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## Hawai'i Volcanoes News Release

September 20, 2009

### Hawai'i Volcanoes Premieres *THE NATIONAL PARKS: AMERICA'S BEST IDEA*

Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park will premiere *THE NATIONAL PARKS: AMERICA'S BEST IDEA* on Sunday, September 27<sup>th</sup> through Friday October 2<sup>nd</sup> from 6:00 to 8:00 pm in the Kilauea Visitor Center auditorium.

"The public screening of this magnificent film offers everyone an opportunity to watch the inspiring story of America's national parks unfold," said Park Superintendent Cindy Orlando. "We're bringing it to the big screen and invite visitors and our island community to join us."

Directed by Ken Burns and nearly a decade in the making, the 12-hour six-episode series was filmed at some of nature's most spectacular locales—from Hawai'i Volcanoes to Acadia, Yellowstone to the Grand Canyon, Everglades to the Gates of the Arctic.

*THE NATIONAL PARKS: AMERICA'S BEST IDEA* is "the story of an idea as uniquely American as the Declaration of Independence and just as radical: that the most special places in the nation should be preserved for everyone."



"Ah, feel the steam." Like his father and grandfather before him, Park Ranger Jason Zimmer works to protect the park and share its wonders with others. Established in 1916, Hawai'i Volcanoes is the 15<sup>th</sup> national park in a system that now numbers 391 units.

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#### EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.



Through archival photos, first-person accounts, personal memories and stunning cinematography, it tells the story of the national parks as "the story of people: people from every conceivable background – rich and poor; famous and unknown; soldiers and scientists; natives and newcomers; idealists, artists, and entrepreneurs. People who were willing to devote themselves to saving some precious portion of the land they loved, and in doing so reminded their fellow citizens of the full meaning of democracy. It is a story full of struggle and conflict; high ideals and crass opportunism; stirring adventure and enduring inspiration – set against the most breathtaking backdrops imaginable."

Set to also air nationally on PBS beginning Sunday, September 27, 2009, *THE NATIONAL PARKS: AMERICA'S BEST IDEA* chronicles the birth of the national park idea in the mid-1800s and follows its evolution for nearly 150 years:

- Sunday, September 27                      Episode 1: The Scripture of Nature (1851-1890)
- Monday, September 28                    Episode 2: The Last Refuge (1890-1915)
- Tuesday, September 29                   Episode 3: The Empire of Grandeur (1915-1919)
- Wednesday, September 30                Episode 4: Going Home (1920-1933)
- Thursday, October                          Episode 5: Great Nature (1933-1945)
- Friday, October 2                            Episode 6: The Morning of Creation (1946-1980)

For more information, visit <http://www.pbs.org/nationalparks/>