### **Facility Operations**

Facility Operations activities support nearly all aspects of resource protection and visitor services, ensuring buildings, roads, trails, picnic areas, campgrounds, and other infrastructure are available for use by visitors and park personnel. The reliability of facility components is essential to efficient park operations, recreational access, visitor satisfaction, and health and safety. The Facility Operations function encompasses day-to-day activities that allow for the continued use of facilities, including the planning, organizing, directing, and controlling of those day-to-day work activities.

Many parks operate much as a municipality might, performing waste removal, water and wastewater processing, landscape maintenance, and shared-space servicing. The mixture of these activities varies, depending on the park unit needs and the time of the year. Parks must consider the type, size, and scope of the required operational activities, and consider seasonal fluctuations in those requirements.

#### **Facility Maintenance**

Parks accomplish basic Facility Maintenance activities using park base operational funding; these activities are accomplished by park staff or contractors. The NPS effectively accomplishes Facility Maintenance activities by assessing facility conditions, prioritizing work, and planning investments to address cyclic needs, correct deficiencies, halt decay, or restore deteriorated assets. Early detection of facility issues prevents loss of assets and ensures that facilities are maintained at a level necessary to support the NPS mission. Facility Maintenance funding addresses both routine and unplanned maintenance activities—including maintenance, recapitalization, alteration, replacement, and divestiture.

**SubActivity: Facility Operations and Maintenance<sup>1</sup>**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

Activity/Sub Activity/Program Element/Budget Element	2025 Actual		2026 Enacted		2027 Request					
	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Program Changes (\$)	FTE Changes (+/-)	Budget Authority	FTE	Change from 2026 Enacted
<b>Park Management</b>										
<b>Facility Operations</b>										
Facility Operations	392,026	2,331	378,013	2,128	-170	-17,085	-427	360,758	1,701	-17,255
<b>Facility Maintenance</b>										
Other Facility Maintenance	522,022	1,556	567,222	1,457	-113	-349,066	-186	218,043	1,271	-349,179
<b>Total, Facility Operations and Maintenance</b>	<b>914,048</b>	<b>3,887</b>	<b>945,235</b>	<b>3,585</b>	<b>-283</b>	<b>-366,151</b>	<b>-613</b>	<b>578,801</b>	<b>2,972</b>	<b>-366,434</b>

<sup>1</sup> Table does not include supplemental funding

**Summary of 2027 Program Changes for Facility Operations and Maintenance**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

<b>Program Changes</b>	<b>2027 Request Change</b>	<b>FTE Change</b>
<i>Operational Efficiency Savings</i>	-434,400	-760
<i>National Garden of American Heroes</i>	+650	+3
<i>Lincoln Memorial Undercroft Operations</i>	+800	+0
<i>Desert Storm and Desert Shield Memorial Park Operations</i>	+450	+1
<i>World War I Memorial Park Operations</i>	+925	+1
<i>Crown Jewel Parks Facility and Defensible Space</i>	+11,290	+0
<i>Park Facility Maintenance</i>	+50,000	+142
<i>Additional Required Costs</i>	+4,134	+0
<b>TOTAL Program Changes</b>	<b>-366,151</b>	<b>-613</b>

**Justification of Program Changes Narrative: Facility Operations and Maintenance**

The 2027 budget request for the Facility Operations and Maintenance subactivity is \$578,801,000 and 2,972 FTE, a program change of -\$366,151,000 and -613 FTE. This funding level will support NPS efforts to provide for the operations and maintenance of NPS assets, and ensure visitors can safely enjoy and experience national park facilities.

Facility operations and maintenance needs may also be funded by other legally available fund sources, including the Recreation Fee program and the Great American Outdoors Act’s National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund.

**Operational Efficiency Savings (-\$434,400,000 / -760 FTE)** – The 2027 Budget proposes funding levels that will reach balance and restore confidence in America’s fiscal management. The budget provides funding levels necessary to ensure that parks remain open and accessible by prioritizing operational funding at the park level, focusing on core operations such as law enforcement and safety, visitor services, and facility operations and maintenance. In support of the Administration’s efforts on government efficiency, workforce optimization, and responsiveness to the American taxpayer, this budget reduces redundant operations by streamlining burdensome administrative processes; reduces the size of the Federal Government through efficiency improvements and consolidations; and prioritizes high-impact investments. This budget also continues to support many national treasures, while fulfilling the urgent need to utilize State, local, and private sector management to ensure the long-term health and sustainment of the National Park system. The NPS will focus on data-driven strategies that promote fiscal responsibility while maintaining recreational access to our public lands. At this funding level, the NPS will continue to maintain and operate parks.

**National Garden of American Heroes (+\$650,000 / +3 FTE)** – In support of Executive Order 14189 - Celebrating America's 250th Birthday, the NPS proposes new funding to support standing up operations at the National Garden of American Heroes. This funding will support park rangers to assist visitors and educate them about the Heroes, law enforcement to support the safety of the resources and our visitors, facility maintenance and operations, and related costs. In the Facility

Operations and Maintenance subactivity, the FY 2027 budget includes a \$0.65 million increase to support utilities payments and facility management, groundskeeping, custodial activities, and cyclic maintenance and component renewal. Across the budget structure, NPS proposes a total of \$1.50 million for the National Garden of American Heroes.

**Lincoln Memorial Undercroft Operations (+\$800,000 / +0 FTE)** – Funding will support visitor services and operations in the newly-renovated undercroft of the Lincoln Memorial. The renovation is planned for completion in FY 2026 and will provide expanded opportunities for visitors to understand the significance of the memorial through extensive new museum exhibits and multimedia presentations. Funding will provide for staff to manage visitor flow and screening, interpretive rangers, custodial services, and maintenance for building systems and exhibits. In the Facility Operations and Maintenance subactivity, the FY 2027 budget includes a \$0.8 million increase to support utilities payments, custodial activities, and cyclic maintenance and component renewal. Across the budget structure, NPS proposes a total of \$2.82 million for the Lincoln Memorial Undercroft.

**Desert Storm and Desert Shield Memorial Park Operations (+\$450,000 / +1 FTE)** – Funding will support the operational needs of the forthcoming Desert Shield and Desert Storm Memorial, which commemorates and honors members of the Armed Forces that served on active duty in support of Operation Desert Storm or Operation Desert Shield. The memorial is currently under construction and anticipated to be completed in November 2026. Upon completion, the NPS will assume full responsibility for the memorial’s stewardship, including interpretive programming, daily educational services, and site operations. This funding will support increased utility costs and a comprehensive maintenance contract. Maintenance services will include mechanical, electrical, lighting, and plumbing systems, ensuring the memorial remains safe, functional, and accessible to visitors. In the Facility Operations and Maintenance subactivity, the FY 2027 budget includes a \$0.45 million increase to support utilities payments, custodial activities, and a maintenance position. Across the budget structure, NPS proposes a total of \$0.7 million for the Desert Storm and Desert Shield Memorial.

**World War I Memorial Park Operations (+\$925,000 / +1 FTE)** – Funding will support maintenance and utilities for the World War I Memorial in Pershing Park, Washington, D.C. The memorial was dedicated on April 16, 2021, and honors the sacrifice of the 4.7 million Americans who served in World War I. The memorial’s construction was financed through private philanthropic contributions, and the American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC) initially planned to assume a substantial role in supporting long-term operations and maintenance. ABMC has since formally relinquished all such responsibilities, so the NPS is responsible for ensuring the preservation, maintenance, and accessibility of this significant commemorative memorial. In the Facility Operations and Maintenance subactivity, the FY 2027 budget includes a \$0.9 million increase to support utilities payments, groundskeeping and custodial activities, and cyclic maintenance and component renewal.

**Crown Jewel Parks Facility and Defensible Space (+\$11,290,000 / +0 FTE)** – The FY 2027 budget prioritizes park operational needs by allocating additional funding that will give park managers the tools to target their highest asset management needs. Across NPS, this proposal provides \$22.6 million in additional funding that specifically targets the NPS's crown jewel sites,

in support of their targeted facility maintenance and defensible space needs that protect NPS assets against fire risk. This funding will bolster parks' efforts to safeguard critical structures on park lands, many of which are historically significant and support fire prevention and education through comprehensive training and suppression programs. This increase supports parks in their implementation of the Administration's priority of maintaining and protecting our park's key assets and reducing deferred maintenance across the park system.

**Park Facility Maintenance (+\$50,000,000 / +142 FTE)** –The NPS proposes a \$50.0 million increase to park base accounts to address facility and deferred maintenance needs. This increase will provide park managers with additional funding that allows them to utilize funds in a manner that best suits the unique facility needs at their park, allowing them to implement the Administration's priority of maintaining our park's key assets and reducing deferred maintenance across the park system.

**Additional Required Costs (+\$4,134,000 / +0 FTE)** – The NPS proposes to increase funding in the Facilities Operations component to support increased costs associated with the NPS payment to the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority (DC Water). Rates on consumption are set two years in advance, and the proposed increase ensures the NPS has sufficient resources to make payments. DC Water bills also include charges related to impervious surfaces. Impervious surfaces, such as roofs, roadways, parking lots, and paved plazas, generate high amounts of runoff; such surfaces attached to Federal, commercial, and residential lands are major contributors to stormwater entering the District's combined sewer system.

### **SubActivity: Park Support**

The Park Support subactivity within Park Management includes administering, managing, and supporting the operations of parks, trails, and rivers throughout the United States. In addition, Park Support encompasses several internal administrative programs, such as personnel, finance, procurement, data processing and communications, and other services that provide necessary support functions. Many of these functions have been unified within the Department of the Interior; funds will support the Department's continued provision of these services to the NPS. The management and administrative functions funded in this appropriation also provide management and administrative support to programs supported by other NPS appropriations. As described in the "Compliance with Section 403" special exhibit, a portion of costs that were typically charged to the Park Support Subactivity will be reallocated to other benefitting accounts.

### **Management, Policy, and Development Program**

The programs within the Management, Policy, and Development functions establish operating guidelines and objectives, coordinate with other public and private organizations, efficiently manage staff and funds, and ensure compliance with statutes, Departmental directives, and regulations affecting the operation of the national park system. Efficiency and effectiveness are enhanced by coordinating park operations between various units and programs throughout the System, as well as setting policy and ensuring necessary compliance with legislation and regulations. The function also includes funding for the park superintendents who are responsible for managing the individual units of the national park system.

### **Administrative Support Program**

The programs encompassed in Administrative Support are vitally important to running a more efficient and effective national park system. The programs provide support functions required for complex operations in a dispersed organization, including financial and budget administration; personnel recruitment, staffing, and employee relations; formal contracting and small purchases; personal property management; management of information technology; and other related activities.

**SubActivity: Park Support<sup>1</sup>**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

Activity/Sub Activity/Program Element/Budget Element	2025 Actual		2026 Enacted		2027 Request					
	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Program Changes (\$)	FTE Changes (+/-)	Budget Authority	FTE	Change from 2026 Enacted
<b>Park Management - Park Support</b>										
Management, Policy and Development	175,670	751	192,094	544	-55	-52,620	-246	139,419	298	-52,675
Administrative Support	495,685	1,971	460,123	1,039	-143	-179,885	-356	280,095	683	-180,028
<b>Total, Park Support</b>	<b>671,355</b>	<b>2,722</b>	<b>652,217</b>	<b>1,583</b>	<b>-198</b>	<b>-232,505</b>	<b>-602</b>	<b>419,514</b>	<b>981</b>	<b>-232,703</b>

<sup>1</sup> Table does not include supplemental funding

**Summary of 2027 Program Changes for Park Support**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

<b>Program Changes</b>	<b>2027 Request Change</b>	<b>FTE Change</b>
<i>Operational Efficiency Savings</i>	-242,330	-602
<i>Additional Required Costs</i>	+9,825	+0
<b>TOTAL Program Changes</b>	<b>-232,505</b>	<b>-602</b>

**Justification of Program Changes Narrative: Park Support**

The 2027 budget request for Park Support is \$419,514,000 and 981 FTE, a program change of -\$232,505,000 and -602 FTE.

**Operational Efficiency Savings (-\$242,330,000 / -602 FTE)** – The 2027 Budget proposes funding levels that will reach balance and restore confidence in America’s fiscal management. The budget provides funding levels necessary to ensure that parks remain open and accessible by prioritizing operational funding at the park level, focusing on core operations such as law enforcement and safety, visitor services, and facility operations and maintenance. In support of the Administration’s efforts on government efficiency, workforce optimization, and responsiveness to the American taxpayer, this budget reduces redundant operations by streamlining burdensome administrative processes; reduces the size of the Federal government through efficiency improvements and consolidations; and prioritizes high-impact investments. This budget also continues to support many national treasures, while fulfilling the urgent need to utilize State, local, and private sector management to ensure the long-term health and sustainment of the National Park system. These budget savings will eliminate redundant projects and programs, reduce regional and central programs, and streamline administrative processes.

**Additional Required Costs (+\$9,825,000 / +0 FTE)** – The 2027 Budget proposes an increase to fund required costs including undistributed requirements and centralized IT costs to support park management. This funding would cover the increase in required costs funded centrally, including IT licenses across the NPS and support costs for shared services of DOI administrative functions as a result of the unification of business functions.

**Activity: External Administrative Costs**

The External Administrative Costs activity includes funding support necessary to provide and maintain services that represent key administrative support functions where costs are largely determined by organizations outside the NPS and funding requirements are less flexible. The requirements for these services are mandated in accordance with applicable laws. To ensure the efficient performance of the NPS, these costs are most effectively managed on a centralized basis. As described in the “Compliance with Section 403” special exhibit, a portion of costs that were typically charged to External Administrative Costs will be reallocated to other benefitting accounts.

**Activity: External Administrative Costs<sup>1</sup>**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

Activity/Sub Activity/Program Element/Budget Element	2025 Actual		2026 Enacted		2027 Request					
	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Program Changes (\$)	FTE Changes (+/-)	Budget Authority	FTE	Change from 2026 Enacted
<b>External Administrative Costs</b>										
Employee Compensation Payments	19,909	-	19,909	-	-120	-	-	19,789	-	-120
Unemployment Compensation Payments	19,163	-	19,163	-	-	-	-	19,163	-	-
Centralized IT and Telecommunications Costs	21,295	-	21,295	-	-	-6,388	-	14,907	-	-6,388
Postage	2,861	-	2,861	-	-	-858	-	2,003	-	-858
Space Rental	83,100	-	64,100	-	-3,492	+2,380	-	62,988	-	-1,112
Departmental Program Charges	73,884	-	73,884	-	-1,314	-22,165	-	50,405	-	-23,479
<b>Total, External Administrative Costs</b>	<b>220,212</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>201,212</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-4,926</b>	<b>-27,031</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>169,255</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-31,957</b>

<sup>1</sup> Table does not include supplemental funding

### **SubActivity: External Administrative Costs**

The External Administrative Costs activity includes funding support necessary to provide and maintain services that represent key administrative support functions where costs are largely determined by organizations outside the NPS and funding requirements are less flexible. The requirements for these services are mandated in accordance with applicable laws. To ensure the efficient performance of the NPS, these costs are most effectively managed on a centralized basis. As described in the “Compliance with Section 403” special exhibit, a portion of costs that were typically charged to External Administrative Costs will be reallocated to other benefitting accounts.

### **Centralized IT & Telecommunications Costs**

Funding provides for charges billed to the NPS to operate service-wide IT systems, including centralized software license purchases and portions of the financial and property systems. Another major IT component is the NPS Website. Consolidated billings create efficiencies in bill payment and provide better coordination throughout NPS. Funding also provides service-wide data network service, Internet service, and telephone service through the Federal Telecommunication System (FTS) network and commercial telephone service. The costs of these services are dictated by rates established by Government Services Administration (GSA) and telecommunications companies. Funding supports critical mission related activities in every park. The program is vital to ensuring that the NPS maintains the ability to effectively communicate with external partners and manage the hundreds of millions of annual visitors to the NPS website.

### **Postage**

Funding supports service-wide postage costs. Postage metering is managed through a central contract, which provides services nationwide.

### **Space Rental**

Funding provides for the office space and related services leased through the GSA and other private owners by the NPS. In addition to general office space, GSA leases may include storage, food service, conference, and training spaces; light industrial facilities; and parking space where necessary. Rental space includes Federally owned buildings operated by GSA, and buildings owned by the private sector, some of which the GSA leases and makes available for use by Federal agents. The standard level user charges paid by NPS are determined by GSA and are billed on a quarterly basis. GSA Space changes include rate increases which are considered a fixed cost.

### **Departmental Program Charges**

Funding provides the NPS contribution to the costs of Department-wide programs and activities conducted on behalf of its bureaus, such as shared services and the Interior Business Center. This includes costs associated with the support of the Federal Personnel Payroll System (FPPS). It also provides funding for cross-bureau information technology planning, infrastructure and communications improvements, and security.

**Summary of 2027 Program Changes for External Administrative Costs**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

<b>Program Changes</b>	<b>2027 Request Change</b>	<b>FTE Change</b>
<i>Operational Efficiency Savings</i>	-27,031	-0
<b>TOTAL Program Changes</b>	<b>-27,031</b>	<b>-0</b>

**Justification of Program Changes Narrative: External Administrative Costs**

The 2027 budget request for External Administrative Costs is \$169,255,000 and 0 FTE, a program change of -\$27,031,000 and -0 FTE.

**Operational Efficiency Savings (-\$27,031,000 / -0 FTE)** – The 2027 Budget proposes funding levels that will reach balance and restore confidence in America’s fiscal management. The budget provides funding levels necessary to ensure that parks remain open and accessible by prioritizing operational funding at the park level, focusing on core operations such as law enforcement and safety, visitor services, and facility operations and maintenance. In support of the Administration’s efforts on government efficiency, workforce optimization, and responsiveness to the American taxpayer, this budget reduces redundant operations by streamlining burdensome administrative processes; reduces the size of the Federal government through efficiency improvements and consolidations; and prioritizes high-impact investments. This budget also continues to support many national treasures, while fulfilling the urgent need to utilize State, local, and private sector management to ensure the long-term health and sustainment of the National Park system.

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## **Appropriation: Centennial Challenge**

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## **Appropriation: Centennial Challenge**

The National Park Service Centennial Act, enacted in the 100th anniversary year of the establishment of NPS, authorizes State or local governments, public or private agencies, organizations, institutions, corporations, and individuals to partner with the NPS by creating the Centennial Challenge Fund to utilize Federal funds to match non-Federal donations at a minimum of 1:1.

The Centennial Challenge program provides dedicated Federal funding to match non-Federal donations targeted at signature National Park Service projects and programs that enhance visitor services, reduce deferred maintenance, and improve natural and cultural resource protection in parks across the system. All Centennial Challenge funds require at least a 1:1 match, derived from non-Federal sources in the form of cash, assets, or a pledge of donation guaranteed by an irrevocable letter of credit. Projects are administered under existing NPS partnership authorities. The non-Federal funds contributed to match Centennial Challenge Federal funds are reflected in the NPS Miscellaneous Trust Funds-Donations permanent appropriation.

**Summary of Requirements**  
**National Park Service**  
**Appropriation: Centennial Challenge**  
*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

Treasury Account/Activity	2025 Actual		2026 Enacted		2027 Request					
	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Program Changes (\$)	Program Changes FTE (+/-)	Budget Authority	FTE	Change from 2026 Enacted
<b>Total, Centennial Challenge</b>	<b>12,000</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-5,000</b>	<b>-9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-5,000</b>

**Summary of 2027 Program Changes for Centennial Challenge**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

<b>Program Changes</b>	<b>2027 Request Change</b>	<b>FTE Change</b>
<i>Operational Efficiency Savings</i>	-5,000	-9
<b>TOTAL Program Changes</b>	<b>-5,000</b>	<b>-9</b>

**Justification of Program Changes Narrative: Centennial Challenge**

The NPS will continue to execute Centennial Challenge projects funded from prior year appropriations. The budget does not request funding in FY 2027.

**Operational Efficiency Savings (-\$5,000,000/-9 FTE)** – The 2027 Budget proposes funding levels that will reach balance and restore confidence in America’s fiscal management. The budget provides funding levels necessary to ensure that parks remain open and accessible by prioritizing operational funding at the park level, focusing on core operations such as law enforcement and safety, visitor services, and facility operations and maintenance. In support of the Administration’s efforts on government efficiency, workforce optimization, and responsiveness to the American taxpayer, this budget reduces redundant operations by streamlining burdensome administrative processes; reduces the size of the Federal government through efficiency improvements and consolidations; and prioritizes high-impact investments. This budget also continues to support many national treasures, while fulfilling the urgent need to utilize State, local, and private sector management to ensure the long-term health and sustainment of the National Park system.

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## **Appropriation: National Recreation and Preservation**

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## **Appropriation: National Recreation and Preservation**

This account provides a central point at the Federal level for recreation and conservation planning; the coordination of Federal and State policies, procedures, and guidelines; and the administration of technical and financial assistance to Federal, State, and local governments and private organizations.

