June 17, 2022

A7221 (2550)

Kevin Bogardus
E&E News
122 C. Street NW, Suite 722
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Mr. Bogardus:

Reference: NPS-2019-00428

Subject: Response to Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request

This letter is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated January 23, 2019, in which you requested:

...copies of all emails containing one or more of the following terms – “shutdown,” “lapse in appropriations,” “lapse of appropriations,” “Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act,” “FLREA,” “garbage,” “poo,” “poop,” “shit,” “trash,” “vandal” and “vandalism” – resulting from an electronic automated search of the email accounts associated with the following individuals at the National Park Service from Dec. 21, 2018 to the date that this request is processed:

Dan Smith
Rick Obernesser
Lena McDowall
Chris Powell
Shane Compton
April Slayton
Jeremy Barnum.

Subsequently, on October 13, 2020, you agreed to our proposal to treat attachments as non-responsive, with the understanding that if after reviewing the records provided you could request specific attachments. Upon further review, your request is granted in part and denied in part. We are providing you with one file totaling 1,183 pages of responsive material.

Exemption 5

Portions of approximately nine (9) pages, however, are being withheld under Exemption 5, which allows an agency to withhold “inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be
Deliberative Process Privilege

The deliberative process privilege protects the decision-making process of government agencies and encourages the frank exchange of ideas on legal or policy matters by ensuring agencies are not forced to operate in a fishbowl. A number of policy purposes have been attributed to the deliberative process privilege, such as: (1) assuring that subordinates will feel free to provide the decisionmaker with their uninhibited opinions and recommendations; (2) protecting against premature disclosure of proposed policies; and (3) protecting against confusing the issues and misleading the public.

The deliberative process privilege protects materials that are both predecisional and deliberative. The privilege covers records that reflect the give-and-take of the consultative process and may include recommendations, draft documents, proposals, suggestions, and other subjective documents which reflect the personal opinions of the writer rather than the policy of the agency.

The materials that have been withheld under the deliberative process privilege of Exemption 5 are both predecisional and deliberative. They do not contain or represent formal or informal agency policies or decisions. They are the result of frank and open discussions among employees of the Department of the Interior. Their contents have been held confidential by all parties and public dissemination of this information would expose the agency’s decision-making process in such a way as to discourage candid discussion within the agency, and thereby undermine its ability to perform its mandated functions.

The deliberative process privilege does not apply to records created 25 years or more before the date on which the records were requested.

Commercial Information Privilege

The conference call numbers being withheld constitute “intra-agency” documents because they are only shared with members of the Department or their consultants for the purpose of conducting official government business, including holding discussions that are deliberative and pre-decisional. In addition to qualifying as “intra-agency” documents, it has been determined that the conference call numbers qualify as “confidential commercial information”, which also protectable by Exemption 5.

In this case, the government entered the marketplace as an ordinary commercial buyer of private conference call numbers and pass codes. If the conference call numbers and/or pass codes were released, the government’s financial interest would be significantly harmed. The conference calls would no longer be private since unknown, non-governmental parties would have the ability to listen in to the calls.

Accordingly, the funds spent on purchasing the call-in numbers and pass codes would therefore have been wasted and the conference call numbers and pass codes would be of no use. Because the release of the conference call numbers would significantly harm both the government’s
financial interest and the deliberative process, the National Park Service is withholding conference call numbers and passcodes in accordance with Exemption 5 of the FOIA.

**Exemption 6**

Exemption 6 allows an agency to withhold “personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.” [5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6)]. We are withholding portions of approximately 62 pages under Exemption 6.

The phrase “similar files” covers any agency records containing information about a particular individual that can be identified as applying to that individual. To determine whether releasing records containing information about a particular individual would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, we are required to balance the privacy interest that would be affected by disclosure against any public interest in the information.

Under the FOIA, the only relevant public interest to consider under the exemption is the extent to which the information sought would shed light on an agency’s performance of its statutory duties or otherwise let citizens ‘know what their government is up to’. The burden is on the requester to establish that disclosure would serve the public interest. When the privacy interest at stake and the public interest in disclosure have been determined, the two competing interests must be weighed against one another to determine which is the greater result of disclosure: the harm to personal privacy or the benefit to the public. The purposes for which the request for information is made do not impact this balancing test, as a release of information requested under the FOIA constitutes a release to the general public.

The information that has been withheld under Exemption 6 consists of personal information, including personal email addresses and cell phone numbers. We have determined that the individuals to whom this information pertains have a substantial privacy interest in withholding it. Additionally, you have not provided information that explains a relevant public interest under the FOIA in the disclosure of this personal information and we have determined that the disclosure of this information would shed little or no light on the performance of the agency’s statutory duties. Because the harm to personal privacy is greater than whatever public interest may be served by disclosure, release of the information would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of the privacy of these individuals and we are withholding it under Exemption 6.

Pursuant to regulation, 43 CFR 2.24(b) the following person is responsible for this denial:

Charis Wilson  
NPS FOIA Officer

Additionally, the following attorney was consulted during the preparation of this response:

Jason Waanders, Attorney-Advisor, Office of the Solicitor  
U.S. Department of the Interior, Philadelphia, PA

You have the right to appeal this denial of your request. You may file an appeal by writing to:

Freedom of Information Act Appeals Officer  
Office of the Solicitor  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
MS-6556-MIB,
Your appeal must be received no later than 30 workdays after the date of this final response. The appeal should be marked, both on the envelope and the face of the appeal letter, with the legend "FREEDOM OF INFORMATION APPEAL." Your appeal should be accompanied by a copy of your original request and copies of all correspondence between yourself and the National Park Service related to this request, along with any information you have which leads you to believe the records are available, including where they might be found, if the location is known to you. Please note, appeals received after 5 p.m. EST will be considered to have been received as of the following day.

Also, as part of the 2007 OPEN Government Act FOIA amendments, the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) was created to offer mediation services to resolve disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies as a nonexclusive alternative to litigation. Using OGIS services does not affect your right to pursue litigation.

You may contact OGIS in any of the following ways:

Office of Government Information Services (OGIS)
National Archives and Records Administration
Room 2510
8601 Adelphi Road
College Park, MD 20740-6001
E-mail: ogis@nara.gov
Phone: 301-837-1996
Fax: 301-837-0348
Toll-free: 1-877-684-6448

Additionally, because the National Park Service creates and maintains law enforcement records, we are required by the Department of Justice to provide the following information, even though it may or may not apply to your specific request. Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIA. See 5 U.S.C. 552(c) (2006 & Supp. IV 2010). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of the FOIA. This is a standard notification that we are required to give all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any further questions or concerns. I can be reached at the address above or by phone at 303-969-2959. I can also be reached via e-mail at charis_wilson@nps.gov.

Sincerely,

Charis Wilson
NPS FOIA Officer
Hello:

My name is Jason Wheeler, a reporter with The Daily Courier in Prescott, Arizona.

I’m working on a story regarding the possibility of a partial government shutdown and was wondering in the case of it occurring, what happens with the Grand Canyon.

Thank you,

Jason Wheeler

Reporter

Prescott News Network,

Prescott, Arizona

Phone: 928-445-3333 ext. 2037

Email: jwheeler@prescottaz.com

Twitter: @PrescottWheels

www.dcourier.com

Important: This e-mail and any attachments are intended only for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed. It may contain confidential and privileged information for the
use of the designated recipients named above. If the reader of this transmission is not the intended recipient or the employee or agent responsible for delivering the transmission to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, copying, printing or use of this transmission or its contents is strictly prohibited. If you have received this transmission in error, please notify me by telephone at the number listed above, and delete the entire transmission from your "inbox" and also from your "trash", "deleted items", other equivalent email "folder" locations and computer hard drive.

--
National Park Service
Office of Public Affairs
Robin Nixon is POC and will be sending you contact info this morning.

Patty

*Superintendent (Acting)*  
*National Mall and Memorial Parks*  
*office:* 202-245-4702  
*cell:* 402-637-2414

On Dec 21, 2018, at 9:29 AM, May, Peter <peter_may@nps.gov> wrote:

Thanks everone for the timely responses. We'll let you know what happens.

Maybe I missed it in the messages I received but I still need points of contact on trash-related matters during a shutdown from NAMA, NACE, and WHHO. Can those parks respond?

Thanks.

Peter

Peter May  
Associate Regional Director - Lands and Planning  
National Park Service - National Capital Region  
1100 Ohio Drive SW, Washington, DC 20242  
(202) 619 7025  
peter_may@nps.gov

On Thu, Dec 20, 2018 at 4:38 PM May, Peter <peter_may@nps.gov> wrote:  
Re-sending one more time, again, adding folks and this time with the attachment.

Peter May  
Associate Regional Director - Lands and Planning  
National Park Service - National Capital Region  
1100 Ohio Drive SW, Washington, DC 20242  
(202) 619 7025  
peter_may@nps.gov

On Thu, Dec 20, 2018 at 3:58 PM May, Peter <peter_may@nps.gov> wrote:  
Superintendents:
As Lisa had mentioned on the earlier call, she was pursuing with WASO whether trash collection could be considered a life safety issue in the event of a lapse. Unfortunately the definitive word from WASO is that trash removal is not a life safety issue.

Lisa asked to help with the coordination with the District on our request that they assist with trash collection should there be a shut-down. Attached is a list that Karen compiled last January when we last went through this. The District has asked that we update this list and send a new request.

I need each park to review the list to check that it is correct and to add detail to the extent you can do so in the time allowed. The list is really quite minimal, so please please try to add more information. This is especially true for Rock Creek which for some reason included almost no information last time.

I have included CHOH and GWMP on this email out of an abundance of caution. You will see that CHOH is on the list with a statement that it has no trash cans. I don't know why it was even on the list in this way. GWMP was not on the list at all - perhaps there are no trash cans in the DC portion of the parkway. If so please confirm.

I will also need a point of contact for each park for which DC could be collecting the trash. The POC, obviously, needs to be someone who will remain on duty even if there is a shut down.

Thank you in advance for your speedy responses.

Peter

Peter May  
Associate Regional Director - Lands and Planning  
National Park Service - National Capital Region  
1100 Ohio Drive SW, Washington, DC 20242  
(202) 619 7025  
peter_may@nps.gov
Hey Jeremy,

I'm getting some really specific questions about the impact on national parks. One is what happens to people who have events like weddings scheduled in the park? Are there access issues that would force events to be moved even if the park itself is open?

Stephanie Ebbs
ABC News-Washington
(office) 202-222-7271
(cell) 202-875-4377
@stephebbs

Hi Stephanie,

On-the-record statement:
We are not going to speculate on any possible change in government operations. National parks are open and continue to welcome visitors.

Background Information
Yes, that's the most up-to-date version.

I would refer you to the below information in our contingency plan.
Park roads, lookouts, trails, and open-air memorials will generally remain accessible to
visitors, but there will be no NPS-provided visitor services, including restrooms, trash
collection, facilities and roads maintenance (including plowing), and public information.

- As a general rule, if a facility or area is locked or secured during non-business hours
(buildings, gated parking lots, etc.) it should be locked or secured for the duration of the
shutdown.

- The NPS will not operate parks during the shutdown – no visitor services will be
provided. The NPS will not issue permits, conduct interpretive or educational programs,
collect trash, operate or provide restrooms, maintain roads or walkways (including
plowing and ice melting), or provide visitor information.

- If visitor access becomes a safety, health or resource protection issue (weather, road
conditions, resource damage, garbage build-up to the extent that it endangers human
health or wildlife, etc.), the area must be closed. Parks may not bring on additional staff
to accommodate visitor access.

- The NPS will cease providing services for NPS-operated campgrounds, including
maintenance, janitorial, bathrooms, showers, check-in/check-out and reservations.
Visitors in campgrounds will not be asked to leave but should be advised that no services
will be available. In addition, visitors holding campground reservations for a later date
will be advised that the NPS is not operating campgrounds, including providing
checkin/check-out
services during a shutdown. There is no guarantee their reserved campsite
will be ready and available should they arrive during a government shutdown.

- Park websites and social media will not be maintained. Parks will not provide regular
road or trail condition updates. As a part of their shutdown activities, park staff will post
signs notifying visitors that no visitor services, maintenance or other management
activities will be conducted, and emergency and rescue services will be limited.

- At the superintendent’s discretion, parks may close grounds/areas with sensitive natural,
cultural, historic, or archaeological resources vulnerable to destruction, looting, or other
damage that cannot be adequately protected by the excepted law enforcement staff that
remain on duty to conduct essential activities.

- At the superintendent’s discretion and with approval of the Regional Director or Director,
parks may enter into arrangements with local governments, cooperating associations,
and/or other third parties (see below for concessioners and Commercial Use
Authorization holders) for donation of specified visitor services. The NPS will not
reimburse third parties (through payments, franchise fee relief or any other consideration)
who provide such visitor services. If NPS staff will be conducting the work using funds
from a third party, funds must be transferred and deposited before the NPS may continue
or resume providing visitor services. The Washington Office will provide template
agreements. Agreements should not be established for a period of less than three days.
Because a shutdown of park operations may take up to two days, parks should begin
shutdown when the balance in the donation account falls below a two-day balance.

- In general, enforcement actions should be reactive rather than proactive. Parks should
not take measures to keep visitors out of an area unless access presents a serious and
imminent threat to human life, safety, or health, or a serious and imminent threat to the
condition of a sensitive natural or cultural resource

Jeremy K. Barnum
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
On Mon, Dec 17, 2018 at 11:54 AM Ebbs, Stephanie <Stephanie.Ebbs@abc.com> wrote:

Hey Jeremy,

I'm just getting organized ahead of a possible government shutdown this weekend. Is the NPS contingency plan on the Interior website dated in January the most up to date version? Has there been any talk yet about keeping some parks open and what that might look like?

Please let me know if you have any guidance, interest in the impact on parks is high especially because of the holiday. Thanks!

Stephanie Ebbs
ABC News-Washington
(office) 202-222-7271
(cell) 202-875-4377
@stephebbs
Made super small edits (you misspelled spokesperson, and added a colon). What should/could we say about places like Alcatraz or STLI?

Please see our response below.

On-the-record statement attributable to National Park Service Chief Spokesperson Jeremy Barnum:
In the event of a government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. For example, this means that roads that have already been open will remain open (think snow removal) and vault toilets (wilderness type restrooms) will remain open. However services that require staffing and maintenance such as campgrounds and full service restrooms, will not be operating.

Background Information:
General contingency plans for operations in the absence of appropriations may be found here: https://www.doi.gov/shutdown
I would refer you to the below information from our contingency plan. https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf

Park roads, lookouts, trails, and open-air memorials will generally remain accessible to visitors, but there will be no NPS-provided visitor services, including restrooms, trash collection, facilities and roads maintenance (including plowing), and public information.
- As a general rule, if a facility or area is locked or secured during non-business hours (buildings, gated parking lots, etc.) it should be locked or secured for the duration of the shutdown.
- The NPS will not operate parks during the shutdown – no visitor services will be provided. The NPS will not issue permits, conduct interpretive or educational programs, collect trash, operate or provide restrooms, maintain roads or walkways (including plowing and ice melting), or provide visitor information.
- If visitor access becomes a safety, health or resource protection issue (weather, road conditions, resource damage, garbage build-up to the extent that it endangers human health or wildlife, etc.), the area must be closed. Parks may not bring on additional staff to accommodate visitor access.
- The NPS will cease providing services for NPS-operated campgrounds, including maintenance, janitorial, bathrooms, showers, check-in/check-out and reservations. Visitors in campgrounds will not be asked to leave but should be advised that no services will be available. In addition, visitors holding campground reservations for a later date will be advised that the NPS is not operating campgrounds, including providing checkin/check-out services during a shutdown. There is no guarantee their reserved campsite will be ready and available should they arrive during a government shutdown.
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and/or other third parties (see below for concessioners and Commercial Use
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shutdown when the balance in the donation account falls below a two-day balance.
- In general, enforcement actions should be reactive rather than proactive. Parks should
not take measures to keep visitors out of an area unless access presents a serious and
imminent threat to human life, safety, or health, or a serious and imminent threat to the
condition of a sensitive natural or cultural resource.

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 12:42 PM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:
Hi Catie,
Please see our response below.

On-the-record statement attributable to National Park Service Chief Spokesperon Jeremy
Barnum:
In the event of a government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible
while still following all applicable laws and procedures. For example, this means that roads
that have already been open will remain open (think snow removal) and vault toilets
(wilderness type restrooms) will remain open. However services that require staffing and
maintenance such as campgrounds and full service restrooms, will not be operating.

Background Information
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here: https://www.doi.gov/shutdown
I would refer you to the below information from our contingency plan.

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shutdown.
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- At the superintendent’s discretion and with approval of the Regional Director or Director, parks may enter into arrangements with local governments, cooperating associations, and/or other third parties (see below for concessioners and Commercial Use Authorization holders) for donation of specified visitor services. The NPS will not reimburse third parties (through payments, franchise fee relief or any other consideration) who provide such visitor services. If NPS staff will be conducting the work using funds from a third party, funds must be transferred and deposited before the NPS may continue or resume providing visitor services. The Washington Office will provide template agreements. Agreements should not be established for a period of less than three days. Because a shutdown of park operations may take up to two days, parks should begin shutdown when the balance in the donation account falls below a two-day balance.

- In general, enforcement actions should be reactive rather than proactive. Parks should not take measures to keep visitors out of an area unless access presents a serious and imminent threat to human life, safety, or health, or a serious and imminent threat to the condition of a sensitive natural or cultural resource.

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 9:14 AM Edmondson, Catie <catie.edmondson@nytimes.com> wrote:

Hello:

My name is Catie Edmondson and I'm a reporter with The New York Times in Washington. We're looking to update our story about what readers can expect if the government shuts down tonight, and I'm hoping to get in touch with someone from the NPS to help clarify -- we had been going off the Jan 2018 contingency plans on the website, but we've received some emails stating that information isn't accurate.

If someone could please give me a call this morning at 920-205-7577, that would be great.
Thanks very much,
Catie Edmondson
The New York Times
(o): 202-862-0311
(c): 920-205-7577

--
National Park Service
Office of Public Affairs
In the event of a government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. For example, this means that roads that have already been open will remain open (think snow removal) and vault toilets (wilderness type restrooms) will remain open. However services that require staffing and maintenance such as campgrounds and full service restrooms, will not be operating. The American public and especially our veterans who come to our nation’s capital will find war memorials and open air parks open to the public.

Additional background:

Example of services that could be open: a free-standing gift shop, lodge, restaurant or gas station that requires no assistance from the Park to operate. "Assistance" could include but not be limited to snow removal, working as a cashier, unlocking gates, etc. However, if a private concessionaire has worked out in advance a way to remove snow, trash, etc, without the assistance of the park, they MAY be able to continue operations.

Example of services that would not be open: a gift shop inside a visitors center would not be open because a park ranger would not be available to unlock the visitors center or to staff the visitors center. A gas station on a road inside the park where it snowed overnight making it impassible would not be open if it relies on the park for snow removal.

Example of areas that may see restricted access: Due to lighter footprint of rangers and patrols, some public lands, trails and sites may see restricted access. Some parks are in winter season and see many skiers. The parks may choose to restrict access to some areas if there is a high risk of avalanche or it's a common spot for injuries since there will not be a regular patrol of the area. Additionally, sensitive cultural areas on all public land
may see restricted access to protect the artifacts and objects.

Examples of areas we are prioritizing: We are prioritizing access to the most accessible and most iconic areas of parks and public lands. Each park, monument, recreation area, etc will have different plans in place.

Russell Newell
Deputy Director of Communications
U.S. Department of the Interior
(202) 208-6232
@Interior

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 12:43 PM Elvina Nawaguna <elvinanawaguna@cqrollcall.com> wrote:
One more thing. I do remember last time there was a looming shutdown, Sec. Zinke had said he’d try to keep national parks open. Is that the case this year? Also any chance to get comment from Zinke on what this means for the agency and his staff? Grateful for help with this if possible by 2 p.m. eastern.
Thanks
Elvina Nawaguna
Energy and Environment Reporter
CQ Roll Call
1625 Eye St. NW #200
Washington, DC 20006
Cell: 623-521-2236

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 11:22 AM Elvina Nawaguna <elvinanawaguna@cqrollcall.com> wrote:
Got it, thanks!
Elvina Nawaguna
Energy and Environment Reporter
CQ Roll Call
1625 Eye St. NW #200
Washington, DC 20006
Cell: 623-521-2236

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 11:08 AM Faith Vander Voort <faith_vandervoort@ios.doi.gov> wrote:
This is the current version:
https://www.doi.gov/shutdown

For NPS specific questions:
newsmedia@nps.gov
On Dec 21, 2018, at 11:05 AM, Elvina Nawaguna <elvinanawaguna@cqrollcall.com> wrote:

Hi there,
Do you have an updated plan for a shutdown. The one I'm seeing on Interior's website is dated January 2018.
Grateful for help with this.
Elvina
Elvina Nawaguna
Energy and Environment Reporter
CQ Roll Call
1625 Eye St. NW #200
Washington, DC 20006
Cell: 623-521-2236

--

National Park Service
Office of Public Affairs
On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 9:30 AM May, Peter <peter_may@nps.gov> wrote:

Thanks everone for the timely responses. We'll let you know what happens.

Maybe I missed it in the messages I received but I still need points of contact on trash-related matters during a shutdown from NAMA, NACE, and WHHO. Can those parks respond?

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Re-sending one more time, again, adding folks and this time with the attachment.
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Superintendents:

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Thank you in advance for your speedy responses.

Peter

Peter May
Associate Regional Director - Lands and Planning
National Park Service - National Capital Region
1100 Ohio Drive SW, Washington, DC 20242
(202) 619 7025
peter_may@nps.gov
Okay, I'll start now

Chelsea Sullivan  
Public Affairs  
Office of Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7260  
Cell: (202) 297-2659

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 2:10 PM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:  
good to go

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
Mobile: (202) 617-7973  
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 1:59 PM Sullivan, Chelsea <chelsea_sullivan@partner.nps.gov> wrote:  
On-the-record statement attributable to National Park Service Chief Spokesperson Jeremy Barnum:  
"In the event of a government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. For example, this means that roads that have already been open will remain open (think snow removal) and vault toilets (wilderness type restrooms) will remain open. However services that require staffing and maintenance such as campgrounds and full service restrooms, will not be operating."
Background Information:
General contingency plans for operations in the absence of appropriations may be found here: [https://www.doi.gov/shutdown](https://www.doi.gov/shutdown)
I would refer you to the information from our contingency plan: [https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf](https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf)

Additional background information:
Example of services that could be open: a free-standing gift shop, lodge, restaurant or gas station that requires no assistance from the Park to operate. "Assistance" could include but not be limited to snow removal, working as a cashier, unlocking gates, etc. However, if a private concessionaire has worked out in advance a way to remove snow, trash, etc, without the assistance of the park, they MAY be able to continue operations.

Example of services that would not be open: a gift shop inside a visitors center would not be open because a park ranger would not be available to unlock the visitors center or to staff the visitors center. A gas station on a road inside the park where it snowed overnight making it impassible would not be open if it relies on the park for snow removal.

Example of areas that may see restricted access: Due to lighter footprint of rangers and patrols, some public lands, trails and sites may see restricted access. Some parks are in winter season and see many skiers. The parks may choose to restrict access to some areas if there is a high risk of avalanche or it's a common spot for injuries since there will not be a regular patrol of the area. Additionally, sensitive cultural areas on all public land may see restricted access to protect the artifacts and objects.

Examples of areas we are prioritizing: We are prioritizing access to the most accessible and most iconic areas of parks and public lands. Each park, monument, recreation area, etc will have different plans in place.

---------

Chelsea Sullivan
Public Affairs
Office of Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7260
Cell: (202) 297-2659

[www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov)
We are hopeful that a lapse in appropriations will not occur.

If it does occur, Rocky Mountain National Park will be accessible to the public during the lapse in federal appropriations. However, Rocky Mountain National Park is unable to fully staff the properties under its management. Park visitors are advised to use extreme caution if choosing to enter the park, as park personnel will not be available to provide guidance or assistance. Emergency services will be limited. Any entry to the park during this period of federal government shutdown is at the visitor’s sole risk. Normal rules and regulations would still apply.

No visitor services will be provided. Services that require staffing and maintenance, such as entrance stations, the Beaver Meadows Visitor Center, the Kawuneeche Visitor Center, Moraine Park Campground, and some restroom facilities will not be operating. Roads that are already open will remain open, weather and road conditions permitting. We will not issue permits, conduct educational programs, collect trash, maintain restrooms, maintain roads or walkways in the event of snow or ice, or provide visitor information.

Roads or areas in Rocky Mountain National Park may be closed during the government shutdown if conditions warrant.

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 11:57 AM Patterson, Kyle <kyle_patterson@nps.gov> wrote:
Stand by ...!!

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 11:45 AM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:
For now, but I'm trying to get clearance for parks to start addressing that. Can you send me a copy of how you would respond?
On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 1:42 PM Patterson, Kyle <kyle_patterson@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Jeremy,

As expected, we are starting to get numerous media calls regarding what would RMNP's operations look like if the shutdown happens. Can you please confirm ... we are supposed to send ALL inquiries to the newsmedia email address and not provide info as to what our operations would be?

Thanks!

- Kyle

Kyle Patterson
Management Specialist/Public Affairs Officer
Rocky Mountain National Park
(970) 586-1363
www.nps.gov/romo
www.facebook.com/RockyNPS

--
- Kyle

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Lisa Mendelson, AICP
Acting Regional Director, National Park Service
202-619-7020 main office + 202-619-7194 direct + 202-297-1338 cell
On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 12:44 PM May, Peter <peter_may@nps.gov> wrote:

Lisa,

I do not recall if I sent this to you. The key line in the press release is:

_In the case of a shutdown, the Department of Public Works will take over litter collection for the National Parks Service’s (NPS) 126 properties across the District that would otherwise not be serviced during a shutdown. In the event of inclement weather, DPW will also treat and clear NPS roadways._

Peter May
Associate Regional Director - Lands and Planning
National Park Service - National Capital Region
1100 Ohio Drive SW, Washington, DC 20242
(202) 619 7025
peter_may@nps.gov

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Kinlow, Eugene (EOM) <eugene.kinlow@dc.gov>
Date: Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 10:25 AM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] FW: PRESS RELEASE: District to Remain Open in the Event of a Federal Government Shutdown
To: May, Peter <peter_may@nps.gov>, Julia Washburn <julia_washburn@nps.gov>, Morrison, Tara <tara_morrison@nps.gov>, Osborne, Calvin (EOM) <Calvin.Osborne@dc.gov>
Cc: Osborne, Calvin (EOM) <Calvin.Osborne@dc.gov>

FYSA.

If there is a shutdown, please provide the appropriate contact information for a contact at NPS.

Thanks.

Eugene D. Kinlow
Director, Office of Federal and Regional Affairs
PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

December 21, 2018

CONTACT:

LaToya Foster (EOM) – (202) 727-5011; latoya.foster@dc.gov

District to Remain Open in the Event of a Federal Government Shutdown

(WASHINGTON, DC) – Today, Mayor Muriel Bowser vowed to keep DC Government open in the event of a partial Federal Government shutdown. During the partial shutdown,
which would begin on Saturday, December 22 at 12:01 a.m., DC Government will remain open to serve all District residents, businesses, and visitors.

“As we said when this happened earlier this year: Leadership is about stepping up, not shutting down,” said Mayor Bowser. “Regardless what happens at the federal level, DC Government will be open for business.”

In the case of a shutdown, the Department of Public Works will take over litter collection for the National Parks Service’s (NPS) 126 properties across the District that would otherwise not be serviced during a shutdown. In the event of inclement weather, DPW will also treat and clear NPS roadways.

As part of the District’s preparation for a potential government shutdown, each agency has reviewed funding sources and guidance provided by their federal agencies. Thanks to the efforts of Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton, the District enjoys “shutdown protection” so that local operations may continue during a federal shutdown. Residents and visitors should expect no service changes or lapses in benefits through District agencies. This means that the District’s education and public safety agencies will continue operating as usual.

The following agencies have provided service clarifications to residents and clients:

- **DC Department of Health Care Finance (DHCF) and all Economic Security Administration (ESA) Service Centers** will ensure that Medicaid providers and beneficiaries continue to operate on normal payment and service schedules.

- **Department of Employment Services (DOES)** encourages Federal Government employees who are furloughed to visit [dcnetworks.org](http://dcnetworks.org) to file for Unemployment Compensation benefits. Contractors working in a Federal Government agency not paid retroactively through the contracting agency are also entitled to unemployment compensation benefits for the period of the shutdown.

- **Department of Public Works (DPW)** will continue to serve the District on a regular schedule. DPW will also provide trash collection services for the National Parks Service’s 126 properties in the District.

- **DC Department of Human Resources (DCHR)** retirement accounts and current District Government retirees will remain unaffected.

In the event of a Federal government shut down, the Department of Health Care Finance and all DHS Economic Security Administration (ESA) Service Centers will continue to operate on a normal schedule. There will be no disruption of public benefit payments to DC residents, including assistance provided through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), and Medicaid. If
federal government funding is not restored within 30 days, the District will notify customers
of any potential impacts to their benefit payments. Residents who have specific questions
can call the ESA Call Center at (202) 727-5355.

###

**Social Media:**

#DCisOpen

Mayor Bowser Twitter: [@MayorBowser](https://twitter.com/MayorBowser)

Mayor Bowser Instagram: [@Mayor_Bowser](https://instagram.com/Mayor_Bowser)

Mayor Bowser Facebook: [facebook.com/MayorMurielBowser](https://facebook.com/MayorMurielBowser)

Mayor Bowser Website: [mayor.dc.gov](https://mayor.dc.gov)


DPW Twitter: [@DCDPW](https://twitter.com/DCDPW)

DPW Facebook: [DPW on Facebook](https://facebook.com/DPW)

DDOT Twitter: [@DDOTDC](https://twitter.com/DDOTDC)

DDOT Facebook: [facebook.com/DDOTDC](https://facebook.com/DDOTDC)

DHS Twitter: [@DCHumanServ](https://twitter.com/DCHumanServ)

DGS Twitter: [@DCDGS](https://twitter.com/DCDGS)

*Mayor Bowser has challenged all of us to go into the next four years guided by the question: What would you do if you were not afraid to fail? Share your answer with us at dc2me.com*
We are dusting this off should we need it. This was what we sent in January.

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Office of Communications
National Park Service
National Capital Region

--------- Forwarded message ---------
From: NCR Communications, NPS <ncr_communications@nps.gov>
Date: Mon, Jan 22, 2018 at 11:48 AM
Subject: What visitors can expect in D.C.-Area national parks during shutdown
To:

National Park Service News Release
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 22, 2017
Contact: ncr_communications@nps.gov

What visitors can expect in D.C.-Area national parks during shutdown

WASHINGTON— During the shutdown of the federal government, D.C.-area national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. Park roads, lookouts, trails, green spaces and open-air memorials, including the National Mall, will generally remain accessible to visitors, but emergency and rescue services will be limited, and no National Park Service (NPS)-provided visitor facilities or services are available. This includes restrooms, visitor centers and information kiosks, and ranger talks and education programs. Visitors should expect to find areas closed that would normally be closed after dark.

It is not feasible to close or otherwise prohibit all access to all NPS properties. Park visitors are advised to use extreme caution if choosing to enter NPS property. Any entry onto NPS property during this period of federal government shutdown is at the visitor’s sole risk.

NPS social media and websites are not being monitored or updated and may not reflect current conditions—access may change without notice.

Attractions closed during the shutdown include:

* Arlington House

* Belle Haven Marina

* Belmont-Paul Women’s Equality National Monument

* Carter G. Woodson Home National Historic Site (previous closure due to rehabilitation)

* Clara Barton National Historic Site

* Daingerfield Island restaurant, Triple Craft (closed for the season)
Ford’s Theatre National Historic Site (Ford’s Theatre Society will continue to offer performances in the theater as scheduled)

Fort Marcy

Fort Washington

Frederick Douglass National Historic Site

Great Falls (Md.) Visitor Center

Great Falls (Va.) Visitor Center

Hains Point

Keniilworth Aquatic Gardens

Mary McLeod Bethune Council House National Historic Site (previous closure to install a fire suppression system)

Old Stone House (previous closure for rehabilitation and fire suppression system)

Oxon Hill Fam

Peirce Mill

Rock Creek Park Nature Center and Planetarium

Turkey Run

Washington Monument (previous closure for elevator modernization)

White House Visitor Center

Restrooms
All public restrooms and comfort stations are closed. However, concessioner Guest Services, Inc., has provided portable comfort stations at the following locations for the duration of the shutdown:

- Ellipse Visitor Pavilion
- Lincoln Memorial (south side)
- Thomas Jefferson Memorial
- Washington Monument grounds (15th Street, between Madison Drive and Jefferson Drive)
West Potomac Park (between Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial and Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial)

- World War II Memorial

**Trash Collection**
Partner organizations will assist with trash collection while NPS staff are furloughed due to the shutdown:
- The District of Columbia Department of Public Works will provide trash removal at some NPS properties across the District that would otherwise not be serviced during a shutdown.
- Seven of the Business Improvement Districts (Downtown, Golden Triangle, Georgetown, Historic Dupont Circle Main Streets, Mt. Vernon Triangle, NOMA and Southwest) will provide trash removal in their respective areas.

**Concession Operations**
- Food kiosk and concessions operated by Guest Services, Inc. will continue to operate, with the exception of the retail operation located in the basement of the Thomas Jefferson Memorial, as that area is closed to the public.
- Eastern National will continue to operate bookstores at the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial, Lincoln Memorial, Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial, Thomas Jefferson Memorial (mezzanine level only) and the Washington Monument Lodge.
- Rock Creek, Langston, and East Potomac Golf Courses are open.
- Rock Creek and East Potomac Tennis Centers are open.

**Construction Projects that Continue**
- Washington Monument elevator modernization/screening facility
- National Mall and Memorial Parks phase 2 water line
- Lincoln Memorial roof
- United States Park Police District 1 Substation
- Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park
  - Locks 3, 4 and 5-22
  - Conococheague Aqueduct
- USMC War Memorial (Iwo Jima) repaving
- Manassas National Battlefield Park Stone Bridge rehabilitation
- Rock Creek Beach Drive
- George Washington Memorial Parkway Spout Run Rock Scaling

###
Thank you, Jeremy.

Alanna Sobel
Senior Manager, Communications
National Park Foundation
1110 Vermont Ave NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20005
202.796.2538 direct | 202.796.2500 main
www.nationalparks.org

---

Got it thanks. FYI here’s how we’re responding.

**On-the-record statement attributable to National Park Service Chief Spokesperson Jeremy Barnum:**

“In the event of a government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. For example, this means that roads that have already been open will remain open (think snow removal) and vault toilets (wilderness type restrooms) will remain open. However services that require staffing and maintenance such as campgrounds and full service restrooms, will not be operating.”

**Background Information:**

General contingency plans for operations in the absence of appropriations may be found here: [https://www.doi.gov/shutdown](https://www.doi.gov/shutdown)
I would refer you to the information from our contingency plan. [https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf](https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf)

**Additional background information:**

Example of services that could be open: a free-standing gift shop, lodge, restaurant or gas station that requires no assistance from the Park to operate. “Assistance” could include but not be limited to snow removal, working as a cashier, unlocking gates, etc. However, if a private concessionaire has worked out in advance a way to remove snow, trash, etc,
without the assistance of the park, they MAY be able to continue operations.

Example of services that would not be open: A gift shop inside a visitors center would not be open because a park ranger would not be available to unlock the visitors center or to staff the visitors center. A gas station on a road inside the park where it snowed overnight making it impassible would not be open if it relies on the park for snow removal.

Example of areas that may see restricted access: Due to lighter footprint of rangers and patrols, some public lands, trails and sites may see restricted access. Some parks are in winter season and see many skiers. The parks may choose to restrict access to some areas if there is a high risk of avalanche or it's a common spot for injuries since there will not be a regular patrol of the area. Additionally, sensitive cultural areas on all public land may see restricted access to protect the artifacts and objects.

Examples of areas we are prioritizing: We are prioritizing access to the most accessible and most iconic areas of parks and public lands. Each park, monument, recreation area, etc will have different plans in place.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 2:01 PM Alanna Sobel <asobel@nationalparks.org> wrote:

Jeremy,

Hope your day is going okay. I just received a voicemail from Erin McCormick with The Guardian. She’s on tight deadline, writing about the effects of a potential shutdown on national parks. Her number is (b) (6)

Thanks,
Alanna

Alanna Sobel
Senior Manager, Communications
National Park Foundation
1110 Vermont Ave NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20005
202.796.2538 direct | 202.796.2500 main
Please consider the environment before printing this email
Kyle,

Just so I can cross my Ts, are you planning on responding to the emails you've been forwarding as well? I've gotten a few responses regarding your park and can send them over to you with IMR CCd. If that works with everyone?
Thanks!

Chelsea Sullivan
Public Affairs
Office of Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7260
Cell: (202) 297-2659

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 2:55 PM Patterson, Kyle <kyle_patterson@nps.gov> wrote:

Thanks Jeremy.

Vanessa and Jennifer - let me know your thoughts please, as soon as possible.

I plan to send out an email. We have been asked to go on camera as well - which we are not planning to do. They can relay our statement.

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 12:42 PM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Kyle,

I edited the first line. I know you're getting a lot of questions so I'm okay with you responding if IMR is.

If a lapse in appropriations occurs, Rocky Mountain National Park will be accessible to the public during the lapse in federal appropriations. However, Rocky Mountain National Park staff would be unable to fully staff park properties. Park visitors are advised to use extreme caution if choosing to enter the park, as park personnel will not be available to provide guidance or assistance. Emergency services will be limited. Any entry to the park during this period of federal government shutdown is at the visitor’s sole risk. Normal rules and regulations would still apply.

No visitor services will be provided. Services that require staffing and maintenance, such
as entrance stations, the Beaver Meadows Visitor Center, the Kawuneeche Visitor Center, Moraine Park Campground, and some restroom facilities will not be operating. Roads that are already open will remain open, weather and road conditions permitting. Park staff will not issue permits, conduct educational programs, collect trash, maintain restrooms, maintain roads or walkways in the event of snow or ice, or provide visitor information.

Roads or areas in Rocky Mountain National Park may be closed during the government shutdown if conditions warrant. If that does occur, we will be unable to update that information on the park's website or through social media.

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
Mobile: (202) 617-7973  
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 2:40 PM Patterson, Kyle <kyle_patterson@nps.gov> wrote:  
Less bureaucratic response:

We are hopeful that a lapse in appropriations will not occur.

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- Kyle

Kyle Patterson
Management Specialist/Public Affairs Officer
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www.nps.gov/romo
www.facebook.com/RockyNPS

--

- Kyle

Kyle Patterson
Management Specialist/Public Affairs Officer
Rocky Mountain National Park
(970) 586-1363
www.nps.gov/romo
www.facebook.com/RockyNPS
Could someone please call me. I can't make heads or tails of this.
Thanks

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 12:13 PM News Media, NPS <newsmedia@nps.gov> wrote:

Hello Richard,

On-the-record statement attributable to National Park Service Chief Spokesperson Jeremy Barnum:

"In the event of a government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. For example, this means that roads that have already been open will remain open (think snow removal) and vault toilets (wilderness type restrooms) will remain open. However services that require staffing and maintenance such as campgrounds and full service restrooms, will not be operating."

Background Information:

General contingency plans for operations in the absence of appropriations may be found here: https://www.doi.gov/shutdown

Additional background information:

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On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 3:10 PM Richard Halstead <rhalstead@marinij.com> wrote:
I'm writing a story for tomorrow's paper on the federal government shutdown. I need to know if there will any effect whatsoever on the Point Reyes National Seashore operations or accessibility of the park to the public. Please call me at your earliest convenience. Thanks

--

Richard Halstead  Reporter | Marin Independent Journal
rhalstead@marinij.com
415.382.7273 Direct

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National Park Service
Office of Public Affairs

--

Richard Halstead  Reporter | Marin Independent Journal
rhalstead@marinij.com
415.382.7273 Direct

--

National Park Service
Office of Public Affairs
Kyle,

FYI, Julie Turkewitz with NYT has asked for more park specific information.

Chelsea Sullivan
Public Affairs
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National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7260
Cell: (202) 297-2659

www.nps.gov

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 3:31 PM Kyle Patterson <kyle_patterson@nps.gov> wrote:
Super - thanks!
Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 21, 2018, at 1:27 PM, Vanessa Lacayo <vanessa_lacayo@nps.gov> wrote:

I sent an email to Beth in OCLA to see how they want parks to field congressionals. I will let you know soon as I know more, thanks!
Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 21, 2018, at 1:22 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

I agree that responding in writing wherever possible makes the most sense tonight.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube
On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 3:19 PM Kyle Patterson <kyle_patterson@nps.gov> wrote:

Thanks all. My concern going on camera is that one media outlet indicated they wanted to understand the personal impacts for employees at national parks during the holidays... not going there...

We also received a call from Chad (had a hard time understanding his voice mail and last name) with the House Committee on Natural Resources Democrat staff wanting to understand the implication at ROMO. How should we handle that - Guidance says WASO leg affairs?

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 21, 2018, at 1:02 PM, Vanessa Lacayo <vanessa_lacayo@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Kyle,

No issues on our end. We had tv outside and did a short interview stating that we would not speculate, but to check with individual parks if a lapse occurs.

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 21, 2018, at 12:54 PM, Patterson, Kyle <kyle_patterson@nps.gov> wrote:

Thanks Jeremy.

Vanessa and Jennifer - let me know your thoughts please, as soon as possible.

I plan to send out an email. We have been asked to go on camera as well - which we are not planning to do. They can relay our statement.
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through social media.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 2:40 PM
Patterson, Kyle
<kyle_patterson@nps.gov> wrote:
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- Kyle

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--

- Kyle

Kyle Patterson
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www.nps.gov/romo
www.facebook.com/RockyNPS
FYI, I updated the language on the word file ("NPS language for web and social...") and uploaded that new file as well.

Ginny Reams  
Web Content Manager  
Digital Strategy Division  
Office of Communications  
National Park Service  
202.236.4804  
www.nps.gov

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 3:18 PM Edgar, Todd <todd_edgar@nps.gov> wrote:

It works and we’ve updated. (WSD also has the latest wording and is ready, on our word, to post tomorrow morning—if needed, of course.) Thank you, Jeremy.

- Todd M. Edgar  
NPS.gov Manager

National Park Service  
Office of Communications  
Digital Strategy Division  
https://www.nps.gov

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 3:13 PM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Just shared, let me know if it doesn't work

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
Mobile: (202) 617-7973  
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube
Greetings, everyone.

The global alert is indeed global—so subsites can't be exempted. However, we will modify the language in that message to read, "For most parks, there will be no National Park Service–provided visitor services, such as restrooms, trash collection, facilities, or road maintenance."

Thanks for calling this need to our attention, John.

Jeremy, can you give Gin and I permission to update the PDF file in the guidance folder?

- Todd M. Edgar
  NPS.gov Manager

National Park Service
Office of Communications
Digital Strategy Division
https://www.nps.gov

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 2:57 PM John Piltzecker <john_piltzecker@nps.gov> wrote:
We are aware that we can manage our own messaging but the global notification that will appear on top of our pages does not work for us - it will send a mixed message, and lead to confusion and frustration for our visitors. Are we able to delete this message from our site or can you selectively remove it from our sites at WASO?

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 21, 2018, at 2:40 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi John,

We are providing parks with the attached guidance on alerts and notices should a shutdown occur. STLI should be able to craft your alert on your website according to what will be open and accessible at the park. I'm ccing my colleagues who can provide further information.

Todd, would you mind chiming in?

Thanks,

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube
We are hearing that WASO Coms wants to put a "closed" message on all park websites that would be generated from WASO (if indeed there is a lapse). We of course do not want that to happen on our website because it will confuse the public.

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 1:12 PM Joshua Laird <joshua_laird@nps.gov> wrote:
FYI see below.

---------------

Joshua Laird
Commissioner, National Parks of New York Harbor
Federal Hall National Memorial
26 Wall Street, New York, NY 10005
tel. 212-668-5180  cell. 718-775-6038

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Alexander Cochran <Alexander.Cochran@exec.ny.gov>
Date: December 21, 2018 at 12:48:41 PM EST
To: "Laird, Joshua" <joshua_laird@nps.gov>
Cc: Nadine Fontaine <Nadine.Fontaine@exec.ny.gov>
Josh
Good speaking with you. New York intends to enter into a donation agreement with NPS as we have done in previous shutdowns (2014/2017) to keep the Statue of Liberty open and operational for the citizens and visitors to state/country. Let's hope and pray that if it happens it's as short as last January and we only have to keep it open with state help for a few days, so with that in mind, we will start Dec 22nd and provide three days and go from there. Hopefully we won't have to go farther and the federal government will be back open (if it in fact shuts down).

Look forward to receiving the final execution documents as soon as you have them.

Let us know if there is anything else you need.

Alexander Cochran
Special Counsel to the Governor

Alexander Cochran
Special Counsel to the Governor

From: Laird, Joshua
Sent: Friday, December 21, 2018 10:56 AM
To: Alexander Cochran
Cc: Nadine Fontaine
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Statue of Liberty (donation agreement)

Thanks Alex. Can you resend adding that you would start on the first day of the potential shutdown, December 22, 2018?

Thanks,
Joshua

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 10:49 AM Alexander Cochran <Alexander.Cochran@exec.ny.gov> wrote:

Josh
Good speaking with you. New York intends to enter into a donation agreement with NPS as we have done
in previous shutdowns (2014/2017) to keep the Statue of Liberty open and operational for the citizens and visitors to state/country.

Look forward to receiving the final execution documents as soon as you have them.

Let us know if there is anything else you need.

Alexander Cochran
Special Counsel to the Governor
Thanks much, Jeremy.
Best
Ellen

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 21, 2018, at 4:22 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

On-the-record statement attributable to National Park Service Chief Spokesperson Jeremy Barnum:
"In the event of a government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. For example, this means that roads that have already been open will remain open (think snow removal) and vault toilets (wilderness type restrooms) will remain open. However services that require staffing and maintenance such as campgrounds and full service restrooms, will not be operating."

Background Information:
General contingency plans for operations in the absence of appropriations may be found here: https://www.doi.gov/shutdown

Additional background information:
Example of services that could be open: a free-standing gift shop, lodge, restaurant or gas station that requires no assistance from the Park to operate. "Assistance" could include but not be limited to snow removal, working as a cashier, unlocking gates, etc. However, if a private concessionaire has worked out in advance a way to remove snow, trash, etc, without the assistance of the park, they MAY be able to continue operations.

Example of services that would not be open: a gift shop inside a visitors center would not be open because a park ranger would not be available to unlock the visitors center or to staff the visitors center. A gas station on a road inside the park where it snowed overnight making it impassible would not be open if it relies on the park for snow removal.

Example of areas that may see restricted access: Due to lighter footprint of rangers and patrols, some public lands, trails and sites may see restricted access. Some parks are in winter season and see many skiers. The parks may choose to restrict access to some areas if there is a high risk of avalanche or it's a common spot for injuries since there will not be a regular patrol of the area. Additionally, sensitive cultural areas on all public land may see restricted access to protect the artifacts and objects.

Examples of areas we are prioritizing: We are prioritizing access to the most accessible and most iconic areas of parks and public lands. Each park, monument, recreation area, etc will have different plans in place.
On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 4:19 PM Knickmeyer, Ellen <EKnickmeyer@ap.org> wrote:

Hi, Jeremy - could you please tell me NPS’s plans in any shutdown? For story today.
Thanks,
Ellen

Sent from my iPhone

The information contained in this communication is intended for the use of the designated recipients named above. If the reader of this communication is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that you have received this communication in error, and that any review, dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify The Associated Press immediately by telephone at +1-212-621-1500 and delete this email. Thank you.
I've been editing it in Google Docs, so this is not the most up to date version. Here's the link:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1CE5HAMcmPneN3ptHLub02XDwqdMHLh1Oj7Vtgk7W7a0/edit?ts=5c1d49cf

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief of Communications
National Park Service -
National Mall and Memorial Parks
900 Ohio Drive SW
Washington, DC 20024
Cell: (202) 306-4166

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 4:24 PM Slayton, April <april_slayton@nps.gov> wrote:

A few suggested edits below in red. Also, we need to review the list of closed sites very carefully to be sure that it is still completely accurate (for example, isn't Bethune House reopened regularly?), and we'll need to be sure that all of the info on trash collection and concessioner agreements are updated.

Are you going to make a copy of this and put it in a Google doc for updates?

Thanks for getting this started!

--
April Slayton
Acting Deputy Regional Director
National Park Service, National Capital Region
(202) 619-7022 - direct
(202) 641-0291 - mobile

Facebook Twitter
Instagram YouTube

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 2:45 PM NCR Communications, NPS <ncr_communications@nps.gov> wrote:

We are dusting this off should we need it. This was what we sent in January.

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Office of Communications
National Park Service
National Capital Region

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: NCR Communications, NPS <ncr_communications@nps.gov>
Date: Mon, Jan 22, 2018 at 11:48 AM
Subject: What visitors can expect in D.C.-Area national parks during shutdown
To:
What visitors can expect in D.C.-Area national parks during shutdown

WASHINGTON—During the partial shutdown of the federal government, D.C.-area national parks will remain as accessible as possible, while still following all applicable laws and procedures. Park roads, lookouts, trails, green spaces and open-air memorials, including the National Mall, will generally remain accessible to visitors, but emergency and rescue services will be limited, and no National Park Service (NPS)-provided visitor facilities or services will be available. This includes restrooms, visitor centers, information kiosks, ranger talks, and education programs. Visitors should expect to find park areas closed that would normally be closed after dark.

It is not feasible to close or otherwise prohibit all access to all NPS properties. Park visitors are advised to use extreme caution if choosing to enter NPS property. Any entry onto NPS property during the partial federal government shutdown is at the visitor’s sole risk.

NPS social media and websites are not being monitored or updated and may not reflect current conditions—access may change without notice.

**Attractions closed during the shutdown include:**

- Arlington House
- Belle Haven Marina
- Belmont-Paul Women’s Equality National Monument
- Carter G. Woodson Home National Historic Site (previous closure due to rehabilitation)
- Clara Barton National Historic Site
- Daingerfield Island restaurant, Triple Craft (closed for the season)
- Ford’s Theatre National Historic Site (Ford’s Theatre Society will continue to offer performances in the theater as scheduled)
- Fort Marcy
- Fort Washington
- Frederick Douglass National Historic Site
- Great Falls (Md.) Visitor Center
- Great Falls (Va.) Visitor Center
- Hains Point
- Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens
- Mary McLeod Bethune Council House National Historic Site (previous closure to install a fire suppression system)
- Old Stone House (previous closure for rehabilitation and fire suppression system)
- Oxon Hill Fam
• Peirce Mill

• Rock Creek Park Nature Center and Planetarium

• Turkey Run

• Washington Monument (previous closure for elevator modernization)

• White House Visitor Center

**Restrooms**
All public restrooms and comfort stations are closed. However, concessioner Guest Services, Inc., has provided portable comfort stations at the following locations for the duration of the shutdown:

• Ellipse Visitor Pavilion

• Lincoln Memorial (south side)

• Thomas Jefferson Memorial

• Washington Monument grounds (15th Street, between Madison Drive and Jefferson Drive)

• West Potomac Park (between Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial and Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial)

• World War II Memorial

**Trash Collection**
Partner organizations will assist with trash collection while NPS staff are furloughed due to the shutdown:

• The District of Columbia Department of Public Works will provide trash removal at some NPS properties across the District that would otherwise not be serviced during a shutdown.

• Seven of the Business Improvement Districts (Downtown, Golden Triangle, Georgetown, Historic Dupont Circle Main Streets, Mt. Vernon Triangle, NOMA and Southwest) will provide trash removal in their respective areas.

**Concession Operations**

• Food kiosk and concessions operated by Guest Services, Inc. will continue to operate, with the exception of the retail operation located in the basement of the Thomas Jefferson Memorial, as that area is closed to the public.

• Eastern National will continue to operate bookstores at the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial, Lincoln Memorial, Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial, Thomas Jefferson Memorial (mezzanine level only) and the Washington Monument Lodge.

• Rock Creek, Langston, and East Potomac Golf Courses are open.

• Rock Creek and East Potomac Tennis Centers are open.

**Construction Projects that Continue**

• Washington Monument elevator modernization/screening facility

• National Mall and Memorial Parks phase 2 water line
Lincoln Memorial roof

- United States Park Police District 1 Substation

- Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park
  - Locks 3, 4 and 5-22
  - Conococheague Aqueduct

- USMC War Memorial (Iwo Jima) repaving

- Manassas National Battlefield Park Stone Bridge rehabilitation

- Rock Creek Beach Drive

- George Washington Memorial Parkway Spout Run Rock Scaling

###

Office of Communications
National Park Service
National Capital Region
Yes, April's edits are made.

Katie

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 4:31 PM Anzelmo-Sarles, Jenny <jenny_anzelmo-sarles@nps.gov> wrote:

Thanks April, yes. We've been working on this in Drive. Will share that link with you.
Katie- can you go into drive pls and make Aprils edits?

Jenny Anzelmo-Sarles
Chief of Public Affairs
National Park Service
National Capital Region
jenny_anzelmo-sarles@nps.gov
Office: (202) 619-7177
Cell: (307) 690-2355

Who are we? National Capital Region - Office of Communications

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA ®

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 4:24 PM Slayton, April <april_slayton@nps.gov> wrote:

A few suggested edits below in red. Also, we need to review the list of closed sites very carefully to be sure that it is still completely accurate (for example, isn't Bethune House reopened regularly?), and we'll need to be sure that all of the info on trash collection and concessioner agreements are updated. Are you going to make a copy of this and put it in a Google doc for updates? Thanks for getting this started!

--
April Slayton
Acting Deputy Regional Director
National Park Service, National Capital Region
(202) 619-7022 - direct
(202) 641-0291 - mobile

Facebook Twitter
Instagram YouTube

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 2:45 PM NCR Communications, NPS <ncr_communications@nps.gov> wrote:

We are dusting this off should we need it. This was what we sent in January.

---------------
Office of Communications
National Park Service
National Capital Region

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: NCR Communications, NPS <ncr_communications@nps.gov>
Date: Mon, Jan 22, 2018 at 11:48 AM
Subject: What visitors can expect in D.C.-Area national parks during shutdown
To:
National Park Service News Release
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 22, 2017
Contact: nps.communications@nps.gov

What visitors can expect in D.C.-Area national parks during shutdown

WASHINGTON— During the partial shutdown of the federal government, D.C.-area national parks will remain as accessible as possible, while still following all applicable laws and procedures. Park roads, lookouts, trails, green spaces and open-air memorials, including the National Mall, will generally remain accessible to visitors, but emergency and rescue services will be limited, and no National Park Service (NPS)-provided visitor facilities or services will be available. This includes restrooms, visitor centers, information kiosks, ranger talks, and education programs. Visitors should expect to find park areas closed that would normally be closed after dark.

It is not feasible to close or otherwise prohibit all access to all NPS properties. Park visitors are advised to use extreme caution if choosing to enter NPS property. Any entry onto NPS property during the partial federal government shutdown is at the visitor’s sole risk.

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- National Mall and Memorial Parks phase 2 water line
- Lincoln Memorial roof
- United States Park Police District 1 Substation
- Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park
  - Locks 3, 4 and 5-22
  - Conococheague Aqueduct
- USMC War Memorial (Iwo Jima) repaving
- Manassas National Battlefield Park Stone Bridge rehabilitation
- Rock Creek Beach Drive
- George Washington Memorial Parkway Spout Run Rock Scaling

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Office of Communications
National Park Service
National Capital Region

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Katie Liming
Public Affairs Specialist
National Capital Region
National Park Service

katelyn_liming@nps.gov
Office: 202-619-7156
Cell: 703-399-4547
Here's what I got from JOTR... does this work for you?

Amanda Kaplan  
National Park Service  
Pacific West Regional Office  
909 1st Ave, 5th Floor  
Seattle, WA 98104  
Phone: (206) 220-4150  
Cell: (206) 475-4590

--- Forwarded message ---

From: David Smith <david_smith@nps.gov>  
Date: Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 1:25 PM  
Subject: Re: JOTR Accessibility in potential shutdown  
To: Kaplan, Amanda <amanda_kaplan@nps.gov>  
Cc: George Land <george_land@nps.gov>, Jennifer Albrinck <jennie_albrinck@nps.gov>

Hi Amanda, per directions that we received from Washington, the park will be open during the government closure. All campgrounds will be open and all vault toilets will be open. All flush toilets and visitor center operations will be closed. Typically, our garbage fills up after about two or three days and toilet paper runs out after about one day. You may want to encourage visitors to bring their own toilet paper and prepared to remove garbage as well.

I hope that’s helpful. If you have any questions, you can reach me at 760–4 01–7999.

David

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 21, 2018, at 12:47 PM, Kaplan, Amanda <amanda_kaplan@nps.gov> wrote:

Hello team,

Please see the inquiry below from WASO Comms. Can you please provide a few lines and send back
to me?

thanks!
Amanda

Amanda Kaplan
National Park Service
Pacific West Regional Office
909 1st Ave, 5th Floor
Seattle, WA 98104
Phone: (206) 220-4150
Cell: (206) 475-4590

---------- Forwarded message  ---------
From: Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Date: Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 12:42 PM
Subject: JOTR Accessibility in potential shutdown
To: Amanda Kaplan <Amanda_Kaplan@nps.gov>

NYT is asking about accessibility to JOTR during a potential shutdown. Could you please reach out to the park and send us a few lines?

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube
From: Sullivan, Chelsea
To: Patterson, Kyle; Jeremy Barnum
Cc: Vanessa Lacayo
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Estes Park Trail-Gazette calling
Date: Friday, December 21, 2018 2:41:29 PM
Attachments: New Picture (1).bmp

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On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 4:39 PM Patterson, Kyle <kyle_patterson@nps.gov> wrote:
I think Claire is asking why are park's being asked to defer to NPS/WASO? It would be best if WASO responded to that specific question explaining the nuances of why that direction is given .... over 419 national park service units etc.!

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 1:45 PM Claire Woodcock <claire@eptrail.com> wrote:
A follow up:
Why is RMNP and other national parks deferring to NPS when the government has not shut down? It was my understanding that a partial government shut down, if it goes into effect, would not go into effect until midnight tonight.

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 1:42 PM News Media, NPS <newsmedia@nps.gov> wrote:
Hello Claire,

**On-the-record statement attributable to National Park Service Chief Spokesperson Jeremy Barnum:**
“In the event of a government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. For example, this means that roads that have already been open will remain open (think snow removal) and vault toilets (wilderness type restrooms) will remain open. However services that require staffing and maintenance such as campgrounds and full service restrooms, will not be operating.”

**Background Information:**
General contingency plans for operations in the absence of appropriations may be found here: https://www.doi.gov/shutdown
I would refer you to the information from our contingency plan, https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf

---

Chelsea Sullivan
Public Affairs
Office of Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7260
Cell: (202) 297-2659
www.nps.gov

Copying Jeremy

www.nps.gov
**Additional background information:**

Example of services that could be open: a free-standing gift shop, lodge, restaurant or gas station that requires no assistance from the Park to operate. "Assistance" could include but not be limited to snow removal, working as a cashier, unlocking gates, etc. However, if a private concessionaire has worked out in advance a way to remove snow, trash, etc, without the assistance of the park, they MAY be able to continue operations.

Example of services that would not be open: a gift shop inside a visitor center would not be open because a park ranger would not be available to unlock the visitor center or to staff the visitor center. A gas station on a road inside the park where it snowed overnight making it impassible would not be open if it relies on the park for snow removal.

Example of areas that may see restricted access: Due to lighter footprint of rangers and patrols, some public lands, trails and sites may see restricted access. Some parks are in winter season and see many skiers. The parks may choose to restrict access to some areas if there is a high risk of avalanche or it's a common spot for injuries since there will not be a regular patrol of the area. Additionally, sensitive cultural areas on all public land may see restricted access to protect the artifacts and objects.

Examples of areas we are prioritizing: We are prioritizing access to the most accessible and most iconic areas of parks and public lands. Each park, monument, recreation area, etc will have different plans in place.

---

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 2:49 PM Claire Woodcock <claire@eptrail.com> wrote:

Hey there,

I'm a reporter that covers RMNP and was supposed to speak with the park's PIO but was told she could not respond to requests at this time. I am requesting responses to these questions as soon and as thoroughly as possible. Our community as a gateway to the park is counting on answers regarding park, staff, maintenance and rescue missions.

Thank you in advance.

If the govt. does not shut down tonight, can I get a staff response on that event?

If it does, here's what I'm curious about:

What workers on the NPS/RMNP staff will be most impacted by a shut down?
How will a govt. shut down impact the visitor experience?
What challenges have park staff seen due to shutdowns in the past? How did staff work (or not work) to resolve the issue before, during or after the shut down has ended?
How does staff prepare for a govt. shut down?
How would a shut down impact research projects overseen by RMNP?
To what extent would the park be accessible to visitors and what would be restricted.
How does the park prioritize maintenance needs during a shut down, especially being one of the top visited parks in the country?
What safety concerns are there with few to no rangers working?
How would the park handle an emergency (fire danger, missing hiker report, issues
with snow removal on roads if it snows, etc.)
How will the search for Micah Tice be impacted by a govt. shut down?

Happy holidays!
Claire

--

Claire Woodcock
Reporter
Estes Park Trail-Gazette
Office: (970) 586-4828
Cell: (720) 296-6447

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National Park Service
Office of Public Affairs

--

- Kyle

Kyle Patterson
Management Specialist/Public Affairs Officer
Rocky Mountain National Park
(970) 586-1363
www.nps.gov/romo
www.facebook.com/RockyNPS
Have you heard back? Given it's 4:40 east coast time I want to try to be responsive to his request.

Chad's phone number is [b] (6) [b]

Thanks again!

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 1:27 PM Vanessa Lacayo <vanessa_lacayo@nps.gov> wrote:
I sent an email to Beth in OCLA to see how they want parks to field congressionals. I will let you know soon as I know more, thanks!

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 21, 2018, at 1:22 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

I agree that responding in writing wherever possible makes the most sense tonight.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 3:19 PM Kyle Patterson <kyle_patterson@nps.gov> wrote:
Thanks all. My concern going on camera is that one media outlet indicated they wanted to understand the personal impacts for employees at national parks during the holidays... not going there ...

We also received a call from Chad (had a hard time understanding his voice mail and last name) with the House Committee on Natural Resources Democrat staff wanting to understand the implication at ROMO. How should we handle that - Guidance says WASO leg affairs?
Hi Kyle,

No issues on our end. We had tv outside and did a short interview stating that we would not speculate, but to check with individual parks if a lapse occurs.

Thanks Jeremy.

Vanessa and Jennifer - let me know your thoughts please, as soon as possible.

I plan to send out an email. We have been asked to go on camera as well - which we are not planning to do. They can relay our statement.

Kyle,

I edited the first line. I know you're getting a lot of questions so I'm okay with you responding if IMR is.

If a lapse in appropriations occurs, Rocky Mountain National Park will be accessible to the public during the lapse in federal appropriations. However, Rocky Mountain National Park staff would be unable to fully staff park properties. Park visitors are advised to use extreme caution if choosing to enter the park, as park personnel will not be available to provide guidance or assistance. Emergency services will be limited. Any entry to the park during this period of federal government shutdown is at the visitor’s sole risk. Normal rules and regulations would still apply.
No visitor services will be provided. Services that require staffing and maintenance, such as entrance stations, the Beaver Meadows Visitor Center, the Kawuneeche Visitor Center, Moraine Park Campground, and some restroom facilities will not be operating. Roads that are already open will remain open, weather and road conditions permitting. Park staff will not issue permits, conduct educational programs, collect trash, maintain restrooms, maintain roads or walkways in the event of snow or ice, or provide visitor information.

Roads or areas in Rocky Mountain National Park may be closed during the government shutdown if conditions warrant. If that does occur, we will be unable to update that information on the park's website or through social media.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 2:40 PM Patterson, Kyle <kyle_patterson@nps.gov> wrote:

Less bureaucratic response:

We are hopeful that a lapse in appropriations will not occur.

If it does occur, Rocky Mountain National Park will be accessible to the public during the lapse in federal appropriations. However, Rocky Mountain National Park staff would be unable to fully staff park properties. Park visitors are advised to use extreme caution if choosing to enter the park, as park personnel will not be available to provide guidance or
assistance. Emergency services will be limited. Any entry to the park during this period of federal government shutdown is at the visitor's sole risk. Normal rules and regulations would still apply.

No visitor services will be provided. Services that require staffing and maintenance, such as entrance stations, the Beaver Meadows Visitor Center, the Kawuneeche Visitor Center, Moraine Park Campground, and some restroom facilities will not be operating. Roads that are already open will remain open, weather and road conditions permitting. Park staff will not issue permits, conduct educational programs, collect trash, maintain restrooms, maintain roads or walkways in the event of snow or ice, or provide visitor information.

Roads or areas in Rocky Mountain National Park may be closed during the government shutdown if conditions warrant. If that does occur, we will be unable to update that information on the park's website or through social media.

- Kyle

Kyle Patterson
Management Specialist/Public Affairs Officer
Rocky Mountain National Park
(970) 586-1363
www.nps.gov/romo
www.facebook.com/RockyNPS

--

- Kyle

Kyle Patterson
Management Specialist/Public Affairs Officer
Rocky Mountain National Park
- Kyle

Kyle Patterson
Management Specialist/Public Affairs Officer
Rocky Mountain National Park
(970) 586-1363
www.nps.gov/romo
www.facebook.com/RockyNPS
Looks good

Stephanie Loeb
Public Affairs Specialist
National Park Service
Office of Communications

Office: 202-513-7265
Cell: 202-339-1509
stephanie_loeb@nps.gov

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 4:55 PM Litterst, Michael <mike_litterst@nps.gov> wrote:
I've got inquiries from Fox News, Washington Post and WTOP about what will be accessible during the shutdown. Using the Rocky Mountain response I saw earlier as a model, how is this as a written response to all three (and any future ones that come in):

If a lapse in appropriations occurs, open air sites of National Mall and Memorial Parks will be accessible to the public during the partial shutdown of the federal government; buildings and historic houses, such as Belmont-Paul Women's Equality National Monument and Ford's Theatre National Historic Site, will be closed.

However, even for accessible sites, the National Park Service would be unable to staff these areas. Services that require staffing and maintenance, such as visitor contact stations and restroom facilities will not be operating. Furloughed park staff will not be available to issue permits, conduct educational programs, maintain restrooms, maintain roads or walkways in the event of snow or ice, or provide visitor information.

We are working with some of our park partners, including BIDs and concessionaires, to provide some services, including portable restrooms and trash collection. A full list of those partners and services will be available tomorrow morning.

Visitors are advised to use extreme caution if choosing to enter the park, as park personnel will not be available to provide guidance or assistance. Emergency services will be limited. Any entry to the park during this period of federal government shutdown is at the visitor’s sole risk. Normal rules and regulations would still apply,
and United States Park Police will continue to patrol the sites..

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief of Communications

National Park Service -
National Mall and Memorial Parks
900 Ohio Drive SW
Washington, DC 20024
Cell: (202) 306-4166

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA
Hi Jeremy,

I was on the WASO call today, and I thought I heard you say that you would like parks to email you what our operations plans are for each park. I have attached our press release that will be sent out, if needed after we're advised to do so.

The Las Vegas Review-Journal queried us this morning, and I referred them to WASO, as advised. Here is the article they published online:


If you want to give Henry any additional specifics, the attached release should help. His phone number is [b] (6) [b]. His email is hbrean@reviewjournal.com.

--

Respectfully,

Christie Vanover
Public Affairs Officer
Lake Mead National Recreation Area
Tule Springs Fossil Beds National Monument
National Park Service
601 Nevada Way, Boulder City, NV 89005
702-293-8691 (office)
702-283-2344 (cell)
christie_vanover@nps.gov

#FindYourPark
www.nps.gov/lake
www.facebook.com/lakemeadnps
Twitter: @LakeMeadNPS
Instagram: @LakeMeadNPS
Thank you Jeremy.

Alex

Alexandra Picavet
Chief of Communications
Midwest Region of the
National Park Service
402-960-0688 cell
402-661-1840 office

On Dec 21, 2018, at 4:50 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

**On-the-record statement attributable to National Park Service Chief Spokesperson Jeremy Barnum:**

“In the event of a government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. For example, this means that roads that have already been open will remain open (think snow removal) and vault toilets (wilderness type restrooms) will remain open. However services that require staffing and maintenance such as campgrounds and full service restrooms, will not be operating.”

**Background Information:**

General contingency plans for operations in the absence of appropriations may be found here: [https://www.doi.gov/shutdown](https://www.doi.gov/shutdown)

I would refer you to the information from our contingency plan.

**Additional background information:**

Example of services that could be open: a free-standing gift shop, lodge, restaurant or gas station that requires no assistance from the Park to operate. "Assistance" could include but not be limited to snow removal, working as a cashier, unlocking gates, etc. However, if a private concessionaire has worked out in advance a way to remove snow, trash, etc, without the assistance of the park, they MAY be able to continue operations.

Example of services that would not be open: a gift shop inside a visitors center would not be open because a park ranger would not be available to unlock the visitors center or to staff the visitors center. A gas station on a road inside the park where it snowed overnight making it impassible would not be open if it relies on the park for snow removal.

Example of areas that may see restricted access: Due to lighter footprint of rangers and patrols, some public lands, trails and sites may see restricted access. Some parks are in winter season and see many skiers. The parks may choose to restrict access to some areas if there is a high risk of avalanche or it's a common spot for injuries since there will not be a regular patrol of the area. Additionally, sensitive cultural areas on all public land may see restricted access to protect the artifacts and objects.

Examples of areas we are prioritizing: We are prioritizing access to the most accessible and
most iconic areas of parks and public lands. Each park, monument, recreation area, etc will have different plans in place.

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 5:42 PM Reilly, Alison <areilly@fox8.com> wrote:
Hi Jeremy,

My name is Alison Reilly with Fox 8 News in Cleveland, Ohio. I was wondering if you could provide a statement with how Cuyahoga Valley National Park (here in northeast Ohio) will be affected if the partial government shutdown goes through tonight.

Thank you in advance for your help.

Best,

Alison Reilly
Associate Producer
<Outlook-3jccbbqr.png>
Hi Everyone,

Please see the attached park specific news release that we would like to put out tomorrow if there is a lapse in appropriations. Please let us know if it looks ok or if there is anything you would change or add. We did add a paragraph about the state's donation.

Thanks,

Robin

Robin Martin
Planning, Environment, and Projects (PEP)
Grand Canyon National Park
(928) 638 - 7684
(928) 856-1712 (cell)
We have received the funding. We just don't have the signed agreement back from the state, so its not technically fully executed at this point.

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 8:54 PM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Date: Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 8:53 PM
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Media inquiry re government shutdown
To: Paletta, Damian <Damian.Paletta@washpost.com>
Cc: Rein, Lisa <Lisa.Rein@washpost.com>

ALL OFF THE RECORD
The states have approached us on a potential agreement for funding but at least at the time of your question an agreement had not been finalized. It would therefore be inappropriate to suggest that we have received funding from an organization, partner, government, etc., until they have officially committed to do so. But I also wouldn't want to suggest that by not having already received the funds that the states were somehow not engaged in a good faith effort to do so.

We commit to always provide whatever information we can to journalists like yourself in as timely and professional manner as possible. But we expect that you extend the same professionalism to us in your correspondence.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
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Can you just please for the love of all things Friday night confirm you have received money from NY to keep the Statue of Liberty open. This is freaking ridiculous. These aren’t the codes to the nuclear stockpile.

Damian Paletta
202.580.5707

On Dec 21, 2018, at 6:49 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Damian,

We don't have any information to share at this time. Please contact the respective states regarding their plans.

Thanks,

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 4:01 PM Paletta, Damian <Damian.Paletta@washpost.com> wrote:
Hi Jeremy. I’m told NY and NJ are paying to keep the Statue of Liberty open. Is that right?

Damian Paletta
202.580.5707
On Dec 21, 2018, at 3:55 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Lisa and Damian,

Please see updated statement and information below.

On-the-record statement attributable to National Park Service Chief Spokesperson Jeremy Barnum:
“In the event of a government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. For example, this means that roads that have already been open will remain open (think snow removal) and vault toilets (wilderness type restrooms) will remain open. However services that require staffing and maintenance such as campgrounds and full service restrooms, will not be operating.”

Background Information:
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I would refer you to the information from our contingency plan.

Additional background information:
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Examples of areas we are prioritizing: We are prioritizing access to the most accessible and most iconic areas of parks and public lands. Each park, monument, recreation area, etc will have different plans in place.
On Thu, Dec 20, 2018 at 4:34 PM Rein, Lisa <Lisa.Rein@washpost.com> wrote:

Hi Jeremy thanks very much. So can you give us some examples of parks that will definitely NOT be open?

