



NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Mission – As stated in the Organic Act of 1916, the National Park Service mission is to “preserve unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations.”

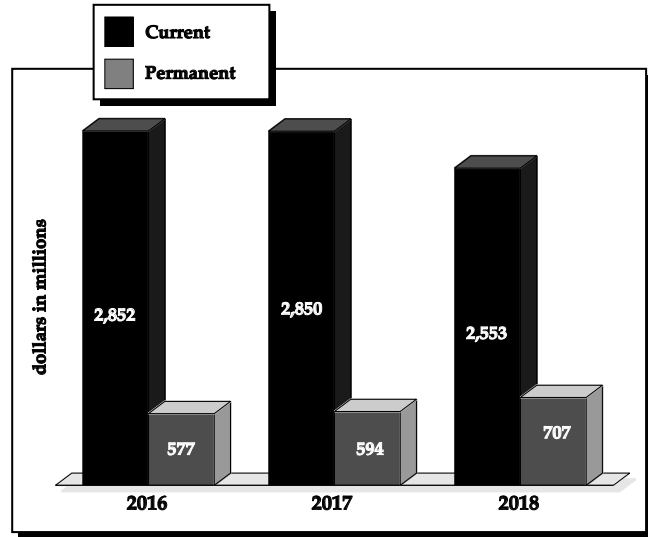
Budget Overview – The 2018 President’s current budget request for NPS of \$2.6 billion is \$296.6 million below the 2017 CR baseline. The NPS estimates total staffing will equal 18,268 full time equivalents in 2018, a decrease of 1,242 FTE from 2017. Compared to 2017, the 2018 President’s budget request includes net programmatic reductions totaling \$322.2 million and an increase of \$25.7 million for fixed costs.

In 2018, the President’s budget prioritizes maintaining and preserving NPS lands and assets for the enjoyment, education, and recreation of current and future generations while assisting States and local communities to develop non-Federal recreational sites and facilities and preserve historic assets.

Program Overview – The national park system covers 84.7 million acres and is comprised of 417 sites. These include 129 historical parks or sites, 87 national monuments, 59 national parks, 30 national memorials, 25 battlefields or military parks, and 87 otherwise designated national park units. The NPS also helps administer dozens of affiliated sites, the National Register of Historic Places, National Heritage Areas, National Wild and Scenic Rivers, National Historic Landmarks, and National Trails. Additionally, NPS staff work with communities across the Nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. The Department looks forward to partnering with the District of Columbia and NPS to explore opportunities to more effectively manage certain Federal land parcels. These efforts could help to spur economic development and create opportunities in Washington, D.C.

Park Operations – The 2018 NPS budget request for operations is \$2.2 billion. This is a decrease of \$143.8 million below 2017, comprised of \$168.1 million in net program decreases and \$24.3 million in fixed costs increases. Of

NPS Funding



these reductions, \$131.8 million will be achieved through base funding reductions in park units, regional and central offices, and program support offices; \$26.6 million in project funds; \$4.2 million in one-time 2017 costs related to the Presidential inauguration; \$4.0 million in reductions to the volunteer program, \$2.2 million in the elimination of the National Capital Area Performing Arts program; and \$351,000 in changes to external administrative costs. This is partially offset by a \$1.1 million increase for new requirements at existing park units. The budget maintains \$99.3 million for repair and rehabilitation projects, which address the deferred maintenance backlog, as well as \$112.7 million for cyclic maintenance projects, which ensure maintenance is conducted in a timely fashion and does not become deferred.

Centennial Challenge – The Centennial Challenge program, funded at \$15.0 million, is level with 2017 and will provide the Federal match to leverage partner donations for signature projects and programs at national parks in support of the NPS’s second century. This current program is complemented by new authority enacted by the National Park Service Centennial Act, which established a permanent National Park Centennial Challenge

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE FACTS

- In 1916 Congress created the National Park Service also known as “America’s Best Idea.”
- There are 417 park units, which encompass 84.7 million acres in all 50 States and four Territories.
- In 2016, over 324 million people visited the Nation’s national parks, breaking previous visitation records.
- In 2016, over 23,000 individual full and part-time employees and 440,000 volunteers worked to preserve, protect, and share the history of this land and its people.
- The NPS workforce is made up of archeologists, engineers, curators, biologists, hydrologists, historians, law enforcement officers, landscape architects, and many other disciplines.
- The NPS collaborates with Tribes, States, local governments, non-profits, and historic property owners who share in preserving the Nation’s shared heritage.

