



America’s national parks – the wildlife of Yellowstone, the granite peaks of Yosemite, the grandeur of Grand Canyon, the history of Frederick Douglass’ home – are called America’s greatest gift. With summer arriving, the National Park Service is preparing to welcome more than a million visitors a day to our national parks. Visitors love time spent in national parks. **More than 96% of visitors say their experiences at national parks are good to excellent.**

This high level of satisfaction comes on the heels of record levels of funding for the National Park Service. **The National Park Service operating budget this year has more funds per employee, per acre and per visitor than at any time in its history at \$1.8 billion. The National Park Service operating budget is at an all-time high.** Since FY 2000, the number of full-time employees has increased 4%. Funds spent on deferred maintenance are up 60% since FY 2000. Thousands of facility and infrastructure improvements have resulted in better trails, accessible campgrounds, rehabilitated visitor centers and better road conditions.

This investment is essential. National parks experienced long-standing neglect in keeping up with the maintenance of buildings, facilities, and roads. Our parks and the millions of Americans who visit them deserve better. President George W. Bush promised increased funding for parks. That promise is being kept. In FY 2004 alone, \$1 billion was provided, up \$341 million since FY 2000, **a 50% increase.**

NATIONAL PARKS IN ARIZONA

Arizona’s 20 national park units are everything the southwest is supposed to be – canyons, deserts, cacti, mountains and abundant sunshine. These parks attract more than 10,500,000 visitors each year.

Since FY 2002, the Bush Administration has invested more than \$104 million in more than 300 projects to preserve and protect Arizona’s national treasures alone. These projects are completed, underway or being planned. Once FY 2005 funds are allocated, national parks in Arizona could receive an additional \$33 million.

National Park Service (NPS) operates 388 park units covering 84 million acres in 49 states, the District of Columbia, and several territories. NPS has more than 25,000 employees, 118,000 volunteers and 590 concessionaires. NPS also maintains 20,000 buildings, 29,000 miles of roads and trails, and 1,100 campgrounds.

Among these projects are the following:

PARK	# OF PROJECTS	\$ INVESTED
Grand Canyon National Park	91	37,686,737
Saguaro National Park	33	3,581,851
Petrified Forest National Park	29	13,024,024
Glen Canyon National Recreation Area	19	8,576,848
Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument	16	21,099,188
Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Site	11	1,273,959
Walnut Canyon National Monument	13	813,589
Chiricahua National Monument	12	2,483,184
Montezuma Castle National Monument	10	355,190
Navajo National Monument	10	1,155,973
Canyon de Chelly National Monument	9	2,025,996
Pipe Spring National Monument	7	1,580,500
Coronado National Memorial	7	141,688



Wupatki National Monument

The types of projects underway at these parks include:

- Improved trail accessibility for the disabled
- Restored trails
- Stabilized historic structures
- Removal of dangerous asbestos
- Improved drinking water
- Installation of fire sprinkler systems to make historic structures safer
- Improved museum storage to preserve historic artifacts
- Replaced exterior lighting with solar lighting

Specifics examples of projects follow:

Grand Canyon National Park

- Grand Canyon is using Recreation Fee Demonstration Funds to repair or rehabilitate existing restrooms, or construct new restrooms throughout the park. Visitation at the Grand Canyon has increased dramatically since 1984. Most of the existing restrooms are old, over-crowded, or temporary portables added to meet the new demand. Many existing restrooms do not meet accessibility standards. The poor condition or lack of sufficient restrooms is probably the primary visitor complaint for the park. New (to replace portable chemical toilets) or rehabilitated restrooms would greatly improve the visitor's experience and result in labor savings for the park staff. Some portables must be pumped every day during peak visitor seasons to avoid overflowing.
- The park will use Recreation Fee Demonstration funds to renovate the 3,000 square-foot Phantom Ranch Ranger station. Constructed by US Geological Survey in 1961, the building is located within the historic district and adjacent to Phantom Ranch, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Due to its remote location only minimal maintenance has been performed. This project will completely rehabilitate this important backcountry facility.
- Grand Canyon is planning to rehabilitate the North Bass Trail. This trail has moderate to heavy visitor use but has become unstable with areas prone to rock falls. There are erosion problems and resource damage is occurring in various sections. The work on this trail will have a positive affect on the resources and the visiting public by preventing further trail damage and providing a safer trail for hikers.