From: Barnum, Jeremy [mailto:jeremy_barnum@nps.gov]
Sent: Thursday, December 20, 2018 4:02 PM
To: Paletta, Damian <Damian.Paletta@washpost.com>
Cc: Kathy Kupper <kathy_kupper@nps.gov>; NPS News Media <newsmedia@nps.gov>; Rein, Lisa <Lisa.Rein@washpost.com>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Media inquiry re government shutdown

Damian,

On-the-record statement: "We are not going to speculate on any possible change in government operations. National parks are open and continue to welcome visitors."

**Background information**

The below background information generally addresses your questions.

General contingency plans for operations in the absence of appropriations may be found here: https://www.doi.gov/shutdown [doi.gov]

Please see below information from our contingency plan. https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf [doi.gov]
Park roads, lookouts, trails, and open-air memorials will generally remain accessible to visitors, but there will be no NPS-provided visitor services, including restrooms, trash collection, facilities and roads maintenance (including plowing), and public information.

- As a general rule, if a facility or area is locked or secured during non-business hours (buildings, gated parking lots, etc.) it should be locked or secured for the duration of the shutdown.

- The NPS will not operate parks during the shutdown – no visitor services will be provided. The NPS will not issue permits, conduct interpretive or educational programs, collect trash, operate or provide restrooms, maintain roads or walkways (including plowing and ice melting), or provide visitor information.

- If visitor access becomes a safety, health or resource protection issue (weather, road conditions, resource damage, garbage build-up to the extent that it endangers human health or wildlife, etc.), the area must be closed. Parks may not bring on additional staff to accommodate visitor access.

- The NPS will cease providing services for NPS-operated campgrounds, including maintenance, janitorial, bathrooms, showers, check-in/check-out and reservations.

Visitors in campgrounds will not be asked to leave but should be advised that no services will be available. In addition, visitors holding campground reservations for a later date will be advised that the NPS is not operating campgrounds, including providing checkin/check-out services during a shutdown. There is no guarantee their reserved campsite will be ready and available should they arrive during a government shutdown.

- Park websites and social media will not be maintained. Parks will not provide regular road or trail condition updates. As a part of their shutdown activities, park staff will post signs notifying visitors that no visitor services, maintenance or other management activities will be conducted, and emergency and rescue services will be limited.

- At the superintendent’s discretion, parks may close grounds/areas with sensitive natural, cultural, historic, or archaeological resources vulnerable to destruction, looting, or other damage that cannot be adequately protected by the excepted law enforcement staff that remain on duty to conduct essential activities.

- At the superintendent’s discretion and with approval of the Regional Director or Director, parks may enter into arrangements with local governments, cooperating associations, and/or other third parties (see below for concessioners and Commercial Use Authorization holders) for donation of specified visitor services. The NPS will not reimburse third parties (through
payments, franchise fee relief or any other consideration)

who provide such visitor services. If NPS staff will be conducting
the work using funds from a third party, funds must be transferred
and deposited before the NPS may continue or resume providing
visitor services. The Washington Office will provide template
agreements. Agreements should not be established for a period of
less than three days.

Because a shutdown of park operations may take up to two days,
parks should begin shutdown when the balance in the donation
account falls below a two-day balance.

- In general, enforcement actions should be reactive rather than
proactive. Parks should not take measures to keep visitors out of an
area unless access presents a serious and imminent threat to human
life, safety, or health, or a serious and imminent threat to the
condition of a sensitive natural or cultural resource.

Jeremy K. Barnum

Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs

National Park Service

Office: (202) 513-7262

Mobile: (202) 617-7973

Facebook [facebook.com] Twitter [twitter.com] Instagram
[instagram.com] YouTube [youtube.com]

On Thu, Dec 20, 2018 at 2:02 PM Paletta, Damian
<Damian.Paletta@washpost.com> wrote:

Hi guys,

Here’s the latest.

I’m told that all open-air national parks will remain
open but those that are closed and locked at night will
remain closed and locked. That means Alcatraz, Statue
of Liberty, etc. will be closed. It’s less than 36 hours
away now and obviously thousands of people are
Making travel plans. Can you please help me sort this out ASAP?

Thank you,

Damian Paletta
The Washington Post
202.334.7578
202.580.5707 (cell)

damian.paletta@washpost.com
@daminpaletta

From: Paletta, Damian
Sent: Thursday, December 13, 2018 6:45 PM
To: Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Cc: Kathy Kupper <kathy_kupper@nps.gov>; NPS News Media <newsmedia@nps.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Media inquiry re government shutdown

Hi Jeremy,

It’s not really speculation. There is no funding after Dec 21. What happens to people who have tickets to the Statue of Liberty on Dec 22? Are they allowed in or not? What if they are traveling for the trip. Seems like a pretty straightforward question. You guys closed last time so I’m assuming you close again?

Damian Paletta
202.580.5707

On Dec 13, 2018, at 6:28 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

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Hi Damian,

We are not going to speculate on any possible change in government operations. National parks are open and continue to welcome visitors.

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Best regards,

Jeremy K. Barnum
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
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On Thu, Dec 13, 2018 at 4:39 PM News Media, NPS <newsmedia@nps.gov> wrote:

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Cc: Rein, Lisa <Lisa.Rein@washpost.com>
Hello,

My name is Damian Paletta, and I’m a reporter at the Washington Post. the Media liaison at the Statue of Liberty national park recommended I email this account.

In the event of a government shutdown, will the Statue of Liberty be open on Dec 22? What parks will be impacted, and what parks will not be impacted? This is important information for the planning of thousands of Americans during the holiday season, and we are writing the story for this weekend so people can make plans.

Thanks,

Damian Paletta
The Washington Post
202.334.7578
202.580.5707 (cell)

@damianpaletta

damian.paletta@washpost.com

--

National Park Service
Office of Public Affairs
Just got off the phone with the region; the gov signed a different copy that Obe, so they're just confirming that the provisions are the same, and then we'll call it final.

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 8:59 PM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

The reporter's response...

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

Of course. Very helpful. I really appreciate it, just trying to make sure our reporting is as correct as possible. I appreciate the constraints you are under.

Damian Paletta
The Washington Post
202.334.7578
202.580.5707 (cell)
ALL OFF THE RECORD

The states have approached us on a potential agreement for funding but at least at the time of your question an agreement had not been finalized. It would therefore be inappropriate to suggest that we have received funding from an organization, partner, government, etc., until they have officially committed to do so. But I also wouldn't want to suggest that by not having already received the funds that the states were somehow not engaged in a good faith effort to do so.

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Damian Paletta
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Thanks,

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Office: (202) 513-7262
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Jeremy K. Barnum
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Jeremy K. Barnum
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National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973

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202.580.5707 (cell)
damian.paletta@washpost.com
@damianpaletta

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202.580.5707

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Jeremy K. Barnum

Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs

National Park Service

Office: (202) 513-7262

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Thanks,

Damian Paletta
The Washington Post
202.334.7578
202.580.5707 (cell)
damian.palletta@washpost.com
@damianpaletta

--
National Park Service
Office of Public Affairs
Just New York -- as was the case in January.

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 9:52 PM Paletta, Damian <Damian.Paletta@washpost.com> wrote:
With New Jersey and New York or just New York?

Damian Paletta
202.580.5707

On Dec 21, 2018, at 9:49 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

The agreement with the State of New York has been finalized.

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Of course. Very helpful. I really appreciate it. just trying to make sure our reporting is as correct as possible. I appreciate the constraints you are under.

Damian Paletta
The Washington Post
ALL OFF THE RECORD

The states have approached us on a potential agreement for funding but at least at the time of your question an agreement had not been finalized. It would therefore be inappropriate to suggest that we have received funding from an organization, partner, government, etc., until they have officially committed to do so. But I also wouldn't want to suggest that by not having already received the funds that the states were somehow not engaged in a good faith effort to do so.

We commit to always provide whatever information we can to journalists like yourself in as timely and professional manner as possible. But we expect that you extend the same professionalism to us in your correspondence.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973

Can you just please for the love of all things Friday night confirm you have received money from NY to keep the Statue of Liberty open. This is freaking ridiculous. These aren’t the codes to the nuclear stockpile.

Damian Paletta
202.580.5707

Hi Damian,

We don't have any information to share at this time. Please contact the respective states regarding their plans.

Thanks,

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973


On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 4:01 PM Paletta, Damian <Damian.Paletta@washpost.com> wrote:

Hi Jeremy. I’m told NY and NJ are paying to keep the Statue of Liberty open. Is that right?

Damian Paletta
On the-record statement attributable to National Park Service Chief Spokesperson Jeremy Barnum:

“In the event of a government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. For example, this means that roads that have already been open will remain open (think snow removal) and vault toilets (wilderness type restrooms) will remain open. However services that require staffing and maintenance such as campgrounds and full service restrooms, will not be operating.”

Background Information:
General contingency plans for operations in the absence of appropriations may be found here: https://www.doi.gov/shutdown

Additional background information:
Example of services that could be open: a free-standing gift shop, lodge, restaurant or gas station that requires no assistance from the Park to operate. "Assistance" could include but not be limited to snow removal, working as a cashier, unlocking gates, etc. However, if a private concessionaire has worked out in advance a way to remove snow, trash, etc, without the assistance of the park, they MAY be able to continue operations.

Example of services that would not be open: a gift shop inside a visitors center would not be open because a park ranger would not be available to unlock the visitors center or to staff the visitors center. A gas station on a road inside the park where it snowed overnight making it impassable would not be open if it relies on the park for snow removal.

Example of areas that may see restricted access: Due to lighter footprint of rangers and patrols, some public lands, trails and sites may see restricted access. Some parks are in winter season and see many skiers. The parks may choose to restrict access to some areas if there is a high risk of avalanche or it's a common spot for injuries since there will not be a regular patrol of the area. Additionally, sensitive cultural areas on all public land may see restricted access to protect the artifacts and objects.

Examples of areas we are prioritizing: We are prioritizing access to the most accessible and most iconic areas of parks and public lands. Each
On Thu, Dec 20, 2018 at 4:34 PM Rein, Lisa <Lisa.Rein@washpost.com> wrote:

Hi Jeremy thanks very much. So can you give us some examples of parks that will definitely NOT be open?

From: Barnum, Jeremy [mailto:jeremy_barnum@nps.gov]
Sent: Thursday, December 20, 2018 4:02 PM
To: Paletta, Damian <Damian.Paletta@washpost.com>
Cc: Kathy Kupper <kathy_kupper@nps.gov>; NPS News Media <newsmedia@nps.gov>; Rein, Lisa <Lisa.Rein@washpost.com>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Media inquiry re government shutdown

Damian,

On-the-record statement: "We are not going to speculate on any possible change in government operations. National parks are open and continue to welcome visitors."

Background information
The below background information generally addresses your questions.

General contingency plans for operations in the absence of appropriations may be found here: https://www.doi.gov/shutdown [doi.gov]

Please see below information from our contingency plan: https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf [doi.gov]

Park roads, lookouts, trails, and open-air memorials will generally remain accessible to visitors, but there will be no NPS-provided visitor services, including restrooms, trash collection, facilities and roads maintenance (including plowing), and public information.

- As a general rule, if a facility or area is locked or secured during non-business hours (buildings, gated parking lots, etc.) it should be locked or secured for the duration of the shutdown.

- The NPS will not operate parks during the shutdown – no visitor services will be provided. The NPS will not issue permits, conduct interpretive or educational programs, collect trash, operate or provide restrooms, maintain roads or walkways (including plowing and ice melting), or provide visitor information.

- If visitor access becomes a safety, health or resource protection issue (weather, road conditions, resource damage, garbage build-up to the extent that it endangers human health or wildlife, etc.), the area must be closed. Parks may not bring on additional staff to accommodate visitor access.

- The NPS will cease providing services for NPS-operated campgrounds, including maintenance, janitorial, bathrooms, showers, check-in/check-out and reservations.

Visitors in campgrounds will not be asked to leave but should be advised that no services will be available. In addition, visitors holding campground reservations for a later date will be advised that the NPS is not operating campgrounds, including providing checkin/check-out services during a shutdown. There is no guarantee their reserved campsite will be ready and available should they arrive during a government shutdown.

- Park websites and social media will not be maintained. Parks will not provide regular road or trail condition updates. As a part of their shutdown activities, park staff will post signs notifying visitors that no visitor services, maintenance or other management activities will be conducted, and emergency and rescue services will be limited.
- At the superintendent’s discretion, parks may close grounds/areas with sensitive natural, cultural, historic, or archaeological resources vulnerable to destruction, looting, or other damage that cannot be adequately protected by the excepted law enforcement staff that remain on duty to conduct essential activities.

- At the superintendent’s discretion and with approval of the Regional Director or Director, parks may enter into arrangements with local governments, cooperating associations, and/or other third parties (see below for concessioners and Commercial Use Authorization holders) for donation of specified visitor services. The NPS will not reimburse third parties (through payments, franchise fee relief or any other consideration) who provide such visitor services. If NPS staff will be conducting the work using funds from a third party, funds must be transferred and deposited before the NPS may continue or resume providing visitor services. The Washington Office will provide template agreements. Agreements should not be established for a period of less than three days.

Because a shutdown of park operations may take up to two days, parks should begin shutdown when the balance in the donation account falls below a two-day balance.

- In general, enforcement actions should be reactive rather than proactive. Parks should not take measures to keep visitors out of an area unless access presents a serious and imminent threat to human life, safety, or health, or a serious and imminent threat to the condition of a sensitive natural or cultural resource.

Jeremy K. Barnum

Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs

National Park Service

Office: (202) 513-7262

Mobile: (202) 617-7973

Hi guys,

Here’s the latest.

I’m told that all open-air national parks will remain open but those that are closed and locked at night will remain closed and locked. That means Alcatraz, Statue of Liberty, etc. will be closed. It’s less than 36 hours away now and obviously thousands of people are making travel plans. Can you please help me sort this out ASAP?

Thank you,

Damian Paletta

The Washington Post

202.334.7578

202.580.5707 (cell)

damian.paletta@washpost.com

@damianpaletta

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From: Paletta, Damian
Sent: Thursday, December 13, 2018 6:45 PM
To: Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Cc: Kathy Kupper <kathy_kupper@nps.gov>; NPS News Media <newsmedia@nps.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Media inquiry re government shutdown

Hi Jeremy,

It’s not really speculation. There is no funding after Dec 21. What happens to people who have tickets to the Statue of Liberty on Dec 22? Are they allowed in or not? What if they are traveling for the trip. Seems like a pretty straightforward question. You guys closed last time so I’m assuming you close again?

Damian Paletta
On Dec 13, 2018, at 6:28 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Damian,

We are not going to speculate on any possible change in government operations. National parks are open and continue to welcome visitors.

Background Information:

General contingency plans for operations in the absence of appropriations may be found here: https://www.doi.gov/shutdown [doi.gov]

Best regards,

Jeremy K. Barnum
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973

On Thu, Dec 13, 2018 at 4:39 PM News Media, NPS <newsmedia@nps.gov> wrote:

------------- Forwarded message -------------
From: Paletta, Damian <Damian.Paletta@washpost.com>
Date: Thu, Dec 13, 2018 at 4:08 PM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Media inquiry re
Hello,

My name is Damian Paletta, and I’m a reporter at the Washington Post. The Media liaison at the Statue of Liberty national park recommended I email this account.

In the event of a government shutdown, will the Statue of Liberty be open on Dec 22? What parks will be impacted, and what parks will not be impacted? This is important information for the planning of thousands of Americans during the holiday season, and we are writing the story for this weekend so people can make plans.

Thanks,

Damian Paletta
The Washington Post
202.334.7578
202.580.5707 (cell)
damian.paletta@washpost.com
@damianpaletta

--

National Park Service
No concerns from me. I’ll be in around 8/8:30, but will review and send you what came in late from pwr before I leave

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Burkhart, Stephanie" <stephanie_burkhart@nps.gov>
Date: December 22, 2018 at 2:36:47 AM EST
To: Jessica Bowron <jessica_bowron@nps.gov>
Cc: Kimberley Gagliolo <kim_gagliolo@nps.gov>, "Creachbaum, Sarah" <sarah_creachbaum@nps.gov>
Subject: In-Kind Donation Agreement for NEG282 for essential services for campground in DEVA

Please see the attached donation agreement and other associated required documents for WASO review and signature for NEG282, LLC dba Death Valley Lodging Company to provide in kind services in the form of custodial services, garbage removal, and restroom supplies to enable operation of Stovepipe Wells Campground within Death Valley National Park. Attached is the Donation Agreement, the signed Conditional Approval To Remain Open, and pre-lapse form.

1. Details of the offer (cash or in-kind, description of essential services being provided, description of public access the donation will support) -
The in-kind donation includes essential services, custodial services, garbage removal, and restroom supplies, to allow Stovepipe Wells Campground, one of the largest campgrounds in the park, to remain open.

2. Identity of the donor(s) -
NEG282, LLC dba Death Valley Lodging Company, Ortega National Parks

3. Relationship of the donor to the park (park concessioner, Friends Group, Chamber of Commerce, etc.) Park Concessioner

4. List of agreements the donor currently has with the park if applicable (concession contract, Friends Group agreement, etc.) -
Concessions Contract DEVA002-11; Conditional Agreement to Remain Open

5. Any factors with respect to the Donor or the Donor’s business that may cause a reasonable person to question the NPS’s integrity, impartiality, or public confidence if the NPS accepts this donation.
PWR recommends approval of this. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Stephanie Burkhart  
Associate Regional Director  
National Park Service, Pacific West Region  
333 Bush Street, Suite 500  
San Francisco, CA 94104  
Phone: (415) 623-2103  
Email: stephanie_burkhart@nps.gov

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: James Hernandez <jhernandez@ortegaparks.com>
Date: Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 9:51 PM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Conditional Agreement to Continue Operations and In-Kind Donation Agreement
To: Maxwell, Amanda <amanda_maxwell@nps.gov>
Cc: Craig Drissel <cdrissel@deathvalleylodgingco.com>, Nathan Koontz <nkoontz@ortegafamilyenterprises.com>, James Hernandez <jhernandez@ortegaparks.com>, Alicia Alvarado <alicia_alvarado@nps.gov>, DEVA Superintendent, NPS <deva_superintendent@nps.gov>

Amanda,

I have attached the signed agreements. Thank you for all of your work on this! Please feel free to reach out to me if there is anything further you need from me.

James Hernandez  
Chief Operating Officer  
Ortega National Parks  
Phone: (505)629-9119  
Email: jhernandez@ortegaparks.com
No concerns here either. Her note about the 25th is the same at STLI. My response will be that they’ll need to make another donation on Monday if they want to keep operating on Weds.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Dowe, Aaron" <aaron_dowe@nps.gov>
To: Jessica Bowron <jessica_bowron@nps.gov>
Cc: "Creachbaum, Sarah" <Sarah_Creachbaum@nps.gov>, 1 Steph <stephanie_burkhart@nps.gov>, "Gagliolo, Kimberley" <kim_gagliolo@nps.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Shutdown cash agreement: WAPA-AMME with PHP

Jessica,

Please see the attached donation agreement and other associated required documents for WASO review and approval of Pacific Historic Park’s offer of funds to enable the NPS to staff the visitor center at War in the Pacific NHP and American Memorial Park. Attached is the Donation Agreement, signed by Pacific Historic Parks for NPS Director approval. Also attached are the costs in the Daily Cost Estimator. Funds will be provided to the NPS in the form of a check. Included at the final page of the donation agreement is the check proviso form.

This one is slightly odd, as the donation agreement covers three days, but the cost to operate on Christmas Day is zero, as the VCs are traditionally closed. We are somewhat unsure this will be acceptable and look for your guidance.

A conditional approval to remain open is not necessary, as the partner does not physically operate at either site.

Details of the Offer: Offer is to fund operating the WAPA and AMME visitor center front desk staff.

Relationship of the Donor to the Park: Cooperating association

Agreements the Partner Operates Under: Long-time, well established partner, with a cooperating association agreement (attached)
Any factors with respect to the Donor or the Donor’s business that may cause a reasonable person to question the NPS’s integrity, impartiality, or public confidence if the NPS accepts this donation: None

Cost Estimate: Cost estimate for the NPS services is in the attached WAPA AMME Daily Cost Estimator

PWR has reviewed the cost estimates and the criteria to accept the donation. A cash donation in this amount would be sufficient to satisfy the requirements of the Anti-Deficiency Act. PWR supports this. Please let us know if you need any additional information.

Thanks,
Aaron

Aaron Dowe
Regional Comptroller
Pacific West Regional Office
National Park Service
333 Bush Street
San Francisco, CA 94104
415-623-2141

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 7:08 PM Alberti, Barbara <barbara_alberti@nps.gov> wrote:

Please see the attached agreement with our cooperating association partner, Pacific Historic Parks. PHP has again graciously offered to donate the funds needed to keep the visitor centers open at both our parks, AMME and WAPA. They will be staffed by PHP employees and one NPS interpreter. We will have one maintenance employee on duty for a few hours each day to take care of restrooms, trash, etc. Since most of our sites don't have gates, our parks remain largely open to the public. With your concurrence, we will issue a press release explaining what is open/closed.

Also attached is a copy of the latest agreement between NPS and PHP and the cost estimator tool for the next 3 days (Sunday - Tuesday, ChST). If there is a shutdown, PHP will issue a check and hand deliver it for deposit. We hope to open the visitor centers at 9 am ChST tomorrow (3 pm PT).

Please let me know if you have any questions or need further information.
Barbara
Thanks Jeremy. I hope you get paid soon!

Please send along any new releases or statements that you do today, when they are available.

Importantly, how many parks service workers are on furlough and how many remain on the job?

Thanks,

Erin

On Sat, Dec 22, 2018 at 8:11 AM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

National parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. In some cases, parks are closed completely. Some visitor services may be available when provided by concessioners or other entities. For most parks, there will be no National Park Service-provided visitor services, such as restrooms, trash collection, facilities, or road maintenance.

Visitors should check the park's website and social media accounts which should have some general information about what will be accessible and available at each park.

Please note that during the course of the shutdown websites will not be updated and access to park areas may change without notice.

https://www.nps.gov/stli/index.htm

The State of New York has provided the necessary funding to keep the Statue of Liberty & Ellis Island open during the shutdown of the federal government. The park remains open to visitors.

**Operations at Yellowstone during the government shutdown**

In response to the lapse in federal appropriations, Yellowstone National Park is implementing its plan for a government shutdown:

- Yellowstone will remain open, however, all government-run operations and facilities are closed. Entrance stations will not be staffed.

- The road from the park’s North Entrance at Gardiner, Montana, through Mammoth Hot Springs to the Northeast Entrance at Cooke City, Montana, is open to wheeled vehicle travel. Visitors can access all the commercial services along this route (including commercial services in Mammoth Hot Springs and Tower).
Visitors can also access commercial services in the interior of the park via oversnow travel (e.g. at Old Faithful). Concessioners are currently providing funding for road grooming so that oversnow access to the interior is possible.

Guided snowmobile and snowcoach trips with commercial operators will be allowed. Non-commercially guided snowmobile trips will also be allowed.

If conditions become unsafe at any time, roads and/or developed areas in the park may be closed.

Park staff will provide emergency services and law enforcement. All park regulations, including those regarding oversnow travel, are in effect as normal.

The park website and social media sites will not be maintained.

All administrative offices, including the public affairs office, will be closed until the government reopens.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Sat, Dec 22, 2018 at 9:51 AM Erin McCormick <b (6) @gmail.com wrote:
Hi Jeremy,

I'm writing now. If you have any statement to release can you send it ASAP.

Thanks much,

Erin McCormick
On assignment for the Guardian
On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 6:41 PM Erin McCormick (b) (6) @gmail.com wrote:

Thank you Jeremy,

Assuming the shutdown goes forward, I will have a story due at noon tomorrow. It will go up onto the web very quickly. Can you help me figure out the status of some major parks around the nation? I'm interested in seeing the various situations, but particularly in Statue of Liberty, Yosemite, Grand Canyon, Yellowstone, Alcatraz and Rosie the Riveter in Richmond.

Can you list some facilities that will be fully closed? Any advice to people who had planned to visit the parks that remain open? Should they alter their plans or provision differently? How can they get information about their specific parks?

Also, how many National Parks employees will be asked not to come to work and how many will be working? What types of employees fall in each category?

Thanks in advance,

Erin McCormick

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 6:22 PM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Erin,

I will be answering media queries during the course of the shutdown should one occur. Feel free to reach out.

Thanks,

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 7:32 PM Erin McCormick (b) (6) @gmail.com wrote:

Hi Media Staff,

Thanks again for passing along some information about the potential government shutdown. I was able to get your information into the story now up on the Guardian
I will need to do a story tomorrow, if the shutdown indeed happens. Can you please
put me on the list to receive all future releases on this matter? I’m hoping
to be able to reach you if the government shuts down (but of course that sounds
impossible.) Please advise as to the best way from me to stay on topic of closure
information.

Thanks a ton,

Erin McCormick
On assignment for The Guardian

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 12:12 PM Erin McCormick
<e@b.com> wrote:

This is a big help, thanks so much!

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 11:29 AM News Media, NPS <newsmedia@nps.gov>
wrote:

Hello Erin,

On-the-record statement attributable to National Park Service Chief Spokesperson
Jeremy Barnum:

“In the event of a government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as
possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. For example, this means
that roads that have already been open will remain open (think snow removal) and vault
toilets (wilderness type restrooms) will remain open. However services that require
staffing and maintenance such as campgrounds and full service restrooms, will not be
operating.”

Background Information:
General contingency plans for operations in the absence of appropriations may be found
here: https://www.doi.gov/shutdown
I would refer you to the information from our contingency plan.

Additional background information:
Example of services that could be open: a free-standing gift shop, lodge, restaurant or
gas station that requires no assistance from the Park to operate. “Assistance” could
include but not be limited to snow removal, working as a cashier, unlocking gates, etc.
However, if a private concessionaire has worked out in advance a way to remove snow,
trash, etc, without the assistance of the park, they MAY be able to continue operations.

Example of services that would not be open: a gift shop inside a visitors center would not
be open because a park ranger would not be available to unlock the visitors center or to
staff the visitors center. A gas station on a road inside the park where it snowed overnight
making it impassible would not be open if it relies on the park for snow removal.

Example of areas that may see restricted access: Due to lighter footprint of rangers and
patrols, some public lands, trails and sites may see restricted access. Some parks are in winter season and see many skiers. The parks may choose to restrict access to some areas if there is a high risk of avalanche or it's a common spot for injuries since there will not be a regular patrol of the area. Additionally, sensitive cultural areas on all public land may see restricted access to protect the artifacts and objects.

Examples of areas we are prioritizing: We are prioritizing access to the most accessible and most iconic areas of parks and public lands. Each park, monument, recreation area, etc will have different plans in place.

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 1:47 PM Erin McCormick <erin.mccormick@gmail.com> wrote:

Greetings Park Service Staffers,

I'm on a tight deadline (1 hour) to do a brief preview of how the National Parks might be affected by a government shutdown for The Guardian's national edition. Jeff Olson said you could help me.

Could someone please call me at (6) and also send any press materials you have on the topic?

Thanks in advance,

Erin McCormick
On assignment for The Guardian

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National Park Service
Office of Public Affairs
Grand Canyon News Release
Date: December 22, 2018
Contact: Nicole Koehlinger, 928-638-7958
         Robin Martin, 928-638-7958
         grca_public_affairs@nps.gov

Grand Canyon National Park Accessible to Public during Partial Government Shutdown

GRAND CANYON, Ariz. - During the partial shutdown of the federal government due to the lapse of appropriations, national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. Park roads, lookouts, and trails at Grand Canyon National Park will remain accessible to visitors. Visitor services provided by park concessioners and other entities will also remain open and operational, including lodging, restaurants and food service, grocery stores, retail locations, bicycle rental, concessioner provided tours, and park shuttle operations.

National Park Service (NPS) staffed visitor centers and contact stations will not be open and no NPS ranger lead programs or tours will be provided. NPS social media and websites are not being monitored or updated and may not reflect current conditions. Entrance stations to the park will be open but will not be staffed with NPS personnel. Most public restrooms in the park will remain open for visitor use.

The park’s Backcountry Information Center will be closed. Visitors with previously issued permits for backcountry camping or river trips on the Colorado River may proceed as permitted but no new permits will be issued during this time. Check-in procedures for backcountry campgrounds and Colorado River trips will remain unchanged.

NPS-operated campgrounds will remain open, but check-in/check-out and reservation services will not be provided. Visitors in NPS-operated campgrounds will not be asked to leave unless safety concerns require such action. Visitors holding campground reservations should be aware that there is no guarantee their reserved campsite will be ready and available should they arrive during a government shutdown.

The State of Arizona has provided donated funding to assist in keeping Grand Canyon National Park open and accessible for visitors. The funding provided by the state will be used for trash collection, custodial services for restrooms, and snow removal on trails and sidewalks.

The National Weather Service is predicting winter storm activity and snowfall across Northern Arizona, including Grand Canyon National Park, over the next week. Visitors should plan accordingly and be prepared for winter driving conditions.
Highway 67 to the North Rim of Grand Canyon remains closed for the season

For updates on the shutdown, please visit www.doj.gov/shutdown

For information about visitor services conducted by park concessioners and other entities please see contact information below:


- NPS -

The National Park Service has more than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America's 418 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities.

Learn more at www.nps.gov.

Office of Communications
Grand Canyon National Park
Hi Mike,

Please see our response below. Let me know if you have any other questions.

**On-the-record statement attributable to National Park Service Chief Spokesperson Jeremy Barnum:**

“During the government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. For example, this means that roads that have already been open will remain open (think snow removal) and vault toilets (wilderness type restrooms) will remain open. However services that require staffing and maintenance such as campgrounds and full service restrooms, will not be operating.”

**Background Information:**

General contingency plans for operations in the absence of appropriations may be found here:

https://www.doi.gov/shutdown

I would refer you to the information from our contingency plan.


**Additional background information:**

Example of services that could be open: a free-standing gift shop, lodge, restaurant or gas station that requires no assistance from the Park to operate. “Assistance” could include but not be limited to snow removal, working as a cashier, unlocking gates, etc. However, if a private concessionaire has worked out in advance a way to remove snow, trash, etc, without the assistance of the park, they MAY be able to continue operations.

Example of services that would not be open: a gift shop inside a visitors center would not be open because a park ranger would not be available to unlock the visitors center or to staff the visitors center. A gas station on a road inside the park where it snowed overnight making it impassible would not be open if it relies on the park for snow removal.

Example of areas that may see restricted access: Due to lighter footprint of rangers and patrols, some public lands, trails and sites may see restricted access. Some parks are in winter season and see many skiers. The parks may choose to restrict access to some areas if there is a high risk of avalanche or it's a common spot for injuries since there will not be a regular patrol of the area. Additionally, sensitive cultural areas on all public land may see restricted access to protect the artifacts and objects.

Examples of areas we are prioritizing: We are prioritizing access to the most accessible and most iconic areas of parks and public lands. Each park, monument, recreation area, etc will have different plans in place.
On Sat, Dec 22, 2018 at 12:04 PM Alanna Sobel <asobel@nationalparks.org> wrote:

Mike,
Nice to hear from you. Looping in the National Park Service as they’ll be the best resource for you.

Thank you,
Alanna

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 22, 2018, at 11:57 AM, Sisak, Michael <MSisak@ap.org> wrote:

Hi,

I’m a reporter with the Associated Press. I’m working on a story looking at the impacts of the government shutdown, particularly on National Parks.

I was hoping to talk with someone from your organization to get an overview of what’s happening and how the impact can be different from place to place.

The line on your blog sums it up quite nicely: “From Yellowstone and Yosemite to Grand Canyon and Gettysburg, a shutdown can play out differently at different parks due to the uniqueness of each site.”

Any help would be most appreciated. You can reach me at: 215-756-5830.

Thanks, Mike

--
Michael Sisak
Associated Press
o) 212-621-1979
c) 215-756-5830
Twitter@mikesisak

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The information contained in this communication is intended for the use of the designated recipients named above. If the reader of this communication is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that you have received this communication in error, and that any review, dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify The Associated Press immediately by telephone at +1-212-621-1500 and delete this email. Thank you.
Thank you very much for your quick response, Jeremy. Have a nice holiday!

Dylan Johnson | Staff Writer
Daily American, Somerset, Pa.
Office: 814.444.5982 [Tues-Sat, 3-10pm]
Twitter: @DADylanJohnson
Facebook: @DylanJohnsonDailyAmerican
http://www.dailyamerican.com

On-the-record statement attributable to National Park Service Chief Spokesperson Jeremy Barnum:
"During the government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. For example, this means that roads that have already been open will remain open (think snow removal) and vault toilets (wilderness type restrooms) will remain open. However services that require staffing and maintenance such as campgrounds and full service restrooms, will not be operating."

Background Information:
General contingency plans for operations in the absence of appropriations may be found here:
https://www.doi.gov/shutdown
I would refer you to the information from our contingency plan.

Additional background information:
Example of services that could be open: a free-standing gift shop, lodge, restaurant or gas station that requires no assistance from the Park to operate. "Assistance" could include but not be limited to snow removal, working as a cashier, unlocking gates, etc. However, if a private concessionaire has worked out in advance a way to remove snow, trash, etc, without the assistance of the park, they MAY be able to continue operations.

Example of services that would not be open: a gift shop inside a visitors center would not be open because a park ranger would not be available to unlock the visitors center or to staff the visitors center. A gas station on a road inside the park where it snowed overnight making it impassible would not be open if it relies on the park for snow removal.
Example of areas that may see restricted access: Due to lighter footprint of rangers and patrols, some public lands, trails and sites may see restricted access. Some parks are in winter season and see many skiers. The parks may choose to restrict access to some areas if there is a high risk of avalanche or it's a common spot for injuries since there will not be a regular patrol of the area. Additionally, sensitive cultural areas on all public land may see restricted access to protect the artifacts and objects.

Examples of areas we are prioritizing: We are prioritizing access to the most accessible and most iconic areas of parks and public lands. Each park, monument, recreation area, etc will have different plans in place.

On Sat, Dec 22, 2018 at 1:08 PM Dylan Johnson <djohnson@dailyamerican.com> wrote:

Hello,

I'm working on an article for the Daily American about the government shutdown and the Flight 93 National Memorial in Somerset County, and I went to the memorial today for photos and a ranger referred me to this email contact.

Can you tell me how the shutdown affects the memorial? The ranger said the park is open but the buildings are closed. I'd like to include those details in my article. If you can respond today, I'd very much appreciate it.

Thank you!

Dylan Johnson | Staff Writer
Daily American, Somerset, Pa.
Office: 814.444.5982 [Tues-Sat, 3-10pm]
Twitter: @DADylanJohnson
Facebook: @DylanJohnsonDailyAmerican
http://www.dailyamerican.com
Thanks Jeremy

Sent from my iPhone

John M Bockmier
Director of Communications
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC
20240

202.208.3636 Office
202.897.7366 Cell

On Dec 22, 2018, at 12:01 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

FYI.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: GRCA Public Affairs, NPS <grca_public_affairs@nps.gov>
Date: Sat, Dec 22, 2018 at 11:57 AM
Subject: Grand Canyon News Release: Grand Canyon National Park Accessible to Public during Partial Government Shutdown
To:
Grand Canyon National Park Accessible to Public during Partial Government Shutdown

GRAND CANYON, Ariz. - During the partial shutdown of the federal government due to the lapse of appropriations, national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. Park roads, lookouts, and trails at Grand Canyon National Park will remain accessible to visitors. Visitor services provided by park concessioners and other entities will also remain open and operational, including lodging, restaurants and food service, grocery stores, retail locations, bicycle rental, concessioner provided tours, and park shuttle operations.

National Park Service (NPS) staffed visitor centers and contact stations will not be open and no NPS ranger lead programs or tours will be provided. NPS social media and websites are not being monitored or updated and may not reflect current conditions. Entrance stations to the park will be open but will not be staffed with NPS personnel. Most public restrooms in the park will remain open for visitor use.

The park’s Backcountry Information Center will be closed. Visitors with previously issued permits for backcountry camping or river trips on the Colorado River may proceed as permitted but no new permits will be issued during this time. Check-in procedures for backcountry campgrounds and Colorado River trips will remain unchanged.

NPS-operated campgrounds will remain open, but check-in/check-out and reservation services will not be provided. Visitors in NPS-operated campgrounds will not be asked to leave unless safety concerns require such action. Visitors holding campground reservations should be aware that there is no guarantee their reserved campsite will be ready and available should they arrive during a government shutdown.

The State of Arizona has provided donated funding to assist in keeping Grand Canyon National Park open and accessible for visitors. The funding provided by the state will be used for trash collection, custodial services for restrooms, and snow removal on trails and sidewalks.

The National Weather Service is predicting winter storm activity and snowfall across Northern Arizona, including Grand Canyon National Park, over the next week. Visitors should plan accordingly and be prepared for winter driving conditions.

Highway 67 to the North Rim of Grand Canyon remains closed for the season.

For updates on the shutdown, please visit www.doi.gov/shutdown.

For information about visitor services conducted by park concessioners and other entities please see contact information below:
The National Park Service has more than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America’s 418 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. Learn more at www.nps.gov.

Office of Communications
Grand Canyon National Park

Thanks

Sent from my iPhone

John M Bockmier
Director of Communications
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC
20240

202.208.3636 Office
202.897.7366 Cell

On Dec 22, 2018, at 1:51 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

--------- Forwarded message ---------
From: GLAC News Releases, NPS <glac_news_releases@nps.gov>
Date: Sat, Dec 22, 2018 at 1:44 PM
Subject: Glacier National Park Status During Government Shutdown - Glacier NP Media Release
To:

Glacier National Park News Release
For Immediate Release: December 22, 2018
Glacier National Park Status During Government Shutdown

West Glacier, MT – During the shutdown of the federal government due to the lapse of appropriations, national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. Park roads and trails in Glacier National Park will remain accessible to visitors, but emergency and rescue services will be limited.

There will be no NPS-provided visitor services at Glacier National Park, including public information, restrooms, trash collection, and facilities and roads maintenance. Vault toilets may still be available though will not be maintained. Plowing will be limited to areas that serve residential areas.

Because of the federal government shutdown, NPS social media and websites are not being monitored or updated and may not reflect current conditions.

For updates on the shutdown, please visit [www.doi.gov/shutdown](http://www.doi.gov/shutdown).

About the National Park Service. More than 20,000 National Park Service employees who care for America’s 418 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities.

[www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov)
No issues here, their costs are appropriate

Jessica Bowron  
Comptroller  
National Park Service  
(o) 202-513-7138  
(c) 202-280-8329

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Burkhart, Stephanie <stephanie_burkhart@nps.gov>  
Date: Sat, Dec 22, 2018 at 6:39 PM  
Subject: Fwd: Yosemite Hospitality - continued operations  
To: Jessica Bowron <jessica_bowron@nps.gov>  
Cc: aaron_dowe <aaron_dowe@nps.gov>, Kimberley Gagliolo <kim_gagliolo@nps.gov>, Creachbaum, Sarah <sarah_creachbaum@nps.gov>

Jessica,

Attached is the donation agreement and cost estimator in support of Yosemite Hospitality's offer to fund campground operations, custodial, trash collection and snow plowing. The DO21 factors are addressed below. We've reviewed the cost estimates and find them reasonable and appropriate. We recommend approving. Let us know if you have any questions.

Best,

Stephanie Burkhart  
Associate Regional Director  
National Park Service, Pacific West Region  
333 Bush Street, Suite 500  
San Francisco, CA 94104  
Phone: (415) 623-2103  
Email: stephanie_burkhart@nps.gov

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Austin, Teresa <teresa_austin@nps.gov>  
Date: Sat, Dec 22, 2018 at 3:36 PM  
Subject: Yosemite Hospitality - continued operations  
To: Aaron Dowe <aaron_dowe@nps.gov>, Stephanie Burkhart <stephanie_burkhart@nps.gov>, Kimberley Gagliolo <kim_gagliolo@nps.gov>, Sarah
All,

Yosemite Hospitality, operating under contract CC-YOSE004-16 as the primary concessioner for Yosemite National Park, has requested to remain open and has asked that the National Park Service continue to provide the following services in the event of a lapse in appropriations:

- Custodial services for restrooms and collection of trash in the following areas:
  - around Yosemite Lodge
  - around Yosemite Village
  - around the Majestic Hotel
  - around Half Dome Village
  - Happy Isles
  - around the Wawona Store
  - Upper Pines Campground
  - Camp 4 Campground
- Campground staff to operate campground check-ins and check-outs
- Plowing and sanding services along the Happy Isles road, and from Chinquapin to Yosemite Ski and Snowboard Area
- Plowing and sanding services for parking lots at Yosemite Ski and Snowboard Area

For the Yosemite Hospitality facilities to remain open, to protect human health and park resources, the NPS must operate restrooms, collect trash, and plow access to these areas.

Details of the offer: Yosemite Hospitality has offered to provide a cash donation in support of campground operations, custodial, trash collection and snow plowing. Yosemite National Park estimates it will cost $32,447.73 to continue these operations. The cost estimate is attached for your review.

2. Identity of the donor(s) - Yosemite Hospitality

3. Relationship of the donor to the park (park concessioner, Friends Group, Chamber of Commerce, etc.)
   Park Concessioner

4. List of agreements the donor currently has with the park if applicable (concession contract, Friends Group agreement, etc.) - Concession Contract YOSE004-16
5. The park is not aware of any factors with respect to the donor's business that may cause a reasonable person to question the NPS's integrity, impartiality, or public confidence if we accept this donation.

Please review the attached and let us know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Teri Austin  
Deputy Superintendent  
Yosemite National Park  
209-372-0131  
202-407-0293 (cell)
Rick, this looks good to me. I confirmed the cost est with the region.

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329

Hi Jessica - Here is an agreement for BIBE with Forever Resorts for garbage collection. Let me know if you have any questions or edits. Thanks, Tara

Tara Riggs
Associate Regional Director
Business & Technology
NPS, Intermountain Region
Office: (303) 969-2544
Cell: (303) 501-2292
Good afternoon,
We've just sent out the below news release following appropriate coordination. Thank you.

National Park Service News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 23, 2018
CONTACT: Jenny Anzelmo-Sarles, jenny_anzelmo-sarles@nps.gov, 202-619-7177 or ncr_communications@nps.gov

What visitors can expect in D.C.-area national parks during the partial government shutdown

WASHINGTON— During the partial shutdown of the federal government, D.C.-area national parks will remain as accessible as possible, while still following all applicable laws and procedures.

Park roads, lookouts, trails, green spaces and open-air memorials, including the National Mall, will generally remain accessible to visitors, but emergency and rescue services will be limited, and no National Park Service (NPS) provided visitor facilities or services will be available. This includes restrooms, visitor centers, information kiosks, and ranger talks and education programs. Visitors should expect to find park areas that would normally be closed after dark, closed for the duration of appropriations lapse.

Several partner organizations will assist with trash collection while NPS staff are furloughed but this may not occur in all areas or at the same frequency as when the government is open.

Park visitors are advised to use caution if they choose to enter NPS property. Any entry onto
NPS property during the partial federal government shutdown is at the visitor’s sole risk.

NPS social media and websites are not being monitored or updated and may not reflect current conditions—access to NPS properties may change without notice.

Areas and sites closed during the shutdown include:

- Arlington House, The Robert E. Lee Memorial (previous closure for rehabilitation)
- Belmont-Paul Women’s Equality National Monument
- Carter G. Woodson Home National Historic Site
- Clara Barton National Historic Site
- Daingerfield Island restaurant, Triple Craft (previous closure)
- Ford’s Theatre National Historic Site (Ford’s Theatre Society will continue to offer performances in the theater as scheduled)
- Fort Marcy
- Fort Washington Park entrance road and visitor center
- Frederick Douglass National Historic Site
- Great Falls (Md.) entrance road and visitor center
- Old Post Office Tower
- Olmsted Island/Great Falls Overlook (Md.)
- Great Falls (Va.) entrance road and visitor center
• Hains Point

• Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens

• Mary McLeod Bethune Council House National Historic Site

• Oxon Hill Farm

• Peirce Mill

• Rock Creek Park Nature Center and Planetarium

• Rock Creek golf course (seasonal closure)

• Turkey Run Park (gated areas)

• Washington Monument (previous closure for elevator modernization)

• White House Visitor Center

Restrooms

All public restrooms are closed. However, concessioner Guest Services, Inc., has provided portable restrooms at the following locations for the duration of the shutdown:

• Lincoln Memorial (south side)

• Thomas Jefferson Memorial

• Tidal Basin (between the Martin Luther King, Jr. and Franklin Delano Roosevelt memorials)

• Washington Monument grounds (15th Street, between Madison Drive and Jefferson
• West Potomac Park (between Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial and Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial)

• World War II Memorial

**Third-party operated services that will continue**

• Food kiosk and concessions operated by Guest Services, Inc., will continue to operate, with the exception of food and retail operations at the Ellipse Visitor Pavilion and the retail operation located in the basement of the Thomas Jefferson Memorial, as that area is closed to the public.

• Eastern National will continue to operate bookstores at the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial, Lincoln Memorial, Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial, Thomas Jefferson Memorial (mezzanine level only), Washington Monument Lodge and the Old Stone House in Georgetown.

• East Potomac and Langston golf courses are open.

• East Potomac and Rock Creek tennis centers are open.

• The Canal Quarters Program will continue.

• Glen Echo Park will remain open.

• The Women in Military Service for America Memorial at the entrance to Arlington National Cemetery will remain open.

• All marinas on national park land in the D.C. metro area remain open (Belle Haven, James Creek, Columbia Island, Washington Sailing Marina, Fort Washington Marina).

**Construction Projects that Continue**
The following projects were funded by previous appropriations and will continue during the shutdown:

- Arlington House rehabilitation
- Arlington Memorial Bridge rehabilitation
- Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park Locks 3, 4 and 5-22
- Conococheague Aqueduct
- Dyke Marsh restoration
- Lincoln Memorial roof replacement
- National Mall and Memorial Parks water line
- Beach Drive Reconstruction
- United States Park Police District 1 Substation
- Washington Monument elevator modernization/screening facility
- Windy Run Bridge rehabilitation

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Jenny Anzelmo-Sarles  
Chief of Public Affairs  
National Park Service  
National Capital Region  

jenny_anzelmo-sarles@nps.gov  
Office: (202) 619-7177  
Cell: (307) 690-2355
The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA ®
From: Danny - YOSE
To: Rick Obernesser, Sarah Creachbaum, Jessica Bowron, Jeremy Barnum
Subject: Human Waste or resource destruction in Wawona
Date: Sunday, December 23, 2018, 11:47:02 AM

Danny - YOSE will likely close this campground in order to preclude a public health isolation. There are only six campsites occupied and those campers will get a 2-hour notification. We will encounter similar circumstances in the service. RDs got the message you asked me to articulate and will advise us as early as possible in the process so you can inform us early as well.

Sent from my iPhone

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Forwarded message

From: Creachbaum Sarah <sarah.creichbaum@nps.gov>
To: Obernesser Rick, Bowron Jessica, Jeremy Barnum
Subject: Fwd Human Waste or resource destruction in Wawona

Message and photos from Teri.

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Austin Teresa <teresa.austin@nps.gov>
Date: Sun, Dec 23, 2018 at 9:36 AM
Subject: Fwd Human Waste or resource destruction in Wawona
To: Sarah Creachbaum <sarah.creichbaum@nps.gov>

Good morning Sarah
FYI we're having issues with human waste in the Wawona area. I've asked for guidance from public health - Craig . It has become a public health concern. I've not heard back but I am very concerned and am contemplating closure of the Wawona campground and Hwy 1 from Wawona to Chinquapin. I will keep you posted and appreciate any thoughts you might have on the best way to proceed.

Teri Austin
Deputy Superintendent
Yosemite National Park
209-372-0131
202-07-0293 (cell)

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Sias Meri <meri.sias@nps.gov>
Date: Sun, Dec 23, 2018 at 9:26 AM
Subject: Fwd Human Waste or resource destruction in Wawona
To: David Thorpe <david.thorpe@nps.gov>, Teresa Austin <teresa.austin@nps.gov>

More this morning.

Meri Sias
Acting Deputy Chief Ranger
Yosemite National Park
NPS Master Instructor Control Tactics/Fitness Coordinator
209-372-0520 office
928-60-2652 work cell
Meri.Sias@nps.gov

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Buckley Kevin <kevin.buckley@nps.gov>
Date: Sun, Dec 23, 2018 at 9:21 AM
Subject: Re Human Waste or resource destruction in Wawona
To: Meri Sias <meri.sias@nps.gov>
Cc: James Cox <james.cox@nps.gov>, Ian Rippetoe <ian.rippeto@nps.gov>, Chad Andrews <chad.andrews@nps.gov>, Eric Scott <eric.scott@nps.gov>, Heidi Schlichting <heidi.edgecomb@nps.gov>

This morning's patrol of common areas on the south end of Wawona. Other Rangers will be checking other areas today.

South Entrance Bathroom
- Diarrhea and paper against east wall by women's entrance.
- Used baby daper and human waste with paper to the south of the bathroom next to parking lot.
- Urine soaked paper against parking lot curb.

Entire south entrance restroom exterior smells like stale urine this morning.

Wawona Campground
- Human poop and paper in water runoff behind campsite #30.

Photos attached below.

On Sat, Dec 22, 2018 at 5:50 PM Meri Sias <meri.sias@nps.gov> wrote

Thank you I have forwarded this to the Supts office.

Meri Sias
Acting Deputy Chief Ranger
Yosemite National Park
NPS Master Instructor Control Tactics
928-60-2652

Sent from my Verizon Samsung smartphone

-------- Original message --------
From: Buckley Kevin <kevin.buckley@nps.gov>
Date: 12/22/18 17:1 (GMT-0800)
To: Meri Sias <meri.sias@nps.gov>
Cc: Heidi Schlichting <heidi.edgecomb@nps.gov>, James Cox <james.cox@nps.gov>, Ian Rippetoe <ian.rippeto@nps.gov>, Chad Andrews <chad.andrews@nps.gov>, Eric Scott <eric.scott@nps.gov>
Subject: Human Waste or resource destruction in Wawona

In attempts to keep any and all findings of human waste or resource damage in Wawona consolidated for everyone during the shutdown I am including you all.

So far on his evening tour I located piles of human waste.

Wawona Campground
- Behind the non-functioning restroom near site #27 - Used female hygiene product wrapped in tissue paper.
- In between site #27 and #28 poop in a creek drainage.

Studhorse
- 2 piles of poop behind trees past the closed gate.

Attached photos below.

Kevin Buckley
Protection Ranger
Yosemite National Park - Wawona District
209-372-9019 (cell)
209-375-9520 (office)

Kevin Buckley
Protection Ranger
Yosemite National Park - Wawona District
209-372-9019 (cell)
209-375-9520 (office)

Sarah Creachbaum
Acting Deputy Regional Director - Public Use Management
NPS Pacific West Region
333 Bush Street, Suite 500
San Francisco, CA 94101-2828
(415) 623-2106
Two in-kind agreements with concessioner and leaseholder at HAVO to clean bathrooms and handle trash. No issues on my side.

Jessica Bowron  
Comptroller  
National Park Service  
(o) 202-513-7138  
(c) 202-280-8329

-------- Forwarded message --------

From: Gagliolo, Kimberley <kim_gagliolo@nps.gov>
Date: Sun, Dec 23, 2018 at 3:30 PM
Subject: Fwd: Agreements - HVLC and VAC
To: Jessica Bowron <jessica_bowron@nps.gov>
Cc: Sarah Creachbaum <sarah_creachbaum@nps.gov>, Stephanie Burkhart <Stephanie_Burkhart@nps.gov>, Aaron Dowe <aaron_dowe@nps.gov>

Good afternoon Jessica:

I have two new in-kind Donation Agreements from Hawai‘i Volcanoes, one from their Concessioner and one from the Volcano Art Center, which is operated under a Lease however they are donating in-kind services to the government.

Attached are cash donation agreements and other docs for Haleakala National Park’s road-based concessioners to fund sunrise visitor services.

1. Details of the offer (cash or in-kind, description of essential services being provided, description of public access the donation will support) -

   The offer from each entity is an in-kind donation to provide essential custodial services (clean restrooms and trash removal). The Concessioner will complete this work at the Kilauea Visitor Center and Steam Vents parking area. The Art Center will complete this work for the public restrooms at the picnic area next to the art gallery.

2. Identity of the donor(s)

   Hawai‘i Volcanoes Lodge Company, LLC and Volcano Art Center Gallery

3. Relationship of the donor to the park (park concessioner, Friends Group, Chamber of Commerce, etc.) –

   The Lodge Company is a Concessioner and the Volcano Art Center is a commercial entity under lease

4. List of agreements the donor currently has with the park if applicable (concession contract, Friends Group agreement, etc.) -
5. Any factors with respect to the Donor or the Donor’s business that may cause a reasonable person to question the NPS’s integrity, impartiality, or public confidence if the NPS accepts this donation.

This is expected to be a week with a high increase of visitors to Hawaii Volcanoes National Park. The Staff of Hawaii Volcanoes Lodge company and Volcano Art Center will provide crucial services for park visitors in line with health, safety, and the protection of resources to the park during the partial closure of the US Government. This in kind donation is expected to generate positive and direct support for the NPS and offer no conflict of interest.

Since these are both in-kind donations there is not a cost estimator included. We’ve reviewed the conditional approval to remain open as well. PWR recommends approval of these agreements. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Kimberley Gagliolo

Commercial Services Specialist
Pacific West Region, National Park Service
333 Bush Street, Suite 500
San Francisco, CA 94104
415-623-2227 (office)
510-914-9815 (cell)

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Yoshida, Berkeley <berkeley_yoshida@nps.gov>
Date: Sun, Dec 23, 2018 at 11:23 AM
Subject: Agreements - HVLC and VAC
To: Gagliolo, Kimberley <kim_gagliolo@nps.gov>
Cc: Cindy Orlando <cindy_orlando@nps.gov>, Benjamin Hayes <benjamin_hayes@nps.gov>, Burkhart, Stephanie <stephanie_burkhart@nps.gov>

Aloha Kim,

Let me know if there are any concerns or edits needed.

Mahalo,

berk
Donor: Hawaii Volcanoes Lodge Company, LLC  
**Concession Contract No,** CC-HAVO001-12  
**In Kind Donation:** provide personnel to clean public restrooms at the Kilauea Visitor Center and the collection and disposal of trash at the Kilauea Visitor Center and Steam Vents parking area

Donor: Volcano Art Center Gallery  
**Concession Contract No,** L-HAVO003-16  
**In Kind Donation:** Provide personnel to clean the public restrooms including the collection and disposal of trash and recyclables at the picnic area next to the Volcano Art Gallery

Factors: This is expected to be a week with a high increase of visitors to Hawaii Volcanoes National Park. The Staff of Hawaii Volcanoes Lodge company and Volcano Art Center will provide crucial and convenient services for park visitors in line with health, safety, and the protection of resources to the park during the partial closure of the US Government. This in kind donation is expected to generate positive and direct support for the NPS and offer no conflict of interest.

--

**Berkeley K Yoshida**  
*Concessions Management Specialist - Hawaii Volcanoes National Park*  
Pacific West Region  
808-985-6027  
510-604-1373 (cell)
For reference, adding in the text of our DOI-approved, public contingency plan that relates to this (found at the top of page 4 here). Obe, let me know if you need anything for the discussions with Danny.

- If visitor access becomes a safety, health or resource protection issue (weather, road conditions, resource damage, garbage build-up to the extent that it endangers human health or wildlife, etc.), the area must be closed. Parks may not bring on additional staff to accommodate visitor access.

Jessica Bowron  
Comptroller  
National Park Service  
(o) 202-513-7138  
(c) 202-280-8329

On Sun, Dec 23, 2018 at 5:40 PM Bowron, Jessica <jessica_bowron@nps.gov> wrote:

Jessica Bowron  
Comptroller  
National Park Service  
(o) 202-513-7138  
(c) 202-280-8329

--------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Creachbaum, Sarah <sarah_creachbaum@nps.gov>  
Date: Sun, Dec 23, 2018 at 5:19 PM  
Subject: Fwd: CRLA vehicle closure  
To: Bowron, Jessica <jessica_bowron@nps.gov>

I am collecting more documentation from parks that are reporting human waste issues. Here is a fairly detailed message from CRLA. Have asked for photographs if possible.

SC

On Sun, Dec 23, 2018 at 2:06 PM Mihata, Kean <kean_mihata@nps.gov> wrote:

Hello,

I wanted to ensure you were made aware of a vehicle closure that went into effect today at Crater Lake NP.

Last January, we identified an issue that came up because of the "closed but open"
guidelines regarding the shutdown, which was human waste. People were urinating and defecating in the parking lots and around our buildings because there were no restroom facilities open and no other options close to the park. We started to address this but then the shutdown ended and the problem was solved. With the same guidelines in place again, the amount of human waste piling up at the Headquarters/Visitor Center area has been increasing since we shutdown. Our concessions operations had the Rim Cafe open yesterday which helped (one female and one male restroom with two toilets each) but we have received significant snow fall and the road to the rim has been closed (this closure is not outside of our normal operations as it is a lower priority roadway than Highway 62 and Munson Valley Road to the housing area/maintenance/HQ). Now that the only restroom option has been closed, I fear the human waste problem will only get worse. Couple that with the prospect of the shutdown lasting at least 4 more days or longer, the problem only gets compounded. We had approximately 200-300 vehicles in the park yesterday and the park typically sees a spike in visitation during the Christmas time frame (compared to January when the last shutdown occurred).

Human waste on the snow (currently have approx. 4 feet on the ground) poses a health hazard to our employees (and visitors) that are still working and could expose even more employees to the same hazards once we re-open. Our plow drivers already have to deal with dog waste that gets on the plows and snow blowers. This exposes them during times when they break a sheer pin and have to make a roadside repair or break ice free as well as the mechanics when they are preforming their work. To move a significant amount of the problem (at least to below our culinary water source), we closed Munson Valley Road at Hwy 62 to vehicle traffic.

Human powered activities are not affected so if people still want to get to the caldera rim, they can. In attempting to keep in the spirit of the guidelines, the closure is for vehicles but access is still open to the public, albeit, limited based on peoples' desire to get to the rim regardless of the method.

If you have any questions, let me know. Email or mobile number will work best but a reply might be delayed if I'm not near a building.

Kean Mihata
Chief Ranger
Crater Lake National Park
541.594.3051 office
928.614.8038 mobile
Kean_Mihata@nps.gov

--
M. Sarah Creachbaum
Acting Deputy Regional Director -Public Use Management
NPS Pacific West Region
333 Bush Street, Suite 500
San Francisco, CA 94101-2828
(415) 623- 2106
Thanks Jeremy. This was the article that we were referring to.


They have since changed the heading after our recent email. Prior to this it was Park is closed despite it saying it would be open ...

I think these are just going to be the ongoing challenges of this current process of shutdowns in parks - throw in some snow and we get the fun job of riding out the roller coaster. We have high visitation during this time of year on weekends and holidays.

Take care and happy holidays!

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 23, 2018, at 8:43 PM, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Kyle,

Let me know if you need any help with any of this.

Jeremy Barnum
Chief of Public Affairs/Spokesperson
National Park Service

On Dec 23, 2018, at 10:13 PM, Patterson, Kyle <kyle_patterson@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi All,

It appears that there may be confusion from a local media outlet stating that RMNP is closed despite saying it would remain open.

Rocky Mountain National Park is not closed. Due to road conditions from snowfall Saturday and blowing and drifting snow and ice - the main entrance gates were closed last night past Beaver Meadows Visitor Center and near the Fall River Entrance. The gate near the Grand Lake Entrance, on the west side of the park, was closed Saturday morning due to road conditions.

Unfortunately, we are unable to plow or maintain the roads during the shutdown, as we would normally do this time of year, as mentioned
in our statement below that was distributed on Saturday morning. We had to close the roads for safety reasons. All of these roads are above 8,000 feet in elevation. Due to the upcoming weather forecast for higher elevations, it is uncertain whether these roads will reopen until after the shutdown. People can still access those parts of the park on foot.

As mentioned as well in our statement yesterday ... during a federal shutdown we are unable to provide visitor services such as updated signs, posting information on our social media or our website.

Thank you for your understanding.

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Patterson, Kyle <kyle_patterson@nps.gov>
Date: Sat, Dec 22, 2018 at 9:31 AM
Subject: Rocky Mountain National Park status during the lapse in federal appropriations
To:

Rocky Mountain National Park will be accessible to the public during the lapse in federal appropriations. However, Rocky Mountain National Park staff will be unable to fully staff park properties. Park visitors are advised to use extreme caution if choosing to enter the park, as park personnel will not be available to provide guidance or assistance. Emergency services will be limited. Any entry to the park during this period of federal government shutdown is at the visitor’s sole risk. **All rules and regulations still apply.**

No visitor services will be provided. Services that require staffing and maintenance, such as entrance stations, the Beaver Meadows Visitor Center, the Kawuneeche Visitor Center, Moraine Park Campground, and some restroom facilities will not be operating. Roads that are already open will remain open, weather and road conditions permitting. Park staff will not issue permits, conduct educational programs, collect trash, maintain restrooms, maintain roads or walkways in the event of snow or ice, or provide visitor information. No overnight parking or camping allowed.

Roads or areas in Rocky Mountain National Park may be closed during the government shutdown if conditions warrant. If that does occur, we will be unable to update that information via email or on the park’s website or through social media.

Thank you.

- Kyle
Kyle Patterson  
Management Specialist/Public Affairs Officer  
Rocky Mountain National Park  
(970) 586-1363  
www.nps.gov/romo  
www.facebook.com/RockyNPS

--
-Kyle

Kyle Patterson  
Management Specialist/Public Affairs Officer  
Rocky Mountain National Park  
(970) 586-1363  
www.nps.gov/romo  
www.facebook.com/RockyNPS
That makes sense. I’ll keep the blanket statement you added and add an additional disclaimer at the top of the examples.

Thank you!

Jeremy Barnum
Chief of Public Affairs/Spokesperson
National Park Service

On Dec 24, 2018, at 11:08 AM, Bowron, Jessica <jessica_bowron@nps.gov> wrote:

Some of them have only donated for relatively short portions of time, and may not extend for the duration of the shutdown. This is mostly an issue with cash donations, I think most if not all of the in-kinds go out for a month or so. I've already heard from one park that their partner will likely not continue donations if the shutdown extends past their current agreement. I added a blanket statement to the top, but do you want to get more specific in each example?

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329

On Mon, Dec 24, 2018 at 10:49 AM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

How's this?

The National Park Service has signed over forty agreements since the lapse in appropriations with a number of concessioners, partner organizations, and states to provide different visitor services at a number of parks across the National Park Service. The extent of services and duration varies by agreement.

Background Information
Examples:

The Friends of Vicksburg National Military Park and Campaign have donated the necessary funds to provide for essential services at Vicksburg National Military Park during the shutdown.

Xanterra Parks and Resorts is providing funding for the grooming of
oversnow roads at Yellowstone National Park during the shutdown.

The California Department of Parks and Recreation has made an in-kind donation to provide for the cleaning of restrooms and trash removal at Redwoods National and State Parks.

The State of New York is providing funding to operate the Statue of Liberty National Monument.

The Utah Office of Tourism is providing funding to staff visitor centers and custodial services at Arches, Bryce Canyon, and Zion National Parks.

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
Mobile: (202) 617-7973  
Facebook  
Twitter  
Instagram  
YouTube

On Mon, Dec 24, 2018 at 9:18 AM Jeremy Barnum  
<jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:  
Yep, that all makes sense. I’ll pull a proposed response from the updated copy and then run it by you before moving forward.

Jeremy Barnum  
Chief of Public Affairs/Spokesperson  
National Park Service  

On Dec 24, 2018, at 8:59 AM, Bowron, Jessica <jessica_bowron@nps.gov> wrote:  
I think you could give an overall estimate on the number of agreements signed, describe the types of agreements (cash vs in kind, partial vs full ops, etc), and then give a few examples. Most of the donors aren't states - they're concessioners and park partners.

I don't want to give all the specifics of every agreement. I think the summary sheet is reasonably accurate, but I haven't had anyone go through and verify every entry. So any examples need
to be pulled directly from the agreements so we're sure the info is correct.

How does that sound? Waiting on the christmas tree agreements to come in today then will send an updated copy

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329

On Sun, Dec 23, 2018 at 9:18 PM Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

We don’t need to get back to the reporter until tomorrow — but flagging the below. Obviously we’re tracking this. How much of that data can we share?

Seems like we could provide the list of states and receiving parks, right? Defer to you on the rest.

Jeremy Barnum
Chief of Public Affairs/Spokesperson
National Park Service

Begin forwarded message:

From: John Bockmier <john_bockmier@ios.doi.gov>
Date: December 23, 2018 at 8:32:01 PM EST
To: jeremy_barnum@nps.gov
Cc: faith_vandervoort@ios.doi.gov, russell_newell@ios.doi.gov
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] The New York Times

JB,

Do you have data that would assist in answering this question?

Thanks,

Sent from my iPhone

John M Bockmier
Good evening.

I'm a reporter for The Times, and I'm planning a story for Tuesday's paper about efforts by states to help facilitate operations at NPS sites.

I wanted to see if you all had a list of states that have reached agreements with the government for this shutdown, and any financial details of those agreements.

Thanks,

Alan Blinder
National Correspondent
The New York Times
Cell/Signal: (770) 843-4546
alan.blinder@nytimes.com
Twitter: @alanblinder
This is great with me.... thanks so much Jeremy

Sent from my iPhone

John M Bockmier
Director of Communications
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC
20240

202.208.3636 Office
202.897.7366 Cell

On Dec 24, 2018, at 11:26 AM, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

John,

We propose responding with the below with your concurrence. I’m happy to respond to the reporter if you would like.

---

The National Park Service has signed over forty agreements since the lapse in appropriations with a number of concessioners, partner organizations, and states to provide different visitor services at a number of parks across the National Park Service. The extent of services and duration varies by agreement.

Background Information/Example
Note that some of these initial donations are for relatively short portions of time, and may or may not extend for the duration of a shutdown.

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Jeremy Barnum
Chief of Public Affairs/Spokesperson
National Park Service

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    Do you have data that would assist in answering this question?

    Thanks,

    Sent from my iPhone

John M Bockmier
Director of Communications
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC
20240

202.208.3636 Office
202.897.7366 Cell

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Blinder, Alan" <alan.blinder@nytimes.com>
Date: December 23, 2018 at 8:17:06 PM EST
To: <Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] The New York Times

Good evening.

I'm a reporter for The Times, and I'm planning a story for Tuesday's paper about efforts by states to help facilitate
operations at NPS sites.

I wanted to see if you all had a list of states that have reached agreements with the government for this shutdown, and any financial details of those agreements.

Thanks,

Alan Blinder
National Correspondent
The New York Times
Cell/Signal: (770) 843-4546
alan.blinder@nytimes.com
Twitter: @alanblinder
You’re incredible, Jeremy. Merry Christmas and thank you for everything you do!

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 24, 2018, at 11:26 AM, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

John,

We propose responding with the below with your concurrence. I’m happy to respond to the reporter if you would like.

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Jeremy Barnum
Chief of Public Affairs/Spokesperson
National Park Service

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I wanted to see if you all had a list of states that have reached agreements with the government for this shutdown, and any financial details of those agreements.

Thanks,

Alan Blinder
National Correspondent
The New York Times
Cell/Signal: (770) 843-4546
Understood – thanks Jeremy!

From: Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>  
Sent: Monday, December 24, 2018 12:34 PM  
To: Combs, Marianne <mcombs@mpr.org>  
Cc: NPS MWR Communications <mwr_communications@nps.gov>  

Hi Marianne,

I am sorry, we aren't able to accommodate your interview request at this time.

Best,

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
Mobile: (202) 617-7973  
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Mon, Dec 24, 2018 at 12:16 PM Combs, Marianne <mcombs@mpr.org> wrote:

Hi Jeremy! Thanks for your reply. FYI, since I work for a radio station, I’d love to get your voice on tape! Any chance you’re available for a quick phone interview later this today?

From: Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>  
Sent: Monday, December 24, 2018 11:14 AM  
To: Combs, Marianne <mcombs@mpr.org>  
Cc: NPS MWR Communications <mwr_communications@nps.gov>  

On-the-record statement attributable to National Park Service Chief Spokesperson Jeremy Barnum:  
“During the government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still
following all applicable laws and procedures. For example, this means that roads that have already been open will remain open (think snow removal) and vault toilets (wilderness type restrooms) will remain open. However services that require staffing and maintenance such as campgrounds and full service restrooms, will not be operating.”

**Background Information:**
General contingency plans for operations in the absence of appropriations may be found here: [https://www.doi.gov/shutdown](https://www.doi.gov/shutdown)
I would refer you to the information from our contingency plan. [https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf](https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf)

**Additional background information:**
Example of services that could be open: a free-standing gift shop, lodge, restaurant or gas station that requires no assistance from the Park to operate. "Assistance" could include but not be limited to snow removal, working as a cashier, unlocking gates, etc. However, if a private concessionaire has worked out in advance a way to remove snow, trash, etc, without the assistance of the park, they MAY be able to continue operations.

Example of services that would not be open: a gift shop inside a visitors center would not be open because a park ranger would not be available to unlock the visitors center or to staff the visitors center. A gas station on a road inside the park where it snowed overnight making it impassible would not be open if it relies on the park for snow removal.

Example of areas that may see restricted access: Due to lighter footprint of rangers and patrols, some public lands, trails and sites may see restricted access. Some parks are in winter season and see many skiers. The parks may choose to restrict access to some areas if there is a high risk of avalanche or it's a common spot for injuries since there will not be a regular patrol of the area. Additionally, sensitive cultural areas on all public land may see restricted access to protect the artifacts and objects.

Examples of areas we are prioritizing: We are prioritizing access to the most accessible and most iconic areas of parks and public lands. Each park, monument, recreation area, etc will have different plans in place.

On Mon, Dec 24, 2018 at 11:02 AM <no-reply@nps.gov> wrote:

Email submitted from: mcombs@mpr.org at /aboutus/contactus.htm

Use mcombs@mpr.org to reply to this message

Good morning! I'd like to interview a National Park Service official about how the federal shutdown is affecting national parks in Minnesota. (What can visitors expect? Will snowmobile trails still be open? That sort of thing) This would be recorded for use in our newscasts. Please reply to my email address at your earliest convenience with a name and number to call. And happy holidays! Best - Marianne Combs
Thanks.

We've heard from some critics that the administration's approach to the Park Service -- allowing many properties to remain open but unstaffed -- poses a danger to the properties. Do you all have any response?

Alan Blinder
National Correspondent
The New York Times
Cell/Signal: (770) 843-4546
alan.blinder@nytimes.com
Twitter: @alanblinder

On Mon, Dec 24, 2018 at 1:26 PM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:
BACKGROUND INFORMATION ONLY
I believe there are a few more agreements pending. Whether or not further agreements would be reached would depend on a number of factors including the length of the shutdown, etc.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Mon, Dec 24, 2018 at 12:31 PM Blinder, Alan <alan.blinder@nytimes.com> wrote:
Thanks, Jeremy. Are more agreements pending at this point or is that 40-plus stable?

Alan Blinder
National Correspondent
The New York Times
Cell/Signal: (770) 843-4546
alan.blinder@nytimes.com
Twitter: @alanblinder

On Mon, Dec 24, 2018 at 12:04 PM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:
Alan,

The National Park Service has signed over forty agreements since the lapse in appropriations with a number of concessioners, partner organizations, and states to provide various visitor services at a number of national parks. The extent of services and duration varies by agreement.

**Background Information/Examples**

*Note that some of these initial donations are for relatively short portions of time, and may or may not extend for the duration of a shutdown.*

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Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
Mobile: (202) 617-7973  
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

---

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I wanted to see if you all had a list of states that have reached agreements with the government for this shutdown, and any financial details of those agreements.

Thanks,

Alan Blinder
National Correspondent
The New York Times
Cell/Signal: (770) 843-4546
alan.blinder@nytimes.com
Twitter: @alanblinder
Thanks Jeremy.

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 24, 2018, at 10:09 AM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Kyle,

I checked with a few folks and we all think it is appropriate for "excepted" personnel at the park to update the website, social media, and email correspondence with reporters to announce park area closures for public safety reasons.

Give me a call if you would like to discuss.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Sun, Dec 23, 2018 at 10:14 PM Patterson, Kyle <kyle_patterson@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi All,

It appears that there may be confusion from a local media outlet stating that RMNP is closed despite saying it would remain open.

Rocky Mountain National Park is not closed. Due to road conditions from snowfall Saturday and blowing and drifting snow and ice - the main entrance gates were closed last night past Beaver Meadows Visitor Center and near the Fall River Entrance. The gate near the Grand Lake Entrance, on the west side of the park, was closed Saturday morning due to road conditions.