**Summary of Requirements**  
**National Park Service**  
**Appropriation: National Recreation and Preservation**  
*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

Treasury Account/Activity	2025 Actual		2026 Enacted		2027 Request					
	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Program Changes (\$)	Program Changes FTE (+/-)	Budget Authority	FTE	Change from 2026 Enacted
<b>National Recreation and Preservation</b>										
Natural Programs	18,579	87	18,579	71	-	-18,579	-71	-	-	-18,579
Cultural Programs	39,327	94	39,327	67	-4	-34,012	-49	5,311	18	-34,016
Environmental Compliance and Review	465	3	465	3	-1	-232	-1	232	2	-233
International Park Affairs	1,990	4	1,990	2	-	-1,490	-2	500	-	-1,490
Heritage Partnership Programs	29,232	6	30,985	5	-	-30,985	-5	-	-	-30,985
Statutory and Contractual Aid	-	-	250	-	-	-250	-	-	-	-250
<b>Total, National Recreation and Preservation</b>	<b>89,593</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>91,596</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>-5</b>	<b>-85,548</b>	<b>-128</b>	<b>6,043</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>-85,553</b>

**Justification of Fixed Costs Changes  
National Park Service  
National Recreation and Preservation**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

<b>Fixed Cost Element</b>	<b>2026 Enacted Change</b>	<b>2026 Enacted to 2027 Request Change</b>	<b>Description</b>
Pay Raise	+73	+22	The President's Budget for 2027 includes one quarter (October-December 2026) of the 1.0% pay raise for 2026 and 0.0% pay raise for 2027. Pay raises are consistent with the published OMB Circular A-11.
FERS Employer Contribution	0	-27	The estimates reflect adjustments to the employer contribution for FERS and Law Enforcement FERS for FY 2027. This information is consistent with the published OMB Circular A-11.
<b>Total, Account 2027 Fixed Costs</b>	<b>+73</b>	<b>-5</b>	

**Justification of Internal Realignments  
National Park Service  
National Recreation and Preservation**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

<b>Internal Realignments and Non-Policy/Program Changes (Net-Zero)</b>	<b>BY</b>	<b>Description</b>
International Park Affairs/Office of International Affairs	-1,308	Proposed shift of funding for the Office of International Affairs to the new program component International Park Affairs.
International Park Affairs/Southwest Border Resource Protection Program	-682	Proposed shift of funding for the Southwest Border Resource Protection Program to the new program component International Park Affairs.
International Park Affairs/International Park Affairs	+1,990	Consolidation of funding from Office of International Affairs and the Southwest Border Resource Protection Program into a new program component International Park Affairs. Consolidation will provide the NPS and DOI flexibility in determining budget priorities within the activity.
<b>National Recreation and Preservation, Internal Transfers</b>	<b>0</b>	

## Appropriations Language

*For expenses necessary to carry out cultural programs, environmental compliance and review, international park affairs, and grant administration, not otherwise provided for, \$6,043,000, to remain available until September 30, 2028.*

### Appropriations Language Citations

#### 1. For expenses necessary to carry out cultural programs,

Chapter 3125 of title 54, United States Code, Archeological and National Historic Preservation Act of 1974, establishes a program for preservation of historical and archeological data which might otherwise be lost or destroyed as a result of a Federal or Federally-assisted or licensed project, activity, or program, and authorizes appropriation of specific amounts for this purpose.

Division A of subtitle III of title 54, United States Code, National Historic Preservation Act, provides for assistance to non-Federal entities for the preservation of their cultural heritage, establishes the National Register of Historic Places and regulations for State Historic Preservation Districts, and provides for assistance to Indian Tribes in preserving their historic properties.

Chapter 3201 of title 54, United States Code, Historic Sites Act, declares it national policy to protect historic sites, buildings, and objects; establishes various national historic sites, national battlefield sites, national heritage corridors, national heritage areas, and national heritage partnerships; authorizes appropriation of funds for this purpose; and provides specific authority for the Secretary to acquire property and to restore, reconstruct, rehabilitate, preserve, and maintain historic and prehistoric sites, buildings, objects, and properties of national historical or archaeological significance.

#### 2. environmental compliance and review,

16 U.S.C. 797(e) and 803(a), Federal Power Act, requires that the recommendations of agencies with administration over relevant resources be considered in licensing power generation projects and requires licenses to include conditions for protection of wildlife habitat.

42 U.S.C. 4321 to 4347, National Environmental Policy Act, requires agencies to monitor, evaluate, and control their activities so as to protect and enhance the quality of the environment and requires that a detailed Statement be prepared for any major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment, while 49 U.S.C. 303, Department of Transportation Act of 1966, requires review of proposed Department of Transportation projects which could have an adverse impact on public park and recreation areas and historic sites.

16 U.S.C. 1278, Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, requires agencies to notify Interior of any proceeding, study, or other activity which affects or may affect wild and scenic rivers under its jurisdiction, and 16 U.S.C. 3505, Coastal Barrier Resources Act, permits expenditures for the purpose of studying management, protection, and enhancement of fish and wildlife resources and habitats.

#### 3. international park affairs,

54 U.S.C. 302908, 54 U.S.C. 307101, and 54 U.S.C. 300101, National Historic Preservation Act, authorizes cooperation with other nations and international organizations in connection with the World Heritage Convention, and declares it Federal policy “in cooperation with other nations [to] provide leadership in the preservation of the prehistoric and historic resources of the international community of nations...”.

16 U.S.C. 1537 authorizes the Secretary to encourage or cooperate in certain ways with other nations in the conservation of fish or wildlife and plants, refers to United States commitment to the worldwide protection of endangered or threatened species, and requires cooperation with other nations to implement the Convention on Nature Protection and Wildlife Preservation in the Western Hemisphere.

22 U.S.C. 2151(q) and 2452(b)(11) authorizes agencies to preserve biological diversity and to assist countries in protecting and maintaining wildlife habitats and developing sound conservation programs. It also directs international aid agencies to cooperate and support the relevant efforts of the NPS.

**4. and grant administration, not otherwise provided for,**

Division A of subtitle III of title 54, U.S.C., the National Historic Preservation Act, prescribes responsibilities for administration of the historic preservation program.

### **Activity: Natural Programs**

Natural Programs provide technical assistance to local communities, organizations, and other local and State governments, to preserve and protect resources and maintain a nationwide system of parks, open space, rivers, and trails and to provide educational, recreational, and conservation benefits for the American people. This budget activity is a lower priority activity and does not directly support the NPS mission.

**Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance** – The Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program (RTCA) helps communities and land managers with local conservation and outdoor recreation efforts around the country.

**National Natural Landmarks** – The National Natural Landmarks Program recognizes and encourages the conservation of sites that best illustrate the country’s biological and geological heritage.

**Hydropower Recreation Assistance** – The Hydropower Assistance program provides technical assistance to NPS staff, public land managers, Tribal governments, communities, and nongovernmental organizations to engage in the Federal Energy Regulatory (FERC) hydropower relicensing process.

**Chesapeake Gateways** – This program manages the Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network (Chesapeake Gateways).

**Federal Lands to Parks** –The Federal Lands to Parks Program (FLP) conserves natural and cultural resources through the transfer of surplus Federal lands.

**Activity: Natural Programs<sup>1</sup>**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

Activity/Program Element	2025 Actual		2026 Enacted		2027 Request					
	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Program Changes (\$)	FTE Changes (+/-)	Budget Authority	FTE	Change from 2026 Enacted
<b>Natural Programs</b>										
Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance	13,000	66	13,000	55	-	-13,000	-55	-	-	-13,000
National Natural Landmarks	724	4	724	1	-	-724	-1	-	-	-724
Hydropower Recreation Assistance	926	4	926	4	-	-926	-4	-	-	-926
Chesapeake Gateways and Trails	3,027	9	3,027	9	-	-3,027	-9	-	-	-3,027
Federal Lands to Parks	902	4	902	2	-	-902	-2	-	-	-902
<b>Total, Natural Programs</b>	<b>18,579</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>18,579</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-18,579</b>	<b>-71</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-18,579</b>

<sup>1</sup> Table does not include supplemental funding

**Summary of 2027 Program Changes for Natural Programs**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

<b>Program Changes</b>	<b>2027 Request Change</b>	<b>FTE Change</b>
<i>Operational Efficiency Savings</i>	-18,579	-71
<b>TOTAL Program Changes</b>	<b>-18,579</b>	<b>-71</b>

**Justification of Program Changes Narrative: Natural Programs**

The budget request does not request funding for Natural Programs. Many National Recreation and Preservation grants are already supported by State, local, and private sector efforts, including large amounts of mandatory funding through the Land and Water Conservation Fund Stateside Grants. Further, these projects are not directly tied to maintaining national parks or public lands which have a large backlog of maintenance. The budget request focuses on core mission requirements.

**Operational Efficiency Savings (-\$18,579,000 /-71 FTE)** – The 2027 Budget proposes funding levels that will reach balance and restore confidence in America’s fiscal management. The budget provides funding levels necessary to ensure that parks remain open and accessible by prioritizing operational funding at the park level, focusing on core operations such as law enforcement and safety, visitor services, and facility operations and maintenance. In support of the Administration’s efforts on government efficiency, workforce optimization, and responsiveness to the American taxpayer, this budget reduces redundant operations by streamlining burdensome administrative processes; reduces the size of the Federal government through efficiency improvements and consolidations; and prioritizes high-impact investments. This budget also continues to support many national treasures, while fulfilling the urgent need to utilize State, local, and private sector management to ensure the long-term health and sustainment of the National Park system.

### **Activity: Cultural Programs**

This budget activity is a lower priority activity and does not directly support the NPS mission.

**National Register Programs** – A range of activities encourage the preservation of cultural resources by all levels of government and the private sector. National Register Programs assist communities in preserving significant historic and archeological properties through formal designation and technical assistance. Federal designation qualifies historic properties for Federal financial assistance and regulatory protection and includes the National Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) Program, which supports the statutory responsibilities of the Secretary of the Interior.

**National Center for Preservation Technology and Training** – A designated Federal laboratory that undertakes research related to historic preservation and advances the application of science and technology to preservation problems.

**Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act Grants** – A program to award grants to museums, Tribes, and Native Hawaiian Organizations (NHOs) under the provisions of 25 U.S.C. 3008 to support consultation, identification, and repatriation of cultural items including human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, and objects of cultural patrimony.

**Japanese American Confinement Sites Grants** – A program to competitively award matching grants to communities, States, local governments, non-profit institutions, educational institutions, and Tribal groups to support preservation and interpretation of Japanese American World War II confinement sites.

**American Battlefield Protection Program Assistance Grants** – A program to competitively award planning grants to preserve sites associated with historic battles fought on American soil during the armed conflicts that shaped the growth and development of the United States.

**American Indian and Native Hawaiian Art and Culture Grants** – A program to support Native culture and arts development through congressionally directed and competitively awarded grants to organizations that primarily serve and represent Native Hawaiians or Alaska Natives.

**9/11 Memorial Act Grants** – A program to provide competitive grants for the continued operation, security, and maintenance of the on-site memorials of the events and victims of September 11, 2001.

**Grants Administration** – Staff to administer multiple grant programs funded within this Activity and from the Historic Preservation Fund are responsible for ensuring that grantees comply with all requirements and successfully complete funded projects. These administrative activities span the life of each grant, which may last up to five years past the date of award.

**Activity: Cultural Programs<sup>1</sup>**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

Activity/Program Element	2025 Actual		2026 Enacted		2027 Request					
	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Program Changes (\$)	Program Changes FTE (+/-)	Budget Authority	FTE	Change from 2026 Enacted
<b>Cultural Programs</b>										
National Register Programs	17,662	81	17,662	64	-4	-13,246	-46	4,412	18	-13,250
National Center for Preservation Technology & Training	2,058	7	2,058	3	-	-2,058	-3	0	-	-2,058
Native American Graves Protection & Repatriation Grants	3,407	-	3,407	-	-	-3,407	-	0	-	-3,407
Japanese American Confinement Site Grants	4,655	-	4,655	-	-	-4,655	-	0	-	-4,655
American Battlefield Protection Program Assistance Grants	1,198	-	1,198	-	-	-1,198	-	0	-	-1,198
American Indian & Native Hawaiian Art & Culture Grants	2,750	-	2,750	-	-	-2,750	-	0	-	-2,750
9/11 Memorial Act Grants	4,000	-	4,000	-	-	-4,000	-	0	-	-4,000
Grants Administration	3,597	6	3,597	-	-	-2,698	-	899	-	-2,698
<b>Total, Cultural Programs</b>	<b>39,327</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>39,327</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>-4</b>	<b>-34,012</b>	<b>-49</b>	<b>5,311</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>-34,016</b>

<sup>1</sup> Table does not include supplemental funding

**Summary of 2027 Program Changes for Cultural Programs**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

<b>Program Changes</b>	<b>2027 Request Change</b>	<b>FTE Change</b>
<i>Operational Efficiency Savings</i>	-34,012	-49
<b>TOTAL Program Changes</b>	<b>-34,012</b>	<b>-49</b>

**Justification of Program Changes Narrative: Cultural Programs**

The 2027 budget request for Cultural Programs is \$5,311,000 and 18 FTE, a program change of -\$34,012,000 and -49 FTE. The NPS will focus on the core functions of this activity: working with partners to accomplish historic preservation goals, meeting the requirements of NAGPRA, and supporting the administration and execution of prior year grants funding.

**Operational Efficiency Savings (-\$34,012,000 / -49 FTE)** – The 2027 Budget proposes funding levels that will reach balance and restore confidence in America’s fiscal management. The budget provides funding levels necessary to ensure that parks remain open and accessible by prioritizing operational funding at the park level, focusing on core operations such as law enforcement and safety, visitor services, and facility operations and maintenance. In support of the Administration’s efforts on government efficiency, workforce optimization, and responsiveness to the American taxpayer, this budget reduces redundant operations by streamlining burdensome administrative processes; reduces the size of the Federal government through efficiency improvements and consolidations; and prioritizes high-impact investments. This budget also continues to support many national treasures, while fulfilling the urgent need to utilize State, local, and private sector management to ensure the long-term health and sustainment of the National Park system.

**Activity: Environmental Compliance and Review**

The Environmental Compliance and Review activity provides review and comment on Environmental Impact Statements, Federal licensing and permitting applications, and other actions which may impact areas of NPS jurisdiction and expertise.

**Activity: Environmental Compliance and Review<sup>1</sup>**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

Activity	2025 Actual		2026 Enacted		2027 Request					
	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Program Changes (\$)	Program Changes FTE (+/-)	Budget Authority	FTE	Change from 2026 Enacted
Environmental Compliance and Review	465	3	465	3	-1	-232	-1	232	2	-233

<sup>1</sup> Table does not include supplemental funding

**Summary of 2027 Program Changes for Environmental Compliance and Review**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

<b>Program Changes</b>	<b>2027 Request Change</b>	<b>FTE Change</b>
<i>Operational Efficiency Savings</i>	-232	-1
<b>TOTAL Program Changes</b>	<b>-232</b>	<b>-1</b>

**Justification of Program Changes Narrative: Environmental Compliance and Review**

The 2027 budget request for Environmental Compliance and Review is \$232,000 and 2 FTE to focus on core mission requirements.

**Operational Efficiency Savings (-\$232,000 / -1 FTE)** – The 2027 Budget proposes funding levels that will reach balance and restore confidence in America’s fiscal management. The budget provides funding levels necessary to ensure that parks remain open and accessible by prioritizing operational funding at the park level, focusing on core operations such as law enforcement and safety, visitor services, and facility operations and maintenance. In support of the Administration’s efforts on government efficiency, workforce optimization, and responsiveness to the American taxpayer, this budget reduces redundant operations by streamlining burdensome administrative processes; reduces the size of the Federal government through efficiency improvements and consolidations; and prioritizes high-impact investments. This budget also continues to support many national treasures, while fulfilling the urgent need to utilize State, local, and private sector management to ensure the long-term health and sustainment of the National Park system.

**Activity: International Park Affairs**

The International Park Affairs activity includes support for International Affairs activities and the Southwest Border Resource Protection Program (SWBRPP). The DOI Office of International Affairs (OIA) serves as the central point for NPS international engagement. The NPS has a long tradition of international engagement and has either helped create or significantly influenced the development of park systems in nearly every country in the world. SWBRPP supports resource stewardship along the U.S.–Mexico border and strengthens interagency and binational coordination. The SWBRPP directly supports border security by mitigating ecological damage caused by unauthorized crossings and by strengthening partnerships with Mexican agencies.

**Activity: International Park Affairs<sup>1</sup>**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

Activity/Program Element	2025 Actual		2026 Enacted		2027 Request						
	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Internal Transfers (+/-)	Program Changes (\$)	Program Changes & Transfers FTE (+/-)	Budget Authority	FTE	Change from 2026 Enacted
<b>International Park Affairs</b>											
Office of International Affairs	1,308	4	1,300	2	-	-1,300	-	-	-	-	-1,300
Southwest Border Resource Protection Program	682	-	690	-	-	-690	-	-	-	-	-690
International Park Affairs	-	-	-	-	-	+1,990	-1,490	-2	500	-	+500
<b>Total, International Park Affairs</b>	<b>1,990</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1,990</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-1,490</b>	<b>-2</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-1,490</b>

<sup>1</sup> Table does not include supplemental funding

**Summary of 2027 Program Changes for International Park Affairs**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

<b>Program Changes</b>	<b>2027 Request Change</b>	<b>FTE Change</b>
<i>Operational Efficiency Savings</i>	-1,490	-2
<b>TOTAL Program Changes</b>	<b>-1,490</b>	<b>-2</b>

**Justification of Program Changes Narrative: International Park Affairs**

The 2027 budget request for International Park Affairs is \$500,000 and 0 FTE, a program change of -\$1,490,000 and -2 FTE from the 2026 Enacted.

**Operational Efficiency Savings (-\$1,490,000 / -2 FTE)** – The 2027 Budget proposes funding levels that will reach balance and restore confidence in America’s fiscal management. The budget provides funding levels necessary to ensure that parks remain open and accessible by prioritizing operational funding at the park level, focusing on core operations such as law enforcement and safety, visitor services, and facility operations and maintenance. In support of the Administration’s efforts on government efficiency, workforce optimization, and responsiveness to the American taxpayer, this budget reduces redundant operations by streamlining burdensome administrative processes; reduces the size of the Federal government through efficiency improvements and consolidations; and prioritizes high-impact investments. This budget also continues to support many national treasures, while fulfilling the urgent need to utilize State, local, and private sector management to ensure the long-term health and sustainment of the National Park system.

The NPS proposes to consolidate funding from two existing program components, International Affairs and the Southwest Border Resource Protection Program, into a single component to provide the NPS and DOI flexibility in determining budget priorities within the activity. This budget activity will continue to support DOI’s unified personnel; and, savings realized by DOI will result in lower costs to the NPS. The combined budget component at this funding level will continue to support parks along the southern border in their effort to mitigate park resource damage caused by illegal border crossings.

**Activity: Heritage Partnership Programs**

Heritage Partnership Programs support and promote the conservation of local natural, historic, scenic, and cultural resources through national heritage areas, national heritage corridors, national historic districts, and other designations. Within this activity, the Commissions and Grants program component provides funding to authorized partnership programs, and the Administrative Support program component provides servicewide coordination, guidance, assistance, training, and support to programs, partners, and the public. This budget activity is a lower priority activity and does not directly support the NPS mission.

**Activity: Heritage Partnership Programs<sup>1</sup>**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

Activity/Program Element	2025 Actual		2026 Enacted		2027 Request					
	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Program Changes (\$)	Program Changes FTE (+/-)	Budget Authority	FTE	Change from 2026 Enacted
<b>Heritage Partnership Programs</b>										
Commissions and Grants	28,167	-	29,920	-	-	-29,920	-	-	-	-29,920
Administrative Support	1,065	6	1,065	5	-	-1,065	-5	-	-	-1,065
<b>Total, Heritage Partnership Programs</b>	<b>29,232</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>30,985</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-30,985</b>	<b>-5</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-30,985</b>

<sup>1</sup> Table does not include supplemental funding

**Summary of 2027 Program Changes for Heritage Partnership Programs**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

<b>Program Changes</b>	<b>2027 Request Change</b>	<b>FTE Change</b>
<i>Operational Efficiency Savings</i>	-30,985	-5
<b>TOTAL Program Changes</b>	<b>-30,985</b>	<b>-5</b>

**Justification of Program Changes Narrative: Heritage Partnership Programs**

The budget does not request funding for Heritage Partnership Programs. These programs are the management responsibility of Federal commissions, nonprofit groups, universities, State agencies, or municipal authorities. They are not units of the National Park system, and their lands are not Federally owned or managed. National heritage area managers will continue to facilitate sustainable funding from local and private sources.