Casa Grande Ruins National Monument

- Recreation Fee Demonstration funds will be used to stabilize the earthen interior and exterior plaster walls on the Casa Grande. Over the course of the past 20 years several sections of exterior earthen plaster have detached and fallen off of the Casa Grande. Without intervention the 800-year-old plaster will continue to fall off, allowing the inner wall to deteriorate. Any separation opens spaces for infestation by rodents, insects, and birds that causes further damage and loss. This project will treat the area of detachment with compatible earthen-based grouts to greatly reduce the possibility of any further losses.

Saguaro National Park

- Saguaro is going to rehabilitate the Loma Verde Trail. Drains and other erosion control devices along the Loma Verde Trail have deteriorated to a point where they are no longer effective. Erosion from rain runoff and

heavy use has rutted out the tread and caused resource damage. This is particularly true where the trail traverses washes that have soft, unstable banks. Additional damage is being done as hikers and horseback riders forge new routes around heavily eroded sections of the authorized trail route. This project will result in the installation of the drains, checks, and retaining walls necessary to control runoff and stabilize the tread.

Lake Mead National Recreation Area

- Lake Mead received \$3.5 million in Line-Item Construction funding to bring Willow Beach wastewater treatment in to compliance with Arizona State environmental regulations. Estimated completion is September 2005.

Petrified Forest National Park

- The park received \$3 million in funding for the rehabilitation of the historic Painted Desert Inn. The estimated completion date is July 2005.



Pipe Springs National Monument

- Pipe Springs will install a fire detection/intrusion alarm and fire sprinkler system in Windsor Castle, thereby providing increased protection. Windsor Castle is the primary historic structure for which Pipe Spring National Monument was established. In the event of fire, the principal responding department is over one hour away.

Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Site

- Hubbell is replacing an inadequate heating and air conditioning system for museum storage to preserve treasured Indian artifacts.

These are some of the efforts to make a visit to a national park in Arizona an exciting experience.

Private Public Partnerships Improve Arizona's National Parks

Local friends groups of national parks are vital partners in improving national parks. For example, over the last four years, the Grand Canyon Foundation raised \$11 million for Grand Canyon National Park. These funds have been used to:

- Build 73 miles of new rim-side trails on both sides of the Canyon. The trails are wheel chair accessible and when complete, Grand Canyon will have the longest wheel chair accessible trail in the park system.

- Restore historic buildings and structures, such as the Old Community Building, at a cost of \$1.3 million.
- Conserve the historic boats of the Grand Canyon and build a museum to tell the stories of the first Grand Canyon river runners.
- Sponsor internship programs to attract young scientists to pursue careers in the National Park Service.

With matching grants from the local foundation, the Friends of Saguaro National Park funded three major trail rehabilitations in the park. They have replaced all of the picnic tables with tables and benches that require no maintenance, placed benches along the handicap ecology trail, inventoried for flora and fauna, and completed studies on the mountain lions and urban bobcats in the park.

A partnership between Casa Grande Ruins National Monument and several local entities, including the City of Coolidge, Arizona State Museum, University of Arizona, O’Odham communities, Western Archeological and Conservation Center (WACC), and Pinal County led to the resolution of development issues around the Monument and disturbance of sensitive archeological resources at the Grewe Site. As a result of the meeting; WalMart, which is building a store opposite the monument’s east boundary, is donating 17 acres of the Grewe Site to the Archeology Conservancy, and the Conservancy will in turn donate the land to the Monument for inclusion as part of Casa Grande Ruins. In return, the Monument has agreed to xeriscape the 17 acres, and develop an interpretive trail system with signs. The proposed trail will directly tie together two areas of the monument and the early ancestral site dating 400 AD to the Monument’s Great House and other ruins dating from the Classic Period of 1100 AD. The creation of a new pedestrian/bike trail will be essential to interpretation programs and will provide the safe separation of visitors and vehicles.

Another private sector effort to improve Arizona’s great national parks involves the congressionally chartered National Park Foundation, which has raised money for a number of projects in the parks. For example, for Grand Canyon moneys have been raised to:

- Offer educational programs about nature and outdoor photography at the park;
- Donate a professional level digital camera to enhance public outreach, visitor experience, and professional imaging opportunities.

The Foundation also manages both the investment and disbursement of funds for the Coronado National Memorial Endowment Fund, the Grand Canyon National Park Fund, the Luis Sanjurjo Fund, and the Tumacácori Save America’s Treasures Fund.

Arizona's National Parks

Canyon de Chelly National Monument

Chinle

www.nps.gov/cach

At the base of sheer red cliffs and in canyon wall caves are ruins of Indian villages built between 350 and 1300 AD. Canyon de Chelly National Monument, which covers 83,840 acres, offers visitors the chance to learn about Southwestern Indian history from the earliest basketmakers to the Navajo Indians who live and farm here.