Unfortunately, we are unable to plow or maintain the roads during the
shutdown, as we would normally do this time of year, as mentioned in our statement below that was distributed on Saturday morning. We had to close the roads for safety reasons. All of these roads are above 8,000 feet in elevation. Due to the upcoming weather forecast for higher elevations, it is uncertain whether these roads will reopen until after the shutdown. People can still access those parts of the park on foot.

As mentioned as well in our statement yesterday .... during a federal shutdown we are unable to provide visitor services such as updated signs, posting information on our social media or our website.

Thank you for your understanding.

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Patterson, Kyle <kyle_patterson@nps.gov>
Date: Sat, Dec 22, 2018 at 9:31 AM
Subject: Rocky Mountain National Park status during the lapse in federal appropriations
To:

Rocky Mountain National Park will be accessible to the public during the lapse in federal appropriations. However, Rocky Mountain National Park staff will be unable to fully staff park properties. Park visitors are advised to use extreme caution if choosing to enter the park, as park personnel will not be available to provide guidance or assistance. Emergency services will be limited. Any entry to the park during this period of federal government shutdown is at the visitor’s sole risk. All rules and regulations still apply.

No visitor services will be provided. Services that require staffing and maintenance, such as entrance stations, the Beaver Meadows Visitor Center, the Kawuneeche Visitor Center, Moraine Park Campground, and some restroom facilities will not be operating. Roads that are already open will remain open, weather and road conditions permitting. Park staff will not issue permits, conduct educational programs, collect trash, maintain restrooms, maintain roads or walkways in the event of snow or ice, or provide visitor information. No overnight parking or camping allowed.

Roads or areas in Rocky Mountain National Park may be closed during the government shutdown if conditions warrant. If that does occur, we will be unable to update that information via email or on the park's website or through social media.

Thank you.

- Kyle

Kyle Patterson
Kyle Patterson
Management Specialist/Public Affairs Officer
Rocky Mountain National Park
(970) 586-1363
www.nps.gov/romo
www.facebook.com/RockyNPS

--
- Kyle
One follow up to Lisa’s note for a few of you:
I still don’t have access to the below parks twitter accounts. If you have any web/social media folks coming in Wednesday (in person, or remotely) as their next regularly scheduled day to receive furlough notices and to conduct their orderly shutdown procedures- will you please remind them to send me login information.

- Fort Washington Park
- Monocacy
- Antietam
- Catoctin
- Manassas
- Wolf Trap
- GWMP
- Arlington House

Thank you,
Jenny

Jenny Anzelmo-Sarles
Chief of Public Affairs
National Park Service
National Capital Region

jenny_anzelmo-sarles@nps.gov
Office: (202) 619-7177
Cell: (307) 690-2355

Who are we? National Capital Region - Office of Communications

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA ®

On Mon, Dec 24, 2018 at 2:32 PM Mendelson, Lisa <lisa_mendelson-jelmini@nps.gov>
Hi all,

A couple of quick things -- first, **I will NOT hold a 9 am call tomorrow 12/25**. If anyone has any urgent questions or issues you can reach me 24/7 at my cell number below, and Dave Moore and Jenny Anzelmo will also be available. 9 am calls will resume on Weds 12/26.

Second and most importantly, **THANK YOU FOR ALL THAT YOU'RE DOING!** It is really appreciated.

Third, a couple of updates from today:

- If there are any NEW closures of areas that you propose to make for protection of property or people please let me, Jenny, and Dave know. Depending on what they are I may need to advise WASO so they are aware.

- SOL has determined that anti-deficiency generally will NOT allow NPS to pick up trash or open restrooms during this time, so we will need to stick with the NPS and your park plans.

- Contracting/deliveries - if, for example, you needed to receive a delivery to keep heat on to protect a structure or to fuel your LE vehicles that would be allowed. But a normally scheduled delivery would not be allowed.

- Comms - Jenny will continue to assist parks where operations are changing or where changes are made for life safety issues by updating webpages.

I'm going to have a Send Word Now message sent later today to update those who aren't working (and for who we have non-GOV contact info) about status. If there are other messages you believe it would be helpful for me to share with the field please let me know.

That's all for today. Thanks again for all that you're doing.

Have a good afternoon and evening, and I hope the next day is quiet and peaceful for all.

Talk with you on Thursday.

~Lisa

---

**Lisa Mendelson, AICP**  
**Acting Regional Director, National Park Service**  
202-619-7120 main office + 202-619-7194 direct + 202-297-1338 cell  
**(serving as an excepted employee during the lapse)**
Great with me. Thank you Jeremy

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 24, 2018, at 3:07 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

I received a NYT follow-up asking the same. Will forward. Are you all planning to respond or would you like me to? I would suggest sharing our general statement and some background information straight from our contingency plan as follows.

During the government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. For example, this means that roads that have already been open will remain open (think snow removal) and vault toilets (wilderness type restrooms) will remain open. However services that require staffing and maintenance such as campgrounds and full service restrooms, will not be operating.

Due to lighter footprint of rangers and patrols, some public lands, trails and sites may see restricted access. Some parks are in winter season and see many skiers. The parks may choose to restrict access to some areas if there is a high risk of avalanche or it's a common spot for injuries since there will not be a regular patrol of the area. Additionally, sensitive cultural areas on all public land may see restricted access to protect the artifacts and objects.

**Background Information:**
The NPS contingency plan in the absence of appropriations provides for the ability to restrict access to national park areas for safety, health, or resource protection issues. The plan may be found here:

Per the contingency plan, if visitor access becomes a safety, health or resource protection issue (weather, road conditions, resource damage, garbage build-up to the extent that it endangers human health or wildlife, etc.), the area must be closed.

At the superintendent’s discretion, parks may close grounds/areas with sensitive natural, cultural, historic, or archaeological resources vulnerable to destruction, looting,
or other
damage that cannot be adequately protected by the excepted law enforcement
staff that
remain on duty to conduct essential activities.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Mon, Dec 24, 2018 at 2:51 PM John Bockmier
<johb_bockmier@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

JB,

Keeping you in the loop.

Thanks,

Sent from my iPhone

John M Bockmier
Director of Communications
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC
20240

202.208.3636 Office
202.897.7366 Cell

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Carlton, Jim" <jim.carlton@wsi.com>
Date: December 24, 2018 at 12:11:54 PM EST
To: Heather swift <Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov>,
   <Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov>
Hello, I drew the short straw and having to work Christmas Eve. Is there someone on duty who can respond to this warning from an enviro group that the national parks face vandalism threats, etc. by being left open during the shutdown? Thanks, Jim 415 235 3220

From: Center for Western Priorities
   <info@westernpriorities.org>
Date: December 20, 2018 at 1:14:40 PM PST
To: <Jim.Carlton@wsj.com>
Subject: STATEMENT on national parks during likely government shutdown
Reply-To: Center for Western Priorities
   <info@westernpriorities.org>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 20, 2018

STATEMENT on national parks during likely government shutdown

DENVER—As President Trump pushes for a Christmas shutdown of the federal government, the Interior Department intends to keep America’s national parks open to the public, while closing many critical visitor centers and facilities. The Center for Western Priorities issued the following statement from Executive Director Jennifer Rokala:

"Secretary Zinke should not let one of his final acts be a short-sighted and irresponsible
stunt to leave America's national parks open but unstaffed. Zinke should have learned from the last time he did this, when people were able to walk into our parks and break laws intended to protect our national treasures. He has one last chance to do the right thing for America’s public lands—we hope he makes a good decision.”

In January 2018, Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke left many national parks open to the public which resulted in a number of avoidable events including a poacher killing a pregnant elk in Zion National Park, snowmobilers riding into a restricted area in Yellowstone National Park, and visitors with metal detectors and a drone entered Gettysburg National Military Park.

For more information, visit westernpriorities.org. To speak with an expert on public lands, contact Aaron Weiss at 720-279-0019 or aaron@westernpriorities.org. Sign up for Look West to get daily public lands and energy news sent to your inbox.

###

The Center for Western Priorities is a conservation policy and advocacy organization focused on land and energy issues across the American West.

Center for Western Priorities | 820 16th Street Ste 450, Denver, CO 80202 | 303.974.7761

unsubscribe from this list | view email in browser

--

Jim Carlton
The Wall Street Journal
201 California St., Suite 1100
San Francisco, CA 94111

415 765-6123-o

415 235-3220-c

415 956-0797-f

@jimcarltonsf
Thanks Jeremy. I think the second sentence should be reworded as roads open for snow and pit toilets could potentially be closed if this goes on long enough and extends beyond the timeframe of the donation. I think if you worded it in the present- some roads and toilets are open now- that would work.

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 24, 2018, at 3:09 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

FYI below. Please let me know if my proposed response makes sense to you. I'll let you know what I hear back from the Department.

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
Mobile: (202) 617-7973  
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

--- Forwarded message ---
From: Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>  
Date: Mon, Dec 24, 2018 at 3:07 PM  
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: STATEMENT on national parks during likely government shutdown  
To: John Bockmier <john_bockmier@ios.doi.gov>  
Cc: Russell Newell <russell_newell@ios.doi.gov>, Faith Vander Voort <faith_vandervoort@ios.doi.gov>

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Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube
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JB,

Keeping you in the loop.

Thanks,

Sent from my iPhone

John M Bockmier
Director of Communications
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC
20240

202.208.3636 Office
202.897.7366 Cell

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From: "Carlton, Jim" <jim.carlton@wsj.com>
Date: December 24, 2018 at 12:11:54 PM EST
To: Heather swift <Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov>,
<Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: STATEMENT on national parks
during likely government shutdown

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From: Center for Western Priorities
<info@westernpriorities.org>
Date: December 20, 2018 at 1:14:40 PM PST
To: <Jim.Carlton@wsj.com>
Subject: STATEMENT on national parks during likely government shutdown
Reply-To: Center for Western Priorities
<info@westernpriorities.org>
STATEMENT on national parks during likely government shutdown

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[Center for Western Priorities](http://www.westernpriorities.org) | 820 16th Street Ste 450, Denver, CO 80202 | 303.974.7761

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Jim Carlton
The Wall Street Journal
201 California St., Suite 1100
San Francisco, CA 94111
415 765-6123-o
415 235-3220-c
415 956-0797-f
@jimcarltonsf
Yes, thanks Lisa

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 24, 2018, at 3:58 PM, Lisa Mendelson <lisa_mendelson-ielmini@nps.gov> wrote:

We have not reached out to TNM nor do we want to do so for this reason, per the actg Supt.

I think TNMs response illustrates their confusion with this request.

Would you want me to drop Susan combs and note and let her know we have trash covered w DC and BIDs, in a kind and gentle way?

_____  
Lisa Mendelson, AICP  
Acting Regional Director  
National Park Service  
Sent by Cell 202-297-1338

On Dec 24, 2018, at 3:47 PM, Christine Powell <chris_powell@nps.gov> wrote:

+Lisa

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 24, 2018, at 12:49 PM, Smith, Paul (Dan) <paul_smith@nps.gov> wrote:

Forwarding from Dan's email -- Janice

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Andrea Travnicek  
<andrea_travnicek@ios.doi.gov>  
Date: Mon, Dec 24, 2018 at 11:28 AM  
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: DC parks  
To: <paul_smith@nps.gov>, Willens Todd  
<todd_willens@ios.doi.gov>
From: Susan Combs
<[(b) (6)](redacted).com>
Date: December 24, 2018 at 10:27:38 AM CST
To: <andrea_travnicek@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: DC parks

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Catherine Townsend
<CTownsend@nationalmall.org>
Date: December 23, 2018 at 9:11:53 PM CST
To: Susan Combs
<[(b) (6)](redacted).com>
Subject: Re: DC parks

Hi Susan - I’m not sure what your question is. If NPS needs $$ for trash pickup? To pay for removal? We don’t have any discretionary money to help but we could try an email and social blast to see if there’s interest. Not sure what that would raise.

Let me know the process and contacts.

Merry Christmas.
Catherine

Sent from my iPhone
Catherine Townsend
(b) (6)

On Dec 23, 2018,
Hi Catherine

Merry Christmas first and I hope you are well.

I have a question. Do you know if anyone has an interest in seeing if donations can be made for trash etc cleanup during the shutdown in the mall?

If so I will connect them with the right folks if they don’t already have their contact info.

I am back in Texas for the holidays and NPS only has one year money so their cupboard is bare.

Susan

Sent from my iPhone
Looks good to me

Sent from my iPhone

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Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
Mobile: (202) 617-7973  
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

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National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

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<john_bockmier@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

JB,

Keeping you in the loop.

Thanks,

Sent from my iPhone

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1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC
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Date: December 20, 2018 at 1:14:40 PM PST
To: <Jim.Carlton@wsj.com>
Subject: STATEMENT on national parks during likely government shutdown
Reply-To: Center for Western Priorities <info@westernpriorities.org>
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Jim Carlton
The Wall Street Journal
201 California St., Suite 1100
San Francisco, CA 94111
415 765-6123-o
415 235-3220-c
415 956-0797-f
@jimcarltonsfl
Thanks, All. Given the nuance and emerging complications with roads and campgrounds, I'm going to remove references to both in the first paragraph.

It will now read as:

During the government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. Services that require staffing and maintenance will not be operating.

I'll respond and let you know if we get any other similar, nationally significant media queries.

Thanks,

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Mon, Dec 24, 2018 at 4:37 PM Lena McDowall <lena_mcdowall@nps.gov> wrote:
Campground situation is probably more nuanced - we started out with many of them “open,” with no services, but I believe some parks are having to close some because of human waste and trash build-up. Not sure how to communicate that.

Campgrounds are accessible in some parks, but are not staffed, and there are no services such as restrooms and trash removal.

Lena McDowall
Deputy Director, Management and Administration
Ph: (202) 513-7240
Cell: (202) 641-1814

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Sent from my iPhone

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1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC
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To: <jim.carlton@wsj.com>
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Reply-To: Center for Western Priorities <info@westernpriorities.org>

CONTACT
Aaron Weiss, Media Director
Center for Western Priorities
aaron@westernpriorities.org
720-279-0019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 20, 2018

STATEMENT on national
parks during likely
government shutdown

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The Wall Street Journal
201 California St., Suite 1100
San Francisco, CA 94111
415 765-6123-o
415 235-3220-c
415 956-0797-f
@jimcarltonsf
Thx Jeremy!

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 24, 2018, at 2:42 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Jim,

Please see the below statement and background information. Let us know if you have any other questions. Hope you're not working too late tonight -- have a great holiday....

Jeremy Barnum
Chief Spokesperson, National Park Service

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National Park Service
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Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

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The Wall Street Journal
201 California St., Suite 1100
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415 765-6123-o
415 235-3220-c
415 956-0797-f
@jimcarltonsfl
ROMO weather origin road closures.

Note of prep for potential BIBE closures later this week

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Rick Frost <rick_frost@nps.gov>
Date: December 24, 2018 at 4:54:40 PM EST
To: Jessica Bowron <jessica_bowron@nps.gov>, Rick Obernesser <rick_obernesser@nps.gov>, jeremy_barnum@nps.gov
Subject: Fwd: Update on Rocky Mountain National Park status

This is for ROMO. BIBE is planning some campground closures late in the week as their dumpsters fill up and become a bear hazard.
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Patterson, Kyle" <kyle_patterson@nps.gov>
Date: December 24, 2018 at 2:35:32 PM MST
To: undisclosed-recipients:;
Subject: Update on Rocky Mountain National Park status

Photo included is of Bear Lake Road today, Monday, December 24.

Rocky Mountain National Park will have limited road access by vehicle but will remain accessible to pedestrians and bicycles during the lapse in federal appropriations. Due to road conditions from snowfall Saturday and blowing and drifting snow and ice combined with the inability to snowplow, sand or otherwise maintain the roads, gates are closed past the Beaver Meadows Visitor Center on US 36, past the Fall River Entrance on US 34, past the Wild Basin Entrance on the Wild Basin Road and at the Grand Lake Entrance on US 34. All of these sections of roads are above 8,000 feet in elevation and are closed to vehicular traffic. **Vehicles may not move barriers or travel off road to pass closed gates.** It is uncertain whether these roads will reopen until after the shutdown. Limited road areas in other areas of the park remain open to vehicle travel.

Park visitors are advised to use extreme caution if choosing to enter the park on foot, bicycle or in limited legal areas via vehicles, as park personnel will not be available to provide guidance or assistance. Emergency services will be limited. Any entry to the park during this period of federal government shutdown is at the visitor’s sole risk. **All rules and regulations still apply.**
No visitor services will be provided. Services that require staffing and maintenance, such as snow plowing, entrance stations, the Beaver Meadows Visitor Center, the Kawuneeche Visitor Center, Moraine Park Campground, and some restroom facilities will not be operating. Roads that are already open will remain open, weather and road conditions permitting. Park staff will not issue permits, conduct educational programs, collect trash, maintain restrooms, maintain roads or walkways in the event of snow or ice, or provide visitor information. Fall River Visitor Center, located outside the park on US 34, is open through December 30, excluding December 25.

Additional roads or areas in Rocky Mountain National Park may be closed during the government shutdown if conditions warrant.

--
- Kyle

Kyle Patterson
Management Specialist/Public Affairs Officer
Rocky Mountain National Park
(970) 586-1363
www.nps.gov/romo
www.facebook.com/RockyNPS
Hi Chris,

This should go to you.

Thanks,
Margaret

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Austin, Teresa" <teresa_austin@nps.gov>
Date: December 22, 2018 at 6:41:15 PM EST
To: "Triebsch, Margaret" <margaret_triebsch@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Operations during shut down

Hi Margaret,

Attached is an agreement, the same as the last time, to remain operating while we are shut down. Please review, sign, and return.

Please let me know if you have any questions. My cell is 202.407.0293.

Thanks much,

Teri Austin
Deputy Superintendent
Yosemite National Park
209-372-0131
202-407-0293 (cell)
Centennial Goal: Connect with and create the next generation of park visitors, supporters, and advocates.
Rick,

I'm not sure I understand the issue on the sign at GLCA but am happy to work with you all or the park to provide language for a sign that would better serve their needs.

I assume they have seen the other sign version that is available in the google drive folder for parks where there is some accessibility during the shutdown (see attached)?

Please let me know how we can help.

Thanks,

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Tue, Dec 25, 2018 at 10:42 AM Rick Frost <rick_frost@nps.gov> wrote:
Wanted you to be aware of some pushback GLCA has received regarding closure of one of its day use areas.

Also, there was a fatality in the park yesterday. Please see the message below.

Rick

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Angela Boyers <angela_boyers@nps.gov>
Date: December 24, 2018 at 8:33:09 PM MST
To: Mike Archer <mike_archer@nps.gov>, Rick Frost <rick_frost@nps.gov>,
Good Evening and Merry Christmas Eve,

Mike thank you for taking my call today.

At this point, I am not asking for a verbiage change to the signs. I wanted to give everyone a heads up that the verbiage from WASO for signs has caused some confusion in posting at the Entrance Booths. See attached photo. (Definitely generating negative feedback from Arizona Game and Fish.

Per the NPS's Contingency Plans for Operations, we have closed a Day Use Area known as the "Chains". This is an area in which we normally close the gate at dusk and reopen at dawn. It is one of our access points that is popular for fishing this time of year. Arizona Game and Fish Deputy Director has demanded that we open the Chains now that waiting until Thursday is unacceptable. The words "government overreach" was used...

I spoke to their Regional Supervisor who seemed sympathetic and understanding. I think I was able to damage control to a point. We will see over the next few days.

Lastly, at approximately 1630 hours, we had an over the edge fatality at Horseshoe Bend. 14 y/o American Female. We think it was accidental but we will know more later. Coconino County Sheriff's Office has taken the lead and will be conducting a short haul operation in the morning with limited NPS involvement.

Please let me know if you need more information or clarification.

Thank you
Angela
“Happiness does not come from doing easy work but from the afterglow of satisfaction that comes after the achievement of a difficult task that demanded our best.”

— Theodore Isaac Rubin
This is great, thank you!

Michael,

Please see the below information in reference to your question.

**On-the-record statement attributable to National Park Service Chief Spokesperson Jeremy Barnum:**

"During the government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. For example, this means that roads that have already been open will remain open (think snow removal) and vault toilets (wilderness type restrooms) will remain open. However services that require staffing and maintenance such as campgrounds and full service restrooms, will not be operating."

**Background Information**

Accessibility to parks during the government shutdown varies on a number of factors which in some cases could change at any time. Some national parks may remain accessible to visitors; however, access may change without notice. Some parks are closed completely. Some visitor services may be available when provided by concessioners or other entities. For most parks, there will be no National Park Service-provided visitor services, such as restrooms, trash collection, facilities, or road maintenance. Please visit [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov) and select “Find a Park” for additional information on access to other parks and sites in this area.

The NPS contingency plan in the absence of appropriations provides for the ability to restrict access to national park areas for safety, health, or resource protection issues. The plan may be found here: [https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf](https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf)

Per the contingency plan, if visitor access becomes a safety, health or resource protection issue (weather, road conditions, resource damage, garbage build-up to the extent that it endangers human health or wildlife, etc.), the area must be closed.

At the superintendent’s discretion, parks may close grounds/areas with sensitive natural, cultural, historic, or archaeological resources vulnerable to destruction, looting, or other damage that cannot be adequately protected by the excepted law enforcement staff that remain on duty to conduct essential activities.

Example of services that could be open: a free-standing gift shop, lodge, restaurant or gas station that requires no assistance from the Park to operate. "Assistance" could include but not be limited to snow removal, working as a cashier, unlocking gates, etc. However, if a private concessionaire has worked out in advance a way to remove snow, trash, etc, without the assistance of the park, they MAY be able to continue operations.
Example of services that would not be open: a gift shop inside a visitors center would not be open because a park ranger would not be available to unlock the visitors center or to staff the visitors center. A gas station on a road inside the park where it snowed overnight making it impassible would not be open if it relies on the park for snow removal.

Example of areas that may see restricted access: Due to lighter footprint of rangers and patrols, some public lands, trails and sites may see restricted access. Some parks are in winter season and see many skiers. The parks may choose to restrict access to some areas if there is a high risk of avalanche or it's a common spot for injuries since there will not be a regular patrol of the area. Additionally, sensitive cultural areas on all public land may see restricted access to protect the artifacts and objects.

Examples of areas we are prioritizing: We are prioritizing access to the most accessible and most iconic areas of parks and public lands. Each park, monument, recreation area, etc will have different plans in place.

On Wed, Dec 26, 2018 at 12:15 PM Charboneau, Michael <michael.charboneau@mensjournal.com> wrote:

Hi there,

My name is Michael Charboneau, and I'm an editor for the Men's Journal website. I'm working on a story about how the government shutdown is affecting National Parks, and I wanted to see if there was a list of which parks and monuments are open and which ones are closed. I've seen the press releases on nps.gov, but I'm curious if there is any other information available.

Thanks!

Michael
Thank you Jeremy. Hang in there!

Alex

Alexandra Picavet
Chief of Communications
Midwest Region of the
National Park Service
402-960-0688 cell
402-661-1840 office

On Dec 26, 2018, at 3:19 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Mr. Mahoney,

You may find the following information on the park's website
https://www.nps.gov/fosc/index.htm
During the federal government shutdown, Fort Scott NHS grounds will remain open. All
buildings will be closed, there will be no visitor services, and hazardous conditions may
exist.

You may also refer the general information below.

Best,
Jeremy Barnum

On-the-record statement attributable to National Park Service Chief Spokesperson
Jeremy Barnum:
“During the government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible
while still following all applicable laws and procedures. For example, this means that roads
that have already been open will remain open (think snow removal) and vault toilets
(wilderness type restrooms) will remain open. However services that require staffing and
maintenance such as campgrounds and full service restrooms, will not be operating.”

Background Information:
General contingency plans for operations in the absence of appropriations may be found
here: https://www.doi.gov/shutdown
I would refer you to the information from our contingency plan.

Additional background information:
Example of services that could be open: a free-standing gift shop, lodge, restaurant or gas
station that requires no assistance from the Park to operate. "Assistance" could include but
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On Wed, Dec 26, 2018 at 11:07 AM <no-reply@nps.gov> wrote:
Email submitted from: mmahoney@koamtv.com at /aboutus/contactus.htm

Use mmahoney@koamtv.com to reply to this message

I'm a reporter with KOAM and Fox 14 in Pittsburg, Kansas and I'm doing a story on how the shut down is affecting the Fort Scott National Historic Site in Fort Scott, Kansas. The employee who answered the phone said he was not authorized to do an interview about the situation on the phone so I thought I would reach out to you. You can call my cell at [b] (6) [b] Thanks, Mike Mahoney
From: Barnum, Jeremy
To: Rick Obernesser
Subject: Fwd: KALA trail closure due to landslide= add notification to website and facebook?
Date: Wednesday, December 26, 2018 1:48:45 PM

------ Forwarded message ------
From: Kaplan, Amanda <amanda_kaplan@nps.gov>
Date: Wed, Dec 26, 2018 at 3:43 PM
Subject: Fwd: KALA trail closure due to landslide= add notification to website and facebook?
To: Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>

FYI - KALA trail closure. This is the primary trail that goes down into the park from topside Molokai. Anyone local would likely know that, just adding context for you. I'm not sure if this was shared with Obe yet...

Amanda

Amanda Kaplan
National Park Service
Pacific West Regional Office
909 1st Ave, 5th Floor
Seattle, WA 98104
Phone: (206) 220-4150
Cell: (206) 475-4590
Hi Amanda, I should have included this notification to you as well regarding the landslide across the trail.

We'd like to post a message on Facebook and website as this is an urgent health and safety concern— but I realize the protocols have changed during shutdown— any concerns before we proceed with the Facebook notification? Also I'll need help with posting a notification on our website per below. Would that be possible? Thx r

"The pali trail is closed until further notice due to a landslide blocking the path."

Rhonda Loh
Kalaupapa National Historical Park
808-567-6802 x 1100
rhonda_loh@nps.gov

Hi Stephanie and Rene

Just a heads up, a landslide across our trail into Kalaupapa was reported last night. Amy Sakurada, Chief Ranger, with another ranger is going down this morning to check it out. More details forthcoming. In the meantime the trail is closed. The trail is our only land access into the park so if it requires major repairs this would significantly impact visitor and employee access (latter not so much during shutdown). Regards r

Rhonda Loh
Kalaupapa National Historical Park
808-567-6802 x 1100
rhonda_loh@nps.gov
On Wed, Dec 26, 2018 at 6:39 AM Burkhart, Stephanie <stephanie_burkhart@nps.gov> wrote:

Good morning Pacific West Region Park POC's,

Your PWR regional team for today, December 26, 2018, is:

- Stephanie Burkhart, Primary Point of Contact, [redacted]
- Amanda Kaplan, Communications Point of Contact, [redacted]
- Rene Buehl, LE Point of Contact, 415-609-0802

Please keep your regional team informed of incidents or trends in vandalism, excessive trash, or human waste issues.

As we enter day 5 of the shutdown, please ensure rest days for employees. It is essential for the safety of our visitors and our staff.

There will be a PWR Park POC call today at 1:00 p.m. Conference Line: [redacted]. A calendar invite with the standing agenda will be forthcoming shortly.

There will not be a park POC call with WASO today.

Best,

Stephanie Burkhart
Associate Regional Director
National Park Service, Pacific West Region
333 Bush Street, Suite 500
San Francisco, CA 94104
Phone: (415) 623-2103
Email: stephanie_burkhart@nps.gov
Obe, these are extensions of agreements we already reviewed and approved. My only concern is their note RE potential add'l hours for plowing, but they have enough total days that they can always add more mid-way in the event their costs were estimated too low.

Jessica Bowron  
Comptroller  
National Park Service  
(o) 202-513-7138  
(c) 202-280-8329

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Burkhart, Stephanie <stephanie_burkhart@nps.gov>  
Date: Wed, Dec 26, 2018 at 3:46 PM  
Subject: Fwd: REVISED MORA - Donation Agreement Modification (Cash and In Kind): Need approval  
To: Jessica Bowron <jessica_bowron@nps.gov>  
Cc: aaron_dowe <aaron_dowe@nps.gov>, Stern, Trystan <trystan_stern@nps.gov>, Martha Lee <martha_lee@nps.gov>

Jessica,

Here is MORA's request to modify RGS cash and in-kind donation agreements at MORA. The cost estimator has been updated and is attached as well. Also, I told the park they needed a separate modification for both agreements. If that is not correct, please let me know.

Thanks.

Stephanie Burkhart  
Associate Regional Director  
National Park Service, Pacific West Region  
333 Bush Street, Suite 500  
San Francisco, CA 94104  
Phone: (415) 623-2103  
Email: stephanie_burkhart@nps.gov

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Jenkins, Chip <chip_jenkins@nps.gov>  
Date: Wed, Dec 26, 2018 at 12:43 PM  
Subject: REVISED MORA - Donation Agreement Modification (Cash and In Kind): Need
Stephanie, Arron, Kim and Amanda

Here is a revised request. This incorporates a revised Daily Cost Estimator (thanks to Aaron for the help!) Also incorporated the change into the Modification.

Rainier Guest Services, the park's primary concessionaire, would like to continue to operate the National Park Inn in Longmire through January 2, 2019.

They have offered to provide the $2,446.38 to cover the cost of snow removal around the Inn and in kind services to clean the restrooms along the Nisqually to Longmire road corridor that is required for them to operate.

We understand that we need to put in place a Donation Agreement Modification to accept these donations to continue to operate.

Attached is:
-- MORA RGS Donation Agreement Modification (Cash)
-- MORA RGS Donation Agreement Modification (In Kind)
-- Daily Cost Estimator MORA-RGS (a second tab with the Dec 27 to Jan 2 cost estimate.)
-- MORA RGS Final Donation Agreement - Cash
-- MORA RGS Final Donation Agreement - In Kind

RGS has reviewed the modification and the cost estimate. They are prepared to sign and transfer the funding when this is approved.

RGS has also said if the shutdown continues beyond Jan 2 they will temporarily close their operations. This raise the issue of continuing to have the road open from the Nisqually entrance to Longmire; we will not be able to maintain operations to address human waste and trash collection. We will address these concerns IF we approach Jan 2.

Please let Curt Dimmick and I know if you have questions.

Thanks

Chip

Chip Jenkins
Superintendent
Mount Rainier National Park
Office: 360.569.6503
The Next 100: The goal is to connect with and create the next generation of stewards.
Jessica and Rick,

I have an interesting one here. Due to a landslide, KALA has had to close the only trail from the top of the island down into the park. This is the only access to the park by land. This impacts residents of the KALA settlement, Department of Hawaii (DOH) state employees who commute via this trail to work each day, NPS employees living in the park who use the trail to get groceries and such topside, NPS excepted employees who live outside the park and usually take the trail to get to their job and 3 CUA holders who transport visitors via mules. The primary concern is the DOH employees and the NPS excepted employees. My concern is that this could become political. For people that need to go in or out of the park, since they can't use the trail, the only option is air. It costs about $100 roundtrip to fly topside to/fro the park. So by us not repairing this trail, we are requiring people to pay for a flight when they would otherwise be able to traverse the trail freely. The park asked whether they could repair the trail, which I didn't think they could but I said I would consult with WASO. What kind of options do we have here?

Thanks,

Stephanie Burkhart
Associate Regional Director
National Park Service, Pacific West Region
333 Bush Street, Suite 500
San Francisco, CA 94104
Phone: (415) 623-2103
Email: stephanie_burkhart@nps.gov

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Loh, Rhonda <rhonda_loh@nps.gov>
Date: Wed, Dec 26, 2018 at 12:27 PM
Subject: Re: KALA trail closure due to landslide- approval for followup actions?
To: Burkhart, Stephanie <stephanie_burkhart@nps.gov>
Cc: Rene Buehl <rene_buehl@nps.gov>, Katarina Tuovinen <katriina_tuovinen@nps.gov>, Amy Sakurada <amy_sakurada@nps.gov@gmail.com>

Thx Stephanie

attached is a photo of the wood bridge that was damaged. The trail is closed until repairs can be made- A notice went up on facebook to inform employees and the public and signs/cones posted at the top of the trail head.

Since this is the only land access, our essential staff that live outside the settlement are unable
to reach the park except by airplane. These include our LE officers, and 3 of our 4 maintenance workers whom we rotate schedules across the week.

After discussion with the chief ranger and maintenance chief we are considering the following actions but need your approval to go forward, some of these we may not need to implement unless the shutdown goes on for a while, but be good to know in advance what options are available to us:

1-size up via helicopter and trail hiking to assess the full extent of the damage to the trail. Rangers were only able to get to the uppermost section of the trail (switchback 2) where the bridge is damaged. There may be additional damage further downslope (switchback 6 and 11). This is important if we want to consider trail repairs during the shutdown.

2-trail repair, depending on the extent of the damage further down, and additional inspection of the bridge by the maintenance staff, it may be feasible to repair the bridge and re-open land access- in addition to staff time, this would entail purchasing materials and perhaps helicopter support

3-flying essential staff to the settlement. essential staff could be flown on commuter flight to the settlement. This could be on a daily basis, inorder to meet our "shutdown" schedule for essential staff to report to the settlement. Or we could minimize flying (commuter plane or helicopter) to only when there is a crisis that requires their presence.

Since all of the above options incur expenses. Lmk how you want us to proceed, or if you have other suggestions. regards r

Rhonda Loh
Kalaupapa National Historical Park
808-567-6802 x 1100
rhonda_loh@nps.gov

On Wed, Dec 26, 2018 at 9:23 AM Burkhart, Stephanie <stephanie_burkhart@nps.gov> wrote:
Thanks Rhonda. Keep us in the loop.

Stephanie Burkhart
Associate Regional Director
National Park Service, Pacific West Region
333 Bush Street, Suite 500
San Francisco, CA 94104
Phone: (415) 623-2103
Email: stephanie_burkhart@nps.gov

On Wed, Dec 26, 2018 at 9:12 AM Loh, Rhonda <rhonda_loh@nps.gov> wrote:
Hi Stephanie and Rene
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Rhonda Loh
Kalaupapa National Historical Park
808-567-5802 x 1100
rhonda_loh@nps.gov

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- Stephanie Burkhart, Primary Point of Contact,
- Amanda Kaplan, Communications Point of Contact,
- Rene Buehl, LE Point of Contact,

Please keep your regional team informed of incidents or trends in vandalism, excessive trash, or human waste issues.

As we enter day 5 of the shutdown, please ensure rest days for employees. It is essential for the safety of our visitors and our staff.

There will be a PWR Park POC call today at 1:00 p.m. Conference Line: ** [b] (b) (6) ****. A calendar invite with the standing agenda will be forthcoming shortly.

There will not be a park POC call with WASO today.

Best,

Stephanie Burkhart
Associate Regional Director
National Park Service, Pacific West Region
333 Bush Street, Suite 500
San Francisco, CA 94104
Phone: (415) 623-2103
Email: stephanie_burkhart@nps.gov
Thanks for the continuing updates Jeremy. It’s a gorgeous morning here in DC.

Sent from my iPhone

John M Bockmier  
Director of Communications  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC  
20240

202.208.3636 Office  
202.897.7366 Cell

On Dec 27, 2018, at 7:54 AM, Jeremy Barnum (<jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>) wrote:


Welcome to Joshua Tree. Sorry about the shutdown. Now, about the toilets …

Christopher Reynolds

Joshua Tree National Park, a popular area for rock climbers, remains open, but the federal government's partial shutdown since Dec. 22 has cut back its services. (Rick Loomis / Los Angeles Times)

The federal government’s partial shutdown has granted outdoorsy travelers free access to national parks that usually charge up to $30 per carload. And with that freedom, some locals say, has come a
surge in scofflaw activity and a ticklish toilet situation, especially at Joshua Tree National Park.

At Joshua Tree, Death Valley and Channel Islands national parks — all within 220 miles of Los Angeles — conditions vary as widely as the geography.

All three parks are open, and their lodgings and campgrounds are open, as are other services generally run by park concessionaire companies. But all visitor centers and many restrooms are closed and many other services have been disrupted, including bathroom maintenance and trash collection.

Those conditions pose a particular peril in Joshua Tree, locals say, because these are some of the busiest days of the year.

Rangers at Joshua Tree counted 284,398 visitors in December 2017, most in the second half of the month. Since the federal government’s partial shutdown began on Dec. 22, new arrivals are free to ignore the usual entrance fee of $30 per car.

The park’s visitor centers, water filling stations and dump stations are also closed as part of the shutdown. But its trails, campgrounds and waterless toilet, also known as vault toilets, remain open, even though there are no federal employees to maintain them.

That situation — and the multiplying trash — has spurred volunteerism, but it also has many locals nervous.

“I’ve gone through 500 rolls of toilet paper,” said Rand Abbott, a Joshua Tree rock-climber and volunteer who started restocking park toilets on Saturday, the first full day of the shutdown.

“And I’ve been emptying all the trash cans that are there and putting bags in. And then I’ve been giving out trash bags to people. I’ve
probably put 60 hours in.”

Abbott, a 54-year-old Marine Corps veteran and paraplegic who is well known in the climbing community, said he has also been trying to talk visitors out of illegal fires, illegal parking, littering and other forbidden activities.

Some comply right away, but “70% of the people I’m running into are extremely rude,” Abbott said. “Yesterday, I had my life threatened two times. It’s crazy in there right now.”

Joe De Luca, a sales associate at Nomad Ventures in downtown Joshua Tree, agreed.

“It’s a free-for-all in there. Absolutely ridiculous,” De Luca said.

Besides the toilets and trash, he cited breakdowns in the campground reservation system, illegal camping practices and visitors stringing Christmas lights from delicate Joshua trees that visitors are supposed to leave untouched.

In the shop, De Luca said, he and colleagues are emphasizing leave-no-trace practices and recommending WAG bags — “a bag that you go to the bathroom in [and carry out] for sensitive areas where there are no bathrooms.”

De Luca thinks “the park needs to shut their gates.”

“We’re seeing so much damage. New Year’s is coming up and that’s going to be crazy.”

For Sabra Purdy, co-owner of Joshua Tree-based Cliffhanger Guides, “it’s a really inopportune time not to have anybody minding the hen house.”

But she’s no fan of closing the park. Purdy, who spent most of
Wednesday guiding 14 clients on four tours, recalled the financial hardships the community suffered in the government shutdown of 2013, when the park closed for more than two weeks. This time, she said, she’s “grateful that at least the doors are open.”

But she’s also concerned. Instead of holding on to their $30, she suggests park visitors donate to an accredited charity such as Friends of Joshua Tree, which might be able to take over responsibilities that the National Park Service currently can’t.

Meanwhile, Purdy said, she and her husband, Seth Zaharias, spent most of Christmas Eve in park restrooms, “scrubbing the toilets, bleaching them, sweeping them, taking out the trash and restocking them with toilet paper.” Then her husband went out and did more bathrooms on Wednesday, she said.

But without more help from the feds, the state or county, Purdy said, she’s not sure how long she, her husband and allies such as Abbott can keep things up.

“We’re on the honor system now,” Abbott said. “It’s an opportunity for us to show how well we can take care of public lands. Unfortunately, it’s not going as well as I would like to see it go.”

At Channel Islands National Park, which is accessible only by water and air and charges no admission fee, the story is much different.

The park typically draws far fewer recreational visitors than the desert parks — just 16,746 visitors in December 2017. Still, the visitors have kept coming and camping during the shutdown, and Island Packers, the park’s transportation concessionaire, keeps bringing them.

The Ventura-based company, which runs two boats daily to Santa
Cruz Island, is operating by its usual schedule, carrying day visitors and overnight campers (who have long been required to pack out their own trash), said Cherryl Connally, co-owner of Island Packers.

As of Wednesday afternoon, the company’s Santa Cruz trips were sold out through Saturday. Whale-watching and Anacapa itineraries were also doing well, Connally said.

Connally said Island Packers and Santa Barbara Adventure Co. (a kayak tour company) had taken over the job of shipping and replenishing toilet paper on Santa Cruz Island.

“We have a good paperwork relationship there,” she said.

In Death Valley National Park, which attracted 94,320 visitors in December 2017 and usually charges $30 per car per week, lodgings at Furnace Creek, Stovepipe Wells and Panamint Springs remain open, as do neighboring concession campgrounds and their restrooms.

The popular Furnace Creek, Sunset, Texas Springs, Mesquite Springs and Emigrant campgrounds are open too — but all of their restrooms are closed. The Park Service is urging visitors to “pack out all human waste.” Also, no reservation systems are in place.

Sheila Burkhart, accounting coordinator for Death Valley Lodging Co. at Stovepipe Wells, said that 190-space campground there was about 75% full on Christmas Day, with park concessionaires cleaning bathrooms and emptying trash. A few guests even braved the outdoor swimming pool, Burkhart said.

“We might be a little slower” than last year, Burkhart said, but visitors “are pretty happy. A lot of our foreign guests don’t understand a government shutdown, but they’re happy they’re able to see some parts of the park, that it isn’t completely closed.”
Born and raised in California, Christopher Reynolds has written about travel, the outdoors, arts and culture for the Los Angeles Times since 1990. Since 2009, he has climbed Mayan pyramids, roamed Red Square in a snowstorm, been shushed at the New York Public Library and jumped from the tallest building in Soweto (rope attached). He takes no freebies or press discounts.

Jeremy Barnum
Chief of Public Affairs/Spokesperson
National Park Service
Thx Jeremy

Sent from my iPhone

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In Death Valley National Park, which attracted 94,320 visitors in December 2017 and usually charges $30 per car per week, lodgings at Furnace Creek, Stovepipe Wells and Panamint Springs remain open, as do neighboring concession campgrounds and their restrooms.

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Welcome to Joshua Tree. Sorry about the shutdown. Now, about the toilets …

Christopher Reynolds

Joshua Tree National Park, a popular area for rock climbers, remains open, but the federal government's partial shutdown since Dec. 22 has cut back its services. (Rick Loomis / Los Angeles Times)

The federal government’s partial shutdown has granted outdoorsy travelers free access to national parks that usually charge up to $30 per carload. And with that freedom, some locals say, has come a surge in scofflaw activity and a ticklish toilet situation, especially at Joshua Tree National Park.

At Joshua Tree, Death Valley and Channel Islands national parks — all within 220 miles of Los Angeles — conditions vary as widely as the geography.
All three parks are open, and their lodgings and campgrounds are open, as are other services generally run by park concessionaire companies. But all visitor centers and many restrooms are closed and many other services have been disrupted, including bathroom maintenance and trash collection.

Those conditions pose a particular peril in Joshua Tree, locals say, because these are some of the busiest days of the year.

Rangers at Joshua Tree counted 284,398 visitors in December 2017, most in the second half of the month. Since the federal government’s partial shutdown began on Dec. 22, new arrivals are free to ignore the usual entrance fee of $30 per car.

The park’s visitor centers, water filling stations and dump stations are also closed as part of the shutdown. But its trails, campgrounds and waterless toilet, also known as vault toilets, remain open, even though there are no federal employees to maintain them.

That situation — and the multiplying trash — has spurred volunteerism, but it also has many locals nervous.

“I’ve gone through 500 rolls of toilet paper,” said Rand Abbott, a Joshua Tree rock-climber and volunteer who started restocking park toilets on Saturday, the first full day of the shutdown.

“And I’ve been emptying all the trash cans that are there and putting bags in. And then I’ve been giving out trash bags to people. I’ve probably put 60 hours in.”

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Some comply right away, but “70% of the people I’m running into are extremely rude,” Abbott said. “Yesterday, I had my life threatened two times.”
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Besides the toilets and trash, he cited breakdowns in the campground reservation system, illegal camping practices and visitors stringing Christmas lights from delicate Joshua trees that visitors are supposed to leave untouched.

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For Sabra Purdy, co-owner of Joshua Tree-based Cliffhanger Guides, “it’s a really inopportune time not to have anybody minding the hen house.”

But she’s no fan of closing the park. Purdy, who spent most of Wednesday guiding 14 clients on four tours, recalled the financial hardships the community suffered in the government shutdown of 2013, when the park closed for more than two weeks. This time, she said, she’s “grateful that at least the doors are open.”

But she’s also concerned. Instead of holding on to their $30, she suggests park visitors donate to an accredited charity such as Friends of Joshua Tree, which might be able to take over responsibilities that the National Park Service currently can’t.

Meanwhile, Purdy said, she and her husband, Seth Zaharias, spent most of Christmas Eve in park restrooms, “scrubbing the toilets, bleaching them,
sweeping them, taking out the trash and restocking them with toilet paper.” Then her husband went out and did more bathrooms on Wednesday, she said.

But without more help from the feds, the state or county, Purdy said, she’s not sure how long she, her husband and allies such as Abbott can keep things up.

“We’re on the honor system now,” Abbott said. “It’s an opportunity for us to show how well we can take care of public lands. Unfortunately, it’s not going as well as I would like to see it go.”

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Let's do 11 am eastern/8 am pacific. Call my cell 202-280-8329

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329

On Thu, Dec 27, 2018 at 10:49 AM Lee, Martha <martha_lee@nps.gov> wrote:
We are in office. Want to set a time that would work for you and Jessica?

Martha J. Lee
Deputy Regional Director
Pacific West Region
Direct: 415.623.2106
Cell: 415.652.7142

On Thu, Dec 27, 2018 at 7:43 AM Obernesser, Rick <rick_obernesser@nps.gov> wrote:
Will talk when you call in this morning.

Thx

On Thu, Dec 27, 2018 at 10:11 AM Martha Lee <martha_lee@nps.gov> wrote:
Rene Buehl and I are on our way in and we will call you when we get to the office.
(Stephanie [mostly] off today and I am POC)

Martha J Lee
NPS Pacific West Region
415.652.7142
Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 27, 2018, at 6:52 AM, Bowron, Jessica <jessica_bowron@nps.gov> wrote:

Give me a call to discuss when you get in. Thanks,

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329
On Wed, Dec 26, 2018 at 10:09 PM Burkhart, Stephanie <stephanie_burkhart@nps.gov> wrote:

Jessica and Rick,

I have an interesting one here. Due to a landslide, KALA has had to close the only trail from the top of the island down into the park. This is the only access to the park by land. This impacts residents of the KALA settlement, Department of Hawaii (DOH) state employees who commute via this trail to work each day, NPS employees living in the park who use the trail to get groceries and such topside, NPS excepted employees who live outside the park and usually take the trail to get to their job and 3 CUA holders who transport visitors via mules. The primary concern is the DOH employees and the NPS excepted employees. My concern is that this could become political. For people that need to go in or out of the park, since they can't use the trail, the only option is air. It costs about $100 roundtrip to fly topside to/fro the park. So by us not repairing this trail, we are requiring people to pay for a flight when they would otherwise be able to traverse the trail freely. The park asked whether they could repair the trail, which I didn't think they could but I said I would consult with WASO. What kind of options do we have here?

Thanks,

Stephanie Burkhart
Associate Regional Director
National Park Service, Pacific West Region
333 Bush Street, Suite 500
San Francisco, CA 94104
Phone: (415) 623-2103
Email: stephanie_burkhart@nps.gov

------- Forwarded message -------
From: Loh, Rhonda <rhonda_loh@nps.gov>
Date: Wed, Dec 26, 2018 at 12:27 PM
Subject: Re: KALA trail closure due to landslide- approval for followup actions?
To: Burkhart, Stephanie <stephanie_burkhart@nps.gov>
Cc: Rene Buehl <rene_buehl@nps.gov>, Katariina Tuovinen <katarina_tuovinen@nps.gov>, Amy Sakurada <amy_sakurada@nps.gov>, <b> (6) </b> <b>gmail.com</b>

Thx Stephanie

attached is a photo of the wood bridge that was damaged. The trail is
closed until repairs can be made- A notice went up on facebook to inform employees and the public and signs/cones posted at the top of the trail head.

Since this is the only land access, our essential staff that live outside the settlement are unable to reach the park except by airplane. These include our LE officers, and 3 of our 4 maintenance workers whom we rotate schedules across the week.

After discussion with the chief ranger and maintenance chief we are considering the following actions but need your approval to go forward, some of these we may not need to implement unless the shutdown goes on for a while, but be good to know in advance what options are available to us:

1-size up via helicopter and trail hiking to assess the full extent of the damage to the trail. Rangers were only able to get to the uppermost section of the trail (switchback 2) where the bridge is damaged. There may be additional damage further downslope (switchback 6 and 11). This is important if we want to consider trail repairs during the shutdown.

2-trail repair, depending on the extent of the damage further down, and additional inspection of the bridge by the maintenance staff, it may be feasible to repair the bridge and re-open land access- in addition to staff time, this would entail purchasing materials and perhaps helicopter support

3-flying essential staff to the settlement. essential staff could be flown on commuter flight to the settlement. This could be on a daily basis, inorder to meet our "shutdown" schedule for essential staff to report to the settlement. Or we could minimize flying (commuter plane or helicopter) to only when there is a crisis that requires their presence.

Since all of the above options incur expenses. Lmk how you want us to proceed, or if you have other suggestions. regards r

Rhonda Loh
Kalaupapa National Historical Park
808-567-6802 x 1100
rhonda_loh@nps.gov

On Wed, Dec 26, 2018 at 9:23 AM Burkhart, Stephanie <stephanie_burkhart@nps.gov> wrote:
| Thanks Rhonda. Keep us in the loop.
| Stephanie Burkhart
On Wed, Dec 26, 2018 at 9:12 AM Loh, Rhonda <rhonda_loh@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Stephanie and Rene

Just a heads up, a landslide across our trail into Kalaupapa was reported last night. Amy Sakurada, Chief Ranger, with another ranger is going down this morning to check it out. More details forthcoming. In the meantime the trail is closed. The trail is our only land access into the park so if it requires major repairs this would significantly impact visitor and employee access (latter not so much during shutdown). regards r

Rhonda Loh
Kalaupapa National Historical Park
808-567-6802 x 1100
rhonda_loh@nps.gov

On Wed, Dec 26, 2018 at 6:39 AM Burkhart, Stephanie <stephanie_burkhart@nps.gov> wrote:

Good morning Pacific West Region Park POC’s,

Your PWR regional team for today, December 26, 2018, is:

- Stephanie Burkhart, Primary Point of Contact, 609-0802
- Amanda Kaplan, Communications Point of Contact
- Rene Buehl, LE Point of Contact, 415-609-0802

Please keep your regional team informed of incidents or trends in vandalism, excessive trash, or human waste issues.

As we enter day 5 of the shutdown, please ensure rest days for employees. It is essential for the safety of our visitors and our staff.
There will be a PWR Park POC call today at 1:00 p.m. Conference Line: [redacted]. A calendar invite with the standing agenda will be forthcoming shortly.

There will not be a park POC call with WASO today.

Best,

Stephanie Burkhart  
Associate Regional Director  
National Park Service, Pacific West Region  
333 Bush Street, Suite 500  
San Francisco, CA 94104  
Phone: (415) 623-2103  
Email: stephanie_burkhart@nps.gov

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Rick Obernesser, Acting - DDO  
National Park Service  
1849 C street NW  
Washington, DC  20240  
o - 202.208.3818  
m - 202.641.1497
Thx

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 27, 2018, at 10:57 AM, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Yes

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service

On Dec 27, 2018, at 10:50 AM, Obernesser, Rick <rick_obernesser@nps.gov> wrote:

J - danny asked me to confirm you already shared with DOI Comms.

thx

On Thu, Dec 27, 2018 at 7:30 AM Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:


Welcome to Joshua Tree. Sorry about the shutdown. Now, about the toilets …

Christopher Reynolds

Joshua Tree National Park, a popular area for rock climbers, remains open, but the federal government's partial shutdown since Dec. 22 has cut back its services. (Rick Loomis / Los Angeles Times)
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Jeremy Barnum
Chief of Public Affairs/Spokesperson
National Park Service

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Rick Obernesser, Acting - DDO
National Park Service
1849 C street NW
Washington, DC 20240
o - 202.208.3818
m - 202.641.1497
On-the-record statement attributable to National Park Service Chief Spokesperson Jeremy Barnum:

"During the government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. For example, this means that roads that have already been open will remain open and vault toilets will remain open. However services that require staffing and maintenance such as campgrounds and full service restrooms, will not be operating."

Background Information

Accessibility to parks during the government shutdown varies on a number of factors which in some cases could change at any time. Some national parks may remain accessible to visitors; however, access may change without notice. Some parks are closed completely. Some visitor services may be available when provided by concessioners or other entities. For most parks, there will be no National Park Service-provided visitor services, such as restrooms, trash collection, facilities, or road maintenance. Please visit www.nps.gov and select “Find a Park” for additional information on access to other parks and sites in this area.

Example of services that could be open: a free-standing gift shop, lodge, restaurant or gas station that requires no assistance from the Park to operate. "Assistance" could include but not be limited to snow removal, working as a cashier, unlocking gates, etc. However, if a private concessionaire has worked out in advance a way to remove snow, trash, etc, without the assistance of the park, they MAY be able to continue operations.

Example of services that would not be open: a gift shop inside a visitors center would not be open because a park ranger would not be available to unlock the visitors center or to staff the visitors center. A gas station on a road inside the park where it snowed overnight making it impassible would not be open if it relies on the park for snow removal.

Example of areas that may see restricted access: Due to lighter footprint of rangers and patrols, some public lands, trails and sites may see restricted access. Some parks are in winter season and see many skiers. The parks may choose to restrict access to some areas if there is a high risk of avalanche or it's a common spot for injuries since there will not be a regular patrol of the area. Additionally, sensitive cultural areas on all public land may see restricted access to protect the artifacts and objects.

Examples of areas we are prioritizing: We are prioritizing access to the most accessible and most iconic areas of parks and public lands. Each park, monument, recreation area, etc will have different plans in place.

The National Park Service has signed over forty agreements since the lapse in appropriations with a number of concessioners, partner organizations, and states to provide various visitor services at a number of national parks. The extent of services and duration varies by agreement.

Examples: Note that some of these initial donations are for relatively short portions of time, and may or may not extend for the duration of a shutdown. The Friends of Vicksburg National Military Park and Campaign have donated the necessary funds to provide for essential services at Vicksburg National Military Park during the shutdown. Xanterra Parks and Resorts is providing funding for the grooming of oversnow roads at Yellowstone National Park during the shutdown. The California Department of Parks and Recreation has made an in-kind donation to provide for the cleaning of restrooms and trash removal at Redwoods National and State Parks. The State of New York is providing funding to operate the Statue of Liberty National Monument. The Utah Office of Tourism is providing funding to staff visitor centers and
custodial services at Arches, Bryce Canyon, and Zion National Parks.

The NPS contingency plan in the absence of appropriations provides for the ability to restrict access to national park areas for safety, health, or resource protection issues. The plan may be found here: https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf

Per the contingency plan, if visitor access becomes a safety, health or resource protection issue (weather, road conditions, resource damage, garbage build-up to the extent that it endangers human health or wildlife, etc.), the area must be closed.

At the superintendent’s discretion, parks may close grounds/areas with sensitive natural, cultural, historic, or archaeological resources vulnerable to destruction, looting, or other damage that cannot be adequately protected by the excepted law enforcement staff that remain on duty to conduct essential activities.

On Thu, Dec 27, 2018 at 1:19 PM <no-reply@nps.gov> wrote:

Email submitted from: ntrejos@usatoday.com at /aboutus/contactus.htm

Use ntrejos@usatoday.com to reply to this message

Hello. I'm hoping to contact a media relations person to find out which parks are closed during the federal government shutdown this weekend. I am on deadline today. Please email me at ntrejos@usatoday.com. Thank you.

--
National Park Service
Office of Public Affairs
Please see our response below.

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On Thu, Dec 27, 2018 at 11:46 AM <no-reply@nps.gov> wrote:

Email submitted from: gdouglas@bloomberglaw.com at /aboutus/contactus.htm

Use gdouglas@bloomberglaw.com to reply to this message

Hello - I am a reporter with Bloomberg Law's labor desk and I was hoping to get a comment today on the status of states/localities efforts to keep national attractions open during the shutdown. I can be reached by email or at (703) 341-5798. Thank you, Genevieve

--
National Park Service  
Office of Public Affairs
Minus IMR. Just FYI the other sign option that has been available in the shutdown folder (attached/below) seems to address this with the added benefit of being previously cleared, including (I believe) by SOL. The "closed" signs at the entrance booths appear to conflict the message on the park website which says "While Glen Canyon remains open to the public, there will be no National Park Service-provided services, such as restrooms or maintenance."

OCOM can help the region/park with this depending on what you all decide.

Important Notice to Park Visitors

While this unit/area is accessible to the public during the lapse in federal appropriations, the National Park Service (NPS) is unable to fully staff the properties under its management. It is not feasible to close or otherwise prohibit all access to NPS properties. Park visitors are advised to use extreme caution if choosing to enter NPS property, as NPS personnel will not be available to provide guidance, assistance, maintenance, or emergency response. Any entry onto NPS property during this period of federal government shutdown is at the visitor’s sole risk.

The NPS will not operate parks during the shutdown period, and no visitor services will be provided. The NPS will not issue permits, conduct educational programs, collect trash, operate or provide restrooms, maintain roads or walkways (including plowing and ice melting), or provide visitor information.

Please visit www.nps.gov and select “Find a Park” for additional information on access to other parks and sites in this area.
Below this line is optional language that can be customized to reflect the situation at each park and added to signage:

● The NPS will cease providing services for NPS-operated campgrounds, including maintenance, janitorial, bathrooms, showers, check-in/check-out, and reservations. Visitors in campgrounds will not be asked to leave, but no services will be available, including check-in/check-out services. Visitors holding campground reservations should be aware that there is no guarantee their reserved campsite will be ready and available should they arrive during a government shutdown.

● You may also include in this area facilities/areas that are operational.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Thu, Dec 27, 2018 at 2:23 PM Rick Frost <rick_frost@nps.gov> wrote:

Jessica, Rick:

Please see the attached request from AZ Gamr and Fish to change the language on our closure signs at GRCA. I would like to accommodate this request if possible. Let me know your thoughts.

Rick

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:
Hello Mr. Frost,

Attached please find a letter from Director Ty Gray.

Thank you,

Nancy Cline
ncline@azgfd.gov

--

Ty E. Gray | Director
ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT
OFFICE: 623-236-7100
CELL: 480-721-6759
EMAIL: tgray@azgfd.gov

azgfd.gov | 5000 W. Carefree Highway, Phoenix, AZ 85086

This holiday season buy more than a present, give an unforgettable experience. Shop now.
Thanks Dan. Sharing w/ obe in DC.

Craig Kenkel
Acting Midwest Regional Director
National Park Service
402-661-1520 office
440-668-2230 mobile

Sent from iPhone

On Dec 27, 2018, at 1:50 PM, Morford, Dan <dan_morford@nps.gov> wrote:

A short summary of the shutdown at SCBL. We have treated this like we would an evening shutdown for the day. This consists of no visitor services out of the Visitor Center and the Summit Road to the top of the bluff is closed. Trails are open to the public from sunrise to sunset. If any assistance should be needed along the trail, the visitor calls 911. The Summit road is closed due to the risk to visitors of driving up the road that has not been cleared of rock debris, potential vandalism to the resource and safety of personnel up on top hiking with no verbal safety message from staff.

I do have LE rangers accepted positions to patrol the grounds and boundaries to ensure the safety of the resources at the Monument.

The American flag at SCBL was taken down the last day of operation, Dec. 21, 2018, and has not been raised since.

--
**** **** **** ****
Dan L. Morford
Superintendent
Scotts Bluff National Monument
190276 Old Oregon Trail
PO Box 27
Gering, NE  69341
(308) 436-9711  direct line
(219) 380-2817  cell
Obe, are you good with that response? Want to make sure I’m not missing something here

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 27, 2018, at 3:55 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Okay -- want me to respond?

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Thu, Dec 27, 2018 at 3:02 PM Jessica Bowron <jessica_bowron@nps.gov> wrote:

I think the language Jeremy points to is the quickest way to get what they’re asking. We can run the other language by SOL but it will end up looking like the language they already cleared by the time we are done.

Also, I recognize they are trying to thread the needle of accessible/open with their proposal, but it’s too close to ‘open’ for me.

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 27, 2018, at 2:48 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Minus IMR. Just FYI the other sign option that has been available in the shutdown folder (attached/below) seems to address this with the added benefit of being previously cleared, including (I believe) by SOL. The "closed" signs at the entrance booths appear to conflict the message on the park website which says "While Glen Canyon remains open to the public, there will be no National Park
Service-provided services, such as restrooms or maintenance.

OCOM can help the region/park with this depending on what you all decide.

Important Notice to Park Visitors

While this unit/area is accessible to the public during the lapse in federal appropriations, the National Park Service (NPS) is unable to fully staff the properties under its management. It is not feasible to close or otherwise prohibit all access to NPS properties. Park visitors are advised to use extreme caution if choosing to enter NPS property, as NPS personnel will not be available to provide guidance, assistance, maintenance, or emergency response. Any entry onto NPS property during this period of federal government shutdown is at the visitor’s sole risk.

The NPS will not operate parks during the shutdown period, and no visitor services will be provided. The NPS will not issue permits, conduct educational programs, collect trash, operate or provide restrooms, maintain roads or walkways (including plowing and ice melting), or provide visitor information.

Please visit www.nps.gov and select “Find a Park” for additional information on access to other parks and sites in this area.
Below this line is optional language that can be customized to reflect the situation at each park and added to signage:

- The NPS will cease providing services for NPS-operated campgrounds, including maintenance, janitorial, bathrooms, showers, check-in/check-out, and reservations. Visitors in campgrounds will not be asked to leave, but no services will be available, including check-in/check-out services. Visitors holding campground reservations should be aware that there is no guarantee their reserved campsite will be ready and available should they arrive during a government shutdown.

- You may also include in this area facilities/areas that are operational.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Thu, Dec 27, 2018 at 2:23 PM Rick Frost <rick_frost@nps.gov> wrote:
Jessica, Rick:

Please see the attached request from AZ Gamr and Fish to change
the language on our closure signs at GRCA. I would like to accommodate this request if possible. Let me know your thoughts.

Rick

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Ty Gray <tgray@azgfd.gov>
Date: December 26, 2018 at 1:54:34 PM MST
To: <Rick_frost@nps.gov>
Cc: William Billy Shott <billy_shott@nps.gov>, <Angela_boyers@nps.gov>, Craig McMullen <cmcmullen@azgfd.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] NPS Federal Shutdown

Hello Mr. Frost,

Attached please find a letter from Director Ty Gray.

Thank you,

Nancy Cline
ncline@azgfd.gov

--

Ty E. Gray | Director

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

OFFICE: 623-236-7100
CELL: 480-721-6759
EMAIL: tgray@azgfd.gov

azgfd.gov | 5000 W. Carefree Highway, Phoenix, AZ 85086

This holiday season buy more than a present, give an unforgettable experience. Shop now.
<Shutdown Sign for Parks with Some Access (3).docx>
Hi Jeremy (or whoever is on duty!)

I'm writing a followup on the economic impact of the shutdown to the national park gateway communities. ie, outfitters, book stores and other ancillary businesses having to also shut down because many parks are on sharply curtailed operations. Can someone give me a comment addressing that issue please? My deadline is Friday.

Many thanks,

Jim

On Mon, Dec 24, 2018 at 2:42 PM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Jim,

Please see the below statement and background information. Let us know if you have any other questions. Hope you're not working too late tonight -- have a great holiday....

Jeremy Barnum
Chief Spokesperson, National Park Service

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Background Information:

Due to lighter footprint of rangers and patrols, some public lands, trails and sites may see restricted access. Some parks are in winter season and see many skiers. The parks may choose to restrict access to some areas if there is a high risk of avalanche or it's a common spot for injuries since there will not be a regular patrol of the area. Additionally, sensitive cultural areas on all public land may see restricted access to protect the artifacts and objects.

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At the superintendent’s discretion, parks may close grounds/areas with sensitive natural,
cultural, historic, or archaeological resources vulnerable to destruction, looting, or other
damage that cannot be adequately protected by the excepted law enforcement staff that
remain on duty to conduct essential activities.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

From: "Carlton, Jim" <jim.carlton@wsj.com>
Date: December 24, 2018 at 9:11:54 AM PST
To: Heather swift <Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov>,
    <Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: STATEMENT on national parks during
likely government shutdown

Hello, I drew the short straw and having to work Christmas Eve. Is there
someone on duty who can respond to this warning from an enviro group that
the national parks face vanadalism threats, etc. by being left open during the
shutdown? Thanks, Jim 415 235 3220

From: Center for Western Priorities
    <info@westernpriorities.org>
Date: December 20, 2018 at 1:14:40 PM PST
To: <Jim.Carlton@wsj.com>
Subject: STATEMENT on national parks during likely
government shutdown
Reply-To: Center for Western Priorities
    <info@westernpriorities.org>
STATEMENT on national parks during likely government shutdown

DENVER—As President Trump pushes for a Christmas shutdown of the federal government, the Interior Department intends to keep America’s national parks open to the public, while closing many critical visitor centers and facilities. The Center for Western Priorities issued the following statement from Executive Director Jennifer Rokala:

“Secretary Zinke should not let one of his final acts be a short-sighted and irresponsible stunt to leave America's national parks open but unstaffed. Zinke should have learned from the last time he did this, when people were able to walk into our parks and break laws intended to protect our national treasures. He has one last chance to do the right thing for America’s public lands—we hope he makes a good decision.”

In January 2018, Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke left many national parks open to the public which resulted in a number of avoidable events including a poacher killing a pregnant elk in Zion National Park, snowmobilers riding into a restricted area in Yellowstone National Park, and visitors with metal detectors and a drone entered Gettysburg National Military Park.

For more information, visit westernpriorities.org. To speak with an expert on public lands, contact Aaron Weiss at 720-279-0019 or aaron@westernpriorities.org. Sign up for Look West to get daily public lands and energy news sent to your inbox.

###

The Center for Western Priorities is a conservation policy and advocacy
organization focused on land and energy issues across the American West.

Center for Western Priorities | 820 16th Street Ste 450, Denver, CO 80202 | 303.974.7761

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--

Jim Carlton
The Wall Street Journal
201 California St., Suite 1100
San Francisco, CA 94111
415 765-6123-o
415 235-3220-c
415 956-0797-f
@jimcarltonsfr
With maintenance staff furloughed and restrooms closed, the visitor experience on the National Mall and Ellipse is being impacted by the shutdown. Agreements with partner organizations are providing some relief (for example, the District of Columbia is emptying trash cans on National Park Service property and concessionaire Guest Services, Inc. has provided portable toilets at some of the memorials), but this assistance does not provide the full level of services visitors are accustomed to.

~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)

National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA
Jenny:

Here's what Jeremy and I came up with for a response to the Times:

Maintenance staff are furloughed and restrooms are closed on the National Mall and Ellipse during the shutdown. Partner organizations are assisting with trash collection and providing portable toilets but this may not occur in all areas or at the same frequency as when the government is open.

~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)
National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

On Thu, Dec 27, 2018 at 5:11 PM Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Thrush, Glenn" <glenn.thrush@nytimes.com>
Date: December 27, 2018 at 5:03:28 PM EST
To: <newsmedia@nps.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] NY Times query--shutdown

Sorry to bother -- noticed that there was quite a bit more trash etc. (and PortaSans) at the Ellipse and Mall and was wondering the extent to which the shutdown was impacting those services...
Can u give me a quick call if u are able to?
Cheers/Thrush

--
Glenn Thrush
The New York Times
Cell (first option): 202-731-4974
Desk: 202-862-0351
Twitter: glennthrush
Thanks Jeremy

Sent from my iPhone

John M Bockmier
Director of Communications
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC
20240

202.208.3636 Office
202.897.7366 Cell

On Dec 27, 2018, at 8:49 PM, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

FYI below. Response is pulled from news release on DC parks from a couple of days ago.

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Litterst, Michael" <mike_litterst@nps.gov>
Date: December 27, 2018 at 6:19:29 PM EST
To: glenn.thrush@nytimes.com
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] NY Times query--shutdown

Glenn:

Maintenance staff are furloughed and restrooms are closed on the National Mall and Ellipse during the shutdown. Partner organizations are assisting with trash collection and providing portable toilets but this may not occur in all areas or at the same frequency as when the government is open.

Mike

-------------
Mike Litterst  
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)  
National Park Service  
Ph: (202) 306-4166  
The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.  

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>  
Date: Thu, Dec 27, 2018 at 5:11 PM  
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] NY Times query--shutdown  
To: Michael Litterst <mike_litterst@nps.gov>, Jenny Anzelmo-Sarles <jenny_anzelmo-sarles@nps.gov>

Jeremy Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  

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    Can u give me a quick call if u are able to?  
    Cheers/Thrush  

--  
Glenn Thrush  
The New York Times  
Cell (first option): 202-731-4974  
Desk: 202-862-0351  
Twitter: glennthrush
Morning Jeremy,

The response you provided is wonderful.

Thanks,

Sent from my iPhone

John M Bockmier  
Director of Communications  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC  
20240

202.208.3636 Office  
202.897.7366 Cell

On Dec 28, 2018, at 9:07 AM, Jeremy Barnum wrote:

John,

WSJ is asking for NPS statement for story they’re doing in economic impact of shutdown/parks. Obviously that’s not something we can quantify right now and it would vary from region to region.

I propose sharing the below general statement and background info.

Let me know if this is okay with you.

During the government shutdown national parks remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. For most parks, there will be no National Park Service-provided visitor services, such as restrooms, trash collection, facilities, or road maintenance. Some visitor services may be available when provided by concessioners or other entities.

The National Park Service has signed over forty agreements since the lapse in appropriations with a number of concessioners, partner organizations, and states to provide various visitor services at a number of national parks. The extent of services and duration varies by agreement.
**Background Information/Examples**
(not a complete list)
Note that some of these initial donations are for relatively short portions of time, and may or may not extend for the duration of a shutdown.

The Friends of Vicksburg National Military Park and Campaign have donated the necessary funds to provide for essential services at Vicksburg National Military Park during the shutdown.

Xanterra Parks and Resorts is providing funding for the grooming of oversnow roads at Yellowstone National Park during the shutdown.

The California Department of Parks and Recreation has made an in-kind donation to provide for the cleaning of restrooms and trash removal at Redwoods National and State Parks.

The State of New York is providing funding to operate the Statue of Liberty National Monument.

The Utah Office of Tourism is providing funding to staff visitor centers and custodial services at Arches, Bryce Canyon, and Zion National Parks.

In 2017, 331 million visitors to national parks spent an estimated $18.2 billion in local gateway regions, supporting 306,000 jobs and $35.8 billion in economic output in the national economy.

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service

Begin forwarded message:

Hi Jeremy (or whoever is on duty!)

I'm writing a followup on the economic impact of the shutdown to the national park gateway communities. ie, outfitters, book stores and other ancillary businesses having to also shut down because many parks are on sharply curtailed operations. Can someone give me a comment addressing that issue please? My deadline is Friday.

Many thanks,

Jim
Hi Jim,

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enforcement staff that remain on duty to conduct essential activities.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

From: "Carlton, Jim" <jim.carlton@wsj.com>
Date: December 24, 2018 at 9:11:54 AM PST
To: Heather swift <Heather_Swift@ios.doi.gov>, <Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: STATEMENT on national parks during likely government shutdown

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Reply-To: Center for Western Priorities <info@westernpriorities.org>
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--

Jim Carlton

The Wall Street Journal
Jim Carlton
The Wall Street Journal
201 California St., Suite 1100
San Francisco, CA 94111
415 765-6123-o
415 235-3220-c
415 956-0797-f
@jimcarltonsfsf
I think this is good. Thanks,

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329

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National Park Service

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CONTACT
Aaron Weiss, Media Director
Center for Western Priorities
aaron@westernpriorities.org
720-279-0019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 20, 2018

STATEMENT on national parks during likely government shutdown

DENVER—As President Trump pushes for a Christmas shutdown of the federal government, the Interior Department intends to keep America’s national parks open to the public, while closing many critical visitor centers and facilities. The Center for Western Priorities issued the following statement from
Executive Director Jennifer Rokala:

“Secretary Zinke should not let one of his final acts be a short-sighted and irresponsible stunt to leave America's national parks open but unstaffed. Zinke should have learned from the last time he did this, when people were able to walk into our parks and break laws intended to protect our national treasures. He has one last chance to do the right thing for America’s public lands—we hope he makes a good decision.”

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Crowds, Lack Of Maintenance Crews, Creating Problems In National Parks

Overflowing garbage cans in Big Bend National Park, such as this one at the Santa Elena Traihead, could attract black bears/NPS
Garbage at Big Bend National Park is serving as chum for black bears as the park lacks maintenance crews to haul away the trash during the government shutdown, while in Shenandoah National Park some areas were closed Thursday due to unspecified resource and public safety concerns.

Staff at Big Bend in Texas on Wednesday closed the Chisos Basin, Rio Grande Village, and Cottonwood campgrounds due to sanitation and resource impact concerns. The Santa Elena Canyon Trailhead and trail also was closed due to resource impact concerns. In both instances, the lack of maintenance crews to remove the garbage from overflowing can was creating a sanitation problem as well as being an attractant for the park's black bears.