Fund. Amounts exceeding \$10.0 million from the sale of age-discounted Federal Recreational Lands Passes, commonly known as Senior Passes, will be deposited into this Fund as offsetting collections to be used as the Federal match for projects or programs that enhance the visitor experience. The budget estimates this Fund will be \$15.0 million in 2018.

Altogether, the current and permanent funding sources will provide an estimated \$30.0 million in Federal matching funds. As all Federal funds must be matched on at least a 50:50 basis, private donations will leverage the Federal funds for a total of at least \$60.0 million.

National Recreation and Preservation – This appropriation supports local community efforts to preserve natural and cultural resources. The 2018 President’s request includes \$37.0 million for these programs, a decrease of \$25.5 million compared to the 2017 level, comprised of \$26.0 million in program reductions offset by \$496,000 in fixed costs increases. These changes include a program reduction of \$18.8 million to eliminate payments to National Heritage Areas, allowing NPS to maintain \$809,000 for technical and administrative assistance to the existing National Heritage Areas.

Historic Preservation – The Historic Preservation Fund supports Historic Preservation Offices in States, Territories, and tribal lands to preserve historically and culturally significant sites and provides competitive grants to other, non-Federal entities. The 2018 budget request for the Historic Preservation Fund is \$51.1 million, a decrease of \$14.2 million. This level consolidates funding within the core grants-in-aid programs to States and Territories at \$42.1 million and Tribes at \$9.0 million. These grants allow State, territorial, and tribal governments to meet preservation responsibilities required by the National Historic Preservation Act to protect and preserve historic resources, based on their understanding

of local needs and priorities. To protect these core activities, the budget eliminates recently initiated competitive grant programs.

Construction – The 2018 request includes \$226.5 million to fund construction projects, equipment replacement, management, planning, operations, and special projects. This is \$34.0 million above the 2017 level, including \$653,000 in fixed costs increases. The increase will help address deferred maintenance and allow for targeted and measurable upgrades to a number of the NPS’s highest priority assets.

The budget provides funding critical to help address the NPS deferred maintenance backlog, including \$137.0 million for the line-item construction activity, a \$21.0 million increase compared to 2017. Within this amount is \$18.2 million for critically needed repairs to Arlington Memorial Bridge, which provides an important transportation link between the District of Columbia and Virginia; \$4.0 million for demolition or disposal projects for NPS assets that are no longer needed or create a risk within parks due to poor facility conditions; and \$4.0 million for projects that mitigate public safety hazards on abandoned mineral lands within the national park system. The budget also includes programmatic increases of \$10.2 million for construction project planning, \$1.0 million for construction oversight provided by the Denver Service Center, and \$3.7 million for regional facility project support. These increases are partially offset by \$2.6 million in reductions to other programs that do not directly relate to deferred maintenance.

Land Acquisition and State Assistance – The 2018 request for this account is \$26.4 million, a decrease of \$147.0 million, comprised of \$147.2 million in program decreases and \$193,000 in fixed costs increases. This reduction reflects a redirection of funding from lower priority activities, such as Federal land acquisition, toward higher priority

activities at NPS and across the Department, including the need to address NPS deferred maintenance.

The budget does not include funding for major Federal land acquisition projects in 2018, but retains \$8.5 million for American Battlefield Protection Program acquisition grants, as well as \$8.7 million to administer both ongoing Federal land acquisition projects and American Battlefield Protection grants. Additionally, the budget includes \$3.1 million for emergencies and hardship land acquisition and \$3.1 million to acquire inholdings and facilitate land donations and exchanges.

The Land and Water Fund State Conservation grants program provides funding to States for the purchase of lands for preservation and recreation purposes. The program is intended to create and maintain a nationwide legacy of high quality recreation areas and facilities and to stimulate non-Federal investments in the protection and maintenance of recreation resources across the United States.

The 2018 budget reflects a shift in funding for the NPS State grants program from current to permanent funding. In prior years, annual, current appropriations derived from the LWCF provided the main source of funding for this program. Starting in 2009, the current LWCF appropriations for the State Assistance program have been supplemented by revenues from certain oil and gas leases in the Gulf of Mexico, as authorized by Section 105 of the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act. These GOMESA receipts are projected to increase significantly in 2017, with a substantial increase in permanent funding available for NPS State grants reflected in the following year.