**Operational Efficiency Savings (-\$30,985,000 / -5 FTE)** – The 2027 Budget proposes funding levels that will reach balance and restore confidence in America’s fiscal management. The budget provides funding levels necessary to ensure that parks remain open and accessible by prioritizing operational funding at the park level, focusing on core operations such as law enforcement and safety, visitor services, and facility operations and maintenance. In support of the Administration’s efforts on government efficiency, workforce optimization, and responsiveness to the American taxpayer, this budget reduces redundant operations by streamlining burdensome administrative processes; reduces the size of the Federal government through efficiency improvements and consolidations; and prioritizes high-impact investments. This budget also continues to support many national treasures, while fulfilling the urgent need to utilize State, local, and private sector management to ensure the long-term health and sustainment of the National Park system.

**Activity: Statutory and Contractual Aid**

Statutory and Contractual Aid represents congressionally directed spending to operate, manage, interpret, and preserve resources at associated areas. This budget activity is a lower priority activity and does not directly support the NPS mission.

**Activity: Statutory and Contractual Aid<sup>1</sup>**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

Activity/Program Element	2025 Actual		2026 Enacted		2027 Request					
	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Program Changes (\$)	Program Changes FTE (+/-)	Budget Authority	FTE	Change from 2026 Enacted
<b>Total, Statutory and Contractual Aid</b>	-	-	250	-	-	-250	-	-	-	-250

<sup>1</sup> Table does not include supplemental funding

**Summary of 2027 Program Changes for Statutory and Contractual Aid**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

<b>Program Changes</b>	<b>2027 Request Change</b>	<b>FTE Change</b>
<i>Operational Efficiency Savings</i>	-250	-
<b>TOTAL Program Changes</b>	<b>-250</b>	<b>-</b>

**Justification of Program Changes Narrative: Statutory and Contractual Aid**

The budget does not request funding for Statutory and Contractual Aid.

**Operational Efficiency Savings (-\$250,000 / -0 FTE)** – The 2027 Budget proposes funding levels that will reach balance and restore confidence in America’s fiscal management. The budget provides funding levels necessary to ensure that parks remain open and accessible by prioritizing operational funding at the park level, focusing on core operations such as law enforcement and safety, visitor services, and facility operations and maintenance. In support of the Administration’s efforts on government efficiency, workforce optimization, and responsiveness to the American taxpayer, this budget reduces redundant operations by streamlining burdensome administrative processes; reduces the size of the Federal government through efficiency improvements and consolidations; and prioritizes high-impact investments. This budget also continues to support many national treasures, while fulfilling the urgent need to utilize State, local, and private sector management to ensure the long-term health and sustainment of the National Park system.

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**Appropriation: Historic Preservation Fund**

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## **Appropriation: Historic Preservation Fund**

The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA, 54 U.S.C. 300101 et seq.) established the Historic Preservation Fund (HPF) in 1977 to fund a matching grant program from Outer Continental Shelf oil and gas lease revenues. In this way, revenues generated by the use of one resource support efforts to conserve other resources, in this case historic assets. The National Park Service administers the HPF on behalf of the Secretary of the Interior. Deposits into the HPF were authorized at \$150 million per year through FY 2026. The FY 2027 budget includes a general provision to extend the authorization through the end of FY 2027. Use of the Fund is subject to appropriations.

**Summary of Requirements**  
**National Park Service**  
**Appropriation: Historic Preservation Fund**  
*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

Treasury Account/Activity	2025 Actual		2026 Enacted		2027 Request					
	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Program Changes (\$)	Program Changes FTE (+/-)	Budget Authority	FTE	Change from 2026 Enacted
<b>Historic Preservation Fund</b>										
Grants-In-Aid	143,400	5	139,963	4	-	-128,963	-3	11,000	1	-128,963
Save America's Treasures	25,500	3	25,500	3	-	-25,500	-3	-	-	-25,500
Historic Preservation Fund Projects	-	-	15,596	-	-	-15,596	-	-	-	-15,596
<b>Total, Historic Preservation Fund</b>	<b>168,900</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>181,059</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-170,059</b>	<b>-6</b>	<b>11,000</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-170,059</b>

## Appropriations Language

*For expenses necessary in carrying out division A of subtitle III of title 54, United States Code, \$11,000,000, to be derived from the Historic Preservation Fund and to remain available until September 30, 2028, of which \$11,000,000 is for grants to Historically Black Colleges and Universities, to be made without imposing the matching requirements in section 507(c) of division I of the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996, Public Law 104-333 (54 U.S.C. 302101 note).*

## Appropriations Language Citations

**1. For expenses necessary in carrying out division A of subtitle III of title 54, United States Code, \$11,000,000,**

54 U.S.C. 300101 – 307108, the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665, 80 Stat. 915), establishes a variety of historic preservation programs, including the historic preservation grant program to provide assistance to non-Federal entities for the preservation of their cultural heritage, the National Register of Historic Places, and the designation of National Historic Landmarks. The Act authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to carry out these programs; the National Park Service implements these programs and responsibilities for the Secretary.

**2. to be derived from the Historic Preservation Fund**

In 1976, Public Law 94-422 amended the National Historic Preservation Act to establish the Historic Preservation Fund as the funding source. 54 U.S.C. 303102, as amended by Public Law 94-422, Public Law 96-515, Public Law 100-127, Public Law 102-575, Public Law 106-208, Public Law 109-453, Public Law 114-289, Public Law 118-42, and Public Law 119-4 provided the fund with \$150 million in revenues from Outer Continental Shelf receipts each fiscal year through 2025. The Commerce, Justice, Science; Energy and Water Development; and Interior and Environment Appropriations Act, 2026 extended authority through FY 2026.

**3. and to remain available until September 30, 2028**

The NPS proposes the availability of funding for this account to remain available for two years, consistent with past appropriations and authority under 54 U.S.C. 303103, which allows appropriations from the Historic Preservation Fund to be made without fiscal year limitation.

**4. is for grants to Historically Black Colleges and Universities, to be made without imposing the matching requirements in section 507(c) of Division I of the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996, Public Law 104-333 (54 U.S.C.302101 note).**

54 U.S.C. 302101, as amended by Public Law 104-333, Public Law 108-7, and Public Law 116-9 authorized a program of grants to eligible Historically Black Colleges and Universities for the preservation and restoration of historic buildings and structures on the campuses of those institutions to be funded from amounts made available to carry out the National Historic Preservation Act.

## **Activity: Grants-in-Aid**

The Grants-in-Aid activity provides grants in accordance with the provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), demonstrating leadership and support for the preservation of the Country's cultural, historic, and prehistoric resources. Grants under this activity fall into the following subactivities:

### **Subactivity: Grants-in-Aid to States and Territories**

Annual matching grants to State Historic Preservation Officers (SHPO) support protection and preservation of historic resources. States use the funding for preservation projects including survey and inventory, National Register nominations, education, planning, managing preservation tax incentives, physical preservation work, and reviews of Federally funded projects under Section 106 of the NHPA.

### **Subactivity: Grants-in-Aid to Indian Tribes**

Annual grants to Tribal Historic Preservation Offices (THPOs), which do not have a matching requirement, support Tribes in preserving their cultural heritage, allowing them to assume duties from the SHPOs and thereby participate in the national preservation program. The amount of each grant is based on a formula that considers the number of eligible Tribes and the relative size of Tribal lands.

### **Subactivity: Grants-in-Aid to Historically Black Colleges and Universities**

These grants provide physical preservation assistance to buildings located on campuses of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) that are listed in or eligible for the National Register, as well as support for National Register nominations and Preservation Plans for HBCU campuses. Grants under this program are awarded through a competitive process. Since 2017, this program has awarded \$69 million in grants to 124 projects across multiple HBCU campuses.

### **Subactivity: Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Grants**

Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Grants support subgrant programs to rehabilitate historic properties and foster economic development in rural communities. Recipients include States, Tribes, Certified Local Governments, and nonprofits, which in turn subgrant funds to historic preservation projects in rural communities in their jurisdictions.

### **Subactivity: Competitive Grants**

Competitive grants support State, Tribal, and local governments, as well as nonprofits to work on projects to (1) document, interpret, and preserve sites and stories related to the African American struggle to gain equal rights in America, (2) preserve sites related to the struggle of all people to achieve equal rights in America, and (3) diversify listings in the National Register of Historic Places.

### **Subactivity: Semiquincentennial Preservation Grants**

The Semiquincentennial Preservation Grant program supports preservation of structures listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places that commemorate the founding of the Country. Grants under this program are awarded through a competitive process and may be awarded to States, Tribes, local governments, and nonprofits.

**Activity: Grants-In-Aid<sup>1</sup>**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

Sub Activity/Program Element	2025 Actual		2026 Enacted		2027 Request					
	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Program Changes (\$)	Program Changes FTE (+/-)	Budget Authority	FTE	Change from 2026 Enacted
Grants-In-Aid to States and Territories	62,150	-	62,150	-	-	-62,150	-	-	-	-62,150
Grants-In-Aid to Indian Tribes	23,000	-	23,750	-	-	-23,750	-	-	-	-23,750
Grants-In-Aid to Historically Black Colleges & Universities	11,000	2	11,000	1	-	-	-	11,000	1	-
Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Grants	10,000	-	7,906	-	-	-7,906	-	-	-	-7,906
<i>Competitive Grants</i>										
Competitive Grants - African American Civil Rights	24,000	3	24,000	3	-	-24,000	-3	-	-	-24,000
Competitive Grants - History of Equal Rights	5,000	-	5,000	-	-	-5,000	-	-	-	-5,000
Competitive Grants - Underrepresented Communities	1,250	-	1,250	-	-	-1,250	-	-	-	-1,250
Semiquincentennial Preservation Grants	7,000	-	4,907	-	-	-4,907	-	-	-	-4,907
<b>Total, Grants-In-Aid</b>	<b>143,400</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>139,963</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-128,963</b>	<b>-3</b>	<b>11,000</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-128,963</b>

<sup>1</sup> Table does not include supplemental funding

**Summary of 2027 Program Changes for Grants-in-Aid**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

<b>Program Changes</b>	<b>2027 Request Change</b>	<b>FTE Change</b>
<i>Operational Efficiency Savings</i>	-128,963	-3
<b>TOTAL Program Changes</b>	<b>-128,963</b>	<b>-3</b>

**Justification of Program Changes Narrative: Grants-in-Aid**

The 2027 budget request for Grants-in-Aid is \$11,000,000 and 1 FTE, a program change of -\$128,963,000 and -3 FTE from 2026 Enacted. Many historic preservation projects have matching funds from State, local, and private sources, rendering the Historic Preservation Fund highly duplicative. Further, the projects are often of local, rather than National, significance. The 2027 budget would continue funding projects in partnership with Historically Black Colleges & Universities, which have a unique history.

**Operational Efficiency Savings (-\$128,963,000 / -3 FTE)** – The 2027 Budget proposes funding levels that will reach balance and restore confidence in America’s fiscal management. The budget provides funding levels necessary to ensure that parks remain open and accessible by prioritizing operational funding at the park level, focusing on core operations such as law enforcement and safety, visitor services, and facility operations and maintenance. In support of the Administration’s efforts on government efficiency, workforce optimization, and responsiveness to the American taxpayer, this budget reduces redundant operations by streamlining burdensome administrative processes; reduces the size of the Federal government through efficiency improvements and consolidations; and prioritizes high-impact investments. This budget also continues to support many national treasures, while fulfilling the urgent need to utilize State, local, and private sector management to ensure the long-term health and sustainment of the National Park system.

**Activity: Save America's Treasures**

The Save America's Treasures (SAT) grant program was established in 1998 and first awarded grants in 1999 to help preserve nationally significant historic properties and collections.

**Activity: Save America's Treasures<sup>1</sup>**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

Activity	2025 Actual		2026 Enacted		2027 Request					
	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Program Changes (\$)	Program Changes FTE (+/-)	Budget Authority	FTE	Change from 2026 Enacted
<b>Total, Save America's Treasures</b>	<b>25,500</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>25,500</b>	<b>3</b>	-	-25,500	-3	-	-	-25,500

<sup>1</sup> Table does not include supplemental funding

**Summary of 2027 Program Changes for Save America’s Treasures**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

<b>Program Changes</b>	<b>2027 Request Change</b>	<b>FTE Change</b>
<i>Operational Efficiency Savings</i>	-25,500	-3
<b>TOTAL Program Changes</b>	<b>-25,500</b>	<b>-3</b>

**Justification of Program Changes Narrative: Save America’s Treasures**

The 2027 Budget does not request funding for Save America’s Treasures Grants. Many historic preservation projects have matching funds from State, local, and private sources, rendering the Historic Preservation Fund highly duplicative.

**Operational Efficiency Savings (-\$25,500,000 / -3 FTE)** – The 2027 Budget proposes funding levels that will reach balance and restore confidence in America’s fiscal management. The budget provides funding levels necessary to ensure that parks remain open and accessible by prioritizing operational funding at the park level, focusing on core operations such as law enforcement and safety, visitor services, and facility operations and maintenance. In support of the Administration’s efforts on government efficiency, workforce optimization, and responsiveness to the American taxpayer, this budget reduces redundant operations by streamlining burdensome administrative processes; reduces the size of the Federal government through efficiency improvements and consolidations; and prioritizes high-impact investments. This budget also continues to support many national treasures, while fulfilling the urgent need to utilize State, local, and private sector management to ensure the long-term health and sustainment of the National Park system.

**Activity: Historic Preservation Fund Projects**

Historic Preservation Fund Projects are congressionally directed spending for grants made under the authority of the Historic Preservation Fund for preservation of the country's historic and cultural resources.

**Activity: Historic Preservation Fund Projects<sup>1</sup>**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

Activity	2025 Actual		2026 Enacted		2027 Request					
	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Program Changes (\$)	Program Changes FTE (+/-)	Budget Authority	FTE	Change from 2026 Enacted
<b>Total, Historic Preservation Fund Projects</b>	-	-	15,596	-	-	-15,596	-	-	-	-15,596

<sup>1</sup> Table does not include supplemental funding

**Summary of 2027 Program Changes for Historic Preservation Fund Projects**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

<b>Program Changes</b>	<b>2027 Request Change</b>	<b>FTE Change</b>
<i>Operational Efficiency Savings</i>	-15,596	-
<b>TOTAL Program Changes</b>	<b>-15,596</b>	<b>-</b>

**Justification of Program Changes Narrative: Historic Preservation Fund Projects**

The 2027 Budget does not request funding for Historic Preservation Fund Projects.

**Operational Efficiency Savings (-\$15,596,000 / -0 FTE)** – The 2027 Budget proposes funding levels that will reach balance and restore confidence in America’s fiscal management. The budget provides funding levels necessary to ensure that parks remain open and accessible by prioritizing operational funding at the park level, focusing on core operations such as law enforcement and safety, visitor services, and facility operations and maintenance. In support of the Administration’s efforts on government efficiency, workforce optimization, and responsiveness to the American taxpayer, this budget reduces redundant operations by streamlining burdensome administrative processes; reduces the size of the Federal government through efficiency improvements and consolidations; and prioritizes high-impact investments. This budget also continues to support many national treasures, while fulfilling the urgent need to utilize State, local, and private sector management to ensure the long-term health and sustainment of the National Park system.

## **Appropriation: Construction**

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## **Appropriation: Construction**

The Construction Appropriation provides for central management of planning, design, and major construction and maintenance functions. The account provides funding for the evaluation of future projects, ensuring NPS investments are sound and focused on high-priority needs. Much of the funding supports the contracted services and Federal staff to plan, design, and execute facility and infrastructure projects. It also supports long-term planning for park units, and studies to determine if new places are appropriate and fiscally reasonable additions to the NPS.

**Summary of Requirements  
National Park Service  
Construction<sup>1</sup>**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

Treasury Account/Activity	2025 Actual		2026 Enacted		2027 Request					
	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Program Changes (\$)	FTE Changes (+/-)	Budget Authority	FTE	Change from 2026 Enacted
<b>Construction</b>										
Line Item Construction Projects	80,600	14	3,190	14	-	-3,190	-14	-	-	-3,190
Special Programs	31,855	3	31,855	3	-	-11,728	+2	20,127	5	-11,728
Construction Planning	12,000	-	7,800	-	-	-7,800	-	-	-	-7,800
Construction Program Mngmt and Operations	34,891	199	34,891	129	-12	-12,068	-32	22,811	97	-12,080
Management Planning	12,909	39	10,725	35	-2	-4,986	-16	5,737	19	-4,988
<b>Total, Construction</b>	<b>172,255</b>	<b>255</b>	<b>88,461</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>-14</b>	<b>-39,722</b>	<b>-60</b>	<b>48,675</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>-39,786</b>

<sup>1</sup> Table does not include supplemental funding.

**Justification of Fixed Costs Changes  
National Park Service  
National Recreation and Preservation**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

<b>Fixed Cost Element</b>	<b>2026 Enacted Change</b>	<b>2026 Enacted to 2027 Request Change</b>	<b>Description</b>
Pay Raise	+1,545	+55	The President's Budget for 2027 includes one quarter (October-December 2026) of the 1.0% pay raise for 2026 and 0.0% pay raise for 2027. Pay raises are consistent with the published OMB Circular A-11.
FERS Employer Contribution	0	-69	The estimates reflect adjustments to the employer contribution for FERS and Law Enforcement FERS for FY 2027. This information is consistent with the published OMB Circular A-11.
<b>Total, Account 2027 Fixed Costs</b>	<b>+1,545</b>	<b>-14</b>	

## Appropriations Language

*For construction, improvements, repair, or replacement of physical facilities, and compliance and planning for programs and areas administered by the National Park Service, \$48,675,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That the solicitation and contract shall contain the clause availability of funds found at 48 CFR 52.232-18: Provided further, That National Park Service Donations, Park Concessions Franchise Fees, and Recreation Fees may be made available for the cost of adjustments and changes within the original scope of effort for projects funded by the National Park Service Construction appropriation: Provided further, That the Secretary of the Interior shall notify the Committees on Appropriations, in accordance with current reprogramming thresholds, prior to making any charges authorized by this section.*

## Appropriations Language Citations

### 1. For construction, improvements, repair, or replacement of physical facilities,

54 U.S.C. 100101, 100301-100302 creates the National Park Service to promote and regulate the use of national park areas for their conservation and enjoyment and provides authority for administering areas within the National Park System, thus implying authority for construction, and construction planning for these purposes. Also, Congress has enacted limited authorizations for appropriations for specific construction projects.

54 U.S.C. 320101-320106 provides specific authority for the Secretary of the Interior to acquire property and to restore, reconstruct, rehabilitate, preserve, and maintain historic and prehistoric sites, buildings, objects, and properties of national historical or archeological significance.

54 U.S.C. 101501(a)-(e) provides specific authority for the Secretary of the Interior to plan, acquire, establish, construct, enlarge, improve, maintain, equip, regulate, and protect airports in, or in close proximity to national parks, monuments, and recreation areas when such airport is included in the current national airport plan of the Secretary of Transportation.

### 2. and compliance and planning for areas and programs administered by the National Park Service,

Specific authority is provided in 54 U.S.C. 100502 for general management plans for national park areas. The National Park Service Omnibus Management Act of 1998 (P.L. 105-391) requires an Act of Congress to specifically authorize a special resource study; however, it also allows the NPS to conduct reconnaissance studies or other preliminary evaluations of areas, not to exceed \$25,000. 16 U.S.C. 1276d requires the Secretary of the Interior to conduct studies on potential new wild and scenic rivers and submit reports to Congress.

The National Environmental Policy Act (P.L. 91-190), as amended, provides authority for the National Park Service to conduct studies related to the environmental impact of proposed changes concerning available resources.

**3. \$48,675,000, to remain available until expended:**

The NPS proposes the availability of funding for the Construction account to remain available until expended, consistent with past appropriations.

**4. Provided, That the solicitation and contract shall contain the clause availability of funds found at 48 CFR 52.232-18:**

The “availability of funds” clause at 48 CFR 52.232-18 states “Funds are not presently available for this contract. The Government's obligation under this contract is contingent upon the availability of appropriated funds from which payment for contract purposes can be made. No legal liability on the part of the Government for any payment may arise until funds are made available to the Contracting Officer for this contract and until the Contractor receives notice of such availability, to be confirmed in writing by the Contracting Officer.”

**5. Provided further, that National Park Service Donations, Park Concessions Franchise Fees, and Recreation Fees may be utilized for the cost of adjustments and changes within the original scope of effort for projects funded by the National Park Service Construction appropriation: Provided further, That the Secretary of the Interior shall notify the Committees on Appropriations, in accordance with current reprogramming thresholds, prior to making any charges authorized under this heading.**

This provision provides the NPS with the authority to address adjustments, subject to reprogramming guidelines, for unforeseen circumstances to published estimated costs for specific projects in a timely manner with other relevant appropriations.

### **Activity: Line Item Construction**

The NPS Line Item Construction activity provides a strategically-balanced, long-term approach to capital investment and financial sustainability that addresses the highest priority critical life, health, safety, resource protection, and mission support projects.

#### **Line Item Construction**

This program component provides for recapitalization, modernization, alteration, replacement, and new construction of assets needed to accomplish the management objectives approved for each park.

