



The National Park Service: Another Good Idea



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What's in a name?

- National Park
- National Monument
- National Preserve
- National Historic Site
- National Recreation Area
- National Battlefield
-and more



National Park System: What Do the Different Park Titles Signify?

Laura B. Comay

May 10, 2011

Congressional Research Service
7-5700
www.crs.gov
R41816

CRS Report for Congress
Prepared for Members and Committees of Congress

National Parks: Native American traces

XXI. OBSIDIAN MINES

OBSIDIAN, a volcanic glass of very diversified characteristics of color and texture, was much utilized by the American aborigines in their arts. It is found in vast deposits in the western half of North America, and in Mexico and Central America.

The workings where it was obtained thus far have received but meager attention. In 1878 the writer made superficial studies of the remarkable deposits of this material in the Yellowstone National Park, especially in Obsidian Canyon, where cliffs of black, rudely columnar glass rise to the height of 100 feet or more (fig. 91).¹ The refuse of aboriginal operations observed at a number of points indicate the manufacture of the usual varieties of chipped implements. It is surmised that the aborigines probably worked the deposits of obsidian at many points in the volcanic area of the Yellowstone and Snake River Valleys.

Image: Handbook of Aboriginal American Antiquities,
Serial Set, April 10, 1916



FIG. 91. Giant columns of impure obsidian, Obsidian Canyon, Yellowstone National Park.

Hot Springs, Arkansas

Report of Superintendent of the Hot Springs Reservation, 1902.



VIEW OF THE HOT SPRINGS OF ARKANSAS, LOOKING SOUTH.
From Owen's report Arkansas Geological Survey, 1860.

- Acquired as part of Louisiana Purchase
- US ownership strengthened by 1818 treaty with the Quapaw Indians
- Designated Hot Springs Reservation 1832

Image: Report of the Superintendent of the Hot Springs Reservation, Serial Set, August 23, 1902

Yellowstone National Park



a. Basaltic Cliffs. b. Falls of the East Gardens. c. Headquarters of Superintendent. d. Mt. Washburn. e. Liberty Cap. f. McCourtney's Buildings. g. Devil's Thumb. h. Hot Spring Terraces. i. Barricade. j. Corral.

R. Thompsons Peak
L. M. Stephens

MAMMOTH HOT SPRINGS, YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK. WY. TER.

J. Blacksmith Shop
res. Reservoir

House Bldg. E. 100. N. 1. Part 3.

1880 12 1882

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
RAY LYMAN WILBON, Secretary
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
HORACE M. ALBRIGHT, Director

EARLY HISTORY OF YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK AND ITS RELATION TO NATIONAL PARK POLICIES

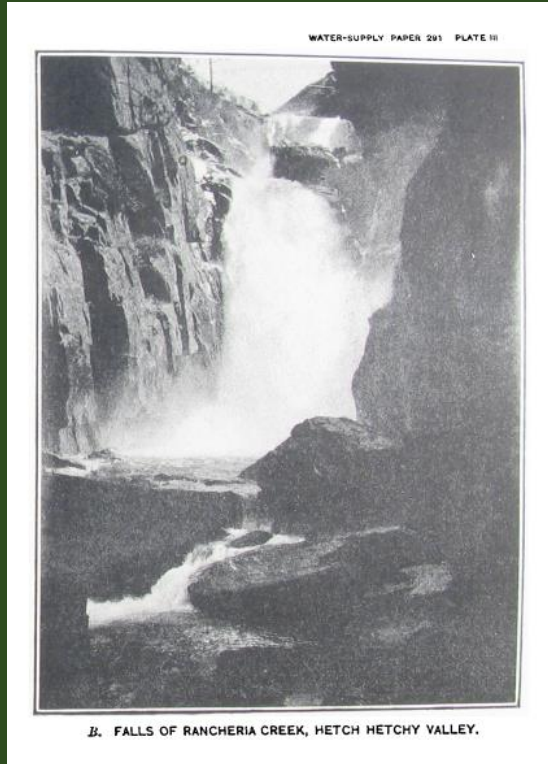
By
LOUIS C. CRAMTON
Special Attorney to the Secretary of the Interior



UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON : 1922

Image: Annual Report of the Superintendent of the Yellowstone National Park, Serial Set, November 30, 1880

Yosemite National Park Hetch Hetchy Valley



- Dam and reservoir flood valley to provide water to San Francisco Bay area
- Conflict between preservation and human resource needs

Image: Water-supply Paper 291; Surface Water Supply of U.S., 1910, pt. 11: Pacific Coast in California, Serial Set, 1912

Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park

54TH CONGRESS, } SENATE. { REPORT
1st Session. } { No. 637.

DEDICATION
OF THE
CHICKAMAUGA AND CHATTANOOGA
NATIONAL MILITARY PARK,

SEPTEMBER 18-20, 1895.

REPORT OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE TO REPRESENT THE CONGRESS
AT THE DEDICATION OF THE CHICKAMAUGA AND CHAT-
TANOOGA NATIONAL MILITARY PARK.

COMPILED BY
H. V. BOYNTON,
FOR THE COMMITTEE.

MAY 12, 1896.—Submitted by Mr. PALMER, from the Joint Committee on the Dedication of the
Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park, and ordered to be printed.

WASHINGTON:
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE.
1896.



LOOKOUT BATTLEFIELD IN 1864.

“The park itself was found to be without precedent, being an impartial reconstruction of great battlefields”

Casa Grande ...one of the largest prehistoric structures ever built in North America

- First prehistoric and cultural reserve
- Designated by President Harrison in 1892
- Declared a National Monument by President Wilson in 1918

Image: Notes of a Military Reconnaissance, from Fort Leavenworth, in Missouri, to San Diego, in California, including part of the Arkansas, Del Norte, and Gila, Serial Set, Feb. 9, 1848



The Secretary of the Interior

June 21, 1892.

Recommends the reservation of certain lands in Arizona for the protection of the Casa Grande ruin.

Executive Mansion

June 22, 1892

Let the lands described

within be reserved for the protection of the Casa Grande ruin as recommended by the Secretary of the Interior.

Amos Harrison

Devils Tower National Monument

1906-PR-658
September 24, 1906.

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

A PROCLAMATION.

Devils Tower National Monument, Wyo. Preamble. Ante, p. 225.

Whereas, It is provided by section two of the Act of Congress, approved June 8, 1906, entitled, "An Act for the preservation of American Antiquities," "That the President of the United States is hereby authorized, in his discretion, to declare by public proclamation historic land marks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest that are situated upon the lands owned or controlled by the Government of the United States to be National Monuments, and may reserve as a part thereof parcels of land, the limits of which in all cases shall be confined to the smallest area compatible with the proper care and management of the object to be protected ;"

And, whereas, the lofty and isolated rock in the State of Wyoming, known as the "Devils Tower," situated upon the public lands owned and controlled by the United States is such an extraordinary example of the effect of erosion in the higher mountains as to be a natural wonder and an object of historic and great scientific interest and it appears that the public good would be promoted by reserving this tower as a National monument with as much land as may be necessary for the proper protection thereof ;

National monument, Wyoming.

Now, therefore, I, THEODORE ROOSEVELT, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the power in me vested by section two of the aforesaid Act of Congress, do hereby set aside as the Devils Tower National Monument, the lofty and isolated rock situated in Crook County, Wyoming, more particularly located and described as follows, to-wit:

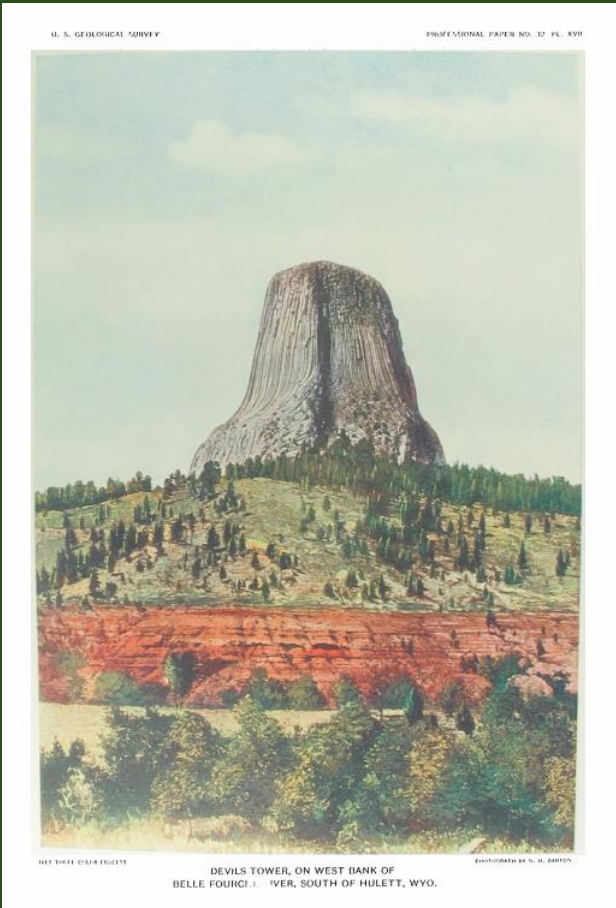


Image: Geological Survey Professional Paper 32; Geology and Underground Water Resources of Central Great Plains, Serial Set. July 21, 1903

Glacier National Park

1910 President Taft signs bill

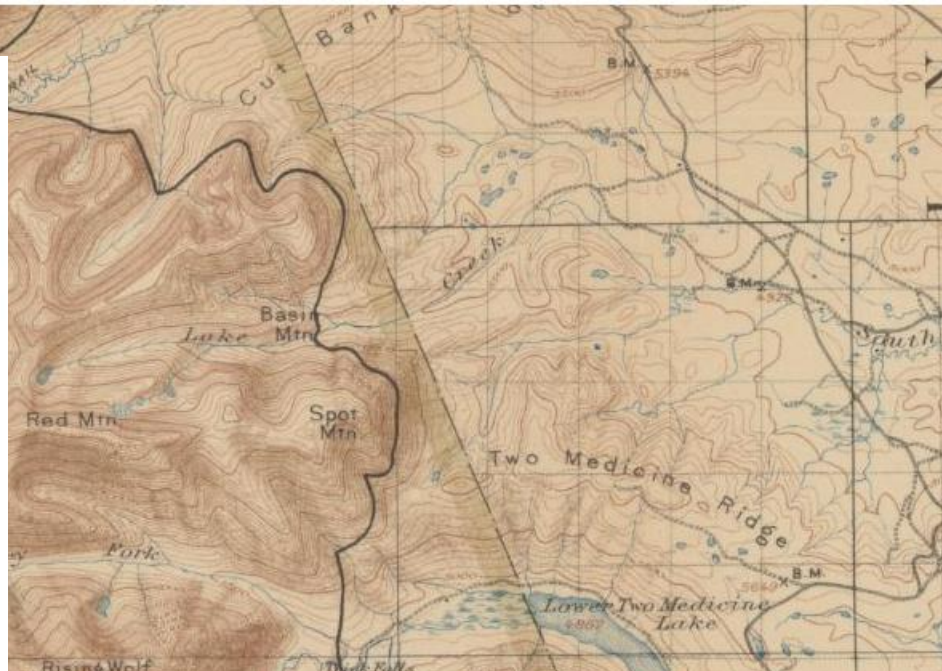
“Another feature that is most interesting to park visitors is the Indian life to be observed along its eastern border.”

Image: Report of the National Park Service, 1917



Photograph by Fred H. Kiser.

GLACIER NATIONAL PARK.



