

THE
FUTURE
OF
AMERICA'S
NATIONAL
PARKS

First Annual
Centennial Strategy for

Pinnacles National Monument

August 2007

CENTENNIAL INITIATIVE



Site: PINN

Year: 2007

Vision Statement

In January 2008, Pinnacles National Monument celebrates its 100th anniversary. Planned is year-long celebrations to honor those who have played a part in the creation and stewardship of the Monument that contain the volcanic Pinnacle Rocks formation, talus caves, and associated lands and ecosystems that are of scientific and educational value. Pinnacles is also in the midst of updating its General Management Plan scheduled to be completed in 2009.

All of these events occurring at Pinnacles coincide with the President's Centennial Initiative to provide significant resources to restore and better protect the parks' natural, cultural, and historic resources by the National Park Services 100th anniversary in 2016. As part of this Initiative, Pinnacles has developed a strategic plan along with all other NPS sites to reconnect all Americans with their national parks, increase the capacity of the system, and develop the next generation of National Park Service leaders.

Pinnacles Centennial implementation strategies includes goals to improve the condition of park facilities, relocate facilities away from sensitive habitats, improve natural resources, expands its use of and conversion to alternative energies, improve and expand the understanding and appreciation of park resources and NPS values, engage local communities in park stewardship, and nurture and expand collaborative partnerships to achieve these goals.

Park/ Superintendent/ Program Manager

Eric Brunemann, Superintendent

Site: PINN

STEWARDSHIP

Provide inspiring, safe, and accessible places for people to enjoy - the standard to which all other park systems aspire.

Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Increase the number of trails accessible to mobility impaired visitors.
Provide park information in brail, multiple languages (Japanese, Chinese, French, German, Korean, and Spanish), and multiple points of view.
Rehabilitate infrastructure in recently acquired campground to provide safe drinking water and safe and accessible camp sites.

The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: PINN

STEWARDSHIP

Improve the condition of park resources and assets.

Rehabilitate high-priority historic buildings to good condition, and help communities to preserve their history through programs like Preserve America.

Rehabilitate the condition of the historic fire lookout tower and stabilize historic landscapes and structures located on lands recently acquired. Accomplish projects in cooperation with State and local agencies as well as historical societies and private partners.

The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Restore native habitats by controlling invasive species and reintroducing key plant and animal species.

Expand efforts to eliminate feral pigs from sensitive riparian ecosystems. Work with partners and neighbors to effectively manage exotic weeds (horehound, puncture vine, mustard, star thistle, tamarisk, tree tobacco). Work with local tribal communities to further the protection and reintroduction of native plant species (deer grass, sedge).

The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Improve high-priority assets to acceptable condition, as measured by the Facility Condition Index.

Improve the condition of the campground infrastructure to meet state and federal standards as well as NPS standards of operation. The 154 site campground constructed in 1976, was acquired by the NPS in 2006. Projects will improve condition of assets and improve visitor experience.

The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Improve the natural resources in parks, as measured by the vital signs developed under the Natural Resource Challenge.

Continue to work with volunteers, organizations, and agencies in monitoring the vital signs of Pinnacles which include cliff nesting raptor, California condors, water and air quality, and California Red-legged frogs.

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Site: PINN

STEWARDSHIP

Improve the condition of park resources and assets.

Complete all cultural resource inventories for designated priority resources.

Conduct a thorough inventory and assessment of new park lands acquired in 2006 for cultural resources. Work with historic preservation agencies and organization to assist with development of protection strategies.

The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Relocate visitor and administrative facilities in West District (Chaparral) away from riparian and flood prone areas. This will improve the natural stream processes, riparian habitat, water quality as well as visitor experience.

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Site: PINN

STEWARDSHIP

Assure that no compelling chapter in the American heritage experience remains untold and that strategically important landscapes are acquired, as authorized by Congress.

Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Expand knowledge and interpretive and educational activities on newly acquired lands. Lands acquired in 2006 contain structures and remnants of archeological sites and historic homestead.

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Site: PINN

STEWARDSHIP

Encourage children to be future conservationists.

Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Continue the development and expansion of a science camp for schools and youth organizations to utilize and develop understanding, appreciation, and desire to conserve the natural and cultural resources that Pinnacles National Monument and other National Park Sites preserve and protect.

The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: PINN

ENVIRONMENT

Reduce environmental impacts of park operations.

Reduce the environmental impacts of park operations on air and water quality.

Continue providing park shuttle service to visitors to reduce the number of vehicles idling and circulating in park while waiting for parking during peak visitation periods. Work cooperatively with local agencies (Monterey Bay Area Water Quality and Air Quality board). Continue monitoring of Class I air shed and stream water quality.

The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: PINN

ENVIRONMENT

Engage partners, communities, and visitors in shared environmental stewardship.

Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Expand outreach activities beyond park boundary to local underserved, diverse communities to increase public awareness and support of park resources, critical issues management and the National Park Service mission.

Continue broadening engagement with local agencies, schools, and non-profit organizations in sharing environmental stewardship of Pinnacles such as Pinnacles Partners, California Native Plant Society, Mutson Tribe, San Benito County, historical society, etc. Continue development of curriculum based education programs and implement science camp opportunities to schools and youth organizations such as YMCA, Boys and Girls Club, and 4-H clubs.

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Site: PINN

RECREATION

Expand partnerships with schools and boys and girls associations to show how national park experiences can improve children's lives.

Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Continue development of curriculum based education programs and implement science camp opportunities to schools and youth organizations such as YMCA, Boys and Girls Club, and 4-H clubs. These programs and activities will build upon life long learning opportunities and provide skills and experiences for the youth to positively effect change in their communities.

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Site: PINN

RECREATION

Focus national, regional, and local tourism efforts to reach diverse audiences and young people and to attract visitors to lesser-known parks.

Increase the number of visitors that attend ranger-facilitated programs such as campfire talks, hikes, and school programs.

Increase the number of formal interpretive programs by expanding hikes on newly acquired park lands. Improving the conditions of the recently acquired campground amphitheater will enable rangers to provide interpretive programs to a larger audience. Implement additional evaluation strategies of interpretive programs to assure they meet NPS standards and visitor expectations

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Site: PINN

EDUCATION

Cooperate with educators to provide curriculum materials, high-quality programs, and park-based and online learning.

Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Develop educational curriculum, teacher workshops, staff programs, and the park's science camp with a goal of increasing awareness about National Parks among minority youth and community members. This will be achieved in partnership with Hartnell Community College, and teachers within San Benito County involved with the SMART Grant program (Science & Math Academy for Rural Teachers), and Monterey County Office of Education.

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Site: PINN

EDUCATION

Introduce young people and their families to national parks by using exciting media and technology.

Increase the number of web hits through the introduction of advanced, interactive features that attract young people to national parks.

Expand Junior Ranger program to include web-based participation. Develop podcasts and e-hikes to engage visitors and potential visitors and their families in the protection and preservation, education of the importance of conserving National Park Lands.

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Site: PINN

EDUCATION

Promote life-long learning to connect generations through park experiences.

Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Provide the foundation for a self sustaining curriculum-based educational science camp. Create a partnership with the local Native American Tribe who will provide Tribal demonstrations.

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Site: PINN

PROFESSIONALISM

Promote a safety and health culture for all employees and visitors.

Reduce the number of employee lost-time incidents and serious visitor injuries by 20 percent.

Continue providing training and development of park staff to maintain the knowledge and expertise to safely perform their duties provide safe environments for visitors and respond to emergency search and rescue events.

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