#### **Abandoned Mineral Lands (AML)**

This program component supports projects which mitigate abandoned mineral land safety issues and resource impacts.

#### **Demolition and Disposal**

This program component supports demolition and disposal projects which provide for the removal of excess, unsafe, or unusable property.

**Activity: Line Item Construction Projects<sup>1</sup>**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

Activity/Program Element	2025 Actual		2026 Enacted		2027 Request					
	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Program Changes (\$)	Program Changes FTE (+/-)	Budget Authority	FTE	Change from 2026 Enacted
<b>Line Item Construction Projects</b>										
Line Item Construction Projects	74,600	3	3,190	3	-	-3,190	-3	-	-	-3,190
Abandoned Mineral Lands Projects	2,000	5	-	5	-	-	-5	-	-	-
Demolition and Disposal Projects	4,000	6	-	6	-	-	-6	-	-	-
<b>Total, Line Item Construction Projects</b>	<b>80,600</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>3,190</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-3,190</b>	<b>-14</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-3,190</b>

<sup>1</sup> Table does not include supplemental funding

**Summary of 2027 Program Changes for Line Item Construction**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

<b>Program Changes</b>	<b>2027 Request Change</b>	<b>FTE Change</b>
<i>Operational Efficiency Savings</i>	-3,190	-14
<b>TOTAL Program Changes</b>	<b>-3,190</b>	<b>-14</b>

**Justification of Program Changes Narrative: Line Item Construction**

The 2027 Budget does not request funding for Line Item Construction.

**Operational Efficiency Savings (-\$3,190,000/ -14 FTE)** – The 2027 Budget proposes funding levels that will reach balance and restore confidence in America’s fiscal management. The budget provides funding levels necessary to ensure that parks remain open and accessible by prioritizing operational funding at the park level, focusing on core operations such as law enforcement and safety, visitor services, and facility operations and maintenance. In support of the Administration’s efforts on government efficiency, workforce optimization, and responsiveness to the American taxpayer, this budget reduces redundant operations by streamlining burdensome administrative processes; reduces the size of the Federal government through efficiency improvements and consolidations; and prioritizes high-impact investments. This budget also continues to support many national treasures, while fulfilling the urgent need to utilize State, local, and private sector management to ensure the long-term health and sustainment of the National Park system.

The NPS will continue to use remaining balances in the National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund to address deferred maintenance needs, and many parks will have significant opportunities to fund maintenance projects with additional revenue generated by America-first pricing and additional modernization of Recreation Fee collections. The Department proposes to reauthorize the National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund.

### **Activity: Special Programs**

The Special Programs activity provides for the accomplishment of minor unscheduled and emergency construction projects, and for the inspection, repair, or replacement of equipment and facilities. This supports multiple critical needs throughout the National Park System, including:

#### **Subactivity: Emergencies and Unscheduled Projects**

Addresses the preservation of resources and safety of the public and employees by funding unscheduled and emergency construction projects. These projects protect and preserve park resources and provide for safe and uninterrupted visitor use of facilities. Funding also addresses unforeseen construction contract claim settlements, provides necessary infrastructure for approved concessioner expansion projects, and ensures continuity of support and service operations.

#### **Subactivity: Housing Improvement Program**

Constructs, maintains, improves, and replaces NPS-provided housing for NPS employees.

#### **Subactivity: Dam Safety Program**

Manages the risk to the safety of employees and the public, as well as safeguarding NPS cultural and natural resources. Dams and other streamflow control structures (levees, dikes, berms, elevated canal walls and plugs, as well as other similar miscellaneous structures) located on NPS lands require engineering risk-based analyses including inventories, inspections, assessments and initial corrective action planning. The FY 2027 budget does not request funding for this subactivity; these activities may be funded in the Operation of the National Park System appropriation.

#### **Subactivity: Equipment Replacement Program**

Addresses systematic replacement of automated, motorized, and fixed information technology equipment to support safe, efficient operations and visitor services throughout the National Park System. The FY 2027 budget does not request funding for this subactivity; these activities may be funded in the Operation of the National Park System appropriation.

**Activity: Special Programs<sup>1</sup>**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

Activity/Sub Activity	2025 Actual		2026 Enacted		2027 Request				
	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	Program Changes (\$)	Program Changes FTE (+/-)	Budget Authority	FTE	Change from 2026 Enacted
<b>Special Programs</b>									
Emergencies and Unscheduled Projects	3,848	1	3,848	1	+1,153	+3	5,001	4	+1,153
Housing Improvement Program	7,886	1	7,886	1	+7,240	-	15,126	1	+7,240
Dam Safety & Security Program	1,247	1	1,247	1	-1,247	-1	0	-	-1,247
Equipment Replacement Program	18,874	-	18,874	-	-18,874	-	0	-	-18,874
<b>Total, Special Programs</b>	<b>31,855</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>31,855</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>-11,728</b>	<b>+2</b>	<b>20,127</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>-11,728</b>

<sup>1</sup> Table does not include supplemental funding

**Summary of 2027 Program Changes for Special Programs**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

<b>Program Changes</b>	<b>2027 Request Change</b>	<b>FTE Change</b>
<i>Operational Efficiency Savings</i>	-11,728	+2
<b>TOTAL Program Changes</b>	<b>-11,728</b>	<b>+2</b>

**Justification of Program Changes Narrative: Special Programs**

The 2027 budget request for Special Programs is \$20,127,000 and 5 FTE, a program change of -\$11,728,000 and +2 FTE.

**Operational Efficiency Savings (-\$11,728,000 / +2 FTE)** – The 2027 Budget proposes funding levels that will reach balance and restore confidence in America’s fiscal management. The budget provides funding levels necessary to ensure that parks remain open and accessible by prioritizing operational funding at the park level, focusing on core operations such as law enforcement and safety, visitor services, and facility operations and maintenance. In support of the Administration’s efforts on government efficiency, workforce optimization, and responsiveness to the American taxpayer, this budget reduces redundant operations by streamlining burdensome administrative processes; reduces the size of the Federal government through efficiency improvements and consolidations; and prioritizes high-impact investments. This budget also continues to support many national treasures, while fulfilling the urgent need to utilize State, local, and private sector management to ensure the long-term health and sustainment of the National Park system.

This funding level provides the necessary capability for the NPS to focus its activities on the Administration’s highest priorities, including responding to emergency and unscheduled needs at national treasured parks; and targeting construction, improvement, and maintenance of employee housing where it is most needed.

### **Activity: Construction Planning**

The Construction Planning activity lays the groundwork for actual construction through compliance, investigations, surveys, analysis of alternatives, cost estimates, and design. These activities develop required technical and contractual documents to best position the National Park Service to complete construction projects within budget and on schedule; these efforts also ensure projects are properly designed and meet asset maintenance, repair, and replacement goals.

Construction Planning funds provide for contracted Architectural/Engineering services for supplemental services, and project planning and design, which includes Pre-design and Final Design. Funds are used for supplemental services such as archeological and historical surveys, and engineering investigations including site and geotechnical surveys, environmental testing, hydrological surveys, and detailed condition assessments. Based on survey and evaluation results, funds are used to prepare comprehensive construction plans and specifications, and contractual documents needed to award construction contracts.

**Activity: Construction Planning<sup>1</sup>**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

Activity	2025 Actual		2026 Enacted		2027 Request					
	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Program Changes (\$)	Program Changes FTE (+/-)	Budget Authority	FTE	Change from 2026 Enacted
<b>Total, Construction Planning</b>	<b>12,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,800</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-7,800</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-7,800</b>

<sup>1</sup> Table does not include supplemental funding

**Summary of 2027 Program Changes for Construction Planning**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

<b>Program Changes</b>	<b>2027 Request Change</b>	<b>FTE Change</b>
<i>Operational Efficiency Savings</i>	-7,800	-0
<b>TOTAL Program Changes</b>	<b>-7,800</b>	<b>-0</b>

**Justification of Program Changes Narrative: Construction Planning**

The FY 2027 budget does not request funding for Construction Planning.

**Operational Efficiency Savings (-\$7,800,000 / -0 FTE)** – The 2027 Budget proposes funding levels that will reach balance and restore confidence in America’s fiscal management. The budget provides funding levels necessary to ensure that parks remain open and accessible by prioritizing operational funding at the park level, focusing on core operations such as law enforcement and safety, visitor services, and facility operations and maintenance. In support of the Administration’s efforts on government efficiency, workforce optimization, and responsiveness to the American taxpayer, this budget reduces redundant operations by streamlining burdensome administrative processes; reduces the size of the Federal government through efficiency improvements and consolidations; and prioritizes high-impact investments. This budget also continues to support many national treasures, while fulfilling the urgent need to utilize State, local, and private sector management to ensure the long-term health and sustainment of the National Park system.

The 2027 Budget does not request funding for Line Item Construction; this change is commensurate with that adjustment. The NPS will continue to use remaining balances in the National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund to address deferred maintenance needs, and many parks will have significant opportunities to fund maintenance projects with additional revenue generated by America-first pricing and additional modernization of Recreation Fee collections.

**Activity: Construction Program Management and Operations**

The Construction Program Management and Operations activity centrally coordinates major construction and rehabilitation projects for the NPS for the consistent, effective, appropriate, and efficient construction and maintenance of visitor and administrative facilities and supporting infrastructure at parks around the country. Some of this is accomplished through several key programs: Line Item Construction, Federal Lands Highways Program, Management Planning, Recreation Fee projects, and others.

Consistent with DOI's Capital Planning and Investment Control (CPIC) guidance, this activity provides a servicewide project management control system to provide accurate assessments of project status, status based on an approved investment concept, scope of benefit, and investment strategy. It supports a Value Analysis program, and the Bureau Investment Review Board, which collectively steer the NPS's major construction and investment efforts. This activity also supports staff who directly oversee construction program activities including project compliance, pre-planning, development, scope and cost validation, and code compliance review, as well as programmatic oversight.

**Activity: Construction Program Management and Operations<sup>1</sup>**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

Activity	2025 Actual		2026 Enacted		2027 Request					
	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Program Changes (\$)	Program Changes FTE (+/-)	Budget Authority	FTE	Change from 2026 Enacted
<b>Total, Construction Program Management and Operations</b>	<b>34,891</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>34,891</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>-12</b>	<b>-12,068</b>	<b>-32</b>	<b>22,811</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>-12,080</b>

<sup>1</sup> Table does not include supplemental funding

**Summary of 2027 Program Changes for Construction Program Management and Operations**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

<b>Program Changes</b>	<b>2027 Request Change</b>	<b>FTE Change</b>
<i>Operational Efficiency Savings</i>	-12,068	-32
<b>TOTAL Program Changes</b>	<b>-12,068</b>	<b>-32</b>

**Justification of Program Changes Narrative: Construction Program Management and Operations**

The 2027 budget request for Construction Program Management and Operations is \$22,811,000 and 97 FTE, a program change of -\$12,068,000 and -32 FTE.

**Operational Efficiency Savings (-\$12,068,000 / -32 FTE)** – The 2027 Budget proposes funding levels that will reach balance and restore confidence in America’s fiscal management. The budget provides funding levels necessary to ensure that parks remain open and accessible by prioritizing operational funding at the park level, focusing on core operations such as law enforcement and safety, visitor services, and facility operations and maintenance. In support of the Administration’s efforts on government efficiency, workforce optimization, and responsiveness to the American taxpayer, this budget reduces redundant operations by streamlining burdensome administrative processes; reduces the size of the Federal government through efficiency improvements and consolidations; and prioritizes high-impact investments. This budget also continues to support many national treasures, while fulfilling the urgent need to utilize State, local, and private sector management to ensure the long-term health and sustainment of the National Park system.

### **Activity: Management Planning**

The Management Planning Program budget activity provides long-term planning functions for park units and servicewide activities. More specifically, this activity supports management of park resources; strategic and sustainable facility investments; collaboration with partners; provision for visitor enjoyment and recreational opportunities; and preparation of studies of potential additions to the National Park System, National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, National Trails System, and National Heritage Areas Program, or for Affiliated Areas designations. Each study considers an area's national significance, suitability, and feasibility for inclusion as a national park unit, and whether direct NPS management, or existing/alternative protection by other public agencies or the private sector, is appropriate for the area. Studies are generally conducted in chronological order of authorization and are initiated when funding and staff capacity are available.

The activity also supports parks, regions, and headquarters offices in the process of completing Environmental Impact Statements (EISs), Environmental Assessments (EAs), and other compliance documents related to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), with a priority emphasis on legislatively or judicially mandated NEPA related actions.

**Activity: Management Planning<sup>1</sup>**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

Activity	2025 Actual		2026 Enacted		2027 Request					
	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	Fixed Costs (+/-)	Program Changes (\$)	Program Changes FTE (+/-)	Budget Authority	FTE	Change from 2026 Enacted
<b>Total, Management Planning</b>	<b>12,909</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>10,725</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>-2</b>	<b>-4,986</b>	<b>-16</b>	<b>5,737</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>-4,988</b>

<sup>1</sup> Table does not include supplemental funding

**Summary of 2027 Program Changes for Management Planning**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

<b>Program Changes</b>	<b>2027 Request Change</b>	<b>FTE Change</b>
<i>Operational Efficiency Savings</i>	-4,986	-16
<b>TOTAL Program Changes</b>	<b>-4,986</b>	<b>-16</b>

**Justification of Program Changes Narrative: Management Planning**

The 2027 budget request for Management Planning is \$5,737,000 and 19 FTE, a program change of -\$4,986,000 and -16 FTE.

**Operational Efficiency Savings (-\$4,986,000 / -16 FTE)** – The 2027 Budget proposes funding levels that will reach balance and restore confidence in America’s fiscal management. The budget provides funding levels necessary to ensure that parks remain open and accessible by prioritizing operational funding at the park level, focusing on core operations such as law enforcement and safety, visitor services, and facility operations and maintenance. In support of the Administration’s efforts on government efficiency, workforce optimization, and responsiveness to the American taxpayer, this budget reduces redundant operations by streamlining burdensome administrative processes; reduces the size of the Federal government through efficiency improvements and consolidations; and prioritizes high-impact investments. This budget also continues to support many national treasures, while fulfilling the urgent need to utilize State, local, and private sector management to ensure the long-term health and sustainment of the National Park system.

This funding level provides the necessary capability to ensure NPS resources are focused in support of Administration priorities, including efficient execution of construction and major maintenance projects, and promoting a maximally streamlined approach to park planning. It also ensures the NPS meets its statutory responsibility for studying prospective units—ensuring that smaller, less visited sites are accurately recommended for local, State, or Tribal protection, rather than further burdening the National Park System.

**Appropriation: Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)**

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## **Appropriation: Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)**

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) was established by Congress in 1964 to support the protection of Federal public lands and waters – including national parks, forests, wildlife refuges, and public lands recreation areas – and to provide recreation opportunities to all Americans. The LWCF also provides for grants to State and local governments for the acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation areas and facilities.

Through a variety of programs, LWCF supports our nationwide legacy of high-quality recreation and conservation areas. The Fund receives revenue from offshore oil and gas leasing to support outdoor recreation and conservation of natural, cultural, and historic resources across the country. Every State and most counties in the country have benefited from the LWCF since its establishment.

The Department of the Interior is responsible for administering and implementing these important programs, in concert with the U.S. Forest Service. The Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA) amended the LWCF Act to make LWCF funding permanent and LWCF funding is provided through a mandatory account. GAOA requires that the President’s annual budget submission to Congress include a proposed allocation of LWCF funding by account, program, and project for consideration as part of the annual budget process. LWCF funding is subject to a sequestration reduction of 5.7%. Beginning in FY 2022, the sequestered amount becomes available or “pops up” in the following year. Unless otherwise indicated, amounts referenced in this section reflect the Net Budget Authority that would be available for programs to execute after sequestration adjustments.

**Summary of Requirements  
Land and Water Conservation Fund Programs for National Park Service Net Budget Authority<sup>(1)</sup>**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

<b>Activity/Subactivity/Program Element</b>	<b>2025 Actual</b>	<b>2026 Enacted</b>	<b>2027 Request</b>	<b>2027 Req vs. 2026 Enacted</b>	<b>2025 Actual FTE</b>	<b>2026 Enacted FTE</b>	<b>2027 Request FTE</b>	<b>2027 v. 2026 FTE</b>
<b>Federal Land Acquisition</b>								
Emergencies, Hardships, Relocation	5,000	5,000	5,000	-	-	-	-	-
Inholdings, Donations, & Exchanges	21,645	14,500	31,125	16,625	-	-	-	-
Projects	40,865	42,200	42,200	-	-	-	-	-
Recreational Access	20,315	14,500	14,500	-	-	-	-	-
Acquisition Management	16,500	18,500	16,500	(2,000)	89	89	89	-
<b>Subtotal, Federal Land Acquisition <sup>(2)</sup></b>	<b>104,325</b>	<b>94,700</b>	<b>109,325</b>	<b>14,625</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>State Conservation Grants</b>								
Formula State Conservation Grants	292,197	175,000	243,544	68,544	-	-	-	-
Competitive State Conservation Grants	-	125,000	56,000	(69,000)	-	-	-	-
State Conservation Grants Administration	13,347	14,500	14,500	-	78	78	78	-
<b>Subtotal, State Conservation Grants <sup>(2)</sup></b>	<b>305,544</b>	<b>314,500</b>	<b>314,044</b>	<b>(456)</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP)</b>								
ABPP Battlefield Acquisition Grants	17,400	17,400	17,400	-	-	-	-	-
ABPP Interpretation Grants	1,000	1,000	1,000	-	-	-	-	-
ABPP Restoration Grants	1,000	1,000	1,000	-	-	-	-	-
ABPP Grants Administration	600	600	600	-	3	3	3	-
<b>Subtotal, American Battlefield Protection Program <sup>(2)</sup></b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total, LWCF Account Funding (Net Budget Authority)</b>	<b>429,869</b>	<b>429,200</b>	<b>443,369</b>	<b>14,169</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>-</b>

<sup>1</sup> Bureau line item funding amounts display Net Budget Authority, the amount available to execute after sequester and pop-up adjustments. All permanent LWCF funding is subject to a sequestration reduction of -5.7% across all programs. After FY 2022, amounts sequestered from LWCF programs become available for obligation in subsequent years.

<sup>2</sup> Subtotals may not add due to rounding of sequester adjustments.

**FY 2027 Land Acquisition and State Assistance**

*(Dollars)*

<b>Budget Authority/Activity</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>FY 2027 New Budget Authority</b>	<b>444,228,321</b>
FY 2027 Estimated Sequestration Reduction (-5.7%)	-25,321,014
FY 2027 Estimated Pop Up (+5.7% of 2026)	24,461,693
<b>FY 2027 Net Budget Authority</b>	<b>443,369,000</b>

**National Park Service (NPS)  
Allocation of Land and Water Conservation Fund FY 2027**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000) - Net Budgetary Authority*

<b>Account/Activity/Project</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>FEDERAL LAND ACQUISITION</b>		
Emergencies, Hardships, & Relocations		5,000,000
Inholdings, Donations, & Exchanges		31,125,000
Recreational Access		14,500,000
Acquisition Management		16,500,000
Land Acquisition Projects		
Yosemite National Park	CA	440,000
Pipestone National Monument	MN	378,000
Saguaro National Park	AZ	5,000,000
Gauley River National Recreation Area	WV	825,000
Blue Ridge Parkway	NC	550,000
Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area	MT, WY	2,860,000
Shiloh National Military Park	TN, MS	1,320,000
Mill Springs Battlefield National Monument	KY	827,000
Battlefield Protection	TBD	20,000,000
Long Distance Trails	Multiple	10,000,000
Land Acquisition Projects, Subtotal		<b>42,200,000</b>
<b>FEDERAL LAND ACQUISITION, Total</b>		<b>109,325,000</b>
<b>STATE CONSERVATION GRANTS (GAOA)</b>		
State Conservation Grants - Formula		243,544,000
State Conservation Grants - Competitive		56,000,000
State Conservation Grants Administration		14,500,000
<b>STATE CONSERVATION GRANTS, Total</b>		<b>314,044,000</b>
<b>AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD PROTECTION PROGRAM</b>		
American Battlefield Protection Program Acquisition Grants		17,400,000
American Battlefield Protection Program Modernization Grants		1,000,000
American Battlefield Protection Program Restoration Grants		1,000,000
American Battlefield Protection Program Grants Administration		600,000
<b>AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD PROTECTION PROGRAM, Total</b>		<b>20,000,000</b>
<b>NPS LWCF, Total (Net Budget Authority)</b>		<b>443,369,000</b>

## **Appropriations Language**

This account does not require annual appropriations language due to permanent appropriation authorized by the Great American Outdoors Act, P.L. 116-152. However, Section 200303(c)(1) of GAOA includes a statutory requirement for the Department to submit a proposed allocation of Land and Water Conservation Fund funding to Congress as part of the annual budget process.