Acadia National Park—oldest National Park east of the Mississippi River



A WORN GRANITE MOUNTAIN SURFACE,
LAFAYETTE NATIONAL PARK, MAINE.

- First park on the ocean
- Created as Sieur de Monts National Monument by Presidential Proclamation 1916
- Renamed Lafayette National Park 1919
- Named Acadia National Park 1929

Image, National Park Service Report,
Serial Set, 1919

National Park Service established 1916

The fundamental purpose of parks, monuments, and reservations is to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife, and to leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.

SIXTY-FOURTH CONGRESS. SESS. I. CH. 408. 1916.

535

CHAP. 408.—An Act To establish a National Park Service, and for other purposes.

August 25, 1916.
[H. R. 15522.]

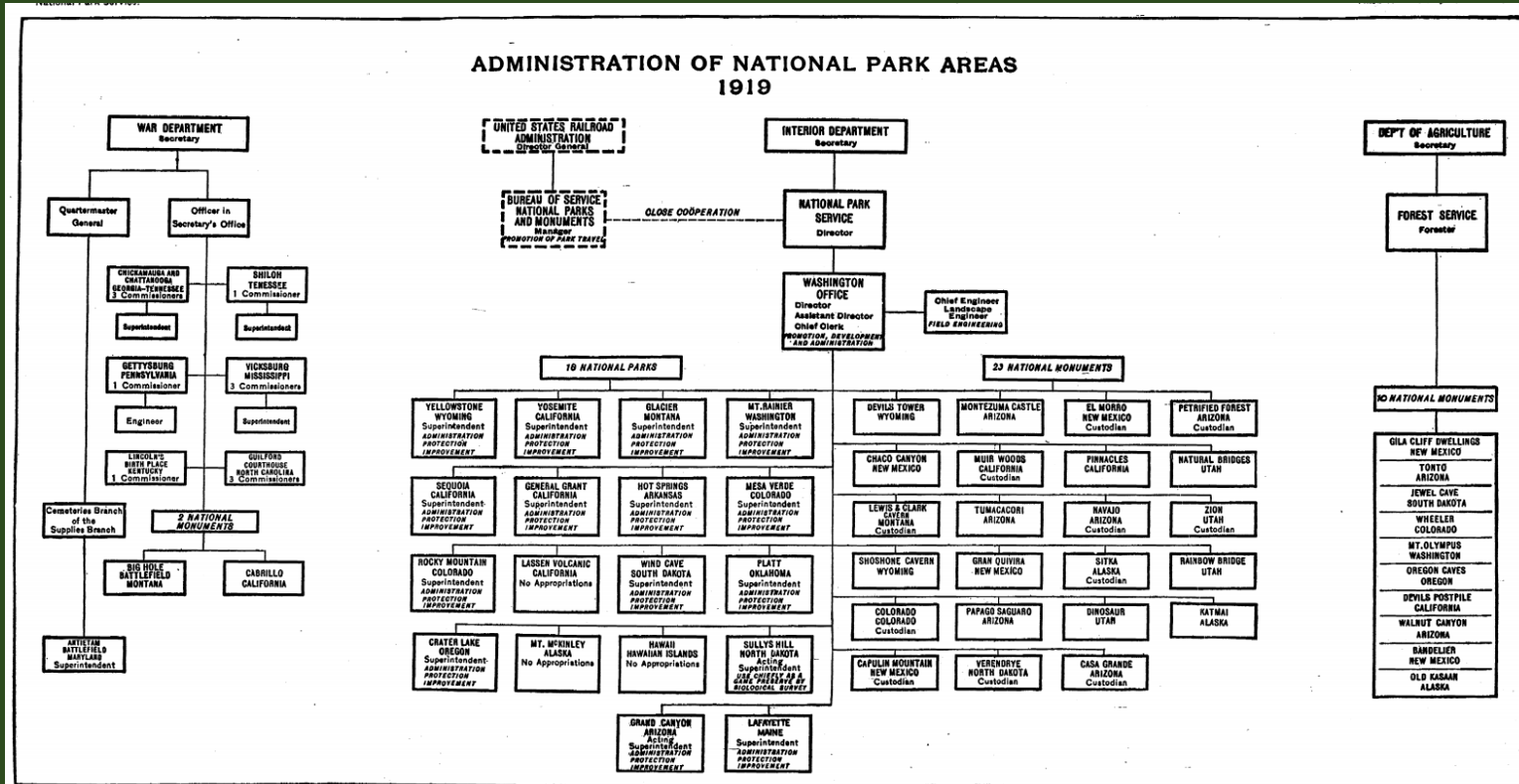
Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there is hereby created in the Department of the Interior a service to be called the National Park Service, which shall be under the charge of a director, who shall be appointed by the Secretary and who shall receive a salary of \$4,500 per annum. There shall also be appointed by the Secretary the following assistants and other employees at the salaries designated: One assistant director, at \$2,500 per annum; one chief clerk, at \$2,000 per annum; one draftsman, at \$1,800 per annum; one messenger, at \$600 per annum; and, in addition thereto, such other employees as the Secretary of the Interior shall deem necessary: *Provided,* That not more than \$8,100 annually shall be expended for salaries of experts, assistants, and employees within the District of Columbia not herein specifically enumerated unless previously authorized by law. 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 purpose 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.