While this permanent funding benefits State and local governments through the NPS program, the amount of receipts available is difficult to predict. Therefore, the budget proposes to replace the complicated formula for allocating receipts to the LWCF State grants program established by GOMESA with a comparable permanent appropriation of \$90.0 million in 2018, increasing to \$125.0 million in 2022 and each year thereafter, derived from the LWCF.

Recreation Fee Program – This permanent funding program operates under the authority of the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act. The Act authorizes NPS to collect recreation fees at selected parks and requires fee revenues be used to improve visitor services and enhance the visitor experience at those parks and throughout the national park system. The NPS estimates in 2018 it will collect \$259.5 million in revenues and obligate \$275.0 million. In 2016, 49 percent of NPS recreation fee obligations addressed asset repair and maintenance projects, 19 percent addressed interpretation and visitor services, and eight percent addressed habitat restoration. The remaining 25 percent of recreation fee obligations were spent on operational activities such as law enforcement, cost of collecting fees, and visitor reservation services. Current authority for the program extends through September 30, 2018. The 2018 budget proposes appropriations language to extend the program through September 30, 2019, as well as a separate legislative proposal to permanently authorize the program.

National Park Service Centennial Act – The National Park Service Centennial Act, enacted in December 2016, created two new authorities for the use of recreation fees. Title I of the Act establishes the National Park Centennial Fund. All amounts received from sales of age-discounted Federal Recreational Lands Passes, commonly known as Senior Passes, that exceed \$10.0 million are deposited into the Centennial Challenge Fund as offsetting collections and remain available until expended. This is estimated at \$15.0 million in 2018 and discussed in greater detail in the Centennial Challenge section above.

Title II of the Act authorizes the Second Century Endowment for NPS, with \$10.0 million annually from the sale of age-discounted Federal Recreational Lands Passes, plus any gift, devise, or bequest that is provided to the National Park Foundation for the purpose of creating an endowment. Funds in the endowment are made available to the National Park Foundation as offsetting collections for projects and activities that further the mission and purposes of NPS.

Fixed Costs – Fixed costs of \$25.7 million are fully funded.

SUMMARY OF BUREAU APPROPRIATIONS

(all dollar amounts in thousands)

Comparison of 2018 Request with 2017 CR Baseline

	2017 CR		2018 Request		Change	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
Current						
Operation of the National Park System.....	15,076	2,369,291	13,883	2,225,485	-1,193	-143,806
Centennial Challenge	13	14,971	13	14,971	0	0
National Recreation and Preservation	219	62,513	207	37,001	-12	-25,512
Historic Preservation Fund.....	0	65,286	0	51,100	0	-14,186
Construction	339	192,570	334	226,529	-5	+33,959
Land Acquisition and State Assistance	83	173,340	77	26,380	-6	-146,960
LWCF Contract Authority (<i>cancellation</i>).....	0	-27,960	0	-28,020	0	-60
Subtotal, Current.....	15,730	2,850,011	14,514	2,553,446	-1,216	-296,565
Permanent						
Recreation Fee Permanent Appropriations.....	1,597	281,900	1,597	285,078	0	+3,178
Other Permanent Appropriations.....	419	208,487	419	213,011	0	+4,524
Miscellaneous Trust Funds	210	75,003	210	71,003	0	-4,000
Construction	0	0	10	20,000	+10	+20,000
Land Acquisition and State Assistance	0	319	3	90,000	+3	+89,681
LWCF Contract Authority.....	0	27,960	0	28,020	0	+60
Subtotal, Permanent.....	2,226	593,669	2,239	707,112	+13	+113,443
Allocation and Reimbursable						
Allocation	777	0	738	0	-39	0
Reimbursable	777	0	777	0	0	0
Subtotal, Allocation and Reimbursable	1,554	0	1,515	0	-39	0
TOTAL, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE	19,510	3,443,680	18,268	3,260,558	-1,242	-183,122

HIGHLIGHTS OF BUDGET CHANGES

By Appropriation Activity/Subactivity

APPROPRIATION: Operation of the National Park System

	2016 Actual	2017 CR	2018 Request	Change
Park Management				
Resource Stewardship	327,579	326,957	301,928	-25,029
Visitor Services	247,273	246,802	223,785	-23,017
Park Protection	355,428	358,953	338,198	-20,755
Facility Operations and Maintenance ..	737,514	736,112	685,899	-50,213
Park Support	521,199	520,208	496,103	-24,105
Subtotal, Park Management	2,188,993	2,189,032	2,045,913	-143,119
External Administrative Costs	180,603	180,259	179,572	-687
TOTAL APPROPRIATION <i>(w/o transfers)</i>	2,369,596	2,369,291	2,225,485	-143,806
Transfers	762	0	0	0
TOTAL APPROPRIATION <i>(w/ transfers)</i>	2,370,358	2,369,291	2,225,485	-143,806