"No bears have seen yet near here, but this is happening in numerous places around the park, and trash WILL attract bears," said Big Bend Superintendent Bob Krumenaker in an email. "And that creates a safety problem for people and puts the bears at risk as they quickly become habituated to human food."

At Shenandoah, staff alerted the public via Twitter that "(t)he Dickey Ridge Visitor Center and Elkwallow areas (including restrooms) are closed due to visitor impacts to resources and public safety concerns." Park staff could not immediately be reached to explain the issues, though they could mirror those in Big Bend as Shenandoah also has a healthy population of black bears.
Uncollected garbage in the Chisos Basin of Big Bend also was a sanitation problem as well as bear attractant/NPS

Elsewhere in the National Park System, staff at Independence National Historical Park in Pennsylvania announced Thursday that "Visit Philadelphia Inc. has signed an agreement with the National Park Service to provide the necessary funding to open Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell Center from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday, 12/28, Saturday, 12/29 and Sunday, 12/30. No tickets required."

The Statue of Liberty also was open, thanks to funding from New York state. Reservations for tickets to visit Ellis Island and enter the statue could be purchased at this website.

Sent from my iPhone
Rick,

There is cleared sign language that the park could use for this situation. I've attached it below. While its not identical to what the third party is requesting, I think it addresses their concerns.

Jessica Bowron  
Comptroller  
National Park Service  
(o) 202-513-7138  
(c) 202-280-8329

On Thu, Dec 27, 2018 at 2:23 PM Rick Frost <rick_frost@nps.gov> wrote:  
Jessica, Rick:

Please see the attached request from AZ Game and Fish to change the language on our closure signs at GRCA. I would like to accommodate this request if possible. Let me know your thoughts.

Rick

Sent from my iPhone

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From: Ty Gray <tgray@azgfd.gov>  
Date: December 26, 2018 at 1:54:34 PM MST  
To: <Rick_frost@nps.gov>  
Cc: William Billy Shott <billy_shott@nps.gov>, <Angela_boyers@nps.gov>, Craig McMullen <cmcmullen@azgfd.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] NPS Federal Shutdown

Hello Mr. Frost,

Attached please find a letter from Director Ty Gray.

Thank you,

Nancy Cline  
ncline@azgfd.gov
Ty E. Gray  | Director

ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT

OFFICE: 623-236-7100

CELL: 480-721-6759

EMAIL: tgray@azgfd.gov

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This holiday season buy more than a present, give an unforgettable experience. Shop now.
Jessica Bowron  
Comptroller  
National Park Service  
(o) 202-513-7138  
(c) 202-280-8329

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Burkhart, Stephanie <stephanie_burkhart@nps.gov>  
Date: Fri, Dec 28, 2018 at 12:45 PM  
Subject: Fwd: Ace Parking donation agreement and DO21 criteria  
To: Jessica Bowron <jessica_bowron@nps.gov>  
Cc: Stern, Trystan <trystan_stern@nps.gov>

Jessica,

Attached is a new donation agreement for Ace Parking to split the cost to keep Muir Woods open. Via the previous donation agreement, Muir Woods Gift Shop and Cafe fully funded the cost until its expiration. If approved, moving forward, this will be split between the two parties.

The DO21 criteria:
1. Details of the offer (cash or in-kind, description of essential services being provided, description of public access the donation will support) -
The offer is a cash donation for the support of staff to allow Muir Woods to be open to the public. These employees will provide health and safety coverage and basic visitor services within Muir Woods National monument.

2. Identity of the donor(s) -
Ace Parking Management, Inc.

3. Relationship of the donor to the park (park concessioner, Friends Group, Chamber of Commerce, etc.) -
Ace Parking Management, Inc. is a park concessioner that provides a visitation reservation system and on-site parking management at Muir Woods National Monument.

4. List of agreements the donor currently has with the park if applicable (concession contract, Friends Group agreement, etc.) -
Concession Contract MUWO002-17
5. Any factors with respect to the Donor or the Donor’s business that may cause a reasonable person to question the NPS’s integrity, impartiality, or public confidence if the NPS accepts this donation.

The donor is a concessioner. 
We recommend approval of this. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Also, our PWR Comptroller noted a minor technical error in the cost estimator: the cost of Holiday and Sunday premium was slightly overstated. They calculated it as double and 125% of the total cost, respectively. But, the premium portion of pay is subject to a lower rate of benefits (7.65%). That means this estimate is about $400 high. We believed that since it was an estimate, this was fine.

We recommend approval of this. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Stephanie
Ellie,

The National Park Service continues to follow its contingency plan in the absence of appropriations. The plan may be found here: https://www.doi.gov/shutdown

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**Background Information**

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Example of services that would not be open: a gift shop inside a visitors center would not be open because a park ranger would not be available to unlock the visitors center or to staff the visitors center. A gas station on a road inside the park where it snowed overnight making it impassible would not be open if it relies on the park for snow removal.

Example of areas that may see restricted access: Due to lighter footprint of rangers and patrols, some public lands, trails and sites may see restricted access. Some parks are in winter season and see many skiers. The parks may choose to restrict access to some areas if there is a high risk of avalanche or it’s a common spot for injuries since there will not be a regular patrol of the area. Additionally, sensitive cultural areas on all public land may see restricted access to protect the artifacts and objects.

Examples of areas we are prioritizing: We are prioritizing access to the most accessible and most iconic areas of parks and public lands. Each park, monument, recreation area, etc will have different plans in place.

The National Park Service has signed over forty agreements since the lapse in appropriations with a number of concessioners, partner organizations, and states to provide various visitor services at a number of national parks. The extent of services and duration varies by agreement.

Examples: Note that some of these initial donations are for relatively short portions of time, and may or may not extend for the duration of a shutdown. The Friends of Vicksburg National Military Park and Campaign have donated the necessary funds to provide for essential services at Vicksburg National Military Park during the shutdown. Xanterra Parks and Resorts is providing funding for the grooming of oversnow roads at Yellowstone National Park during the shutdown. The California Department of Parks and Recreation has made an in-kind donation to provide for the cleaning of restrooms and trash removal at Redwoods National and State Parks. The State of New York is providing funding to operate the Statue
of Liberty National Monument. The Utah Office of Tourism is providing funding to staff visitor centers and custodial services at Arches, Bryce Canyon, and Zion National Parks.

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On Fri, Dec 28, 2018 at 9:53 AM Kaufman, Ellie <Ellie.Kaufman@turner.com> wrote:

Hello,

I’m with CNN. I’m reaching out because it looks like the federal government shutdown will extend into next week. Will all national parks be closed as a result? Which national parks will be closed next week? Any guidance or information you can provide on the situation would be helpful.

Thanks,

Ellie Kaufman

CNN Washington

d. 202 515 2855

c. 917 328 8967

@ellieckaufman

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National Park Service
Office of Public Affairs
Zack,

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On Fri, Dec 28, 2018 at 12:31 PM Zack Colman <zcolman@politico.com> wrote:

Hi there,

I was wondering if you all had any updates on how NPS was planning on proceeding with the shutdown.

Are you all going to be able to process the next paychecks in time?

When do you anticipate running out of carryover funds?

How will the funding situation affect national parks that remain open? We’ve seen reports of disturbances at Joshua Tree National Park – is NPS considering closing facilities that are currently open?

Thanks,
-Zack

Zack Colman
POLITICO: energy & environment reporter

cell: 248.563.9744

twitter: @zcolman

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National Park Service
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Office of Public Affairs
From: Barnum, Jeremy
To: Bowron, Jessica
Cc: Marlon Taubenheim; Lena McDowall; Nhien (Tony) Nguyen; Michael Litterst
Subject: Media Query on Paychecks and Carryover Funds
Date: Friday, December 28, 2018 11:15:30 AM

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Thanks,

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

---------- Forwarded message ----------
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Date: Fri, Dec 28, 2018 at 1:09 PM
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] shutdown update
To: Zack Colman <zcolman@politico.com>

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Zack Colman

POLITICO: energy & environment reporter

cell: 248.563.9744

twitter: @zcolman

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DOI HR needs to answer the paychecks question, so I'd ask DOI comms for their response there. They sent out a little bit of guidance this morning that I've talked with FWS about, but not sure they've fully formulated the plan.

RE carryover - NPS' operating account is a one-year appropriation, and no carryover is available. (and from there, I'd go into the standard stuff we've given elsewhere on donations, variations in scope and duration, etc).

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329

On Fri, Dec 28, 2018 at 1:15 PM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:
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Office: (202) 513-7262
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Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube
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**POLITICO**: energy & environment reporter

cell: 248.563.9744

twitter: @zcolman

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Hi Jeremy, the answer to the paycheck question is “Yes.”

For your background and inclusion in the answer as appropriate:

* We have successfully processed paychecks for the pay period ending non Saturday, 12/22/18, for the hours that employees worked leading up to the start of the shutdown.

* Specifically, employees who work a M-F schedule got their “whole paycheck” for that period.

* however, employees who work on Saturdays, reported only for furlough notice and orderly shutdown on on 12/22/18, and should not expect to see payment of those Saturday hours in this upcoming paycheck. They would get those hours if Congress approves backpay.

* Payroll/QuickTime Coordinators throughout NPS worked tirelessly to ensure everyone will get paid for that pay period, as they understood the sensitivity of that particular paycheck with the holidays and the shutdown.

Thanks,
Tony

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 28, 2018, at 1:14 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

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National Park Service
Office of Public Affairs

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Office of Public Affairs
FYI

--------- Forwarded message --------
From: Baltrus, Alyssa <alyssa_baltrus@nps.gov>
Date: Fri, Dec 28, 2018 at 11:34 AM
Subject: Zion's Current Shutdown FAQs
To: Rick Frost <rick_frost@nps.gov>, Riggs, Tara <tara_riggs@nps.gov>, Michael Archer <mike_archer@nps.gov>, News Media, NPS <newsmedia@nps.gov>

Here is the latest from Zion. We do have partial funding for Zion Canyon Visitor Center, and limited custodial which is allowing us keep the restrooms at the VC complex and the campground open as well as trash collection through Jan 5. We do not expect partial funding beyond Jan 5.

-Aly

--

Aly Baltrus
Chief of Interpretation and Visitor Services
Zion National Park
435-703-3836

--

Rick Frost
Deputy Regional Director, Protection, Partnerships and Interpretation
Intermountain Region
National Park Service
Office 303 987 6732
Cell 303 378 0255
Thanks, All.

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service

On Dec 28, 2018, at 2:15 PM, Taubenheim, Marlon <marlon_taubenheim@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Jeremy,

All payroll was processed for the last pay period which ended on Saturday, December 22, 2018. However, employees whose work schedules included Saturday work may not receive a salary for that day if they were furloughed.

Best,

Marlon

On Fri, Dec 28, 2018 at 1:15 PM Barnum, Jeremy < jeremy_barnum@nps.gov > wrote:

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Hi there,

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Are you all going to be able to process the next paychecks in time?

When do you anticipate running out of carryover funds?

How will the funding situation affect national parks that remain open? We’ve
seen reports of disturbances at Joshua Tree National Park – is NPS considering closing facilities that are currently open?

Thanks,

-Zack

Zack Colman

POLITICO: energy & environment reporter

cell: 248.563.9744

twitter: @zcolman

--

National Park Service
Office of Public Affairs

--

Marlon V. Taubenheim
Deputy Associate Director
Workforce and Inclusion
National Park Service
(202) 354-1826
In kind agreement at DEVA. Xanterra is an inholder at the park, not technically a concessioner at DEVA. But given the larger optics, I told the region WASO should sign this one. That said, I don't see any issues with it.

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Burkhart, Stephanie <stephanie_burkhart@nps.gov>
Date: Fri, Dec 28, 2018 at 3:15 PM
Subject: Fwd: In-kind donation Xanterra & DEVA
To: Jessica Bowron <jessica_bowron@nps.gov>
Cc: Stern, Trystan <trystan_stern@nps.gov>

Attached is an in-kind donation agreement from Death Valley NP’s privately-owned inholder resort, The Oasis at Death Valley, to clean vault toilets and do trash collection at 4 locations in the park. I know the donor is not supposed to sign first, but the park had already moved forward with it. Let me know if you need a clean version.

The DO-21 criteria:

Details of the offer (cash or in-kind, description of essential services being provided, description of public access the donation will support)

Custodial cleaning of public vault toilets, including cleaning, restocking toilet paper, removing trash, and litter pickup at the following public use areas: Ryan Kiosk (East entrance to park), Zabriskie Point, Golden Canyon, and Badwater.

Identity of the donor

The Oasis at Death Valley, which is a private inholding within Death Valley National Park owned and operated by Xanterra.

Relationship of the donor to the park (park concessioner, Friends Group, Chamber of Commerce, etc.)

Private land within the boundaries of Death Valley National Park. They operate two large hotels, but are not a concessionaire. Xanterra operates concessions contracts in other NPS areas, but not in Death Valley.

List of agreements the donor currently has with the park if applicable (concession contract,
Friends Group agreement, etc.)

Water agreement (dating from 1969) - States that NPS is water utility provider and how water lines are divided up. As part of this, the NPS bills Xanterra for water use.

CUA for guided hiking trips

Easements across NPS land - for Xanterra water and telecomms lines

Easements across Xanterra land - for NPS water line

Special Use Permits - two current permits for construction and historic maintenance work (mow grass on NPS land that is right in front of their registration building)

Any factors with respect to the Donor or the Donor’s business that may cause a reasonable person to question the NPS’s integrity, impartiality, or public confidence if the NPS accepts this donation.

There have been informal discussions about land swaps between NPS and Xanterra within boundaries of DVNP. The proposed land swamps would create more management land for both parties.

Xanterra has just completed a major construction project on their property which took 18 months and involved special use permits. NPS staff spent a lot of time providing oversight to portions of this that either took place on NPS land (such as digging a trench to connect a telecomms line, which needed archeology monitor) or affected the NPS-owned and operated main water distribution system. The park billed them for just over $50,000 in cost recovery in October, which they haven’t paid yet. We will be issuing a second (final) bill soon. I think that will be around $20,000.

PWR Comment: The land issues are long-running and are not cause to question public confidence, etc. Also, I confirmed with the park that they are not concerned that Zanterra will not pay. They believe they will. They just wanted to provide all the facts.

We recommend approval of this.

Stephanie Burkhart
Associate Regional Director
National Park Service, Pacific West Region
333 Bush Street, Suite 500
San Francisco, CA 94104
Phone: (415) 623-2103
Email: stephanie_burkhart@nps.gov
Folks,

Here is a good synopsis from a small park of the kinds of human-level impacts the shutdown is having.

Rick

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Love, Bob" <bob_love@nps.gov>
Date: December 28, 2018 at 1:26:37 PM MST
To: "Frost, Rick" <rick_frost@nps.gov>
Subject: Shutdown Impacts

Hello Rick:

In the interest of good communication I wanted to let you know of a few impacts from the shutdown that are being felt at Tumacacori. I realize that in the grand scheme of things we're pretty small potatoes, but wanted to communicate these nonetheless as examples of impacts felt, even to our smaller NPS units.

- On Wednesday we informed the holders of a Special Use Permit that they would not be able to hold their event. A permit had previously been issued for a wedding, to be held on December 29th, inside the TUMA church. The permit indicated that there would be an expected 70 people in attendance.
- Yesterday (Thursday) I discovered some vandalism to the interior wall of the Convento ruins, next to the TUMA church. Persons unknown had scratched names into the preserved lime plaster. The graffiti was inscribed sometime between Wednesday morning and Thursday afternoon.
- And of course we had to cancel our annual Christmas Eve Luminaria event, which typically draws 2,500 to 3,000 visitors, mostly from our local communities.

Bob Love
Park Superintendent
National Park Service
Tumacácori National Historical Park
Post Office Box 8067
Tumacácori, AZ 85640

office (520) 377-5070
mobile  (520) 591-1013
Visit our website at www.nps.gov/tuma, and like Tumacácori on Facebook
I presume you’re on YOSE’s distribution list...

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Mike Litterst
Assistant Regional Director, Communications
and Legislative Affairs

National Park Service
Southeast Region
Phone: (404) 507-5612
Cell: (202) 306-4166

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Richards, Jamie" <jamie_richards@nps.gov>
Date: December 28, 2018 at 9:13:52 PM EST
To: undisclosed-recipients:;
Subject: Yosemite News Release

Yosemite News Release
December 28, 2018
For Immediate Release

Media Contacts:
newsmedia@nps.gov

Visitor Services are Limited Inside Yosemite National Park
Due to the Lapse in Federal Appropriations

Closures inside the park include the Wawona Campground,
Hodgdon Meadow Campground, and the Mariposa Grove of
Giant Sequoias

Yosemite National Park is open, however visitor services are
limited due to the lapse in federal appropriations. During the
government shutdown, national parks are working to remain as open and accessible to the American people as possible.

Unfortunately, the following facilities and areas inside Yosemite National Park are closed due to impacts from human waste and public safety concerns: Wawona Campground and Hodgdon Meadow Campground. The Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias will close on Saturday, December 29, 2018 due to impacts from human waste and vehicular safety concerns along Wawona Road, Highway 41. All park visitor centers are currently closed.

All normal park rules and regulations still apply. Dogs are not permitted on park trails, including the Mariposa Grove Road. Dogs must be on a leash at all times and are permitted in developed areas, on sidewalks, and on bicycle paths. For more information on pet regulations, please visit https://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/pets.htm.

Restroom facilities are very limited throughout the park, especially along Wawona Road (Highway 41), El Portal Road (Highway 140), and Big Oak Flat Road (Highway 120 West). Visitors are encouraged to stop and use restroom facilities in the gateway communities before entering the park. Visitors are also encouraged to pack in and pack out all trash, as custodial services are very limited at this time.

All roads within the park are subject to chain control or temporary closures due to hazardous driving conditions. All motorists are required to carry tire chains, even if their car is equipped with four-wheel drive, while driving in the park during the winter months.

Additional facilities and areas may close within Yosemite National Park at any time for the health and safety of park visitors.

-NPS-
Thx Rick.

It’s good to have real-life examples like this.

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 28, 2018, at 3:45 PM, Rick Frost <rick_frost@nps.gov> wrote:

Folks,

Here is a good synopsis from a small park of the kinds of human-level impacts the shutdown is having.

Rick

Sent from my iPhone

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Persons unknown had scratched names into the preserved lime plaster. The graffiti was inscribed sometime between Wednesday morning and Thursday afternoon.

- And of course we had to cancel our annual Christmas Eve Luminaria event, which typically draws 2,500 to 3,000 visitors, mostly from our local communities
From: Rick Obernesser
To: jessica_bowron@nps.gov; jeremy_barnum@nps.gov; chris_powell@nps.gov; Lena McDowall; paul_smith@nps.gov
Subject: Fwd: SHEN Shutdown Impacts Msg if Appropriate 12-29-2018
Date: Saturday, December 29, 2018 8:55:01 AM

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

---
From: "Vietzke, Gay" <gay_vietzke@nps.gov>
Date: December 29, 2018 at 10:39:38 AM EST
To: Rick Obernesser <rick_obernesser@nps.gov>
Subject: Fwd: SHEN Shutdown Impacts Msg if Appropriate 12-29-2018
---
FYI -

---------- Forwarded message --------
From: Strack, Brian <brian_strack@nps.gov>
Date: Sat, Dec 29, 2018 at 10:06 AM
Subject: SHEN Shutdown Impacts Msg if Appropriate 12-29-2018
To: Gay Vietzke <gay_vietzke@nps.gov>

SHEN NP Situational Report 12-29-2018 Informational

Changes to Lapse in Appropriation Plan:

- The Dickey Ridge Visitor Center and Elk Wallow Picnic Areas have been closed to the public at their entrances off of Skyline Drive due to visitor activities impacting the resources and growing public health concerns.
- Skyline Drive along the North District of the park was closed during the night of Dec 28 due to icy road conditions.
- Three port-a-johns have been closed at Old Rag Trail Head Parking Lot. Vandalism to trash cans at this site has occurred as well.

Kevin Soviak, Deputy Supt and IC

Kevin_Soviak@nps.gov

Duty Cell 540-742-1674

--
Brian Strack
Associate Regional Director, PFCA
Gay Vietzke
Regional Director, Northeast Region
National Park Service
1234 Market Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107
215-597-5814

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Thanks Rick.

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 29, 2018, at 10:54 AM, Rick Obernesser <rick_obernesser@nps.gov> wrote:

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Vietzke, Gay" <gay_vietzke@nps.gov>
Date: December 29, 2018 at 10:39:38 AM EST
To: Rick Obernesser <rick_obernesser@nps.gov>
Subject: Fwd: SHEN Shutdown Impacts Msg if Appropriate 12-29-2018

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Kevin Soviak, Deputy Supt and IC
Kevin_Soviak@nps.gov
Duty Cell 540-742-1674

--
Brian Strack
Associate Regional Director, PFCA
National Park Service - Northeast Region
1234 Market Street, SEPTA Building
Philadelphia PA
O - 215.597.5364  C - 267.767.3235

--
Gay Vietzke
Regional Director, Northeast Region
National Park Service
1234 Market Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107
215-597-5814

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Thanks Jeremy

Sent from my iPhone

John M Bockmier  
Director of Communications  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC  
20240  

202.208.3636 Office  
202.897.7366 Cell

On Dec 29, 2018, at 2:01 PM, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

FYI

Jeremy Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Munoz, Andrew" <andrew_munoz@nps.gov>  
Date: December 29, 2018 at 1:47:39 PM EST  
To: "Wines, Abigail (Abby)" <abby_wines@nps.gov>  
Cc: NPS News Media <newsmedia@nps.gov>, "Barnum, Jeremy" <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>  
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: Death Valley press release: Crowds Visit While Services are Limited During Shutdown

Abby see my edits below in bold.

On Sat, Dec 29, 2018 at 9:53 AM Wines, Abigail (Abby) <abby_wines@nps.gov> wrote:

Andrew - Proposed response to LA Times. Please review.

1. Are camping reservations being honored at Death Valley?
The only NPS-operated campground in Death Valley NP that normally takes reservations is Furnace Creek Campground. Reservations on dates during partial government shutdown are cancelled and will be refunded by the contractor that runs the reservation system (www.recreation.gov).

NPS-operated campgrounds in the park are open, but no services are being provided (such as restrooms).

Camping reservations at privately-operated resorts inside Death Valley National Park (such as The Oasis at Death Valley and Panamint Springs Resort) are not affected by the shutdown, visitors should contact the private operators directly if they have questions.

2. Is garbage/bathrooms a problem? Are they being serviced? (We had a story by Chris Reynolds that said volunteers were cleaning bathrooms in Joshua Tree)

The NPS is not cleaning restrooms or stocking toilet paper in restrooms in Death Valley. Flush toilets are closed because they would need NPS servicing to remain open. The park has over 30 vault toilets. Those are not being cleaned or stocked with toilet paper, and remain open unless they become a hazard to human health. Several have been closed for that reason.

The NPS is not emptying trash cans or dumpsters during the shutdown, many are full or overflowing by now. Visitors who are enjoying the park during the shutdown can do their part by practicing Leave No Trace principles by taking out everything they bring in with them. They should come prepared to remove their trash and be prepared for a lack of restrooms some park areas.

Two private companies are donating their services to maintain facilities inside Death Valley NP to keep them open to the public.

Ortega National Parks, which is the concessionaire at Stovepipe Wells Resort, is operating Stovepipe Wells Campground during the shutdown. They have a signed in-
kind donation agreement with the NPS to do this. They are doing tasks normally done by NPS staff including: cleaning restrooms, restocking toilet paper, emptying dumpsters, answering visitor questions, and handling issues that campers have.

The Oasis at Death Valley, which is a privately-owned resort within the park boundaries owned by Xanterra, also signed an in-kind donation agreement with the NPS. Starting today, they are cleaning and stocking the vault toilets at the park's east entrance on CA-190, Zabriskie Point, Golden Canyon, and Badwater. They will also be doing trash collection at these four visitor use areas.

3. Any other impacts by the partial shutdown? I know, as your prior email said, this is a busy time of year. This is a very busy time of the year for Death Valley National Park normally. We don't have any statistics for numbers currently, but we feel this is about normal for our high visitation during winter holidays. Parking lots at the most popular areas like Mesquite Flat Sand Dunes, Golden Canyon, and Badwater have been full every day. People are parking on the road shoulders.

**While our administrative and maintenance employees have been furloughed, our law enforcement and emergency services staff are working normal shifts to ensure visitor safety and protect park resources. It is important that visitors obey posted signs and park regulations.**

4. If partial shutdown continues, any chance you would close the popular dunes areas, etc? I know travelers will have access to privately held Furnace Creek lodgings. Conditions could change at any point due if there are issues with resource damage or human health or safety concerns. CA-190 is a state highway and would always remain open. There are two privately-owned resorts within the park boundary: The Oasis at Death Valley (formerly known as
Furnace Creek Resort) and Panamint Springs Resort. They are both inholdings of private land, and access to those sites is not affected by a shutdown. Stovepipe Wells Resort is a contracted concessionaire operated by Ortega National Parks. They have signed an agreement with NPS that allows them to remain open during the shutdown.

Delete>>>"However, that being said, Death Valley National Park has many areas that are practically impossible to close. For example, a few years ago we temporarily closed Zabriskie Point during rehabilitation of the crumbling viewpoint. We had orange construction fencing blocking off the area, which is adjacent to CA-190. Visitors parked on the other side of the highway and climbed over or walked around the fencing."

Thanks for responding because I'm thinking that you are furloughed.

Mary

Abby Wines
Management Assistant
Death Valley National Park
PO Box 579
Death Valley, CA 92328
760-786-3221

--------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Forgione, Mary <Mary.Forgione@latimes.com>
Date: Fri, Dec 28, 2018 at 9:58 AM
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: Death Valley press release: Crowds Visit While Services are Limited During Shutdown
To: Wines, Abigail (Abby) <abby_wines@nps.gov>
Cc: Hilary Clark <hilary_clark@nps.gov>, NPS News Media <newsmedia@nps.gov>

Yes.

1. Are camping reservations being honored at Death Valley?
2. Is garbage/bathrooms a problem? Are they being serviced?
(We had a story by Chris Reynolds that said volunteers were cleaning bathrooms in Joshua Tree)

3. Any other impacts by the partial shutdown? I know, as your prior email said, this is a busy time of year.
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Thanks for responding because I'm thinking that you are furloughed.

Mary

From: Wines, Abigail (Abby) <abby_wines@nps.gov>
Sent: Friday, December 28, 2018 7:20:07 AM
To: Forgione, Mary
Cc: Hilary Clark; NPS News Media
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: Death Valley press release: Crowds Visit While Services are Limited During Shutdown

Hi, Mary,

Could you email me a list of questions, please?

Thanks!

Abby Wines

Management Assistant
Death Valley National Park
PO Box 579
Death Valley, CA 92328
760-786-3221

On Thu, Dec 27, 2018 at 5:23 PM Forgione, Mary <Mary.Forgione@latimes.com> wrote:

Hi guys,
Any updates? On facilities and trash? And are you taking calls on this (I'm working Friday).
Mary Forgione
Assistant Travel Editor
Los Angeles Times

From: Wines, Abigail (Abby) <abby_wines@nps.gov>
Sent: Sunday, December 23, 2018 6:01:51 PM
Death Valley National Park
News Release

Release Date: December 23, 2018
Contact: Hilary Clark, 760-786-3276, hilary_clark@nps.gov
Abby Wines, 760-786-3221, abby_wines@nps.gov

Crowds Visit While Death Valley’s Services are Limited

DEATH VALLEY, CA – Large numbers of people are visiting Death Valley National Park this week in spite of the limited services due to the partial government shutdown.

The Oasis at Death Valley, Stovepipe Wells Resort, and Panamint Springs resort are privately operated and are remaining fully open with lodging, camping, fuel, and restaurants available.

Most roads and hiking areas in Death Valley National Park remain accessible to the public. Emergency and rescue services are limited. Two areas, Salt Creek and Natural Bridge, have been closed for resource protection.

Due to the lapse in federal appropriations, the National Park Service (NPS) is not providing visitor services such as trash collection, restrooms, facility maintenance, or public information. Due to the lack of services, visitors are advised to use extreme caution when entering the park. Visitors are also asked to take trash with them and help keep their park clean.

The winter holidays are one of the busiest times in Death Valley. Parking lots at popular destinations such as Zabriskie Point, Mesquite Flat Sand Dunes, and Badwater are overflowing with cars. By the end of Sunday, two days into the shutdown, piles of trash surrounded trash cans.

The NPS will not be providing services for NPS-operated campgrounds, including maintenance, janitorial, bathrooms, check-in/check-out, and reservations. However, visitors in NPS-operated campgrounds will not be asked to leave unless safety concerns require such action. Visitors holding campground reservations should be aware that there is no guarantee their reserved campsite will be ready and available should they arrive during a government shutdown.

For updates on the shutdown, please visit www.doi.gov/shutdown.
Death Valley National Park is the homeland of the Timbisha Shoshone and preserves natural and cultural resources, exceptional wilderness, scenery, and learning experiences within the nation’s largest conserved desert landscape and some of the most extreme climate and topographic conditions on the planet. About two-thirds of the park was originally designated as Death Valley National Monument in 1933. Today the park is enjoyed by about 1,300,000 people per year. The park is 3,400,000 acres – nearly as large as the state of Connecticut. Learn more at www.nps.gov/deva.

NPS photo: The parking lot at Mesquite Flat Sand Dunes was full on Sunday, December 23.

Abby Wines
Management Assistant
Death Valley National Park
PO Box 579
Death Valley, CA 92328
760-786-3221
I'll take Andrew's edit and respond.

Abby Wines
Management Assistant
Death Valley National Park
PO Box 579
Death Valley, CA 92328
760-786-3221

On Sat, Dec 29, 2018 at 10:57 AM Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:
Thanks for the heads up and the good straightforward answers, Abby and Andrew.

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service

On Dec 29, 2018, at 1:47 PM, Munoz, Andrew <andrew_munoz@nps.gov> wrote:
Abby see my edits below in bold.

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Andrew - Proposed response to LA Times. Please review.

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Abby Wines
Management Assistant
Death Valley National Park
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Sent: Friday, December 28, 2018 7:20:07 AM
To: Forgione, Mary
Cc: Hilary Clark; NPS News Media
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Re: Death Valley press release: Crowds Visit While Services are Limited During Shutdown

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Assistant Travel Editor
Los Angeles Times

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Sent: Sunday, December 23, 2018 6:01:51 PM
To: Hilary Clark
Cc: NPS News Media
Subject: Death Valley press release: Crowds Visit While Services are Limited During Shutdown

Death Valley National Park
News Release

Release Date: December 23, 2018
Contact: Hilary Clark, 760-786-3276, hilary_clark@nps.gov
Abby Wines, 760-786-3221, abby_wines@nps.gov

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The Oasis at Death Valley, Stovepipe Wells Resort, and Panamint Springs resort are privately operated and are remaining fully open with lodging, camping, fuel, and restaurants available.

Most roads and hiking areas in Death Valley National Park remain accessible to the public. Emergency and rescue services are limited. Two areas, Salt Creek and Natural Bridge, have been closed for resource protection.

Due to the lapse in federal appropriations, the National Park Service (NPS) is not providing visitor services such as trash collection, restrooms, facility maintenance, or public information. Due to the lack of services, visitors are advised to use extreme caution when entering the park. Visitors are also asked to take trash with them and help keep their park clean.
The winter holidays are one of the busiest times in Death Valley. Parking lots at popular destinations such as Zabriskie Point, Mesquite Flat Sand Dunes, and Badwater are overflowing with cars. By the end of Sunday, two days into the shutdown, piles of trash surrounded trash cans.

The NPS will not be providing services for NPS-operated campgrounds, including maintenance, janitorial, bathrooms, check-in/check-out, and reservations. However, visitors in NPS-operated campgrounds will not be asked to leave unless safety concerns require such action. Visitors holding campground reservations should be aware that there is no guarantee their reserved campsite will be ready and available should they arrive during a government shutdown.

For updates on the shutdown, please visit www.doigov/shutdown.

www.nps.gov/deva

Death Valley National Park is the homeland of the Timbisha Shoshone and preserves natural and cultural resources, exceptional wilderness, scenery, and learning experiences within the nation’s largest conserved desert landscape and some of the most extreme climate and topographic conditions on the planet. About two-thirds of the park was originally designated as Death Valley National Monument in 1933. Today the park is enjoyed by about 1,300,000 people per year. The park is 3,400,000 acres – nearly as large as the state of Connecticut. Learn more at www.nps.gov/deva.

Mesquite Flat Sand Dunes 12-23-18.jpg

NPS photo: The parking lot at Mesquite Flat Sand Dunes was full on Sunday, December 23.

Abby Wines

Management Assistant
Death Valley National Park
PO Box 579
Death Valley, CA 92328
760-786-3221
Got it

On Dec 29, 2018, at 12:02 PM, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Welcome to the shutdown, Andrew.

As Amanda probably briefed you we’re generally avoiding interviews during the shutdown but providing responses in writing whenever possible. Could you please coordinate with YOSE to respond to the below?

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jeremy Siegel <jsiegel@KQED.org>
Date: December 29, 2018 at 2:13:09 PM EST
To: "newsmedia@nps.gov" <newsmedia@nps.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] KQED/NPR Request

Hello—

I’m a reporter for KQED, the NPR station in San Francisco. Is someone available for a short interview today (Saturday, 12/29) about the Yosemite closures due to the federal government shutdown (release below)? This would be about 5 minutes pre-recorded over the phone. My deadline is 3pm PT (6pm ET).

Thank you!
Jeremy

Jeremy Siegel
Weekend Afternoon Anchor, KQED News
@jersiegel
415.855.5865 (w)
513.746.0972 (c)
Visitor Services are Limited Inside Yosemite National Park
Due to the Lapse in Federal Appropriations

Closures inside the park include the Wawona Campground, Hodgdon Meadow Campground, and the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias

Yosemite National Park is open, however visitor services are limited due to the lapse in federal appropriations. During the government shutdown, national parks are working to remain as open and accessible to the American people as possible.

Unfortunately, the following facilities and areas inside Yosemite National Park are closed due to impacts from human waste and public safety concerns: Wawona Campground and Hodgdon Meadow Campground. The Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias will close on Saturday, December 29, 2018 due to impacts from human waste and vehicular safety concerns along Wawona Road, Highway 41. All park visitor centers are currently closed.

All normal park rules and regulations still apply. Dogs are not permitted on park trails, including the Mariposa Grove Road. Dogs must be on a leash at all times and are permitted in developed areas, on sidewalks, and on bicycle paths. For more information on pet regulations, please visit [https://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/pets.htm](https://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/pets.htm).

Restroom facilities are very limited throughout the park, especially
along Wawona Road (Highway 41), El Portal Road (Highway 140), and Big Oak Flat Road (Highway 120 West). Visitors are encouraged to stop and use restroom facilities in the gateway communities before entering the park. Visitors are also encouraged to pack in and pack out all trash, as custodial services are very limited at this time.

All roads within the park are subject to chain control or temporary closures due to hazardous driving conditions. All motorists are required to carry tire chains, even if their car is equipped with four-wheel drive, while driving in the park during the winter months.

Additional facilities and areas may close within Yosemite National Park at any time for the health and safety of park visitors.

-NPS-
No issues from me

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Burkhart, Stephanie" <stephanie_burkhart@nps.gov>
Date: December 29, 2018 at 2:49:38 PM EST
To: Jessica Bowron <jessica_bowron@nps.gov>
Cc: aaron_dowe <aaron_dowe@nps.gov>, "Stern, Trystan" <trystan_stern@nps.gov>
Subject: Re: new cash donation agreement from Death Valley National History Association

Jessica - Noticed that we forgot to include the average daily rate, so updated the agreement (attached) and am re-sending. Cost estimator is the same.

Stephanie Burkhart
Associate Regional Director
National Park Service, Pacific West Region
333 Bush Street, Suite 500
San Francisco, CA 94104
Phone: (415) 623-2103
Email: stephanie_burkhart@nps.gov

On Sat, Dec 29, 2018 at 11:00 AM Burkhart, Stephanie <stephanie_burkhart@nps.gov> wrote:

Attached is the cash donation agreement and cost estimator pursuant to an offer from Death Valley National History Association (DVNHA) to provide a cash donation to operate Furnace Creek Visitor Center from Sunday, December 30 through January 10. Since the partner is also a concessioner, we are forwarding for WASO approval.

Details of the offer (cash or in-kind, description of essential services being provided, description of public access the donation will support)
Death Valley Natural History Association has offered cash donation to operate Furnace Creek Visitor Center. This will open and staff the building, including restrooms, and custodial in the immediate area.
Identity of the donor
Death Valley Natural History Association (DVNHA)

Relationship of the donor to the park (park concessioner, Friends Group, Chamber of Commerce, etc.)
- DVNHA is the park’s cooperating association
- DVNHA also has a convenience item concessions contract

List of agreements the donor currently has with the park if applicable (concession contract, Friends Group agreement, etc.)
- Cooperating Association agreement
- MOU for Death Valley Institute (define role and use of facilities)
- Fundraising agreement G8130-11-003
- Cooperative Agreement: ENGAGE STAKEHOLDERS AND VISITORS IN DEATH VALLEY NATIONAL PARK
- Concessions contract DEVA001-06 & DEVA004-19
- MOA Facility use agreement 8130-19-001

Any factors with respect to the Donor or the Donor's business that may cause a reasonable person to question the NPS's integrity, impartiality, or public confidence if the NPS accepts this donation.
- None

We have reviewed the costs and find them to be reasonable and appropriate. We recommend approval.

If approved, the park intends to receive a check from the donor and will have the donor sign the check proviso, as well as scan to OTC.net today and provide a batch report or screenshot as confirmation.

Stephanie Burkhart
Associate Regional Director
National Park Service, Pacific West Region
333 Bush Street, Suite 500
San Francisco, CA 94104
Phone: (415) 623-2103
Email: stephanie_burkhart@nps.gov
Hello Rick, Jessica, Jeremy, Charles, et al.,

Please see below for the planned PORE partial closure scheduled for Sunday.

Thanks,

Bob

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Muldoon, Cicely <cicely_muldoon@nps.gov>
Date: Sat, Dec 29, 2018 at 4:40 PM
Subject: PORE Wrap up - 12/29/18 - LIMITED CLOSURE PLANNED TOMORROW
To:

EMPLOYEE WELFARE
GAR in the green, growing mission complexity. Additional VRP resources available today, able to extend patrol hours slightly. IC continues to flight follow all employees on duty. No incidents/injuries.

PUBLIC RESPONSE
Very heavy visitation in the north part of the park with associated unregulated parking problems. Many inquiries about water at the campgrounds (not available during shutdown), and pleas to open restrooms. Also many thanks from the public to the rangers on duty.

FACILITIES & RESOURCE PROTECTION
Tomorrow anticipate closing Palomarin (south end of park) to protect public health and resources due to human waste and trash issues. All vault toilets fouled and had to be closed. This requires staffing the closure so will reduce patrol availability parkwide.

Continuing to monitor facilities parkwide as able.

Employee posted at Drakes Beach all day to prevent visitor/elephant seal conflicts, all went well today.

MEDIA
No inquiries. Will prep comms for tomorrow's closure this evening.
Chimney Rock area typically would be closed to vehicles this weekend and accessible by shuttle only to manage visitor volume. In absence of contract shuttle, parking was overwhelmed. VRP staff will evaluate safety risk created by unregulated parking for emergency access.

Trash receptacles overflowing at Kehoe Beach
Vault toilets parkwide deteriorating, many now locked.

--
Cicely Muldoon, Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes, CA 94956
(415) 464-5101
cicely_muldoon@nps.gov

--
Bob Palmer
Deputy Regional Chief Ranger
Pacific West Region
415 623 2186 (Desk)
415 672 4592 (Cell)

CONFIDENTIALITY/SENSITIVITY NOTICE:
This message is intended exclusively for the individual or entity to which it is addressed. This communication may contain information that is law enforcement sensitive, proprietary, privileged, confidential and may be legally protected or otherwise exempt from disclosure. This message may be forwarded by the addressee, as appropriate, to further disseminate law
enforcement sensitive information to the field, as needed. If you have received this message in error, please notify the sender immediately by email and delete all copies of the message.
Thx again Bob.

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 29, 2018, at 7:44 PM, Palmer, Robert <bob_palmer@nps.gov> wrote:

Hello Rick, Jessica, Jeremy, Charles, et al.,

Please see below for the planned PORE partial closure scheduled for Sunday.

Thanks,

Bob

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Muldoon, Cicely <cicely_muldoon@nps.gov>
Date: Sat, Dec 29, 2018 at 4:40 PM
Subject: PORE Wrap up - 12/29/18 - LIMITED CLOSURE PLANNED TOMORROW
To:

EMPLOYEE WELFARE
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Trash receptacles overflowing at Kehoe Beach

Vault toilets parkwide deteriorating, many now locked.

--
Cicely Muldoon, Superintendent
Point Reyes National Seashore
1 Bear Valley Road
Point Reyes, CA 94956
(415) 464-5101
cicely_muldoon@nps.gov

--
Bob Palmer
Deputy Regional Chief Ranger
Pacific West Region
415 623 2186 (Desk)
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Yes Jeremy,

I actually wanted to know exactly which parks have been affected. Is there a way to find out other than searching by individual states?

Get Outlook for iOS

From: Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Sent: Monday, December 31, 2018 11:07 AM
To: Hill, Christen C.
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] What Government Shutdown Means for NPS

Christen,

The National Park Service continues to follow its contingency plan in the absence of appropriations. The plan may be found here: https://www.doi.gov/shutdown

During the government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. For example, this means that roads that have already been open will remain open and vault toilets will remain open. However services that require staffing and maintenance such as campgrounds and full service restrooms, will not be operating.

Background Information
Accessibility to parks during the government shutdown varies on a number of factors which may change at any time. Some visitor services may be available when provided by concessioners or other entities. For most parks, there will be no National Park Service-provided visitor services, such as restrooms, trash collection, facilities, or road maintenance. Visitors should go to www.nps.gov and select “Find a Park” for additional information on access to parks and sites in a particular area.

Example of services that could be open: a free-standing gift shop, lodge, restaurant or gas station that requires no assistance from the Park to operate. "Assistance" could include but not be limited to snow removal, working as a cashier, unlocking gates, etc. However, if a private concessionaire has worked out in advance a way to remove snow, trash, etc, without the assistance of the park, they MAY be able to continue operations.

Example of services that would not be open: a gift shop inside a visitors center would not be open because a park ranger would not be available to unlock the visitors center or to staff the visitors center. A gas station on a road inside the park where it snowed overnight making it impassible would not be open if it relies on the park for snow removal.

Example of areas that may see restricted access: Due to lighter footprint of rangers and patrols, some public lands, trails and sites may see restricted access. Some parks are in winter season and see many skiers. The parks may choose to restrict access to some areas if there is a high risk of avalanche or it's a common spot for injuries since there will not be a regular patrol of the area. Additionally, sensitive cultural
areas on all public land may see restricted access to protect the artifacts and objects.

Examples of areas we are prioritizing: We are prioritizing access to the most accessible and most iconic areas of parks and public lands. Each park, monument, recreation area, etc will have different plans in place.

The National Park Service has signed over forty agreements since the lapse in appropriations with a number of concessioners, partner organizations, and states to provide various visitor services at a number of national parks. The extent of services and duration varies by agreement. The NPS contingency plan in the absence of appropriations provides for the ability to restrict access to national park areas for safety, health, or resource protection issues. The plan may be found here: https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_continency_plan.pdf

Per the contingency plan, if visitor access becomes a safety, health or resource protection issue (weather, road conditions, resource damage, garbage build-up to the extent that it endangers human health or wildlife, etc.), the area must be closed.

At the superintendent’s discretion, parks may close grounds/areas with sensitive natural, cultural, historic, or archaeological resources vulnerable to destruction, looting, or other damage that cannot be adequately protected by the excepted law enforcement staff that remain on duty to conduct essential activities.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Mon, Dec 31, 2018 at 5:13 AM Hill, Christen C. <Christen.C.Hill@abc.com> wrote:

Hi Dan,

I am digital news associate for ABC News Network. I’m interested in writing a national story for our digital site concerning affected parks as a result of the government shutdown. I was wondering if you or one of your colleagues have time for a short interview today? You can reach me at this email or on my cell [b] (6) [b] [b] [b] [b] [

Best,
Christen Hill
ABC News | Washington, DC
1717 DeSales Street. NW
202-222-7700
@chris10chill
I want to talk with you abt this tmrw.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Buehl, Rene" <rene_buehl@nps.gov>
Date: December 31, 2018 at 6:42:18 PM EST
To: Rick Obernesser <rick_obernesser@nps.gov>, Charles Cuvelier <charles_cuvelier@nps.gov>, Jessica Bowron <jessica_bowron@nps.gov>, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>, NPS PWR Directorate <pwr_directorate@nps.gov>
Cc: Sarah Creachbaum <sarah_creachbaum@nps.gov>, Andrew Munoz <andrew_munoz@nps.gov>, Mike Reynolds <Mike_Reynolds@nps.gov>
Subject: Fwd: YOSE latest closure request/concurrence/heads up

Rick and WASO team,
See YOSE's plans for increased closures below.
The plans appear very reasonable and thought out. Hopefully they will be sufficient to assist the YOSE team in dealing with the extra intense visitation and the myriad of issues arising, if further closures are needed we will work with Mike and his team.
Thanks for all the support you have been giving parks and don't hesitate to let us know if you have questions,

Rene Buehl
Acting Regional Chief Ranger/Regional Law Enforcement Specialist
Pacific West Regional Office
Desk 415-623-2181
Mobile 415-609-0802

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Reynolds, Michael <michael_reynolds@nps.gov>
Date: Mon, Dec 31, 2018 at 3:07 PM
Subject: YOSE latest closure request/concurrence/heads up
To: Sarah Creachbaum <sarah_creachbaum@nps.gov>, Buehl, Rene <rene_buehl@nps.gov>, Andrew Munoz <andrew_munoz@nps.gov>
Cc: Teri Austin <teresa_austin@nps.gov>, Richards, Jamie <jamie_richards@nps.gov>, Paladino, Anthony <anthony_paladino@nps.gov>, Andrews Chad <Chad_Andrews@nps.gov>, Meri Sias <Meri_Sias@nps.gov>, Kristin Kirschner <kristin_kirschner@nps.gov>, David Thorpe <david_thorpe@nps.gov>

First, we will close a snow play area tonight when folks are done-same story in terms of human waste etc and some vandalism to the campground., its really an unofficial area of a campground at
Crane Flat so its not even closing an area for the compendium as much as a place we were allowing use.

A bigger issue is stemming the tide of day use up on the south entrance which has tons of uses as we discussed. I negotiated today with the County Commissioner and the visitor's bureau and have agreement that we should try some limited access the rest of the week. so we propose the following for a stretch of the road from the south gate at 41, through Wawona to the intersection to the ski area. Folks can still access the whole park through 120 and 140 fully and can get everywhere else. We think these actions would eliminate some real safety and health issues and will give our exhausted team a few days oc control in that area to get their health aligned.

I think its too late today to announce for New Years day but we start on Wednesday through the weekend.

Please consider this our request to process on this Wednesday and we will work on messaging to the communities over the next 24 hours.

1. Limited Access Strategy Highway 41:
2. Full visitor access via South Entrance from 1800 to 0900 (do not advertise)
3. Close general visitor access at South Entrance from 0900-1800
4. Implement as soon as possible and keep in effect through 1/6 at a minimum.
5. If the shutdown continues, consider implementing on subsequent weekends for the duration of the shutdown (Sat/Sun)
6. During limited access hours (0900-1800), allow into the park only those people who:
   - Are residents, property owners, or employees
   - Have Lodging reservations, including vacation home rentals
   - Are Badger ski area/backcountry users (do not advertise)
   - Contractors (no need to advertise)

Perhaps the verbiage for the public could be something like "limited entry", "limited access", or something like that if you can't use the word "closure".

Thanks! Call as needed! this may seem confusing-not a park closure as much as a limited use screening to keep day use that is unmanageable controlled but let other users and residents get through.

--

Michael Reynolds
Superintendent
Yosemite National Park
(209) 372 0201
michael_reynolds@nps.gov
From: Knickmeyer, Ellen
To: Jeremy Barnum
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Park Service-shutdown?
Date: Monday, December 31, 2018 5:27:53 PM

Thanks, Jeremy. It seems like most parks will see the same problems as Yosemite and Joshua Tree without adequate staffing, right? Is it safe to wait for trouble to happen to close them?

Best
Ellen

From: Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Sent: Monday, December 31, 2018 7:24 PM
To: Knickmeyer, Ellen <EKnickmeyer@ap.org>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Park Service-shutdown?

Hi Ellen,

The NPS contingency plan in the absence of appropriations provides for the ability to restrict access to national park areas for safety, health, or resource protection issues. The plan may be found here: https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf

Per the contingency plan, if visitor access becomes a safety, health or resource protection issue (weather, road conditions, resource damage, garbage build-up to the extent that it endangers human health or wildlife, etc.), the area must be closed.

At the superintendent’s discretion, parks may close grounds/areas with sensitive natural, cultural, historic, or archaeological resources vulnerable to destruction, looting, or other damage that cannot be adequately protected by the excepted law enforcement staff that remain on duty to conduct essential activities.

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service

On Dec 31, 2018, at 4:25 PM, Knickmeyer, Ellen <EKnickmeyer@ap.org> wrote:

Hi, Jeremy – we’re doing a story today about troubles at Yosemite, Joshua Tree dealing with all the isitors despite the staff furloughs – people are telling us about lots of human waste throughout the parks, garbage, people off-roading illegally, etc. We talked to someone with the National Parks Conservation Association who faults Interior for keeping parks open despite the lack of staff, calls it a “nightmare scenario.” Possible to get comment from you on that? I messaged Heather a bit earlier.
On-the-record statement attributable to National Park Service Chief Spokesperson Jeremy Barnum:

"In the event of a government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. For example, this means that roads that have already been open will remain open (think snow removal) and vault toilets (wilderness type restrooms) will remain open. However services that require staffing and maintenance such as campgrounds and full service restrooms, will not be operating."

Background Information:
General contingency plans for operations in the absence of appropriations may be found here: https://www.doi.gov/shutdown

Additional background information:
Example of services that could be open: a free-standing gift shop, lodge, restaurant or gas station that requires no assistance from the Park to operate. "Assistance" could include but not be limited to snow removal, working as a cashier, unlocking gates, etc. However, if a private concessionaire has worked out in advance a way to remove snow, trash, etc, without the assistance of the park, they MAY be able to continue operations.

Example of services that would not be open: a gift shop inside a visitors center would not be open because a park ranger would not be available to unlock the visitors center or to staff the visitors center. A gas station on a road inside the park where it snowed overnight making it impassable would not be open if it relies on the park for snow removal.

Example of areas that may see restricted access: Due to lighter footprint of rangers and patrols, some public lands, trails and sites may see restricted access. Some parks are in winter season and see many skiers. The parks may choose to restrict access to some areas if there is a high risk of avalanche or it's a common spot for injuries since there will not be a regular patrol of the area. Additionally, sensitive cultural areas on all public land may see restricted access to protect the artifacts and objects.

Examples of areas we are prioritizing: We are prioritizing access to the most accessible and most iconic areas of parks and public lands. Each park, monument, recreation area, etc will have different plans in place.

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 4:19 PM Knickmeyer, Ellen <EKnickmeyer@ap.org> wrote:

Hi, Jeremy - could you please tell me NPS's plans in any shutdown? For story today.
Thanks,
Ellen
Sent from my iPhone

The information contained in this communication is intended for the use of the designated recipients named above. If the reader of this communication is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that you have received this communication in error, and that any review, dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify The Associated Press immediately by telephone at +1-212-621-1500 and delete this email. Thank you.

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RICK and WASO team,

SEKI is looking for immediate implementation of the attached closures for effect on New Years Day but if after your review you feel the closures are not appropriate we can have them rescind them and update information via social media and a press release, the time difference should minimize any issues with such a rescission on New Years Day.

They worked hard to find a less than complete closure that allows the public to enjoy portions of the parks but still protects staff, visitors, resources and takes the economic impact to concessionaires and the local community into account.

What the team at SEKI has determined is that the attached closures are the minimum action needed to effectively deal wit the impacts associated with the shutdown there.

Very sorry for the late submission on New Years eve.
Thank you,
Rene Buehl
Acting Regional Chief Ranger/ Regional Law Enforcement Specialist
Pacific West Regional Office
Desk 415-623-2181
Mobile 415-609-0802

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Kelleher, Edward <ned_kelleher@nps.gov>
Date: Mon, Dec 31, 2018 at 6:06 PM
Subject: Fwd: Final closures for signature
To: Rene Buehl <renee_buehl@nps.gov>

Rene-

Here you go.

Thanks,
Ned

Ned Kelleher
Chief Ranger
Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks

work 559-565-3110
cell 559-586-0809
Signed versions attached for routing to Region.

Thanks,

Jason Watkins  
Administrative Officer  
Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks  
National Park Service  
Office: 559-565-3107  
Mobile: 559-568-8591  
Email: jason_watkins@nps.gov

On Mon, Dec 31, 2018 at 6:00 PM Kelleher, Edward <ned_kelleher@nps.gov> wrote:

Jason,  
Final closure memos if you concur sign and I'll route to region.  
Thanks,  
Ned

Ned Kelleher  
Chief Ranger  
Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks

work 559-565-3110  
cell  559-586-0809
From: Rick Obernesser
To: Buehl, Rene
Cc: Charles Cuvelier; Jessica Bowron; Jeremy Barnum; NPS PWR Directorate; Sarah Creachbaum; Andrew Munoz; Mike Reynolds
Subject: Re: YOSE latest closure request/concurrance/heads up
Date: Tuesday, January 1, 2019 9:08:48 AM
Copy Rene.

Thank you

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 31, 2018, at 6:42 PM, Buehl, Rene <rene_buehl@nps.gov> wrote:

Rick and WASO team,
See YOSE's plans for increased closures below.
The plans appear very reasonable and thought out. Hopefully they will be sufficient to assist the YOSE team in dealing with the extra intense visitation and the myriad of issues arising, if further closures are needed we will work with Mike and his team.
Thanks for all the support you have been giving parks and don't hesitate to let us know if you have questions,
Rene Buehl
Acting Regional Chief Ranger/Regional Law Enforcement Specialist
Pacific West Regional Office
Desk 415-623-2181
Mobile 415-609-0802

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Date: Mon, Dec 31, 2018 at 3:07 PM
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To: Sarah Creachbaum <sarah_creachbaum@nps.gov>, Buehl, Rene <rene_buehl@nps.gov>, Andrew Munoz <andrew_munoz@nps.gov>
Cc: Teri Austin <teresa_austin@nps.gov>, Richards, Jamie <jamie_richards@nps.gov>, Paladino, Anthony <anthony_paladino@nps.gov>, Andrews Chad <Chad_Andrews@nps.gov>, Meri Sias <Meri_Sias@nps.gov>, Kristin Kirschner <kristin_kirschner@nps.gov>, David Thorpe <david_thorpe@nps.gov>

First, we will close a snow play area tonight when folks are done-same story in terms of human waste etc and some vandalism to the campground., its really an unofficial area of a campground at Crane Flat so its not even closing an area for the compendium as much as a place we were allowing use.

A bigger issue is stemming the tide of day use up on the south entrance which has tons of uses as we discussed. I negotiated today with the County Commissioner and the visitor's bureau and have agreement that we should try some limited access the rest of the week. so we propose the following for a stretch of the road from the south gate at 41, through Wawona to the intersection to the ski area. Folks can still access the whole park through 120 and 140 fully and can get everywhere else. We
think these actions would eliminate some real safety and health issues and will give our exhausted team a few days of control in that area to get their health aligned.

I think it's too late today to announce for New Years day but we start on Wednesday through the weekend.

Please consider this our request to process on this Wednesday and we will work on messaging to the communities over the next 24 hours.

1. Limited Access Strategy Highway 41:
2. Full visitor access via South Entrance from 1800 to 0900 (do not advertise)
3. Close general visitor access at South Entrance from 0900-1800
4. Implement as soon as possible and keep in effect through 1/6 at a minimum.
5. If the shutdown continues, consider implementing on subsequent weekends for the duration of the shutdown (Sat/Sun)
6. During limited access hours (0900-1800), allow into the park only those people who:
   - Are residents, property owners, or employees
   - Have Lodging reservations, including vacation home rentals
   - Are Badger ski area/backcountry users (do not advertise)
   - Contractors (no need to advertise)

Perhaps the verbiage for the public could be something like "limited entry", "limited access", or something like that if you can't use the word "closure".

Thanks! Call as needed! this may seem confusing—not a park closure as much as a limited use screening to keep day use that is unmanageable controlled but let other users and residents get through.

--
Michael Reynolds
Superintendent
Yosemite National Park
(209) 372 0201
michael_reynolds@nps.gov
Here you go.
Happy New Year.
Rene Buehl
Regional Law Enforcement Specialist
Pacific West Regional Office
Desk 415-623-2181
Mobile 415-609-0802

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Buehl, Rene <rene_buehl@nps.gov>
Date: Mon, Dec 31, 2018 at 7:03 PM
Subject: Fwd: Final closures for signature
To: Rick Obernesser <rick_obernesser@nps.gov>, Charles Cuvelier <charles_cuvelier@nps.gov>, Jessica Bowron <jessica_bowron@nps.gov>, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Cc: NPS PWR Directorate <pwr_directorate@nps.gov>, Andrew Munoz <andrew_munoz@nps.gov>, Ned Kelleher <Ned_Kelleher@nps.gov>, Jason Watkins <jason_watkins@nps.gov>, Sarah Creachbaum <sarah_creachbaum@nps.gov>

Rick and WASO team,

SEKI is looking for immediate implementation of the attached closures for effect on New Years Day but if after your review you feel the closures are not appropriate we can have them rescind them and update information via social media and a press release, the time difference should minimize any issues with such a rescission on New Years Day.

They worked hard to find a less than complete closure that allows the public to enjoy portions of the parks but still protects staff, visitors, resources and takes the economic impact to concessionaires and the local community into account.

What the team at SEKI has determined is that the attached closures are the minimum action needed to effectively deal with the impacts associated with the shutdown there.

Very sorry for the late submission on New Years eve.
Thank you,
Rene Buehl
Acting Regional Chief Ranger/ Regional Law Enforcement Specialist
Pacific West Regional Office
Desk 415-623-2181
Mobile 415-609-0802

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Kelleher, Edward <ned_kelleher@nps.gov>
Date: Mon, Dec 31, 2018 at 6:06 PM
Subject: Fwd: Final closures for signature
To: Rene Buehl <rene_buehl@nps.gov>

Rene-

Here you go.

Thanks,
Ned

Ned Kelleher
Chief Ranger
Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks

work 559-565-3110
cell 559-586-0809

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Watkins, Jason <jason_watkins@nps.gov>
Date: Mon, Dec 31, 2018 at 6:05 PM
Subject: Re: Final closures for signature
To: Kelleher, Edward <ned_kelleher@nps.gov>

Signed versions attached for routing to Region.

Thanks,

Jason Watkins
Administrative Officer
Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks
National Park Service
Office: 559-565-3107
Mobile: 559-568-8591
Email: jason_watkins@nps.gov

On Mon, Dec 31, 2018 at 6:00 PM Kelleher, Edward <ned_kelleher@nps.gov> wrote:
J

Final closure memos if you concur sign and I'll route to region.
Thanks,
Ned

Ned Kelleher
Chief Ranger
Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks
Happy new year! Can you send me this statement here?

Under the park service’s shutdown plan, authorities have to close any area where garbage or other problems become threats to health and safety or to wildlife, spokesman Jeremy Barnum said in an email Monday.

“At the superintendent’s discretion, parks may close grounds/areas with sensitive natural, cultural, historic, or archaeological resources vulnerable to destruction, looting, or other damage that cannot be adequately protected by the excepted law enforcement staff that remain on duty,” Barnum said.

Overall plan remains to keep parks open, leaving it up to local officials to determine what needs to be closed? Do you want to respond to all the reports of problems around the country, with trash, feces, vandalism, etc.? As you know critics are saying NPS is not protecting parks by allowing them to stay open. Thanks, rob

Rob Hotakainen
National parks, oceans and fisheries reporter
E&E NEWS
rhotakainen@eenews.net
202-446-0477
Twitter: @HotakainenRob
122 C Street NW, 7th floor, Washington, DC, 20001
www.eenews.net | @EENewsUpdates
Greenwire, E&E Daily, E&E News PM, Climatewire, Energywire
Could you please clarify to which park you are referring?

On Mon, Dec 31, 2018 at 4:00 PM <no-reply@nps.gov> wrote:
   Email submitted from: mvolz@ap.org at /aboutus/contactus.htm

   Use mvolz@ap.org to reply to this message

   Hello, I'm a reporter for The Associated Press looking for additional details to your update that says restrooms and trash bins will be closed "due to human waste issues, wildlife concerns and overall public health." Can you provide any additional information about the human waste issues -- are toilets and garbage cans overflowing or what is the issue? Thanks in advance, Matt Volz, Associated Press.
Thanks JB

Sent from my iPhone

John M Bocknierz
Director of Communications
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC
20240

202.208.3636 Office
202.897.7366 Cell

On Jan 1, 2019, at 12:06 PM, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

FYI

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service

Begin forwarded message:

From: Andrew Munoz <andrew_munoz@nps.gov>
Date: January 1, 2019 at 1:15:39 AM EST
To: newsmedia@nps.gov
Subject: Fwd: NEWS RELEASE- Unsafe Visitor Conditions Lead to Closures in Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks <seki_public_affairs@nps.gov>
Date: December 31, 2018 at 9:51:22 PM PST
To: andrew_munoz@nps.gov
Subject: NEWS RELEASE- Unsafe Visitor Conditions Lead to Closures in Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks
Reply-To: seki_public_affairs@nps.gov
Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks News Release

For Immediate Release
Contact: Sintia Kawasaki-Yee, Public Affairs Officer
Media Contact: (559) 679-2866
E-mail: sintia_kawasaki-yee@nps.gov

Unsafe Visitor Conditions Lead to Closures in Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks

SEQUOIA AND KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARKS, Calif. December 31, 2018 — Park officials announced today that several areas in Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks closed effective 6 p.m. on Monday, December 31. The parks are being forced to take this action for health and safety concerns.

The Generals Highway closed this evening at Hospital Rock in Sequoia National Park. This closure extends through Giant Forest and Lodgepole, through to Lost Grove. The closure includes concession facilities at these locations including Wukshachi Lodge and other concession and partner operations. Trash receptacles are overflowing, resulting in litter dispersal throughout the area and a threat to wildlife. Vehicular congestion, motor vehicle accidents, and icy roadways have led to up to three hour delays on the Generals Highway.

Other areas within the Grant Grove area of Kings Canyon National Park also closed this evening. They include the road to the General Grant Tree, Big Stump Picnic Area, and Azalea Campground. The Grant Tree Trail, normally minimally maintained by sanding, has become extraordinarily slick, the ice and snow has become compressed and glazed due to heavy traffic, causing multiple falls and at least one injury. The Grant Village will remain open, as will Highway 180 for through traffic to Princess Campground and Montecito Sequoia Lodge.

It is likely these closures will remain in effect for the duration of the government shutdown.

We appreciate all the support from our local communities and park partners. We encourage visitors in the area to explore the excellent food, shops, and recreational opportunities available in the area.

For Wukshachi Lodge reservation information please visit www.visitsequoia.com.

For current road conditions and weather information, please call 559-565-3341.

For updates on the shutdown, please visit www.doi.gov/shutdown.

- NPS -

About Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks

These two parks, which lie side by side in the southern Sierra Nevada in Central California, preserve prime examples of nature’s size, beauty, and diversity. Over 2 million visitors from across the U.S. and the world visit these parks to see the world’s largest trees (by volume), grand mountain ranges, rugged foothills, deep canyons, vast caverns, the highest point in the lower 48 states, and more. Learn more at http://www.nps.gov/seki or 559-565-3341.

- ### -
Thanks!

CB

From: Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 01, 2019 12:43 PM
To: Boyette, Chris <Chris.Boyette@turner.com>
Cc: NPS News Media <newsmedia@nps.gov>
Subject: Re: Media Request - Joshua Tree

Chris,

I have attached the news release from Joshua Tree National Park announcing the closure of campgrounds for your reference.

The National Park Service continues to follow its contingency plan in the absence of appropriations. The plan may be found here: https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf

During the government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures.

The NPS contingency plan in the absence of appropriations provides for the ability to restrict access to national park areas for safety, health, or resource protection issues.

Per the contingency plan, if visitor access becomes a safety, health or resource protection issue (weather, road conditions, resource damage, garbage build-up to the extent that it endangers human health or wildlife, etc.), the area must be closed.

At the superintendent’s discretion, parks may close areas with sensitive natural, cultural, historic, or archaeological resources vulnerable to destruction, looting, or other damage that cannot be adequately protected by the excepted law enforcement staff that remain on duty to conduct essential activities.

The National Park Service has signed over forty agreements since the lapse in appropriations with a number of concessioners, partner organizations, and states to provide various visitor services, including trash removal and servicing restrooms, at a number of national parks. The extent of services and duration varies by agreement and some of these donations may or may not extend for the duration of a shutdown.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
Begin forwarded message:

From: "'Boyette, Chris' via Interior Press" <interior_press@ios.doi.gov>
Date: January 1, 2019 at 10:29:41 AM EST
To: "Interior_press@ios.doi.gov" <Interior_press@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Media Request - Joshua Tree
Reply-To: "Boyette, Chris" <Chris.Boyette@turner.com>

Hello,

I am seeking comment on the overflowing toilets and other chaos at Joshua Tree National Park due to the government shutdown. I see the campgrounds are closing Jan 2. What else is in the works to get things under control? Are there more troubles the Parks are facing?

I look forward to hearing from you asap!

Thanks so much!

Chris Boyette
CNN National News Editor
Newsroom: 404.827.1511
Mobile: 347.802.7812
Twitter: @Chris__Boyette
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Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Boyette, Chris' via Interior Press"
<interior_press@ios.doi.gov>
Date: January 1, 2019 at 10:29:41 AM EST
To: "Interior_press@ios.doi.gov" <Interior_press@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Media Request - Joshua Tree
Reply-To: "Boyette, Chris" <Chris.Boyette@turner.com>

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I look forward to hearing from you asap!
Thanks so much!

Chris Boyette

CNN National News Editor

Newsroom: 404.827.1511
Mobile: 347.802.7812
Twitter: @Chris__Boyette

<Joshua Tree.docx>
Jessica,

Sorry to bother you on the holiday. E&E is asking what states have provided donations for park services during the shutdown.

By my last count there would be Arizona, California, New York, Puerto Rico, and Utah. Some of these donations have expired, right? Would it be appropriate to provide the expiration dates on the following agreements?

The California Department of Parks and Recreation made an in-kind donation to provide for the cleaning of restrooms and trash removal at Redwoods National and State Parks.

The State of New York is providing funding to operate the Statue of Liberty National Monument.

The Utah Office of Tourism provided funding to staff visitor centers and custodial services at Arches, Bryce Canyon, and Zion National Parks.

The State of Arizona provided funding for restroom cleaning, trash removal, and snow removal on walkways and trails at Grand Canyon National Park.

The Puerto Rico Tourism Company provided funding for operations at San Juan National Historic Site.

Thanks,

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Rob Hotakainen <rhotakainen@eenews.net>
Date: Tue, Jan 1, 2019 at 12:39 PM
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Question
To: Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>

Thanks Jeremy. How many states in total, do you know? We reported New York and Utah last week. Thanks, rob

Rob Hotakainen
National parks, oceans and fisheries reporter
E&E NEWS
rhotakainen@eenews.net
202-446-0477
Twitter: @HotakainenRob
122 C Street NW, 7th floor, Washington, DC, 20001
www.eenews.net | @EENewsUpdates
Greenwire, E&E Daily, E&E News PM, Climatewire, Energywire

On Jan 1, 2019, at 12:37 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Happy New Year Rob,

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Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
[Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube]

On Tue, Jan 1, 2019 at 12:20 PM Rob Hotakainen <rhotakainen@eenews.net> wrote:

Happy new year! Can you send me this statement here?

Under the park service’s shutdown plan, authorities have to close any area where garbage or other problems become threats to health and safety or to wildlife, spokesman Jeremy Barnum said in an email Monday.

“At the superintendent’s discretion, parks may close grounds/areas with sensitive natural, cultural, historic, or archaeological resources vulnerable to destruction, looting, or other damage that cannot be adequately protected by the excepted law enforcement staff that remain on duty,” Barnum said.

Overall plan remains to keep parks open, leaving it up to local officials to determine what needs to be closed? Do you want to respond to all the reports of problems around the country, with trash, feces, vandalism, etc.? As you know critics are saying NPS is not protecting parks by allowing them to stay open. Thanks, rob

Rob Hotakainen
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Twitter: @HotakainenRob
122 C Street NW, 7th floor, Washington, DC, 20001
www.eenews.net | @EENewsUpdates
Greenwire, E&E Daily, E&E News PM, Climatewire, Energywire
FYI, this AP wire story has been picked up by a number of outlets across the country and tracks with the tenor of other media queries and coverage that we’ve seen over the last 24 hours. I’ll flag for DOI as well.

https://www.apnews.com/e28b313197bb46bebef0faca24b333ed

Garbage, feces take toll on national parks amid shutdown

WASHINGTON (AP) — Human feces, overflowing garbage, illegal off-roading and other damaging behavior in fragile areas were beginning to overwhelm some of the West’s iconic national parks, as a partial government shutdown left the areas open to visitors but with little staff on duty.
“It’s a free-for-all,” Dakota Snider, 24, who lives and works in Yosemite Valley, said by telephone Monday, as Yosemite National Park officials announced closings of some minimally supervised campgrounds and public areas within the park that are overwhelmed.

“It’s so heartbreaking. There is more trash and human waste and disregard for the rules than I’ve seen in my four years living here,” Snider said.

The partial federal government shutdown, now into its 11th day, has forced furloughs of hundreds of thousands of federal government employees. This has left many parks without most of the rangers and others who staff campgrounds and otherwise keep parks running.

Unlike shutdowns in some previous administrations, the Trump administration was leaving parks open to visitors despite the staff furloughs, said John Garder, senior budget director of the nonprofit National Parks Conservation Association.

“We’re afraid that we’re going to start seeing significant damage to the natural resources in parks and potentially to historic and other cultural artifacts,” Garder said. “We’re concerned there’ll be impacts to visitors’ safety.”

“It’s really a nightmare scenario,” Garder said.

Under the park service’s shutdown plan, authorities have to close any area where garbage or other problems become threats to health and safety or to wildlife, spokesman Jeremy Barnum said in an email Monday.

“At the superintendent’s discretion, parks may close grounds/areas with sensitive natural, cultural, historic, or archaeological resources vulnerable to destruction, looting, or other damage that cannot be adequately protected by the excepted law enforcement staff that remain on duty,” Barnum said.

In the southern Sierra Nevada in Central California, some areas of the Sequoia
and Kings Canyon national parks were closed Monday evening. In Sequoia, home to immense and ancient giant sequoias, General Highway was closed because overflowing trash bins were spreading litter and posed a threat to wildlife and the icy, jammed roadway was seeing up to three-hour delays, according to the National Park Service.

Also closed was the Grant Tree Trail, a popular hiking spot, because the government shutdown halted maintenance and left the path dangerously slick from ice and snow, with at least one injury reported, the park service said.

Campers at Joshua Tree National Park in Southern California’s deserts were reporting squabbles as different families laid claims to sites, with no rangers on hand to adjudicate, said Ethan Feltges, who operates the Coyote Corner gift shop outside Joshua Tree.

Feltges and other business owners around Joshua Tree had stepped into the gap as much as possible, hauling trailers into the park to empty overflowing trash bins and sweeping and stocking restrooms that were still open, Feltges said.

Feltges himself had set up a portable toilet at his store to help the visitors still streaming in and out of the park. He was spending his days standing outside his store, offering tips about the park in place of the rangers who normally would be present.

“The whole community has come together,” Feltges said, also by phone. “Everyone loves the park. And there’s a lot of businesses that actually need the park.”

Some visitors have strung Christmas lights in the twisting Joshua trees, many of which are hundreds of years old, the Los Angeles Times reported.

Most visitors were being respectful of the desert wilderness and park facilities, Joshua Tree’s superintendent, David Smith, said in a statement.

But some are seizing on the shortage of park staffers to off-road illegally and
otherwise damage the park, as well as relieving themselves in the open, a park statement said. Joshua Tree said it would begin closing some campgrounds for all but day use.

At Yosemite, Snider, the local resident, said crowds of visitors were driving into the park to take advantage of free admission, with only a few park rangers working and a limited number of restrooms open.

Visitors were allowing their dogs to run off-leash in an area rich with bears and other wildlife, and scattering bags of garbage along the roads, Snider said.