[Public, No. 235.]
National Park Service established.
Director, etc., to be appointed.

Proviso.
Limit for experts,
etc.

Purpose defined.

National Parks and Monuments administration



Motorized transportation



Photograph by J. E. Haynes.

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK.

NEW 10-PASSENGER CARS OF YELLOWSTONE TRANSPORTATION COMPANY
ON THE CHITTENDEN BRIDGE OVER THE YELLOWSTONE RIVER.

Snowmobiles: Environmental Standards and Access to National Parks

Updated September 22, 2008

James E. McCarthy
Specialist in Environmental Policy
Resources, Science, and Industry Division

Historic preservation

Independence National Historical Park



INDEPENDENCE HALL, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

The "Cradle of American Liberty" stands in a small park in the heart of the city—a monument to the intrepid patriots who declared the independence of the American colonies from the yoke of Great Britain. It has been turned into a museum of American antiquities and a shrine for all who love liberty of conscience, freedom of speech, and popular self-government.

94th Congress }
2d Session }

COMMITTEE PRINT

THE NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM TODAY

PREPARED BY THE
ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION
AT THE REQUEST OF
HENRY M. JACKSON, *Chairman*
COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND
INSULAR AFFAIRS
UNITED STATES SENATE



JANUARY 1976

Printed for the use of the
Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

WASHINGTON : 1976

60-127

“Historic preservation can be defined as the protection of cultural resources. Some Members of Congress support proposals to eliminate a Federal government role in financing historic preservation programs. Others feel a Federal role in supporting historic preservation should be maintained.”

*Historic Preservation
Background and Funding,
CRS report, January 22,
2007*

Wilderness preservation

National Park Service,

Third Annual Report Plate XV.



A. IN THE GIANT FOREST.

Image: Report of the Director of the National Park Service, Serial Set, October 15, 1919

PUBLIC LAW 112-128—JUNE 5, 2012

126 STAT. 373

Public Law 112-128
112th Congress

An Act

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to issue commercial use authorizations to commercial stock operators for operations in designated wilderness within the Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, and for other purposes.

June 5, 2012
[H.R. 4849]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Sequoia and King Canyon National Parks Backcountry Access Act”.

Sequoia and King
Canyon National
Parks
Backcountry
Access Act.

SEC. 2. COMMERCIAL SERVICES AUTHORIZATIONS IN WILDERNESS WITHIN THE SEQUOIA AND KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARKS.