Detail of Budget Changes

	2018 Change <u>from 2017 CR</u>		2018 Change <u>from 2017 CR</u>
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	-143,806		
Park Management	-143,119	Facility Operations and Maintenance	-50,213
Resource Stewardship	-25,029	Base Funding at	
Base Funding at		Parks, Regions, and Central Offices	-44,413
Parks, Regions, and Central Offices	-19,796	Eliminate Challenge Cost Share Projects	-385
Eliminate Landscape Restoration Projects	-1,500	Eliminate Flexible Park Projects	-9,692
Natural Resource Projects	-715	Environmental Management Projects	-1,500
Cultural Resource Projects	-7,000	Emergency Storm Damage Projects	-350
Fixed Costs	+3,982	Fixed Costs	+6,127
Visitor Services	-23,017	Park Support	-24,105
Base Funding at		Base Funding at	
Parks, Regions, and Central Offices	-14,874	Parks, Regions, and Central Offices	-31,391
Youth Projects	-5,000	New Park Responsibilities at Parks	+1,080
Volunteers	-4,000	Fixed Costs	+6,206
Eliminate Nat'l Capital Area Perform. Arts	-2,223	External Administrative Costs	-687
Interpretation and Education Projects	-500	Adjustment for Administrative Costs	-351
Fixed Costs	+3,580	Fixed Costs	-336
Park Protection	-20,755		
Base Funding at		Subtotals for Changes Across Multiple Subactivities	
Parks, Regions, and Central Offices	-21,338	Base Funding at	
Eliminate Non-Recurring		Parks, Regions, and Central Offices	[-131,812]
Presidential Inaugural Funding	-4,200	Fixed Costs	[+24,342]
Fixed Costs	+4,783		

APPROPRIATION: Centennial Challenge

	2016 Actual	2017 CR	2018 Request	Change
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	15,000	14,971	14,971	0

APPROPRIATION: National Recreation and Preservation

	2016 Actual	2017 CR	2018 Request	Change
Recreation Programs.....	589	588	0	-588
Natural Programs.....	13,575	13,549	12,089	-1,460
Cultural Programs.....	24,562	24,515	22,408	-2,107
Environmental Compliance and Review.	433	432	385	-47
Grants Administration	2,004	2,001	0	-2,001
International Park Affairs	1,648	1,645	1,310	-335
Heritage Partnership Programs				
Commissions and Grants.....	18,839	18,803	0	-18,803
Administrative Support	982	980	809	-171
Subtotal, Heritage Partnerships	19,821	19,783	809	-18,974
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	62,632	62,513	37,001	-25,512

Detail of Budget Changes

	2018 Change from 2017 CR		2018 Change from 2017 CR
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	-25,512		
Recreation Programs.....	-588	Environmental Compliance and Review.....	-47
Transfer to Natural Programs.....	-598	Environmental Compliance	
Fixed Costs	+10	and Review	-53
Natural Programs.....	-1,460	Fixed Costs	+6
Rivers, Trails, and		Grants Administration	-2,001
Conservation Assistance.....	-1,100	Transfer to Cultural Programs.....	-2,033
National Natural Landmarks	-100	Fixed Costs	+32
Hydropower Recreation Assistance	-32	International Park Affairs	-335
Chesapeake Gateway and		International Park Affairs.....	-17
Trails Program.....	-1,000	Southwest Border Resource	
Transfer Federal Lands to Parks.....	+598	Protection Program	-336
Federal Lands to Parks	-9	Fixed Costs	+18
Fixed Costs	+183	Heritage Partnership Programs	-18,974
Cultural Programs.....	-2,107	Eliminate Commissions and Grants.....	-18,803
National Register Programs.....	-1,500	Administrative Support	
National Center for Preservation		for Partnership Programs	-182
Technology and Training	-250	Fixed Costs	+11
Japanese American Confinement		Subtotals for Changes Across Multiple Subactivities	
Site Grants.....	-1,899	Fixed Costs	[+496]
American Battlefield Protection			
Assistance Grants	-696		
Transfer Grants Administration	+2,033		
Grants Administration.....	-31		
Fixed Costs	+236		