“You’re looking at Yosemite Falls and in front of you is plastic bottles and trash bags,” he said.

Officials at Rocky Mountain National Park in Colorado said Monday they were closing restrooms and locking up trash bins in many locations.

In Yellowstone National Park, private companies have picked up some of the maintenance normally done by federal workers. The contractors that operate park tours by snowmobile, buses and vans are grooming trails, hauling trash and replacing toilet paper at pit toilets and restrooms along their routes.

Nearly all roads inside Yellowstone are normally closed for winter, meaning most visitors at this time of the year access park attractions like Old Faithful or the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone through guides. Those guides are splitting the cost of grooming the trails used by their vehicles to keep their operations going, said Travis Watt, general manager of See Yellowstone Alpen Guides based in West Yellowstone, Montana.

The tour companies can likely keep this system going through the entire winter season if they need to, Watt said.

“It’s definitely not our preference — the park service does a good job doing their thing and we hate to see them out of work,” Watt said. “But it’s something we can handle.”
Gecker reported from San Francisco. Matt Volz contributed from Helena, Montana.

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Thanks Jeremy

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 1, 2019, at 1:17 PM, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

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“We’re afraid that we’re going to start seeing significant damage to the natural resources in parks and potentially to historic and other cultural artifacts,” Garder said. “We’re concerned there’ll be impacts to visitors’ safety.”

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“At the superintendent’s discretion, parks may close grounds/areas with sensitive natural, cultural, historic, or archaeological resources vulnerable to destruction, looting, or other damage that cannot be adequately protected by the excepted law enforcement staff that remain on duty,” Barnum said.

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——

Gecker reported from San Francisco. Matt Volz contributed from Helena, Montana.

Jeremy Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service
JOTR has had to modify their closures. See the attached closure descriptions. They will update the public via social media to reflect the earlier than initially planned closure of one of their campgrounds today rather than tomorrow.

Rene Buehl
Regional Law Enforcement Specialist
Pacific West Regional Office
Desk 415-623-2181
Mobile 415-609-0802
Thanks Jeremy

Sent from my iPhone

John M Bockmier
Director of Communications
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC
20240

202.208.3636 Office
202.897.7366 Cell

On Jan 1, 2019, at 1:20 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

FYI, this AP wire story has been picked up by a number of outlets across the country and tracks with the tenor of other media queries and coverage that we’ve seen over the last 24 hours.

https://www.apnews.com/e28b313197bb46bebef0faca24b333ed

Garbage, feces take toll on national parks amid shutdown
WASHINGTON (AP) — Human feces, overflowing garbage, illegal off-roading and other damaging behavior in fragile areas were beginning to overwhelm some of the West’s iconic national parks, as a partial government shutdown left the areas open to visitors but with little staff on duty.

“It’s a free-for-all,” Dakota Snider, 24, who lives and works in Yosemite Valley, said by telephone Monday, as Yosemite National Park officials announced closings of some minimally supervised campgrounds and public areas within the park that are overwhelmed.

“It’s so heartbreaking. There is more trash and human waste and disregard for the rules than I’ve seen in my four years living here,” Snider said.

The partial federal government shutdown, now into its 11th day, has forced furloughs of hundreds of thousands of federal government employees. This has left many parks without most of the rangers and
others who staff campgrounds and otherwise keep parks running.

Unlike shutdowns in some previous administrations, the Trump administration was leaving parks open to visitors despite the staff furloughs, said John Garder, senior budget director of the nonprofit National Parks Conservation Association.

“We’re afraid that we’re going to start seeing significant damage to the natural resources in parks and potentially to historic and other cultural artifacts,” Garder said. “We’re concerned there’ll be impacts to visitors’ safety.”

“It’s really a nightmare scenario,” Garder said.

Under the park service’s shutdown plan, authorities have to close any area where garbage or other problems become threats to health and safety or to wildlife, spokesman Jeremy Barnum said in an email Monday.

“At the superintendent’s discretion, parks may close grounds/areas with sensitive natural, cultural, historic, or archaeological resources vulnerable to destruction, looting, or other damage that cannot be adequately protected by the excepted law enforcement staff that remain on duty,” Barnum said.

In the southern Sierra Nevada in Central California, some areas of the Sequoia and Kings Canyon national parks were closed Monday evening. In Sequoia, home to immense and ancient giant sequoias, General Highway was closed because overflowing trash bins were spreading litter and posed a threat to wildlife and the icy, jammed roadway was seeing up to three-hour delays, according to the National Park Service.

Also closed was the Grant Tree Trail, a popular hiking spot, because the government shutdown halted maintenance and left the path
dangerously slick from ice and snow, with at least one injury reported, the park service said.

Campers at Joshua Tree National Park in Southern California’s deserts were reporting squabbles as different families laid claims to sites, with no rangers on hand to adjudicate, said Ethan Feltges, who operates the Coyote Corner gift shop outside Joshua Tree.

Feltges and other business owners around Joshua Tree had stepped into the gap as much as possible, hauling trailers into the park to empty overflowing trash bins and sweeping and stocking restrooms that were still open, Feltges said.

Feltges himself had set up a portable toilet at his store to help the visitors still streaming in and out of the park. He was spending his days standing outside his store, offering tips about the park in place of the rangers who normally would be present.

“The whole community has come together,” Feltges said, also by phone. “Everyone loves the park. And there’s a lot of businesses that actually need the park.”

Some visitors have strung Christmas lights in the twisting Joshua trees, many of which are hundreds of years old, the Los Angeles Times reported.

Most visitors were being respectful of the desert wilderness and park facilities, Joshua Tree’s superintendent, David Smith, said in a statement.

But some are seizing on the shortage of park staffers to off-road illegally and otherwise damage the park, as well as relieving themselves in the open, a park statement said. Joshua Tree said it would begin closing some campgrounds for all but day use.
At Yosemite, Snider, the local resident, said crowds of visitors were driving into the park to take advantage of free admission, with only a few park rangers working and a limited number of restrooms open.

Visitors were allowing their dogs to run off-leash in an area rich with bears and other wildlife, and scattering bags of garbage along the roads, Snider said.

“‘You’re looking at Yosemite Falls and in front of you is plastic bottles and trash bags,’” he said.

Officials at Rocky Mountain National Park in Colorado said Monday they were closing restrooms and locking up trash bins in many locations.

In Yellowstone National Park, private companies have picked up some of the maintenance normally done by federal workers. The contractors that operate park tours by snowmobile, buses and vans are grooming trails, hauling trash and replacing toilet paper at pit toilets and restrooms along their routes.

Nearly all roads inside Yellowstone are normally closed for winter, meaning most visitors at this time of the year access park attractions like Old Faithful or the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone through guides. Those guides are splitting the cost of grooming the trails used by their vehicles to keep their operations going, said Travis Watt, general manager of See Yellowstone Alpen Guides based in West Yellowstone, Montana.

The tour companies can likely keep this system going through the entire winter season if they need to, Watt said.

“It’s definitely not our preference — the park service does a good job doing their thing and we hate to see them out of work,” Watt said. “But it’s something we can handle.”
Gecker reported from San Francisco. Matt Volz contributed from Helena, Montana.

Jeremy Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service
Those are the right states. The statue agreement is in the process of being extended. The Utah agreements expired yesterday or today, and I don’t think they will extend, but other park partners are stepping in. I think it’s ok to provide specifics, with the caveat that it’s as of a certain date

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 1, 2019, at 12:56 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Jessica,

Sorry to bother you on the holiday.  
E&E is asking what states have provided donations for park services during the shutdown.  

By my last count there would be Arizona, California, New York, Puerto Rico, and Utah. Some of these donations have expired, right? Would it be appropriate to provide the expiration dates on the following agreements?

The California Department of Parks and Recreation made an in-kind donation to provide for the cleaning of restrooms and trash removal at Redwoods National and State Parks.

The State of New York is providing funding to operate the Statue of Liberty National Monument.

The Utah Office of Tourism provided funding to staff visitor centers and custodial services at Arches, Bryce Canyon, and Zion National Parks.

The State of Arizona provided funding for restroom cleaning, trash removal, and snow removal on walkways and trails at Grand Canyon National Park.

The Puerto Rico Tourism Company provided funding for operations at San Juan National Historic Site.

Thanks,

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
Mobile: (202) 617-7973

Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube
Thanks Jeremy. How many states in total, do you know? We reported New York and Utah last week. Thanks, rob

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The National Park Service has signed over forty agreements since the lapse in appropriations with a number of concessioners, partner organizations, and states to provide various visitor services, including trash removal and servicing restrooms, at a number of national parks. The extent of services and duration varies by agreement and some of these donations may or may not extend for the duration of a shutdown.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

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Overall plan remains to keep parks open, leaving it up to local officials to determine what needs to be closed? Do you want to respond to all the reports of problems around the country, with trash, feces, vandalism, etc.? As you know critics are saying NPS is not protecting parks by allowing them to stay open. Thanks, rob

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Remembered that dc hasn’t signed an agreement, but they are collecting trash.

Sent from my iPhone

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Thanks, Jeremy.

From: Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 1, 2019 1:01 PM
To: Alexander, Kurtis
Cc: Andrew Munoz
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] shutdown update

Hi Kurtis,

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Jeremy Barnum
Hi Jeremy. Happy new year. What a start for Washington. I'm wondering what the latest might be for parks. I've been checking in with the individual units, even visiting a few, and given the challenges, I'm wondering if there's any talk up the ranks of closing some or all parks.

Thanks for any info you might have,
Kurtis (San Francisco Chronicle)
cell: 415-846-7284
Thanks, Jeremy. I’d been looking for a version of this beyond the WSJ Firewall. Very much appreciated.

Bob Krumenaker
Superintendent
Big Bend National Park
and Rio Grande Wild & Scenic River
PO Box 129
Big Bend, TX 79834
(432)477-1102
bob_krumenaker@nps.gov

On Jan 1, 2019, at 4:58 PM, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:


Shutdown Means Fewer Visitors to National Parks, and Small Businesses Suffer

Closures hit tourist industry in communities surrounding Big Bend, Olympic National Park and others

Jim Carlton
Updated Dec. 31, 2018 3:06 p.m. ET
Terlingua, Texas sits more than 1,500 miles away from the partisan bickering in Washington, D.C., that prompted the federal government shutdown, but the tiny community at the doorstep of Big Bend National Park is starting to feel economic effects.

Amid sharply curtailed services that include campground closures in the West Texas border preserve, the nonprofit Big Bend Natural History Association estimates it will lose about $35,000 a week from lost sales at its bookstores in closed park buildings. Meanwhile, the Far Flung Outdoor Center reports a half dozen cancellations at its dozen cabins.

With no indication when the budget impasse—now in its eighth day —will be resolved, the 500 or so residents in and around the community known for an international chili cook-off are bracing for a rougher time. “The uncertainty is what hurts us the most,” said Greg Henington, owner of the Far Flung resort and a local outfitter.

While the effects of the shutdown on the overall economy are limited, communities reliant on national parks for economic activity
are bemoaning fewer visitors and less spending at area businesses like hotels and restaurants, outfitters and bookstores.

The National Parks Conservation Association estimates at this time of year there are usually half a million visitors a day to the nation’s 400 parks. That traffic generates roughly $18 million daily for nearby communities from the Everglades in Florida to Yosemite in California, according to the nonprofit group.

**In a Shutdown, Who’s ‘Essential’ Enough to Keep Working?**

President Donald Trump and Congress were unable to reach a spending deal on Dec. 21, resulting in a partial government shutdown. Nine of 15 federal agencies are now furloughing employees. What government services remain in operation during the shutdown? WSJ’s Jason Bellini reports. Photo: AP

“It’s not like these businesses have a huge cushion they are sitting on,” said Kathryn Petralia, co-founder of Kabbage, an online small business lender. Kabbage is stepping in to loan money to small- and medium-size businesses who may have delays getting Small Business Administration loans because of federal staffing cuts. “They need every dollar that comes in the door,” she said.

National Park Service officials didn’t respond to a request for comment. SBA officials weren’t immediately available for comment.

Most national parks have sharply curtailed access and services and some facilities have been closed altogether. In Macon, Ga., for example, about 157,000 people a year visit the Ocmulgee National Monument Native American site and spend an estimated $9 million, according to the National Parks Conservation Association. But with Macon’s largest tourism attraction now closed, other people who descended on the city of 115,000 for a holiday lights show this
month were unable to see artifacts including ancient ceremonial and burial mounds in the monument.

“We see a lot of repeat travelers, but if you’re not open you risk losing those people from coming back,” said Gary Wheat, chief executive officer of Visit Macon, the city’s tourism booster.

In Port Angeles near Olympic National Park in Washington, the main road to a winter play area called Hurricane Ridge has been closed since the federal shutdown because park officials don’t have staff to plow a mountain road.

As a result, the Hurricane Ridge Ski and Snowboard Area has remained closed amid one of the resort’s busiest weeks of the year, said Gary Holmquist, national park liaison with the Hurricane Ridge Winter Sports Club nonprofit that runs the ski slope.

Closure of the 500-acre ski area, which usually attracts up to 200 skiers a day this time of year, is costing about $5,000 a day in lost revenues, and has prompted the furloughs of about 16 part-time workers, Mr. Holmquist said; “This is the absolute worst time for this to happen.”

John Fox, like most of the other workers, relies on the ski area as a second job. “It would be nice income for the holidays for everyone to have,” said Mr. Fox, 33 years old, whose main job is as a ferry worker in Port Angeles. “It’s very disappointing, but it’s definitely out of our hands.”

Big Bend National Park, too, has been disrupted during a seasonally busy time. Nearly 10% of the park’s 440,000 annual visitors come in December when desert temperatures are mild. Although much of the park was initially kept open, officials on Wednesday closed the campgrounds “due to sanitation and resource impact concerns,”
according to a notice on the park’s website.

Other national parks are suffering from a buildup of uncollected garbage and sewage. In an email last week, a National Park Service spokesman said the agency would follow a contingency plan of closing areas if issues arise such as garbage buildup.

Mr. Henington, the outfitter, worries people will avoid Big Bend altogether if the federal shutdown drags on. “People will just think it’s not worth going out there,” he said.

Write to Jim Carlton at jim.carlton@wsj.com

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Thanks, what’s up with the new title?

Rob Hotakainen
National parks, oceans and fisheries reporter
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On Jan 1, 2019, at 4:00 PM, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Arizona, California, the District of Columbia, New York, Puerto Rico, and Utah have all provided visitor services or donated funding for visitor services.

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service

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WASO team,

As JOTR visitation continues to be high the need for further closures continues. Weather forecasts are good for the coming weekend. I will talk with acting Chief Ranger Michael Leon tomorrow and see what JOTR's thoughts for next steps are.

Rene Buehl
Regional Law Enforcement Specialist
Pacific West Regional Office
Desk 415-623-2181
Mobile 415-609-0802

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Leon, Michael <michael_leon@nps.gov>
Date: Tue, Jan 1, 2019 at 2:34 PM
Subject: Additional closure at JOTR
To: Sarah Creachbaum <sarah_creachbaum@nps.gov>, Andrew Munoz <andrew_munoz@nps.gov>, Rene Buehl <rene_buehl@nps.gov>
Cc: David Smith <david_smith@nps.gov>, Karyl Yeston <karyl_yeston@nps.gov>

Hello,

JOTR had to make an emergency closure of the Key's View Rd. area, including Key's View Overlook and Juniper Flats parking lot, due to unmanageable heavy traffic congestion, regular illegal parking and resource damage, and frequent unauthorized entry into a previously closed area. For additional information please see the closure information document attached.

Respectfully,

--
Mike Leon
Supervisory Park Ranger (Law Enforcement)
Joshua Tree National Park
(760) 367-5545 - Office
(760) 401-0352 - Cell
Jeremy,

There’s an anonymous quote circulating that’s attributed to a Yosemite ranger. He/she claims they have just 12 rangers to deal with “4th of July level traffic.”

Do you know if that’s the park’s i.e. staffing level during the shutdown, and do you have any reaction?

Also, any comment in general to what’s going on in the parks in terms of garbage, sanitation levels, SARs (broken leg in BIBE), and general disregard for rules (driving past closure barriers in BIBE, illegal camping in DEVA)?

Thanks,

Kurt

Kurt Repanshek
Founder, Editor-in-Chief
kurt@nationalparkstraveler.org

National Parks Traveler is the nation’s No. 1 editorially independent website dedicated to coverage of national parks. With 1.6 million annual visitors, Traveler has been featured in USA Today, Peter Greenberg Worldwide Radio, Los Angeles Times, San Jose Mercury News, The Charlotte Observer, aol.travel and more.

Join us on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/NationalParksTraveler Follow us on Twitter: @parkstraveler
Track us on Instagram: national_parks_traveler
Support us on Amazon Smile

This message and any attachments are the property of National Parks Traveler and are intended solely for the named recipients or entity to whom this message is addressed. If you have received this message in error please inform the sender via e-mail and destroy the message. If you are not the intended recipient you are not allowed to use, copy or disclose the contents or attachments in whole or in part.
Hi Jeremy - I have confirmation that the Old Post Office Tower will reopen this week thanks to funding from GSA. Are you able to comment on the change of status for that facility? Thanks - Jennifer

303.355.2979 office
202.907.9649 mobile

This is very useful. Thanks!

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We wouldn't want to speculate.

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**Background Information/Examples**

*Note that some of these initial donations are for relatively short portions of time, and may or may not extend for the duration of a shutdown.*

Guest Services, Inc. has provided portable toilets for the National Mall.

The Friends of Vicksburg National Military Park and Campaign have donated the necessary funds to provide for essential services at Vicksburg National Military Park during the shutdown.

Xanterra Parks and Resorts is providing funding for the grooming of oversnow roads at Yellowstone National Park during the shutdown.
The California Department of Parks and Recreation has made an in-kind donation to provide for the cleaning of restrooms and trash removal at Redwoods National and State Parks.

The State of New York is providing funding to operate the Statue of Liberty National Monument.

The Utah Office of Tourism is providing funding to staff visitor centers and custodial services at Arches, Bryce Canyon, and Zion National Parks.

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Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Wed, Dec 26, 2018 at 2:43 PM Jennifer Yachnin <jyachnin@eenews.net> wrote:

Hi Jeremy - Thanks. So reading this over (along with the full PDF) it sounds like a "partnership facility" or CUA holder can donate the funds. In the case of the Old Post Office Tower, would that be GSA since they are the building owner and NPS provides only programming?

303.355.2979 office  
202.907.9649 mobile

From: Barnum, Jeremy [jeremy_barnum@nps.gov]  
Sent: Wednesday, December 26, 2018 12:33 PM  
To: Alanna Sobel  
Cc: Jennifer Yachnin; Jenny Anzelmo-Sarles  
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: National xmas tree

Hi Jennifer,

I would refer you to the information from the NPS general contingency plan for operations in the absence of appropriations. https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf

At the superintendent’s discretion and with approval of the Regional Director or Director, parks may enter into arrangements with local governments, cooperating associations, and/or other third parties (see below for concessioners and Commercial Use Authorization holders) for donation of specified visitor services. The NPS will not reimburse third parties (through payments, franchise fee relief or any other consideration) who provide such visitor services. If NPS staff will be conducting the work using funds
from a third party, funds must be transferred and deposited before the NPS may continue or resume providing visitor services. The Washington Office will provide template agreements. Agreements should not be established for a period of less than three days. Because a shutdown of park operations may take up to two days, parks should begin shutdown when the balance in the donation account falls below a two-day balance.

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
Mobile: (202) 617-7973  
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Wed, Dec 26, 2018 at 2:27 PM Alanna Sobel <asobel@nationalparks.org> wrote:  
Jennifer,  

Also looping in Jeremy Barnum with National Park Service.

Sincerely,  
Alanna

Alanna Sobel  
Senior Manager, Communications  
National Park Foundation  
1110 Vermont Ave NW, Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20005  
202.796.2538 direct | 202.796.2500 main  
www.nationalparks.org

Please consider the environment before printing this email

From: Jennifer Yachnin <jyachnin@eenews.net>  
Sent: Wednesday, December 26, 2018 11:58 AM  
To: Jenny Anzelmo-Sarles <jenny_anzelmo-sarles@nps.gov>; Alanna Sobel <asobel@nationalparks.org>  
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: National xmas tree
Apologies but I've got one follow-up question (without a deadline): Could either of you tell me whether private donors could pay to reopen a site? For example, if someone wanted to donate to open the Old Post Office Tower, would that be possible? Or is such action limited to states and the Foundation?

--------------------------
303.355.2979 office
202.907.9649 mobile

From: Jennifer Yachnin
Sent: Wednesday, December 26, 2018 9:39 AM
To: Jenny Anzelmo-Sarles; Alanna Sobel
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: National xmas tree

Hi Jenny - Thanks very much.

--------------------------
303.355.2979 office
202.907.9649 mobile

From: Jenny Anzelmo-Sarles [jenny_anzelmo-sarles@nps.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, December 26, 2018 9:36 AM
To: Alanna Sobel
Cc: Jennifer Yachnin
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: National xmas tree

Jennifer, for DC area parks you can find operating status via this news release from Sunday- https://www.nps.gov/nama/learn/news/what-visitors-can-expect-in-d-c-area-national-parks-during-the-government-shutdown.htm

Jenny Anzelmo-Sarles
Chief of Public Affairs
National Park Service
National Capital Region
jenny_anzelmo-sarles@nps.gov
Office: (202) 619-7177
Cell: (307) 690-2355
Who are we? National Capital Region - Office of Communications

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

On Dec 26, 2018, at 11:34 AM, Alanna Sobel <asobel@nationalparks.org> wrote:

Thank you, Jennifer! NPS will be the best resource for that story.
Hi Jennifer,

Nice to hear from you and happy holidays to you as well. I’ve also looped in Jenny Anzelmo-Sarles with the National Park Service.

ON BACKGROUND/NOT FOR ATTRIBUTION: The cost to reopen the National Christmas Tree site is $1,470 a day.

Thank you,
Alanna
From: Jennifer Yachnin <jyachnin@eenews.net>
Sent: Wednesday, December 26, 2018 10:40 AM
To: Alanna Sobel <asobel@nationalparks.org>
Subject: National xmas tree

Hi Alanna - Happy holidays. I saw the press release on the Foundation's work to turn the National Christmas Tree lights back on. Any chance you can tell me how much the NPF donated to make that happen? Thanks - Jennifer

-----------------------------
303.355.2979 office
202.907.9649 mobile
+ WASO and region

I’d feel a little better is they held off until we were back open and have a better idea of specifics beyond “trash and restrooms.” That would also give us a better opportunity to properly vet what they’re going to say. I’m still stinging from their pre-emptive, completely erroneous release a couple of years ago that said we were redoing the Jefferson exhibits to talk about him owning slaves.

Mike

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Mike Litterst
Assistant Regional Director, Communications and Legislative Affairs

National Park Service
Southeast Region
Phone: (404) 507-5612
Cell: (202) 306-4166

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Kelly Decerbo <kdecerbo@nationalmall.org>
Date: January 2, 2019 at 10:54:14 AM EST
To: "Nixon, Robin (robin_nixon@nps.gov)" <robin_nixon@nps.gov>
Cc: "mike_litterst@nps.gov" <mike_litterst@nps.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Trust Media Coverage on National Mall During Gov't Shutdown

Hi Robin,

Happy New Year! As I read several articles highlighting the effects of the Government Shutdown on the Mall, I wanted to quickly touch base and see if you would find any value in the Trust sending out email communications regarding the state of the National Mall amidst the shutdown. I understand we cannot directly ask for donations when communicating about our partnership, but would you be opposed to an email communication spreading awareness of any ongoing issues with trash, restroom closures, etc.?
Thanks,
Kelly

KELLY DE Cerbo
Manager, Marketing & Communications
Trust for the National Mall
o: 202.407.9418 | m: 860.575.2586
kdecerbo@nationalmall.org
nationalmall.org

[Social media icons]
Do either of you want to take this one?

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
Mobile: (202) 617-7973  
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

Hi Jeremy - I have confirmation that the Old Post Office Tower will reopen this week thanks to funding from GSA. Are you able to comment on the change of status for that facility? Thanks - Jennifer

This is very useful. Thanks!

--------------------------
From: Jennifer Yachnin  
Sent: Wednesday, December 26, 2018 2:04 PM  
To: Barnum, Jeremy  
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: National xmas tree

This is very useful. Thanks!

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From: Barnum, Jeremy  
Sent: Wednesday, December 26, 2018 1:37 PM  
To: Jennifer Yachnin  
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: National xmas tree
We wouldn't want to speculate.

The National Park Service has signed over forty agreements since the lapse in appropriations with a number of concessioners, partner organizations, and states to provide various visitor services at a number of national parks. The extent of services and duration varies by agreement.

**Background Information/Examples**

*Note that some of these initial donations are for relatively short portions of time, and may or may not extend for the duration of a shutdown.*

Guest Services, Inc. has provided portable toilets for the National Mall.

The Friends of Vicksburg National Military Park and Campaign have donated the necessary funds to provide for essential services at Vicksburg National Military Park during the shutdown.

Xanterra Parks and Resorts is providing funding for the grooming of oversnow roads at Yellowstone National Park during the shutdown.

The California Department of Parks and Recreation has made an in-kind donation to provide for the cleaning of restrooms and trash removal at Redwoods National and State Parks.

The State of New York is providing funding to operate the Statue of Liberty National Monument.

The Utah Office of Tourism is providing funding to staff visitor centers and custodial services at Arches, Bryce Canyon, and Zion National Parks.

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
Mobile: (202) 617-7973  
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Wed, Dec 26, 2018 at 2:43 PM Jennifer Yachnin <jyachnin@eenews.net> wrote:
Hi Jeremy - Thanks. So reading this over (along with the full PDF) it sounds like a "partnership facility" or CUA holder can donate the funds. In the case of the Old Post Office Tower, would that be GSA since they are the building owner and NPS provides only programming?

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303.355.2979 office
202.907.9649 mobile

From: Barnum, Jeremy [jeremy_barnum@nps.gov]  
Sent: Wednesday, December 26, 2018 12:33 PM  
To: Alanna Sobel  
Cc: Jennifer Yachnin; Jenny Anzelmo-Sarles  
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: National xmas tree

Hi Jennifer,

I would refer you to the information from the NPS general contingency plan for operations in the absence of appropriations. https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf

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Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
Mobile: (202) 617-7973  
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Wed, Dec 26, 2018 at 2:27 PM Alanna Sobel <asobel@nationalparks.org> wrote:

Jennifer,

Also looping in Jeremy Barnum with National Park Service.
Apologies but I’ve got one follow-up question (without a deadline): Could either of you tell me whether private donors could pay to reopen a site? For example, if someone wanted to donate to open the Old Post Office Tower, would that be possible? Or is such action limited to states and the Foundation?
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Jennifer, for DC area parks you can find operating status via this news release from Sunday- https://www.nps.gov/nama/learn/news/what-visitors-can-expect-in-d-c-area-national-parks-during-the-government-shutdown.htm

Jenny Anzelmo-Sarles
Chief of Public Affairs
National Park Service
National Capital Region

jenny_anzelmo-sarles@nps.gov
Office: (202) 619-7177
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Who are we? National Capital Region - Office of Communications

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA ®
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Alanna Sobel
Senior Manager, Communications
National Park Foundation
1110 Vermont Ave NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20005
202.796.2538 direct | 202.796.2500 main
www.nationalparks.org

Please consider the environment before printing this email

From: Jennifer Yachnin <jyachnin@eenews.net>
Sent: Wednesday, December 26, 2018 11:33 AM
To: Alanna Sobel <asobel@nationalparks.org>
Cc: 'Anzelmo-Sarles, Jennifer' <jenny_anzelmo-sarles@nps.gov>
Subject: RE: National xmas tree

Hi Alanna - Thanks so much! I should have mentioned, Rob H. is out on leave today so I'm also working up E&E's story on NPS closures/openings. I'm focused on Utah's decision to underwrite its parks again but if you'd like to comment at all on the closures, please let me know.

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303.355.2979 office
Hi Jennifer,

Nice to hear from you and happy holidays to you as well. I’ve also looped in Jenny Anzelmo-Sarles with the National Park Service.

ON BACKGROUND/NOT FOR ATTRIBUTION: The cost to reopen the National Christmas Tree site is $1,470 a day.

Thank you,

Alanna

Alanna Sobel
Senior Manager, Communications
National Park Foundation
1110 Vermont Ave NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20005
202.796.2538 direct | 202.796.2500 main
www.nationalparks.org

Please consider the environment before printing this email
Hi Alanna - Happy holidays. I saw the press release on the Foundation's work to turn the National Christmas Tree lights back on. Any chance you can tell me how much the NPF donated to make that happen? Thanks - Jennifer

---------------------------
303.355.2979 office
202.907.9649 mobile
Agreed

Jennifer A. Mummart
Associate Regional Director-Communications
National Park Service - National Capital Region
(202) 619-7174

On Jan 2, 2019, at 11:05 AM, Michael Litterst <mike_litterst@nps.gov> wrote:

+ WASO and region

I’d feel a little better is they held off until we were back open and have a better idea of specifics beyond “trash and restrooms.” That would also give us a better opportunity to properly vet what they’re going to say. I’m still stinging from their pre-emptive, completely erroneous release a couple of years ago that said we were redoing the Jefferson exhibits to talk about him owning slaves.

Mike

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Mike Litterst
Assistant Regional Director, Communications and Legislative Affairs

National Park Service
Southeast Region
Phone: (404) 507-5612
Cell: (202) 306-4166

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

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Date: January 2, 2019 at 10:54:14 AM EST
To: "Nixon, Robin (robin_nixon@nps.gov)" <robin_nixon@nps.gov>
Cc: "mike_litterst@nps.gov" <mike_litterst@nps.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Trust Media Coverage on National Mall During Gov't Shutdown

Hi Robin,
Happy New Year! As I read several articles highlighting the effects of the Government Shutdown on the Mall, I wanted to quickly touch base and see if you would find any value in the Trust sending out email communications regarding the state of the National Mall amidst the shutdown. I understand we cannot directly ask for donations when communicating about our partnership, but would you be opposed to an email communication spreading awareness of any ongoing issues with trash, restroom closures, etc.?

Thanks,
Kelly

<KELLY DECERBO>
Manager, Marketing & Communications
Trust for the National Mall
o: 202.407.9418 | m: 860.575.2586
decerbo@nationalmall.org
nationalmall.org
Hi Kathleen,

We are not able to accommodate your interview request during the shutdown.

Regarding your question about Flight 93 National Memorial:
During the lapse in appropriations there will be no National Park Service-provided visitor services at Flight 93 National Memorial. All restrooms and buildings are closed. Memorial grounds and roads may remain open depending on weather and safety conditions.

Response to your question about national parks across the country:
During the partial government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. Services that require staffing and maintenance such as campgrounds and full service restrooms, will not be operating.

The National Park Service continues to follow its contingency plan in the absence of appropriations. The plan may be found here: https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf

Background information:

Example of services that could be open: a free-standing gift shop, lodge, restaurant or gas station that requires no assistance from the Park to operate. "Assistance" could include but not be limited to snow removal, working as a cashier, unlocking gates, etc. However, if a private concessionaire has worked out in advance a way to remove snow, trash, etc, without the assistance of the park, they MAY be able to continue operations.

Example of services that would not be open: a gift shop inside a visitors center would not be open because a park ranger would not be available to unlock the visitors center or to staff the visitors center. A gas station on a road inside the park where it snowed overnight making it impassible would not be open if it relies on the park for snow removal.

Example of areas that may see restricted access: Due to lighter footprint of rangers and patrols, some public lands, trails and sites may see restricted access. Some parks are in winter season and see many skiers. The parks may choose to restrict access to some areas if there is a high risk of avalanche or it's a common spot for injuries since there will not be a regular patrol of the area. Additionally, sensitive cultural areas on all public land may see restricted access to protect the artifacts and objects.

Examples of areas we are prioritizing: We are prioritizing access to the most accessible and most iconic areas of parks and public lands. Each park, monument, recreation area, etc will have different plans in place.

The NPS contingency plan in the absence of appropriations provides for the ability to restrict access to national park areas for safety, health, or resource protection issues.
Per the contingency plan, if visitor access becomes a safety, health or resource protection issue (weather, road conditions, resource damage, garbage build-up to the extent that it endangers human health or wildlife, etc.), the area must be closed.

At the superintendent’s discretion, parks may close areas with sensitive natural, cultural, historic, or archaeological resources vulnerable to destruction, looting, or other damage that cannot be adequately protected by the excepted law enforcement staff that remain on duty to conduct essential activities.

On Wed, Jan 2, 2019 at 9:39 AM Kathleen Davis <kdavis@wesa.fm> wrote:

Hi there,

I’m a reporter in Pittsburgh, working on a story about how the government shutdown is affecting services at the Flight 93 Memorial in Pennsylvania. If possible, it would be great if someone at the NPS could get on the phone with me for a couple minutes and chat about this. Even someone to talk more broadly about how the shutdown impacts U.S. parks across the board would be great.

Shoot me an email or give me a ring at the number below – hope to hear from you.

Kathleen J Davis
General Assignment Reporter
90.5 WESA
Pittsburgh's NPR News Station
Desk: 412-697-2953

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National Park Service
Office of Public Affairs
Hi Shanna,

We are not able to accommodate your interview request during the shutdown.

During the partial government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. Services that require staffing and maintenance such as campgrounds and full service restrooms, will not be operating.

The National Park Service continues to follow its contingency plan in the absence of appropriations. The plan may be found here: [https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf](https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf)

**Background information:**
Accessibility to parks during the government shutdown varies on a number of factors which may change at any time. Some visitor services may be available when provided by concessioners or other entities. For most parks, there will be no National Park Service-provided visitor services, such as restrooms, trash collection, facilities, or road maintenance. Visitors should go to [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov) and select “Find a Park” for additional information on access to parks and sites in a particular area. For example a list of NPS sites in Michigan may be found here: [https://www.nps.gov/state/mi/index.htm](https://www.nps.gov/state/mi/index.htm). Most sites should have an alert on its webpage that provides information on what is accessible and what is closed.

Example of services that could be open: a free-standing gift shop, lodge, restaurant or gas station that requires no assistance from the Park to operate. "Assistance" could include but not be limited to snow removal, working as a cashier, unlocking gates, etc. However, if a private concessionaire has worked out in advance a way to remove snow, trash, etc, without the assistance of the park, they MAY be able to continue operations.

Example of services that would not be open: a gift shop inside a visitors center would not be open because a park ranger would not be available to unlock the visitors center or to staff the visitors center. A gas station on a road inside the park where it snowed overnight making it impassible would not be open if it relies on the park for snow removal.

Example of areas that may see restricted access: Due to lighter footprint of rangers and patrols, some public lands, trails and sites may see restricted access. Some parks are in winter season and see many skiers. The parks may choose to restrict access to some areas if there is a high risk of avalanche or it's a common spot for injuries since there will not be a regular patrol of the area. Additionally, sensitive cultural areas on all public land may see restricted access to protect the artifacts and objects.

Examples of areas we are prioritizing: We are prioritizing access to the most accessible and most iconic areas of parks and public lands. Each park, monument, recreation area, etc will have different plans in place.

The NPS contingency plan in the absence of appropriations provides for the ability to restrict access to national park areas for safety, health, or resource protection issues.
Per the contingency plan, if visitor access becomes a safety, health or resource protection issue (weather, road conditions, resource damage, garbage build-up to the extent that it endangers human health or wildlife, etc.), the area must be closed.

At the superintendent’s discretion, parks may close areas with sensitive natural, cultural, historic, or archaeological resources vulnerable to destruction, looting, or other damage that cannot be adequately protected by the excepted law enforcement staff that remain on duty to conduct essential activities.

On Wed, Jan 2, 2019 at 10:27 AM Grove, Shanna <ShannaGrove@13onyourside.com> wrote:

Hi there,

I am working on a story about the shutdown and its impact on Michigan national parks.

Several national parks around the country are experiencing problems with people littering, acting poorly because the lack of staff monitoring the parks.

Is someone available to do an interview today?

My cell number: 616-279-1164.

Thanks so much for your help,

SHANNA GROVE
Multi-Skilled Journalist

13 ON YOUR SIDE
645 3 Mile NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49544
ShannaGrove@wzzm13.com  C. 616-279-1164  |  wzzm13.com  |  @ShannaMGrove
Evelyn,

The National Park Service continues to follow its contingency plan in the absence of appropriations. The plan may be found here: https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf

**Background information:**
Accessibility to parks during the government shutdown varies on a number of factors which may change at any time. Some visitor services may be available when provided by concessioners or other entities. For most parks, there will be no National Park Service-provided visitor services, such as restrooms, trash collection, facilities, or road maintenance. Visitors should go to www.nps.gov and select “Find a Park” for additional information on access to parks and sites in a particular area.

The National Park Service has signed over forty agreements since the lapse in appropriations with a number of concessioners, partner organizations, and states to provide various visitor services, including trash removal and servicing restrooms, at a number of national parks. The extent of services and duration varies by agreement and some of these donations may or may not extend for the duration of a shutdown.

The NPS contingency plan in the absence of appropriations provides for the ability to restrict access to national park areas for safety, health, or resource protection issues.

Per the contingency plan, if visitor access becomes a safety, health or resource protection issue (weather, road conditions, resource damage, garbage build-up to the extent that it endangers human health or wildlife, etc.), the area must be closed.

At the superintendent’s discretion, parks may close areas with sensitive natural, cultural, historic, or archaeological resources vulnerable to destruction, looting, or other damage that cannot be adequately protected by the excepted law enforcement staff that remain on duty to conduct essential activities.

On Wed, Jan 2, 2019 at 9:04 AM Evelyn Crunden <ecrunden@americanprogress.org> wrote:

Hello,

I wanted to circle back for a story I’m working on today about the impacts of the shutdown. Not sure if anyone with NPS might be able to comment, but I’m wondering what issues have arisen and if there are any concerns about the longer-term implications the shutdown might have for national parks/public spaces more broadly?

Many thanks and much appreciated!

Ev
Great, thank you so much, Chelsea!

Hello Ev,

On-the-record statement attributable to National Park Service Chief Spokesperson Jeremy Barnum:
"In the event of a government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. For example, this means that roads that have already been open will remain open (think snow removal) and vault toilets (wilderness type restrooms) will remain open. However services that require staffing and maintenance such as campgrounds and full service restrooms, will not be operating."

Background Information:
General contingency plans for operations in the absence of appropriations may be found here: https://www.doi.gov/shutdown

Additional background information:
Example of services that could be open: a free-standing gift shop, lodge, restaurant or gas station that
requires no assistance from the Park to operate. "Assistance" could include but not be limited to snow removal, working as a cashier, unlocking gates, etc. However, if a private concessionaire has worked out in advance a way to remove snow, trash, etc, without the assistance of the park, they MAY be able to continue operations.

Example of services that would not be open: a gift shop inside a visitors center would not be open because a park ranger would not be available to unlock the visitors center or to staff the visitors center. A gas station on a road inside the park where it snowed overnight making it impassible would not be open if it relies on the park for snow removal.

Example of areas that may see restricted access: Due to lighter footprint of rangers and patrols, some public lands, trails and sites may see restricted access. Some parks are in winter season and see many skiers. The parks may choose to restrict access to some areas if there is a high risk of avalanche or it's a common spot for injuries since there will not be a regular patrol of the area. Additionally, sensitive cultural areas on all public land may see restricted access to protect the artifacts and objects.

Examples of areas we are prioritizing: We are prioritizing access to the most accessible and most iconic areas of parks and public lands. Each park, monument, recreation area, etc will have different plans in place.

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 2:25 PM Ask NPS, NPS <asknps@nps.gov> wrote:

Shutdown Question

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: <no-reply@nps.gov>
Date: Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 1:16 PM
Subject: From NPS.gov: Reaching out for comment on implications of shutdown for national parks (deadline: 12/21, today)
To: <asknps@nps.gov>

Email submitted from: ecrunden@thinkprogress.org at /orgs/1207/contactus.htm

Use ecrunden@thinkprogress.org to reply to this message

Hello, I'm a climate reporter with ThinkProgress and I'm looking into the implications a shutdown would have for national parks and monuments. I was wondering if anyone with NPS could provide me with a statement or a few comments on how a potential shutdown might affect those areas? Much appreciated and many thanks! Ev Crunden

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National Park Service
Office of Public Affairs

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National Park Service
Office of Public Affairs
Chris,

Accessibility to parks during the partial government shutdown varies on a number of factors which may change at any time. Some visitor services may be available when provided by concessioners or other entities. For most parks, there will be no National Park Service-provided visitor services, such as restrooms, trash collection, facilities, or road maintenance. Visitors should go to www.nps.gov and select “Find a Park” for additional information on access to parks and sites in a particular area.

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On Wed, Jan 2, 2019 at 8:17 AM Boyette, Chris <Chris.Boyette@turner.com> wrote:

Good morning,

Thanks again for getting back to me yesterday. I am now seeking info on more facilities impacted by the shutdown.
Do you have a running list of national parks and other such government sites effected by shutdown and how?

We’re looking to do a national sweep, kind of a compilation.

I look forward to hearing from you asap!

Thanks so much!

Chris Boyette
CNN National News Editor
Newsroom: 404.827.1511
Mobile: 347.802.7812
Twitter: @Chris__Boyette

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National Park Service
Office of Public Affairs
You can call our park dispatch and they can connect you with the Chief Ranger on duty. They have been rotating this assignment as that is a vacant position for us.

In a nutshell, our original news release listing the accessibility of areas is still accurate. The donation only covered the 3 visitor centers and associated restrooms and trash receptacles for those facilities. Now those facilities are closed. Now, there are no restrooms or trash collection points anywhere in the park. Aside from the holiday periods in January, the remainder of the month typically experiences our lowest visitation. You can always point them to the Friends of the Smokies if they want a comment to personalize it. They will remind people to visit with a LNT ethic.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 2, 2019, at 10:55 AM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Thanks, Dana. My understanding is that the donation agreement has indeed expired. Is there anyone "excepted" at the park who could provide us basic information on how that will change accessibility and services at the park? Would that person also be able to update the park website with a relevant shutdown alert?

Thanks,

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Wed, Jan 2, 2019 at 11:29 AM Dana Soehn <dana_soehn@nps.gov> wrote: Sorry for the voicemails! They seem to follow up right after with an email so I should check that first!

In any case, here is another.

Thanks,
Hi Dana – I’m putting up (another) follow on the Smokies and was hoping you’d have a couple of minutes today to talk about the park, the shutdown and what that looks like for folks. Specifically:

- Now that money ran out on New Year's Eve, what does that mean for the park?
- Can the State of Tennessee donate/loan money to the park? Have they done that in the past?
- We got a call from someone at Cades Cove who said there was money pouring out of the donation box – which is great. Wanted to see if you’d seen or heard that.

If you have time, my cell is best to reach me on. Thanks for your help.

Tyler Whetstone, reporter
Government and politics
865-342-6305 – O
615-962-3438 – C
tyler_whetstone – T

<image001.jpg>

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK
Jeremy,
Thank you very much for getting back to us. I appreciate this!
Best wishes in the New Year.

Susan

Hi Susan,

We are not able to accommodate your interview request during the shutdown.

During the partial government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. Services that require staffing and maintenance such as campgrounds and full service restrooms, will not be operating.

The National Park Service continues to follow its contingency plan in the absence of appropriations. The plan may be found here: [https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf](https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf)

**Background information:**
Accessibility to parks during the government shutdown varies on a number of factors which may change at any time. Some visitor services may be available when provided by concessioners or other entities. For most parks, there will be no National Park Service-provided visitor services, such as restrooms, trash collection, facilities, or road maintenance. Visitors should go to [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov) and select “Find a Park” for additional information on access to parks and sites in a particular area.

Example of services that could be open: a free-standing gift shop, lodge, restaurant or gas station that requires no assistance from the Park to operate. "Assistance" could include but not be limited to snow removal, working as a cashier, unlocking gates, etc. However, if a private concessionaire has worked out in advance a way to remove snow, trash, etc, without the assistance of the park, they MAY be able to continue operations.

Example of services that would not be open: a gift shop inside a visitors center would not be open because a park ranger would not be available to unlock the visitors center or to staff the visitors center. A gas station on a road inside the park where it snowed overnight making it impassible would not be open if it relies on the park for snow removal.

Example of areas that may see restricted access: Due to lighter footprint of rangers and patrols, some public lands, trails and sites may see restricted access. Some parks are in winter season and see many skiers. The parks may choose to restrict access to some areas if there is a high
risk of avalanche or it's a common spot for injuries since there will not be a regular patrol of the area. Additionally, sensitive cultural areas on all public land may see restricted access to protect the artifacts and objects.

Examples of areas we are prioritizing: We are prioritizing access to the most accessible and most iconic areas of parks and public lands. Each park, monument, recreation area, etc will have different plans in place.

The NPS contingency plan in the absence of appropriations provides for the ability to restrict access to national park areas for safety, health, or resource protection issues.

Per the contingency plan, if visitor access becomes a safety, health or resource protection issue (weather, road conditions, resource damage, garbage build-up to the extent that it endangers human health or wildlife, etc.), the area must be closed.

At the superintendent’s discretion, parks may close areas with sensitive natural, cultural, historic, or archaeological resources vulnerable to destruction, looting, or other damage that cannot be adequately protected by the excepted law enforcement staff that remain on duty to conduct essential activities.

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
Mobile: (202) 617-7973  
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Wed, Jan 2, 2019 at 10:48 AM Susan Bruce <sbruce@ewtn.com> wrote:

Jeremy,

Good morning! I hope your day is going well.  
I am following up to a voicemail message I just left for you. Correspondent Jason Calvi is reporting today on the government shutdown’s effects on national parks, which are still operating and which are now closed, and reaction from visitors who had planned to go to them. Would you have time to speak with him briefly this morning about this? We would be happy to go to you with a camera and keep it as brief as possible.

Thank you! 
Susan

Susan Bruce  
Producer
FYI

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook  Twitter  Instagram  YouTube

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Gediman, Scott <scott_gediman@nps.gov>
Date: Wed, Jan 2, 2019 at 12:15 PM
Subject: Yosemite News Release
To:

Yosemite News Release

January 2, 2019
For Immediate Release

Media Contacts:

newsmedia@nps.gov

Access to Yosemite National Park will be Limited Along the Highway 41 Corridor Due to the Lapse in Federal Appropriations
Yosemite National Park remains open, however there will be limited access to the park along the Highway 41 corridor from the South Entrance to the Badger Pass Road during the hours of highest visitation due to continuing issues with human waste and resource damage.

Park Rangers will staff a check point at the South Entrance to Yosemite National Park from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm, anyone arriving at the checkpoint with a reservation for lodging or camping inside the park will be allowed to proceed. All other visitors will be asked to enter Yosemite using the Highway 140 entrance and enter the park via the El Portal Road. Local residents and guests staying in Yosemite Valley, Yosemite West, and Wawona will be permitted access to drive along Highway 41, the Wawona Road.

Visitors planning to visit the Yosemite Ski and Snowboard Area will be asked to enter the park via Highway 140.

Visitor services are limited due to the lapse in federal appropriations. During the government shutdown, national parks are working to remain as open and accessible to the American people as possible.

Unfortunately, the following facilities and areas inside Yosemite National Park are closed due to impacts from human waste and public safety concerns: Wawona Campground, Hodgdon Meadow Campground, the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias, Crane Flat Snow Play Area, and Goat Meadow Snow Play Area, located just outside the South Entrance of Yosemite National Park. All park visitor centers remain closed.

All normal park rules and regulations still apply and violators will be cited. Dogs are not permitted on park trails. Dogs must be on a leash at all times and are permitted in developed areas, on sidewalks, and on bicycle paths. For more information on pet regulations, please visit https://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/pets.htm.

Restroom facilities are very limited throughout the park, especially along Wawona Road (Highway 41), El Portal Road (Highway 140), and Big Oak Flat Road (Highway 120 West). Visitors are encouraged to stop and use restroom facilities in the gateway communities before entering the park. Visitors are also encouraged to practice leave no trace principles and please pack in and pack out all trash. Custodial services are very limited at this time.
All roads within the park are subject to chain control or temporary closures due to hazardous winter driving conditions. All motorists are required to carry tire chains, even if their car is equipped with four-wheel drive, while driving in the park during the winter months.

Additional facilities and areas may close within Yosemite National Park at any time for the health and safety of park visitors.

-NPS-
Thanks Jeremy

Scott Anderson
Senior Director, Communications
National Park Foundation
1110 Vermont Ave NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20005
202.796.2542 direct | 202.796.2500 main
202.276.9679 cell
www.nationalparks.org

From: "Barnum, Jeremy" <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Date: Wednesday, January 2, 2019 at 12:50 PM
To: Scott Anderson <sanderson@nationalparks.org>
Subject: Donations during shutdown

The National Park Service has signed over forty agreements since the lapse in appropriations with a number of concessioners, partner organizations, and states to provide various visitor services, including trash removal and servicing restrooms, at a number of national parks. The extent of services and duration varies by agreement and some of these donations may or may not extend for the duration of a shutdown.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube
Tyler,

The donation agreement with the Great Smoky Mountains Association expired yesterday. The agreement funded the operation of park visitor centers at Sugarlands, Oconaluftee, and Cades Cove. Those visitor centers are now closed.

Great Smoky Mountains National Park will remain as accessible as possible and allowable by law and policy.

Roads and trails in the park that are seasonally open will remain open. The park will only be conducting snow/ice removal on three park roadways that are considered thoroughfares to local communities: Newfound Gap Road between Gatlinburg and Cherokee, the Spur between Gatlinburg and Pigeon Forge, and the Foothills Parkway West between Walland and Look Rock for the Top of the World community.

Currently, there are several secondary roads closed due to snow and ice. When road conditions improve, these roadways will reopen, but crews will not be plowing them during the shutdown period. Additionally, these roads may close throughout the shutdown period, as needed, for visitor safety due to inclement weather including snow, ice, downed trees, or rock slides. Updates may be found here: https://twitter.com/smokiesroadsnps

There will not be any restrooms or trash removal during this time period. Visitors should keep this in mind as they trip plan and make sure they are well prepared before driving or hiking across the park.

The park will not be operating any campgrounds or picnic areas during a government shutdown. There will not be any access to restroom facilities or trash removal. In addition, the park cannot issue any new permits for backcountry camping.
Now that money ran out on New Year's Eve, what does that mean for the park?
Can the State of Tennessee donate/loan money to the park? Have they done that in the past?
We got a call from someone at Cades Cove who said there was money pouring out of the donation box – which is great. Wanted to see if you’d seen or heard that.

If you have time, my cell is best to reach me on. Thanks for your help.

Tyler Whetstone, reporter
Government and politics
865-342-6305 – O
615-962-3438 – C
tyler_whetstone – T
Thanks very much for the update Jeremy.

Sent from my iPhone

John M Bockmier
Director of Communications
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC
20240

202.208.3636 Office
202.897.7366 Cell

On Jan 2, 2019, at 12:22 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

FYI

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Gediman, Scott <scott_gediman@nps.gov>
Date: Wed, Jan 2, 2019 at 12:15 PM
Subject: Yosemite News Release
To:
Yosemite News Release

January 2, 2019
For Immediate Release

Media Contacts:
newsmedia@nps.gov

Access to Yosemite National Park will be Limited Along the Highway 41 Corridor Due to the Lapse in Federal Appropriations

Yosemite National Park remains open, however there will be limited access to the park along the Highway 41 corridor from the South Entrance to the Badger Pass Road during the hours of highest visitation due to continuing issues with human waste and resource damage.

Park Rangers will staff a check point at the South Entrance to Yosemite National Park from 9:00 am to 6:00 pm, anyone arriving at the checkpoint with a reservation for lodging or camping inside the park will be allowed to proceed. All other visitors will be asked to enter Yosemite using the Highway 140 entrance and enter the park via the El Portal Road. Local residents and guests staying in Yosemite Valley, Yosemite West, and Wawona will be permitted access to drive along Highway 41, the Wawona Road.

Visitors planning to visit the Yosemite Ski and Snowboard Area will be asked to enter the park via Highway 140.

Visitor services are limited due to the lapse in federal appropriations. During the government shutdown, national parks are working to remain as open and accessible to the American people as possible.

Unfortunately, the following facilities and areas inside Yosemite National Park are closed due to impacts from human waste and
public safety concerns: Wawona Campground, Hodgdon Meadow Campground, the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias, Crane Flat Snow Play Area, and Goat Meadow Snow Play Area, located just outside the South Entrance of Yosemite National Park. All park visitor centers remain closed.

All normal park rules and regulations still apply and violators will be cited. Dogs are not permitted on park trails. Dogs must be on a leash at all times and are permitted in developed areas, on sidewalks, and on bicycle paths. For more information on pet regulations, please visit https://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/pets.htm.

Restroom facilities are very limited throughout the park, especially along Wawona Road (Highway 41), El Portal Road (Highway 140), and Big Oak Flat Road (Highway 120 West). Visitors are encouraged to stop and use restroom facilities in the gateway communities before entering the park. Visitors are also encouraged to practice leave no trace principles and please pack in and pack out all trash. Custodial services are very limited at this time.

All roads within the park are subject to chain control or temporary closures due to hazardous winter driving conditions. All motorists are required to carry tire chains, even if their car is equipped with four-wheel drive, while driving in the park during the winter months.

Additional facilities and areas may close within Yosemite National Park at any time for the health and safety of park visitors.

-NPS-
Great

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From: Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 2, 2019 2:18:38 PM
To: Rein, Lisa
Subject: Fwd: Yosemite News Release

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

FYI below and attached.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Gediman, Scott <scott_gediman@nps.gov>
Date: Wed, Jan 2, 2019 at 12:15 PM
Subject: Yosemite News Release
To:

Yosemite News Release
January 2, 2019
For Immediate Release
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Media Contacts: newsmedia@nps.gov
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Additional facilities and areas may close within Yosemite National Park at any time for the health and safety of park visitors.

-NPS-
Steve,

During the partial government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. Services that require staffing and maintenance such as campgrounds and full service restrooms, will not be operating. The National Park Service continues to follow its contingency plan in the absence of appropriations. The plan may be found here: https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf

**Background information:**

Accessibility to parks during the government shutdown varies on a number of factors which may change at any time. Some visitor services may be available when provided by concessioners or other entities. For most parks, there will be no National Park Service-provided visitor services, such as restrooms, trash collection, facilities, or road maintenance. Visitors should go to www.nps.gov and select “Find a Park” for additional information on access to parks and sites in a particular area.

Example of services that could be open: a free-standing gift shop, lodge, restaurant or gas station that requires no assistance from the Park to operate. “Assistance” could include but not be limited to snow removal, working as a cashier, unlocking gates, etc. However, if a private concessionaire has worked out in advance a way to remove snow, trash, etc, without the assistance of the park, they MAY be able to continue operations.

Example of services that would not be open: a gift shop inside a visitors center would not be open because a park ranger would not be available to unlock the visitors center or to staff the visitors center. A gas station on a road inside the park where it snowed overnight making it impassible would not be open if it relies on the park for snow removal.

Example of areas that may see restricted access: Due to lighter footprint of rangers and patrols, some public lands, trails and sites may see restricted access. Some parks are in winter season and see many skiers. The parks may choose to restrict access to some areas if there is a high risk of avalanche or it’s a common spot for injuries since there will not be a regular patrol of the area. Additionally, sensitive cultural areas on all public land may see restricted access to protect the artifacts and objects.

Examples of areas we are prioritizing: We are prioritizing access to the most accessible and most iconic areas of parks and public lands. Each park, monument, recreation area, etc will have different plans in place.

The National Park Service has signed over forty agreements since the lapse in appropriations with a number of concessioners, partner organizations, and states to provide various visitor services, including trash removal and servicing restrooms, at a number of national parks. The extent of services and duration varies by agreement and some of these donations may or may not extend for the duration of a shutdown.

The NPS contingency plan in the absence of appropriations provides for the ability to restrict access to national park areas for safety, health, or resource protection issues.

Per the contingency plan, if visitor access becomes a safety, health or resource protection issue (weather, road conditions, resource damage, garbage build-up to the extent that it endangers human health or wildlife, etc.), the area must be closed.

At the superintendent’s discretion, parks may close areas with sensitive natural, cultural, historic, or archaeological resources vulnerable to destruction, looting, or other damage that cannot be adequately protected by the excepted law enforcement staff that remain on duty to conduct essential activities.

---

**Steve Annear**

Reporter

Bostonglobe.com

617-929-3087

@steveannear
Great!

Get Outlook for iOS

Lisa,

The National Park Service continues to follow its contingency plan in the absence of appropriations. The plan may be found here: https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf [doi.gov]

During the government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures.

**Restricting access/closing park areas**

The NPS contingency plan in the absence of appropriations provides for the ability to restrict access to national park areas for safety, health, or resource protection issues.

Per the contingency plan, if visitor access becomes a safety, health or resource protection issue (weather, road conditions, resource damage, garbage build-up to the extent that it endangers human health or wildlife, etc.), the area must be closed.

At the superintendent’s discretion, parks may close areas with sensitive natural, cultural, historic, or archaeological resources vulnerable to destruction, looting, or other damage that cannot be adequately protected by the excepted law enforcement staff that remain on duty to conduct essential activities.

Accessibility to parks during the partial government shutdown varies on a number of factors which may change at any time. Some visitor services may be available when provided by concessioners or other entities. For most parks, there will be no National Park Service-provided visitor services, such as restrooms, trash collection, facilities, or road maintenance. Visitors should go to www.nps.gov [nps.gov] and select “Find a Park” for additional information on access to parks and sites in a particular area.

Most parks are posting the latest condition updates to their Facebook sites:
**Donation/In-Kind Agreements**

The National Park Service has signed over forty agreements since the lapse in appropriations with a number of concessioners, partner organizations, and states to provide various visitor services, including trash removal and servicing restrooms, at a number of national parks. The extent of services and duration varies by agreement and some of these donations may or may not extend for the duration of a shutdown.

The Friends of Vicksburg National Military Park and Campaign have donated the necessary funds to provide for essential services at Vicksburg National Military Park during the shutdown.

Xanterra Parks and Resorts is providing funding for the grooming of oversnow roads at Yellowstone National Park during the shutdown.

The California Department of Parks and Recreation has made an in-kind donation to provide for the cleaning of restrooms and trash removal at Redwoods National and State Parks.

The State of New York is providing funding to operate the Statue of Liberty National Monument.

The State of Arizona is providing funding for restroom cleaning, trash removal, and snow removal on walkways and trails at Grand Canyon National Park.

The Bryce Canyon Natural History Association is providing funding for the staffing of the visitor center and custodial services at Bryce Canyon National Park.

Concessioner Guest Services, Inc. has provided portable toilets at several locations around the National Mall.

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
Mobile: (202) 617-7973  
Hi April,

I'm writing from my new email mikah@mikahmeyer.com (though my mikah@mikahmeyer.com is still active/used), and am making an introduction to perhaps help the trash build up in the national parks happening currently. My brother-in-law, Kirk Sander and his coworker Jim Riley (both on this email), are Vice Presidents for the National Waste & Recycling Association and are wondering if they can help during this time?

I'll let them follow up with ideas that access their national network of companies adept at waste management, but thought this might be a great way to help keep our parks clean during the government shutdown, or maybe a relationship to help/have on hand for the future.

Happy 2019!

Mikah

www.mikahmeyer.com
Mikah,
Thank you.

April,

It is good to meet you electronically. We would be interested in finding out if there are ways we could work with our members to help out the National Parks with the increasing refuse situation. What would be the best way to connect? Here is more information about NWRA.

Thank you and I look forward to hearing from you,

--

Kirk M. Sander
Vice President, Safety and Standards
1550 Crystal Drive Suite 804
Arlington, VA 22202
ksander@wasterecycling.org
o: 202-364-3750 | mobile/text: 813-735-9075
wasterecycling.org

Registering for WasteExpo 2019 and are an NWRA member?

signature_352175984
I'm writing from my new email mikah@mikahmeyer.com (though my (b) (6) @gmail.com is still active/used), and am making an introduction to perhaps help the trash build up in the national parks happening currently. My brother-in-law, Kirk Sander and his coworker Jim Riley (both on this email), are Vice Presidents for the National Waste & Recycling Association and are wondering if they can help during this time?

I'll let them follow up with ideas that access their national network of companies adept at waste management, but thought this might be a great way to help keep our parks clean during the government shutdown, or maybe a relationship to help/have on hand for the future.

Happy 2019!

Mikah
www.mikahmeyer.com
Looks good to me.

Jessica Bowron  
Comptroller  
National Park Service  
(o) 202-513-7138  
(c) 202-280-8329

On Wed, Jan 2, 2019 at 3:30 PM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote: 

Jessica,  

This is starting to pop up more in the media and we have at least one question about it.  

I propose responding with the below -- look okay to you?  

During a lapse in appropriations the National Park Service is not able to coordinate or support volunteer activities with official NPS volunteers or other individuals.  

However, parks may enter into arrangements with local governments, cooperating associations, and/or other third parties for donation of specified visitor services.  

The NPS has signed over forty agreements since the lapse in appropriations with a number of concessioners, partner organizations, and states to provide various visitor services, including trash removal and servicing restrooms, at a number of national parks. The extent of services and duration varies by agreement and some of these donations may or may not extend for the duration of a shutdown.

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
Mobile: (202) 617-7973  
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Wed, Jan 2, 2019 at 2:42 PM Bowron, Jessica <jessica_bowron@nps.gov> wrote:
Kate, that's our understanding - they are operating without sanction or approval. we can talk through on the call tmrw more.

Jessica Bowron  
Comptroller  
National Park Service  
(o) 202-513-7138  
(c) 202-280-8329

On Wed, Jan 2, 2019 at 2:07 PM Hammond, Katharine (Kate) <kate_hammond@nps.gov> wrote:

The recent media attention at Joshua Tree referring to "dozens of volunteers who have been collecting garbage, cleaning bathrooms, and generally keeping an eye on the park" has raised some questions with stakeholders around IMR parks. I assume this 'volunteering' is being done without NPS sanction/approval? Community groups around Rocky Mountain saw these news articles and are now asking why they can't come clean the bathrooms, stock toilet paper, etc at Rocky. I know we have told NPS formal volunteers they can not volunteer. I imagine there would be concerns about liability, training, health etc for accepting community volunteer services. Although I realize we are ill-positioned to stop groups who come in without our knowledge/sanction.

Just wanted to be sure I'm not missing something and that we're on the same page with how others are handling this.

Kate Hammond  
Deputy Regional Director and Acting Regional Director  
Intermountain Region  
National Park Service  
(303) 969-2856
Thanks, Jennifer!

From: Mummart, Jennifer <jennifer_mummart@nps.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 2, 2019 3:47 PM
To: Ingalisa Schrobsdorff <ingalisa@wamu.org>
Cc: Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Kojo Show on NPS and shutdown

Good afternoon Ingalisa,

Thanks for reaching out. The NPS is not able to coordinate volunteer activities during a government shutdown. Visitors are encouraged to practice leave no trace principles and please pack out all trash.

Related to assistance, restroom buildings are closed due to the shutdown. However, on the National Mall, concessioner Guest Services, Inc. has provided portable toilets at several locations. See the press release for additional information:


And, the District of Columbia is assisting with trash collection while National Park Service employees are furloughed. However, this partner-assisted service may not occur in all areas or at the same frequency as when the government is open. The city can provide additional information about its service during the shutdown.

Best,
Jennifer

Jennifer A. Mummart
Associate Regional Director - Communications
National Capital Region
National Park Service
(202) 619-7174
Thanks Jeremy.

Main question—are there volunteers stepping in to do things like trail cleanup etc? Are they organized, and is there a point of contact we might be able to reach out to?

Thanks!

From: Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 2, 2019 11:14 AM
To: Ingalisa Schrobsdorff <ingalisa@wamu.org>
Cc: Jennifer Mummart <jennifer_mummart@nps.gov>; Michael Litterst <mike_litterst@nps.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Kojo Show on NPS and shutdown

Hi Ingalisa,

We are not able to accomodate your interview request during the shutdown, but do let us know if you have any specific questions related to NPS operations during the lapse in appropriations and we will do our best to provide you that information.

Best,

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube
Hi Jeremy,

I suspect you wont be getting this email due to the shutdown!

WE were hoping to connect to find out the effect on national parks here in our region (the National Mall, Rock Creek Park), and who, if anyone, is helping manage the sites.

Are volunteers stepping in, and is there someone coordinating that we can speak to? I also hear local DC government has been helping with things like trash pickup.

If you are in the office or by any chance checking email, would love to know if there’s someone we can talk to for a show on Monday.

Many thanks,

Ingalsa

WAMU 88.5 American University Radio
Ingalsa Schrobsdorff
Managing Producer | Kojo Nnamdi Show | 202 885 3808 | wamu.org
kojoshow.org | @kojoshow | www.facebook.com/kojoshow
Hi Jeremy-
I confirmed with the park that they have no agreements in place and trash is not being collected at Saguaro NP.
Thanks

Kate Hammond
Deputy Regional Director and Acting Regional Director
Intermountain Region
National Park Service
(303) 969-2856

On Wed, Jan 2, 2019 at 1:19 PM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Kate,

Please see below media query on Saguaro. I'm assuming there isn't any trash removal at the park right now but wanted to check with you all before responding.

Thanks,

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: <no-reply@nps.gov>
Date: Wed, Jan 2, 2019 at 2:14 PM
Subject: From NPS.gov: SAGUARO NATIONAL PARK
To: <newsmedia@nps.gov>

Email submitted from: veronica.acosta@kgun9.com at /aboutus/contactus.htm

Use veronica.acosta@kgun9.com to reply to this message
Hello, We know the government shutdown is impacting national parks across the country however we were wondering if trash was being picked at Saguaro National Park despite the shutdown? Looking forward to hearing back from you. Best, Veronica Acosta
During the shutdown some Saguaro National Park areas are accessible. However access may change without notice, and there are no NPS-provided services including trash removal.

On Wed, Jan 2, 2019 at 2:14 PM <no-reply@nps.gov> wrote:
Email submitted from: veronica.acosta@kgun9.com at /aboutus/contactus.htm
Use veronica.acosta@kgun9.com to reply to this message

Hello, We know the government shutdown is impacting national parks across the country however we were wondering if trash was being picked at Saguaro National Park despite the shutdown? Looking forward to hearing back from you. Best, Veronica Acosta

--
National Park Service
Office of Public Affairs
Thanks for this!

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 2, 2019, at 12:14 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Gabrielle,

The National Park Service continues to follow its contingency plan in the absence of appropriations. The plan may be found here: https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf

During the government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures.

I have attached the latest information on Joshua Tree National Park for your reference. I have also cc'd my colleague on the West Coast who may be able to provide additional information related to the park.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The NPS contingency plan in the absence of appropriations provides for the ability to restrict access to national park areas for safety, health, or resource protection issues.

Per the contingency plan, if visitor access becomes a safety, health or resource protection issue (weather, road conditions, resource damage, garbage build-up to the extent that it endangers human health or wildlife, etc.), the area must be closed.

At the superintendent’s discretion, parks may close areas with sensitive natural, cultural, historic, or archaeological resources vulnerable to destruction, looting, or other damage that cannot be adequately protected by the excepted law enforcement staff that remain on duty to conduct essential activities.

Accessibility to parks during the partial government shutdown varies on a number of factors which may change at any time. Some visitor services may be available when provided by concessioners or other entities. For most parks, there will be no National Park Service-provided visitor services, such as restrooms, trash collection, facilities, or road
maintenance. Visitors should go to www.nps.gov and select “Find a Park” for additional information on access to parks and sites in a particular area.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Wed, Jan 2, 2019 at 2:13 PM Gabrielle Canon <gabrielle.canon@guardian.co.uk> wrote:

Hi Jeremy,

Just gave you a call. My name is Gabrielle and I am a reporter for the Guardian. I am writing about how the shutdown is affecting parks, particularly Joshua Tree. Was hoping for an official statement and a bit more context and it would be great if you have time for a quick call. My deadline is EOD today. Thanks!

Best,
Gabrielle

--
Gabrielle Canon
510.629.4261
www.gabriellecanon.com
@GabrielleCanon (Twitter)
@GabrielleCanon (Instagram)

This e-mail and all attachments are confidential and may also be privileged. If you are not the named recipient, please notify the sender and delete the e-mail and all attachments immediately. Do not disclose the contents to another person. You may not use the information for any purpose, or store, or copy, it in any way. Guardian News & Media Limited is not liable for any computer viruses or other material transmitted with or as part of this e-mail. You should employ virus checking software.

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From: "Bowron, Jessica" <jessica_bowron@nps.gov>
Date: January 2, 2019 at 3:39:43 PM EST
To: "Barnum, Jeremy" <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Cc: Rick Obernesser <rick_obernesser@nps.gov>
Subject: Re: "community volunteers" assisting with parks - a la Joshua Tree

Looks good to me.

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329

On Wed, Jan 2, 2019 at 3:30 PM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Jessica,

This is starting to pop up more in the media and we have at least one question about it.

I propose responding with the below -- look okay to you?

_During a lapse in appropriations the National Park Service is not able to coordinate or support volunteer activities with official NPS volunteers or other individuals._

_However, parks may enter into arrangements with local governments, cooperating associations, and/or other third parties for donation of specified visitor services._

_The NPS has signed over forty agreements since the lapse in appropriations with a number of concessioners, partner organizations, and states to provide various visitor services, including trash removal and servicing restrooms, at a number of national parks. The extent of services and duration varies by agreement and some of these donations may or may not extend for the duration of a shutdown._
On Wed, Jan 2, 2019 at 2:42 PM Bowron, Jessica <jessica_bowron@nps.gov> wrote:

Kate, that's our understanding - they are operating without sanction or approval. we can talk through on the call tmrw more.

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329

On Wed, Jan 2, 2019 at 2:07 PM Hammond, Katharine (Kate) <kate_hammond@nps.gov> wrote:

The recent media attention at Joshua Tree referring to "dozens of volunteers who have been collecting garbage, cleaning bathrooms, and generally keeping an eye on the park" has raised some questions with stakeholders around IMR parks. I assume this 'volunteering' is being done without NPS sanction/approval? Community groups around Rocky Mountain saw these news articles and are now asking why they can't come clean the bathrooms, stock toilet paper, etc at Rocky. I know we have told NPS formal volunteers they can not volunteer. I imagine there would be concerns about liability, training, health etc for accepting community volunteer services. Although I realize we are ill-positioned to stop groups who come in without our knowledge/sanction.

Just wanted to be sure I'm not missing something and that we're on the same page with how others are handling this.

Kate Hammond
Deputy Regional Director and Acting Regional Director
Intermountain Region
National Park Service
(303) 969-2856
Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service

------------- Forwarded message -------------
From: Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks <seki_public_affairs@nps.gov>
Date: Wed, Jan 2, 2019 at 5:06 PM
Subject: NEWS RELEASE- Unsafe Visitor Conditions Lead to Full Closure of Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks
To: <andrew_munoz@nps.gov>

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks News Release

For Immediate Release
Contact: Sintia Kawasaki-Yee, Public Affairs Officer
Media Contact: (559) 679-2866
E-mail: sintia_kawasaki-yee@nps.gov

Unsafe Visitor Conditions Lead to Full Closure of Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks

SEQUOIA AND KINGS CANYON NATIONAL PARKS, California, January 2, 2019 -- Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks will be fully closed effective 6 p.m. on Tuesday, January 2. The parks are being forced to take this action for health and safety concerns. This supersedes previous closures.

Sequoia National Park will be closed at the Ash Mountain Entrance Station in Three Rivers, California. This closure extends through the Foothills, Giant Forest, Lodgepole, through to Lost Grove. The closure includes all concession and park partner operations. Bathroom facilities in all locations are unsanitary and unhealthy, resulting in facility closures and human waste and toilet paper accumulation. Overflowing trash receptacles have resulted in animals eating and spreading trash around. Lack of adequate parking has resulted in significant pedestrian use of the Generals Highway, creating risk of pedestrian-vehicle conflicts.

Kings Canyon National Park will close at the Big Stump Entrance Station on Highway 180. This
closure includes all areas and services within Grant Grove such as the General Grant Tree, Big Stump Picnic Area, Grant Grove Village, Azalea Campground and all concession and park partner operations. Similar conditions of overflowing trash and human waste, as well as illegal fire rings and campfires have made this area unsafe to visitors and wildlife. Highway 180 will remain accessible for through traffic only.

It is likely these closures will remain in effect for the duration of the government shutdown.

For information about lodging reservations please visit www.visitsequoia.com.

For current road conditions and weather information, please call 559-565-3341.

For updates on the shutdown, please visit www.doi.gov/shutdown.

- NPS -

About Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks
These two parks, which lie side by side in the southern Sierra Nevada in Central California, preserve prime examples of nature’s size, beauty, and diversity. Over 2 million visitors from across the U.S. and the world visit these parks to see the world’s largest trees (by volume), grand mountains, rugged foothills, deep canyons, vast caverns, the highest point in the lower 48 states, and more. Learn more at http://www.nps.gov/seki or 559-565-3341.