Casa Grande Ruins National Monument

Coolidge

www.nps.gov/cagr

For over a thousand years, prehistoric farmers inhabited much of the present-day state of Arizona. When the first Europeans arrived, all that remained of this ancient culture were the ruins of villages, irrigation canals and various artifacts. Among these ruins is the Casa Grande, or "Big House," one of the largest and most mysterious prehistoric structures ever built in North America. Casa Grande Ruins, the nation's first archeological preserve, protects the Casa Grande and other archeological sites within its boundaries.

Chiricahua National Monument

Willcox

www.nps.gov/chir

Twenty-seven million years ago a volcanic eruption of immense proportions shook the land around Chiricahua National Monument. One thousand times greater than the 1980 eruption of Mount St. Helens, the Turkey Creek Caldera eruption eventually laid down two-thousand feet of highly silicious ash and pumice. This mixture fused into a rock called rhyolitic tuff and eventually eroded into the spires and unusual rock formations of today.

The 12,000 acre monument is a mecca for hikers and birders. At the intersection of the Chihuahuan and Sonoran deserts, and the southern Rocky Mountains and northern Sierra Madre in Mexico, Chiricahua plants and animals represent one of the premier areas for biological diversity in the northern hemisphere. Of historic interest is the Faraway Ranch, a pioneer homestead and later a working cattle and guest ranch. It is a significant example of human transformation of the western frontier from wilderness to the present settlement.

Coronado National Memorial

Hereford

www.nps.gov/coro

Francisco Vasquez de Coronado's 1540-42 expedition entered what is now the United States in the valley east of Coronado National Memorial. This National Park Service memorial commemorates the Spanish Entrada, interprets the significance of historical events, and interprets the natural environment in this area where the Sonoran and Chihuahuan deserts meet.

The site was first designated "Coronado International Memorial" in 1941 in the hope that a comparable adjoining area would be established in Mexico. Despite interest by the government of Mexico, the Mexican memorial was never created; therefore, Coronado National Memorial was established by Harry S. Truman in 1952.

Fort Bowie National Historic Site

Willcox

www.nps.gov/fobo

Fort Bowie commemorates in its 1000 acres, the story of the bitter conflict between the Chiricahua Apaches and the United States military. For more than 30 years Fort Bowie and Apache Pass were the focal point of military operations eventually culminating in the surrender of Geronimo in 1886 and the banishment of the Chiricahuas to Florida and Alabama. It was the site of the Bascom Affair, a wagon train massacre, and the battle of Apache Pass, where a large force of Chiricahua Apaches under Mangus Colorados and Cochise fought the California Volunteers. The remains of Fort Bowie today are carefully preserved, including the adobe walls of various post buildings and the ruins of a Butterfield Stage Station.

Glen Canyon National Recreation Area

Page

www.nps.gov/glca

Glen Canyon National Recreation Area offers unparalleled opportunities for water-based & backcountry recreation. The recreation area stretches for hundreds of miles from Lees Ferry in Arizona to the Orange Cliffs of southern Utah, encompassing scenic vistas, geologic wonders, and a panorama of human history. Additionally, the controversy surrounding the construction of Glen Canyon Dam and the creation of Lake Powell contributed to the birth of the modern-day environmental movement. The park offers opportunities for boating, fishing, swimming, backcountry hiking, and four-wheel drive trips.

Grand Canyon National Park

Grand Canyon

www.nps.gov/grca

Located entirely in northern Arizona, the park encompasses 277 miles of the Colorado River and adjacent uplands. One of the most spectacular examples of erosion anywhere in the world, Grand Canyon is unmatched in the incomparable vistas it offers to visitors on the rim. Grand Canyon National Park is a World Heritage Site.

Hohokam Pima National Monument

Coolidge

www.nps.gov/pima

Preserved here are the archeological remains of the Hohokam culture. Hohokam is a Pima Indian word meaning “those who have gone.” This site is not open to the public.

Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Site

Ganado

www.nps.gov/hutr

Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Site is the oldest continuously operating trading post on the Navajo Nation. John Lorenzo Hubbell purchased this trading post in 1878, 10 years after Navajos were allowed to return to their homeland from their terrible exile at Bosque Redondo, Ft. Sumner, NM. During the 4 years spent at Bosque Redondo, Navajos were introduced to many new items. Traders like Hubbell supplied those items once they returned home. Hubbell family members operated this trading post until it was sold to the National Park Service in 1967. The trading post is still active and operated by the non-profit organization, Western National Parks Association, which maintains the trading traditions the Hubbell family established.