(a) CONTINUATION OF AUTHORITY.—Until the date on which the Secretary of the Interior (referred to in this Act as the “Secretary”) completes any analysis and determination required under the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), the Secretary shall continue to issue authorizations to provide commercial services for commercial stock operations (including commercial use authorizations and concession contracts) within any area designated as wilderness in the Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks (referred to in this section as the “Parks”) at use levels determined by the Secretary to be appropriate and subject to any terms and conditions that the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

Analysis.
Determination.

(b) WILDERNESS STEWARDSHIP PLAN.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall complete a wilderness stewardship plan with respect to the Parks.

Deadline.

(c) TERMINATION OF AUTHORITY.—The authority of the Secretary to issue authorizations under subsection (a) shall terminate on the earlier of—

(1) the date on which the Secretary begins to issue authorizations to provide commercial services for commercial stock operations within any areas designated as wilderness in the Parks, as provided in a record of decision issued in accordance with a wilderness stewardship plan completed under subsection (b); or

“Some believe that Federal lands should be open to development. However, many development activities may forever alter the natural state and wilderness characteristics of the land.”

Wilderness Issues in the 102d Congress, CRS Report, April 19, 1991

Seashore and river conservation

PETER A. A. BERLE
PRESIDENT
OF THE
NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

My name is Peter A. A. Berle and I am president of the National Audubon Society. I am here today on behalf of our 575,000 members nationwide, including 3,500 members in Nebraska.

Last summer my wife, daughter and I canoed approximately 25 miles of the Niobrara River, camped along the river on the Egelhoff Ranch, enjoyed the hospitality of 30 to 40 ranch and farm family members from the valley at a barbecue at the Kuhre Ranch Campground, and toured the river valley on downstream to the eastern edge of the 76 mile area being considered for national scenic river designation. I wanted to share with this committee that this is one of the most spectacularly beautiful rivers in the country. I count this river trip among the great recreational experiences of my life.



MIDDLE NIOBRARA NATIONAL RESOURCES DISTRICT

December 21, 1989

The Honorable Kay A. Orr
Office of the Governor
Box 94848
Lincoln, NE 68509-4848

Dear Governor Orr,

As you might have imagined, the recent announcement by Congressman Bereuter to designate portions of the Niobrara River as Wild and Scenic, Recreational, and/or a National Park has stirred up much discussion in our area. As area residents attempt to form opinions on the proposals being considered by Congress, many questions and concerns have arisen regarding the alternatives. Each plan impacts the region differently, and not only effects natural resources, but economics, land use, and even the value of private property. Our agency, as well as others, is very concerned about the impact a 150,000 acre National Park might have on property taxes.

NIOBARRA SCENIC RIVER DESIGNATION ACT OF 1990

HEARINGS
BEFORE THE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
NATIONAL PARKS AND PUBLIC LANDS
OF THE
COMMITTEE ON
INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
ONE HUNDRED FIRST CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION
ON

H.R. 761

NIOBARRA RIVER SCENIC RIVER DESIGNATION ACT OF 1989

H.R. 1673

TO DESIGNATE THE NIOBRARA RIVER IN THE STATE OF NEBRASKA
FOR STUDY AS A POTENTIAL ADDITION TO THE NATIONAL WILD
AND SCENIC RIVERS SYSTEM

H.R. 3823

OMNIBUS NEBRASKA NATIONAL PARK AND RIVER ACT OF 1990

S. 280

NIOBARRA RIVER SCENIC RIVER DESIGNATION ACT OF 1989

HEARINGS HELD

MARCH 16, 1990: AINSWORTH, NE

MARCH 29, 1990: WASHINGTON, DC

Serial No. 101-39

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WASHINGTON : 1991

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FIGURE I. CAPE HATTERAS
NATIONAL SEASHORE
RECREATIONAL AREA

Map: Serial Set, 12733-5 H.doc. 476, map 1

Native American graves protection

BUREAU OF AMERICAN ETHNOLOGY

BULLETIN 129 PLATE 37



1. BURIAL NO. 1; SKULL DESTROYED BY DISTURBANCE. SKULL SHOWN IN POSITION OF BURIAL NO. 2 (PL. 36, FIG. 2). SITE LU-5.

Image: American Ethnology Bureau Bulletin 129, Serial Set, January 5, 1940

NATIVE AMERICAN GRAVES PROTECTION AND REPATRIATIONS ACT

HEARING
BEFORE THE
COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS
UNITED STATES SENATE
ONE HUNDRED SIXTH CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