## **Appropriations Language Citations**

*The Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965* (54 U.S.C. 2003), provides funds and authorization for funding to the States in planning, acquisition, and development of needed land and water areas and facilities. 54 U.S.C. 200306 authorizes the acquisition of lands, waters, or interests in lands or waters within the exterior boundaries of the national park system, national scenic trails, the national wilderness preservation system, and federally administered components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

*The American Battlefield Protection Act of 1996* (54 U.S.C. 3081), as amended, authorizes the American Battlefield Protection Program to assist citizens, public and private institutions, and State and local governments in planning, interpreting, and protecting sites where historic battles were fought on American soil.

*The John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act* (P.L. 116-9), permanently authorizes the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

*The Great American Outdoors Act* (P.L. 116-152) authorizes a permanent appropriation of \$900,000,000 per year from the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

### **Activity: Federal Land Acquisition**

The Federal Land Acquisition activity supports the National Park Service mission by contributing to protection of natural and cultural resources and their enjoyment by visitors for recreational experiences. The NPS acquisition of land is required to be within authorized park boundaries.

#### **Subactivity: Emergencies, Hardships and Relocations**

The NPS makes use of this subactivity to fund acquisition of lands where the owner is experiencing financial hardship and must quickly sell their land within the boundary of a park unit, or there is a management emergency that can best be addressed through acquisition from a willing seller.

#### **Subactivity: Inholdings, Donations, and Exchanges**

The NPS makes use of funding in this subactivity to complete expedited purchases of tracts and interests in land from willing sellers within units of the NPS. The NPS uses funding for inholdings to permanently protect land, conserve viewsheds, improve management efficiencies, and provide or expand public access within parks. Funding is also used to purchase interests in land in the form of leases for use of land within the boundary of the National Park of American Samoa and Kalaupapa National Historic Park.

Acquisitions are only purchased when opportunities arise and are therefore funded on an as-needed basis throughout the fiscal year.

This subactivity is also used to fund costs associated with donations and exchanges of land. These costs include due diligence activities such as title research, environmental site assessments, and appraisals, as well as equalization payments when necessary to complete an exchange.

#### **Subactivity: Federal Land Acquisition Projects**

This subactivity supports high priority Federal land acquisition projects. Consistent with Congressional direction, the National Park Service submits the following Federal land acquisition projects as part of the 2027 Budget process. Detailed final project data sheets for each identified project are included and will be made available on the Department's LWCF website: <https://www.doi.gov/lwcf>.

The projects in the "LWCF Federal Land Acquisition Project Funding" section are listed in priority order and have identified willing sellers. The Department will keep Congress informed should the circumstances of a specific project change during the 2027 Budget process.

The Federal Land Acquisition project funding amounts are shown in Net Budget Authority, the amount needed to execute proposed activities after sequester reductions and pop-up adjustments.

#### **Subactivity: Recreational Access**

This subactivity provides funds to allow NPS to work with State, local, and private landowners to acquire parcels adjacent to existing NPS-managed lands where authority permits in order to create, supplement, or enhance recreational opportunities for the public.

#### **Subactivity: Acquisition Management**

This subactivity manages the acquisition of lands within the boundaries of the National Park System to

ensure compliance with existing laws and guidelines.

**Activity: Federal Land Acquisition**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000) - Net Budgetary Authority*

Activity/Subactivity	2025 Actual		2026 Enacted		2027 Request			
	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	\$ Change from 2026 Enacted	FTE Change from 2026 Enacted
<b>Federal Land Acquisition</b>								
Emergencies, Hardships, & Relocations	5,000	0	5,000	0	5,000	0	0	0
Inholdings, Donations, & Exchanges	21,645	0	14,500	0	31,125	0	+16,625	0
Projects	40,865	0	42,200	0	42,200	0	0	0
Recreational Access	20,315	0	14,500	0	14,500	0	0	0
Acquisition Management	16,500	89	18,500	89	16,500	89	-2,000	0
<b>Account/ Activity Total (\$/ FTE)</b>	<b>104,325</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>94,700</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>109,325</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>+14,625</b>	<b>0</b>

**Summary of 2027 Program Changes for Federal Land Acquisition**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

<b>Program Changes</b>	<b>2027 Request Change</b>	<b>FTE Change</b>
<i>Federal Land Acquisition</i>	+14,625	-0
<b>TOTAL Program Changes</b>	<b>+14,625</b>	<b>-0</b>

**Justification of Program Allocations Narrative: Federal Land Acquisition**

The 2027 budget request for Federal Land Acquisition is \$109,325,000 and 89 FTE, a program change of +\$14,625,000 and 0 FTE from the 2026 Enacted level. The NPS will focus on acquiring high priority inholdings that expand recreational access or otherwise address a burden to the public.

### **Activity: State Conservation Grants**

The State Conservation Grants support, through partnerships with State and local agencies, a nationwide system of protected parks, conservation areas, and trails, providing outdoor recreational and conservation benefits to the public. This program also contributes to NPS's mission to assist in expanding and improving outdoor recreational access and opportunities, increasing public access, and catalyzing land conservation partnership projects.

#### **Subactivity: Formula State Conservation Grants**

The Formula State Conservation Grants program is a 1:1 Federal/non-Federal matching grant program. The program provides funding to States to acquire open spaces and natural areas for outdoor recreation purposes and develop outdoor recreation facilities. Additionally, States are required to sustain the property for outdoor recreation purposes in perpetuity. Funding is also provided to assist States in development of Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plans (SCORPs). These plans assess and prioritize the need for new and enhanced parks, conservation and outdoor recreation areas and facilities. States use objective criteria and standards for grant selection based on each State's priority needs as identified in its SCORP. States are also initially responsible for soliciting and selecting projects from eligible State agencies, Tribal governments, and local units of government.

#### **Subactivity: Competitive State Conservation Grants**

The Competitive State Conservation Grants program complements the traditional formula program in supporting outdoor recreation opportunities.

#### **Subactivity: State Conservation Grants Administration**

This subactivity provides for the administration of the NPS program responsibilities to provide grants to States and through States to local governments, as well as ensuring that areas that have received assistance are open and available for public outdoor recreation use in perpetuity as required by the LWCF Act. Further tasks include the provision of technical assistance to States in developing and updating of SCORPs.

#### **Subactivity: State Conservation Grants Administration (States)**

Language enacted in annual appropriations acts authorizes the NPS to retain up to seven percent of the State Conservation Grants assistance program amounts to disburse to States, the District of Columbia, and insular territories as 50:50 matching grants to support State program administrative costs. This includes formula, competitive, and the Tax Relief and Health Care Act of 2006 (P.L. 109-432) program amounts. In doing so, States provide a plan to NPS for approval, identifying their need for and intended use of the funds covering costs such as personnel, travel, training, and supplies. Grants are capped at a maximum amount per State depending upon the size of the State's grant apportionment. Any funds not requested for administration grants will be returned to the program to be distributed through the apportionment. The NPS proposes the same authority for the FY 2027 President's Budget.

**Activity: State Conservation Grants**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000) - Net Budgetary Authority*

Activity/Subactivity	2025 Actual		2026 Enacted		2027 Request			
	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	\$ Change from 2026 Enacted	FTE Change from 2026 Enacted
<b>State Conservation Grants</b>								
State Conservation Grants - Formula	292,197	0	175,000	0	243,544	0	+68,544	0
State Conservation Grants - Competitive	0	0	125,000	0	56,000	0	-69,000	0
State Conservation Grants Administration	13,347	78	14,500	78	14,500	78	0	0
<b>Account/Activity Total (\$/FTE)</b>	<b>305,544</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>314,500</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>314,044</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>-456</b>	<b>0</b>

**Summary of 2027 Program Changes for State Conservation Grants**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

<b>Program Changes</b>	<b>2027 Request Change</b>	<b>FTE Change</b>
<i>State Conservation Grants</i>	-456	-0
<b>TOTAL Program Changes</b>	<b>-456</b>	<b>-0</b>

**Justification of Program Changes Narrative: State Conservation Grants**

The 2027 budget for State Conservation Grants is \$314,044,000 and 78 FTE, a program change of -\$456,000 and -0 FTE from the 2026 Enacted level. The budget provides 1:1 Federal/non-Federal matching grants to States to acquire open spaces and natural areas for outdoor recreation purposes and develop outdoor recreation facilities.

## **Activity: American Battlefield Protection Program**

The American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) promotes preservation of historic battlefields associated with wars on American soil. The goals of the program are to 1) protect battlefields and sites associated with armed conflicts that influenced the course of our history, 2) support planning for the preservation, management, and interpretation of these sites, and 3) raise awareness of the importance of preserving battlefields and associated sites for future generations. The ABPP focuses on land use, cultural resource and site management planning, and public education. The Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (P.L. 116-94) extended the authority for the ABPP grant programs through FY 2028.

### **Subactivity: ABPP Battlefield Acquisition Grants**

These grants support State and local governments and their non-profit partners in acquiring fee-simple or less-than-fee (easement) interests in eligible battlefield lands that are not part of the National Park System. This program awards grants for acquisition of interests in sites identified in the Civil War Sites Advisory Commission's 1993 Report on the Nation's Civil War Battlefields, as well as sites related to the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812 identified in the NPS's Report to Congress on the Historic Preservation of Revolutionary War and War of 1812 Sites in the United States. Grants require a non-Federal cost share of at least 50 percent.

### **Subactivity: ABPP Interpretation Grants**

This subactivity supports competitively awarded matching grants to State, local, and Tribal governments and non-profit organizations for projects that contribute to historic preservation and interpretation, community engagement, museums, and digital or physical public access to battlefield sites related to the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, and Civil War.

### **Subactivity: ABPP Restoration Grants**

This subactivity funds grants to States, Tribes, local governments, and non-profit organizations for projects that restore day-of-battle conditions at Revolutionary War, War of 1812, and Civil War battlefields and associated historic properties acquired with assistance under the battlefield acquisition grant program established under 54 U.S.C. 308103(b). Grants require a non-Federal cost share of at least 50 percent.

### **Subactivity: ABPP Grants Administration**

This subactivity provides for the administration of the three grant programs under this activity, including the Acquisition, Interpretation, and Restoration grants, that are awarded annually to States, Tribes, local governments, and non-profit organizations. Administrators ensure the grant programs are carried out in accordance with all relevant laws, regulations, and policies.

**Activity: American Battlefield Protection Program**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000) - Net Budgetary Authority*

Activity/Subactivity	2025 Actual		2026 Enacted		2027 Request			
	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	\$ Change from 2026 Enacted	FTE Change from 2026 Enacted
<b>American Battlefield Protection Program</b>								
ABPP Acquisition Grants	17,400	0	17,400	0	17,400	0	0	0
ABPP Modernization Grants	1,000	0	1,000	0	1,000	0	0	0
ABPP Restoration Grants	1,000	0	1,000	0	1,000	0	0	0
ABPP Grants Administration	600	3	600	3	600	3	0	0
<b>Account/Activity Total (\$/FTE)</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>20,000</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Justification of Program Changes Narrative: Battlefield Protection Program**

The 2027 budget for American Battlefield Protection Program is \$20,000,000 and 3 FTE, a program change of \$0 and 0 FTE from the 2026 Enacted level. This program will continue to promote the preservation of historic battlefields associated with wars on American soil.

**LWCF Federal Land Acquisition Project Funding**  
**National Park Service**  
**FY 2027 LWCF Land Acquisition Project Request List**  
*(Dollars)*

<b>Priority</b>	<b>Project</b>	<b>State(s)</b>	<b>Funding<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>Acres</b>
1	Yosemite National Park	CA	440,000	0
2	Pipestone National Monument	MN	378,000	10
3	Saguaro National Park	AZ	5,000,000	319
4	Gauley River National Recreation Area	WV	825,000	33
5	Blue Ridge Parkway	NC	550,000	39
6	Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area	MT, WY	2,860,000	40
7	Shiloh National Military Park	TN, MS	1,320,000	56
8	Mill Springs National Battlefield	KY	827,000	177
9	Battlefields	TBD	20,000,000	TBD
10	Long Distance Trails	Multiple	10,000,000	TBD
	<b>FY 2027 Requested Project List</b>		<b>42,200,000</b>	<b>674</b>

<sup>1</sup> Bureau line item funding amounts display Net Budget Authority, the amount available to execute after sequester and pop-up adjustments. All mandatory LWCF funding is subject to a sequestration reduction of -5.7% across all programs.

**Agency: National Park Service**

**Fiscal Year: 2027**

**Project / Unit:** Yosemite National Park

**Priority:** 1

**State(s):** CA

**Congressional District(s):** CA-05

**Location:** Mariposa County

**Limitation Amount:** There is no limitation.

**Project Estimates:**

*National line item funding may also be used for due diligence and just compensation consideration as needed.*

Land/Cost	Acres	Cost
<b>Estimate for FY 2026</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>\$440,000</b>
<b>Acquired to Date</b>	760,020	\$10,236,937
<b>Remaining to be Acquired</b>	225	\$3,031

**Project Description:**

Yosemite Valley and Mariposa Big Tree Grove were granted to the State of California on June 30, 1864, and established as a national park on October 1, 1890. Granite peaks and domes rise high above broad meadows in the heart of the Sierra Nevada; groves of giant sequoias dwarf other trees and tiny wildflowers; and mountains, lakes, and waterfalls, including the nation’s highest, are found here. Yosemite National Park is best known for its waterfalls, but within its nearly 1,200 square miles, you can find deep valleys, grand meadows, ancient giant sequoias, a vast wilderness area, and much more.

**Purpose / Need:**

Consistent with park legislation and to address safety concerns, funding will support acquisition of a residential structure in the El Portal section of the park. The building sits within a zone identified as having high risk for geohazards, including potential landslides, rockfalls, or soil instability, which pose a threat to both the building and its occupants. By acquiring the building and restoring the site, the park will be able to more effectively and efficiently manage the area and maintain safe and accessible park operations.

**Cooperator(s):**

N/A

**Operations & Maintenance (O&M):**

<b>Savings/Cost</b>	<b>Start-up</b>	<b>Annual</b>
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Savings:</b>	\$0	\$0
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Costs:</b>	\$100,000	\$0

**Describe O&M:**

Costs include estimated demolition and disposal of the structure and restoration of the area.

**Agency: National Park Service**

**Fiscal Year: 2027**

**Project / Unit:** Pipestone National Monument

**Priority:** 2

**State(s):** MN

**Congressional District(s):** MN-7

**Location:** Pipestone County

**Limitation Amount:** There is no limitation.

**Project Estimates:**

*National line item funding may also be used for due diligence and just compensation consideration as needed.*

Land/Cost	Acres	Cost
<b>Estimate for FY 2026</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>\$378,000</b>
<b>Acquired to Date</b>	297	\$52,992
<b>Remaining to be Acquired</b>	10	\$193,000

**Project Description:**

Pipestone National Monument is a site of profound cultural and historical significance. For centuries, Native American tribes have journeyed to this sacred place to quarry the distinctive red pipestone, a material traditionally carved into ceremonial pipes. These pipes, often used in prayer and treaty ceremonies, hold deep spiritual meaning for many Indigenous peoples. Recognizing this cultural significance, the monument’s enabling legislation allows quarrying to continue today. The monument preserves not only the quarries but also the traditions, stories, and craftsmanship that have been passed down through generations. Beyond its cultural importance, Pipestone National Monument offers visitors a unique natural landscape shaped by prairie ecosystems and striking quartzite formations. The park features walking trails that wind through tallgrass prairies, past waterfalls, and alongside the historic quarries.

**Purpose / Need:**

Acquisition of this parcel presents an opportunity to enhance the scenic integrity of the tallgrass prairie landscape, which is an important component of the area’s natural history. This area constitutes the primary viewshed as seen from key vantage points, including the visitor center, South Quarry Trail, and the quarries themselves. In addition, acquisition of this parcel would enhance recreational opportunities. This parcel would provide a connection between the monument's South Quarry Trail and the city’s planned Indian Lake Trail.

**Cooperator(s):**

Minnesota Land Trust

**Operations & Maintenance:**

<b>Savings/Cost</b>	<b>Start-up</b>	<b>Annual</b>
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Savings:</b>	\$0	\$0
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Costs:</b>	\$0	\$0

**Describe O&M:**

N/A

**Agency: National Park Service**

**Fiscal Year: 2027**

**Project / Unit:** Saguario National Park

**Priority:** 3

**State(s):** AZ

**Congressional District(s):** AZ-06, AZ-07

**Location:** Pima County

**Limitation Amount:** There is no limitation.

**Project Estimates:**

*National line item funding may also be used for due diligence and just compensation consideration as needed.*

Land/Cost	Acres	Cost
<b>Estimate for FY 2026</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>\$5,000,000</b>
<b>Acquired to Date</b>	88,120	\$56,115,388
<b>Remaining to be Acquired</b>	1,449	\$922,732

**Project Description:**

Originally established as a national monument in 1933, Saguario National Park was designated in 1994 by Congress (Public Law 103-364). The purpose of the park is to protect natural resources, particularly the saguaro cactus, which can reach heights of up to 50 feet, weigh up to eight tons, and live for more than 150 years. The area is also home to desert tortoise, Gila monsters, and other desert wildlife. The park consists of two units on the outskirts of Tucson, Arizona: Tucson Mountain Unit (west) and Rincon Mountain Unit (east). Stands of the saguaro cactus in the vicinity of the park have declined dramatically since the 1930s.

**Purpose / Need:**

The Sweetwater Land Bridge project aims to acquire 319 acres of land to connect the Tucson Mountain District with the Pima County Sweetwater Preserve. Acquisition of this parcel will enhance access to the public trails system and preserve critical wildlife migration corridors. Connection of these public lands will increase public access to the trail system for visitors as well as the one million residents in the nearby Tucson metroplex. Residents and visitors alike will enjoy increased access to hiking, biking, and nature exploration in the area. In addition to the added recreational benefits, this project will also protect habitat for the saguaro cactus, desert tortoise, and the infamous Gila monsters.

**Cooperator(s):**

Arizona Land and Water Trust and Trust for Public Land

**Operations & Maintenance:**

<b>Savings/Cost</b>	<b>Start-up</b>	<b>Annual</b>
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Savings:</b>	\$0	\$0
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Costs:</b>	\$0	\$0

**Describe O&M:**

N/A

**Agency: National Park Service**

**Fiscal Year: 2027**

**Project / Unit:** Gauley River National Recreation Area

**Priority:** 4

**State(s):** WV

**Congressional District(s):** WV-01

**Location:** Nicholas County

**Limitation Amount:** There is no limitation.

**Project Estimates:**

*National line item funding may also be used for due diligence and just compensation consideration as needed.*

Land/Cost	Acres	Cost
<b>Estimate for FY 2026</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>\$825,000</b>
<b>Acquired to Date</b>	5,139	\$12,243,212
<b>Remaining to be Acquired</b>	5,312	\$12,655,369

**Project Description:**

Gauley River National Recreation Area conserves 25 miles of the Gauley River and six miles of the Meadow River that pass through scenic gorges and valleys containing a wide variety of natural and cultural features. Every September, as water is released from Summersville Dam, whitewater enthusiasts from all over the world flock to the Gauley River to experience what is considered by many people to be one of the most thrilling whitewater rafting opportunities in the country. Dropping more than 668 feet through 25 miles of rugged terrain, the Gauley River’s complex stretch of whitewater features more than 100 rapids with a steep gradient, technical runs, an incredible volume of water, and huge waves. Its vigorous rapids, scenic quality and inaccessibility combine to make Gauley River one of the premier whitewater runs in the world.

**Purpose / Need:**

This project supports the acquisition of a property that contains a mile of riverfront property along the Gauley River. Acquisition of this property would expand recreational access, protect natural resources, and preserve scenic views from the river. With the acquisition of this property, NPS can expand recreation along the Gauley River to a variety of uses beyond river rafting, including hunting, fishing, camping, biking, hiking, and rock climbing. This property contains riparian land which provides habitat for the majority of rare plants found in the park. It also provides habitat for listed plant species and habitat for endangered bat species.

**Cooperator(s):**

The Conservation Fund and The Nature Conservancy

**Operations & Maintenance:**

<b>Savings/Cost</b>	<b>Start-up</b>	<b>Annual</b>
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Savings:</b>	\$0	\$0
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Costs:</b>	\$0	\$0

**Describe O&M:**

N/A

**Agency: National Park Service**

**Fiscal Year: 2027**

**Project / Unit:** Blue Ridge Parkway

**Priority:** 5

**State(s):** NC

**Congressional District(s):** NC-14

**Location:** Burke County

**Limitation Amount:** There is no limitation.

**Project Estimates:**

*National line item funding may also be used for due diligence and just compensation consideration as needed.*

Land/Cost	Acres	Cost
<b>Estimate for FY 2026</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>\$550,000</b>
<b>Acquired to Date</b>	91,671	\$29,131,621
<b>Remaining to be Acquired</b>	9,736	\$3,093,950

**Project Description:**

The Blue Ridge Parkway was established by Public Law 74-848 to connect the Shenandoah National Park in Virginia with the Great Smoky Mountains National Park in North Carolina by way of a recreation-oriented motor road. The intent of the legislation establishing the parkway is to provide an elongated park for public use and enjoyment through safe, uninterrupted motor travel, and to provide for the conservation and interpretation of the natural and cultural resources of the Southern Appalachian Mountains. The parkway passes through two states, 29 counties, six congressional districts, and several geophysical and vegetative zones at an average elevation of 3,000 feet. Within this corridor lie a great variety of landscapes and land uses. This variety of landscapes with its natural, cultural, and historical resources is the real significance of the Blue Ridge Parkway.