Lake Mead National Recreation Area

www.nps.gov/lame

Lake Mead National Recreation Area offers a wealth of things to do and places to go year-round. Its huge lakes cater to boaters, swimmers, sunbathers, and fishermen while its desert rewards hikers, wildlife photographers, and roadside sightseers. Three of America’s four desert ecosystems – the Mojave, the Great Basin, and the Sonoran Deserts – meet in Lake Mead NRA. As a result, this seemingly barren area contains a surprising variety of plants and animals, some of which may be found nowhere else in the world.

Montezuma Castle National Monument

Camp Verde

www.nps.gov/moca

Nestled into a limestone recess high above the flood plain of Beaver Creek in the Verde Valley stands one of the best preserved cliff dwellings in North America. The five-story, 20-room cliff dwelling served as a “high-rise apartment building” for prehistoric Sinagua Indians over 600 years ago. Early settlers to the area assumed that the imposing structure was associated with the Aztec emperor Montezuma, but the castle was abandoned almost a century before Montezuma was born. With heightened concern over vandalism of fragile southwestern prehistoric sites, Montezuma Castle became a major factor in the nation’s historic preservation movement with its proclamation as a national monument. The Castle was described in the December 1906 establishment proclamation as “of the greatest ethnological and scientific interest.”

Navajo National Monument

Black Mesa

www.nps.gov/nava

Navajo National Monument preserves three of the most-intact cliff dwellings of the ancestral Puebloan people (Hisatsinom). The Navajo people who live here today call these ancient ones “Anasazi.” The monument is high on the Shonto Plateau, overlooking the Tsegi Canyon system in the Navajo Nation in northern Arizona. The monument features a visitor center, two short self-guided mesa top trails, two small campgrounds, and picnic area. In the summer, rangers guide visitors on tours of the Keet Seel and Betatakin cliff dwellings.

Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument

Ajo

www.nps.gov/orpi

Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument celebrates the life and landscape of the Sonoran Desert. Here, in this desert wilderness of plants and animals and dramatic mountains and plains scenery, you can drive a lonely road, hike a backcountry trail, camp beneath a clear desert sky, or just soak in the warmth and beauty of the southwest. The Monument exhibits an extraordinary collection of plants of the Sonoran Desert, including the organ pipe cactus, a large cactus rarely found in the United States. There are also many creatures that have been able to adapt themselves to extreme temperatures, intense sunlight, and little rainfall.

Petrified Forest National Park

www.nps.gov/pefo

Petrified Forest is a surprising land of scenic wonders and fascinating science. The park is located in northeast Arizona and features one of the world’s largest

and most colorful concentrations of petrified wood. Also included in the park's 93,533 acres are the multi-hued badlands of the Chinle Formation (known as the Painted Desert), historic structures, archeological sites, and displays of 225 million-year-old fossils.

Pipe Spring National Monument

Fredonia

www.nps.gov/pisp

Pipe Spring National Monument is rich with American Indian, early explorer, and Mormon pioneer history. The water of Pipe Spring has made it possible for plants, animals, and people to live in this dry, desert region. Ancestral Puebloans and Kaibab Paiute Indians gathered grass seeds, hunted animals, and raised crops near the springs for at least 1,000 years. In the 1860s Mormon pioneers brought cattle to the area, and by 1872 a fort (Windsor Castle) was built over the main spring and a large cattle ranching operation was established. This isolated outpost served as a way station for people traveling across the Arizona Strip, which is separated from the rest of the state by the Grand Canyon, and also served as a refuge for polygamist wives during the 1880s and 1890s. Although their way of life was greatly impacted, the Paiute Indians continued to live in the area and by 1907 the Kaibab Paiute Indian Reservation was established, surrounding the privately owned Pipe Spring ranch.

In 1923 the Pipe Spring ranch was purchased and set aside as a national monument. Today the Pipe Spring National Monument - Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians Visitor Center and Museum explains the human history of the area over time. Daily tours of Windsor Castle, summer "living history" demonstrations, an orchard and garden, and a half-mile trail offer a glimpse of life in the Old West.

Saguaro National Park

Tucson

www.nps.gov/sagu

The unique Sonoran Desert is home to the most recognizable cactus in the world, the majestic saguaro. Visitors of all ages are fascinated and enchanted by these desert giants, especially their many interesting and complex interrelationships with other desert life. Saguaro cacti provide their sweet fruits to hungry desert animals. They also provide homes to a variety of birds, such as the Harris' hawk, Gila woodpecker, and the tiny elf owl. With an average life span of 150 years, a mature saguaro may grow to a height of 50 feet and weigh over 10 tons. With over 150 miles of hiking trails, ranging from flat and easy strolls in the Sonoran Desert to steep and rugged hikes into the Rincon Mountains, visitors of every ability have a place to get out of the car and explore.

Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument

Flagstaff

www.nps.gov/sucr

Ancient Sinagua Indians undoubtedly witnessed the eruption of Sunset Crater Volcano in 1065 AD that blanketed the region with black cinder. Today, the volcano's rim of red cinders and the lava flows near the cone seem to have cooled and hardened to a jagged surface only yesterday. Squeeze-ups and hornitos are just two of the fascinating volcanic features to encounter while exploring the park. At Sunset Crater Volcano one can see a cinder cone rising 1,000 feet above the surrounding landscape.

Tonto National Monument

Roosevelt

www.nps.gov/tont

Well-preserved cliff dwellings were occupied by the Salado culture during the 13th, 14th, and early 15th centuries. The people farmed in the Salt River Valley and supplemented their diet by hunting and gathering native wildlife and plants. The Salado were fine craftsmen, producing some of the most exquisite polychrome pottery and intricately woven textiles to be found in the southwest. Many of these objects are on display in the visitor center museum.

The monument is located in the Upper Sonoran ecosystem, known primarily for its characteristic saguaro cactus. Other common plants include: cholla, prickly pear, hedgehog, and barrel cactus (blooming April through June); yucca, sotol, and agave; creosote bush and ocotillo; palo verde and mesquite trees; an amazing variety of colorful wild flowers (February through March); and a lush riparian area that supports large Arizona black walnut, sycamore, and hackberry trees.

Tumacacori National Historical Park

Tumacacori

www.nps.gov/tuma

Tumacacori National Historical Park in the upper Santa Cruz River Valley of southern Arizona is comprised of the abandoned ruins of three ancient Spanish colonial missions. The Park is located on 45 acres in three separate units. San José de Tumacacori and Los Santos Ángeles de Guevavi, established in 1691, are the two oldest missions in Arizona. The third unit, San Cayetano de Calabazas, was established in 1756. Visitation to the Guevavi and Calabazas units is available only by reservation during monthly tours guided by the park staff. All visitor services and park operations are based out of the Tumacacori unit.

Tuzigoot National Monument

Clarkdale

www.nps.gov/tuzi

Tuzigoot is an ancient village or pueblo built by a culture known as the Sinagua. The pueblo consisted of 110 rooms including second and third story structures. The first buildings were built around 1000 AD. The Sinagua were agriculturalists with trade connections that spanned hundreds of miles. The people left the area around 1400. The site is currently comprised of 42 acres.

Walnut Canyon National Monument

Flagstaff

www.nps.gov/waca

In the late 1100s, following the eruption of nearby Sunset Crater Volcano, many people moved into Walnut Canyon, where they built the cliff dwellings that line the canyon walls today. There was water at times in Walnut Creek, and the canyon held a rich assortment of plants and animals that could be harvested. The Walnut Canyon community thrived here for about 150 years, growing crops in small plots above the rim, raising children, making stone tools and implements, and following the ancient ceremonial cycles that had been passed down for generations. Then they moved on. By the early 1300s, the canyon ledges were quiet.

The Walnut Canyon cliff dwellings are unique, the only known such remains of the northern Sinagua culture. Constructed in rock alcoves within the canyon, they protected their occupants from the elements. Almost 700 years later, their walls and the artifacts within are still remarkably well preserved. We can learn much from these dwellings and from the many masonry pueblos, rock shelters, campsites, agricultural fields, and objects still in place at Walnut Canyon National Monument.

Wupatki National Monument

Flagstaff

www.nps.gov/wupa

Wupatki is the only known location in the southwest where physical evidence from at least three archeologically separate ancestral Puebloan cultures is found together in a number of archeological sites. Less than 800 years ago, the Wupatki Pueblo was the tallest, largest, and perhaps the richest and most influential pueblo around. People gathered here during the 1100s, gradually building this 100-room pueblo with a community room and ballcourt. By 1182, perhaps 85 to 100 people lived at Wupatki Pueblo, the largest building for at least 50 miles. Within a day's walk, a population of several thousand surrounded Wupatki.

As the new agricultural community spread, small, scattered homes were replaced by a few large pueblos, each surrounded by many smaller pueblos and pithouses. Wupatki, Wukoki, Lomaki, and other masonry pueblos emerged from bedrock. Trade networks expanded, bringing exotic items like turquoise, shell jewelry, copper bells, and parrots. Wupatki flourished as a meeting place of different cultures. Then, by about 1250, the people moved on.