



# NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**Mission**—The Organic Act of 1916 created the National Park Service (NPS) “to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife 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.”

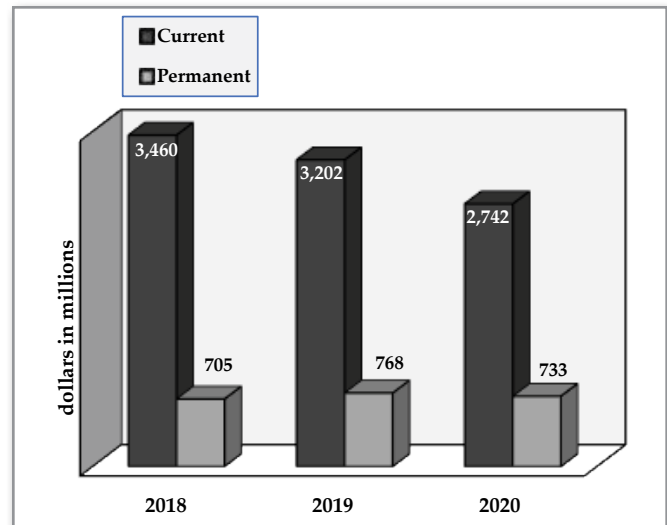
**Budget Overview**—The 2020 budget request for NPS is \$2.7 billion. NPS estimates the budget will support total staffing equal to 18,688 full-time equivalents in 2020.

**Program Overview**—The national park system covers 85 million acres at 418 park units, including 129 historical parks or sites, 88 national monuments, 60 national parks, 29 national memorials, 25 battlefields or military parks, and 87 otherwise designated national park units. 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 recreational opportunities.

**Operation of the National Park System**—The 2020 budget requests \$2.4 billion for operations of the national park system. In 2017, NPS served over 318 million visitors from across America and around the world.

The budget includes \$321.6 million for natural and cultural resource stewardship at NPS sites. National parks are critical venues for the conservation of natural resources and play a unique role as places

## NPS Funding



to apply adaptive management strategies. NPS preserves and protects cultural resources including archeological resources, cultural landscapes, ethnographic resources, historical artifacts, historic and prehistoric structures, and museum collections. Overall, the national park system contains over 26,000 historic and prehistoric structures; 4,200 statues, monuments, and memorials; more than 82,000 archeological sites; and more than 180 million museum objects and archival documents. NPS also conducts associated applied research informing its stewardship of the extensive and varied cultural resources contained within the national park system. Funding also includes \$9.7 million for restoration, conservation, and protection efforts in the Everglades.

NPS proposes \$237.1 million to support the visitor experience at national park areas. Visitor services foster an understanding and appreciation of NPS places of natural beauty and cultural and historical

## NATIONAL PARK SERVICE FACTS

- In 1916, Congress created the National Park Service, also known as “America’s Best Idea.”
- The national park system includes 418 park units, which encompass 85 million acres in all 50 States and 4 Territories.
- In 2017, over 318 million people visited the units of the national park system.
- In 2018, over 21,000 individual full- and part-time employees and 302,000 volunteers worked to preserve, protect, and share the history of this land and its people.
- The NPS mission requires a diverse workforce including archeologists, biologists, curators, engineers, historians, hydrologists, landscape architects, law enforcement officers, and many other disciplines.
- NPS collaborates with Tribes, States, local governments, nonprofits, and historic property owners who share in preserving the Nation’s shared heritage.

significance and are central to the National Park Service mission. These interpretation, education, and management programs ensure America’s natural, cultural, and recreational treasures are understood and available to park audiences formally and informally. To help showcase and care for these treasures, NPS enlists the help of a strong volunteer force organized with the help of partnerships and visitor services. This request also supports NPS management of the thousands of concession contracts, commercial use authorizations, and operating leases that enhance the visitor experience and protect resources.

To ensure public safety and the protection of resources in the parks, the budget includes \$362.0 million for law enforcement and health and safety programs. NPS law enforcement programs, including the U.S. Park Police at the Washington, DC, New York City, and San Francisco-area NPS sites, enforce Federal laws and regulations within all park units. Park protection activities are important to stewardship of the parks, helping to keep NPS natural and cultural resources unimpaired for future generations, providing the public the opportunity to enjoy the national park units in a safe manner, and ensuring NPS employees have a safe work environment.