**Purpose / Need:**

This property is located in the Catawba River basin in North Carolina and adjoins NPS land along the Blue Ridge Parkway. The undeveloped land comprises many forest types, springs, and rock outcrops. Acquisition of this land would preserve a naturally scenic corridor along the Blue Ridge Parkway. Protection of this land that surrounds headwater streams, like Dugger’s Creek, will also mitigate downstream flooding.

**Cooperator(s):**

Conservation Trust of North Carolina

**Operations & Maintenance:**

<b>Savings/Cost</b>	<b>Start-up</b>	<b>Annual</b>
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Savings:</b>	\$0	\$0
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Costs:</b>	\$0	\$0

**Describe O&M:**

N/A

**Agency: National Park Service**

**Fiscal Year: 2027**

**Project / Unit:** Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area

**Priority:** 6

**State(s):** MT

**Congressional District(s):** MT-2, WY-AL

**Location:** Big Horn County

**Limitation Amount:** Statutory limit of \$780,000. The statutory limit can be exceeded if Congress specifically appropriates the requested funds for the park.

**Project Estimates:**

Line item funding may also be used for due diligence and just compensation consideration as needed.

Land/Cost	Acres	Cost
<b>Estimate for FY 2026</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>\$2,860,000</b>
<b>Acquired to Date</b>	49,472	\$2,988,013
<b>Remaining to be Acquired</b>	49,472	\$3,003,717

**Project Description:**

Bighorn National Recreation Area was established on October 15, 1966 (P.L. 89-664) to provide for public outdoor recreation use and enjoyment of the land and for the preservation of the scenic, scientific and historic features of the area. Adjoining lands are owned and managed by private landowners and multiple governmental and tribal authorities, including the Crow Tribe, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, and the States of Wyoming and Montana. Some areas and resources within the park are cooperatively managed among State and Federal agencies, such as Bighorn River/Lake, Yellowtail Dam, Yellowtail Wildlife Habitat Management Area, and the Pryor Mountain National Wild Horse Range. Recreational opportunities at the park include boating, fishing, camping, and hiking.

**Purpose / Need:**

In the Harbor Point Subdivision area, several landowners of subdivision lots are actively discussing the sale of their land to NPS. This area includes rich cultural history of native tribes, the gold rush era, and the establishment of the Army’s Fort C.F. Smith. Acquisition of these lands is intended for safeguarding the cultural and natural resources of Bighorn Canyon, ultimately enhancing visitor enjoyment and benefiting the environment. Surrounding the subdivision are vital archaeological sites and the significant Frozen Leg Cave system, known for its cave paintings that are 800 to 1,000 years old. Acquisition of these lands will allow NPS to more efficiently and effectively manage access to these historical resources and reduce vandalism. Acquisition of these lands will also increase recreational access and opportunities through increased lake access and possible establishment of primitive camping areas.

**Cooperator(s):**

N/A

**Operations & Maintenance:**

<b>Savings/Cost</b>	<b>Start-up</b>	<b>Annual</b>
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Savings:</b>	\$0	\$0
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Costs:</b>	\$0	\$0

**Describe O&M:**

N/A

**Agency: National Park Service**

**Fiscal Year: 2027**

**Project / Unit:** Shiloh National Military Park

**Priority:** 7

**State(s):** TN

**Congressional District(s):** MS-01, TN-08

**Location:** Hardin County

**Limitation Amount:** Statutory limit of \$150,000.

**Project Estimates:**

*National line item funding may also be used for due diligence and just compensation consideration as needed.*

Land/Cost	Acres	Cost
<b>Estimate for FY 2026</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>\$1,320,000</b>
<b>Acquired to Date</b>	6,695	\$5,552,387
<b>Remaining to be Acquired</b>	2,512	\$2,083,286

**Project Description:**

Shiloh National Military Park preserves the American Civil War Shiloh and Corinth battlefields. The main section of the park is in the unincorporated town of Shiloh, about nine miles south of Savannah, Tennessee, with an additional area located in the city of Corinth, Mississippi, 23 miles southwest of Shiloh. The Battle of Shiloh began a six-month struggle for the key railroad junction at Corinth. Afterward, Union forces marched from Pittsburg Landing to take Corinth in a May siege, then withstood an October Confederate counterattack.

**Purpose / Need:**

The Battle of Shiloh was a pivotal engagement in the American Civil War. The land to be acquired for this project saw early fighting in the battle, including the first day troop movement and fighting. A field hospital was erected on one of the tracts both during and after the battle. The events that transpired on these lands are site-specific and the archeological record for these events are unique to these properties. The integrity of those resources is under threat by archeological looting and relic hunting, which can be managed and eliminated through NPS acquisition of the land. The land also adjoins existing park land, so acquisition would allow for increased recreational opportunities including hiking and interpretation.

**Cooperator(s):**

American Battlefield Trust

**Operations & Maintenance:**

<b>Savings/Cost</b>	<b>Start-up</b>	<b>Annual</b>
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Savings:</b>	\$0	\$0
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Costs:</b>	\$5,000	\$0

**Describe O&M:**

Given the tract proximity, the park anticipates little O&M costs following the acquisition of this property. Any non-historic debris requiring cleanup or removal will be performed using park donation or field lease accounts and volunteer labor. The park uses base, donation, and agricultural field permit accounts to effectively support and fund these types of historic landscape preservation, restoration, and visitor recreational trail projects.

**Agency: National Park Service**

**Fiscal Year: 2027**

**Project / Unit:** Mill Springs Battlefield National Monument

**Priority:** 8

**State(s):** KY

**Congressional District(s):** KY-5

**Location:** Pulaski and Wayne Counties

**Limitation Amount:** There is no limitation.

**Project Estimates:**

*National line item funding may also be used for due diligence and just compensation consideration as needed.*

Land/Cost	Acres	Cost
<b>Estimate for FY 2026</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>\$827,000</b>
<b>Acquired to Date</b>	248	\$1,376,054
<b>Remaining to be Acquired</b>	1,206	\$6,691,617

**Project Description:**

The Mill Springs Battlefield National Monument was the location of the Battle of Mill Springs (also known as the Battle of Fishing Creek and the Battle of Logan’s Crossroads) in January 1862. It was declared a U.S. National Historic Landmark in 1993 and a national monument in 2019, pending acquisition of property for establishment. The Dingell Act (P.L. 116-9) authorized the establishment of the Mill Springs Battlefield National Monument in Kentucky as a unit of the National Park System. It was established by the Secretary of the Interior as a new unit in September 2020. The battlefield is the site of the Union’s first decisive Civil War victory and where General Felix Zollicoffer, a Congressman from Tennessee and a Confederate Brigadier General, was killed. The significance of this area was recognized by both sides during the war, and this was the initial battle to hold this prominent geography.

**Purpose / Need:**

This project supports the acquisition of land at Mill Springs National Battlefield that include the site of a Confederate General’s headquarters, trench lines, a fort, an encampment, and fortifications area from the early Civil War. Acquisition of this land would preserve the archeological integrity and provide protection of cultural and natural resources, as well as allow for enhanced efficiency in law enforcement in the area to address unauthorized activities such as relic hunting. There are also opportunities to increase recreational access to the area through current and existing trails and additional interpretative stops.

**Cooperator(s):**

American Battlefield Trust

**Operations & Maintenance:**

<b>Savings/Cost</b>	<b>Start-up</b>	<b>Annual</b>
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Savings:</b>	\$0	\$0
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Costs:</b>	\$30,000	\$0

**Describe O&M:**

O&M costs will include trail and tree maintenance.

**Agency: National Park Service**

**Fiscal Year: 2027**

**Project / Unit:** Battlefield Protection

**Priority:** 9

**State(s):** Various

**Congressional District(s):** Various throughout the U.S.

**Location:** Various throughout the U.S.

**Limitation Amount:** Various depending on the unit.

**Project Estimates:**

*National line item funding may also be used for due diligence and just compensation consideration as needed.*

Land/Cost	Acres	Cost
<b>Estimate for FY 2026</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>\$20,000,000</b>
<b>Acquired to Date</b>	TBD	TBD
<b>Remaining to be Acquired</b>	TBD	TBD

**Project Description:**

Funds provided will be used for the federal acquisition of lands or interests in lands to preserve and conserve battlefield sites within the National Park System. Historic fields of battle that shaped the country are experiencing land use shifts, decreasing the ability of visitors to experience these unique spaces which tell the story of the United States’ history. This funding request will provide the flexibility necessary to acquire land from willing sellers as opportunities arise. Opportunities to protect battlefields may exist at Antietam National Battlefield, Cedar Creek and Belle Grove National Historical Park, Chickamauga Chattanooga National Military Park, Guilford Courthouse National Military Park, Fort Donelson National Battlefield, Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park, Gettysburg National Military Park, Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park, Manassas National Battlefield Park, Pecos National Historical Park, Petersburg National Battlefield, Richmond National Battlefield Park, Saratoga National Historical Park, Shiloh National Military Park, Stones River National Battlefield, Vicksburg National Military Park, and Wilson’s Creek National Battlefield, among others.

**Purpose / Need:**

These funds will be used to acquire high-priority battlefield land that is privately held within the National Park System. These battlefield units are experiencing significant threats to the resources they were authorized to preserve, including development and vandalism of historic landscapes and structures. These lands are often temporarily conserved by partner organizations able to nimbly navigate real estate acquisitions, then wait for the federal government to bring the land into federal management at the individual park units. Within park units that preserve battlefields, there are more than 35,100 privately held acres that are in smaller, individual parcels. It is estimated that it would cost almost \$180 million to acquire these lands today. These funds will be directed to the highest priority “shovel ready” acquisitions.

**Cooperator(s):**

American Battlefield Trust and others

**Operations & Maintenance:**

<b>Savings/Cost</b>	<b>Start-up</b>	<b>Annual</b>
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Savings:</b>	TBD	TBD
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Costs:</b>	TBD	TBD

**Describe O&M:**

Annual maintenance costs for each individual acquisition are likely to be negligible due to the generally small size of each tract. Savings are likely to result because of management efficiencies with more contiguous lands at each unit.

**Agency: National Park Service**

**Fiscal Year: 2027**

**Project / Unit:** Long Distance Trails

**Priority:** 10

**State(s):** Various

**Congressional District(s):** Various throughout the U.S.

**Location:** Various throughout the U.S.

**Limitation Amount:** Various depending on the unit.

**Project Estimates:**

*National line item funding may also be used for due diligence and just compensation consideration as needed.*

Land/Cost	Acres	Cost
<b>Estimate for FY 2026</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>\$10,000,000</b>
<b>Acquired to Date</b>	TBD	TBD
<b>Remaining to be Acquired</b>	TBD	TBD

**Project Description:**

Funds provided will be used for the federal acquisition of lands or interests in lands to preserve and conserve trails administered by the National Park System. The National Trails System promotes the enjoyment and appreciation of trails while encouraging greater public access. These trails are located in both urban and rural settings and provide recreational opportunities for people of all ages, interests, skills, and physical abilities. The National Trails System is a testament to nation’s commitment to outdoor recreation and the preservation of natural resources.

**Purpose / Need:**

The National Park Service administers 24 trails as part of the National Trails System, including both National Scenic and National Historic Trails. National Trails provide recreational opportunities and enhance public access in areas across the country. Interest in federal trail protection efforts have increased recently, including the first federal land acquisition on the New England National Scenic Trail, as well as the first federal trail protection efforts in many years on the North Country and Ice Age National Scenic Trails. Trails enjoy robust support from local communities and trail groups, including organizations such as the Appalachian Trail Conservancy. National Trails cross multiple jurisdictions and travel through many communities, making trail protection projects an excellent fit for increasing

public access and recreational opportunity. These funds will be directed to the highest priority “shovel ready” acquisitions from willing sellers.

**Cooperator(s):**

Trail conservancy organizations and others

**Operations & Maintenance:**

<b>Savings/Cost</b>	<b>Start-up</b>	<b>Annual</b>
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Savings:</b>	TBD	TBD
<b>Estimated O&amp;M Costs:</b>	TBD	TBD

**Describe O&M:**

Annual maintenance costs for each individual acquisition are likely to be negligible as local trails groups provide much trail maintenance support. Savings are likely to result because of management efficiencies with more contiguous lands at each unit.

**Allocation: National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration  
Fund**

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## **Allocation: National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund**

Great American Outdoors Act combines a financial commitment to conservation and recreation for future generations with a significant investment in the facilities needed to carry out Interior’s important missions, ranging from operating Bureau of Indian Education schools to the care and maintenance of America’s national treasures. This investment provides an unprecedented opportunity to address the Department of the Interior’s deferred maintenance backlog and restore deteriorating assets. To do so effectively requires prioritization, consistent with lifecycle investment plans and a sound program execution and management strategy.

The Department of the Interior is responsible for administering and implementing GAOA’s National Parks and Public Land Legacy Restoration Fund (LRF) program, which is shared with the U.S. Forest Service. For fiscal years 2021 through 2025, Congress authorized up to \$1.9 billion annually to be deposited in the LRF for projects that address priority deferred maintenance. The annual deposit was equal to 50 percent of energy development revenues, up to \$1.9 billion, from oil, gas, coal, alternative, or renewable energy on Federal land and water credited, covered, or deposited into the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts under Federal law in the preceding fiscal year. The annual funding was allocated to the National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Education, and the U.S. Forest Service within the Department of Agriculture.

Across the initial five years of funding, GAOA LRF has had a transformative impact in addressing critical infrastructure needs. Projects in progress continue to address roughly \$5.9 billion of deferred maintenance and repairs on nearly 4,000 Department of the Interior assets across the country. Yet much work remains, and the NPS supports the reauthorization of the LRF as part of the 2027 President’s Budget, which received its last deposit based on qualified energy development revenues in fiscal year 2025.

Reauthorization will allow the NPS to continue utilizing life-cycle efficient methods to address priority deferred maintenance needs through infrastructure repair, replacement, and divestiture.

### **Reauthorization and FY 2027 Project List**

The budget proposes to reauthorize the LRF for an additional five years, maintaining the current funding level of 50 percent of qualified energy development revenues from the preceding fiscal year, up to \$1.9 billion annually. Investments made under this reauthorized fund will not only enhance operational efficiency and public safety but also improve service delivery, reduce liabilities associated with deferred maintenance, and ensure that facilities on public lands adequately serve both visitors and communities. Additionally, these investments will significantly benefit recreational assets and access, promoting a more enjoyable experience for all visitors. Interior looks forward to sharing the FY 2027 LRF project list and project data sheets following LRF reauthorization.

### **In-Progress Project Highlights**

For more highlights and project details, please visit the Department of the Interior’s [GAOA Project Data Website](#).

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## **Mandatory: Recreation Fee Permanent Appropriation**

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## **Mandatory: Recreation Fee Permanent Appropriation**

### **Program: Recreation Fee Program**

The Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA) (16 U.S.C. 6801 et seq.), authorizes recreation fees to be collected, retained, and expended by the NPS and other land management agencies to provide benefits and services to the visitor. The NPS uses revenue generated by recreation fees to repair, maintain and enhance facilities; provide interpretation, information, and other visitor services; restore habitat directly related to wildlife-dependent recreation; and provide law enforcement related to public use and recreation both at the park where the fee is collected and throughout the National Park System. The Expanding Public Lands Outdoor Recreation Experiences (EXPLORE) Act (P.L. 118-234) reauthorized FLREA through FY 2031.

FLREA authorizes the NPS to retain all recreation fee revenue. At least 80 percent of collections must remain at the park unit until expended, unless that revenue exceeds the reasonable needs for the unit for that fiscal year, in which case the NPS can reduce the percent retained, but not below 60 percent. All collections needed to support transportation systems remain at the park in which they were collected and are spent in support of those systems.

The NPS uses fee revenues to support a wide variety of work including operations and maintenance of visitor-facing facilities like visitor centers, campgrounds, restrooms, and trails; facility modernization and renewal investments; enhancement of recreational opportunities; and interpretation, law enforcement, and other visitor services. The NPS has an expenditure policy that requires parks to obligate 55 percent of recreation fee allocations to deferred and preventative facility maintenance projects. Fee revenues are also used to fund fee collection operations and program administrative costs. Collection expenses are paid from the recreation fee funds retained at each park. These costs are monitored closely to ensure appropriateness and cost effectiveness. The recreation fee program provides central oversight and management.

As mandated by the EXPLORE Act, digital versions of the America the Beautiful Passes are available as of January 1, 2026. Additionally, in accordance with Executive Order 14314 - Making America Beautiful Again by Improving Our National Parks, international visitors pay a surcharge at certain fee-collecting parks as of January 1, 2026. Consistent with P.L. 118-234, more information on FLREA projects and spending can be found here: [Your Fee Dollars at Work \(U.S. National Park Service\)](#)

**Activity: Recreation Fee Permanent Appropriation<sup>1</sup>**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

Activity/Subactivity	2025 Actual		2026 Estimate		2027 Estimate		
	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	Change from 2026 Est.
Recreation Fee Programs	385,380	1,768	596,000	1,768	666,000	1,768	+70,000
Recreation Fees	377,203	1,768	586,000	1,768	656,000	1,768	+70,000
Deed Restricted Parks	8,177	-	10,000	-	10,000	-	-
Transportation Systems Fund	356	2	357	2	357	2	-
Payment for Tax Losses on Land Acquired for Grand Teton NP	14	-	15	-	15	-	-
<b>Total, Recreation Fee Permanent Appropriation</b>	<b>385,750</b>	<b>1,770</b>	<b>596,372</b>	<b>1,770</b>	<b>666,372</b>	<b>1,770</b>	<b>+70,000</b>

<sup>1</sup>All columns include sequestration reductions and pop ups of previously sequestered funds.

**NPS Budgetary Resources: Recreation Fee Programs**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

Description	FY 2025 Actual	FY 2026 Estimate	FY 2027 Estimate
Unobligated Balance Brought Forward and Recoveries	379,657	387,504	362,751
Total Fees Collected <sup>1</sup>	<u>385,379</u>	<u>596,000</u>	<u>666,000</u>
<b>Total Available for Obligation</b>	<b>765,036</b>	<b>983,504</b>	<b>1,028,751</b>
Facilities Maintenance	213,111	424,891	504,891
Interpretation & Visitor Services	40,239	45,239	45,239
Transportation Systems <sup>2</sup>	38,021	35,500	36,000
Habitat Restoration	209	209	209
Collection Costs	49,271	52,233	52,233
Law Enforcement (for public use and recreation)	887	26,887	13,887
Recreation Fee Agreement and Reservation Services	15,944	15,944	15,944
Administrative, Overhead, and Indirect Costs	<u>19,850</u>	<u>19,850</u>	<u>19,850</u>
<b>Total Obligations</b>	<b>377,532</b>	<b>620,753</b>	<b>688,253</b>
End of Year Unobligated Balance	387,504	362,751	340,498
<b>Total Expenditures (Outlays)</b>	<b>410,598</b>	<b>401,000</b>	<b>407,000</b>

<sup>1</sup>All columns include sequestration reductions and pop ups of previously sequestered funds.

<sup>2</sup>Transportation system obligations from FLREA account only. Obligations from the Transportation Systems Fund are reported separately.

**Program: Deed Restricted Parks Fee Program**

Any recreation fees collected by park units at which entrance fees cannot be collected by reason of deed restrictions are retained, used, and managed by those respective park units in a manner consistent with recreation fees collected at non-deed restricted parks. This applies to Great Smoky Mountains National Park (NP), Lincoln Home National Historic Site, and Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park. Revenue collected by deed restricted parks continues to be managed and reported in conjunction with other FLREA revenues.

**Program: Transportation Systems Fund**

The NPS was authorized by 54 U.S.C. 101531 to collect transportation fees for the use of public transportation services within park units. All transportation fee monies must be spent on costs associated with the transportation systems at the park unit where the transportation fee is collected. Voyageurs National Park collects and expends revenue under the Transportation Fee Authority.

**Program: Payment for Tax Losses on Land Acquired for Grand Teton NP**

As required by law (16 U.S.C. 406d-3), fees collected from visitors at Grand Teton NP are provided to the State of Wyoming in amounts sufficient to compensate for tax revenues lost as a result of Federal acquisitions of land in expanded areas of Grand Teton NP. Amounts may vary because of tax rate changes; withdrawal of additional lands from the State's tax rolls because of Federal acquisition; and gradual reductions by law of the amount due for each tract of land after it is acquired.