ON

OVERSIGHT HEARING TO PROVIDE FOR THE PROTECTION OF NATIVE AMERICAN GRAVES

JULY 22, 2000
WASHINGTON, DC

PREPARED STATEMENT OF ARMAND MINTHORN, MEMBER, BOARD OF TRUSTEES, CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF THE UMATILLA INDIAN RESERVATION

Good morning, Mr. Chairman, and members of the committee. I am Armand Minthorn, member of the Board of Trustees and chair of the Cultural Resources Commission of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. Over the past 3 years, I have served on the Review Committee established by the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA). At the April 2000, Review Committee meeting, I was named the Interim Chair of that committee. During my service to the tribe as well as to the Review Committee, I have witnessed firsthand the implementation of NAGPRA. What I have seen over the last 2 years has been disturbing. NAGPRA was passed to protect the human rights of Native American Tribes and individual lineal descendants. However, agency implementation—particularly that of the Department of the Interior—has failed to carryout the intent of NAGPRA making repatriation more difficult.

I would like to discuss four elements of the implementation of NAGPRA: (1) consultation with tribal governments; (2) the precedents established by the National Park Service's implementation of NAGPRA; (3) the Review Committee; and (4) the guiding Trust Responsibility of Federal agencies toward the tribes. For illustration, I will use the case of Thechaminsh Oytpamanatityt, or the "Kennewick man," as he is more commonly referred to. We have been involved in this case since the first days of the release of the carbon dating results in 1996. Since then, we have struggled against the Department of the Interior, the Department of Justice, the Corps of Engineers and the media to have our voices heard and our rights respected. To date, we are not winning this battle.

Differing views on Public Lands protection

SAGEBRUSH REBELLION: IMPACTS ON ENERGY AND MINERALS

OVERSIGHT HEARING
BEFORE THE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON MINES AND MINING
OF THE
COMMITTEE ON
INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
NINETY-SIXTH CONGRESS
SECOND SESSION
ON
SAGEBRUSH REBELLION: IMPACTS ON ENERGY
AND MINERALS

HEARING HELD IN SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH
NOVEMBER 22, 1980

Serial No. 96-39

"Count me in as a rebel"—a quote from now President-elect Ronald Reagan during a July visit to Salt Lake City—represents a responsive chord to many public land users States. I believe the proposals contained in the so-called Sagebrush Rebellion legislation have graduated from an angry, nebulous, impromptu idea into a substantial legislative consideration.

All of the hard workers and perpetual believers will have an opportunity to participate in the Sagebrush Rebellion decisionmaking. Obviously this is not a decision that is self-executing or implementing, but there is a great deal more ammunition today to be fired onto the battlefield on this issue than has ever existed before.

The village of Wawona, a sprawling 640-acre tract of private land inside Yosemite National Park, California, ballooned without any controls on zoning, lot sizes, or planning for water supply and sewage disposal.

Permanent soil damage from strip mining on private land inside the Shenandoah National Park, Virginia, defaces an otherwise breathtaking Appalachian scene.

One private landowner inside Glacier National Park, Montana, chopped down stately pines along the lakeshore to clear space for a mobile hot dog stand.

At latest count, 72 private subdivisions crowd the slopes of the Massanutten Mountain inside the George Washington National Forest in Virginia.