Interior plays a major role in providing Americans access to outdoor recreation. Outdoor recreation opportunities enable all of us to be healthier, more fully enjoy the wonderful features of the Federal

lands, and take advantage of hunting, fishing, and other pursuits that are part of the American conservation ethic.

The budget includes \$10.0 million to improve recreational access to park lands in ways which benefit park visitors and assets and neighboring gateway communities. Funding supports fishing programs for youth and other novice anglers and improves recreation-related infrastructure and resources, Alaska subsistence fishing and hunting, outreach to and involvement of veterans, and coordination with State, local, business, and nonprofit stakeholders to facilitate access to outdoor recreation opportunities.

In support of the Administration’s active forest management legislative proposal and fuels mitigation, the budget includes \$4.0 million to support on-the-ground active forest management mitigation work to reduce wildfire risk to NPS infrastructure and assets and improve land health. This preventative mitigation work increases the safety of firefighters and the public, and minimizes the impacts to park operations, visitor experiences, and gateway communities. The request supports a combination of prescribed fire and mechanical active management treatments in partnership with NPS Natural Resources and Facilities and Maintenance programs.

NPS manages thousands of assets, working to sustain their condition befitting their status as

America's treasures, while making them available for public enjoyment. The 2020 budget prioritizes NPS infrastructure needs. The Facility Operations and Maintenance program supports this priority, providing expertise to manage these resources appropriately by protecting, restoring, rehabilitating, and maintaining natural and cultural resources, visitor and employee facilities, and other infrastructure. The budget provides \$796.8 million for park facility operations and maintenance across the national park system, including \$132.0 million for repair and rehabilitation projects and \$134.0 million for cyclic maintenance projects to address the deferred maintenance backlog and reduce further deterioration of assets.

The budget also includes \$5.0 million as authorized in the National Park Service Centennial Act to support National Park Foundation efforts to promote public-private partnerships that leverage private funding for the benefit of the national park system.

The budget proposes \$514.5 million for Park Support to administer, manage, and support park operations throughout the United States. This funding also supports internal administration needs, such as personnel, finance, procurement, data processing and communications, and other support services. As part of the Interior-wide reorganization effort, the NPS budget includes \$5.7 million to stand up Interior's 12 unified regions, relocate resources closer to customers, and implement shared service solutions to better deliver operational services across the Department.

To improve the management of park operations, the Department proposes to extend the period of availability of funding in the Operations of the National Park System and National Recreation and Preservation accounts to 2 years. Two-year funding availability will allow NPS to more efficiently and effectively manage available resources, adjust for disruptions in the fiscal year, and is consistent with the period of availability of the operating funds at other Interior land management bureaus.

**National Recreation and Preservation**—The 2020 budget includes \$32.3 million to support

local community efforts to preserve natural and cultural resources. Natural resources programs funded in this account support collaborative and community-driven efforts and outcome-focused investments to preserve and enhance rural landscapes, urban parks and rivers, important ecosystems, cultural resources, and wildlife habitat. NPS cultural programs support public participation in preservation of the Nation's cultural heritage through National Register Programs and research and training in historic preservation and conservation. This budget activity also supports International Park activities and management of Heritage Partnership Programs and historic resource grants. In 2020, NPS proposes to include funding for administration of the Historic Preservation Fund, National Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act Grants, Japanese American Confinement Sites Grants, and American Battlefield Protection Program Assistance Grants in the Cultural Programs Activity.

**Historic Preservation**—The Historic Preservation Fund supports Historic Preservation Offices in States, Territories, and Tribal lands to preserve non-Federal historically and culturally significant sites and entities. The 2020 budget includes \$32.7 million for the Historic Preservation Fund, including \$26.9 million for grants-in-aid programs to States and Territories and \$5.7 million for Tribal programs. Grants provide States, Territories, and Tribal governments resources to meet preservation responsibilities, including infrastructure permitting, required by the National Historic Preservation Act to protect and preserve historic resources in accordance with local needs and priorities.

