

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Commercial Services Program



Commercial Services Sustainability

Concessions Management Advisory Board
March 2010

Sustainability Mandates



The Service shall provide for enjoyment of parks in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations

— NPS Organic Act

Concession operations will be consistent with the protection of park resources and values and demonstrate sound environmental management and stewardship

— NPS Management Policies



Sustainability Mechanisms

- Prospectus and offeror responses
- Operating and maintenance plans
- Contract
- Concessioner initiative
- Industry competition



Prospectus



- Sustainability is built into prospectus questions
- Selection factors provide the opportunity to focus on park-specific resource conservation issues and interests
- Process has driven innovation and sustainability through competition



Operating and Maintenance (O&M) Plans

- Incorporate environmental elements of best offers
- Further identify environmental practices that are industry accepted and/or programmatically desired by NPS
- Further identify park-specific sustainability requirements

Concessioner Facility Improvement Plans



Construction Standards





Operating Plans

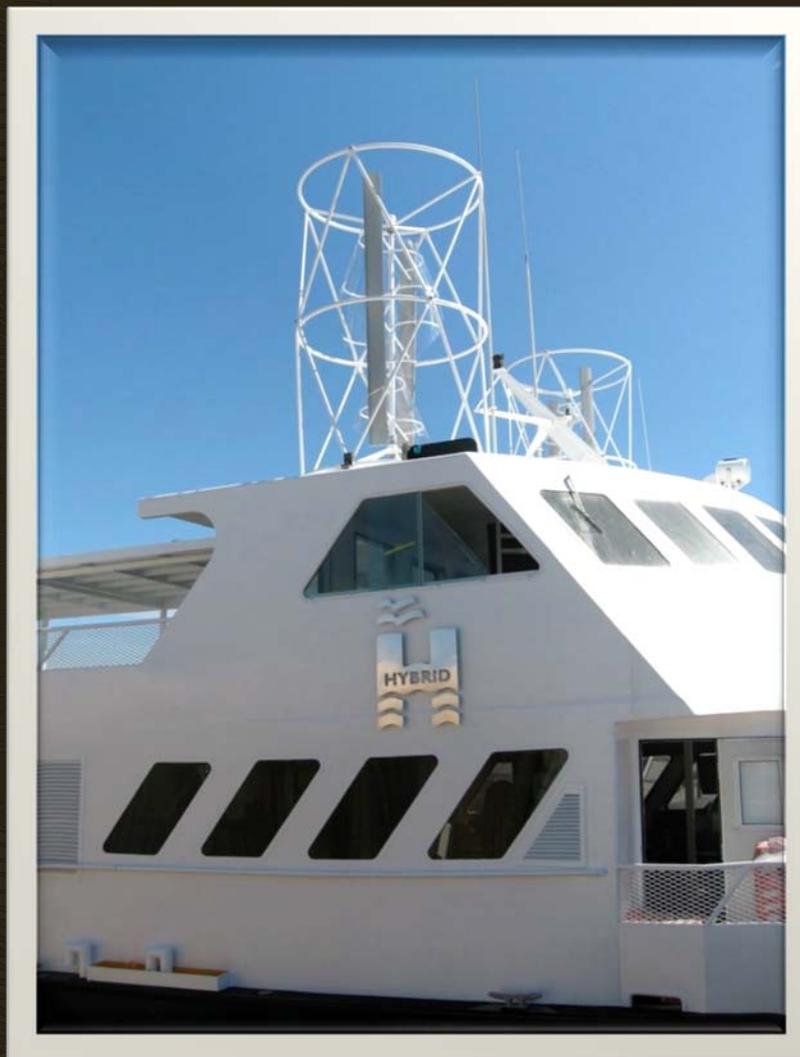




Maintenance Plans



Contract Provisions





Food and Beverage Offerings



Proposal Selection Factors





Park-Specific Interests



Retail Purchasing Decisions



Resource Management Planning



Operational Best Practices





Visitor Education Programs





Standard Operating Procedures



Agency Standards



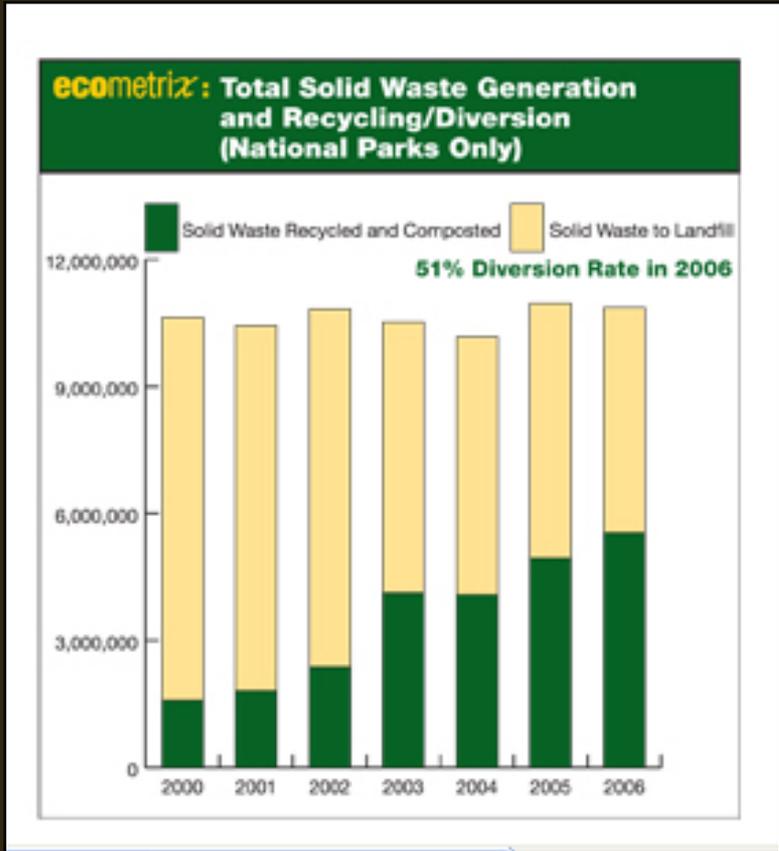
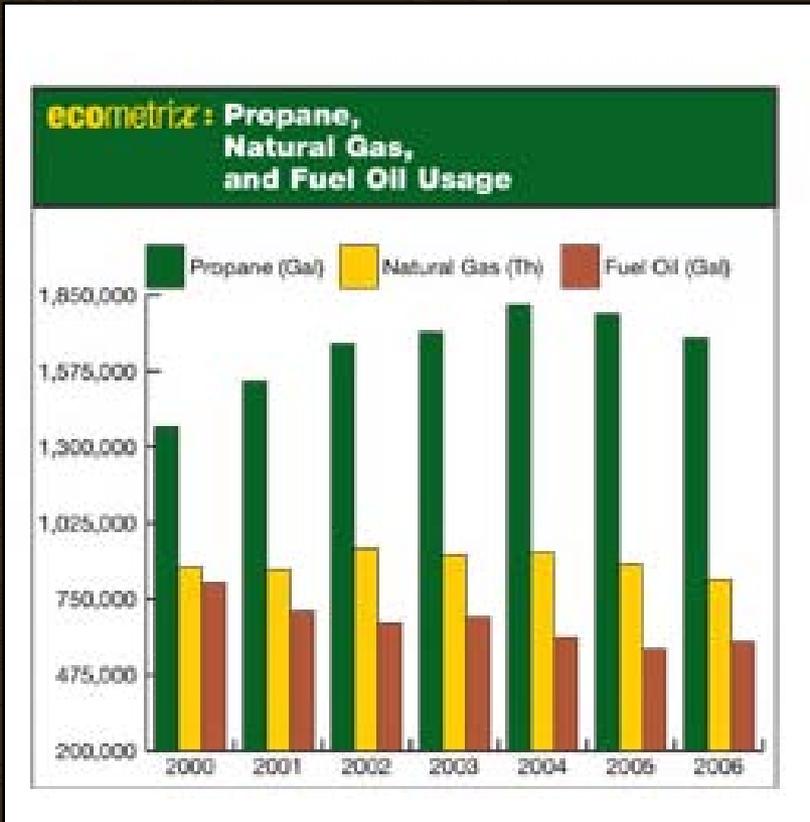