**FY 2025 Recreation Fee-Funded Project Examples**

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***Lake Mead National Recreation Area (Arizona)  
Replace Katherine Landing Courtesy Dock***

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BEFORE



AFTER

The courtesy dock at Katherine Landing was in poor condition, causing safety hazards for visitors. This project replaced the dock to conform with docks throughout the park, reduce operations and maintenance costs, withstand seasonal wind events, stay in the water year-round, and meet accessibility requirements. Katherine Landing serves approximately one million visitors annually.

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***New River Gorge National Park and Preserve (West Virginia)  
Replace Outdated Exhibits at Canyon Rim Visitor Center***

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This project replaced the exhibits in the park's most-visited facility. The new exhibits are interactive and audience-centered, contain information about the other two units managed by New River Gorge National Park and Preserve (Gauley River National Recreation Area and Bluestone National Scenic River), and better utilize the space available within the visitor center. The Canyon Rim Visitor Center welcomes over 500,000 visitors annually.

***Shenandoah National Park (Virginia)  
Provide Custodial Maintenance***

---



This project provided seasonal staffing and supplies to collect trash, clean restrooms, and clean fire grates in visitor use areas like campgrounds and picnic grounds throughout the park. Over 1.4 million people visit the park annually, including over 170,000 campground stays and over 55,000 hikers to Old Rag.

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***Shenandoah National Park (Virginia)  
Repair Critical Stone Masonry Drainage Structures on Skyline Drive***

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BEFORE



AFTER

This project repaired 17 stone masonry headwalls and one stone masonry catch basin on Skyline Drive. Performing this work before the elements failed provided safe and uninterrupted visitor access while preserving the historic road infrastructure. Over 500,000 visitors use this portion of the park annually.

***Yellowstone National Park (Wyoming)  
Repair and Overlay Road Segments on the Grand Loop***

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BEFORE



AFTER

This project milled and repaved multiple road segments and included cleaning of ditches and drainage. The work resulted in improved visitor safety and satisfaction and lowered operations and maintenance costs. The majority of the park's four million annual visitors use the Grand Loop.

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***Joshua Tree National Park (California)  
Replace Picnic Tables and Waste Receptacles at Oasis of Mara Picnic Area***

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BEFORE



AFTER

This project replaced six deteriorated concrete picnic tables and five broken and deteriorated waste receptacles at the Oasis of Mara Picnic Area. This picnic area is near the popular Oasis of Mara Trail head and will benefit approximately 200,000 visitors annually.

***Grand Canyon National Park (Arizona)  
Provide Custodial Services for Inner Canyon***

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Servicing Toilets



Hauling Waste and Supplies

This project provided daily service to all toilets used by backcountry hikers. This work included removing waste materials, stocking supplies, and servicing composting toilets in locations where access is limited to foot, mule, boat, or helicopter. Over 340,000 park visitors access the backcountry annually.

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**Appropriation: Land Acquisition and State Assistance – P.L. 109-432**

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## **Appropriation: Land Acquisition and State Assistance – P.L. 109-432**

Public Law 109-432 established a mandatory stream of funding derived from revenues generated by Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) oil and gas leasing. Under this Act, for each of fiscal years 2016 through 2055, 12.5 percent of certain OCS revenues are directed to the Land and Water Conservation Fund, which is distributed to States for public outdoor recreation purposes through the State Conservation Grants program. The Working Families Tax Cut Act (P.L. 119-21) increased the OCS revenue-sharing cap, resulting in up to \$162.5 million being made available for this program through FY 2034; up to \$125.0 million annually will be available afterward through FY 2055.

### **State Conservation Grants**

The Land and Water Conservation Fund State Assistance Program remains the federal government's primary mechanism for partnering with states to deliver locally driven park and outdoor recreation investments. The State Conservation Grants program provides matching grants to States and through States to local units of government for the acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation areas and facilities that provide public access to lands, waters, and other recreation resources.

In FY 2025, the program delivered a record \$1.2 billion investment in State and local parks across the United States and its territories. This investment included more than \$600 million in Federal LWCF funding and approximately \$640 million in matching contributions from State and local partners.

### **Administrative Support – NPS and States**

The Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 authorized the NPS to retain and use up to three percent of the permanent funds for NPS administration of State grants and was continued in FY 2025 final appropriations. This administrative provision has been included since FY 2009 and is proposed to be continued in FY 2027. Additionally, language enacted in the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 authorized the NPS to retain up to seven percent of the State Conservation Grants assistance program amounts to disburse to States, the District of Columbia, and insular territories as 50:50 matching grants to support State program administrative costs and was continued in FY 2025 final appropriations. This includes formula, competitive, and P.L. 109-432 program amounts. The NPS proposes the same authority in the FY 2027 budget.

**Activity: Land Acquisition and State Assistance – P.L. 109-432**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

Activity/Sub Activity/Program Element/Budget Element	2025 Actual		2026 Estimate		2027 Estimate		Change from 2026 Est.
	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	
State Conservation Grants	117,375	-	152,737	-	152,737	-	-
Administrative Support	500	-	500	-	500	-	-
<b>Total, Land Acquisition and State Assistance – P.L. 109-432</b>	<b>117,875</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>153,237</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>153,237</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

**Account: Other Permanent Appropriations**

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## **Account: Other Permanent Appropriations**

This activity includes a variety of permanent appropriations that are derived from receipt sources other than recreation fees.

### **Program: Contribution for Annuity Benefits of the United States Park Police**

This funding pays the costs of benefit payments to annuitants each year under the pension program for US Park Police (USPP) officers hired prior to January 1, 1984, to the extent the payments exceed deductions from salaries of active duty employees of the program. As amended in P.L. 85-157, the Annuity Benefits are collected for Title V retirees. Payments are made to retirees, surviving spouses, and dependents. The USPP pension program was funded before FY 2002 from appropriations made annually to the NPS.

Following enactment of the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2002, (54 U.S.C. 103101), these payments have been made from funds warranted to the NPS from a permanent, indefinite appropriation at the Treasury Department. The estimates of \$43.5 million for FY 2026 and \$41.6 million for FY 2027 are based on the best available information, including actuarial tables and retirements.

### **Program: Park Concessions Franchise Fees and Concessions Improvement Accounts**

Park Concessions Franchise involves all franchise fees and other monetary considerations paid to the United States pursuant to concessions contracts under the National Park Service Concessions Management Improvement Act of 1998 (P.L. 105-391; 54 U.S.C. 1019). All funds are deposited into a special account and used in the NPS. The fees are used for contract development, leasehold surrender interest obligations, programs and operations, and concession activities support.

Concession contracts are issued competitively, which grants a right of preference to concessioners with annual gross receipts of less than \$500,000 and to outfitters and guide operators. Under the Act, the Service has experienced increased competition for contracts, resulting in improved visitor services, higher revenue, and increased returns to the government.

Some older NPS contracts with concessioners require the concessioner to deposit a portion of gross receipts or a fixed sum of money in a separate bank account, referred to as a Concessions Improvement Account. With NPS approval, these funds are expended for improvement of facilities that directly support concession visitor services. Concessioners do not accrue possessory interest for improvements funded from these accounts. These accounts are not included in new contracts and continue to be phased out as older contracts are replaced.

### **Program: Park Building Lease and Maintenance Fund**

As authorized by 54 U.S.C. 102102, and 54 U.S.C. 306121, rental payments under a lease for the use of buildings and associated property administered as part of the NPS are deposited in a special Park Buildings Lease and Maintenance Fund. These funds are used for infrastructure, including facility refurbishment, repair and replacement, infrastructure projects associated with park resource protection, and direct maintenance of the leased buildings and associated properties.

### **Program: Filming/Recording Special Use Fee Program**

Authorized in 54 USC 100905, revenue from location fees collected from issuing permits to use park

lands and facilities for filming and certain still photography are retained and used at the sites where collected, in accordance with the formula and purposes established for the Recreational Fee Program.

**Program: Operation & Maintenance of Quarters**

As authorized by P.L. 98-473 in 1984 (98 Stat. 1874; 5 U.S.C. 5911), rent and charges collected by payroll deduction or otherwise, for the use or occupancy of Government Quarters in national park areas, are deposited in a special fund to remain available until expended for the operation and maintenance of Government Quarters. These funds are to be used to provide decent, safe, sanitary, and energy efficient quarters to the assigned occupants.

In addition to funds derived from rental income, the National Park Service recorded charges totaling \$3.6 million in FY 2025 for housing maintenance and operations in the Operation of the National Park System appropriation to cover rental income shortfalls. (This statement is provided as required by section 814(a)(14) of Division I of P. L. 104-333.)

**Program: Delaware Water Gap, Route 209 Operations**

Funds collected from fees, as authorized by P.L. 98-63 (97 Stat. 329) and P.L. 109-156, Sec. 4, as amended by P.L. 115-101 for commercial use of US Route 209 within the boundaries of Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area are available for the management, operation, construction, and maintenance of US Route 209 within the park boundaries. By law, US Route 209 within the boundaries of Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area is closed to commercial vehicular traffic, except for that based within the recreation area, or serving businesses and persons located within or contiguous to its boundaries, or with business facilities located or serving in certain nearby counties.

**Activity: Other Permanent Appropriations**

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

Treasury Account/Activity	2025 Actual		2026 Estimate		2027 Estimate		Change from 2026 Est.
	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	
Contribution for Annuity Benefits for USPP	44,778	-	43,546	-	41,577	-	-1,969
Park Concessions Franchise Fees	192,035	256	197,802	256	203,736	256	+5,934
Concessions Improvement Accounts	8,095	-	8,297	-	8,505	-	+208
Park Building Lease and Maintenance Fund	27,196	35	12,469	35	13,401	35	+932
Filming/Recording Special Use Fee Program	424	3	1,200	3	1,200	3	-
Operation & Maintenance of Quarters	32,153	148	32,960	148	33,783	148	+823
Delaware Water Gap, Route 209 Operations	9	-	9	-	-	-	-9
<b>Total, Other Permanent Appropriations</b>	<b>304,690</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>296,283</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>302,202</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>+5,919</b>

**Account: Miscellaneous Trust Funds**

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## Account: Miscellaneous Trust Funds

These permanent appropriations include donated funds consistent with legislative authority and the wishes of the grantors for Federally matched signature projects and programs, non-matched donated funds consistent with legislative authority and the wishes of the grantors, and funds used to preserve the birthplace of Abraham Lincoln available from an endowment established for that purpose.

**Donations (General), National Park Service** - The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to accept and use donated funds for the purposes of the National Park System. Use of these funds is strictly controlled by tracking each donation designated by the donor for a certain purpose to ensure that it is so used or is returned to the donor. This account total can fluctuate significantly from year to year. The fund also includes donations used as matching funds for projects or programs within the Centennial Challenge Fund.

**Preservation, Birthplace of Abraham Lincoln** - By law (16 U.S.C. 212), a \$50,000 endowment established by The Lincoln Farm Association was accepted; the proceeds of which are used to help preserve the Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historic Park. This endowment has been used by the park to preserve the Memorial Building and the traditional birth cabin. Preservation projects have included various exterior repairs such as roof and painting, along with interior painting, mold abatement, and HVAC repairs. The park plans to continue to use this endowment to cover the upkeep of these structures in accordance with cultural resource management plans. Learn more about Abraham Lincoln Birthplace NHP at: [www.nps.gov/abli/index.htm](http://www.nps.gov/abli/index.htm)

### Activity: Miscellaneous Trust Funds

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

Treasury Account/Activity	2025 Actual		2026 Estimate		2027 Estimate		Change from 2026 Est.
	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	
Donations (General)	72,418	305	293,000	305	192,000	305	-101,000
Preservation, Birthplace of Abraham Lincoln	3	-	3	-	3	-	-
<b>Total, Miscellaneous Trust Funds</b>	<b>72,421</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>293,003</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>192,003</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>-101,000</b>

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**Account: Centennial Challenge Fund**

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## Account: Centennial Challenge Fund

The National Park Centennial Challenge Fund, created by Title I of the National Park Service Centennial Act of 2016 (P.L. 114-289), allows the NPS to establish a fund to support projects and programs that enhance the visitor experience. Amounts exceeding \$10.0 million from the sale of age-discounted Federal Recreational Lands Passes, commonly known as Senior Passes, are deposited into this Fund as offsetting collections. The FY 2027 President’s budget estimates deposits into this Fund will be \$8.5 million in FY 2027. As all Federal funds must be matched on at least a 1:1 basis, non-Federal donations will leverage the Federal funds for an estimated total benefit of \$17.0 million.

Revenue deposited into the Centennial Challenge Fund was \$9,468,191 in FY 2025. As directed by Sections 103502 and 103503 of U.S.C. Title 54, projects selected should prioritize deferred maintenance, physical improvements to visitor services facilities, and trail maintenance.

To commemorate America's 250th Anniversary, the NPS intends to use revenue collected to date for projects that will support the A250 effort. These projects will enhance the greatness of NPS sites across the country and will help celebrate America’s 250th Anniversary. Projects will focus on enhancing facilities, and showcasing beautiful, clean, and safe public spaces while fostering a sense of pride among patriotic Americans. These projects directly align with the goals of EO 14189 Celebrating America’s 250th Birthday, and EO 14252 Making the District of Columbia Safe and Beautiful. These funds will also address high-priority and deferred maintenance projects. Centennial projects will be matched by the generous private support of patriotic Americans.

### Activity: Centennial Challenge Fund

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

Treasury Account/Activity	2025 Actual		2026 Estimate		2027 Estimate		Change from 2026 Est.
	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	
Centennial Challenge Fund	9,468	-	8,500	-	8,500	-	-
<b>Total, Centennial Challenge Fund</b>	<b>9,468</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,500</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,500</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

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**Account: Visitor Experience Improvements Fund Revolving  
Account**

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## Account: Visitor Experience Improvements Fund Revolving Account

The National Park Service Visitor Experience Improvements Authority (VEIA), created by Title VII of the National Park Service Centennial Act of 2016 (P.L. 114-289), allowed the NPS to establish a revolving fund to provide the NPS with tools to improve commercial visitor facilities and services throughout the System. This Visitor Experience Improvements Fund (VEIF) provides for the administration of commercial services contracts, and related professional services contracts, for the operation and expansion of commercial visitor facilities and visitor services programs in System units. This includes expenses necessary for the management, improvement, enhancement, operation, construction, and maintenance of commercial visitor services facilities. Net revenues collected pursuant to the contracts awarded and services provided under the authority are credited to the VEIF as offsetting collections. The revolving fund gives the Service additional tools, flexibility, and agility to respond to park and visitor needs related to the quality of commercial services facilities and operations. The NPS is awarded a percentage agreement for food and beverage and retail visitor services for the National Mall and Memorial Parks under the VEIA authority. The authority to enter into a new VEIA contract expired December 16, 2025. No additional agreements will be issued under this authority.

### Activity: Visitor Experience Improvements Fund Revolving Account

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

Treasury Account/Activity	2025 Actual		2026 Estimate		2027 Estimate		Change from 2026 Est.
	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	
Visitor Experience Improvements Fund	855	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total, Visitor Experience Improvements Fund</b>	<b>855</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

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**Allocation: Federal Lands Transportation Program**

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## Allocation: Federal Lands Transportation Program

The Federal Lands Transportation Program (FLTP, 23 U.S.C. 201 and 203) improves the transportation infrastructure and transportation systems owned and maintained by the Federal land management agencies (FLMAs).

### Program: Federal Lands Transportation Program

In accordance with 23 U.S.C. 203(a)(A), funds allocated to the FLMAs by the FLTP shall be used to pay the costs of administration, transportation planning, research, preventative maintenance, engineering, rehabilitation, restoration, construction, and reconstruction of transportation facilities. This also includes capital improvement, operations, and maintenance of transit facilities. Funding is limited to public transportation facilities and transportation systems within or providing access to Federal lands that are open to the public. The NPS has considerable responsibility and latitude for selecting, managing, and executing its projects and FLTP program. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is responsible for ensuring the program is administered according to the statutory requirements.

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA, P.L. 117-158) reauthorized the FLTP and included a 21 percent increase in funding over the previous law for the NPS over the life of the authorization period. The authorization expires at the end of FY 2026. Please refer to the Department of Transportation budget request for reauthorization information.

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>IIJA FLTP Authorized Level</b>
2022	\$332,427,450
2023	\$338,867,450
2024	\$346,237,450
2025	\$353,607,450
2026	\$360,047,450
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,731,187,250</b>

Program authorization ends in FY 2026, the Department of Transportation coordinates reauthorization efforts among the FLMAs.

The NPS owns and maintains approximately 5,600 paved miles of paved roads, 1,334 bridges, 61 tunnels, and approximately 1,000 miles of transportation trails that are open to the public and eligible for FLTP dollars. Based on the latest data available, approximately 100 transit and ferry boat systems and associated infrastructure provide access to NPS units which carried more than 32.6 million passengers in 2024.

In FY 2024 (the most recent data available), the NPS's transportation program repaired approximately 330 miles of road and 60 bridges and tunnels. The total program obligation rate was 94 percent.

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**Account: Presidential Capital Stewardship Program**

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## Account: Presidential Capital Stewardship Program

As the capital of the greatest country in the history of the world, Washington, DC should showcase beautiful, clean, and safe public spaces. However, many historic park features and public-facing infrastructure throughout the city show signs of decay, years of heavy public use, and inadequate maintenance. Under the President’s leadership, the Administration is committed to making Washington, DC – a once-great city – safe, clean and beautiful again. The Budget includes \$10 billion in permanent funding to establish the Presidential Capital Stewardship Program within the National Park Service to coordinate, plan and execute targeted, priority construction and beautification projects in and around Washington, DC.

These projects will improve safety and accessibility, rehabilitate historic buildings and landscapes, and enhance architectural grandeur so that Americans can once again be proud of their country’s capital. In addition, this generational investment in the restoration of Washington, DC will drive economic development in the city, increase visitation from across the world, and lower future infrastructure lifecycle costs.

### Activity: Presidential Capital Stewardship Program

*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

Treasury Account/Activity	2025 Actual		2026 Estimate		2027 Estimate		Change from 2026 Est.
	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	Budget Authority	FTE	
Presidential Capital Stewardship Program	-	-	-	-	10,000,000	100	+10,000,000
<b>Total, Presidential Capital Stewardship Program</b>	-	-	-	-	<b>10,000,000</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>+10,000,000</b>

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**Special Exhibits**

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## Exhibit A: Section 403 Compliance

### Compliance with Section 403

Section 343 of the 2004 Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act (P.L. 108-108) mandated disclosure of program assessments used to support Government-wide, Departmental, or Agency initiatives or general operations be presented in annual budget justifications. This was reiterated in later Appropriations Acts, including most recently in the Commerce, Justice, Science; Energy and Water Development; and Interior and Environment Appropriations Act, 2026 (P.L. 119-7442). The specific requirement follows:

*SEC. 403. The amount and basis of estimated overhead charges, deductions, reserves or holdbacks, including working capital fund and cost pool charges, from programs, projects, activities and subactivities to support government-wide, departmental, agency, or bureau administrative functions or headquarters, regional, or central operations shall be presented in annual budget justifications and subject to approval by the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate. Changes to such estimates shall be presented to the Committees on Appropriations for approval.*

In accordance with OMB Circular A-25, the NPS charges an indirect cost rate to recover the full costs associated with reimbursable activities.

### Working Capital Fund Billings

The NPS budget includes payments to the Department of the Interior Working Capital Fund for centralized and direct business and administrative services. The estimate for centralized costs includes funding for unified business services such as Communications, Congressional and Legislative Affairs, Financial Assistance, Financial Management, Human Resources, Information Technology, and International Affairs that have been unified in the Department.

#### Working Capital Fund

Dollars in Thousands (\$000)

Activity	FY 2026 Estimate			FY 2027 Estimate		
	Central	Direct	TOTAL	Central	Direct	TOTAL
OS Shared Services	4,786.1	4,251.8	9,037.9	5,285.4	4,444.1	9,729.5
OS Activities	225,786.1	2,124.8	227,910.9	214,938.3	1,822.5	216,760.8
IT Shared Services	98,312.9	26,120.3	124,433.2	95,060.7	22,696.1	117,756.8
Interior Business Center	10,871.5	3,558.1	14,429.6	10,573.7	3,547.3	14,121.0
<b>TOTAL, WCF Billing</b>	<b>339,756.6</b>	<b>36,055.0</b>	<b>375,811.6</b>	<b>325,858.0</b>	<b>32,510.0</b>	<b>358,368.0</b>

Note: Numbers may not add to total due to rounding.

### Contingency Accounts and Bureau Administrative Costs

NPS central offices assess up to one percent of allocations of ONPS Park Management activity funds for parks, field offices and service-wide programs for contingency purposes. The contingency account, the only assessment of funds that is allowed, enables NPS leadership to respond to unforeseen emergencies and other specific unfunded needs. NPS leadership have established criteria for prioritizing and approving requests for the funds in the contingency account.