**Land Acquisition and State Assistance**—The budget requests \$4.8 million for the Land Acquisition and State Assistance appropriation, which includes \$14.8 million in new budget authority and the proposed cancellation of \$10.0 million in unneeded prior year balances. The request includes \$5.0 million for grants to acquire land to protect American Battlefields, \$1.0 million for land acquisition that supports expanded recreation access within park unit boundaries, and \$8.8 million to administer the NPS Federal land acquisition program.

The 2020 budget proposes to shift funding for NPS State grants from current to permanent funding. Starting in 2009, the current Land and Water Conservation Fund appropriations for the State Conservation Grants program have been augmented by revenues from oil and gas leases in the Gulf of Mexico, as authorized by Section 105 of the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act (GOMESA). These GOMESA receipts increased significantly in 2017 and are projected to continue to grow. In 2020, the amount of GOMESA revenue estimated to be available to NPS for State grants is \$113.1 million.

**Construction**—The budget requests \$246.3 million for the NPS Construction Program. The budget includes \$160.1 million for the line-item construction activity to help address deferred maintenance and allow for targeted and measurable upgrades to a number of the NPS’s highest priority assets. It also funds \$4.0 million for demolition or disposal projects to address NPS surplus or high-risk assets and \$4.0 million for projects that mitigate public safety

hazards on abandoned mine lands within the national park system. The budget also includes \$17.9 million for construction project planning, \$41.9 million for construction program management and operations, and \$10.2 million for park planning and environmental compliance.

**Centennial Challenge**—The National Park Service Centennial Act established the permanent National Park Centennial Challenge Fund for high-priority projects or 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 the Fund to be used for projects and programs that receive non-Federal matching donations on at least a 50:50 basis. The budget estimates the Fund will receive \$1.4 million in 2020.

**Fixed Costs**—Fixed costs of \$14.2 million are fully funded.

**SUMMARY OF BUREAU APPROPRIATIONS**  
(all dollar amounts in thousands)

*Comparison of 2020 Request with 2019 CR*

	2019 CR		2020 Request		Change	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
<b>Current</b>						
Operation of the National Park System .....	14,573	2,477,969	14,246	2,425,517	-327	-52,452
Centennial Challenge.....	15	23,000	0	0	-15	-23,000
National Recreation and Preservation .....	207	63,638	190	32,337	-17	-31,301
Historic Preservation Fund .....	6	96,910	2	32,672	-4	-64,238
Construction (and Major Maintenance).....	320	359,704	273	246,333	-47	-113,371
Land Acquisition and State Assistance <sup>1/</sup> .....	85	180,941	56	4,828	-29	-176,113
Subtotal, Current .....	15,206	3,202,162	14,767	2,741,687	-439	-460,475
<b>Permanent</b>						
Construction (and Major Maintenance).....	8	28,140	0	0	-8	-28,140
Land Acquisition and State Assistance .....	3	71,624	3	113,122	0	+41,498
Visitor Experience Improvements Fund .....	0	18,760	0	21,240	0	+2,480
Recreation Fee Permanent Appropriations .....	1,808	339,253	1,820	342,062	+12	+2,809
Land and Water Conservation Fund .....	0	28,140	0	0	0	-28,140
Other Permanent Appropriations .....	399	199,979	414	205,001	+15	+5,022
Miscellaneous Trust Funds .....	208	82,003	208	52,003	0	-30,000
Subtotal, Permanent .....	2,426	767,899	2,445	733,428	+19	-34,471
<b>Allocation and Reimbursable</b>						
Allocation .....	699	0	693	0	-6	0
Reimbursable .....	783	0	783	0	0	0
Subtotal, Allocation and Reimbursable.....	1,482	0	1,476	0	-6	0
<b>TOTAL, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE.....</b>	<b>19,114</b>	<b>3,970,061</b>	<b>18,688</b>	<b>3,475,115</b>	<b>-426</b>	<b>-494,946</b>

<sup>1/</sup> The 2020 request for the Land Acquisition Account reflects a cancellation of \$10.0 million in prior year balances.