- ### -

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks
47050 Generals Highway
Three Rivers, CA 93271
559-565-3341 | www.nps.gov/seki

STAY CONNECTED

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks | 47050 Generals Highway, Three Rivers, CA 93271

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Constant Contact
Try it free today
Thanks very much Jeremy

Sent from my iPhone

John M Bockmier
Director of Communications
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC
20240

202.208.3636 Office
202.897.7366 Cell

On Jan 2, 2019, at 8:19 PM, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

FYI

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks
<seki_public_affairs@nps.gov>
Date: Wed, Jan 2, 2019 at 5:06 PM
Subject: NEWS RELEASE- Unsafe Visitor Conditions Lead to Full Closure of Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks
To: <andrew_munoz@nps.gov>

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks News Release

For Immediate Release
Contact: Smita Kawasaki-Yee, Public Affairs Officer
Media Contact: (559) 679-2866
E-mail: smita_kawasaki-yee@nps.gov

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- ### -

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks
47050 Generals Highway
Three Rivers, CA 93271
559-565-3341 | www.nps.gov/seki

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April Slayton
Acting Deputy Regional Director
National Park Service, National Capital Region
(202) 619-7022 - direct
(202) 641-0291 - mobile

Facebook Twitter
Instagram YouTube

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Kirk Sander <ksander@wasterecycling.org>
Date: Wed, Jan 2, 2019 at 3:05 PM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Help with Parks Trash
To: Mikah Meyer <mikah@mikahmeyer.com>, april_slayton@nps.gov
    <april_slayton@nps.gov>, Jim Riley <jriley@wasterecycling.org>

Mikah,

Thank you.

April,

It is good to meet you electronically. We would be interested in finding out if there are ways we could work with our members to help out the National Parks with the increasing refuse situation. What would be the best way to connect? Here is more information about NWRA.

Thank you and I look forward to hearing from you,

--

Kirk M. Sander
Hi April,

I'm writing from my new email mikah@mikahmeyer.com (though my (b) gmail.com is still active/used), and am making an introduction to perhaps help the trash build up in the national parks happening currently. My brother-in-law, Kirk Sander and his coworker Jim Riley (both on this email), are Vice Presidents for the National Waste & Recycling Association and are wondering if they can help during this time?
I'll let them follow up with ideas that access their national network of companies adept at waste management, but thought this might be a great way to help keep our parks clean during the government shutdown, or maybe a relationship to help/have on hand for the future.

Happy 2019!

Mikah

www.mikahmeyer.com
The local impact of the partial federal government shutdown is hard to miss, but it stretches further than trash piling up on the National Mall and shuttered federal offices.

WAMU’s Patrick Madden shares the unexpected impacts of the shutdown across our region. We’ll also we’ll hear from Jeanne Braha who heads volunteer and conservation efforts in Rock Creek Park.

Produced by Monna Kashfi

**Guests**

**Jeanne Braha**  Executive Director, Rock Creek Conservancy, [@JeanneBraha](https://twitter.com/JeanneBraha)

**Patrick Madden**  Investigative Reporter, WAMU 88.5 News; [@Patrick_Madden](https://twitter.com/Patrick_Madden)
Obe,
FYI.
Gay

Gay Vietzke
Northeast Region
National Park Service
215-597-5814 office
267-290-8177 cell

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Soviak, Kevin" <kevin_soviak@nps.gov>
Date: January 3, 2019 at 9:03:05 AM EST
To: Gay Vietzke <gay_vietzke@nps.gov>, Brian Strack <brian_strack@nps.gov>
Cc: Brian Sikes <brian_sikes@nps.gov>, Jennifer Flynn <brian_sikes@nps.gov>, Jennifer Flynn @hotmail.com
Subject: SHEN Sit Report for 1/2/2018

---

Kevin J Soviak; MBA, MSSM
Deputy Superintendent
Shenandoah National Park
3655 US Hwy 211 East
Luray, VA 22835
(540) 999-3500 ext. 3200 (office)
(540) 742-1674 (cell)
kevin_soviak@nps.gov

I'm a Facility Manager Leaders Program (FMLP) Alumni, ask me about this leadership program.
--------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Nixon, Robin <robin_nixon@nps.gov>
Date: Thu, Jan 3, 2019 at 10:13 AM
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] DowntownDC BID Provides Services During Shutdown
To: Michael Litterst <mike_litterst@nps.gov>, Jennifer Mummart
      <Jennifer_Mummart@nps.gov>, Patricia Trap <patricia_trap@nps.gov>, Lisa Mendelson-Ielmini
      <Lisa_Mendelson-Ielmini@nps.gov>, Dave Moore <david_h_moore@nps.gov>, Peter May
      <peter_may@nps.gov>

Didn't know about it ahead of time, but it's a nice little article.

Robin Nixon

Deputy Superintendent (Acting)
National Mall and Memorial Parks
National Park Service
900 Ohio Drive, SW
Washington, DC 20024
202-245-4710 (ofc)
202-738-7956 (cell)
robin_nixon@nps.gov

--------- Forwarded message ---------
From: DowntownDC <contact@downtowndc.org>
Date: Thu, Jan 3, 2019 at 9:00 AM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] DowntownDC BID Provides Services During Shutdown
To: <robin_nixon@nps.gov>

DowntownDC BID
View this email in your browser
DowntownDC BID Provides Services During Shutdown

We are writing to inform you that the DowntownDC Business Improvement District (BID) is working amid the federal government shutdown to support our stakeholders and to enable continued operations in National Park Service (NPS) sites within the DowntownDC BID area.

The BID last week signed an agreement with NPS to provide trash and litter removal services during the shutdown at 33 National Mall and Memorial Park sites including: Chinatown Park, outside of Ford's Theatre, Franklin Park, Freedom Plaza, Herald Square, Indiana Plaza,
McPherson Square, Pershing Park, Thomas Circle, and the US Navy Memorial. Additionally, the BID will provide trash and litter removal along Pennsylvania Avenue.

The BID since 2007 has had an agreement in place with the National Park Service (NPS) to enable the BID to supplement NPS trash collection, cleaning and landscaping on NPS parks, plazas and reservations.

The BID’s 83 Safety/Hospitality and Maintenance (SAM) ambassadors work 362 days a year to maintain public space within the BID’s 138-block area. This includes collection from 805 trash cans and 368 recycling cans each day, graffiti removal, powerwashing, landscaping, sidewalk repair and other functions in addition to hospitality and safety services and homeless outreach.
Apropos for the 1:00.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973

----------- Forwarded message -----------
From: Kirk Sander <ksander@wasterecycling.org>
Date: Wed, Jan 2, 2019 at 3:05 PM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Help with Parks Trash
To: Mikah Meyer <mikah.meyer@nps.gov>, april_slayton@nps.gov</april_slayton@nps.gov>, Jim Riley <jriley@wasterecycling.org>

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Happy 2019!

Mikah

www.mikahmeyer.com
FYI

Kate Hammond
Deputy Regional Director and Acting Regional Director
Intermountain Region
National Park Service
(303) 969-2856

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: O'Neil, Ray <ray_o'neil@nps.gov>
Date: Thu, Jan 3, 2019 at 9:09 AM
Subject: Re: From NPS.gov: SAGUARO NATIONAL PARK
To: Hammond, Katharine (Kate) <kate_hammond@nps.gov>
Cc: Leah McGinnis <leah_mcginnis@nps.gov>, Andy Fisher <andy_l_fisher@nps.gov>,
Gallegos, Tammy <tammy_gallegos@nps.gov>, Lena Koschmann <lena_pace@nps.gov>

From the article below and discussions with rangers, it is apparent that someone is collecting trash at Saguaro NP. We are not sure who it is but are working to figure that out. And, we will seek to enter into an agreement with them once we do.


Ray O'Neil
Chief Ranger
Division of Visitor and Resource Protection
Saguaro National Park
520-733-5110

On Wed, Jan 2, 2019 at 12:52 PM Hammond, Katharine (Kate) <kate_hammond@nps.gov> wrote:
Thanks, I'll let WASO know. Appreciate the speedy reply and all that you are doing.
Kate

Kate Hammond
Deputy Regional Director and Acting Regional Director
Intermountain Region
National Park Service
(303) 969-2856

On Wed, Jan 2, 2019 at 1:47 PM O'Neil, Ray <ray_o'neil@nps.gov> wrote:
Kate,
We do not have agreements in place and trash is not being collected at Saguaro NP.

Ray O'Neil
Chief Ranger
Division of Visitor and Resource Protection
Saguaro National Park
520-733-5110

On Wed, Jan 2, 2019 at 12:25 PM Hammond, Katharine (Kate) <kate_hammond@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Andy/Ray-
Just wanted to check in with you before I respond back to WASO Comms on the email below. I'm not aware of any agreements that are funding trash pickup at Saguaro, so am guessing trash pick up is not happening at the park. Is that correct? Thanks for all that you are doing!
Kate

Kate Hammond
Deputy Regional Director and Acting Regional Director
Intermountain Region
National Park Service
(303) 969-2856

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Date: Wed, Jan 2, 2019 at 1:19 PM
Subject: Fwd: From NPS.gov: SAGUARO NATIONAL PARK
To: Katharine (Kate) Hammond <kate_hammond@nps.gov>

Hi Kate,

Please see below media query on Saguaro. I'm assuming there isn't any trash removal at the park right now but wanted to check with you all before responding.

Thanks,

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube
Hello, We know the government shutdown is impacting national parks across the country however we were wondering if trash was being picked at Saguaro National Park despite the shutdown? Looking forward to hearing back from you. Best, Veronica Acosta
Hi Jeremy, Jeff, Kathy,

Team is working on a story about travel impacts of the shutdown, and I’m wondering if you’re working without pay (ugh) and have answers. It’s not a lot:

How many of the nation’s national park are closed? Is that increasing as trash/bathroom cleaning/etc services cannot be provided?  
How many are open but with limited park staff, etc.?  
How many cannot be closed, like the Blue Ridge Parkway?  
How can visitors find out if a specific park is open, staffed, etc.? I know most websites are down.

I know some parks close some of their locations during the winter anyway — Grand Canyon North Rim, some parts of Yellowstone, correct?

Anything else we should tell travelers?

I see this: https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf

Of course I’d love to get it today as soon as possible. I think we’re trying to publish for tomorrow.

Thanks,
Katia

Katia Hetter
Senior producer
CNN Digital Travel
404-827-4792/desk
470-426-3393/cell
@katiahetter
If NPF and other partner organizations are helping to keep specific NPS sites open and events going, please share any details — we’ll take them! (And hello Jeremy and Scott.)

Thanks,
Katia

Katia Hetter
Senior producer
CNN Digital Travel
@katiahetter

Katia,

Always nice to hear from you. I know you said you’re reaching out to National Park Service on your own and I’ve also looped in Jeremy Barnum with NPS as I know he’s working.

While NPF may not have answers to those specific questions, we can certainly speak to the important role that numerous organizations, through philanthropy and partnership, play in helping to address some of the concerns raised by the shutdown. Most recently, NPF worked with partners to reopen the National Christmas Tree site at President’s Park in Washington, DC.

In addition, you can also share this resource with readers to help in the future: National Parks During a Government Shutdown

Sincerely,

Alanna

Alanna Sobel
Senior Manager, Communications
National Park Foundation
1110 Vermont Ave NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20005
Hey Alanna,

Asking NPS too, but since so many are not working, do you have any guidance on the following?

How many of the nation’s national parks are closed? Is that increasing as trash/bathroom cleaning/etc services cannot be provided?
How many are open but with limited park staff, etc.?
How many cannot be closed, like the Blue Ridge Parkway?
How can visitors find out if a specific park is open, staffed, etc.? I know most websites are down.

I know some parks close some of their locations during the winter anyway — Grand Canyon North Rim, some parts of Yellowstone, correct?

Anything else we should tell travelers?

I see this: https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf

Of course I’d love to get whatever you can give me today as soon as possible. (You don’t need to answer everything.)

Katia
------
Katia Hetter
Senior producer
CNN Digital Travel
@katiahetter
The National Park Foundation’s November media guide provides the latest updates on the intersection of partnerships, philanthropy, and national parks.

The National Park Foundation communications team is available as a resource for journalists at media@nationalparks.org.

Interview-Ready

The 19th Director of the National Park Service
Tomorrow, the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources will hold a hearing on David Vela’s nomination to serve as NPS Director. NPF President Will Shafroth is available for comment.

See America’s Christmas Tree
Join the National Park Service and NPF for the 96th annual National Christmas Tree Lighting at President’s Park on November 28. Email media@nationalparks.org for credentialing information.

Protecting Public Lands
Partnerships are vital to protecting America’s treasures, including places like Firepit Knoll, a 35-acre inholding at Zion National Park. NPF President Will Shafroth is available to provide further insights.

How Philanthropy Bridges Divides
Yesterday, NPF President Will Shafroth participated in a National Press Club panel discussing how philanthropy
Impact at a Glance

Students explore Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve during a NPF-funded field trip

Connecting Kids with National Park Experiences
This school year, over 200,000 children across the country will visit their local national parks thanks to NPF’s Open OutDoors for Kids program.

Revitalizing Parks in the City
NPF is working with community partners to support urban parks including Washington, D.C.’s Anacostia Park, which received a $861k community-building grant from NPF.

Investing Half a Million Dollars in Rivers and Trails
The National Trails and Wild & Scenic Rivers systems turned 50 last month. In celebration, NPF awarded 20 grants to enhance these treasured places and increase public access to them.

Plug and Play

Virtually Transporting People to National Parks
Counter the hustle and bustle of city life by tuning in to your national parks with this innovative audio experience.

The Story Behind Masa Knob at Great Smokies
In 1961, a 6,217-foot peak was named Masa Knob after one of the park’s greatest admirers. Discover what we know about George Masa, who was born Masahara Iizuka in Osaka, Japan.
Geocaching in National Parks
Use your GPS device or smartphone to find hidden treasures in national parks such as Keweenaw National Historical Park and Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.

Contact Us

As we continue to develop this resource, we want to hear from you. Email Alanna Sobel at asobel@nationalparks.org and please share your thoughts.

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1110 Vermont Avenue NW, Suite 200, Washington, DC 20005

You are receiving this email because you've expressed interest in news updates from the National Park Foundation. If you would like to opt out of future newsletters, you can unsubscribe from this list.
Christian,

During the partial government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. Services that require staffing and maintenance such as campgrounds and full service restrooms, will not be operating.

The National Park Service continues to follow its contingency plan in the absence of appropriations. The plan may be found here: https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf

Background information:
Accessibility to parks during the government shutdown varies on a number of factors which may change at any time. Some visitor services may be available when provided by concessioners or other entities. For most parks, there will be no National Park Service-provided visitor services, such as restrooms, trash collection, facilities, or road maintenance. Visitors should go to www.nps.gov and select “Find a Park” for additional information on access to parks and sites in a particular area.

Example of services that could be open: a free-standing gift shop, lodge, restaurant or gas station that requires no assistance from the Park to operate. "Assistance" could include but not be limited to snow removal, working as a cashier, unlocking gates, etc. However, if a private concessionaire has worked out in advance a way to remove snow, trash, etc, without the assistance of the park, they MAY be able to continue operations.

Example of services that would not be open: a gift shop inside a visitors center would not be open because a park ranger would not be available to unlock the visitors center or to staff the visitors center. A gas station on a road inside the park where it snowed overnight making it impassible would not be open if it relies on the park for snow removal.

Example of areas that may see restricted access: Due to lighter footprint of rangers and patrols, some public lands, trails and sites may see restricted access. Some parks are in winter season and see many skiers. The parks may choose to restrict access to some areas if there is a high risk of avalanche or it's a common spot for injuries since there will not be a regular patrol of the area. Additionally, sensitive cultural areas on all public land may see restricted access to protect the artifacts and objects.

Examples of areas we are prioritizing: We are prioritizing access to the most accessible and most iconic areas of parks and public lands. Each park, monument, recreation area, etc will have different plans in place.

The National Park Service has signed over forty agreements since the lapse in appropriations with a number of concessioners, partner organizations, and states to provide various visitor services, including trash removal and servicing restrooms, at a number of national parks. The extent of services and duration varies by agreement and some of these donations may or may not extend for the duration of a shutdown.

The NPS contingency plan in the absence of appropriations provides for the ability to restrict access to national park areas for safety, health, or resource protection issues.

Per the contingency plan, if visitor access becomes a safety, health or resource protection issue (weather, road conditions, resource damage, garbage build-up to the extent that it endangers human health or wildlife, etc.), the area must be closed.

At the superintendent’s discretion, parks may close areas with sensitive natural, cultural, historic, or archaeological resources vulnerable to destruction, looting, or other damage that cannot be adequately protected by the excepted law enforcement staff that remain on duty to conduct essential activities.

On Thu, Jan 3, 2019 at 11:14 AM Hetrick, Christian <CHetrick@shilly.com> wrote:

Please see my media request below:

From: Hetrick, Christian
Sent: Thursday, January 03, 2019 11:13 AM
To: gina_gilliam@nps.gov <gina_gilliam@nps.gov>
Cc: adam_duncan@nps.gov <adam_duncan@nps.gov>
Subject: Philly Inquirer questions about government shutdown

Hi Gina and Adam,

This is Christian Hetrick with the Philadelphia Inquirer. I’m working on a story about how the government shutdown is affecting federal workers and constituents, and am hoping you can answer a few questions for me today.

Are all national parks closed during the shutdown? If not, how many are closed and which ones are still open?

Are there any services that have been suspended or slowed down due to the shutdown?
What is the NPS’s staffing level like during the shutdown compared to a typical day? How many workers, if any, have been furloughed?

Can you provide any other examples of how the NPS, employees, and constituents have been affected by the shutdown?

Thanks,

Christian

Christian Hetrick
Consumer Reporter
The Philadelphia Inquirer
chetrick@philly.com
O: (215) 854-5107
C: (267) 443-0846

Every region has a leader Ours is Philly com Powered by the Inquirer and Daily News

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National Park Service
Office of Public Affairs
Lee,

During the partial government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. Services that require staffing and maintenance such as campgrounds and full service restrooms, will not be operating.

During the federal government shutdown, some Shenandoah National Park areas are accessible; however access may change without notice, and there are no NPS-provided services. For more information, see [http://www.nps.gov/shen](http://www.nps.gov/shen).

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On Thu, Jan 3, 2019 at 10:27 AM MacKenzie Lee <mackenzie.lee@wshv.com> wrote:

"Good morning,

My name is Mackenzie and I'm a reporter with WSHV in Harrisonburg. I'm looking to get a statement on the impact of the government shutdown on Shenandoah National Park, as far as problems related to trash cans and bathrooms not being serviced, potentially vandalism or other damage if there are reports of any, and whether any trash that is not being discarded is a threat to wildlife in the park. Thank you, have a great day!"

-Mackenzie

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National Park Service
Office of Public Affairs
Brooke,

During the partial government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. Services that require staffing and maintenance such as campgrounds and full service restrooms, will not be operating.

Accessibility to parks during the government shutdown varies on a number of factors which may change at any time. Some visitor services may be available when provided by concessioners or other entities. For most parks, there will be no National Park Service-provided visitor services, such as restrooms, trash collection, facilities, or road maintenance. Visitors should go to www.nps.gov and select “Find a Park” for additional information on access to parks and sites in a particular area. For information on parks in Texas visit https://www.nps.gov/state/tx/ and click on the individual park page for more information.

The National Park Service continues to follow its contingency plan in the absence of appropriations. The plan may be found here: https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf

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Example of services that could be open: a free-standing gift shop, lodge, restaurant or gas station that requires no assistance from the Park to operate. "Assistance" could include but not be limited to snow removal, working as a cashier, unlocking gates, etc. However, if a private concessionaire has worked out in advance a way to remove snow, trash, etc, without the assistance of the park, they MAY be able to continue operations.

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On Thu, Jan 3, 2019 at 12:36 PM Lewis, Brooke <Brooke Lewis@chron.com> wrote:

Hello,

I’m a reporter with The Houston Chronicle and working on a story about how the national parks in Texas are being affected during the government shutdown. I was hoping to speak with someone if possible today about this. I know many are closed or are remain without staff but open to visitors. I appreciate your help.

Thanks,

Brooke A Lewis
Houston Chronicle
713-385-5545 – Cell
713-362-7202 – Office
@brookelewisa
National Park Service
Office of Public Affairs
Thank you, Jeremy. Very helpful for us to have this information as well.

Hi Katia,

In addition to assistance received from NPF, the National Park Service has signed over forty agreements since the lapse in appropriations with a number of concessioners, partner organizations, and states to provide various visitor services, including trash removal and servicing restrooms, at a number of national parks.

**Background Information/Examples (not a complete list):**
The extent of services and duration varies by agreement and some of these donations may or may not extend for the duration of a shutdown.

The Friends of Vicksburg National Military Park and Campaign have donated the necessary funds to provide for essential services at Vicksburg National Military Park during the shutdown.

Xanterra Parks and Resorts is providing funding for the grooming of oversnow roads at Yellowstone National Park during the shutdown.

The California Department of Parks and Recreation has made an in-kind donation to provide for the cleaning of restrooms and trash removal at Redwoods National and State Parks.
The State of New York is providing funding to operate the Statue of Liberty National Monument.

The State of Arizona is providing funding for restroom cleaning, trash removal, and snow removal on walkways and trails at Grand Canyon National Park.

The Bryce Canyon Natural History Association is providing funding for the staffing of the visitor center and custodial services at Bryce Canyon National Park.

Concessioner Guest Services, Inc. has provided portable toilets at several locations around the National Mall.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Thu, Jan 3, 2019 at 12:14 PM Hetter, Katia <Katia.Hetter@turner.com> wrote:

If NPF and other partner organizations are helping to keep specific NPS sites open and events going, please share any details — we’ll take them! (And hello Jeremy and Scott.)

Thanks,
Katia
------
Katia Hetter
Senior producer
CNN Digital Travel
@katiahettet

From: Alanna Sobel <asobel@nationalparks.org>
Date: Thursday, January 3, 2019 at 11:43 AM
To: Katia Hetter <katia.hetter@turner.com>
Cc: Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>, Scott Anderson <sanderson@nationalparks.org>
Subject: RE: CNN Q: National Parks
Katia,

Always nice to hear from you. I know you said you’re reaching out to National Park Service on your own and I’ve also looped in Jeremy Barnum with NPS as I know he’s working.

While NPF may not have answers to those specific questions, we can certainly speak to the important role that numerous organizations, through philanthropy and partnership, play in helping to address some of the concerns raised by the shutdown. Most recently, NPF worked with partners to reopen the National Christmas Tree site at President’s Park in Washington, DC.

In addition, you can also share this resource with readers to help in the future: National Parks During a Government Shutdown

Sincerely,
Alanna

Alanna Sobel
Senior Manager, Communications
National Park Foundation
1110 Vermont Ave NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20005
202.796.2538 direct | 202.796.2500 main
www.nationalparks.org

Please consider the environment before printing this email

From: Hetter, Katia <Katia.Hetter@turner.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 03, 2019 11:31 AM
To: Alanna Sobel <asobel@nationalparks.org>
Subject: CNN Q: National Parks

Hey Alanna,

Asking NPS too, but since so many are not working, do you have any guidance on the following?

How many of the nation’s national park are closed? Is that increasing as trash/bathroom cleaning/etc services cannot be provided?
How many are open but with limited park staff, etc.?
How many cannot be closed, like the Blue Ridge Parkway?
How can visitors find out if a specific park is open, staffed, etc.? I know most websites are down.

I know some parks close some of their locations during the winter anyway — Grand Canyon North Rim,
some parts of Yellowstone, correct?

Anything else we should tell travelers?

I see this: https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf

Of course I’d love to get whatever you can give me today as soon as possible. (You don’t need to answer everything.)

Katia

-----
Katia Hetter
Senior producer
CNN Digital Travel
@katiahetter

From: Alanna Sobel<asobel@nationalparks.org>
Reply-To: Alanna Sobel<asobel@nationalparks.org>
Date: Wednesday, November 14, 2018 at 2:42 PM
To: Katia Hetter<katia.hetter@turner.com>
Subject: National Parks Media Guide: NPS Director, Connecting Kids to Parks, Investing in Rivers and Trails

The National Park Foundation's November media guide provides the latest updates on the intersection of partnerships, philanthropy, and national parks.

The National Park Foundation communications team is available as a resource for journalists at media@nationalparks.org
Interview-Ready

The 19th Director of the National Park Service
Tomorrow, the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources will hold a hearing on David Vela’s nomination to serve as NPS Director. NPF President Will Shafroth is available for comment.

See America’s Christmas Tree
Join the National Park Service and NPF for the 96th annual National Christmas Tree Lighting at President’s Park on November 28. Email media@nationalparks.org for credentialing information.

Protecting Public Lands
Partnerships are vital to protecting America’s treasures, including places like Firepit Knoll, a 35-acre inholding at Zion National Park. NPF President Will Shafroth is available to provide further insights.

How Philanthropy Bridges Divides
Yesterday, NPF President Will Shafroth participated in a National Press Club panel discussing how philanthropy changes narratives amid uncertainty. Will is available to explore this idea further with you.

Impact at a Glance

Connecting Kids with National Park Experiences
This school year, over 200,000 children across the country will visit their local national parks thanks to NPF’s Open OutDoors for Kids program.

Revitalizing Parks in the City
NPF is working with community partners to support urban parks including Washington, D.C.’s Anacostia Park, which received a $561k community-building grant from NPF.

Investing Half a Million Dollars in Rivers and Trails
The National Trails and Wild & Scenic Rivers systems turned 50 last month. In celebration, NPF awarded 20 grants to enhance these treasured places and increase public access to them.

Plug and Play

Virtually Transporting People to National Parks
Counter the hustle and bustle of city life by tuning in to your national parks with this innovative audio experience.

The Story Behind Masa Knob at Great Smokies
In 1961, a 6,217-foot peak was named Masa Knob after one of the park’s greatest admirers. Discover what we know about George Masa, who was born Masahara Iizuka in Osaka, Japan.

Geocaching in National Parks
Use your GPS device or smartphone to find hidden treasures in national parks such as Keweenaw National Historical Park and Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.

Contact Us

As we continue to develop this resource, we want to hear from you. Email Alanna Sobel at asobel@nationalparks.org and please share your thoughts.
Keeping US national parks open during the shutdown is a terrible mistake | Jonathan B Jarvis

Jonathan B Jarvis
Thu 3 Jan 2019 06.00 EST

A former park service director says leaving parks open without key staff is equivalent to leaving the Smithsonian open with priceless artifacts unattended.

When I was a ranger at Crater Lake national park in the 1980s, the average snowfall at headquarters was 500in a year, and snow could accumulate at 2in an hour. One of my jobs as ranger was to shovel out the fire hydrants every day, so that if there was a fire in the hotel, headquarters or housing, we’d be able to fight it. Our maintenance staff plowed roads for safe visitor access and rangers patrolled on skis, regularly performing rescues. This was all part of ensuring that, in accordance with the National Park Service’s founding charter, the parks are “unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations”.

Leaving the parks open without these essential staff is equivalent to leaving the Smithsonian museums open without any staff to protect the priceless artifacts. Yet as a result of the government shutdown, which furloughed most park staff, this is what has happened. It is a violation of the stewardship mandate, motivated only by politics. While the majority of the public will be respectful, there will always be a few who take advantage of the opportunity to do lasting damage.

The main visitor center at the Grand Canyon national park is closed, but many other parts of the park remain open to visitors. Photograph: Anna Johnson/AP

In 2016, the NPS hosted 320 million visitors: more than all of the Disney parks, major league baseball, football, basketball, soccer and Nascar combined. Many of our national parks operate much like a small city, with the National Park Service employees providing all the same services: trash collection, police and fire response, water and sewer systems, electrical power, bus service and parking management. The national parks differ from a city in that they are also designed to protect some of the United States’ most precious resources, such as the Merced river of Yosemite Valley, the elk and bison of Yellowstone and the iconic Lincoln Memorial.

When Congress and the executive branches of government failed to appropriate funding in 1998 and 2013, the government shut down for extended periods and the national parks were closed to the public. The logic was that if the employees were furloughed and could not perform their stewardship and safety responsibilities, then the only way to meet the requirements of “unimpaired”
was to close the parks.

During the 16-day shutdown of 2013, the closure of the national parks became the public face of the shutdown, with thousands of articles in the press and recurring images of gates and park closure signs. There was enormous political pressure to reopen the parks, culminating in a Republican House joint hearing, where I, as the NPS director, was grilled for five hours over the decision to close the parks during the shutdown. Though unintended, the closure of the national parks became a rallying cry for the public to force Congress to finally pass appropriation legislation and reopen the federal government.

![Park roads and grounds at Mount Rushmore remain open to visitors, but there are no National Park Service-provided visitor services during the shutdown. Photograph: Ryan Hermens, AP](image)

This time, surely to avoid the public outcry, the Trump administration decided to keep the national parks open while still furloughing the majority of the NPS staff.

As the shutdown extends and the parks are left open, we will begin to see the ugly consequences.

- Trash is already accumulating in parks such as Yosemite, and will attract wildlife. This could result in tragic human/bear encounters, or habituate bears to human food, meaning the animals will have to be relocated or euthanized in the future.

- Civil war battlefield parks are seeing increases in artefact theft by people with metal detectors.
• Human waste has overwhelmed toilets in Joshua Tree and Point Reyes and has proliferated along trails, rivers and streams, potentially impacting water quality and certainly the visitor experience.

• Roads normally open in Mt Rainier and Crater Lake national parks are accumulating so much snow that they will have to be bulldozed to reopen, at a much higher expense and with prolonged delays.

• Visitor centers are closed across the parks, depriving visitors of information on hazardous conditions, trail closures and wildlife activity.

• Wildlife, normally fully protected, will be subject to poaching or threats, such as the recent break-in at the endangered Devil’s Hole pupfish enclosure in Nevada.

• Visitors to parks are reporting dogs off leash, drone activity, off-highway vehicles and the public walking on or near fragile resources, such as the hot pools and thermal features of Yellowstone.

A partial federal shutdown has been put in motion because of gridlock in Congress over funding for Donald Trump’s Mexican border wall. Photograph: Jeff Chiu/AP

There are other consequences of a shutdown that are less visible but very consequential. The control of the spread of invasive species into national parks stops, allowing some to gain a foothold that will be much harder to control. Long-term monitoring sites that measure snow depth, rainfall, air quality, water quality or pollution will go unmaintained. Research scientists working on
complex issues that only occur during this period, such as pronghorn migration, may miss their window. These disruptions of data collection make the results less reliable for understanding ecosystem dynamics or climate change.

Author Wallace Stegner said that “National parks are the best idea we ever had. Absolutely American, absolutely democratic, they reflect us at our best rather than our worst.” Now left unattended and gathering trash and human waste, the Trump administration has let them reflect us at our worst.

Jonathan B Jarvis was the 18th director of the National Park Service

In these critical times …

… The Guardian’s US editor John Mulholland urges you to show your support for independent journalism with a gift to The Guardian. We are asking our US readers to help us raise $1 million dollars by early January to report on the most important stories in 2019.

A note from John:

In normal times we might not be making this appeal. But these are not normal times. Many of the values and beliefs we hold dear at The Guardian are under threat both here in the US and around the world. Facts, science, humanity, diversity and equality are being challenged daily. As is truth. Which is why we need your help.

Powerful public figures choose lies over truths, prefer supposition over science; and select hate over humanity. The US administration is foremost among them; whether in denying climate science or hating on immigrants; giving succor to racists or targeting journalists and the media. Many of these untruths and attacks find fertile ground on social media where tech platforms seem unable to cauterise lies. As a result, fake is in danger of overriding fact.

Almost 100 years ago, in 1921, the editor of The Guardian argued that the principal role of a newspaper was accurate reporting, insisting that “facts are
sacred.” We still hold that to be true. The need for a robust, independent press has never been greater, but the challenge is more intense than ever as digital disruption threatens traditional media’s business model. We pride ourselves on not having a paywall because we believe truth should not come at a price for anyone. Our journalism remains open and accessible to everyone and with your help we can keep it that way.

We want to say a huge thank you to everyone who has supported The Guardian so far. We hope to pass our goal by early January 2019. Every contribution, big or small, will help us reach it. Please make a gift today to show your ongoing support for our independent journalism. Thank you.

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Jim,

We are not able to accommodate interview requests during the lapse in appropriations

During the partial government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. Services that require staffing and maintenance such as campgrounds and full-service restrooms, will not be operating.

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Background information:

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Example of services that would not be open: a gift shop inside a visitors center would not be open because a park ranger would not be available to unlock the visitors center or to staff the visitors center. A gas station on a road inside the park where it snowed overnight making it impassable would not be open if it relies on the park for snow removal.

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On Thu, Jan 3, 2019 at 1:54 PM <no-reply@nps.gov> wrote:

Email submitted from: jvarney@washingtontimes.com at /aboutus/contactus.htm

Use jvarney@washingtontimes.com to reply to this message.

I'd like to speak with someone for a few minutes about the current status of national parks during the shutdown. I am at 504 717 1156. Thanks for your help.

Jim Varney

--
National Park Service
Office of Public Affairs
Gina,

During the partial government shutdown, national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. Services that require staffing and maintenance such as campgrounds and full service restrooms, will not be operating.

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At Mammoth Cave National Park, the Visitor Center and Green River Ferry will be closed.

Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park is closed.


Background information:

- Example of services that could be open: a free-standing gift shop, lodge, restaurant or gas station that requires no assistance from the park to operate. “Assistance” could include but not be limited to snow removal, working as a cashier, unlocking gates, etc. However, if a private concessionaire has worked out in advance a way to remove snow, trash, etc., without the assistance of the park, they may be able to continue operations.

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At the superintendent’s discretion, parks may close areas with sensitive natural, cultural, historic, or archaeological resources vulnerable to destruction, looting, or other damage that cannot be adequately protected by the excepted law enforcement staff that remain on duty to conduct essential activities.

On Thu, Jan 3, 2019 at 12:25 PM <no-reply@nps.gov> wrote

Email submitted from gkinslow@glasgowdailytimes.com at /aboutus/contactus.htm

Use gkinslow@glasgowdailytimes.com to reply to this message

Hi, I am writing a story about Mammoth Cave National Park and Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park and would like to know what services are available at the park during the shutdown. I’d also like to know how this shutdown compares to others in the past, and if the contingency plan is something NPS always has prepared in the event of a shutdown? Additionally, are NPS employees paid during the shutdown and if not when might they be paid and will it be retroactive to the start of the shutdown? Specifically, can you tell me if the Friends Groups at MNCNP and Abraham Lincoln are doing anything at the parks during the shutdown? I would like to be able to write this story for Friday’s paper and would appreciate hearing from someone soon. Thank you for your time. Gina Kinslow, Reporter, Glasgow Daily Times, Glasgow, KY. 270-678-5171, ext. 233

--
National Park Service
Office of Public Affairs
Marnie wants to use this — can she use your name on it? "For most parks, there will be no National Park Service-provided visitor services, such as restrooms, trash collection, facilities or road maintenance."

Katia Hetter
Senior producer
CNN Digital Travel
@katiahetter

From: Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Date: Thursday, January 3, 2019 at 12:43 PM
To: Katia Hetter <katia.hetter@turner.com>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] CNN story on impacts/travel

Hi Katia,

During the partial government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. Services that require staffing and maintenance such as campgrounds and full service restrooms, will not be operating.

Accessibility to parks during the government shutdown varies on a number of factors which may change at any time. Some visitor services may be available when provided by concessioners or other entities. For most parks, there will be no National Park Service-provided visitor services, such as restrooms, trash collection, facilities, or road maintenance. Visitors should go to www.nps.gov and select “Find a Park” for additional information on access to parks and sites in a particular area.

The National Park Service continues to follow its contingency plan in the absence of appropriations. The plan may be found here: https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf

Background Information

Example of services that could be open: a free-standing gift shop, lodge, restaurant or gas station that requires no assistance from the Park to operate. “Assistance” could include but not be limited to snow removal, working as a cashier, unlocking gates, etc. However, if a private concessionaire has worked out in advance a way to remove snow, trash, etc, without the assistance of the park, they MAY be able to continue operations.

Example of services that would not be open: a gift shop inside a visitors center would not be open because a park ranger would not be available to unlock the visitors center or to staff the visitors center. A gas station on a road inside the park where it snowed overnight making it impassible would not be open if it relies on the park for snow removal.

Example of areas that may see restricted access: Due to lighter footprint of rangers and patrols, some public lands, trails and sites may see restricted access. Some parks are in winter season and see many skiers. The parks may choose to restrict access to some areas if there is a high risk of avalanche or it’s a common spot for injuries since there will not be a regular patrol of the area. Additionally, sensitive cultural areas on all public land may see restricted access to protect the artifacts and objects.

Examples of areas we are prioritizing: We are prioritizing access to the most accessible and most iconic areas of parks and public lands. Each park, monument, recreation area, etc will have different plans in place.

The National Park Service has signed over forty agreements since the lapse in appropriations with a number of concessioners, partner organizations, and states to provide various visitor services, including trash removal and servicing restrooms, at a number of national parks. The extent of services and duration varies by agreement and some of these donations may or may not extend for the duration of a shutdown.

The NPS contingency plan in the absence of appropriations provides for the ability to restrict access to national park areas for safety, health, or resource protection issues.

Per the contingency plan, if visitor access becomes a safety, health or resource protection issue (weather, road conditions, resource damage, garbage build-up to the extent that it endangers human health or wildlife, etc.), the area must be closed.

At the superintendent’s discretion, parks may close areas with sensitive natural, cultural, historic, or archaeological resources vulnerable to destruction, looting, or other damage that cannot be adequately protected by the excepted law enforcement staff that remain on duty to conduct essential activities.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office (202) 513-7262
Mobile (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

NATIONAL PARKS 2019
On Thu, Jan 3, 2019 at 11:27 AM Hetter, Katia <Katia.Hetter@turner.com> wrote:

Hi Jeremy, Jeff, Kathy,

Team is working on a story about travel impacts of the shutdown, and I'm wondering if you're working without pay (ugh) and have answers. It's not a lot:

How many of the nation's national park are closed? Is increasing as trash/bathroom cleaning/etc services cannot be provided?
How many are open but with limited park staff, etc?
How many cannot be closed, like the Blue Ridge Parkway?
How can visitors find out if a specific park is open, staffed, etc? I know most websites are down

I know some parks close some of their locations during the winter anyway — Grand Canyon North Rim, some parts of Yellowstone, correct?

Anything else we should tell travelers?

I see this: https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf

Of course I'd love to get it today as soon as possible. I think we're trying to publish for tomorrow

Thanks,
Katia

Katia Hetter
Senior producer
CNN Digital Travel
404-827-4792/desk
470-426-3393/cell
@katiahetter
With your name attached to the first bit too?

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 3, 2019, at 4:06 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

How about this

The National Park Service has 418 units, some of which are closed, some with areas still open but no services or facilities, and some which continue to provide at least some visitor services and accessibility through donations from concessioners, partner organizations, and states

You’re free to attribute the below examples to me:

The Friends of Vicksburg National Military Park and Campaign have donated the necessary funds to provide for essential services at Vicksburg National Military Park during the shutdown

Xanterra Parks and Resorts is providing funding for the grooming of oversnow roads at Yellowstone National Park during the shutdown

The California Department of Parks and Recreation has made an in-kind donation to provide for the cleaning of restrooms and trash removal at Redwoods National and State Parks

The State of New York is providing funding to fully operate the Statue of Liberty National Monument

The State of Arizona is providing funding for restroom cleaning, trash removal, and snow removal on walkways and trails at Grand Canyon National Park

The Bryce Canyon Natural History Association is providing funding for the staffing of the visitor center and custodial services at Bryce Canyon National Park

Concessioner Guest Services, Inc has provided portable toilets at several locations around the National Mall

On Thu, Jan 3, 2019 at 3:34 PM Hetter, Katia <Katia_Hetter@turner.com> wrote:

How s this: The National Park Service has 418 units, there are 418 units, some of which are closed, some partially closed, and at least in the case of the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island, with funding from the State of New York, fully operational, according to an NPS spokesman

I want to make it stand alone when I send it to my lead writer (my colleague Marnie Hunter)

Katia

---

Katia Hetter
Senior producer
CNN Digital Travel
@KatiaHetter

From: Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Date: Thursday, January 3, 2019 at 2:58 PM
To: Katia Hetter <Katia.Hetter@turner.com>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] CNN story on impacts/travel

Hi Katia,

BACKGROUND INFORMATION
Just tried calling I can try to walk you through all of this, but there are 418 units, some of which are closed, some partially closed, and at least in the case of the Statue of Liberty, fully operational

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office (202) 513-7262
Mobile (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube
On Thu, Jan 3, 2019 at 12:46 PM Hetter, Katia <Katia Hetter@turner.com> wrote:

Thanks, Jeremy  Do you have any more specifics or should I go to my file of individual park announcements?

Katia

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Katia Hetter
Senior producer
CNN Digital Travel
@katiahetter

From: Jeremy Barnum <jeremy.barnum@nps.gov>
Date: Thursday, January 3, 2019 at 12:43 PM
To: Katia Hetter <katia.hetter@turner.com>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] CNN story on impacts/travel

Hi Katia,

During the partial government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. Services that require staffing and maintenance such as campgrounds and full service restrooms, will not be operating.

Accessibility to parks during the government shutdown varies on a number of factors which may change at any time. Some visitor services may be available when provided by concessioners or other entities. For most parks, there will be no National Park Service-provided visitor services, such as restrooms, trash collection, facilities, or road maintenance. Visitors should go to www.nps.gov and select “Find a Park” for additional information on access to parks and sites in a particular area.

The National Park Service continues to follow its contingency plan in the absence of appropriations. The plan may be found here: https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf

Background Information

Example of services that could be open: a free-standing gift shop, lodge, restaurant or gas station that requires no assistance from the Park to operate. "Assistance" could include but not be limited to snow removal, working as a cashier, unlocking gates, etc. However, if a private concessionaire has worked out in advance a way to remove snow, trash, etc, without the assistance of the park, they MAY be able to continue operations.

Example of services that would not be open: a gift shop inside a visitors center would not be open because a park ranger would not be available to unlock the visitors center or to staff the visitors center. A gas station on a road inside the park where it snowed overnight making it impassable would not be open if it relies on the park for snow removal.

Example of areas that may see restricted access: Due to lighter footprint of rangers and patrols, some public lands, trails and sites may see restricted access. Some parks are in winter season and see many skiers. The parks may choose to restrict access to some areas if there is a high risk of avalanche or it’s a common spot for injuries since there will not be a regular patrol of the area. Additionally, sensitive cultural areas on all public land may see restricted access to protect the artifacts and objects.

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The National Park Service has signed over forty agreements since the lapse in appropriations with a number of concessioners, partner organizations, and states to provide various visitor services, including trash removal and servicing restrooms, at a number of national parks. The extent of services and duration varies by agreement and some of these donations may or may not extend for the duration of a shutdown.

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Per the contingency plan, if visitor access becomes a safety, health or resource protection issue (weather, road conditions, resource damage, garbage build-up to the extent that it endangers human health or wildlife, etc.), the area must be closed.

At the superintendent’s discretion, parks may close areas with sensitive natural, cultural, historic, or archaeological resources vulnerable to destruction, looting, or other damage that cannot be adequately protected by the excepted law enforcement staff that remain on duty to conduct essential activities.
On Thu, Jan 3, 2019 at 11:27 AM Hetter, Katia <Katia.Hetter@turner.com> wrote:

Hi Jeremy, Jeff, Kathy,

Team is working on a story about travel impacts of the shutdown, and I’m wondering if you’re working without pay (ugh) and have answers. It’s not a lot:

How many of the nation’s national parks are closed/open that increasing as trash/bathroom cleaning/etc services cannot be provided?
How many are open but with limited park staff, etc?
How many cannot be closed, like the Blue Ridge Parkway?
How can visitors find out if a specific park is open, staffed, etc? I know most websites are down

I know some parks close some of their locations during the winter anyway — Grand Canyon North Rim, some parts of Yellowstone, correct?

Anything else we should tell travelers?


Of course I’d love to get it today as soon as possible. I think we’re trying to publish for tomorrow.

Thanks,
Katia

Katia Hetter
Senior producer
CNN Digital Travel
404-827-4792/desk
470-426-3393/cell
@katiahetter
Hey Jeremy,

So I've had a source confirm that someone died at Vernall Falls in Yosemite on Christmas day, after hiking up a closed trail. Given the shutdown, and the fact that the death hasn't yet been reported by the park, it seems like there's a story here, if not also a cautionary tale. Would love to get an account of what happened, and why a report wasn't issued (guessing the shutdown's to blame) from an official in Yosemite, if it's possible.

Hey, at least it's not another story about poop.

Appreciate your help,

Wes

--

Wesley Siler
phone: +1 323 561 7964
web: OutsideOnline.com/IndefinitelyWild
instagram: @WesSiler
twitter: @IndefiniteWild
I am a reporter for USA TODAY. I’m doing a piece on the effect of the shutdown on the national parks and am particularly focused on how local groups have stepped in.

I left a voice mail, but perhaps you could offer some help by email.

I understand that there were some formal agreements reached between the park service and particularly local nonprofits, such as those operating bookstores at visitors centers. Is that an accurate description? I am told that local groups were allowed to stay open and in return were required to help with the trash overflow problems and bathroom maintenance.

If that is a fair description, can you tell me how many such agreements have been reached and is this a national phenomenon? I know that it was particularly active in South Florida parks. I am told there were some 40 agreements with concessionaires that operate at parks across the country. Is that accurate and does that include nonprofits who run bookstores, for example?

I would appreciate any help you could offer.

I am at my desk until 5p at 703-854-5456 or reachable by email afterward at [b] (6) [b] @gmail.com

Thanks for any help you can offer.

Doug Stanglin
I'm having Scott draft a short statement on the fatal.

Andrew S. Muñoz  
Acting Chief of Public and Congressional Affairs  
National Park Service  
Pacific West Region, Office of Public and Congressional Affairs  
206 220-4260 phone | 206 475-4598 cell | andrew_munoz@nps.gov  

Find us online at: [https://nps.gov/pwro](https://nps.gov/pwro) (public) & [http://go.nps.gov/pwr](http://go.nps.gov/pwr) (InsideNPS intranet)

On Thu, Jan 3, 2019 at 2:00 PM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
Mobile: (202) 617-7973  
[Facebook](https://facebook.com) [Twitter](https://twitter.com) [Instagram](https://instagram.com) [YouTube](https://youtube.com)

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Wes Siler <wsiler@outsidemag.com>  
Date: Thu, Jan 3, 2019 at 4:41 PM  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Yosemite Death  
To: <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>

Hey Jeremy,

So I've had a source confirm that someone died at Vernall Falls in Yosemite on Christmas day, after hiking up a closed trail. Given the shutdown, and the fact that the death hasn't yet been reported by the park, it seems like there's a story here, if not also a cautionary tale. Would love to get an account of what happened, and why a report wasn't issued (guessing the shutdown's to blame) from an official in Yosemite, if it's possible.

Hey, at least it's not another story about poop.

Appreciate your help,
Wes
--
Wesley Siler
phone: +1 323 561 7964
web: OutsideOnline.com/IndefinitelyWild
instagram: @WesSiler
twitter: @IndefiniteWild
Thanks. Your first email provided a nice overview. Also the confirmation about the local deals was helpful. Again thanks for the quick response. Looks like you don’t get to lounge during the shutdown!

Here’s the piece: https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2019/01/03/government-shutdown-charities-keep-national-parks-open-restrooms-clean/2471359002/

We can provide more examples of local groups providing assistance if helpful.

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service

On Jan 3, 2019, at 5:00 PM, Stanglin, Doug <dstangli@usatoday.com> wrote:

Thanks for your quick response.

Doug,

The National Park Service has signed over forty agreements since the lapse in appropriations with a number of concessioners, partner organizations, and states to provide various visitor services, including trash removal and servicing restrooms, at a number of national parks. The extent of services and duration varies by agreement and some of these donations may or may not extend for the duration of a shutdown.

Background Information/Examples (not a complete list)
The extent of services and duration varies by agreement and some of these donations may or may not extend for the duration of a shutdown.

The Friends of Vicksburg National Military Park and Campaign have donated the
necessary funds to provide for essential services at Vicksburg National Military Park during the shutdown.

Xanterra Parks and Resorts is providing funding for the grooming of oversnow roads at Yellowstone National Park during the shutdown.

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The State of New York is providing funding to operate the Statue of Liberty National Monument.

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Concessioner Guest Services, Inc. has provided portable toilets at several locations around the National Mall.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Thu, Jan 3, 2019 at 4:45 PM Stanglin, Doug <dstangli@usatoday.com> wrote:

I am a reporter for USA TODAY. I’m doing a piece on the effect of the shutdown on the national parks and am particularly focused on how local groups have stepped in.

I left a voice mall, but perhaps you could offer some help by email.

I understand that there were some formal agreements reached between the park service and particularly local nonprofits, such as those operating bookstores at visitors centers. Is that an accurate description? I am told that local groups were
allowed to stay open and in return were required to help with the trash overflow problems and bathroom maintenance.

If that is a fair description, can you tell me how many such agreements have been reached and is this a national phenomenon? I know that it was particularly active in South Florida parks. I am told there were some 40 agreements with concessionaires that operate at parks across the country. Is that accurate and does that include nonprofits who run bookstores, for example?

I would appreciate any help you could offer.

I am at my desk until 5p at 703-854-5456 or reachable by email afterward at (b) (6)@gmail.com

Thanks for any help you can offer.

Doug Stanglin
Did some more digging - the $284M you had for FY 2018 was the estimate from the Greenbook last year. The $299M is the actual that we'll publish in the next Greenbook. So the numbers have the same basis, just an update for actuals.

I don't have enough info to estimate daily fee losses.

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329

On Thu, Jan 3, 2019 at 7:55 PM Bowron, Jessica <jessica_bowron@nps.gov> wrote:
$3.2B in FY 2018 discretionary appropriations is right. FY18 rec fee revenue was $299.7 million.

For reference, in case we ever wonder which rec fee # I pulled, that includes deed restricted, but excludes transportation fees. And is net of the following budget footnotes:

1 FY 2018 Actual column does not include these sequestered Receipt amounts: Recreational Fee Program's $2,376, P LT's (GRTE) $1, Park Concessions Franchise Fees' $443, Park Building Lease & Maintenance Fund's $26, Operation & Maintenance of Quarters' $59, OCS State Conservation Grants' $4,421, Construction-Helium Act's $1,320. Also excluded is the Sequestered portion of LWCF Contract Authority $1,980.

2 FY 2018 Actual column includes pop up of funds that were sequestered in FY 2017, but became available in FY 2018: Recreational Fee Program's $2,450, PILT's (GRTE) $1, Park Concessions Franchise Fees' $455, Park Building Lease & Maintenance Fund's $23, Operation & Maintenance of Quarters' $59.

3 FY 2018 Actual column for Recreational Fee Program includes interagency pass funds transferred to other bureaus/agencies -$4,088, which are not reflected in the BAL.

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329

On Thu, Jan 3, 2019 at 7:13 PM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:
Jessica,

E&E has asked for our budget and fee revenue info in light of Sen. Leahy's statement that we're losing $400 k/day in fees during the shutdown.

A daily fee loss seems almost impossible to calculate given the seasonal nature of parks and external factors like weather, etc. I'm inclined to just not address the fee question altogether.

Are these numbers right?
FY 2018 NPS Budget: 3.2 Billion
FY 2018 Recreational Fee Receipts: 284 Million

I'll address his other questions.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Rob Hotakainen <rhotakainen@eenews.net>
Date: Thu, Jan 3, 2019 at 5:20 PM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Questions
To: Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>

I’m including estimate of 5.2 million in lost gate revenue: 400,000 a day for 13 days, as per Leahy’s estimate. Please let me know if you
On Jan 3, 2019, at 3:22 PM, Rob Hotakainen <rhotakainen@eenews.net> wrote:

Hi Jeremy, hope all is well. Can you tell me the overall NPS budget and what percentage comes from gate fees?

Sen. Leahy says the shutdown is costing NPS $400,000 in lost fee revenues each day. (See his statement below.)

Also does anyone over there want to comment on the persistent criticism that NPS is not doing its job in protecting the parks during the shutdown? And does the plan remain to keep parks open during the shutdown even if it goes on for weeks? Are you hearing complaints from the public or is no one there to even answer the phone? How are you handling all of this?

Many thanks.

Unsupervised. Visitor and welcome centers are closed, most park rangers are furloughed and few emergency or law enforcement personnel are left to police the parks or rescue injured guests affecting visitor safety, reducing public access and threatening natural and cultural resources at national parks across the country. Even where parks remain open, campgrounds and other sites are beginning to close because of health and safety reasons (e.g., overflowing trash and sanitation issues). It is also estimated that the National Park Service is losing approximately $400,000 per day in fee revenues by not having rangers at parks to staff entrances. These funds are normally used to address deferred maintenance and other critical operating needs.

Rob Hotakainen
National parks, oceans and fisheries reporter
E&E NEWS
rhotakainen@eenews.net
202-446-0477
Twitter: @HotakainenRob
122 C Street NW, 7th floor, Washington, DC, 20001
www.eenews.net | @EENewsUpdates
Greenwire, E&E Daily, E&E News PM, Climatewire, Energywire
On Jan 3, 2019, at 8:18 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

On the record
The FY 2018 budget for the National Park Service (discretionary appropriations) was $3.2B.
Recreation fee revenue in FY 2018 was $299.7 million.

Background Information Only
Given the seasonal nature of parks and external factors like weather, etc., that affect fee revenue, we don't have the staff resources to research that question during the shutdown.

On Thu, Jan 3, 2019 at 5:20 PM Rob Hotakainen <rhotakainen@eenews.net> wrote:
I’m including estimate of 5.2 million in lost gate revenue: 400,000 a day for 13 days, as per Leahy’s estimate. Please let me know if you have a different number. Thanks again, rob
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I talked with the park today after our call and asked this very question and the answer was no. DENA has a concession operated campground and the bathrooms and garbage are being taken care by the concessioner. So as of right now we are in good shape.

Bert Frost
Regional Director, Alaska
National Park Service
Office: 907-644-3510

On Jan 3, 2019, at 4:44 PM, Barnum, Jeremy < jeremy_barnum@nps.gov > wrote:

Hi Bert,

Have you had any major issues from irresponsible visitation during the shutdown (see below)? If not, we'll go back with general language about accessibility/lack of services and clarify that we're not aware of any major issues at Alaska parks at this time.

Thanks,

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973

Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

NATIONAL PARKS

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Sam Friedman < sfriedman@newsminer.com >
Date: Thu, Jan 3, 2019 at 3:21 PM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Denali National Park inquiry
To: < newsmedia@nps.gov >

Dear NPS national PIO,
I've been seeing reports of issues with unauthorized camping, overflowing trash bins and general degradation of some National Parks last week that are open to the public, but don't have trash service, bathrooms or normal staffing.

Have there been any such issues reported at Alaska parks? I know our parks generally get less use in the winter so it may be less of an issue here.

Because of the shutdown, law enforcement at Denali suggested I direct my questions to this account.

Cheers,
Sam
--

Sam Friedman
Outdoors editor
Fairbanks Daily News-Miner
p: 907-459-7545
sfriedman@newsminer.com
@FDNMoutdoors
www.newsminer.com
Sam,

We are not aware of any major issues right now at national parks in Alaska. Denali National Park has a campground operated by a concessioner and the bathrooms and trash removal are being taken care of by the concessioner.

Broadly speaking, during the partial government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures.

Accessibility to parks during the government shutdown varies on a number of factors which may change at any time. Some visitor services may be available when provided by concessioners or other entities. For most parks, there will be no National Park Service-provided visitor services, such as restrooms, trash collection, facilities, or road maintenance. Visitors should go to www.nps.gov and select “Find A Park” for additional information on access to parks and sites in a particular area. For example a list of NPS sites in Alaska may be found here: https://www.nps.gov/state/ak/index.htm. Most sites should have an alert on its webpage that provides information on what is accessible and what is closed.

For example:

Denali
https://www.nps.gov/dena/shutdown.htm

During the federal government shutdown, Denali National Park and Preserve will remain open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. However, there will be no visitor services; parking lots may be closed due to lack of snow removal; all offices and contact stations will be closed; and hazardous or dangerous conditions may exist. The Park Road has been closed to vehicle access at mile 3.2 for the season and will remain closed during the government shutdown. In case of emergency, visitors to the park should call 911.

The National Park Service continues to follow its contingency plan in the absence of appropriations. The plan may be found here: https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf.

Background Information:

Example of services that could be open: a free-standing gift shop, lodge, restaurant or gas station that requires no assistance from the Park to operate. “Assistance” could include but not be limited to snow removal, working as a cashier, unlocking gates, etc. However, if a private concessionaire has worked out in advance a way to remove snow, trash, etc, without the assistance of the park, they MAY be able to continue operations.

Example of services that would not be open: a gift shop inside a visitors center would not be open because a park ranger would not be available to unlock the visitors center or to staff the visitors center. A gas station on a road inside the park where it snowed overnight making it impassible would not be open if it relies on the park for snow removal.

Example of areas that may see restricted access: Due to lighter footprint of rangers and patrols, some public lands, trails and sites may see restricted access. Some parks are in winter season and see many skiers. The parks may choose to restrict access to some areas if there is a high risk of avalanche or it's a common spot for injuries since there will not be a regular patrol of the area. Additionally, sensitive cultural areas on all public land may see restricted access to protect the artifacts and objects.

The NPS contingency plan in the absence of appropriations provides for the ability to restrict access to national park areas for safety, health, or resource protection issues.

Per the contingency plan, if visitor access becomes a safety, health or resource protection issue (weather, road conditions, resource damage, garbage build-up to the extent that it endangers human health or wildlife, etc.), the area must be closed.

At the superintendent’s discretion, parks may close areas with sensitive natural, cultural, historic, or archaeological resources vulnerable to destruction, looting, or other damage that cannot be adequately protected by the excepted law enforcement staff that remain on duty to conduct essential activities.

On Thu, Jan 3, 2019 at 3:21 PM Sam Friedman <sfriedman@newsminer.com> wrote:

Dear NPS national PIO,

I've been seeing reports of issues with unauthorized camping, overflowing trash bins and general degradation of some National Parks last week that are open to the public, but don't have trash service, bathrooms or normal staffing.

Have there been any such issues reported at Alaska parks? I know our parks generally get less use in the winter so it may be less of an issue here.

Because of the shutdown, law enforcement at Denali suggested I direct my questions to this account.

Cheers,
Sam

Sam Friedman
Outdoors editor
Fairbanks Daily News-Miner
Jeremy,

Under normal operations, visitors can access current information on closures, alerts, etc at locations we note in our guide - park web pages, visitor centers, fee stations, etc. In the 3rd paragraph, we may want to note that alerts and conditions may not be fully up to date (see my edits below to Charles).

CAPT Jennifer Proctor
USPHS
Deputy Chief
Office of Risk Management
National Park Service
1849 C St NW, Mailstop 2560
Washington, DC 20240
office: 202-513-7237
cell: 202-400-1448
jennifer_proctor@nps.gov

Be prepared for your adventure in our National Parks!
Visit www.nps.gov/healthandsafety

On Fri, Jan 4, 2019 at 11:13 AM Cuvelier, Charles <charles_cuvelier@nps.gov> wrote:

Unfortunately I can't track changes in email. My edits are in the first four paragraphs.

There are on average six deaths a week in the National Park System including accidents like drownings, falls, and motor vehicle crashes and medical related incidents like heart attacks.

Throughout the year, the National Park System offers a wide range of visitor experiences in unique landscapes with potential hazards that may exist at parks across the nation. Visitors can reduce their risk of injury if they plan and prepare, select the most appropriate activity that matches their skill set and experience, seek information before and when they arrive at the park about hazards and environmental conditions, follow rules and regulations and use sound judgement while recreating.

While some national park areas are accessible to the public during the lapse in federal appropriations, the National Park Service (NPS) is unable to fully staff the properties under its management. It is not feasible to close or otherwise prohibit all access to NPS properties. For
most parks, there will be no National Park Service-provided visitor services, such as restrooms, trash collection, facilities, or road maintenance, current park alerts and conditions may not be up to date, and emergency and rescue services will be limited. Park visitors are advised to use extreme caution if choosing to enter NPS-managed areas as hazardous or dangerous conditions may exist. If visitor access becomes a safety, health or resource protection issue (weather, road conditions, resource damage, garbage build-up to the extent that it endangers human health or wildlife, etc.), park areas will be closed.

**Background Information**

Our visitors are coming to wild and natural places where they need to research, prepare adequately and understand the hazards before they go and act appropriately, follow rules, warning signs and guidance at parks. Key points to remember are:

“Know before you go” - research the park and the activity you plan to do and potential hazards you may encounter, be realistic about your limits and of those traveling with you, identify the right equipment for your trip and test it/try it out before you go; provide your travel itinerary to someone who is not going with you so they know when you should return and who to contact if you don’t. Have a plan B incase something impacts your planned activity.

“Seek information when you arrive at the park” – check the weather, check for park alerts, check your packing list, and let your emergency contact know you are leaving.

“Responsible decisions” – Make responsible decisions on your trip; turn around if weather, your health or others, or environmental conditions change. Stay on trail and don’t change plans. Follow the rules and regulations.

Learn more here: [https://www.nps.gov/subjects/healthandsafety/index.htm](https://www.nps.gov/subjects/healthandsafety/index.htm)

Charles Cuvelier  
Chief, Law Enforcement, Security, and Emergency Services  
National Park Service  
202-809-5519

On Fri, Jan 4, 2019, 11:07 AM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi All,

We've drafted the below suggested response. Please let us know if you have any suggested edits.

There on average six deaths a week in the National Park System including accidents like drownings, falls, and vehicular accidents and medical related incidents like heart attacks.

Throughout the year, the National Park System offers a wide range of visitor experiences, geography, and potential hazards that may exist at parks across the
nation. Visitors can reduce their risk of injury if they plan and prepare, select the most appropriate activity that matches their skill set and experience, seek information before and when they arrive at the park about hazards and environmental conditions, follow rules and regulations and use sound judgement while recreating they can reduce their risk of injury.

While some national park areas are accessible to the public during the lapse in federal appropriations, the National Park Service (NPS) is unable to fully staff the properties under its management. It is not feasible to close or otherwise prohibit all access to NPS properties. For most parks, there will be no National Park Service-provided visitor services, such as restrooms, trash collection, facilities, or road maintenance and emergency and rescue services will be limited. Park visitors are advised to use extreme caution if choosing to enter NPS-managed areas as hazardous or dangerous conditions may exist.

If visitor access becomes a safety, health or resource protection issue (weather, road conditions, resource damage, garbage build-up to the extent that it endangers human health or wildlife, etc.), park areas will be closed.

**Background Information**

Our visitors are coming to wild and natural places where they need to research, prepare adequately and understand the hazards before they go and act appropriately, follow rules, warning signs and guidance at parks. Key points to remember are:

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“Seek information when you arrive at the park” – check the weather, check for park alerts, check your packing list, and let your emergency contact know you are leaving

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Learn more here: [https://www.nps.gov/subjects/healthandsafety/index.htm](https://www.nps.gov/subjects/healthandsafety/index.htm)

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube
On Fri, Jan 4, 2019 at 8:56 AM Proctor, Jennifer <jennifer_proctor@nps.gov> wrote:

All,

I'm sorry I hit send too soon. I reviewed the 14-16 data to see what has been reported historically during the holiday week. The average was 2 deaths reported in IMARS per year using the date ranges from 12/21-1/4.  I want to note that we are seeing improved reporting of deaths in IMARS, especially over the past two years which may account the difference.

PRMP completed the data set for 2014-2016 so the numbers have increased slightly from the mortality fact sheet with a total of 966 deaths reported in National Parks based on IMARS, EMS, and other data sources.

We have about 6 deaths per week (about 1 per day as Charles noted) when we account for unintentional (drownings, MVCs, falls, etc.), intentional (homicide, suicide, etc.), medical related (e.g. heart attack), and undetermined.  We are currently on hold with formally releasing the 2014-2016 data.

FYI: We have moved away from "visitor deaths" as the deaths reported range from visitors, individuals passing away in their homes within NPS boundaries/jurisdiction (eg. Presidio residents in GATE), and undetermined status of individuals (e.g. body found in the park).

Let me know if you have any other questions. I can be reached on my cell at 202-400-1448.

CAPT Jennifer Proctor  
USPHS  
Deputy Chief  
Office of Risk Management  
National Park Service  
1849 C St NW, Mailstop 2560  
Washington, DC 20240  
office: 202-513-7237  
cell: 202-400-1448  
jennifer_proctor@nps.gov

Be prepared for your adventure in our National Parks!  
Visit www.nps.gov/healthandsafety
On Fri, Jan 4, 2019 at 8:27 AM Cuvelier, Charles <charles_cuvelier@nps.gov> wrote:
I didn't include any USPP data as I didn't have access to them in IMARS.

Charles Cuvelier
Chief, Law Enforcement, Security, and Emergency Services
National Park Service
202-809-5519

On Fri, Jan 4, 2019, 8:23 AM Proctor, Jennifer <jennifer_proctor@nps.gov wrote:
All,

I would add that there was one death from a motor vehicle crash in DC (USPP)
based on the reports I've seen but I'm not sure what park it occurred at. We would
need to follow up with USPP to confirm the park and any additional deaths.

CAPT Jennifer Proctor
USPHS
Deputy Chief
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cell: 202-400-1448
jennifer_proctor@nps.gov

Be prepared for your adventure in our National Parks!
Visit www.nps.gov/healthandsafety

On Thu, Jan 3, 2019 at 7:58 PM Cuvelier, Charles <charles_cuvelier@nps.gov> wrote:
A search of IMARS identified seven fatalities.

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Number</th>
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<td>12/23/2018</td>
</tr>
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<td>12/24/2018</td>
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<tr>
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<td>YOSE</td>
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<td>GRSM</td>
<td>12/27/2018</td>
</tr>
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<td>NP182101693</td>
<td>NATR</td>
<td>12/31/2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NP19000103</td>
<td>REDW</td>
<td>12/31/2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Comparison data from 2016 or 2017 is not readily available.

Earlier this year we created a visitor mortality fact sheet. Service wide for the three years CY 14-16 there were 924 fatalities, 308/year, about one per day. In terms of those averages the number of fatalities during the lapse of funding is within the average.

Charles Cuvelier  
Chief, Law Enforcement, Security, and Emergency Services  
National Park Service  
202-809-5519

On Thu, Jan 3, 2019, 6:53 PM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov wrote:  
Charles and Sara,  

The Washington Post is asking for information on fatalities that have occurred in national parks since the shutdown.

The fatalities at Horseshoe Bend/GLCA and GRSM are already public and they have received confirmation from local authorities of the fatality at YOSE. I believe there was also a fatality at DEWA as well wasn't there? [https://www.mcall.com/news/breaking/mc-pol-delaware-water-gap-female-body-found-20181227-story.html](https://www.mcall.com/news/breaking/mc-pol-delaware-water-gap-female-body-found-20181227-story.html)

We are confirming with regional comms pocs to see what information has been shared publicly.

We're not looking to provide any more information beyond what is appropriate.

The reporter is also looking for context in terms of what our annual fatality statistics would be regardless of shutdown. I explained that we don't have a recent validated dataset on that (we regularly get this question) but wanted to double check to see if that is still the case.

I also explained that we're obviously shutdown and don't have the staff/resources to do much of this.

Let me know what you think.

Thanks,

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
Mobile: (202) 617-7973  
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube
Draft response to NPT from DEVA for review.

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Taylor, Patrick <patrick_taylor@nps.gov>
Date: Fri, Jan 4, 2019 at 10:04 AM
Subject: DEVA National Parks Traveler response
To: Munoz, Andrew <andrew_munoz@nps.gov>

Draft Response:

Hello Kurt,
Park staff are continuing to patrol the park and we won't have a full picture of impacts until after the shutdown. To assist Law Enforcement Rangers, an archaeologist was called in today to help document instances of off road driving and vandalism.

Similar to most other sites, over flowing trash and human waste around campgrounds and closed bathrooms are the primary issues we are encountering. However, out of bounds camping and off road driving have noticeably increased. At multiple restrooms, including the Texas Springs Campground which has CCC era restrooms, doors have been kicked in damaging both doors and frames. A locked gate at Natural Bridge Road was also broken open.

Most visitors have been respectful of the park and because we have a partner donating funds to keep our visitor center operational, we are able to provide resource protection messaging. We believe this is helping to prevent a lot of potential negative impacts to the park.

Andrew,
How do I respond if he requests photos?

--
Patrick Taylor
Chief of Interpretation & Education
Death Valley National Park

One sees great things from the valley; only small things from the peak. - Gilbert K. Chesterton
Got it. I will bcc you on my response.

Alex

Alexandra Picavet
Chief of Communications
Midwest Region of the National Park Service
402-960-0688 cell
402-661-1840 office

On Jan 4, 2019, at 12:27 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Laing, Keith <klaing@detroitnews.com>
Date: Fri, Jan 4, 2019 at 1:12 PM
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Potential shutdown impact on national parks in Michigan?
To: Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>

Hi Jeremy,

I’m working on an update to the article that prompted this original request now that we are 2 weeks in the shutdown. Can you confirm if any parks in Michigan
If national parks in Michigan are closed and detail how operations have changed at the ones that have remained open? Thanks as always!

Keith Laing
Washington Correspondent
The Detroit News
1100 13th St. NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005
Office: 202-662-8735
Fax: 313-222-4006

www.twitter.com/Keith_Laing

From: Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, December 19, 2018 6:11 PM
To: Laing, Keith <klaing@detroitnews.com>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Potential shutdown impact on national parks in Michigan?

Hi Keith,

Please see our response below.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs
National Park Service
**On-the-record statement:**

"We are not going to speculate on any possible change in government operations. National parks are open and continue to welcome visitors."

**Background Information**

General contingency plans for operations in the absence of appropriations may be found here: [https://www.doi.gov/shutdown](https://www.doi.gov/shutdown)

I would refer you to the below information from our contingency plan. [https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf](https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf)

Park roads, lookouts, trails, and open-air memorials will generally remain accessible to visitors, but there will be no NPS-provided visitor services, including restrooms, trash collection, facilities and roads maintenance (including plowing), and public information.

- As a general rule, if a facility or area is locked or secured during non-business hours (buildings, gated parking lots, etc.) it should be locked or secured for the duration of the shutdown.

- The NPS will not operate parks during the shutdown – no visitor services will be provided. The NPS will not issue permits, conduct interpretive or educational programs, collect trash, operate or provide restrooms, maintain roads or walkways (including plowing and ice melting), or provide visitor information.

- If visitor access becomes a safety, health or resource protection issue (weather, road conditions, resource damage, garbage build-up to the extent that it endangers human
health or wildlife, etc.), the area must be closed. Parks may not bring on additional staff
to accommodate visitor access.

- The NPS will cease providing services for NPS-operated campgrounds, including
maintenance, janitorial, bathrooms, showers, check-in/check-out and reservations.

Visitors in campgrounds will not be asked to leave but should be advised that no services
will be available. In addition, visitors holding campground reservations for a later date
will be advised that the NPS is not operating campgrounds, including providing check-in/check-out
services during a shutdown. There is no guarantee their reserved campsite
will be ready and available should they arrive during a government shutdown.

- Park websites and social media will not be maintained. Parks will not provide regular
road or trail condition updates. As a part of their shutdown activities, park staff will post
signs notifying visitors that no visitor services, maintenance or other management activities will be conducted, and emergency and rescue services will be limited.

- At the superintendent’s discretion, parks may close grounds/areas with sensitive natural,
cultural, historic, or archaeological resources vulnerable to destruction, looting, or other
damage that cannot be adequately protected by the excepted law enforcement staff that
remain on duty to conduct essential activities.

- At the superintendent’s discretion and with approval of the Regional Director or Director,
parks may enter into arrangements with local governments, cooperating associations,
and/or other third parties (see below for concessioners and Commercial Use
Authorization holders) for donation of specified visitor services. The NPS will not reimburse third parties (through payments, franchise fee relief or any other consideration) who provide such visitor services. If NPS staff will be conducting the work using funds from a third party, funds must be transferred and deposited before the NPS may continue or resume providing visitor services. The Washington Office will provide template agreements. Agreements should not be established for a period of less than three days. Because a shutdown of park operations may take up to two days, parks should begin shutdown when the balance in the donation account falls below a two-day balance. - In general, enforcement actions should be reactive rather than proactive. Parks should not take measures to keep visitors out of an area unless access presents a serious and imminent threat to human life, safety, or health, or a serious and imminent threat to the condition of a sensitive natural or cultural resource.