The Contract



- Section 6 of Category I and II Contracts establishes business system requirements for sustainable practices
 - Environmental management objectives for environmental compliance and best management practices (BMPs)
 - Environmental management systems with goals and targets
 - Environmental reporting and other requirements

Environmental Management Systems





What Not To Do





Concessioner Initiatives

- Concessioners are self-directing innovations:
 - To be more competitive
 - Because there are cost savings (e.g., energy conservation, waste reduction)
 - Because they aspire to be environmental leaders

Concessioner Initiatives



Concessioner Initiatives





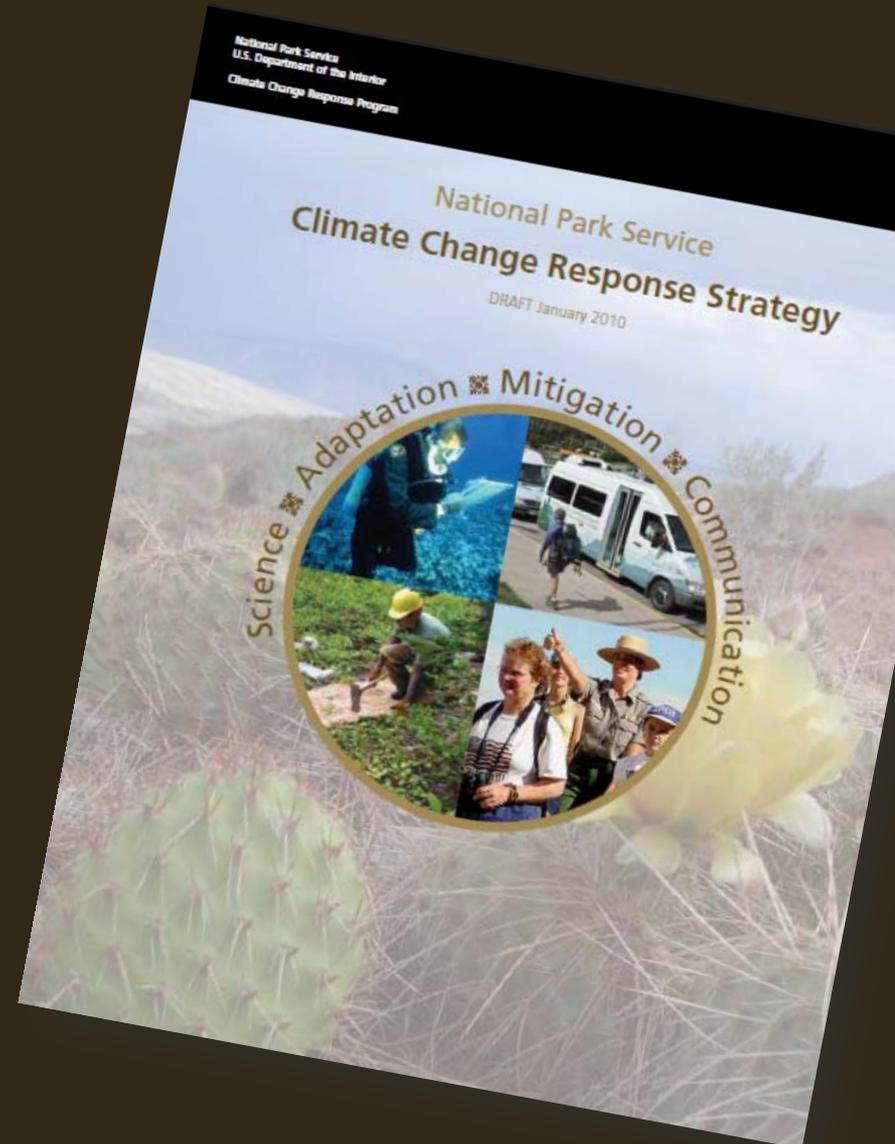
Concessioner Initiatives



Issues and Actions



- Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) is primarily a facility standard – can have leasehold surrender interest implications
- Unit-cost based models are important for financial analysis
- NPS greenhouse gas reduction and sustainability initiatives may further push environmental requirements





Conclusions

- Commercial Services has various mechanisms in place to institutionalize environmental sustainability
- Opportunities have been taken in facilities and operations
- Concessioners have strongly responded in all service areas
- Technical and economic considerations exist
- Concessioners are becoming industry leaders in ecotourism

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