In the Kings Range Conservation Area, California sold on a private strip cing the Pacific Ocean. when the trees were cut

A Citizens' Guide to the Problems Created by Inholdings

Natural Resources Council
of America

Suite 911
1025 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

National Monuments: Establishing authority, size, management



Image: History of Washington Monument, Serial Set, 1903

**ESTABLISHING THE GRAND STAIRCASE-ESCALANTE
NATIONAL MONUMENT**

OVERSIGHT HEARING
BEFORE THE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS AND PUBLIC
LANDS
OF THE
COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
ONE HUNDRED FIFTH CONGRESS
FIRST SESSION
ON
**ESTABLISHMENT OF THE GRAND STAIRCASE-
ESCALANTE NATIONAL MONUMENT BY PRESIDENT
CLINTON ON SEPTEMBER 18, 1996**

APRIL 29, 1997-WASHINGTON, DC

Serial No. 105-20

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WASHINGTON : 1997

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Challenges for the next century

Subcommittee on Federal Lands

Tom McClintock, Chairman

Hearing Memo

July 21, 2015

To: Natural Resources Committee Members
From: Terry Camp, Subcommittee Staff, x 6-7736
Subject: Oversight hearing titled, "*New and Innovative Ideas for the Next Century of Our National Parks*"

The Subcommittee will hold an oversight hearing titled, "*New and Innovative Ideas for the Next Century of Our National Parks*," **on July 23, 2015 at 10:00 AM; 1324 Longworth.**

Policy Overview

- Since the creation of the National Park Service (NPS) in 1916, the National Park System has grown dramatically. NPS is now responsible for the management of all U.S. National Parks, many national monuments, and other conservation and historic properties.
- In total, NPS manages 408 units across the system encompassing more than 84 million acres in every state, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands.¹
- As the mission of NPS expanded and the footprint of the National Park System enlarged, NPS became increasingly unable to fund necessary maintenance projects. NPS currently estimates that its deferred maintenance backlog stands at \$11.5 billion (of which \$5.9 billion represents non-transportation assets).²
- Per capita visitation at National Parks has steadily declined in recent decades.³ Visitation by youth ages 15 and under decreased by 50% in the past decade.⁴ The average age of visitors to Denali National Park is 57 and the average age at Yellowstone is 54.⁵

The condition of infrastructure on federally-managed lands is poor. From forest roads essential to reaching campgrounds, river access points and trailheads which are no longer safe for passenger cars to a national park system, nearing the Centennial of its managing agency, which has a backlog of deferred maintenance of nearly \$12 billion in road, water system, dams and structures and which has virtually no plans to expand its capability to serve a growing population, the picture is bleak.

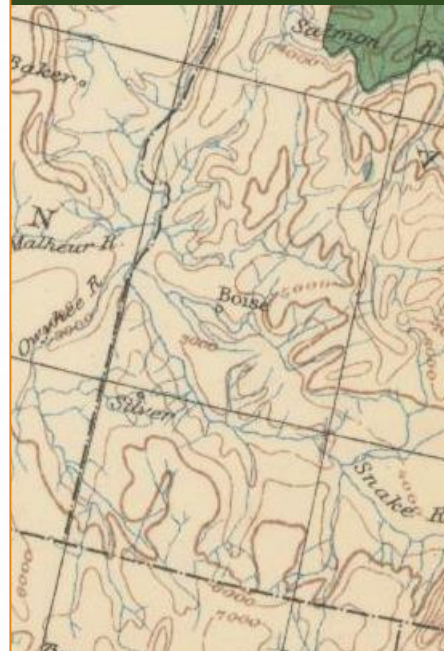
Here in Hot Springs National Park (AR), one of America's first designated National Parks, the NPS has embarked on a process of negotiating long term leases on the original Bathhouses that use the natural spring waters from the Hot Springs to lure literally millions of visitors annually to this attraction. As a result of the leases, NPS is relieved of the maintenance and utility costs of the seven structures, while allowing private business to develop and preserve these structures at no cost to the taxpayer.

National Parks and Public Lands: An American Experience



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Another 1988 issue was the 25-cent stamp featuring the flag flying above the Half-Dome in California's Yosemite National Park.



Questions?



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