Jeremy Barnum
Chief of Public Affairs/Spokesperson
National Park Service

On Dec 19, 2018, at 3:23 PM, Laing, Keith klaing@detroitnews.com wrote:

Hi Jeremy,

I’m working on an article about the potential impact of a federal
government shutdown on Michigan. Can you confirm that national parks would remain open in the advent of a shutdown, but most employees wouldn’t be there? Thanks in advance for any help that you can provide!

Keith Laing
Washington Correspondent
The Detroit News
1100 13th St. NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20005
Office: 202-662-8735
Fax: 313-222-4006

www.twitter.com/Keith_Laing
This is very well done JB.... last word needs a c

Sent from my iPhone

John M Bockmier
Director of Communications
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC
20240
202.208.3636 Office
202.897.7366 Cell

On Jan 4, 2019, at 1:42 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

See below and attached.

During the partial government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. Services that require staffing and maintenance such as visitor centers, campgrounds and full service restrooms, may not be operating.

Accessibility to parks during the government shutdown varies on a number of factors which may change at any time. Some visitor services may be available when provided by concessioners or other entities. For most parks, there will be no National Park Service-provided visitor services, such as restrooms, trash collection, facilities, or road maintenance. Visitors should go to www.nps.gov and select “Find a Park” for additional information on access to parks and sites in a particular area.

The National Park Service has signed over forty agreements since the lapse in appropriations with a number of concessioners, partner organizations, and states to provide various visitor services, including trash removal and servicing restrooms, at a number of national parks. The extent of services and duration varies by agreement and some of these donations may or may not extend for the duration of a shutdown.

The National Park Service continues to follow its contingency plan in the
absence of appropriations. The plan may be found here:

NPS leaders are in regular contact with regional staff and park managers on duty across the country. They are receiving regular updates on conditions at parks and are providing policy guidance, coordination, and support to parks.

The NPS contingency plan in the absence of appropriations provides for the ability to restrict access to national park areas for safety, health, or resource protection issues.

Per the contingency plan, if visitor access becomes a safety, health or resource protection issue (weather, road conditions, resource damage, garbage build-up to the extent that it endangers human health or wildlife, etc.), the area must be closed.

At the superintendent’s discretion, parks may close areas with sensitive natural, cultural, historic, or archaeological resources vulnerable to destruction, looting, or other damage that cannot be adequately protected by the excepted law enforcement staff that remain on duty to conduct essential activities.

**Background information:**
Example of services that could be open: a free-standing gift shop, lodge, restaurant or gas station that requires no assistance from the Park to operate. “Assistance” could include but not be limited to snow removal, working as a cashier, unlocking gates, etc. However, if a private concessionaire has worked out in advance a way to remove snow, trash, etc, without the assistance of the park, they MAY be able to continue operations.

Example of services that would not be open: a gift shop inside a visitors center would not be open because a park ranger would not be available to unlock the visitors center or to staff the visitors center. A gas station on a road inside the park where it snowed overnight making it impassable would not be open if it relies on the park for snow removal.

Example of areas that may see restricted access: Due to lighter footprint of rangers and patrols, some public lands, trails and sites may see restricted access. Some parks are in winter season and see many skiers. The parks may choose to restrict access to some areas if there is a high risk of avalanche or it’s a common spot for injuries since there will not be a regular patrol of the area. Additionally, sensitive cultural areas on all public land may see restricted access to protect the artifacts and objects.
Examples of areas we are prioritizing: We are prioritizing access to the most accessible and most iconic areas of parks and pubs.

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
Mobile: (202) 617-7973  
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On Fri, Jan 4, 2019 at 1:05 PM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:
Yes -- headed your way shortly.

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
Mobile: (202) 617-7973  
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Fri, Jan 4, 2019 at 11:21 AM Vander Voort, Faith <faith_vandervoort@ios.doi.gov> wrote:
Hey Jeremy,
John asked that I follow up with you on Parks talking points. Thank you!

--
Faith C. Vander Voort  
Deputy Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

<NPS Talkers (1).docx>
How is the partial government shutdown affecting parks financially?
NPCA estimates that the Park Service is losing $400,000 per day from entrance fee revenue. This revenue loss disproportionately harms some of the largest and most popular parks in the park system, such as the Grand Canyon, Shenandoah, Yellowstone, Yosemite and Zion, because these parks keep 80 percent of their entrance fees on site and depend on this revenue for their operating budgets. Additional shutdown costs include the opportunity cost of lost labor, the cost of postponing maintenance that can lead to further and more costly damage, and the cost of cleanup after the shutdown.
Shutdown losses: $5M so far, and rising

Rob Hotakainen, E&E News reporter   Published: Friday, January 4, 2019

NATIONAL PARKS

Tourists take photos of a snow-covered Grand Canyon in Arizona on Jan. 1. The park remains open during the government shutdown and is not collecting the $35-per-vehicle entrance fee. Anna Johnson/Associated Press

Dozens of national parks planned to raise their entry fees on Jan. 1 to help pay for long-delayed maintenance projects, but the National Park Service now is offering free admission instead.
So far, NPS has lost more than $5 million by not collecting fees during the 13-day partial government shutdown.

The losses are growing by an estimated $400,000 per day, leaving some key lawmakers on Capitol Hill none too pleased.

They say the failure to collect gate fees — which generally range from $15 to $35 per vehicle, depending on the park — will make it even harder for the agency to pay for nearly $12 billion in deferred maintenance, one of the park service's top priorities.

In addition, the park service will face more costs for cleaning up parks that it decided to keep open, with few employees on hand to supervise visitors (Greenwire, Jan. 3).

"We are already receiving reports of damage to sensitive lands and national treasures, campgrounds littered with trash, and overflowing toilets and locked restrooms," said Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.), the ranking member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, in a speech on the Senate floor yesterday (Greenwire, Jan. 2).

Rep. Raúl Grijalva (D-Ariz.), the new chairman of the House Natural Resources Committee, said the parks are suffering "for the sake of the president's ego." He said the shutdown is also hitting communities that rely on the $20 million in economic activity that parks normally generate each day during the month of January.

"President Trump and his enablers seem happy to let this shutdown grind our economy, hurt Indian Country and put our public lands at risk indefinitely," he said.

Both Leahy and Grijalva estimated the NPS losses at $400,000 a day, a number the park service did not dispute.

Jeremy Barnum, the agency's chief spokesman, said the park service
collected nearly $300 million in fees in 2018, accounting for nearly 10 percent of the agency's overall budget of $3.2 billion.

The lost fees may hit hardest at California's Joshua Tree National Park and other desert parks, which draw some of their largest crowds in late December and early January.

"All this revenue would have been generated during the busiest time of year — the Park Service is just missing out on that opportunity," said David Lamfrom, director of the California desert and national wildlife programs for the National Parks Conservation Association.

But Lamfrom and many other critics say it would make more sense to close all parks during the shutdown.

In a letter to Trump yesterday, Diane Regas, president and CEO of the Trust for Public Land, called national parks "the heart and soul of so many American communities" and said that allowing them to remain open with inadequate supervision could result in "irreversible damage and loss."

"Please do the right thing and close our national parks until full funding for staff is available," she wrote.

Meanwhile, the park service's contingency plan remains unchanged, with the agency planning to keep the parks open and "as accessible as possible" to the public for the duration of the shutdown.

The agency has not made any public statements in response to the criticism, and its acting director, P. Daniel Smith, declined to be interviewed yesterday.

"We are not able to accommodate interview requests during the lapse in appropriations," Barnum said.

While most NPS employees remain on furlough, Barnum said Smith,
along with other NPS leaders and "a small number of employees," remain on duty at National Park Service headquarters and are in regular contact with regional staff and park managers across the country.

"NPS leaders are providing policy guidance, coordination and support to parks, including working with park managers to close or restrict access to national park areas for safety, health or resource protection issues," he said.

Jeremy Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service

-- 

Lena McDowall  
Deputy Director, Management and Administration  
Ph: 202-513-7240  
Cell: 202-641-1814  
Email: Lena_McDowall@nps.gov
GOGA just put this out without our review. We are chasing down info on the Muir Woods closure, they haven't provided a brief to us on it yet.

So as you can see, ops normal at GOGA.

Andrew S. Muñoz
Acting Chief of Public and Congressional Affairs
National Park Service
Pacific West Region, Office of Public and Congressional Affairs
206 220-4260 phone | 206 475-4598 cell | andrew.munoz@nps.gov

Find us online at: https://nps.gov/pwro (public) & http://go.nps.gov/pwr (InsideNPS intranet)

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Golden Gate National Recreation Area <goga_public_affairs@nps.gov>
Date: Fri, Jan 4, 2019 at 11:54 AM
Subject: Updates to Accessible Areas During Government Shutdown at Golden Gate National Recreation Area
To: <pwr_public_affairs@nps.gov>

Updates to Accessible Areas During Government Shutdown at Golden Gate National Recreation Area

San Francisco, Calif. - Due to the government shutdown, park staff is limited to maintain health and safety operations. Visitors are asked to "Pack it In and Pack it Out" at sites with no trash removal services. Trash and bathroom services will be unavailable or closed entirely to comply with government
shutdown requirements.

An agreement with Alcatraz Cruises will continue to support park operations with visitor services ("Day Tour" only) at Alcatraz Island. A similar agreement with the Siren Canteen is in place to open Stinson Park on Friday, January 4 through Monday, January 7.

Muir Woods National Monument will be open to the public with visitor services through the weekend. The site will close on Monday, January 7. Your reservation will be automatically refunded if you purchased parking or shuttle reservations for the duration of the closure. No parking, bathrooms, or visitor services will be provided.

The Marin Headlands Holiday Traffic Plan will extend through Monday, January 28. This decision was made to maintain staff focus on health and safety operations in the park during the government shutdown.

Additional facilities and areas may close within Golden Gate National Recreation Area at any time for the health and safety of park visitors.

Stay in touch, join our mailing lists for future news and updates.
You may request alternate formats of this email by contacting goga_accessibility@nps.gov.
Last donation info that I sent a reporter.

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
Mobile: (202) 617-7973  
Facebook  Twitter  Instagram  YouTube

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>  
Date: Thu, Jan 3, 2019 at 4:59 PM  
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] shutdown  
To: Stanglin, Doug <dstangli@usatoday.com>

Doug,

The National Park Service has signed over forty agreements since the lapse in appropriations with a number of concessioners, partner organizations, and states to provide various visitor services, including trash removal and servicing restrooms, at a number of national parks. The extent of services and duration varies by agreement and some of these donations may or may not extend for the duration of a shutdown.

**Background Information/Examples (not a complete list)**
The extent of services and duration varies by agreement and some of these donations may or may not extend for the duration of a shutdown.

The Friends of Vicksburg National Military Park and Campaign have donated the necessary funds to provide for essential services at Vicksburg National Military Park during the shutdown.

Xanterra Parks and Resorts is providing funding for the grooming of oversnow roads at Yellowstone National Park during the shutdown.

The California Department of Parks and Recreation has made an in-kind donation to provide for the cleaning of restrooms and trash removal at Redwoods National and State Parks.
The State of New York is providing funding to operate the Statue of Liberty National Monument.

The State of Arizona is providing funding for restroom cleaning, trash removal, and snow removal on walkways and trails at Grand Canyon National Park.

The Bryce Canyon Natural History Association is providing funding for the staffing of the visitor center and custodial services at Bryce Canyon National Park.

Concessioner Guest Services, Inc. has provided portable toilets at several locations around the National Mall.

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
Mobile: (202) 617-7973  
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Thu, Jan 3, 2019 at 4:45 PM Stanglin, Doug <dstangli@usatoday.com> wrote:

I am a reporter for USA TODAY. I’m doing a piece on the effect of the shutdown on the national parks and am particularly focused on how local groups have stepped in.

I left a voice mail, but perhaps you could offer some help by email.

I understand that there were some formal agreements reached between the park service and particularly local nonprofits, such as those operating bookstores at visitors centers. Is that an accurate description? I am told that local groups were allowed to stay open and in return were required to help with the trash overflow problems and bathroom maintenance.

If that is a fair description, can you tell me how many such agreements have been reached and is this a national phenomenon? I know that it was particularly active in South Florida parks. I am told there were some 40 agreements with concessionaires that operate at parks across the country. Is that accurate and does that include nonprofits who run bookstores, for example?
I would appreciate any help you could offer.

I am at my desk until 5p at 703-854-5456 or reachable by email afterward at (b) (6) @gmail.com

Thanks for any help you can offer.

Doug Stanglin
Attached is latest update. Let me know if you have any questions.

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329
Jeremy,

Thanks much for this. Questions: We’re hearing from many of these partner groups that the help they’re providing, while well-intentioned, is providing only a bare-bones level of service and is not sustainable over the long term. What is the park service’s response? How much longer will the parks be able to keep operating, even with outside help? Also, some groups such as the Trust for Public Lands are calling for some or all of the parks to be closed until the government shutdown ends, to protect natural and cultural resources and public health. Is this under consideration?

If you could send a response ASAP, we’d greatly appreciate. Thanks.

John

From: Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Sent: Friday, January 04, 2019 5:13 PM
To: McCombs, Brady <BMcCombs@ap.org>; Flesher, John <jflesher@ap.org>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] AP - National Parks during shutdown

The National Park Service has signed over sixty agreements since the lapse in appropriations with a number of concessioners, partner organizations, and states to provide various visitor services, including trash removal and servicing restrooms, at a number of national parks.

The extent of services and duration varies by agreement and some of these donations may or may not extend for the duration of a shutdown.

Examples
• At Yosemite National Park in California, Yosemite Hospitality (concessioner) donated funds to cover custodial services, trash removal, and road sanding/plowing at multiple locations across the park. Mariposa County is also donating in-kind services for trash removal in other areas of the park.
• At the Statue of Liberty/Ellis Island National Monument in New York and New Jersey, the State of New York donated funds to fully operate the parks.
• At Grand Canyon National Park in Arizona, the State of Arizona donated funds for custodial services, trash removal and snow removal on walkways and trails. The Grand Canyon Conservancy (friends group) also donated funds to keep several visitor facilities open.
• At multiple national parks in Utah, the State of Utah donated funds to staff the
visitor center and provide custodial services. Parks include Zion, Arches and Bryce Canyon National Parks. Bryce Canyon also received funds from the Bryce Canyon Natural History Association (friends group) to support these services. Zion also received funds and in-kind services from Zion Forever (friends group) and Xanterra (concessioner) for
• At the National Mall and President’s Park, Guest Services Inc. (concessioner) made an in-kind donation of portable toilets at several locations. The District of Columbia is providing trash removal. The National Park Foundation (friends group) donated funds and in-kind services to repair and operate the National Christmas Tree.
• At Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming, Idaho and Montana, Xanterra Parks and Resorts (concessioner) donated funds for the grooming of oversnow roads to ensure continued visitor access.

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Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Fri, Jan 4, 2019 at 12:11 PM McCombs, Brady <BMcCombs@ap.org> wrote:

Mr. Barnum,
Good morning. Can you please give me a call to discuss the efforts by nonprofits, businesses, volunteers and local governments to keep national parks open and staffed during the shutdown. I’m working on a national AP story about the topic.

I appreciate your time. I can be reached at 801-322-3405.

Cordially,

AP
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Brady McCombs
Supervisory Correspondent
The Associated Press
Salt Lake City
801-322-3405 (office)
801-783-6619 (cell)
bmccombs@ap.org
Twitter: @bradymccombs

The information contained in this communication is intended for the use of the designated recipients named above. If the reader of this communication is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that you have received this communication in error, and that any review, dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify The Associated Press immediately by telephone at +1-212-621-1500 and delete this email. Thank you.

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All,

Happy to edit and improve as necessary.

Sarah

--

M. Sarah Creachbaum  
**Acting Deputy Regional Director -Public Use Management**  
NPS Pacific West Region  
333 Bush Street, Suite 500  
San Francisco, CA 94101-2828  
(415) 623- 2106
Inadvertently left off your address apologies.

---------- Forwarded message --------

From: Creachbaum, Sarah <sarah_creachbaum@nps.gov>
Date: Fri, Jan 4, 2019 at 2:37 PM
Subject: Summaries for JOTR, YOSA, and SEKI
To: Bowron, Jessica <jessica_bowron@nps.gov>, Obernesser, Rick <rick_obernesser@nps.gov>, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>

All,

Happy to edit and improve as necessary.

Sarah

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M. Sarah Creachbaum
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Mike Litterst  
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)  

National Park Service  
Ph: (202) 306-4166  

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA
Here is the SHEN information.
Please let me know if you need additional info or clarifications.

Thanks,
Gay

--
Gay Vietzke
Regional Director, Northeast Region
National Park Service
1234 Market Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107
215-597-5814
267-290-8177 cell
Dear Jeremy,

Thanks for your response. The story has posted, thanks for getting all this information in challenging circumstances.

https://wapo.st/2CPlHNL

Best,
Juliet

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Q: How many staffers are now working at the 418 park sites across the country, and how does that compare to its regular staffing?

A: During the current winter season there are approximately 19,000 employees in the National Park Service (NPS). Roughly 3,000 of those employees may be "excepted" from furlough during a shutdown in order to respond to emergencies involving the safety of human life or the protection of property. We estimate that up to 16,000 NPS employees could potentially be furloughed.

Q: We understand that some National Park Service staffs have conveyed concerns about the impacts of keeping the parks understaffed during this prolonged shutdown. Can you comment on this, and are any adjustments being made as the shutdown continues? It appears that the number of area closures are increasing, for example, though in many cases parts of the parks are staying open.

A: The National Park Service has signed over sixty agreements since the lapse in appropriations with a number of concessioners, partner organizations, and states to provide various visitor services, including trash removal and servicing restrooms, at a number of national parks. The extent of services and duration varies by agreement and some of these donations may or may not extend for the duration of a shutdown.

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- At Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming, Idaho and Montana, Xanterra Parks and Resorts (concessioner) donated funds for the grooming of oversnow roads to ensure continued visitor access.

Per the NPS contingency plan in the absence of appropriations, if visitor access becomes a safety, health or resource protection issue (weather, road conditions, resource damage, garbage build-up to the extent that it endangers human health or wildlife, etc.), the area must be closed. To that end, as the shutdown continues superintendents are using their discretion to close areas with sensitive natural, cultural, historic, or archaeological resources vulnerable to destruction, looting, or other damage that cannot be adequately protected by the excepted law enforcement staff that remain on duty to conduct essential activities.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
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Mobile: (202) 617-7973

[On Fri, Jan 4, 2019 at 4:10 PM Eilperin, Juliet <Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com> wrote: ]
Thanks Jeremy, this is very helpful context.

I had a few questions that I was hoping main press office would answer, but they referred me back to you. So I will include a few of them here, in case you can respond:

1. Can you provide a statement on why the Interior Department made the decision to keep the parks accessible to the public, while scaled back? I had gotten a statement from Heather about this a year ago, so worst case, I could use that, but I thought I’d see if there’s something more recent.
2. How many staffers are now working at the 418 park sites across the country, and how does that compare to its regular staffing?
3. We understand that some National Park Service staffers have conveyed concerns about the impacts of keeping the parks understaffed during this prolonged shutdown. Can you comment on this, and are any adjustments being made as the shutdown continues? It appears that the number of area closures are increasing, for example, though in many cases parts of the parks are staying open.

Thanks, Juliet

From: Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Sent: Friday, January 04, 2019 3:44 PM
To: Eilperin, Juliet <Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com>
Cc: Fears, Darryl <Darryl.Fears@washpost.com>; Michael Litterst <mike_litterst@nps.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Fatality at Yosemite NP

We estimate that there are on average six deaths a week in the National Park System including accidents like drownings, falls, and motor vehicle crashes and medical related incidents such as heart attacks.

Throughout the year, the National Park System offers a wide range of visitor experiences in unique landscapes with potential hazards that may exist at parks across the nation. Visitors can reduce their risk of injury if they plan ahead and prepare properly, select the most appropriate activity that matches their skill set and experience, seek information before they arrive at the park about hazards and environmental conditions, follow rules and regulations and use sound judgement while recreating.

**Background Information**

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Our visitors are coming to wild and natural places which they need to research in advance, prepare for adequately and understand the hazards before they go, and act appropriately, follow rules, warning signs and guidance at parks. Key points to remember are:

“Know before you go” - research the park and the activity you plan to do and potential hazards you may encounter, be realistic about your limits and of those traveling with you, identify the right equipment for your trip and test it/try it out before you go; provide your travel itinerary to someone who is not going with you so they know when you should return and who to contact if you don’t. Have a “Plan B” in case something impacts your planned activity.

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Learn more here: [https://www.nps.gov/subjects/healthandsafety/index.htm](https://www.nps.gov/subjects/healthandsafety/index.htm)

Jeremy K. Barnum
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Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
[Facebook](facebook.com) [Twitter](twitter.com) [Instagram](instagram.com) [YouTube](youtube.com)
On Fri, Jan 4, 2019 at 2:16 PM Eilperin, Juliet <Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com> wrote:

Dear Jeremy,
Just checking—any chance of getting a statement?
Thanks so much,
Juliet

From: Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Sent: Thursday, January 03, 2019 9:48 PM
To: Eilperin, Juliet <Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com>
Cc: Fears, Darryl <Darryl.Fears@washpost.com>; Michael Litterst <mike_litterst@nps.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Fatality at Yosemite NP

We’ll try to have something for you in the morning.

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service

On Jan 3, 2019, at 8:18 PM, Eilperin, Juliet <Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com> wrote:

Dear Jeremy,
Thanks so much for this, and I just had two additional questions.

We were told this accident occurred at Misty Trail, near Nevada Falls, but then I was separately told that Misty Trail is closed. Is it possible to find out if this took place on the trail, and whether the trail is closed, just so we can be accurate?

Also, we will put all of this together tomorrow morning. Would it be possible to get one overarching comment along the lines we discussed earlier today, that would put these different accidents in a broader context? Since several groups are saying that it is dangerous to keep parks open during the shutdown, it would be great to get a comment from NPS that speaks to that point. And, as I mentioned, we wouldn’t need it tonight. Tomorrow morning would be fine.
Thank you,
Juliet
Juliet,

Please see our below response to your question,

**On the record, attributable to a National Park Service Spokesperson**

On the afternoon of Tuesday, December 25, Yosemite National Park Emergency Communications Center (Dispatch) received a 911 call regarding a male park visitor with a head injury above Nevada Fall. The visitor was in the Silver Apron area, a body of water between Vernal and Nevada Falls. Rangers were on scene in less than an hour and the visitor was removed from the water. Medical attention was provided to the visitor, but he died from his injuries. The incident remains under investigation.

**Background Information**

We are not aware of another incident at Yosemite.

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
Mobile: (202) 617-7973  
FYI below.

Jeremy Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Eilperin, Juliet" <Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com>  
Date: January 4, 2019 at 11:05:29 PM EST  
To: "Barnum, Jeremy" <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>  
Cc: "Fears, Darryl" <Darryl.Fears@washpost.com>, Michael Litterst <mike_litterst@nps.gov>  
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Fatality at Yosemite NP

Der Jeremy and Mike,

New information has come to light on a couple of fronts, so I wanted to run it by you. Obviously, we don’t expect a response tonight.

First off, we understand that Park Service officials are considering reopening all parks and NPS sites as soon as this weekend, under a very reversal of the DOI Solicitor’s opinion about the current shutdown plan. Apparently FLREA funds would be used to pay for operations. So it would be helpful to know if this is accurate, and whether you will comment on it.

Second, we have gotten a first-hand account of the response to the accident at Yosemite. It appears there were a few aspects of it that posed challenges, the largest of which was that it was difficult to extricate him from the situation and bring him to the entrance of the park. There was no stretcher available, and it sounds like he was carried out on foot, using something akin to a bedsheet. We have also confirmed that he had taken his dog on the trail, which is obviously a violation of NPS regulations.

I don’t know if you can comment beyond what you’ve already said about this incident, but I at least wanted you to be aware of this information. Thanks very much,

Juliet

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Sent: Friday, January 04, 2019 3:44 PM
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Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Thanks JB

Sent from my iPhone

John M Bockmier
Department of Interior
Director of Communications
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC
20240

202.208.3636 Office
202.897.7366 Cell

On Jan 4, 2019, at 11:21 PM, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

FYI below.

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service

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From: "Eilperin, Juliet" <Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com>
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Sent: Thursday, January 03, 2019 8:06 PM
To: Eilperin, Juliet <Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com>
Cc: Fears, Darryl <Darryl.Fears@washpost.com>; Michael Litterst <mike_litterst@nps.gov>
Subject: Fatality at Yosemite NP

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Juliet,

Please see our below response to your question,

**On the record, attributable to a National Park Service Spokesperson**

On the afternoon of Tuesday, December 25, Yosemite National Park Emergency Communications Center (Dispatch) received a 911 call regarding a male park visitor with a head injury above Nevada Fall. The visitor was in the Silver Apron area, a body of water between Vernal and Nevada Falls. Rangers were on scene in less than an hour and the visitor was removed from the water. Medical attention was provided to the visitor, but he died from his injuries. The incident remains under investigation.

**Background Information**

We are not aware of another incident at Yosemite.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Jessica, Obe, Lena and Jeremy-

Below are the 5 additional park updates requested from IMR. Please let us know if you need anything else.

**Big Bend National Park**

- All park roads and trails, and the majority of river accesses are open to visitors for day use. Visitor services provided by park concessionaire Forever Resorts also remain open and operational, including the Chisos Basin Lodge and restaurant, and two gas stations. Forever Resorts has an agreement with the park to maintain trash services to these operations. River outfitters and commercial guide services remain operational via agreements with each of those service providers.

- All Visitors Centers are closed and the entrance stations are unstaffed. Permitting for backcountry camping is not available. Existing backcountry permits issued prior to 12/22 were honored. The backcountry is now closed to overnight camping, as are all roadside campsites.

- The Boquillas Port of Entry is closed due to non-essential status.

- Route 16, which is the primary access to Santa Elena Canyon and the Santa Elena boat ramp was closed 12/29 due to trash build up, sanitation issues in the bathrooms, resource damage from roadside parking, and hazards presented by pedestrian traffic on the roadway when a lesser closure at only the trailhead was attempted 12/24. The river access remains open to river outfitters with Commercial Use Authorizations via a combination lock.

- All campgrounds were closed 12/26 due to bathroom sanitation issues and trash overflow (also a hazard to wildlife).

- Individual pit toilet bathrooms have been closed at various locations.

**Glacier National Park**

- Park visitor centers and associated restrooms are closed and entrance stations are unstaffed. Vault toilets are generally open.
Most park roads are closed this time of year due to snow coverage and there is no vehicle (snow machine or bicycle) access to those roads by policy. Winter trailheads remain open. Plowing operations are continuing to support residents and inholdings. This includes the roads to Apgar Village, which is a location with private inholdings that rely on the road being maintained to access their properties. The start of the Going to the Sun Road remains open (plowed and sanded daily) for the first 10 miles on the west side of the park as far as the Lake McDonald Lodge. There is a concession caretaker that lives there year round and not maintaining the road would leave him stranded. This location is Glacier’s busiest winter trailhead and we continue to see a significant amount of visitation there. On the eastside of the park, the first part of the Chief Mountain Road also continues to be plowed and sanded, as required through an agreement with the county and due to several homes relying on this road being maintained for access to their residences. Park housing areas in Polebridge, West Glacier, Walton, East Glacier, and St. Mary continue to be plowed and sanded by park crews to allow park employees access to their homes.

Backcountry permits are no longer being issued but the backcountry is not closed and visitors have generally the same access that would normally exist this time of year.

The winter campgrounds in St. Mary and Apgar Village remain open, but are no longer being maintained. Access is limited depending on the winter conditions and these campgrounds are always in primitive status this time of year.

There is no garbage collection at trailheads but dumpsters and trash cans are available. They will have to be removed or areas closed for wildlife protection if they start to overflow.

Glen Canyon National Recreation Area

Most roads, trails, boat launches and overlooks are open and accessible. Visitor services provided by park concessioners and other entities also remain open and operational, including lodging, restaurants and food service, campground store, retail locations, concessioner provided tours and permitted CUAs.

National Park Service operated visitor centers and entrance stations are closed. The Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) has closed the Visitor Center they share with the National Park Service, the Carl Hayden Visitor Center. BOR is providing trash removal on the exterior of the Carl Hayden Visitor Center in addition to the contract that BOR has in place to service the porta-potties in the parking lot.
• Day use areas at the Chains and Wahweap Overlook have been closed due to bathroom sanitation issues and trash overflow concerns.

• Most restrooms, vault toilets, and micro-flush toilets are closed and locked, including some high visitor use areas such as Lees Ferry.

• The park has an agreement in place with City of Page, Arizona for NPS to provide janitorial and trash removal in the Horseshoe Bend Parking Lot.

Grand Teton National Park

• As of January 4, no park areas are closed as a result of the shutdown. Since the shutdown began on December 21st, the park has experienced two winter storm cycles. As a result, several short sections of roads are starting to narrow and/or become impassable, and will likely be closed during the next winter storm (anticipated for January 6th - 7th). This includes the northern section of the Moose-Wilson Road, where the park has confirmed that a seasonal resident will not be present again until late spring/early summer. This stretch of road also provides access to a popular starting point for winter recreational activities, but will likely close following the next winter storm.

• Snow plowing operations continue on other park roads in order to maintain accessibility for the protection of life and property, as well as provide continued access for employees (including excepted employees) living within park housing areas. Snow plowing of these main roads (which were turned over to the administrative control of the NPS per the January 1st, 1970, agreement with the State of Wyoming) provides critical access and thoroughfares for the northwest portion of the state, in addition to serving as one of only three points of entry to the town and surrounding communities of Jackson, WY.

• Entrance stations are closed and no backcountry permits are being issued. Visitor centers are seasonally operated and were closed prior to the government shutdown.

• Concession operations remain open and have been responsible for their own trash removal.

• The Grand Teton National Park Foundation paid for the staging and servicing of temporary restroom facilities at a high-volume/usage winter trailhead parking area, as the government restroom facilities (vault toilets) have been closed. (Note: IMR has not seen this agreement and it is not reflected in donation agreement spreadsheet -
we are working to rectify).

Rocky Mountain National Park

The Beaver Meadows and Kawuneeche Visitor Centers, as well as the Moraine Park Campground are closed. The Fall River Visitor Center, located outside the park, remains open, staffed by the Rocky Mountain Conservancy. US Highways 34 and 36 beyond the park entrances have been alternating as open or closed to motor vehicles, dependent on snow and ice conditions. As of January 4, both main roads are closed to motor vehicles due to snow and ice; pedestrians and bicyclists are continuing to use these entrances for recreation. Several areas continue to be open to vehicles and pedestrians, including the Longs Peak parking and trailhead, Wild Basin parking, Lily Lake parking and trailhead, and the Lumpy Ridge parking and trailhead. Numerous park restrooms and trash facilities have been closed due to human waste and overflowing trash. There have been periodic illegal activities during the shutdown, including illegal entries, driving around barricades, driving/parking on park vegetation, various resource damage, and drug use/arrests.

Kate Hammond  
Deputy Regional Director and Acting Regional Director  
Intermountain Region  
National Park Service  
(303) 969-2856
Apostle Islands National Lakeshore

- At the start of the shutdown, the headquarters' visitor center was closed; the Little Sand Bay visitor center was already closed for construction. The inter-agency Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center in Ashland is kept open by Forest Service agreements with cooperators. The park, including trails and the Meyers Beach vault toilet, remain open to visitors. Daily January visitation at Meyers Beach is very light and there have been no issues. On December 26, the gate to the beach parking lot was closed and locked due to 15 inches of snowfall; 10 more inches of snow are predicted to fall over the next few days and this closure will be permanent. Excepted employees on-duty monitor and inspect park buildings and facilities and monitor visitor activities to protect park resources.

- Due to warm and windy winter weather, the lake has yet to freeze so the ice caves remain inaccessible by land. If conditions change, the lake freezes, and the public perceives safe ice, then based on past seasons, over 10,000 visitors daily trek across the ice to visit the caves.

Cuyahoga Valley National Park

- All visitor facilities, including the environmental education center and public restrooms are closed. With the exception of East Rim Trail, the park's other trails and winter recreation areas remain open to visitors. During normal operations, East Rim Trail, a heavily used mountain bike trail, park volunteers monitor the trail and communicate via social media trail conditions and status to mountain bikers. Park partners (Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park, Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad and Countryside) continue to independently operate and manage partner events in partner-leased facilities.

- Excepted employees on-duty monitor and inspect park buildings and facilities and monitor visitor activities to protect park resources. Mild winter weather has resulted in higher park visitation. Consequently, incidents of vandalism, resource violations, traffic violations, drone use, etc., have been higher than usual for this time of year. The park friends group has offered to assist with managing trash collection and reopening two public restrooms.

Gateway Arch National Park

- All visitor facilities, including the Gateway Arch and the Old Courthouse are closed. The park grounds remain open to visitors. There have not been any temporary closures due to weather. Two NPS Grounds Maintenance Workers empty trash receptacles as
needed; these positions are annually funded by the park partner. Other excepted employees on-duty monitor and inspect park facilities and resources and there have been no major issues. Visitation has been average for the season.

Craig Kenkel
Acting Regional Director
Midwest Region
National Park Service
601 Riverfront Drive
Omaha, NE 68102
402-661-1520 office
440-668-2230 mobile
craig_kenkel@nps.gov
The ranger quoted in the story shared this with me and said the reporter didn't identify herself until they were finished chatting. The quote is innocuous and isn't related to the shutdown, but we've reminded the staff to be extra careful about what they say when talking to visitors.

Mike

Shutdown spares federal park rangers at site in Trump hotel

By ELLEN KNICKMEYER and STEPHEN BRAUN

WASHINGTON (AP) — Smithsonian museums are closed. There are no federal staffers to answer tourists’ questions at the Lincoln Memorial. And across the United States, national parks are cluttered with trash. Yet despite the federal government shutdown, a historic clock tower at the Trump International Hotel remained open Friday for its handful of visitors, staffed by green-clad National Park Service rangers.

“We’re open!” one National Park Service ranger declared around lunchtime, pushing an elevator button for a lone visitor entering the site through a side entrance to ride to the top of the 315-foot-high, nearly 120-year-old clock tower.

The Trump administration appears to have gone out of its way to keep the attraction in the federally owned building that houses the Trump hotel open and staffed with National Park Service rangers, even as other federal agencies shut all but the most essential services.

Amanda Osborn, a spokeswoman for the General Services Administration, which owns the building and leases it to the Trump Organization, said in an email that the shutdown exemption for the comparatively little-known clock tower was “unrelated to the facility’s tenant” — the Trump business. The agency says the law that put it in charge of the site obligates it to keep it open, even as federal Washington closes around it.

But the scene at the modest historic site at the Trump hotel building, where rangers often outnumber visitors, marked the latest episode in which Trump’s business interests have overlapped with the work of the federal government, creating at least the appearance of a conflict of interest.

A watchdog group, and frustrated tourists, questioned why a shutdown that had furloughed hundreds of thousands of workers and crippled many agencies was exempting a site within the Trump family’s business empire. The shutdown began Dec. 22, born out of an impasse between congressional Democrats and President
Donald Trump over funding for a southern border wall.

Shutdown plans at the Interior Department, which includes the park service, mandated idling all but the most essential staff.

A watchdog group, Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington, filed a Freedom of Information Act request with the GSA, seeking documents explaining why the tower was open, how it continues to be funded, and any communications between the agency and the Trump Organization, the president’s company. Trump gave up day-to-day management of the firm in 2017 but continues to receive earnings from its operations.

“At the very least, this smells funny.” Said Noah Bookbinder, the group’s executive director.

“We have not seen a satisfactory basis for why one park service property is opened when no others are,” Bookbinder said. “This raises tremendous questions about whether this property that intersects with the president’s business is getting special treatment.”

CREW is also involved in a federal lawsuit targeting the Trump hotel that could become the first test of whether presidents are restricted by the U.S. Constitution’s emoluments provision, which bans gifts from foreign and U.S. state governments to federal officials.

Completed in 1899, the Romanesque-style former post office is on the National Register of Historic Places. The GSA pays for the National Park Service to run the building’s clock tower for visits by the general public. The tower initially closed to the public after the shutdown started. The GSA noticed then that the deal under which the park service staffs the site had expired, and renewed it, and the park service reopened the tower this week, the agency said.

The GSA, which helps other federal agencies operate, said it was using money from its building fund to keep the tower open and staffed.

Up at the top of the clock tower, a single tourist walked in during a 10-minute visit. She stared out the windows at some of the capital’s best views.

With other federal sites closed to tourists or unstaffed in the shutdown, ranger Rob Lorenz said in the tower, business has been picking up “as tour operators figure it out.”

A little more than a mile away at the Lincoln Memorial, a few hundred visitors hauled themselves up the stone steps and fell hushed as they wandered at the foot of the great statue of Abraham Lincoln. Husband and wife Kaicey and Neiman Manns, history buffs visiting from Roanoke, Virginia, expressed disappointment that Ford’s Theater and the national archives were both out for them, on this trip.

Even though the clock tower was one of the few federal landmarks open and staffed in Washington, Neiman Manns said, he’d pass.
“Me personally, the Trump Hotel? I don’t see that as a real part of the history of the United States,” he said.

Anna Menezes, a newly arrived tourist from Maringa, Brazil, wasn’t aware of the shutdown and wondered why federal museums were closed and the memorial unstaffed.

Told she could visit the tower at the Trump hotel, Menezes arched an eyebrow.

“Interesting,” she said.

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Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)

National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA
Attached is the Mount Rainier closure determination.
Amanda Kaplan is working with the park on the PR.

Rene Buehl
acting Regional Chief Ranger/ Regional Law Enforcement Specialist
Pacific West Regional Office
Desk 415-623-2181
Mobile (b) (6) ...)

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Swartout, Tracy <tracy_swartout@nps.gov>
Date: Sat, Jan 5, 2019 at 9:54 AM
Subject: MORA determination doc and draft press release for PWR review/approval
To: Buehl, Rene <rene_buehl@nps.gov>, Amanda Kaplan <amanda_kaplan@nps.gov>, Sarah Creachbaum <sarah_creachbaum@nps.gov>
Cc: Curt Dimmick <curt_dimmick@nps.gov>, Palmer Jenkins <chip_jenkins@nps.gov>, Brett Hergert <brett_hergert@nps.gov>

Please see attached for our determination of closure and draft press release to go out today if possible.

Thanks,
Tracy

--

Tracy Swartout
Deputy Superintendent
Mount Rainier National Park

Mount Rainier National Park
55210 238th Ave. East
Ashford, WA  98304

360-569-6502   office
This is informational

Hi guys - this article from the News Eagle just reiterates what was in the press releases for UPDE and DEWA but also includes information from the UDC meeting last night and some fairly critical quotes from the PA Auditor General re the administration. The reporter didn’t reach out to me directly to my knowledge. Just an FYI for you.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Laurie Ramie <laurie@upperdelawarecouncil.org>
Date: January 4, 2019 at 3:53:29 PM EST
To: "Aaron Robinson (arob@ptd.net)" <arob@ptd.net>, "Al Henry (b)(6)@gmail.com" <b(6)@gmail.com>, "Andy Boyar (b)(6) @gmail.com" <b(6)@gmail.com>, "Bill Rudge (Bill.Rudge@dec.ny.gov)" <Bill.Rudge@dec.ny.gov>, Dave Dean <dean@townofdeerpark.org>, "David Peters (b)(6) @gmail.com" <b(6)@gmail.com>, "Debra Conway (b)(6) @hotmail.com" <b(6)@hotmail.com>, "Doug Case (b)(6) @gmail.com" <b(6)@gmail.com>, "Evan Padua (evan@sweetwaterguide.com)"
<evan@sweetwaterguide.com>, "Fred Peckham (b)(6)@verizon.net" <b(6)@verizon.net>, "Gay Vietzke (Gay_Vietzke@nps.gov)" <Gay_Vietzke@nps.gov>, "George Conklin "<supervisor@fremontny.org>, "Greier, Jim (b)(6)@hotmail.com" <b(6)@hotmail.com>, "Hahn, Carla (carla_hahn@nps.gov)" <carla_hahn@nps.gov>, "Hamilton, Don...
Subject: [EXTERNAL] The News Eagle article: government shutdown

By Peter Becker / Managing Editor

Posted Jan 3, 2019 at 2:49 PM

Although the current federal government shutdown affects the two local National Park units on the Delaware River, both area remain accessible to the public.

WAYNE & PIKE - Although the current federal government shutdown affects the two local National Park units on the Delaware River, both area remain accessible to the public.

The shutdown began just before Christmas, is occurring at the time when both National Park units have much less public activity.

Similar statements were issued on December 22, for the Upper Delaware Scenic & Recreational River and the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area:

“During the shutdown of the federal government due to the lapse of appropriations, national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. Park roads, lookouts, trails and grounds at Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River will remain accessible to visitors, but emergency and rescue services will be limited.
“During a government shutdown, there will be no NPS-provided visitor services including public information, restrooms, trash collection, and facilities and roads maintenance, including plowing parking lots and accesses or shoveling walkways.

Because of the federal government shutdown, NPS social media and websites are not being monitored or updated and may not reflect current conditions.

Kristina Heister, Superintendent of the Upper Delaware unit, added that all park programs have been canceled. The Roebling Bridge vehicle thoroughfare will be maintained, while the walkways will not.

UDC: Business as usual

The Upper Delaware Council (UDC), based in Narrowsburg, is also affected, since the organization receives its funding through the Department of the Interior. The UDC partners with the National Park Service in its mission to oversee the River Management Plan governing the Upper Delaware Scenic & Recreational River. The Council seeks to protect the interests of their member townships and towns along the Upper Delaware, which include private property rights within the federal river corridor.

“The Upper Delaware Council is currently continuing with business as usual on the basis that we’re a private corporation that does not operate on federal property or have federal employees on our staff,” Laure Ramie, Executive Director, said. “While we do rely on the federal funding awarded through our Cooperative Agreement with the National Park Service to implement our non-profit organization’s responsibilities under the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River Management Plan, we’ve had numerous instances of delayed access to that annual $300,000 appropriation that we’ve been able to weather,” said UDC Executive Director Laurie Ramie.

“The jeopardy is that we run the risk of not having our federal expenditures reimbursed during this shutdown period. We have received retroactive reimbursement in the past, much like the federal employees at the Upper Delaware have with their salaries, but that is not guaranteed. Therefore, the UDC board will need to decide how long we can afford to operate on our non-federal funds and potentially plan on a closure with layoffs if the shutdown exceeds that timing,” she added.

“This situation highlights the hardship that the UDC has faced with neither Pennsylvania nor New York honoring the stated intentions of the 1986 River Management Plan to contribute 20% shares each to the Council’s operational costs despite the states’ status as full voting members of this cooperative partnership,” Ramie said.

Auditor General comments

Pennsylvania Auditor General Eugene DePasquale, on December 31, commented, “As the
federal government shutdown drags into the new year, more and more Americans are going to feel the impact.”

More than 130 national parks are closed due to the shutdown.

“Couples planning their weddings in national parks that are now closed are being forced to find alternative venues,” he said. “People getting married in parks want to be there because they love these national treasures and, often, because they can’t afford to go to the Caribbean.

“This is another example of how President Trump and Congress are out of touch with real Americans, many of whom live paycheck to paycheck and are affected by the shutdown in ways the Washington elites can’t even imagine.

“Once again, I am calling for an immediate stop for paychecks to all elected federal officials until the government shutdown is resolved.”

The shutdown has forced hundreds of thousands of federal workers and contractors to stay home or work without pay. The current shutdown took place over a funding stalemate regarding a border wall or fence along the Mexican border, promoted by President Trump.

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Laurie Ramie, Executive Director  
Upper Delaware Council, Inc.  
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Brian Strack  
Associate Regional Director, PFCA  
National Park Service - Northeast Region  
1234 Market Street, SEPTA Building  
Philadelphia PA  
O - 215.597.5364 C - 267.767.3235
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National Park Service
Office of Public Affairs
Dear Adam-

Attached is the original press release and some additional information about the donation agreement which allowed Muir Woods NM to remain open up until now.

Here is an addition to the attached press release:

Thanks to donations from park concession operators Ace Parking and Muir Woods Trading Company, Muir Woods National Monument remained open during the government shutdown. The agreements will expire on Sunday, January 6 and after that date the agreements will not be renewed. On Monday, January 7, MUWO will close and no services will be provided. The National Park Service greatly appreciates their support over the past few weeks, particularly during the busy holiday season. Your reservation will be automatically refunded if you purchased parking or shuttle reservations for the duration of the closure.

Sincerely,

Charles Strickfaden
Chief, Communications and External Affairs

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Muir Woods National Monument
Fort Point National Historic Site
(415) 561-4730

Hello, my name is Adam, I write for Curbed SF.

GGNPC says that Muir Woods will close on Monday in response to the ongoing budget impasse, I'm just looking for comment on why Muir Woods in particular is closing while the other parks remain open (albeit with diminished service)?
On Fri, Jan 4, 2019 at 11:54 AM Golden Gate National Recreation Area <goga_public_affairs@nps.gov> wrote:

Updates to Accessible Areas During Government Shutdown at Golden Gate National Recreation Area

San Francisco, Calif. - Due to the government shutdown, park staff is limited to maintain health and safety operations. Visitors are asked to "Pack it In and Pack it Out" at sites with no trash removal services. Trash and bathroom services will be unavailable or closed entirely to comply with government shutdown requirements.

An agreement with Alcatraz Cruises will continue to support park operations with visitor services ("Day Tour" only) at Alcatraz Island. A similar agreement with the Siren Canteen is in place to open Stinson Park on Friday, January 4 through Monday, January 7.

Muir Woods National Monument will be open to the public with visitor services through the weekend. The site will close on Monday, January 7. Your reservation will be automatically refunded if you purchased parking or shuttle reservations for the duration of the closure. No parking, bathrooms, or visitor services will be provided.

The Marin Headlands Holiday Traffic Plan will extend through Monday, January 28. This decision was made to maintain staff focus on health and safety operations in the park during the government shutdown.
Additional facilities and areas may close within Golden Gate National Recreation Area at any time for the health and safety of park visitors.

Stay in touch, join our mailing lists for future news and updates.
You may request alternate formats of this email by contacting goga_accessibility@nps.gov.

Golden Gate National Recreation Area
Building 201 Fort Mason, San Francisco, CA 94123

Golden Gate National Recreation Area | 201 Fort Mason, GGNRA, San Francisco, CA 94123
Unsubscribe charles_strickfaden@nps.gov
Update Profile | About our service provider
Sent by goga_public_affairs@nps.gov in collaboration with

---
National Park Service
Office of Public Affairs
From: jeremy_barnum@nps.gov on behalf of News Media, NPS
To: Michael Litterst
Subject: Fwd: Updates
Date: Saturday, January 5, 2019 12:13:06 PM

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Dana Soehn <dana_soehn@nps.gov>
Date: Fri, Jan 4, 2019 at 3:19 PM
Subject: Updates
To: <newsmedia@nps.gov>, <mike_litterst@nps.gov>

I just learned a couple of updates regarding GRSM operations:

1) We closed Cades Cove campground yesterday around noon. This is one of two campgrounds normally open this time of year. Due to low use, the other campground, Smokemont, remains open. We did not have any complaints or pushback from the campers asked to leave. There were were less than 10 sites occupied yesterday. SERO was aware of closure.

2) GRSM has one trash contract which was allowed to continue operating in the park to service residents. This was decided before the shutdown occurred due to the preexisting contract and need to provide essential services to park residents. We recently learned that the contractor is fulfilling the full contract duties as normal which includes emptying all trash cans and dumpsters in the park. Therefore, we are not experiencing trash heaps outside of garbage cans.

3). We are experiencing high levels of human waste at Newfound Gap parking area (popular, high elevation overlook) and in Cades Cove.

I have not received any media inquiries, but I wanted to make sure you all were prepared with the latest information.

Thanks,
Dana

Sent from my iPhone

--
National Park Service
Office of Public Affairs
---------- Forwarded message ----------

From: Panzar, Javier <Javier.Panzar@latimes.com>
Date: Fri, Jan 4, 2019 at 2:05 PM
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] L.A. Times: Closure questions
To: Munoz, Andrew <andrew_munoz@nps.gov>
Cc: Scott Gediman <scott_gediman@nps.gov>, News Media, NPS <newsmedia@nps.gov>

Hello Andrew,

I was wondering if I could get a response to the questions below.

I also wanted to get official information about a reported death that occurred at Yosemite on Christmas day.

Thanks and take care,

Javier Panzar
Los Angeles Times
C: 213-257-4083

Thanks for all the help yesterday.

Is there any update on the situation at Yosemite regarding the litter there and bears?

And more generally speaking, what sort of long term impacts could the shutdown have on the park's habitat if it keeps on going?

Thanks and take care,

Javier Panzar
Los Angeles Times
From: Munoz, Andrew <andrew_munoz@nps.gov>  
Sent: Wednesday, January 2, 2019 3:36:12 PM  
To: Panzar, Javier  
Cc: Scott Gediman; News Media, NPS  
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] L.A. Times: Closure questions

Sorry, due to the shutdown, we don't have the staff resources to research that question.

Andrew S. Muñoz  
Acting Chief of Public and Congressional Affairs  
National Park Service  
Pacific West Region, Office of Public and Congressional Affairs  
206 220-4260 phone | 206 475-4598 cell | andrew_munoz@nps.gov  
Find us online at: https://nps.gov/pwro (public) & http://go.nps.gov/pwr (InsideNPS intranet)

On Wed, Jan 2, 2019 at 3:25 PM Panzar, Javier <Javier.Panzar@latimes.com> wrote:

Thanks.

Do you know how many campsites Joshua Tree has that are now closed?

-

Javier

From: Munoz, Andrew <andrew_munoz@nps.gov>  
Sent: Wednesday, January 2, 2019 1:23:12 PM  
To: Panzar, Javier  
Cc: Scott Gediman; News Media, NPS  
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] L.A. Times: Closure questions

During a shut down all visitor services are suspended, including servicing vault toilets. The National Park Service continues to follow its contingency plan in the absence of appropriations. The plan may be found here: https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf [doi.gov]

Andrew S. Muñoz  
Acting Chief of Public and Congressional Affairs  
National Park Service  
Pacific West Region, Office of Public and Congressional Affairs  
206 220-4260 phone | 206 475-4598 cell | andrew_munoz@nps.gov
On Wed, Jan 2, 2019 at 1:16 PM Panzar, Javier <Javier.Panzar@latimes.com> wrote:

Got it.

Can you explain the vault toilets? What about the shutdown prevents those from being emptied?

From: Munoz, Andrew <andrew_munoz@nps.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 2, 2019 1:10:16 PM
To: Panzar, Javier
Cc: Scott Gediman; News Media, NPS
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] L.A. Times: Closure questions

Javier: Due to the shutdown, we don't have the staff resources to provide additional detail at this time.

Andrew S. Muñoz
Acting Chief of Public and Congressional Affairs
National Park Service
Pacific West Region, Office of Public and Congressional Affairs
206 220-4260 phone | 206 475-4598 cell | andrew_munoz@nps.gov

On Wed, Jan 2, 2019 at 1:06 PM Panzar, Javier <Javier.Panzar@latimes.com> wrote:

Thank you Andrew.

Do you have anymore information on the vandalism at Joshua Tree? Or any details on how widespread the illegal camping and off-roading has been or the damage it has caused?

Also, how specifically does the partial shutdown affect vault toilets? What normally happens with them that is not happening now.

Thanks and take care,

Javier
Javier:

At both parks impacts from human waste includes people relieving themselves in public places, such as behind buildings, on road sides, etc. This is a health hazard that we are watching closely.

The build up of trash and litter is a significant impact to the environment. Litter also attracts wildlife to populated areas, increasing the risk of dangerous interactions between people and wildlife. For example, at Yosemite we are concerned that litter will attract bears. Thankfully no incidents have been report yet.

At Joshua Tree, the park has experienced vandalism to buildings. Illegal camping and illegal off-roading has impacted the park's natural habitat.

Park regulations remain in effect. Law enforcement rangers at both parks are on duty and enforcing closures. Individuals who violate closures are being cited. We unfortunately don't have the staff resources to compile statistics on citations at this time.

We encourage visitors to recreate responsibly, come prepared to be self-reliant, expect reduced or no visitor services, and to employ leave no trace practices such as those found here: https://lnt.org/blog/5-tips-visiting-parks-shutdown.

- Andrew

Andrew S. Muñoz
Acting Chief of Public and Congressional Affairs
National Park Service
Pacific West Region, Office of Public and Congressional Affairs
206 220-4260 phone | andrew_munoz@nps.gov

Find us on online at: https://nps.gov/pwro (public) & http://go.nps.gov/pwr (InsideNPS intranet)
Hello and happy new year!

I saw this news release out of Yosemite and was wondering if I can get more details on the "continuing issues with human waste and resource damage."

Yosemite questions: What exactly is happening with human waste, are vault toilets full, are people defecating in the park? And what resources are being damaged and how?

Joshua Tree questions:

How is the park enforcing the campground closure that was announced Monday? What kind of damage has been reported to the park?

Thanks and take care,

Javier Panzar
213-257-4083

--
National Park Service
Office of Public Affairs
Thanks Andrew.

Can you confirm how many people were working that day, with the shutdown, as compared to a normal day pre-shutdown?

Wes

On Thu, Jan 3, 2019 at 6:08 PM Munoz, Andrew <andrew_munoz@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Wes:

On the afternoon of Tuesday, December 25, Yosemite National Park Emergency Communications Center (Dispatch) received a 911 call regarding a male park visitor with a head injury above Nevada Fall. The visitor was in the Silver Apron area, a body of water between Vernal and Nevada Falls. Rangers were on scene in less than an hour and the visitor was removed from the water. Medical attention was provided to the visitor, but he died from his injuries.

We aren't releasing more detail because the incident remains under investigation, which is taking longer than usual because of the shutdown. A news release wasn't issued because of the shutdown. The visitor was not in a closed area.

Andrew S. Muñoz
Acting Chief of Public and Congressional Affairs

National Park Service
Pacific West Region, Office of Public and Congressional Affairs

206 220-4260 phone | andrew_munoz@nps.gov

Find us on online at: https://nps.gov/pwro (public) & http://go.nps.gov/pwr (InsideNPS intranet)

On Thu, Jan 3, 2019 at 2:00 PM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

--------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Wes Siler <wsiler@outsidemag.com>
Date: Thu, Jan 3, 2019 at 4:41 PM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Yosemite Death
To: <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Hey Jeremy,

So I've had a source confirm that someone died at Vernall Falls in Yosemite on Christmas day, after hiking up a closed trail. Given the shutdown, and the fact that the death hasn't yet been reported by the park, it seems like there's a story here, if not also a cautionary tale. Would love to get an account of what happened, and why a report wasn't issued (guessing the shutdown's to blame) from an official in Yosemite, if it's possible.

Hey, at least it's not another story about poop.

Appreciate your help,

Wes

--

Wesley Siler
phone: +1 323 561 7964
web: OutsideOnline.com/IndefinitelyWild
instagram: @WesSiler
twitter: @IndefiniteWild

--

Wesley Siler
phone: +1 323 561 7964
web: OutsideOnline.com/IndefinitelyWild
instagram: @WesSiler
twitter: @IndefiniteWild

--

National Park Service
Office of Public Affairs
Begin forwarded message:

From: "Bernhardt, David" <dwbernhardt@ios.doi.gov>
Date: January 5, 2019 at 3:17:57 PM EST
To: Michael Litterst <mike_litterst@nps.gov>
Subject: DRAFT

For Mr. Smith NPS

--

David Longly Bernhardt
Deputy Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20240
(202) 208-6291
Jessica:

Attached is the final version of the Secretarial order. If you want a pdf of the signed version on letterhead, let me know.

Mike

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)

National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA
Check that the verbiage reflects the most updated version.

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)

National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA
This is the version I'm planning to share with the regions tmrw. It still has changes tracked for their reference. You can accept those for a completely final version.

Jessica Bowron  
Comptroller  
National Park Service  
(o) 202-513-7138  
(c) 202-280-8329

On Sat, Jan 5, 2019 at 7:40 PM Ryan Hambleton <ryan_hambleton@ios.doi.gov> wrote:  
Memo = received. Thanks.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 5, 2019, at 7:12 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:  
Sent you the memo. Looping in Jessica for the final contingency plan.

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
Mobile: (202) 617-7973  
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Sat, Jan 5, 2019 at 7:09 PM Hambleton, Ryan <ryan_hambleton@ios.doi.gov> wrote:  
Could you please send me final copies of the signed memo and final contingency plan? Thanks.

--

Ryan Hambleton  
Deputy Assistant Secretary  
for Fish and Wildlife and Parks  
U.S. Department of the Interior
Thanks Jeremy,

Patrick do you have the original? This came in while Andrew was on lead so I don’t have it at the ready. If you don’t have it easily I can dig a bit deeper and get it.

Amanda

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 5, 2019, at 4:54 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi All,

Apologies for the delay. Could you please send us the original query to which this is responding? If you need to respond to local outlets we would recommend some tweaks reflected below.

Park staff are continuing to patrol the park and we won't have a full picture of potential impacts until after the shutdown. To assist Law Enforcement Rangers, an archaeologist was called in today to help document instances of off road driving and vandalism.

Over flowing trash and human waste around campgrounds and closed bathrooms are the primary issues we are encountering. We have also noticed increased incidents of out of bounds camping and off road driving. At multiple restrooms, including the Texas Springs Campground which has CCC era restrooms, doors have been kicked in damaging both doors and frames. A locked gate at Natural Bridge Road was also broken open.

Most visitors have been respectful of the park and because we have a partner donating funds to keep our visitor center operational, we are able to provide resource protection messaging. We believe this is helping to prevent potential negative impacts to the park.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube
On Sat, Jan 5, 2019 at 11:35 AM Kaplan, Amanda <amanda_kaplan@nps.gov> wrote:

Thanks Andrew and hi Jeremy,

If you could let us know when you respond to Kurt, that would be great. I just got a call from the park and they are getting the same questions from local media outlets as well. Once we know you've cleared these responses for NP Traveler, we will go ahead and use the same for local inquiries. I just didn't want us getting out ahead on this yet.

thanks,
Amanda

Amanda Kaplan
National Park Service
Pacific West Regional Office
909 1st Ave, 5th Floor
Seattle, WA 98104
Phone: (206) 220-4150
Cell: (206) 475-4590

On Sat, Jan 5, 2019 at 8:16 AM Munoz, Andrew <andrew_munoz@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Patrick:

If Kurt asks, let him know you have referred the inquiry to WASO and that they will get back to him.

Andrew

Andrew S. Muñoz
Acting Chief of Public and Congressional Affairs
National Park Service
On Fri, Jan 4, 2019 at 1:35 PM Taylor, Patrick <patrick_taylor@nps.gov> wrote:
Hello,
I'm checking in on the status of this. Can we proceed with the response?
Thank you

On Fri, Jan 4, 2019 at 10:16 AM Munoz, Andrew <andrew_munoz@nps.gov> wrote:
Draft response to NPT from DEVA for review.

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Taylor, Patrick <patrick_taylor@nps.gov>
Date: Fri, Jan 4, 2019 at 10:04 AM
Subject: DEVA National Parks Traveler response
To: Munoz, Andrew <andrew_munoz@nps.gov>

Draft Response:

Hello Kurt,
Park staff are continuing to patrol the park and we won't have a full picture of impacts until after the shutdown. To assist Law Enforcement Rangers, an archaeologist was called in today to help document instances of off road driving and vandalism.

Similar to most other sites, over flowing trash and human waste around campgrounds and closed bathrooms are the primary issues we are encountering. However, out of bounds camping and off road driving have noticeably increased. At multiple restrooms, including the Texas Springs Campground which has CCC era restrooms, doors have been kicked in damaging both doors and frames. A locked gate at Natural Bridge Road was also broken open.

Most visitors have been respectful of the park and because we have a partner donating funds to keep our visitor center operational, we are able to provide resource protection messaging. We believe this is helping to prevent a lot of potential negative impacts to the park.

Andrew,
How do I respond if he requests photos?

--
Patrick Taylor
Chief of Interpretation & Education
Death Valley National Park

One sees great things from the valley; only small things from the peak. - Gilbert K. Chesterton

--

Patrick Taylor
Chief of Interpretation & Education
Death Valley National Park

One sees great things from the valley; only small things from the peak. - Gilbert K. Chesterton
Good Morning Larry,

Attached is the updated NPS contingency plan. Could you please post this to the DOI shutdown site in place of the current plan at noon today. I will follow up phone to ensure we are in sync.

Thanks,

Sent from my iPhone

John M Bockmier
Department of Interior
Director of Communications
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC
20240

202.208.3636 Office
202.897.7366 Cell

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Flanagan, Denise" <denise_flanagan@ios.doi.gov>
Date: January 5, 2019 at 8:35:41 PM EST
To: John Bockmier <john_bockmier@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Timing

John,

Sure. I was already saving a PDF that fixed that and corrected where the header was inadvertently mushed into the previous bullet in case you needed it, so I attached it here. Have a good night. Denise

On Sat, Jan 5, 2019 at 8:29 PM John Bockmier <john_bockmier@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Thanks very much Denise. We should be fine. I appreciate your help. Have a nice evening.

Sent from my iPhone
On Jan 5, 2019, at 7:30 PM, Denise Flanagan <denise_flanagan@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

John,
Hi, I just got home and noticed the version of the plan I received was a word file. If you need me to send you a pdf version, just let me know. I noticed the plan version I received has a Jan 2018 vice Jan 2019 date if you want to change it. If it is posted, no worries. Thanks, Denise

Denise Flanagan, CDFM
Director, Office of Budget
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C. Street NW, Room 4108
Washington DC 20240
Phone: 202-208-5309 (Direct Line)
Email: Denise_Flanagan@ios.doi.gov

On Jan 5, 2019, at 7:13 PM, John Bockmier <john_bockmier@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Scott,

Our team is posting the revised plan on the web site... you are correct.

Thanks,

Sent from my iPhone

John M Bockmier
On Jan 5, 2019, at 7:10 PM, Scott Cameron <scott_cameron@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Yes, David, Herz emailed me, too, copying his subordinates.

John, do I assume correctly that your team will do the physical posting of the revised NPS plan?

Danny, it is my understanding that you can begin implementing this policy at once; no need to wait for the physical posting of the plan on the website.

Thanks,
Scott
Scott J. Cameron
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget
Department of the Interior

Office: 202.208.1927
Direct: 202.208.4242
Cell: 202.706.9031

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 5, 2019, at 6:20 PM, David Bernhardt <dwbernhardt@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

We’re good to go with Omb.

Sent from my iPhone
Begin forwarded message:

From: "Herz, James P.  
     EOP/OMB"
gov>
(b) (6)
Date: January 5,  
2019 at 6:17:17 
PM EST 
To: David 
Bernhardt  
dwbernhardt@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: RE: 
[EXTERNAL] 
RE: Timing

I just signed off. 
You're clear to proceed.

--

David 
Longly 
Bernhardt 

Deputy 
Secretary 

U.S. 
Department 
of the 
Interior 

1849 
C 
Street, 
NW 

Washington, 
D.C. 
20240 

(202) 
208-
NOTICE:
This electronic mail message (including any attachments) is intended for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed. It may contain information that is privileged, confidential, or otherwise protected by applicable law. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, copying or use of this message or its contents is strictly prohibited. If you receive this Message in error, please notify
the sender immediately and destroy all copies.

--
Denise Flanagan, CDFM
Director, Office of Budget
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C. Street NW, Room 4108
Washington DC 20240
Phone: 202-208-5309 (Direct Line)
Email: Denise_Flanagan@ios.doi.gov
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)

National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA
Please review and provide edits ASAP.

Dear Congressman McClintock,

I received your letter expressing concerns with the effects of the government shutdown is having on the national parks in your district. I recognize the challenges that you are facing because of this situation and I am happy to respond.

When National Park Service (NPS) funding lapsed on Dec 21 we began implementing our contingency plan which allows visitors continued access any of our roads, trails, and open-air memorials. Unfortunately, without funding it is impossible for us to provide visitor services, including restrooms, trash collection, facilities and roads maintenance, and public information.

As you stated in your letter, continued visitation at the parks without staffing for visitor services is taking a toll. Trash and waste have not been properly disposed of in many areas, causing heath and safety concerns as well as degrading our nation's most treasured public places.

In order to address these challenges, I have carefully reviewed the NPS's Contingency Plan and have determined we must immediately take specific actions to better balance our dual mandate of conserving park resources and providing for their enjoyment. NPS has already modified their Contingency Plan so that any park with an available balance of collected fees will now be able to utilize those funds for important visitor services, including restroom maintenance, trash collection, road maintenance, campground operations, law enforcement and emergency operations, and staffing entrance gates as necessary to provide critical safety information. These operations shall be maintained until such funds have reached a zero balance.

By making these improvements, we better ensure our parks are protected for future generations, while still providing appropriate opportunities for the enjoyment of the American people today.

John Tanner
Director
Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs
United States Department of the Interior
Can you print for Dan...

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)

National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA
Some initial suggested edits.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Sun, Jan 6, 2019 at 9:46 AM Ryan Hambleton <ryan_hambleton@ios.doi.gov> wrote:
  +Bockmier

  Sent from my iPhone

  > On Jan 6, 2019, at 9:42 AM, Tanner, John <john_tanner@ios.doi.gov> wrote:
  >
  > Please review and provide edits ASAP.
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  > Dear Congressman McClintock,
  >
  > I received your letter expressing concerns with the effects of the government shutdown is having on the national parks in your district. I recognize the challenges that you are facing because of this situation and I am happy to respond.
  >
  > When National Park Service (NPS) funding lapsed on Dec 21 we began implementing our contingency plan which allows visitors continued access any of our roads, trails, and open-air memorials. Unfortunately, without funding it is impossible for us to provide visitor services, including restrooms, trash collection, facilities and roads maintenance, and public information.
  >
  > As you stated in your letter, continued visitation at the parks without staffing for visitor
services is taking a toll. Trash and waste have not been properly disposed of in many areas, causing health and safety concerns as well as degrading our nation’s most treasured public places.

In order to address these challenges, I have carefully reviewed the NPS's Contingency Plan and have determined we must immediately take specific actions to better balance our dual mandate of conserving park resources and providing for their enjoyment. NPS has already modified their Contingency Plan so that any park with an available balance of collected fees will now be able to utilize those funds for important visitor services, including restroom maintenance, trash collection, road maintenance, campground operations, law enforcement and emergency operations, and staffing entrance gates as necessary to provide critical safety information. These operations shall be maintained until such funds have reached a zero balance.

By making these improvements, we better ensure our parks are protected for future generations, while still providing appropriate opportunities for the enjoyment of the American people today.

--

John Tanner
Director
Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs
United States Department of the Interior
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)

National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA
I’m just at 334-7774. Thanks.

From: Eilperin, Juliet  
Sent: Sunday, January 06, 2019 10:18 AM  
To: ‘Barnum, Jeremy’ <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>  
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] can you send those documents as soon as possible?

Thanks, I just got them. I will call you in a few minutes, after I have a chance to read through them.

It’s unclear from the materials if there’s a list of parks already to which this applies: if so, it would be very helpful to have it. As I understand, roughly 165 parks take in fees, so I’m just not sure if all of them have unobligated Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act funds.

Also, I would like a rough estimate of how many additional personnel will be back at work, given this change in policy.

And if there’s a way to estimate how much has been lost in fees since the shutdown started, that would be helpful. It’s got to be several million dollars, given how much is taken in on an annual basis, but I don’t know if you have a specific number.

So those are two immediate questions, and then I will read through the material and give you a ring. Thanks,  
Juliet

From: Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>  
Sent: Sunday, January 06, 2019 10:13 AM  
To: Eilperin, Juliet <Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com>  
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] can you send those documents as soon as possible?

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Sent them a few minutes ago. Please let me know if for some reason you haven’t received them.

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
Mobile: (202) 617-7973  
On Sun, Jan 6, 2019 at 9:55 AM Eilperin, Juliet <Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com> wrote:

Thanks, I just need to read through them so we can reconnect and I can get the story done on time.

Juliet

Juliet Eilperin
Senior National Affairs Correspondent
Washington Post
Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com
(O) 202-334-7774
(C) 202-302-3663
@eilperin
All,

Attached are documents for reference on our 11 am call. The documents include:

1. Secretarial Memo
2. Updated NPS contingency plan
3. Forthcoming press statement
4. FLREA authorized uses

For those of you reviewing this on your phone, I’ve pasted in below the two bullets added to the contingency plan.

- Parks that collect fees under the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA) will utilize available retained recreation fees balances to provide basic visitor services in a manner that maintains restrooms and sanitation, trash collection, road maintenance, campground operations, law enforcement and emergency operations, and staffing entrance gates as necessary to provide critical safety information. Parks must develop daily cost estimates for all employees and services to be supported by recreation fees for review and approval by the Director. This will include costs that parks planned to fund out of appropriations that have lapsed.

- Parks that do not collect recreation fees or have insufficient balances, the Director will determine whether available national or regional recreation fees will be allocated to support activities as described above.

The call-in for the 11 is [b](5) passcode [b](5). Talk with you in a few -

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329
From:        Litterst, Michael  
To:          Jeremy Barnum  
Subject:     Secretarial order updated  
Date:        Sunday, January 6, 2019 10:09:49 AM  
Attachments: Secretarial Order 01.06.19 1209 pm.docx

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst  
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)

National Park Service  
Ph: (202) 306-4166  

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EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA
Dear Colleagues,

This below/attached statement was shared with the regional directors this morning and is being sent for your awareness only. It will be distributed to the media at 1 p.m. EST today by the WASO Communications Office. Parks should not distribute it to the media but are free to share with employees and partners as appropriate. Media inquiries should be directed to newsmedia@nps.gov. WASO Communications Office will distribute communications guidance by separate email later today to regional contacts.

--
National Park Service
Office of Public Affairs

For Immediate Release – January 6, 2019
Contact – newsmedia@nps.gov

Statement on Protecting National Parks while Providing the American People Continued Access during the Lapse of Appropriations, attributable to P. Daniel Smith, Deputy Director, National Park Service:

“During the lapse of appropriations, the men and women of the National Park Service who have remained on duty have gone to incredible lengths to keep America’s iconic national parks as accessible as possible to the American public. Thanks to the strong relationships that many national parks have built with partners across the country, a number of states, private concession companies, and park nonprofit groups have stepped up to provide over two million dollars’ worth of donations and in-kind services to help over forty parks continue to provide key services for visitors.

“As the lapse in appropriations continues, it has become clear that highly visited parks with limited staff have urgent needs that cannot be addressed solely through the generosity of our partners.

“Over the last few days the Acting Secretary of the Department of the Interior David Bernhardt and the National Park Service (NPS) have explored a number of options to address the maintenance and sanitation issues that have arisen at a number of highly visited parks while keeping our commitment to the American public to ensure they have access to their lands.

“The NPS currently has funds derived from entrance, camping, parking and other fees collected from park visitors that would typically be used for future projects at parks. After consultation with the Office of the Solicitor at the Department of the Interior, it has been determined that these funds can and should be used to provide immediate assistance and services to highly visited parks during the lapse in appropriations.

“We are taking this extraordinary step to ensure that parks are protected, and that visitors can continue to access parks with limited basic services.
“In the coming days the NPS will begin to use these funds to clean up trash that has built up at numerous parks, clean and maintain restrooms, bring additional law enforcement rangers into parks to patrol accessible areas, and to restore accessibility to areas that would typically be accessible this time of year. While the NPS will not be able to fully open parks, and many of the smaller sites around the country will remain closed, utilizing these funds now will allow the American public to safely visit many of our nation’s national parks while providing these iconic treasures the protection they deserve.

“Visitors should go to www.nps.gov and select “Find a Park” for additional information on access to parks and sites in a particular area.”

NPS
Begin forwarded message:

From: "News Media, NPS" <newsmedia@nps.gov>
Date: January 6, 2019 at 12:31:25 PM EST
To: NPS All Superintendents <nps_superintendents@nps.gov>, NPS Regional Directors <nps_regional_directors@nps.gov>, NPS Associate and Assistant Directors <nps_associate_and_assistant_directors@nps.gov>, NPS Deputy Regional Directors <nps_deputyregionaldirectors@nps.gov>, NPS Deputy Associate and Assistant Directors <deputy_associate_and_assistant_directors@nps.gov>
Subject: Statement on Protecting National Parks while Providing the American People Continued Access during the Lapse of Appropriations

Dear Colleagues,

This below/attached statement was shared with the regional directors this morning and is being sent for your awareness only. It will be distributed to the media at 1 p.m. EST today by the WASO Communications Office. Parks should not distribute it to the media but are free to share with employees and partners as appropriate. Media inquiries should be directed to newsmedia@nps.gov. WASO Communications Office will distribute communications guidance by separate email later today to regional contacts.

--
National Park Service
Office of Public Affairs

For Immediate Release – January 6, 2019
Contact – newsmedia@nps.gov

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“Visitors should go to www.nps.gov and select “Find a Park” for additional information on access to parks and sites in a particular area.”