APPROPRIATION: Historic Preservation Fund

	2016 Actual	2017 CR	2018 Request	Change
Grants-in-Aid				
Grants-in-Aid to States and Territories	46,925	46,836	42,134	-4,702
Grants-in-Aid to Indian Tribes	9,985	9,966	8,966	-1,000
Competitive Grants-in-Aid	8,500	8,484	0	-8,484
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	65,410	65,286	51,100	-14,186

Detail of Budget Changes

	2018 Change from 2017 CR
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	-14,186
Grants-in-Aid	
Grants-in-Aid to States and Territories	-4,702
Grants-in-Aid to Indian Tribes	-1,000
Eliminate Competitive Grants-in-Aid	-8,484

APPROPRIATION: Construction

	2016 Actual	2017 CR	2018 Request	Change
Line-Item Construction and Maint	116,276	116,055	137,011	+20,956
Special Programs	20,803	20,764	20,769	+5
Construction Planning	7,266	7,251	17,453	+10,202
Construction Program Mgmt and Ops	36,771	36,701	40,656	+3,955
Management Planning	11,821	11,799	10,640	-1,159
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	192,937	192,570	226,529	+33,959

See Appendix C for proposed 2018 construction projects.

Detail of Budget Changes

	2018 Change from 2017 CR		2018 Change from 2017 CR
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	+33,959		
Line-Item Construction	+20,956	Management Planning	-1,159
Line-Item Construction Program	+12,956	Unit Management Plans	-654
Abandoned Mineral Lands Projects	+4,000	Special Resource Studies	-196
Demolition and Disposal Projects	+4,000	Environmental Impact Planning and Compliance	-448
Special Programs	+5	Fixed Costs	+139
Fixed Costs	+5	Subtotals for Changes Across Multiple Subactivities	
Construction Planning	+10,202	Fixed Costs	[+653]
Construction Planning	+10,202		
Construction Program Management and Ops	+3,955		
Construction Program Management	-150		
Denver Service Center Operations	+1,048		
Harper's Ferry Center Operations	-1,200		
Facility Project Support	+3,748		
Fixed Costs	+509		

APPROPRIATION: Land Acquisition and State Assistance

	2016 Actual	2017 CR	2018 Request	Change
Federal Land Acquisition				
Acquisition Management.....	9,679	9,661	8,716	-945
Emergencies, Hardships, and Relocations	3,928	3,921	3,071	-850
Inholdings, Donations, and Exchanges	4,928	4,919	3,069	-1,850
American Battlefield Protection Program Acquisition Grants.....	10,000	9,981	8,481	-1,500
Projects.....	33,135	33,072	0	-33,072
Recreational Access.....	2,000	1,995	0	-1,995
Subtotal, Federal Land Acquisition.....	63,670	63,549	23,337	-40,212
State Assistance				
State Conservation Grants Admin.....	3,161	3,155	3,043	-112
State Conservation Grants	94,839	94,659	0	-94,659
Competitive State Conser. Grants.....	12,000	11,977	0	-11,977
Subtotal, State Assistance.....	110,000	109,791	3,043	-106,748
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	173,670	173,340	26,380	-146,960

Detail of Budget Changes

	2018 Change from 2017 CR		
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	-146,960		
Federal Land Acquisition.....	-40,212	State Assistance	-106,748
Acquisition Management.....	-1,100	Grants Administration.....	-150
Emergencies, Hardships, and Relocations.....	-850	Shift to Permanent Funding for State Grants	-94,659
Inholdings, Donations, and Exchanges.....	-1,850	Eliminate Competitive State Grants	-11,977
American Battlefield Protection Grants	-1,500	Fixed Costs	+38
Eliminate Acquisition Projects.....	-33,072	Subtotals for Changes Across Multiple Subactivities	
Eliminate Recreational Access Projects	-1,995	Fixed Costs	[+193]
Fixed Costs	+155		

APPROPRIATION: Land and Water Conservation Fund Contract Authority

	2016 Actual	2017 CR	2018 Request	Change
TOTAL APPROPRIATION (cancellation)...	-27,960	-27,960	-28,020	-60

Detail of Budget Changes

	2018 Change from 2017 CR
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	-60
Change Due to Sequestration.....	-60