**HIGHLIGHTS OF BUDGET CHANGES**  
*By Appropriation Activity/Subactivity*

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

	2018 Actual	2019 CR	2020 Request	Change
<b>Park Management</b>				
Resource Stewardship .....	336,044	336,044	321,562	-14,482
Visitor Services .....	252,063	252,063	237,087	-14,976
Park Protection.....	371,806	371,806	361,970	-9,836
Facility Operations Maintenance .....	818,794	818,794	796,790	-22,004
Park Support .....	519,690	519,690	514,521	-5,169
Subtotal, Park Management.....	2,298,397	2,298,397	2,231,930	-66,467
External Administrative Costs .....	179,572	179,572	193,587	+14,015
TOTAL APPROPRIATION (w/o transfers).....	2,477,969	2,477,969	2,425,517	-52,452
Transfers .....	102	0	0	0
TOTAL APPROPRIATION (w/ transfers).....	2,478,071	2,477,969	2,425,517	-52,452

**APPROPRIATION: Operation of the National Park System (continued)**

*Detail of Budget Changes*

	<u>2020 Change from 2019 CR</u>		<u>2020 Change from 2019 CR</u>
TOTAL APPROPRIATION .....	-52,452		
Park Management .....	-66,467	Facility Operations Maintenance .....	-22,004
Resource Stewardship .....	-14,482	New Responsibilities at Existing Park	
New Responsibilities at Existing Park		Areas .....	+1,043
Areas .....	+301	Rising Visitation .....	+3,912
Recreational Access .....	+300	Recreational Access .....	+4,000
Active Forest Management .....	+4,000	DC Water and Sewer .....	+5,514
Natural Resource Projects .....	-1,500	Cyclic Maintenance Projects .....	-7,500
Cultural Resource Projects .....	-5,500	Repair and Rehabilitation Projects .....	-2,500
Quagga and Zebra Mussel Programs .....	-1,000	Park and Program Operations .....	-29,126
Cave and Karst Ecosystem Research .....	-500	Fixed Costs .....	+2,653
Park and Program Operations .....	-11,954	Park Support .....	-5,169
Fixed Costs .....	+1,371	Transfer to EAC/Space Rental to	
Visitor Services .....	-14,976	Centralize Lease Costs .....	-3,313
New Responsibilities at Existing Park		New Responsibilities at Existing Park	
Areas .....	+737	Areas .....	+1,068
Rising Visitation .....	+1,225	Recreational Access .....	+3,000
Recreational Access .....	+1,200	Department Reorganization .....	+5,700
Volunteers in Parks Program .....	-4,000	National Park Foundation .....	+5,000
Youth Partnership Programs .....	-4,000	Park and Program Operations .....	-18,485
Interpretation and Education Projects .....	-500	Fixed Costs .....	+1,861
National Capital Area Performing Arts		External Administrative Costs .....	+14,015
Program .....	-2,227	Transfer from PM/Park Protection and	
Park and Program Operations .....	-8,967	PM/Park Support to Centralize Lease	
Fixed Costs .....	+1,556	Costs .....	+3,359
Park Protection .....	-9,836	Employee Compensation Payments .....	-1,825
Transfer to External Administrative		Unemployment Compensation	
Costs/Space Rental to Centralize		Payments .....	+639
Lease Costs .....	-46	Centralized IT Costs .....	-3,824
New Responsibilities at Existing Park		Telecommunications .....	+93
Areas .....	+821	Postage .....	+1,831
Rising Visitation .....	+1,118	Space Rental .....	+1,520
Recreational Access .....	+1,500	Departmental Program Charges .....	+7,427
Law Enforcement Training .....	+830	Fixed Costs .....	+4,795
Public Health Services .....	+1,300		
Unmanned Aircraft Services .....	+150	Subtotals for Changes Across	
USPP Helicopter Replacement		Multiple Subactivities	
Funding .....	+1,200	New Responsibilities at Existing Park	
Non-Recurring USPP Helicopter		Areas .....	[+3,970]
Replacement Funding .....	-5,000	Rising Visitation .....	[+6,255]
Park and Program Operations .....	-13,226	Recreational Access .....	[+10,000]
Fixed Costs .....	+1,517	Park and Program Operations .....	[-81,758]
		Fixed Costs .....	[+13,753]