Permitted uses of this account include:

- Specific park or office operating problems, caused by budgetary shortfalls, until permanent solutions can be found through formal budget increases or reprogramming actions.
- Storm damage expenses.
- Emergency law and order incidents expenses.
- Employee benefit costs for relocation payments, lump sum leave payments, and awards.
- Special Events Team and All Risk Team readiness and deployment.
- Unanticipated Employee Assistance Programs and local transportation subsidy costs.

Contingency Accounts totaled \$17.6 million in FY 2025. NPS used the contingency funds for the following purposes:

<b>NPS Contingency Costs</b>	
Dollars in Thousands (\$000)	
<b>Contingency Category</b>	<b>FY 2025</b>
Emergency Damage Response Costs	1,622
Law Enforcement Readiness and Response	1,356
Park Employee Relocation Costs	3,834
Operational Needs at Parks	6,418
Extraordinary Personnel Costs	4,326
<b>TOTAL, Contingency Costs</b>	<b>17,556</b>

An explanation of the major uses of the contingency accounts follows:

- *Emergencies/Law Enforcement*: \$3.0 million to address unforeseen events requiring rapid action by first responders.
- *Park Employee Relocation Costs*: \$3.8 million to cover the cost of relocating park employees. Parks with small annual budgets cannot afford these moves, accomplished according to Federal rules, without help from a central fund.
- *Operational Needs at Parks or Offices*: \$6.4 million returned to parks or offices to address unfunded, non-recurring needs to meet operational requirements.
- *Extraordinary Personnel Costs*: \$4.3 million for unexpected, but unavoidable personnel expenses.

The amount of funds to be used for contingencies during both FY 2026 and FY 2027 is difficult to estimate due to the nature of the expenditures. The criteria upon which the funds are assembled and spent will remain the same. In all cases, offices will be required to report on the uses of the contingency funds with sufficient detail to ensure conformance with the established criteria.

Below are administrative cost estimates for FY 2026 and FY 2027. The figure for “WCF Direct Billings/Fee for Service” represents the portion of costs that were typically charged to the Operation of the National Park System/Park Support Subactivity and to the External Administrative Cost Activity that will be reallocated to other benefitting accounts. The figure for “WCF Central Billings” includes the portion of costs that were typically charged to the Operation of the National Park System/Park Support

Subactivity and to the External Administrative Cost Activity, as well the billing for unified business services such as Communications, Congressional and Legislative Affairs, Financial Assistance, Financial Management, Human Resources, Information Technology, and International Affairs that have been unified in the Department, that will be charged to other benefitting accounts. In the case of unified business services, the costs of the services and personnel were directly charged to many different appropriations when the costs were covered directly.

**Bureau Administrative Costs**

Dollars in Thousands (\$000)

<b>Cost Description</b>	<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>
WCF Central Billings (including Unified Business Services)	33,000	54,451
WCF Direct Billings/Fee for Service	3,000	18,900
Contingency	17,556	15,400
<b>TOTAL, Bureau Administrative Costs</b>	<b>53,556</b>	<b>88,751</b>

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## Exhibit B: Employee Count by Grade

**National Park Service**  
**Employee Count by Grade**  
*(Total Employment)*

<b>Employee Count by Grade</b>	<b>2025 Actual</b>	<b>2026 Estimate<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>2027 Request Estimate<sup>1</sup></b>
Executive Level V.....	-	1	1
SES.....	25	25	18
<b>Subtotal .....</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>19</b>
SL - 00.....	-	-	-
ST - 00.....	-	-	-
<b>Subtotal.....</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
GS/GM -15.....	125	107	87
GS/GM -14.....	422	363	295
GS/GM -13.....	1,110	960	780
GS -12.....	2,018	1,746	1,418
GS -11.....	2,099	1,816	1,475
GS -10.....	11	10	8
GS - 9.....	2,320	2,007	1,630
GS - 8.....	216	187	152
GS - 7.....	1,812	1,567	1,272
GS - 6.....	594	514	417
GS - 5.....	2,907	2,515	2,042
GS - 4.....	371	321	261
GS - 3.....	70	60	49
GS - 2.....	1	-	-
GS - 1.....	3	3	-
<b>Subtotal.....</b>	<b>14,079</b>	<b>12,176</b>	<b>9,886</b>
Other Pay Schedule Systems.....	5,243	4,534	3,673
<b>Total employment (actuals &amp; estimates).....</b>	<b>19,347</b>	<b>16,736</b>	<b>13,578</b>

<sup>1</sup>The FY 2026 and FY 2027 columns reflect the realignment of wildland fire management personnel from the National Park Service to the U.S. Wildland Fire Service during FY 2026, in fulfillment of Executive Order 14308, *Empowering Commonsense Wildfire Prevention and Response*, Secretary's Order (SO) 3443, *Elevating and Unifying DOI's Wildland Fire Management Program*, and SO 3448, *Establishment of the U.S. Wildland Fire Service*

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## Exhibit C: Budget Realignment

In a January 2005 audit (CIN-NPS-0013-2004), the Department of the Interior Office of the Inspector General recommended that the NPS realign the budget request to more closely reflect the actual facility operations and facility maintenance obligations within the facility operations and maintenance subactivity. Reprogramming guidelines contained in the Joint Explanatory Statements accompanying annual appropriations laws have provided an exception for the Park Management activity in the Operation of the National Park System (ONPS) account, allowing the NPS to spend its appropriation with flexibility across its subactivities: resource stewardship, visitor services, park protection, facility operations and maintenance, and park support. NPS updates the ONPS Park Management budget subactivity and program component displays annually in the President’s Budget to reflect how the funds were actually utilized.

Within the FY 2027 budget presentation for the ONPS Park Management budget activity, the FY 2025 column represents adjusted amounts by budget subactivity and program component based on an analysis of charges in the accounting system for FY 2025. The table below shows the variance between FY 2025 enacted and actual charges in FY 2025 by ONPS subactivity.

**National Park Service  
FY 2027 Budget Realignment  
Based on FY 2025 Actual Obligations**  
*Dollars in Thousands (\$000)*

<b>Operation of the National Park System/ Park Management Subactivity</b>	<b>FY 2025 Enacted</b>	<b>FY 2025 Actual</b>	<b>Variance</b>	<b>Percent Variance</b>
Resource Stewardship	398,820	360,035	-38,785	-9.72%
Visitor Services	279,635	267,848	-11,787	-4.22%
Park Protection	430,076	460,926	+30,850	+7.17%
Facility Operations & Maintenance	914,164	914,048	-116	-0.01%
Park Support	651,517	671,355	+19,838	+3.04%
<b>Total Park Management</b>	<b>2,674,212</b>	<b>2,674,212</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.00%</b>
External Administrative Costs	220,212	220,212	0	0.00%
<b>TOTAL ONPS Appropriation</b>	<b>2,894,424</b>	<b>2,894,424</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.00%</b>

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## Exhibit D: Administrative Provisions (Including Transfer of Funds)

### Appropriation Language

*In addition to other uses set forth in section 101917(c)(2) of title 54, United States Code, franchise fees credited to a sub-account shall be available for expenditure by the Secretary, without further appropriation, for use at any unit within the National Park System to extinguish or reduce liability for Possessory Interest or leasehold surrender interest. Such funds may only be used for this purpose to the extent that the benefitting unit anticipated franchise fee receipts over the term of the contract at that unit exceed the amount of funds used to extinguish or reduce liability. Franchise fees at the benefitting unit shall be credited to the sub-account of the originating unit over a period not to exceed the term of a single contract at the benefitting unit, in the amount of funds so expended to extinguish or reduce liability.*

*For the costs of administration of the Land and Water Conservation Fund grants authorized by section 105(a)(2)(B) of Public Law 109-432, as amended (43 U.S.C. 1331 note), the National Park Service may retain up to 3 percent of the amounts which are authorized to be disbursed under such section, such retained amounts to remain available until expended.*

*National Park Service funds may be transferred to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Department of Transportation, for purposes authorized under section 203 of title 23, United States Code. Transfers may include a reasonable amount for FHWA administrative support costs.*

### Appropriations Language Citations

- 1. In addition to other uses set forth in section 101917(c)(2) of title 54, United States Code, franchise fees credited to a sub-account shall be available for expenditure by the Secretary, without further appropriation, for use at any unit within the National Park System to extinguish or reduce liability for Possessory Interest or leasehold surrender interest. Such funds may only be used for this purpose to the extent that the benefitting unit anticipated franchise fee receipts over the term of the contract at that unit exceed the amount of funds used to extinguish or reduce liability. Franchise fees at the benefitting unit shall be credited to the sub-account of the originating unit over a period not to exceed the term of a single contract at the benefitting unit, in the amount of funds so expended to extinguish or reduce liability.**

54 U.S.C. 101917(c)(2) establishes new requirements for the NPS Concession Program to update the NPS concessions management statutory requirements and policies established by the Concessions Policy Act of 1965 (Public Law 89-249).

- 2. For the costs of administration of the Land and Water Conservation Fund grants authorized by section 105(a)(2)(B) of Public Law 109-432, as amended (43 U.S.C. 1331 note), the National Park Service may retain up to 3 percent of the amounts which are authorized to be disbursed under such section, such retained amounts to remain available until expended.**

Public Law 109-432 allows significant enhancements to Outer Shelf (OCS) oil and gas leasing activities and revenue in the Gulf of America. A portion of the funds are to be distributed in accordance with the Land and Water Conservation Act of 1965.

- 3. National Park Service funds may be transferred to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Department of Transportation, for purposes authorized under section 203 of title 23, United States Code. Transfers may include a reasonable amount for FHWA administrative support costs.**

23 U.S.C. 203 provides certain authority to the Department of Transportation to work jointly with other Departments in recognition of the desirability to have Federally funded road projects coordinated between State and Federal agencies by a central Federal entity to ensure efficiency, consistency, and uniformity in managing the country's road network.

## Exhibit E: General Provisions

### *ELLIS, GOVERNORS, AND LIBERTY ISLANDS*

*SEC. 106. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to acquire lands, waters, or interests therein, including the use of all or part of any pier, dock, or landing within the State of New York and the State of New Jersey, for the purpose of operating and maintaining facilities in the support of transportation and accommodation of visitors to Ellis, Governors, and Liberty Islands, and of other program and administrative activities, by donation or with appropriated funds, including franchise fees (and other monetary consideration), or by exchange; and the Secretary is authorized to negotiate and enter into leases, subleases, concession contracts, or other agreements for the use of such facilities on such terms and conditions as the Secretary may determine reasonable. Provided, That for the purposes of section 200306(a) of title 54, United States Code, such lands, waters, or interests acquired under this heading shall be considered to be within the exterior boundary of a System unit authorized or established.*

**Purpose:** The provision authorizes the Secretary to acquire lands, waters, or interests therein to operate and maintain facilities in support of transportation and accommodation of visitors to Ellis, Governors, or Liberty Islands, by donation or with appropriated funds, including franchise fees, or by exchange. The provision also authorizes the Secretary to negotiate and enter into leases, subleases, concession contracts, or other agreements for the use of such facilities, and treats land or land interests acquired through this authority as part of the authorized boundary of the unit, which enables the use of LWCF funds for these purposes.

### *EXEMPTION FOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE TEMPORARY SEASONALS*

*Sec. 107 – Title 5 of the Code of Federal Regulations, section 316.401(d)(ii), shall be applied by the National Park Service by substituting “6 months (1,040 hours)” for 9 months (1,560 hours)”.*

**Purpose:** The NPS proposes to exempt itself from this regulation and instead make temporary seasonal appointments not to exceed 1,560 hours in a year. This would better meet the NPS’s needs as visitation patterns and seasonal patterns for fire, hurricanes, and other all-hazard events have changed, extending further into shoulder seasons. Extension of the limitation would allow parks to better and more easily maintain hours and open access to visitor centers and other park sites for the public’s enjoyment and recreation, helping the NPS implement Secretarial Order 3426 – Ensuring National parks are Open and Accessible. Temporary seasonal employees are a flexible and cost-effective method for staffing parks during the visitation season.

### *FIELD UNIT LOCAL HIRING*

*SEC. 108. The Secretary of the Interior may recruit and directly appoint qualified individuals into the competitive service who are certified as maintaining a permanent and exclusive residence in the vicinity of a field unit, into any position at or below grades GS–9 or WG–15 or equivalent within such field unit: Provided, That any action authorized herein shall be consistent with the merit principles of section 2301 of such title 5, and with the public notice requirements of section 3327 of such title 5: Provided further, That appointments under this authority shall be considered compliant with all applicable provisions of chapter 33 of title 5.*

**Purpose:** The NPS proposes language that allows the Secretary of the Interior to address labor and other staffing needs at field units. Field units face considerable challenges with hiring staff, especially in areas with limited housing or high housing costs. This provision grants authority to direct-hire individuals who already live in proximity to field units, significantly reducing the administrative burden. It also ensures field units can hire staff who already live near the duty station, ensuring they can begin work quickly. Additionally, by favoring individuals already in residence near a field unit, use of the authority mitigates the Government’s burden for permanent change of station or other relocation expenses/incentives and offsets any responsibility of the field unit to find or provide housing.

*NATIONAL CENTER FOR PRESERVATION TECHNOLOGY AND TRAINING*

*Sec. 109 – Sections 305302(c), 305302(e), and 305304(a) of Chapter 35 of Title 54, United States Code are amended by striking “shall” and inserting “may”.*

**Purpose:** The NPS proposes to eliminate funding for this center, and therefore proposes to eliminate the statutory requirement to operate this center. The statutory requirement is included in the *Reclamation Projects Authorization and Adjustment Act of 1992* (Public Law 102-575).

*DELAWARE WATER GAP NATIONAL RECREATION AREA ROUTE 209 OPERATIONS*

*SEC. 110. The first sentence of Section 4(b) of the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area Improvement Act, Public Law 109–156, as amended through Public Law 115-101 and Public Law 117-328, is further amended by striking “2026” and inserting “2036”.*

**Purpose:** The provision extends Section 1 of Public Law 115-101, allowing the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area to collect fees for the management, operation, construction, and maintenance of US Route 209 within park boundaries. The current authority expires at the end of FY26. By law, US Route 209 within the boundaries of Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area is closed to commercial vehicular traffic, except for that based within the recreation area, or serving businesses and persons located within or contiguous to its boundaries, or with business facilities located or serving in certain nearby counties.

*STATE CONSERVATION GRANTS*

*SEC. 120. For expenses necessary to carry out section 200305 of title 54, United States Code, the National Park Service may retain up to 7 percent of the State Conservation Grants program to provide to States, the District of Columbia, and insular areas, as matching grants to support state program administrative costs.*

**Purpose:** Provides States the authority to use up to seven percent of their apportionment for administrative responsibilities.

*HISTORIC PRESERVATION FUND DEPOSITS*

*SEC. 122. Section 303102 of title 54, United States Code, shall be applied by substituting ‘fiscal year 2027’ for ‘fiscal year 2023’.*

**Purpose:** The authority to deposit receipts of \$150.0 million annually into the Historic Preservation Fund, to be subject to annual appropriations, expires at the end of FY 2026. Recent enacted appropriations bills have provided single year extensions without amending the underlying U.S Code. The NPS proposes to extend the authority for funds to be deposited into the account to continue support for the programs funded from the Historic Preservation Fund.

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## Exhibit F: Deferred Maintenance and Repairs

The NPS reports annually on Deferred Maintenance & Repairs (DM&R). DM&R is defined as the cost of maintenance and repairs that were not performed when they should have been or were scheduled to be, and which are put off or delayed for a future period. Maintenance and repairs are activities directed toward keeping fixed assets in an acceptable condition. Activities include preventive maintenance; replacement of parts, systems, or components; and other activities needed to preserve or maintain the asset. Maintenance and repairs, as distinguished from capital improvements, exclude activities directed towards expanding the capacity of an asset or otherwise upgrading it to serve needs different from, or significantly greater than, its current use. As of end of FY 2025, the NPS DM&R estimate is \$24.2 billion.

Routine fluctuations in DM&R are typically driven by updates and improvements to the parametric condition assessment (PCA) models, expansion of PCA coverage to additional asset types, adjustments to park location factors (such as remoteness), inflation or deflation, and ongoing data validation efforts. While the majority of validation & verification (V&V) program activities concluded in FY 2025, NPS will continue routine V&V activities. Additionally, the NPS evaluated and refined the acceptable condition thresholds to better align with the PCA rating system and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) standards. These efforts strengthen internal controls, improve consistency across reporting cycles, and enhance comparability of DM&R data over time.

### Estimating Deferred Maintenance and Repair Needs

DM&R needs for the NPS portfolio are calculated using two components: PCAs and Federal Highways Administration (FHWA) assessments for paved roads, parking, bridge, and tunnel assets. In FY 2025 the DM&R is reported using the asset inventory reported to the Federal Real Property Profile (FRPP).

The PCA method is an accepted industry standard recognized by the Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board (FASAB) and FRPP guidance. A key component of the PCA approach is a rapid visual assessment in which the condition of asset components and systems is scored. Asset and facility-type-specific models within the PCA scoring tool use these condition ratings to estimate DM&R by relating individual component and system conditions to the asset’s total Current Replacement Value (CRV). These parametric estimates are then combined with existing inspection data for FHWA-inspected assets to calculate total DM&R across the NPS portfolio.

The tables below show FY 2025 DM&R by NPS Asset Category, DOI Budget Justification Category, and Asset Status. The NPS reports publicly on Federal Real Property Profile (FRPP) inventory, where DM&R is reported as Repair Needs (RN).

**Table 1: FY 2025 Deferred Maintenance and Repair by NPS Asset Category**

*Dollars in Millions*

Asset Category	Asset Count	Repair Needs (\$M)
Buildings	24,170	\$5,111.4 M
Housing	3,631	\$467.3 M
Campgrounds	1,515	\$116.8 M
Trails	6,185	\$722.8 M
Wastewater Systems	1,744	\$567.3 M

Water Systems	1,538	\$1,525.3 M
Paved Roads	11,842	\$8,319.6 M
Unpaved Roads	5,618	\$995.3 M
All Others*	14,444	\$6,411.5 M
<b>Total</b>	<b>70,687</b>	<b>\$24,237.3 M</b>

\*All Others captures non-industry standard assets including utility systems, dams, constructed waterways, marinas, aviation systems, railroads, ships, monuments, fortifications, towers, interpretive media and amphitheaters.

The NPS has reported its DM&R needs based on its asset categories, which are presented in the table above. Repair needs by asset status are also reported in a separate table below. The dataset is the same; in some years total dollar amounts may not match due to rounding.

**Table 2: FY 2025 Deferred Maintenance and Repair by DOI Budget Justification Category**

*Dollars in Millions*

DOI Budget Justification Category	Asset Count	Repair Needs (\$M)
Operational Buildings	9,607	\$2,794.0 M
Housing Assets	3,631	\$467.3 M
Recreational and Visitor Experience Assets	30,721	\$7,227.3 M
Transportation Assets	17,651	\$9,435.7 M
Water Infrastructure and Utilities	8,055	\$4,132.4 M
All Other Assets	1,022	\$180.6 M
<b>Total</b>	<b>70,687</b>	<b>\$24,237.3 M</b>

**Table 3: Reported Repair Needs by Asset Status**

*Dollars in Millions*

Asset Status	Asset Count	Repair Needs (\$M)
Critical Mission Need	3,804	\$2,091.8 M
Current Mission Need	65,294	\$21,872.8 M
Determination to Dispose	907	\$0.0 M
Future Mission Need	682	\$272.7 M
<b>Total</b>	<b>70,687</b>	<b>\$24,237.3 M</b>

**Critical Mission Need (Buildings):** Buildings that the government needs to own/lease over the long-term to house functions directly required by statute or regulation (i.e., Code of Federal Regulations). Buildings that house functions established solely by agency policy or directive are not mission critical.

**Current Mission Need** are active assets currently in use, requiring a wide mix of facility operations, maintenance, modernization and renewal projects and funding to remain in acceptable condition for operational needs.

**Determination to Dispose** locations are excess or surplus assets best suited for demolition or divestiture, which are excluded from the DM&R reporting methodology. The NPS continues to report separately on disposal needs.

**Future Mission Need** locations are either planned for future construction, or are existing assets needed for future operational needs, but are currently inactive and require significant modernization and renewal to meet current operational needs.

### NPS Investment and Project Evaluation

Funding proposed in the FY 2027 Budget to address DM&R represents an appropriate balance of the Administration’s priorities and the bureau’s mission requirements. The NPS considers the business case for each investment that addresses DM&R, with the goal of focusing investments on important facilities and infrastructure that can be maintained in acceptable condition throughout their respective lifecycles. Small or simple projects are frequently identified and funded based on park determination. As project size, complexity, or costs increase, NPS policy requires escalating levels of scrutiny and review.

Service-wide policy for NPS construction programs and oversight of formulation for individual facility projects is broadly managed by the NPS Bureau Investment Review Board (Board), a committee comprised of senior managers. The Board is authorized by the NPS Director to serve as the executive body that sets direction for the NPS facility investment portfolio.