**APPROPRIATION: Centennial Challenge**

	2018 Actual	2019 CR	2020 Request	Change
TOTAL APPROPRIATION .....	23,000	23,000	0	-23,000

*Detail of Budget Changes*

	2020 Change from 2019 CR
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	-23,000
Centennial Challenge Projects.....	-23,000

**APPROPRIATION: National Recreation and Preservation**

	2018 Actual	2019 CR	2020 Request	Change
Natural Programs.....	14,170	14,170	11,195	-2,975
Cultural Programs .....	25,062	25,062	19,404	-5,658
Environmental Compliance and Review.....	433	433	389	-44
Grants Administration .....	2,004	2,004	0	-2,004
International Park Affairs .....	1,648	1,648	975	-673
Heritage Partnership Programs				
Commissions and Grants.....	19,339	19,339	0	-19,339
Administrative Support .....	982	982	374	-608
Subtotal, Heritage Partnerships.....	20,321	20,321	374	-19,947
TOTAL APPROPRIATION .....	63,638	63,638	32,337	-31,301

*Detail of Budget Changes*

	2020 Change from 2019 CR		2020 Change from 2019 CR
TOTAL APPROPRIATION .....	-31,301		
Natural Programs.....	-2,975	Grants Administration.....	-32
Transfer from Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance to Federal Lands to Parks.....	-100	Fixed Costs .....	+69
Transfer from RTCA to Federal Lands to Parks .....	+100	Environmental Compliance and Review.....	-44
Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance .....	-920	Environmental Compliance and Review .	-46
National Natural Landmarks .....	-91	Fixed Costs .....	+2
Chesapeake Gateways and Trails .....	-2,020	Grants Administration .....	-2,004
Fixed Costs .....	+56	Transfer all Grants Administration to Cultural Programs Activity.....	-2,015
Cultural Programs .....	-5,658	Fixed Costs .....	+11
Transfer from Grants Administration Activity.....	+2,015	International Park Affairs .....	-673
National Register Programs.....	-1,224	Transfer from Southwest Border Protection Program to Office of International Affairs .....	+676
National Center for Preservation Technology and Training .....	-226	Transfer Southwest Border Protection Program to Office of International Affairs .....	-676
Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Grants.....	-1,657	Office of International Affairs.....	-678
Japanese American Confinement Site Grants .....	-2,905	Fixed Costs .....	+5
American Battlefield Protection Program Assistance Grants .....	-1,198	Heritage Partnership Programs .....	-19,947
American Indian and Native Hawaiian Art and Culture Grants.....	-500	Commissions and Grants .....	-19,339
		Administrative Support .....	-612
		Fixed Costs .....	+4
		Subtotals for Changes Across Multiple Subactivities	
		Fixed Costs .....	[+147]

**APPROPRIATION: Historic Preservation Fund**

	2018 Actual	2019 CR	2020 Request	Change
Grants-In-Aid				
Grants-In-Aid to States and Territories....	48,925	48,925	26,934	-21,991
Grants-In-Aid to Indian Tribes.....	11,485	11,485	5,738	-5,747
Historic Revitalization Grants.....	5,000	5,000	0	-5,000
Grants-in-Aid to Historically				
Black Colleges and Universities .....	5,000	5,000	0	-5,000
Competitive Grants-in-Aid .....	13,500	13,500	0	-13,500
Subtotal, Grants-In-Aid .....	83,910	83,910	32,672	-51,238
Grants-In-Aid - Save America's Treasures ..	13,000	13,000	0	-13,000
TOTAL APPROPRIATION (w/o supplemental)	96,910	96,910	32,672	-64,238
Supplemental .....	50,000	0	0	0
TOTAL APPROPRIATION (w/ supplemental)..	146,910	96,910	32,672	-64,238

***Detail of Budget Changes***

	2020 Change from 2019 CR
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	-64,238
Grants-In-Aid.....	-51,238
Grants-in-Aid to States and Territories ....	-21,991
Grants-in-Aid to Indian Tribes.....	-5,747
Historic Revitalization Grants.....	-5,000
Grants to Historically	
Black Colleges and Universities .....	-5,000
Competitive Grants.....	-13,500
Grants-In-Aid - Save America's Treasures ..	-13,000



**APPROPRIATION: Construction (and Major Maintenance)**

	2018 Actual	2019 CR	2020 Request	Change
Line Item Construction Projects.....	264,511	264,511	160,692	-103,819
Special Programs.....	20,769	20,769	15,667	-5,102
Construction Planning.....	17,061	17,061	17,862	+801
Construction Program				
Management and Operations.....	44,863	44,863	41,863	-3,000
Management Planning .....	12,500	12,500	10,249	-2,251
TOTAL APPROPRIATION (w/o supplemental)	359,704	359,704	246,333	-113,371
Supplemental .....	207,600	0	0	0
TOTAL APPROPRIATION (w/ supplemental)..	567,304	359,704	246,333	-113,371

See Appendix C for proposed 2020 construction projects.

**Detail of Budget Changes**

	2020 Change from 2019 CR		2020 Change from 2019 CR
TOTAL APPROPRIATION .....	-113,371		
Line Item Construction Projects.....	-103,819	Regional Facility Project Support.....	-1,779
Special Programs.....	-5,102	Fixed Costs .....	+178
Equipment Replacement Program.....	-5,105	Management Planning .....	-2,251
Fixed Costs .....	+3	Special Resource Studies .....	-2,295
Construction Planning.....	+801	Fixed Costs .....	+44
Construction Program			
Management and Operations.....	-3,000	Subtotals for Changes Across	
Construction Program Management.....	-104	Multiple Subactivities	
Denver Service Center Operations .....	-284	Fixed Costs .....	[+225]
Harpers Ferry Center Operations .....	-1,011		

**APPROPRIATION: Land Acquisition and State Assistance**

	2018 Actual	2019 CR	2020 Request	Change
Acquisition Management.....	9,679	9,679	8,828	-851
Federal Land Acquisition				
Projects.....	26,400	26,400	0	-26,400
Recreational Access.....	2,000	2,000	1,000	-1,000
Emergencies, Hardships, Relocations .....	3,928	3,928	0	-3,928
Inholdings, Donations and Exchanges.....	4,928	4,928	0	-4,928
American Battlefield Protection				
Program Acquisition Grants.....	10,000	10,000	5,000	-5,000
Subtotal, Federal Land Acquisition .....	47,256	47,256	6,000	-41,256
State Conservation Grants				
State Conservation Grants - Formula .....	100,000	100,000	0	-100,000
State Conservation Grants - Competitive	20,000	20,000	0	-20,000
Subtotal, State Conservation Grants.....	120,000	120,000	0	-120,000
State Conservation Grants Administration..	4,006	4,006	0	-4,006
TOTAL APPROPRIATION (w/o cancellation)...	180,941	180,941	14,828	-166,113
Cancellation of Prior Year BA.....	0	0	-10,000	-10,000
TOTAL APPROPRIATION (w/ cancellation)...	180,941	180,941	4,828	-176,113

***Detail of Budget Changes***

	2020 Change from 2019 CR
TOTAL APPROPRIATION (w/o cancellation)...	-176,113
TOTAL APPROPRIATION (w/ cancellation)...	-166,113
Acquisition Management.....	-851
Acquisition Management Activities .....	-891
Fixed Costs .....	+40
Federal Land Acquisition.....	-41,256
Federal Land Acquisition Projects .....	-26,400
Recreation Access Projects .....	-1,000
Emergencies, Hardships, Relocations .....	-3,928
Inholdings, Donations, and Exchanges....	-4,928
American Battlefield Protection	
Program Acquisition Grants.....	-5,000
State Conservation Grants .....	-120,000
State Conservation Grants - Formula .....	-100,000
State Conservation Grants - Competitive	-20,000
State Conservation Grants Administration..	-4,006
Cancellation of Prior Year BA.....	-10,000