NPS
FYI

Sent from my iPhone

John M Bockmier
Department of Interior
Director of Communications
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC
20240

202.208.3636 Office
202.897.7366 Cell

Begin forwarded message:

From: "'Talal Ansari' via Interior Press" <interior_press@ios.doi.gov>
Date: January 6, 2019 at 1:24:08 PM EST
To: Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov
Subject: Request for Comment - BuzzFeed News
Reply-To: Talal Ansari <talal.ansari@buzzfeed.com>

Hi,

I'm a reporter for BuzzFeed News based in NYC.

This was reported in a story by the Washington Post today:
"The National Park Service will take the unprecedented step of tapping entrance fees to pay for expanded operations at its most popular sites, officials said Sunday, as the federal government shutdown threatens to degrade some of the nation’s iconic landmarks.

Under an order signed Saturday by the Interior Department’s Acting Secretary David Bernhardt and obtained by The Washington Post, park managers will be permitted to bring on additional staff to clean restrooms, haul trash, patrol the parks and open areas that have been shut during the more than two-week budget impasse. In a statement Sunday, National Park Service Deputy Director P. Daniel Smith acknowledged that the administration’s practice of keeping parks open but understaffed has become unsustainable at some of its most beloved sites."
- I wanted to ask if this was correct
- And if the order was signed by acting secretary
- And if that order is available to the press.

Thank you very much.

Regards,
Talal

Talal Ansari | BuzzFeed News | @TalalNAnsari
Office: 646-795-2532 | talal.ansari@buzzfeed.com
111 E. 18th St., 11th Floor, New York, NY, 10003
Got a confidential tip? Here's how to send it to us: tips.buzzfeed.com
Let me know how to respond. She also asked for fee balances.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Taylor, Rachael (Appropriations)" <Rachael_Taylor@appro.senate.gov>
Date: January 6, 2019 at 12:32:25 PM EST
To: "Bowron, Jessica" <jessica_bowron@nps.gov>, "Fonnesbeck, Leif (Appropriations)" <Leif_Fonnesbeck@appro.senate.gov>, "Benjamin, Darren" <Darren.Benjamin@mail.house.gov>, "Culp, Rita" <Rita.Culp@mail.house.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: updated NPS lapse contingency plan

Please provide us with the legal opinion that NPS used to determine that fee revenues could be used in a manner to supplant lapsed appropriations in this manner. Please confirm also whether this is the first time fees have been used in such a manner during a shutdown. Thanks.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone
-------- Original message --------
From: "Bowron, Jessica" <jessica_bowron@nps.gov>
Date: 1/6/19 12:24 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Fonnesbeck, Leif (Appropriations)" <Leif_Fonnesbeck@appro.senate.gov>, "Benjamin, Darren" <Darren.Benjamin@mail.house.gov>, "Taylor, Rachael (Appropriations)" <Rachael_Taylor@appro.senate.gov>, "Culp, Rita" <Rita.Culp@mail.house.gov>
Subject: updated NPS lapse contingency plan

All,

NPS has updated its contingency plan. A copy is attached, and will be published here. For quick reference, the change includes the addition of the following two bullets (bottom of page 4):

- Parks that collect fees under the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA) will utilize available retained recreation fees balances to provide basic visitor services in a manner that maintains restrooms and sanitation, trash collection, road maintenance, campground operations, law enforcement and emergency operations, and staffing entrance gates as necessary to provide critical safety information. Parks must develop daily cost estimates for all employees and services to be supported by recreation fees for review and approval by the Director. This will include costs that parks planned to fund out of
appropriations that have lapsed.
- Parks that do not collect recreation fees or have insufficient balances, the Director will determine whether available national or regional recreation fees will be allocated to support activities as described above.

Also attached is the statement NPS plans to issue shortly. Please call me directly with any questions.

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329
Bravo!!!! Working on a supportive statement by NPHA now.

Derrick

Derrick A. Crandall, Counselor
National Park Hospitality Association
1200 G Street, NW Suite 650
Washington, DC 20005

National Park Service News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Date: January 6, 2019
Contact: NewsMedia@nps.gov

Statement on Protecting National Parks while Providing the American People Continued Access during the Lapse of Appropriations, attributable to P. Daniel Smith, Deputy Director, National Park Service:
“During the lapse of appropriations, the men and women of the National Park Service who have remained on duty have gone to incredible lengths to keep America’s iconic national parks as accessible as possible to the American public. Thanks to the strong relationships that many national parks have built with partners across the country, a number of states, private concession companies, and park nonprofit groups have stepped up to provide millions of dollars’ worth of donations and in-kind services to help over forty parks continue to provide key services for visitors.

“As the lapse in appropriations continues, it has become clear that highly visited parks with limited staff have urgent needs that cannot be addressed solely through the generosity of our partners.

“Over the last few days the Acting Secretary of the Department of the Interior David Bernhardt and the National Park Service (NPS) have explored a number of options to address the maintenance and sanitation issues that have arisen at a number of highly visited parks while keeping our commitment to the American public to ensure they have access to their lands.

“The NPS currently has funds derived from entrance, camping, parking and other fees collected from park visitors that would typically be used for future projects at parks. After consultation with the Office of the Solicitor at the Department of the Interior, it has been determined that these funds can and should be used to provide immediate assistance and services to highly visited parks during the lapse in appropriations.

“We are taking this extraordinary step to ensure that parks are protected, and that visitors can continue to access parks with limited basic services.

“In the coming days the NPS will begin to use these funds to clean up trash that has built up at numerous parks, clean and maintain restrooms, bring additional law enforcement rangers into parks to patrol accessible areas, and to restore accessibility to areas that would typically be accessible this time of year. While the NPS will not be able to fully open parks, and many of the smaller sites around the country will remain closed, utilizing these funds now will allow the American public to safely visit many of our nation’s national parks while providing these iconic treasures the protection they deserve.

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

I was not able to locate the original inquiry via any email so I'm guessing it may have come to you via phone. If you can reply to Jeremy and the rest of the contacts here with any information you have that would be terrific.

thanks,
Amanda

Amanda Kaplan
National Park Service
Pacific West Regional Office
909 1st Ave, 5th Floor
Seattle, WA 98104
Phone: (206) 220-4150
Cell: (206) 475-4590

On Sat, Jan 5, 2019 at 5:08 PM Amanda Kaplan <amanda_kaplan@nps.gov> wrote:
Thanks Jeremy,

Patrick do you have the original? This came in while Andrew was on lead so I don’t have it at the ready. If you don’t have it easily I can dig a bit deeper and get it.

Amanda

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 5, 2019, at 4:54 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi All,

Apologies for the delay. Could you please send us the original query to which this is responding? If you need to respond to local outlets we would recommend some tweaks reflected below.
Park staff are continuing to patrol the park and we won't have a full picture of potential impacts until after the shutdown. To assist Law Enforcement Rangers, an archaeologist was called in today to help document instances of off road driving and vandalism.

Over flowing trash and human waste around campgrounds and closed bathrooms are the primary issues we are encountering. We have also noticed increased incidents of out of bounds camping and off road driving. At multiple restrooms, including the Texas Springs Campground which has CCC era restrooms, doors have been kicked in damaging both doors and frames. A locked gate at Natural Bridge Road was also broken open.

Most visitors have been respectful of the park and because we have a partner donating funds to keep our visitor center operational, we are able to provide resource protection messaging. We believe this is helping to prevent potential negative impacts to the park.

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
Mobile: (202) 617-7973  
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Sat, Jan 5, 2019 at 11:35 AM Kaplan, Amanda <amanda_kaplan@nps.gov> wrote:

Thanks Andrew and hi Jeremy,

If you could let us know when you respond to Kurt, that would be great. I just got a call from the park and they are getting the same questions from local media outlets as well. Once we know you've cleared these responses for NP Traveler, we will go ahead and use the same for local inquiries. I just didn't want us getting out ahead on this yet.

thanks,
Amanda

Amanda Kaplan  
National Park Service  
Pacific West Regional Office  
909 1st Ave, 5th Floor  
Seattle, WA 98104  
Phone: (206) 220-4150  
Cell: (206) 475-4590
On Sat, Jan 5, 2019 at 8:16 AM Munoz, Andrew <andrew_munoz@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Patrick:

If Kurt asks, let him know you have referred the inquiry to WASO and that they will get back to him.

Andrew

Andrew S. Muñoz  
Acting Chief of Public and Congressional Affairs  
National Park Service  
Pacific West Region, Office of Public and Congressional Affairs  
206 220-4260 phone | 206 475-4598 cell | andrew.munoz@nps.gov  
Find us online at: https://nps.gov/pwro (public) & http://go.nps.gov/pwr (insideNPS intranet)

On Fri, Jan 4, 2019 at 1:35 PM Taylor, Patrick <patrick_taylor@nps.gov> wrote:

Hello,  
I'm checking in on the status of this. Can we proceed with the response?  
Thank you

On Fri, Jan 4, 2019 at 10:16 AM Munoz, Andrew <andrew_munoz@nps.gov> wrote:

Draft response to NPT from DEVA for review.

--------- Forwarded message ---------  
From: Taylor, Patrick <patrick_taylor@nps.gov>  
Date: Fri, Jan 4, 2019 at 10:04 AM  
Subject: DEVA National Parks Traveler response  
To: Munoz, Andrew <andrew_munoz@nps.gov>

Draft Response:

Hello Kurt,  
Park staff are continuing to patrol the park and we won't have a full
picture of impacts until after the shutdown. To assist Law Enforcement Rangers, an archaeologist was called in today to help document instances of off road driving and vandalism.

Similar to most other sites, over flowing trash and human waste around campgrounds and closed bathrooms are the primary issues we are encountering. However, out of bounds camping and off road driving have noticeably increased. At multiple restrooms, including the Texas Springs Campground which has CCC era restrooms, doors have been kicked in damaging both doors and frames. A locked gate at Natural Bridge Road was also broken open.

Most visitors have been respectful of the park and because we have a partner donating funds to keep our visitor center operational, we are able to provide resource protection messaging. We believe this is helping to prevent a lot of potential negative impacts to the park.

Andrew,
How do I respond if he requests photos?

--
Patrick Taylor
Chief of Interpretation & Education
Death Valley National Park

One sees great things from the valley; only small things from the peak. - Gilbert K. Chesterton

--
Patrick Taylor
Chief of Interpretation & Education
Death Valley National Park

One sees great things from the valley; only small things from the peak. - Gilbert K. Chesterton
Hi Tommy,

Sharing the below statement for your awareness.

Best,

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1207/updatelapse.htm
remained on duty have gone to incredible lengths to keep America’s iconic national parks as accessible as possible to the American public. Thanks to the strong relationships that many national parks have built with partners across the country, a number of states, private concession companies, and park nonprofit groups have stepped up to provide millions of dollars’ worth of donations and in-kind services to help over forty parks continue to provide key services for visitors.

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FYI below.

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
Mobile: (202) 617-7973  
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Derrick Crandall <dcrandall@funoutdoors.com>  
Date: Sun, Jan 6, 2019 at 2:13 PM  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: FYI: Statement on Protecting National Parks while Providing the American People Continued Access during the Lapse of Appropriations  
To: Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>  
Cc: Paul (Dan) Smith <paul_smith@nps.gov>

Thanks. I expect to deliver strong statement of support by NPHA very soon. Also likely to get supportive ORR statement.

Derrick

Sent from my Samsung Galaxy smartphone.

-------- Original message --------
From: "Barnum, Jeremy" <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>  
Date: 1/6/19 2:07 PM (GMT-05:00)  
To: Derrick Crandall <dcrandall@funoutdoors.com>  
Cc: "Paul (Dan) Smith" <paul_smith@nps.gov>  
Subject: FYI: Statement on Protecting National Parks while Providing the American People Continued Access during the Lapse of Appropriations

Mr. Crandall,
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Date: January 6, 2019
Contact: NewsMedia@nps.gov

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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.

This email was sent to jeremy_barnum@nps.gov
National Park Service, 1849 C Street NW, Washington, DC 20240, USA
Unsubscribe
Hello. I have a couple of follow-up questions.

How much of these funds for future projects be used? In other words, how much money will NPS be using for these clean-up services?

Which national parks will these funds be used for?

Thank you.

Nancy Trejos
Travel Writer
USA TODAY
1633 Broadway, 25th Floor
New York, NY 10019
Office: 212-715-5472
Mobile: 646-285-7595
ntrejos@usatoday.com
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Thanks Jeremy

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 6, 2019, at 2:16 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

FYI

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: National Park Service <newsmedia@nps.gov>
Date: Sun, Jan 6, 2019 at 2:05 PM
Subject: Statement on Protecting National Parks while Providing the American People Continued Access during the Lapse of Appropriations
To: <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Date: January 6, 2019
Contact: NewsMedia@nps.gov

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We are very close to issuing this statement – some tweaking likely. But if you have media interest and want to paraphrase this, or refer them to me (cell (b) (6) , feel free to do so:

The National Park Hospitality Association offers our strong support for the decision made today by the U.S. Department of the Interior to allow use of funds collected from park visitors under the authority of the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act to protect our parks and park visitors during the lapse in park appropriations. NPHA has actively supported fee retention by federal recreation providers and use of collected funds for visitor-related purposes. That position is clearly reflected in 16 U.S. Code Chapter 87 - Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement (FLREA).

NPHA also strongly supports learning from experiences arising from federal shutdowns where parks and park visitors are unintended victims of the inability of the White House and the Congress to reach agreement on appropriated funding. The October 2013 shutdown was painful to millions of Americans who were denied entry to parks. That shutdown cost concessioners, thousands of their employees and gateway communities millions of dollars. Congress eventually paid furloughed federal workers but not those partners to parks that also suffered. We welcomed the commitment of this Administration to avoid a repeat of the draconian action of 2013 and its receptivity to more than 50 agreements involving states, local communities, concessioners and others to maintain access to parks and underwrite key services like law enforcement, trash, restrooms and more. There are great success stories across the nation – at the Statue of Liberty and Yellowstone National Park, the Grand Canyon and Alcatraz. But some park units were unable to forge and sustain these partnerships and now face a needless choice between closure or allowing resource damage and social conflict. Interior’s action provides a new valuable and logical tool, opening up limited access to more than $400 million in non-appropriated funds paid by park visitors to underwrite visitor services but not yet obligated.

About the National Park Hospitality Association:
The National Park Hospitality Association (NPHA) – is the national trade association of the businesses that provide lodging, food services, gifts and souvenirs, equipment rentals, transportation and other visitor services in the National Park System. Concessioners have played an important role in creating lasting national park memories for more than 125 years. Concessioners operate in more than 100 national park units with combined sales exceeding $1.5 billion annually and $150+ million+ in franchise and related fees paid to the National Park Service each year. The in-park concessioner workforce of some 25,000 persons assists visitors an estimated 100 million times annually. Information on national park concessioners is at www.parkpartners.org.

Derrick A. Crandall, Counselor
Thanks. I expect to deliver strong statement of support by NPHA very soon. Also likely to get supportive ORR statement.

Derrick
National Park Service News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Date: January 6, 2019
Contact: NewsMedia@nps.gov

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Jeremy K. Barnum
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Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

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We are very close to issuing this statement – some tweaking likely. But if you have media interest and want to paraphrase this, or refer them to me (cell 703-624-0495), feel free to do so:

The National Park Hospitality Association offers our strong support for the decision made today by the U.S. Department of the Interior to allow use of funds collected from park visitors under the authority of the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act to protect our parks and park visitors during the lapse in park appropriations. NPHA has actively supported fee retention by federal recreation providers and use of collected funds for visitor-related purposes. That position is clearly reflected in 16 U.S. Code Chapter 87 - Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement (FLREA).

NPHA also strongly supports learning from experiences arising from federal shutdowns where parks and park visitors are unintended victims of the inability of the White House and the Congress to reach agreement on appropriated funding. The October 2013 shutdown was painful to millions of Americans who were denied entry to parks. That shutdown cost concessioners, thousands of their employees and gateway communities millions of dollars. Congress eventually paid furloughed federal workers but not those partners to parks that also suffered. We welcomed the commitment of this Administration to avoid a repeat of the draconian action of 2013 and its receptivity to more than 50 agreements involving states, local communities, concessioners and others to maintain access to parks and underwrite key services like law enforcement,
trash, restrooms and more. There are great success stories across the nation – at the Statue of Liberty and Yellowstone National Park, the Grand Canyon and Alcatraz. But some park units were unable to forge and sustain these partnerships and now face a needless choice between closure or allowing resource damage and social conflict. Interior’s action provides a new valuable and logical tool, opening up limited access to more than $400 million in non-appropriated funds paid by park visitors to underwrite visitor services but not yet obligated.

About the National Park Hospitality Association:

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Derrick A. Crandall, Counselor
National Park Hospitality Association
1200 G Street, NW  Suite 650
Washington, DC 20005

From: Derrick Crandall
Sent: Sunday, January 6, 2019 2:14 PM
To: Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Cc: Paul (Dan) Smith <paul_smith@nps.gov>
Subject: Re: FYI: Statement on Protecting National Parks while Providing the American People Continued Access during the Lapse of Appropriations

Thanks. I expect to deliver strong statement of support by NPHA very soon. Also likely to get supportive ORR statement.
Sent from my Samsung Galaxy smartphone.

-------- Original message --------

From: "Barnum, Jeremy" <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>

Date: 1/6/19 2:07 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: Derrick Crandall <dcrandall@funoutdoors.com>

Cc: "Paul (Dan) Smith" <paul_smith@nps.gov>

Subject: FYI: Statement on Protecting National Parks while Providing the American People Continued Access during the Lapse of Appropriations

Mr. Crandall,

I'm sharing the below NPS news release for your awareness at the request of NPS Deputy Director Smith.

Best regards,

Jeremy K. Barnum

Acting Assistant Director for Communications

National Park Service

Office: (202) 513-7262

Mobile: (202) 617-7973
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Date: January 6, 2019
Contact: NewsMedia@nps.gov

Statement on Protecting National Parks while Providing the American People Continued Access during the Lapse of Appropriations, attributable to P. Daniel Smith, Deputy Director, National Park Service:

“During the lapse of appropriations, the men and women of the National Park Service who have remained on duty have gone to incredible lengths to keep America’s iconic national parks as accessible as possible to the American public. Thanks to the strong relationships that many national parks have built with partners across the country, a number of states, private concession companies, and park nonprofit groups have stepped up to provide millions of dollars’ worth of donations and in-kind services to help over forty parks continue to provide key services for visitors.

“As the lapse in appropriations continues, it has become clear that highly visited parks with limited staff have urgent needs that cannot be addressed solely through the generosity of our partners.
“Over the last few days the Acting Secretary of the Department of the Interior David Bernhardt and the National Park Service (NPS) have explored a number of options to address the maintenance and sanitation issues that have arisen at a number of highly visited parks while keeping our commitment to the American public to ensure they have access to their lands.

“The NPS currently has funds derived from entrance, camping, parking and other fees collected from park visitors that would typically be used for future projects at parks. After consultation with the Office of the Solicitor at the Department of the Interior, it has been determined that these funds can and should be used to provide immediate assistance and services to highly visited parks during the lapse in appropriations.

“We are taking this extraordinary step to ensure that parks are protected, and that visitors can continue to access parks with limited basic services.

“In the coming days the NPS will begin to use these funds to clean up trash that has built up at numerous parks, clean and maintain restrooms, bring additional law enforcement rangers into parks to patrol accessible areas, and to restore accessibility to areas that would typically be accessible this time of year. While the NPS will not be able to fully open parks, and many of the smaller sites around the country will remain closed, utilizing these funds now will allow the American public to safely visit many of our nation’s national parks while providing these iconic treasures the protection they deserve.

“Visitors should go to www.nps.gov and select “Find a Park” for additional information on access to parks and sites in a particular area.”

NPS

www.nps.gov

About the National Park Service. More than 20,000 National Park Service employees who care for America’s 418 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. Visit us at http://www.nps.gov, on Facebook www.facebook.com/nationalparkservice, Twitter www.twitter.com/natlparkservice, and YouTube www.youtube.com/nationalparkservice.

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

This email was sent to jeremy_barnum@nps.gov
National Park Service, 1849 C Street NW, Washington, DC 20240, USA
Thanks Jeremy, that's really helpful. There have also been reports today that the Interior Department's acting secretary David Bernhardt has taken steps to allow park managers to tap entrance fees for national parks during the government shutdown. Do you have any further information on this?

Best,
Harriet

On Sun, Jan 6, 2019 at 3:17 PM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Harriet,

The National Park Service has confirmed seven deaths in the National Park System since Dec. 22. We believe four of those deaths were suicides, but out of respect for the families of the deceased we are not providing further information.

I have provided information on the other three fatalities below.

Over the course of the year there an average six deaths a week in the National Park System including accidents like drownings, falls, and motor vehicle crashes and medical related incidents such as heart attacks.

Throughout the year, the National Park System offers a wide range of visitor experiences in unique landscapes with potential hazards that may exist at parks across the nation. Visitors can reduce their risk of injury if they plan ahead and prepare properly, select the most appropriate activity that matches their skill set and experience, seek information before they arrive at the park about hazards and environmental conditions, follow rules and regulations and use sound judgement while recreating.

While some national park areas are accessible to the public during the lapse in federal appropriations, the National Park Service (NPS) is unable to fully staff the properties under its management. It is not feasible to close or otherwise prohibit all access to all areas managed by the NPS. For most parks, there will be no NPS-provided visitor services, such as restrooms, trash collection, facilities, or road maintenance and current park alerts and conditions may not be up to date. Emergency and rescue services will be limited. Park visitors are advised to use caution if choosing to enter NPS-managed areas
as hazardous or dangerous conditions may exist.

If visitor access becomes a safety, health or resource protection issue (weather, road conditions, resource damage, garbage build-up to the extent that it endangers human health or wildlife, etc.), park areas will be closed.

**Background Information**

Our visitors are coming to wild and natural places which they need to research in advance, prepare for adequately and understand the hazards before they go, and act appropriately, follow rules, warning signs and guidance at parks. Key points to remember are:

“Know before you go” - research the park and the activity you plan to do and potential hazards you may encounter, be realistic about your limits and of those traveling with you, identify the right equipment for your trip and test it/try it out before you go; provide your travel itinerary to someone who is not going with you so they know when you should return and who to contact if you don’t. Have a “Plan B” in case something impacts your planned activity.

“Responsible decisions” – Make responsible decisions on your trip; turn around if weather, your health or others, or environmental conditions change. Stay on trail and don’t change plans. Follow the rules and regulations.

Learn more here: [https://www.nps.gov/subjects/healthandsafety/index.htm](https://www.nps.gov/subjects/healthandsafety/index.htm)

**Yosemite NP Statement**

On the afternoon of Tuesday, December 25, Yosemite National Park Emergency Communications Center (Dispatch) received a 911 call regarding a male park visitor with a head injury above Nevada Fall. The visitor was in the Silver Apron area, a body of water between Vernal and Nevada Falls. Rangers were on scene in less than an hour and the visitor was removed from the water. Medical attention was provided to the visitor, but he died from his injuries.

We aren't releasing more detail because the incident remains under investigation, which is taking longer than usual because of the shutdown. A news release wasn't issued because of the shutdown. The visitor was not in a closed area.
Great Smoky Mountains National Park Statement

A woman was struck and killed by a falling tree in Great Smoky Mountains National Park on Thursday, December 27, 2018. The accident occurred on Porter Creek Trail amid high winds.

Laila Jiwani, age 42 from Plano, Texas, was in the park hiking with her husband and three children. One of the children, age 6, was injured and airlifted to UT Medical Center with non-life threatening injuries.

No further details regarding the incident are available at this time.

Statement from Coconino County Sheriff’s Office on Horseshoe Bend (Glen Canyon National Recreation Area)


Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Sun, Jan 6, 2019 at 1:45 PM Torry, Harriet <harriet.torry@wsj.com> wrote:

Hi Jeremy,
I'm a reporter with the Wall Street Journal and I'm writing about the government shutdown today. I saw news reports about three deaths at national parks since the start of the shutdown and I just wanted to ask whether that's accurate? Do you know how many deaths have occurred since Friday?
Best wishes,
Harriet

-------------------
Harriet Torry
Reporter | The Wall Street Journal
Desk: 202-862-6601 | Cell: 202-304-9076
harriet.torry@wsj.com @HarrietTorry
Good thanks

Rob Hotakainen
National parks, oceans and fisheries reporter
E&E NEWS
rhotakainen@eenews.net
202-446-0477
Twitter: @HotakainenRob
122 C Street NW, 7th floor, Washington, DC, 20001
www.eenews.net | @EENewsUpdates
Greenwire, E&E Daily, E&E News PM, Climatewire, Energywire

On Jan 6, 2019, at 3:29 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

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Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
On Sun, Jan 6, 2019 at 10:05 AM Rob Hotakainen <rhotakainen@eenews.net> wrote:

Hi Jeremy, I’m doing a story on the seven deaths in the parks since the shutdown. Can you confirm these numbers attributed to you in last two paragraphs (see below)? Also do you want to say anything about safety overall or dangers public may face in parks during shutdown? And finally do you want to comment on the investigation into the death at yosemite being slowed down due to the shutdown? I’m trying to reach Andrew Munoz too but have not heard back.

Thanks, rob

The first death occurred on Christmas Eve, when a 14-year-old girl fell to her death at Glen Canyon National Park in Arizona.

Her body was found 700 feet below the Horseshoe Bend scenic overlook, USA Today reported. The death is believed to have been accidental.

On Christmas Day a man fell into a river in California’s Yosemite National Park and died. Police believe he suffered a head injury in the fall.

On December 29, high winds brought down a tree in Great Smoky Mountains National Park in Tennessee. The tree fell onto a 42-year-old woman, killing her.

National Park Service spokesman Jeremy Barnum told the publication that seven deaths in total occurred in national parks since the shutdown, with four of those killed believed to have taken their own lives.

He said that on average, six people a week die in the national parks system, with automobile crashes, falls, drowning and suicide the top causes of death.
The National Park Hospitality Association expresses strong support for the decision made today by the U.S. Department of the Interior to use funds collected from park visitors under the authority of the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act to protect our parks and park visitors during the lapse in park appropriations. NPHA has actively supported fee retention by federal recreation providers and use of collected funds for visitor-related purposes. That position is clearly reflected in 16 U.S. Code Chapter 87 - Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement (FLREA).

NPHA also strongly supports learning from experiences arising from federal shutdowns where parks and park visitors are unintended victims of the inability of the White House and the Congress to reach agreement on appropriated funding. The October 2013 shutdown was painful to millions of Americans who were denied entry to parks. That shutdown cost concessioners, thousands of their employees and gateway communities millions of dollars. Congress eventually paid furloughed federal workers but not those partners to parks that also suffered. We welcomed the commitment of this Administration to avoid a repeat of the draconian action of 2013 and its receptivity to more than 50 agreements involving states, local communities, concessioners and others to maintain access to parks and underwrite key services like law enforcement, trash, restrooms and more. There are great success stories across the nation – at the Statue of Liberty and Yellowstone National Park, the Grand Canyon and Alcatraz. But some park units were unable to forge and sustain these partnerships and now face a needless choice between closure or allowing resource damage and social conflict. Interior’s action provides a new valuable and logical tool, opening up limited access to more than $400 million in non-appropriated funds paid by park visitors to underwrite visitor services but not yet obligated.

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A news release on this topic is attached.

Derrick
Derrick A. Crandall, Counselor
National Park Hospitality Association
1200 G Street, NW  Suite 650
Washington, DC 20005
STLI and CACL are 100% funded by NY State and therefore has been fully operational as usual since the shut down began.

Attached is the info you requested on Acadia, Gateway, and Independence.

Thanks,
Gay

--
Gay Vietzke
Regional Director, Northeast Region
National Park Service
1234 Market Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107
215-597-5814
Dear Colleagues,

Most of you should have already received the below/attached NPS statement about updates to the NPS contingency plan, but sharing just in case. The statement has been shared with national media.

We recognize that this is an extraordinary step in extraordinary circumstances that will require time and careful effort in implementation and communication. We are also very cognizant that it comes at a time where excepted personnel have already faced numerous unique challenges during the ongoing lapse in appropriations.

As parks begin work to identify their available balances of FLREA funds, their immediate maintenance, health, and safety needs, and the staff and resources needed to address those needs, we know that parks are also likely be asked to speculate if/how this new policy will affect their day-to-day and long-term operations.

In order to assist parks as much as possible with those inevitable questions and communications needs, please see the below initial communications guidance discussed during the RD call.

While parks should not distribute the below/attached statement to the media, they are free to share with employees and partners as appropriate.

All media inquiries related to the updated contingency plan should be directed to newsmedia@nps.gov.

For park-specific questions, we recommend the following interim guidance until parks have made decisions on changes to accessibility and services at their respective parks:

- General park statement: "We are reviewing the updated contingency plan and are determining the appropriate next steps for park XX."
- Refer to the Deputy Director's statement at https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1207/updatelapse.htm and the contingency plan available at doi.gov/shutdown.
- Refer all other media queries to newsmedia@nps.gov.
- Interviews should be avoided during the lapse in appropriations except in cases of public safety, emergencies, etc.
- Please continue to provide information as appropriate information on current conditions, health, and safety at parks.

WASO will distribute further guidance in the coming days for parks to update basic website...
alerts and social media updates as there are changes to park accessibility and available services.

Please let me know if you have any questions or if Mike and I can be of assistance.

Best regards,

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1207/updatelapse.htm
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NPS

www.nps.gov

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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 h
Thanks, Jeremy. Is it possible to post this guidance on the WASO shutdown google drive? We're struggling a lot with continuity as excepted folks rotate in and out and its helpful if there's one place where people can go for the latest information. Thanks for all you are doing.

On a different topic, the newly elected Congressman Neguse for Rocky Mountain contacted Superintendent Darla Sidles and is planning to visit the park tomorrow morning and meet with Darla. She learned he is immediately thereafter doing a town hall in Estes Park to talk about impacts of the shutdown on the park and park staff. Can you help Darla figure out what she can and can't say to the Congressman or someone from leg affairs working?

Kate Hammond
Deputy Regional Director and Acting Regional Director
Intermountain Region
National Park Service
(303) 969-2856

On Sun, Jan 6, 2019 at 2:55 PM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

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- Interviews should be avoided during the lapse in appropriations except in cases of public safety, emergencies, etc.
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WASO will distribute further guidance in the coming days for parks to update basic website alerts and social media updates as there are changes to park accessibility and available services.

Please let me know if you have any questions or if Mike and I can be of assistance.

Best regards,

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
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[Facebook](https://www.facebook.com)  
[Instagram](https://www.instagram.com)  
[YouTube](https://www.youtube.com)

[https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1207/updatelapse.htm](https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1207/updatelapse.htm)
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NPS

www.nps.gov


EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™
The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our
From: Rob Hotakainen
To: Barnum, Jeremy
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Statement on Protecting National Parks while Providing the American People Continued Access during the Lapse of Appropriations
Date: Sunday, January 6, 2019 3:39:59 PM

post reports “hundreds” could be affected by this (See below) You have no estimate of the scale? Dozens, hundreds, thousands? Would help readers understand the importance of this or put it in some sort of perspective. Also I’ve seen it reported several times that 80 percent of workforce is now furloughed — is that number correct? Thanks, rob

A Park Service official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to be candid, said the Interior Department’s solicitor authorized the move in an opinion but did not provide the document. This official did not specify how many agency employees would return to work under the revised contingency plan, but it could number in the hundreds. According to official estimates, as many as 16,000 of the Park Service’s 20,000-person winter workforce is furloughed.

Rob Hotakainen
National parks, oceans and fisheries reporter
E&E NEWS
rhotakainen@eenews.net
202-446-0477
Twitter: @HotakainenRob
122 C Street NW, 7th floor, Washington, DC, 20001
www.eenews.net | @EENewsUpdates
Greenwire, E&E Daily, E&E News PM, Climatewire, Energywire

On Jan 6, 2019, at 3:10 PM, Rob Hotakainen <rhotakainen@eenews.net> wrote:

Good thanks, but safe to assume it could involve hundreds or thousands of employees returning to work?

Rob Hotakainen
National parks, oceans and fisheries reporter
E&E NEWS
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Twitter: @HotakainenRob
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Greenwire, E&E Daily, E&E News PM, Climatewire, Energywire

On Jan 6, 2019, at 3:02 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Rob,

Please see below reference from the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act which speaks to future projects.
(A) repair, maintenance, and facility enhancement related directly to visitor enjoyment, visitor access, and health and safety;
(B) interpretation, visitor information, visitor service, visitor needs assessments, and signs;
(C) habitat restoration directly related to wildlife-dependent recreation that is limited to hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, or photography;
(D) law enforcement related to public use and recreation;
(E) direct operating or capital costs associated with the recreation fee program; and
(F) a fee management agreement established under section 6805(a) of this title or a visitor reservation service.

We are unable to estimate costs or parks that may be involved until parks have identified their available balances of FLREA funds, their immediate maintenance, health, and safety needs, and the staff and resources needed to address those needs.

Best,

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Sun, Jan 6, 2019 at 1:08 PM Rob Hotakainen <rhotakainen@eenews.net> wrote:

What’s meant by “future projects?” Is that deferred maintenance? Also how much Is NPS spending on this effort and how many parks are involved? Thanks, rob

Rob Hotakainen
National parks, oceans and fisheries reporter
E&E NEWS
rhotakainen@eenews.net
202-446-0477
Twitter: @HotakainenRob
Statement on Protecting National Parks while Providing the American People Continued Access during the Lapse of Appropriations, attributable to P. Daniel Smith, Deputy Director, National Park Service:

“During the lapse of appropriations, the men and women of the National Park Service who have remained on duty have gone to incredible lengths to keep America’s iconic national parks as accessible as possible to the American public. Thanks to the strong relationships that many
national parks have built with partners across the country, a number of states, private concession companies, and park nonprofit groups have stepped up to provide millions of dollars’ worth of donations and in-kind services to help over forty parks continue to provide key services for visitors.

“As the lapse in appropriations continues, it has become clear that highly visited parks with limited staff have urgent needs that cannot be addressed solely through the generosity of our partners.

“Over the last few days the Acting Secretary of the Department of the Interior David Bernhardt and the National Park Service (NPS) have explored a number of options to address the maintenance and sanitation issues that have arisen at a number of highly visited parks while keeping our commitment to the American public to ensure they have access to their lands.

“The NPS currently has funds derived from entrance, camping, parking and other fees collected from park visitors that would typically be used for future projects at parks. After consultation with the Office of the Solicitor at the Department of the Interior, it has been determined that these funds can and should be used to provide immediate assistance and services to highly visited parks during the lapse in appropriations.

“We are taking this extraordinary step to ensure that parks are protected, and that visitors can continue to access parks with limited basic services.

“In the coming days the NPS will begin to use these funds to clean up trash that has built up at numerous parks, clean and maintain restrooms, bring additional law enforcement rangers into parks to patrol accessible areas, and to restore accessibility to areas that would typically be accessible this time of year. While the NPS will not be able to fully open parks, and many of the smaller sites around the country will remain closed, utilizing these funds now will allow the American public to safely visit many of our nation’s national parks while providing these iconic treasures the protection they deserve.

“Visitors should go to www.nps.gov and select “Find a Park” for additional information on access to parks and sites in a particular area.”

NPS

www.nps.gov
About the National Park Service. More than 20,000 National Park Service employees who care for America’s 418 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. Visit us at http://www.nps.gov, on Facebook www.facebook.com/nationalparkservice, Twitter www.twitter.com/natlparkservice, and YouTube www.youtube.com/nationalparkservice.

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

This email was sent to rhotakainen@eenews.net
National Park Service, 1849 C Street NW,
Washington, DC 20240, USA
Unsubscribe
Great thank you!

Miranda Green
202-999-0660
Mgreen@thehill.com
@mirandacgreen

On Jan 6, 2019, at 9:17 PM, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Of course. Assumed you were on it already. Adding you to the list may be delayed during the shutdown so please feel free to reach out if you think you haven’t received something.

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service

On Jan 6, 2019, at 5:47 PM, Miranda Green <mgreen@thehill.com> wrote:

Thanks Jeremy, can you put me on your press release blast list please? For the future.

Best,
Miranda

Miranda Green
202-999-0660
Mgreen@thehill.com
@mirandacgreen

On Jan 6, 2019, at 5:40 PM, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Miranda,

Making sure you saw our statement below.

https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1207/updatelapse.htm

Statement on Protecting National Parks while Providing the American People Continued Access
“During the lapse of appropriations, the men and women of the National Park Service who have remained on duty have gone to incredible lengths to keep America’s iconic national parks as accessible as possible to the American public. Thanks to the strong relationships that many national parks have built with partners across the country, a number of states, private concession companies, and park nonprofit groups have stepped up to provide over two million dollars’ worth of donations and in-kind services to help over forty parks continue to provide key services for visitors.

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Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service

On Jan 6, 2019, at 4:12 PM, Miranda Green <mgreen@thehill.com> wrote:

Hi,
I'm looking to get a comment from NPS to confirm today's Washington Post story that Acting Secretary David Bernhardt has directed NPS to use park fees to keep national parks running and maintained.

Can you also provide a statement on the reason for the decision and a response to concerns that the stable is illegal.

Thanks,
Miranda


--
Miranda Green
Energy and Environment Reporter, The Hill
202-999-0660
mgreen@thehill.com
@mirandaegreen
Aloha
FYI we have been advised the Sovereign Hawaiian nation has called HAVO PIN dispatch to request names of all existing kanaka (Hawaiian) employees that they can hire to work in the park. They will pay them by collecting entrance fees.

Not sure which SOL to copy?
Cindy
Cindy Orlando
Acting Deputy Regional Director
Pacific West Region
National Park Service

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 6, 2019, at 4:35 PM, Burkhart, Stephanie <stephanie_burkhart@nps.gov> wrote:

(Note- This email has been bcc'd to all email addresses listed as POCs in the PWR POC list and the WASO essential POC list, along with the PWR Directorate and regional recalled SMEs)

Good evening PWR colleagues,

It has been a very busy day today with the announcement of the updated NPS Contingency Plan. We recognize this is a significant policy change. Your resilience, persistence, thoughtfulness, and dedication through all the twists and turns in this shutdown continues to impress us. We continue to appreciate your tenacity in dealing with these extraordinary circumstances, and your concern for employee safety and welfare.

Via the attached memo, the Acting Secretary of the Interior directed the NPS to update the Contingency Plan to allow for the use of FLREA funds to address some of the critical safety and resource concerns many parks are facing. We will not be using FLREA funds to fully re-open parks or to keep visitor centers open.

There will be two phone calls tomorrow, Monday January 7, to help walk through the change in our NPS Contingency Plan and the next steps:

1. WASO all Superintendents and essential POC's Call - Monday, January 7 at noon Pacific time. Once available, call in information will be posted at this google doc.
2. PWR all Superintendents and essential POC's Call - Monday, January 7 at 2pm Pacific time. Call in information: [b] [5] Passcode [b] [5]. A calendar invitation will be sent out tomorrow morning. Please plan to have the sample cost estimator open in front of you as we will walk through this on the call.

Here is some additional information and guidance to help prepare for the calls tomorrow, and work
that lies ahead:

**What changed?** Primary changes in the contingency plan are on the bottom of page 4 and the top of page 5 and include the following two points:

- Parks that collect fees under the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA) will utilize available retained recreation fees balances to provide basic visitor services in a manner that maintains restrooms and sanitation, trash collection, road maintenance, campground operations, law enforcement and emergency operations, and staffing entrance gates as necessary to provide critical safety information. Parks must develop daily cost estimates for all employees and services to be supported by recreation fees for review and approval by the Director. This will include costs that parks planned to fund out of appropriations that have lapsed.
- Parks that do not collect recreation fees or have insufficient balances, the Director will determine whether available national or regional recreation fees will be allocated to support activities as described above.

**Who is affected?** All parks that remained accessible on or after December 22nd and have a current business need to provide any of the FLREA-funded services as outlined in the revised NPS contingency plan, must complete a daily cost estimator (template attached) that includes:

- All costs associated with excepted employees
- All costs to perform the functions outlined in the NPS contingency plan, utilizing FLREA funds
- Any overhead costs necessary to develop and implement the revisions to the NPS Contingency Plan, utilizing FLREA funds

**Approval Required.** The cost estimator must be approved by the Director prior to implementing any of the proposed FLREA-funded functions.

**Cost Estimating Tools:** Attached is a sample Cost estimator. At a minimum, your FLREA cost estimators should include and separately identify the estimated work hours per day for each employee/position working during the shutdown. This should include all essential/excepted staff; FLREA-funded staff performing the functions outlined in the NPS Contingency plan; and any necessary FLREA-funded overhead staff.

**Key Reminders:**

- Using the cost estimator sample is not required, but you must ensure whatever version you submit has at least as much detail as the sample and clearly outlines excepted/essential vs. FLREA-funded direct costs vs. FLREA-funded overhead. Using the cost estimator template provided may expedite review.
- Donation agreements - Some of what has been donated via agreements to parks (e.g., restroom cleaning) will now be covered under FLREA and should be included as such in your cost estimator. Once a park’s plan (i.e. cost estimator) is approved by the NPS Director and the park has implemented, we will no longer use donated funds for these purposes. However, some parks have donation agreements that cover visitor service functions not allowed by the updated NPS contingency plan, such as staffing visitor centers. So long as your donation agreement is current, employees may continue to perform the functions covered by the donations, but not allowed by the NPS Contingency Plan. These costs should NOT be included in the FLREA cost estimates.
- Essential/excepted costs are those that would be incurred even if we were not bringing other folks back under FLREA fees. Generally, the number of excepted employees and related costs should be the **same** under the revised NPS Contingency Plan. And, please ensure you do not double count.
- The FLREA law allows up to 15% of rec fee for administration, overhead, and indirect costs (e.g., timekeeper, budget staff, superintendents who
otherwise weren’t excepted personnel). Please endeavor to keep your park-level costs well below this threshold, as we will be required to charge some amount of Regional Office support staff cost to this.

- If you have USPP offices in your park, you need to include numbers for them in your park estimate.
- Even if parks bring back staff under FLREA funds, parks shall not charge an entrance fee or amenity fee (e.g. campground fee). Estimates for fee collection should not be included.
- Staff brought back utilizing FLREA funds will be paid in a more or less timely fashion. Parks should include costs for a timekeeper in their estimates.

**Communications Guidance:** Additional communications guidance was also issued today and is included in our PWR Shutdown Messages document. The NPS statement issued by Deputy Director P. Dan Smith and released to the media can be found at https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1207/updatedlapse.htm. For now, all media inquiries about the updated NPS Contingency Plan should be directed to newsmedia@nps.gov. Additional communications guidance will be coming in the next few days but for now, parks are not expected to answer media questions about this policy change in the contingency plan. Similarly, all Congressional inquiries should be directed to john_tanner@ios.doi.gov.

**Daily Contact List:** Your PWR Regional Office Team for **tomorrow, Monday January 7** includes:
- Sarah Creachbaum, Primary Point of Contact, 360-477-7242
- Katarina Tuovinen, Transition on, 628-200-8271
- Amanda Kaplan, Communications Point of Contact, 415-672-4592
- Bob Palmer, LE Point of Contact, 415-672-4592
- Aaron Dowe, Budget/Finance Point of Contact, 510-301-9611
- Karin Louter, Human Resources Point of Contact, 206-475-4573
- Trystan Stern, Agreements Point of Contact, 510-914-9792

You will note we have recalled some additional staff tomorrow to assist with questions and planning related to the revised NPS Contingency Plan. Please feel free to call any member of the regional team.

Have a good evening,

Stephanie, Amanda, Rene and Aaron

Stephanie Burkhart  
Associate Regional Director  
National Park Service, Pacific West Region  
333 Bush Street, Suite 500  
San Francisco, CA 94104  
Phone: (415) 623-2103  
Email: stephanie_burkhart@nps.gov

<FLREA authorized uses.docx>
From: Derrick Crandall  
To: P. Daniel Smith - National Park Service USD (paul.smith@nps.gov)  
Subject: Concessioners call  
Date: Monday, January 7, 2019 5:48:58 AM

As we discussed, **NPHA’s leadership group will be on a call today, January 7, from 1:30 pm to 2:30 pm** and invites you to discuss with them ways to best work as partners to protect parks and park visitor experiences during this shutdown. We have detailed information on what concessioners have been doing to support individual parks, and will be releasing that information today. We have supported your recent action to make limited use of FLREA funds for law enforcement, trash removal, restroom servicing and other direct visitor needs. We need your help to be good partners if the shutdown continues.

Our call can be [accessed by dialing](tel:b) (5) No code is needed.

Derrick

*Derrick A. Crandall, Counselor*  
National Park Hospitality Association  
1200 G Street, N.W. Suite 650  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
202-682-9530, F 202-682-9529  
[www.parkpartners.org](http://www.parkpartners.org)
Jessica,

Please see below email exchange with Darla at ROMO. I think there is a strong case for parks like that to have PIO support as they restore accessibility and basic services. But it’s obviously not my call to make on whether that could be FLREA funded.

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Date: January 7, 2019 at 7:51:47 AM EST
To: Darla Sidles <darla_sidles@nps.gov>
Cc: "Hammond, Katharine (Kate)" <kate_hammond@nps.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: SPECIAL ALERT - Joe Neguse in Estes Park for Town Hall TOMORROW (Monday, 7th)

Hi Darla,

I’ll raise this general issue with Jessica but I certainly think it would be important for your park to have PIO support given your visitation, proximity to a major metro area, and the amount of media interest there will be in the park.

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service

On Jan 6, 2019, at 10:53 PM, Darla Sidles <darla_sidles@nps.gov> wrote:

Thanks Jeremy- I will stick to the facts-
Also, while I’ve got you: looking for guidance on whether our PIO (Kyle) should come back under the flrea funds. Today’s news contain Significant changes that will impact the public and businesses... I don’t know how we communicate that if we don’t have our PIO and website person engaged (more than just the usual callback).
Thanks!

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 6, 2019, at 8:21 PM, Barnum, Jeremy
Kate and Darla,

I’ve flagged this for DOI congressional affairs and will let you know if we receive any guidance. In the interim, please see the below talking points we have been using in addition to the attached news release announcing today’s updated contingency plan. Let me know what else you need.

During the partial government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures.

The National Park Service’s contingency plan in the absence of appropriations may be found here: [https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf](https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf)

We are reviewing the updated contingency plan and are determining the appropriate next steps for Rocky Mountain National Park.

Refer to the Deputy Director’s statement (also attached) at [https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1207/updatelapse.htm](https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1207/updatelapse.htm) and the contingency plan available at [doi.gov/shutdown](http://doi.gov/shutdown).

The NPS contingency plan in the absence of appropriations also provides for the ability to restrict access to national park areas for safety, health, or resource protection issues.

Per the contingency plan, if visitor access becomes a safety, health or resource protection issue (weather, road conditions, resource damage, garbage build-up to the extent that it endangers human health or wildlife, etc.), the area must be closed.

At the superintendent’s discretion, parks may close areas with sensitive natural, cultural, historic, or archaeological resources vulnerable to destruction, looting, or other damage that cannot be adequately protected by the excepted law enforcement staff that remain on duty to conduct essential activities.

**Background information:**
Example of services that could be open: a free-standing gift shop, lodge, restaurant or gas station that requires no assistance from the Park to operate. "Assistance" could include but not be limited to snow...
removal, working as a cashier, unlocking gates, etc. However, if a private concessionaire has worked out in advance a way to remove snow, trash, etc, without the assistance of the park, they MAY be able to continue operations.

Example of services that would not be open: a gift shop inside a visitors center would not be open because a park ranger would not be available to unlock the visitors center or to staff the visitors center. A gas station on a road inside the park where it snowed overnight making it impassable would not be open if it relies on the park for snow removal.

Example of areas that may see restricted access: Due to lighter footprint of rangers and patrols, some public lands, trails and sites may see restricted access. Some parks are in winter season and see many skiers. The parks may choose to restrict access to some areas if there is a high risk of avalanche or it's a common spot for injuries since there will not be a regular patrol of the area. Additionally, sensitive cultural areas on all public land may see restricted access to protect the artifacts and objects.

Examples of areas we are prioritizing: We are prioritizing access to the most accessible and most iconic areas of parks and public lands. Each park, monument, recreation area, etc will have different plans in place.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Sun, Jan 6, 2019 at 5:36 PM Hammond, Katharine (Kate) <kate_hammond@nps.gov> wrote:
Here's the specific info about the Rocky Mountain NP Congressman Neguse's townhall meeting tomorrow in
Estes Park. He has asked to visit the park and meet with Superintendent Sidles immediately prior to this townhall. If there is any guidance for Superintendent Sidles on what is OK to talk about and what she should stay away from in her conversations with Rep Neguse that would be helpful.

Kate Hammond
Deputy Regional Director and Acting Regional Director
Intermountain Region
National Park Service
(303) 969-2856

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Darla Sidles <darla_sidles@nps.gov>
Date: Sun, Jan 6, 2019 at 3:18 PM
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: SPECIAL ALERT - Joe Neguse in Estes Park for Town Hall TOMORROW (Monday, 7th)
To: Kate Hammond <Kate_Hammond@nps.gov>

Hi Kate FYI per our discussion:

Congressman Neguse is meeting with me at HQ prior to this EP Town Hall mtg re: govt shutdown

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

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From: 
Date: January 6, 2019 at 12:18:35 PM MST
Subject: Fwd: SPECIAL ALERT - Joe Neguse in Estes Park for Town Hall TOMORROW (Monday, 7th)

-----Original Message-----
Sent: Sun, Jan 6, 2019 12:14 pm
Subject: Fwd: SPECIAL ALERT - Joe Neguse in Estes Park for Town Hall TOMORROW (Monday, 7th)
Happy Sunday,

Thought you might be interested in hearing our newly elected Congressperson, Joe Neguse--see notice below. Sorry if some of you have already received notice of his Town Hall.

Have a good day,

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Sent: Sun, Jan 6, 2019 8:59 am
Subject: SPECIAL ALERT - Joe Neguse in Estes Park for Town Hall TOMORROW (Monday, 7th)

Late last night I was alerted to the fact that Joe Neguse, our new Congressman in the U.S. House, will be in Estes Park for a Town Hall meeting **TOMORROW (Monday, January 7)**.

Below is all the information I have from Joe’s office. From a phone call I received Friday evening, I know Joe is very concerned about the shutdown impact, including closing of RMNP during the shutdown.

*Would you be willing to help spread the word? I know its a short turnaround but he wanted to make sure he was in the district this weekend and speaking with folks on the ground who are affected by the government shutdown.*

**Congressman Joe Neguse Estes Park Townhall**
Monday, January 7th
2:30-3:30pm
Estes Park Library
335 E Elkhorn Ave
I hope many of you will be able to welcome Joe back to Estes Park and let him hear firsthand our concerns about the shutdown. Please spread the word and bring a friend!

**AND remember our first Estes Valley Dems meeting for 2019 is Monday at 5:30 p.m. in the Hondius Room – lots of activity by the Democratic party in Estes Park tomorrow!! 😊**

Thanks!

<Statement on Protecting Parks during Lapse of Appropriations.pdf>
Hey Darla-
Tara can help you with the question about putting a PIO under FLrEA.
Thanks
Kate

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 7, 2019, at 5:51 AM, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

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Office: (202) 513-7262  
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Thanks!

<Statement on Protecting Parks during Lapse of Appropriations.pdf>
We are getting some pick-up of our statement of support for Interior’s decision to utilize FLREA funds for certain key visitor service needs during the shutdown, including today’s The Hill (https://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/424092-house-committee-to-demand-answers-on-interiors-decision-to-use-fee) and the Sierra Sun Times (https://goldrushcam.com/sierrasuntimes/index.php/news/local-news/17035-key-national-park-partners-applaud-interior-steps-to-restore-key-functions-during-shutdown).

Are you getting all of that, or would it be helpful for us to share pick-up with you?

Derrick

**Derrick A. Crandall, Counselor**  
National Park Hospitality Association  
1200 G Street, N.W. Suite 650  
Washington, D.C. 20005  
202-682-9530, F 202-682-9529  
[www.parkpartners.org](http://www.parkpartners.org)
I agree. I think it falls under direct visitor services (visitor information), not the indirect costs.

Jessica Bowron  
Comptroller  
National Park Service  
(o) 202-513-7138  
(c) 202-280-8329  

On Mon, Jan 7, 2019 at 8:02 AM Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:  
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Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: SPECIAL ALERT - Joe Neguse in Estes Park for Town Hall TOMORROW (Monday, 7th)  

Hi Darla,  

I'll raise this general issue with Jessica but I certainly think it would be important for your park to have PIO support given your visitation, proximity to a major metro area, and the amount of media interest there will be in the park.  

Jeremy Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  

On Jan 6, 2019, at 10:53 PM, Darla Sidles <darla_sidles@nps.gov> wrote:  

Thanks Jeremy- I will stick to the facts-  
Also, while I’ve got you: looking for guidance on whether our PIO
(Kyle) should come back under the fIrea funds. Today’s news contain Significant changes that will impact the public and businesses... I don’t know how we communicate that if we don’t have our PIO and website person engaged (more than just the usual callback). Thanks!

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 6, 2019, at 8:21 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Kate and Darla,

I’ve flagged this for DOI congressional affairs and will let you know if we receive any guidance. In the interim, please see the below talking points we have been using in addition to the attached news release announcing today's updated contingency plan. Let me know what else you need.

During the partial government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures.

The National Park Service's contingency plan in the absence of appropriations may be found here: https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf

We are reviewing the updated contingency plan and are determining the appropriate next steps for Rocky Mountain National Park.

Refer to the Deputy Director's statement (also attached) at https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1207/updatelapse.htm and the contingency plan available at doi.gov/shutdown.

The NPS contingency plan in the absence of appropriations also provides for the ability to restrict access to national park areas for safety, health, or resource protection issues.

Per the contingency plan, if visitor access becomes a safety, health or resource protection issue (weather, road conditions, resource damage, garbage build-up to the extent that it endangers human health or wildlife, etc.), the area must be closed.

At the superintendent’s discretion, parks may close areas with sensitive natural, cultural, historic, or archaeological resources vulnerable to destruction,
looting, or other damage that cannot be adequately protected by the excepted law enforcement staff that remain on duty to conduct essential activities.

**Background information:**
Example of services that could be open: a free-standing gift shop, lodge, restaurant or gas station that requires no assistance from the Park to operate. "Assistance" could include but not be limited to snow removal, working as a cashier, unlocking gates, etc. However, if a private concessionaire has worked out in advance a way to remove snow, trash, etc, without the assistance of the park, they MAY be able to continue operations.

Example of services that would not be open: a gift shop inside a visitors center would not be open because a park ranger would not be available to unlock the visitors center or to staff the visitors center. A gas station on a road inside the park where it snowed overnight making it impassable would not be open if it relies on the park for snow removal.

Example of areas that may see restricted access: Due to lighter footprint of rangers and patrols, some public lands, trails and sites may see restricted access. Some parks are in winter season and see many skiers. The parks may choose to restrict access to some areas if there is a high risk of avalanche or it's a common spot for injuries since there will not be a regular patrol of the area. Additionally, sensitive cultural areas on all public land may see restricted access to protect the artifacts and objects.

Examples of areas we are prioritizing: We are prioritizing access to the most accessible and most iconic areas of parks and public lands. Each park, monument, recreation area, etc will have different plans in place.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube
On Sun, Jan 6, 2019 at 5:36 PM Hammond, Katharine (Kate) <kate_hammond@nps.gov> wrote:

Here's the specific info about the Rocky Mountain NP Congressman Neguse's townhall meeting tomorrow in Estes Park. He has asked to visit the park and meet with Superintendent Sidles immediately prior to this townhall. If there is any guidance for Superintendent Sidles on what is OK to talk about and what she should stay away from in her conversations with Rep Neguse that would be helpful.

Kate Hammond  
Deputy Regional Director and Acting Regional Director  
Intermountain Region  
National Park Service  
(303) 969-2856

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Darla Sidles <darla_sidles@nps.gov>  
Date: Sun, Jan 6, 2019 at 3:18 PM  
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: SPECIAL ALERT - Joe Neguse in Estes Park for Town Hall TOMORROW (Monday, 7th)

Hi Kate FYI per our discussion:

Congressman Neguse is meeting with me at HQ prior to this EP Town Hall mtg re: govt shutdown

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

Begin forwarded message:

From:  
Date: January 6, 2019 at 12:18:35 PM MST
Subject: Fwd: SPECIAL ALERT - Joe Neguse in Estes Park for Town Hall TOMORROW (Monday, 7th)

-----Original Message-----
Sent: Sun, Jan 6, 2019 12:14 pm
Subject: Fwd: SPECIAL ALERT - Joe Neguse in Estes Park for Town Hall TOMORROW (Monday, 7th)

Happy Sunday,
Thought you might be interested in hearing our newly elected Congressperson, Joe Neguse--see notice below. Sorry if some of you have already received notice of his Town Hall. Have a good day,

-----Original Message-----
Sent: Sun, Jan 6, 2019 8:59 am
Subject: SPECIAL ALERT - Joe Neguse in Estes Park for Town Hall TOMORROW (Monday, 7th)

Late last night I was alerted to the fact that Joe Neguse, our new Congressman in the U.S. House, will be in Estes Park for a Town Hall meeting TOMORROW (Monday, January 7).

Below is all the information I have from Joe’s office. From a phone call I received Friday evening, I know Joe is very concerned about the shutdown impact, including closing of RMNP during the shutdown.

Would you be willing to help spread the word? I know its a short turnaround but he wanted
to make sure he was in the district this weekend and speaking with folks on the ground who are affected by the government shutdown.

Congressman Joe Neguse Estes Park Townhall
Monday, January 7th
2:30-3:30pm
Estes Park Library
335 E Elkhorn Ave
Estes Park, CO 80517

I hope many of you will be able to welcome Joe back to Estes Park and let him hear firsthand our concerns about the shutdown. Please spread the word and bring a friend!

AND remember our first Estes Valley Dems meeting for 2019 is Monday at 5:30 p.m. in the Hondius Room -- lots of activity by the Democratic party in Estes Park tomorrow!! 😊

Thanks!

<Statement on Protecting Parks during Lapse of Appropriations.pdf>
Here's a spreadsheet listing the various hits from Meltwater (searching "national park service"+contingency). We'll pull specific articles to highlight.

Mike

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst  
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)

National Park Service  
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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On Mon, Jan 7, 2019 at 11:43 AM John Bockmier <john_bockmier@ios.doi.gov> wrote:
Thanks so much

Sent from my iPhone

John M Bockmier  
Department of Interior  
Director of Communications  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC  
20240

202.208.3636 Office  
202.897.7366 Cell

On Jan 7, 2019, at 11:36 AM, Litterst, Michael <mike_litterst@nps.gov> wrote:

Sure, we'll get you something.

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst  
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)

National Park Service  
Ph: (202) 306-4166
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On Mon, Jan 7, 2019 at 11:28 AM John Bockmier <john.bockmier@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Gentleman,

Any chance cobbling together the press clips on yesterday’s roll out by noon. Just received a note presenting me with that timeline. My apologies for the haste. Let me know if you can make that happen.

Thanks,

Sent from my iPhone

John M Bockmier
Department of Interior
Director of Communications
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC
20240

202.208.3636 Office
202.897.7366 Cell
Hello all,
Here is the original request:

Patrick,

Can you provide any details on vandalism and resource damage?

Best,

Kurt

news@nationalparkstraveler.org

On Sun, Jan 6, 2019 at 10:43 AM Kaplan, Amanda <amanda_kaplan@nps.gov> wrote:
Hi Patrick,

I was not able to locate the original inquiry via any email so I'm guessing it may have come to you via phone. If you can reply to Jeremy and the rest of the contacts here with any information you have that would be terrific.

thanks,
Amanda

Amanda Kaplan
National Park Service
Pacific West Regional Office
909 1st Ave, 5th Floor
Seattle, WA 98104
Phone: (206) 220-4150
Cell: (206) 475-4590

On Sat, Jan 5, 2019 at 5:08 PM Amanda Kaplan <amanda_kaplan@nps.gov> wrote:
Thanks Jeremy,

Patrick do you have the original? This came in while Andrew was on lead so I don’t have
it at the ready. If you don’t have it easily I can dig a bit deeper and get it.

Amanda

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 5, 2019, at 4:54 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi All,

Apologies for the delay. Could you please send us the original query to which this is responding? If you need to respond to local outlets we would recommend some tweaks reflected below.

Park staff are continuing to patrol the park and we won't have a full picture of potential impacts until after the shutdown. To assist Law Enforcement Rangers, an archaeologist was called in today to help document instances of off road driving and vandalism.

Over flowing trash and human waste around campgrounds and closed bathrooms are the primary issues we are encountering. We have also noticed increased incidents of out of bounds camping and off road driving. At multiple restrooms, including the Texas Springs Campground which has CCC era restrooms, doors have been kicked in damaging both doors and frames. A locked gate at Natural Bridge Road was also broken open.

Most visitors have been respectful of the park and because we have a partner donating funds to keep our visitor center operational, we are able to provide resource protection messaging. We believe this is helping to prevent potential negative impacts to the park.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Sat, Jan 5, 2019 at 11:35 AM Kaplan, Amanda <amanda_kaplan@nps.gov> wrote:
Thanks Andrew and hi Jeremy,

If you could let us know when you respond to Kurt, that would be great. I just got a call from the park and they are getting the same questions from local media outlets as well. Once we know you've cleared these responses for NP Traveler, we will go ahead and use the same for local inquiries. I just didn't want us getting out ahead on this yet.

thanks,
Amanda

Amanda Kaplan
National Park Service
Pacific West Regional Office
909 1st Ave, 5th Floor
Seattle, WA 98104
Phone: (206) 220-4150
Cell: (206) 475-4590

On Sat, Jan 5, 2019 at 8:16 AM Munoz, Andrew <andrew_munoz@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Patrick:

If Kurt asks, let him know you have referred the inquiry to WASO and that they will get back to him.

Andrew

Andrew S. Muñoz
Acting Chief of Public and Congressional Affairs
National Park Service
Pacific West Region, Office of Public and Congressional Affairs
206 220-4260 phone | 206 475-4598 cell | andrew_munoz@nps.gov

Find us on online at: https://nps.gov/pwro (public) & http://go.nps.gov/pwr (InsideNPS intranet)

On Fri, Jan 4, 2019 at 1:35 PM Taylor, Patrick <patrick_taylor@nps.gov> wrote:

Hello,
I'm checking in on the status of this. Can we proceed with the response?
Thank you

On Fri, Jan 4, 2019 at 10:16 AM Munoz, Andrew <andrew_munoz@nps.gov> wrote:
Draft response to NPT from DEVA for review.

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Taylor, Patrick <patrick_taylor@nps.gov>
Date: Fri, Jan 4, 2019 at 10:04 AM
Subject: DEVA National Parks Traveler response
To: Munoz, Andrew <andrew_munoz@nps.gov>

Draft Response:

Hello Kurt,
Park staff are continuing to patrol the park and we won't have a full picture of impacts until after the shutdown. To assist Law Enforcement Rangers, an archaeologist was called in today to help document instances of off road driving and vandalism.

Similar to most other sites, over flowing trash and human waste around campgrounds and closed bathrooms are the primary issues we are encountering. However, out of bounds camping and off road driving have noticeably increased. At multiple restrooms, including the Texas Springs Campground which has CCC era restrooms, doors have been kicked in damaging both doors and frames. A locked gate at Natural Bridge Road was also broken open.

Most visitors have been respectful of the park and because we have a partner donating funds to keep our visitor center operational, we are able to provide resource protection messaging. We believe this is helping to prevent a lot of potential negative impacts to the park.

Andrew,
How do I respond if he requests photos?

--
Patrick Taylor
Chief of Interpretation & Education
Death Valley National Park

One sees great things from the valley; only small things from the peak. - Gilbert K. Chesterton

--
Patrick Taylor
Chief of Interpretation & Education
Death Valley National Park

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--

Patrick Taylor
Chief of Interpretation & Education
Death Valley National Park

One sees great things from the valley; only small things from the peak. - Gilbert K. Chesterton
Kurtis:

The updated contingency plan is online here.

At this point, we are unable to estimate costs or parks that may be affected until parks have identified their available balances of FLREA funds, their immediate maintenance, health, and safety needs, and the staff and resources needed to address those needs.

I've attached a copy of the statement from the deputy director of the NPS that may provide you some additional information or context.

Hope this helps,

Mike

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)
National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Alexander, Kurtis <KAlexander@sfchronicle.com>
Date: Mon, Jan 7, 2019 at 12:11 PM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] S.F. Chronicle
To: jeremy_barnum@nps.gov <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>

Hi Jeremy. Sorry you’re still having to deal with the shutdown stuff. (Are you even going to get a paycheck?)

I just wanted to follow up on your weekend press release about restarting some park services: 1.) Do you have a copy of the new contingency plan?, and 2.) Any decisions on which parks will use the entrance fee money to help with operations? 3.) Anything else I should know?
Thanks,
Kurtis

Kurtis Alexander
Staff Writer
(415) 777-6063
kalexander@sfchronicle.com
twitter: @kurtisalexander

San Francisco Chronicle | SFGATE
Thanks, Mike.

From: "Litterst, Michael" <mike_litterst@nps.gov>
Date: Monday, January 7, 2019 at 10:05 AM
To: "Alexander, Kurtis" <KAlexander@sfchronicle.com>
Cc: Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>, "News Media, NPS" <newsmedia@nps.gov>
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] S.F. Chronicle

Kurtis:

The updated contingency plan is online [here](#).

At this point, we are unable to estimate costs or parks that may be affected until parks have identified their available balances of FLREA funds, their immediate maintenance, health, and safety needs, and the staff and resources needed to address those needs.

I've attached a copy of the statement from the deputy director of the NPS that may provide you some additional information or context.

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Hi Jeremy. Sorry you’re still having to deal with the shutdown stuff. (Are you even going to get a paycheck?)

I just wanted to follow up on your weekend press release about restarting some park services: 1.) Do you have a copy of the new contingency plan?, and 2.) Any decisions on which parks will use the entrance fee money to help with operations? 3.) Anything else I should know?

Thanks,
Kurtis

Kurtis Alexander
Staff Writer
(415) 777-6063
kalexander@sfchronicle.com
twitter: @kurtisalexander
San Francisco Chronicle | SFGATE
Rebecca:

At this point we are unable to speculate or provide information on which parks will be affected by the revised contingency plan. Parks are currently identifying their available balances of recreational fee funds; determining their immediate maintenance, health, and safety needs; and figuring out the staff and resources needed to address those needs. As parks complete their planning in the next couple of days, we'll be able to provide more detailed information.

As you will see in the updated contingency plan (top of page 5), there is a provision for non-fee parks to receive funds to address the maintenance, health and safety issues in their parks. I'm not saying the National Mall is will receive an allocation (see above paragraph), but it is possible for them and other non-fee parks to benefit from the updated contingency plan.

Hope this helps. I'm sorry we can't provide this for you in an interview.

Mike

------------ Forwarded message -------------
From: Rebecca Ellis <REllis@npr.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 7, 2019 at 1:09 PM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: NPR reporter reaching out for deadline this afternoon
To: newsmedia@nps.gov <newsmedia@nps.gov>

Hello,

Thanks for chatting with me. If it’s possible to get someone on the phone to answer just one or two of these questions, so we could use the audio for tomorrow’s Morning Edition, that would be really great. I could promise to keep the conversation incredibly short! If not, I of course understand. I can be reached at (b) (6) .
Questions:

1. Does NPS already know which parks will be able to use the money derived from entrance fees or is that still under negotiation?

2. How many furloughed workers will now return to work?

3. When are they likely to return to work?

4. Are there any plans to reimburse the cities, states and nonprofits that have already spent money to keep the park’s custodial services running?

5. Are the national monuments in D.C. likely to be impacted by the revised contingency plan even though they don’t collect entrance fees? (The piece is based in D.C. as the city has been using their Department of Public Works for trash pickup at the National Mall and I’m curious if the NPS is stepping back in or not)

From: Rebecca Ellis
Sent: Monday, January 07, 2019 12:00 PM
To: 'newsmedia@nps.gov' <newsmedia@nps.gov>
Subject: NPR reporter reaching out for deadline this afternoon

Hi NPS,

I’m doing a piece on cities and states stepping in to help with some of the custodial and janitorial duties at national parks during the shutdown. I know NPS announced yesterday that it plans to use funds for entrance fees to provide these services at popular parks and I have a few questions about what this entails. I’m sure details are still being fine-tuned, but if there was anyone who could chat with me about which parks are impacted and how many people will return to work that would be great. I’m also curious as to how park sites that don’t collect entrance fees will be impacted.

I’m available through email or by cell at (b) (6) Thank you so much for your time.

Best,

Rebecca Ellis
Hi Mike,

Understood, thank you. And are there any plans to reimburse the cities, states and nonprofits that have already spent money to keep the park’s custodial services running? And is there any sense of how many NPS workers this impacts? Thanks!

Rebecca:

At this point we are unable to speculate or provide information on which parks will be affected by the revised contingency plan. Park are currently identifying their available balances of recreational fee funds; determining their immediate maintenance, health, and safety needs; and figuring out the staff and resources needed to address those needs. As parks complete their planning in the next couple of days, we'll be able to provide more detailed information.

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Hope this helps. I'm sorry we can't provide this for you in an interview.

Mike

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)

The National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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---------- Forwarded message ---------
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Hi NPS,

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I’m available through email or by cell at (b) (6). Thank you so much for your time.

Best,
Rebecca Ellis
Hi all,

Attached please find a draft ops plan for NACE. We've populated the basic visitor services and indirect overhead tab on the google excel sheet with our proposed personnel and wage grades. I'm currently looking at computation dates and filling in names, but wanted you all to review in the meantime.

Let us know if you have any questions.

Mike

Please note, I am out of the office on detail to National Capital Parks-East. For National Mall and Memorial Parks related issues, please contact Catherine Dewey at (202) 245-4711. Thank you.

Michael Commissio
Acting Chief of Resource Management
National Capital Parks-East
1900 Anacostia Drive SE
Washington, DC 20020
202.690.5160 office
202.494.6905 cell

Cultural Resources Program Manager
National Mall and Memorial Parks
National Park Service
900 Ohio Drive, SW
Washington, DC 20024

On Mon, Jan 7, 2019 at 9:34 AM Moore, David <david_h_moore@nps.gov> wrote:

Tara and Mike,

Attached is a link to a Cost Estimator template to build out the FLREA plan for NACE. Please take a look and let's plan to talk this morning. I have Sarah Hertig here to assist with both the development of the cost estimator, as well as account set up when we are ready.

Dave

---

David H. Moore
Associate Regional Director
1100 Ohio Drive SW
Washington, DC 20242
202 619-7045 (Office)
Good afternoon John,

I understand you are the point of contact for Congressional inquiries related to the updated NPS Contingency Plan for the lapse in appropriations. Apparently Sequoia and Kings Canyon NP's fielded a question from CA Rep.Tom McClintock (see below). Apologies this didn't come to you first - we are working hard to spread the word that these communications should be directed to you but things are moving quickly and this one slipped through. I am forwarding it to you now for your awareness. If you have any other questions, please don't hesitate to reach me.

Thanks!
Amanda

Amanda Kaplan
National Park Service
Pacific West Regional Office
909 1st Ave, 5th Floor
Seattle, WA 98104
Phone: (206) 220-4150
Cell: (206) 475-4590

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Stephanie Burkhart <stephanie_burkhart@nps.gov>
Date: Mon, Jan 7, 2019 at 12:03 PM
Subject: Re: Congressional inquiry - Rep Tom McClintock
To: Brigham, Christy <christy_brigham@nps.gov>, Woody Smeck <woody_smeck@nps.gov>, Melissa Kuckro <melissa_kuckro@nps.gov>, Michael Reynolds <michael_reynolds@nps.gov>, Amanda Kaplan <amanda_kaplan@nps.gov>

All - I’ve transitioned back to furlough today but am looping Amanda Kaplan in.

On Jan 7, 2019, at 11:51 AM, Brigham, Christy <christy_brigham@nps.gov> wrote:

Ned spoke to Congressman McClintock this morning. The Congressman was interested in when we would be opening, whether the trash and human feces were bad as reported, and whether we had sufficient FLREA funds to open.

Ned answered his questions. Our re-opening timeline is somewhat in flux due to weather. We are meeting today to listen to guidance and formulate a plan.
Let us know if you would like more information from us.

Thank you,

Christy

Christy Brigham Ph.D.

Chief of Resource Management and Science
Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks
47050 Generals Highway
Three Rivers, CA 93271-9598
559-565-3120
Christy_Brigham@nps.gov

Adjunct Professor of Biology, California State University Northridge
Adjunct Professor, Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, University of California Los Angeles
Hi Beth -

You may have already spoken to Jessica about this, but the language in the updated contingency plan will govern what we can and cannot acquire during the shutdown. Parks with available rec fee balances can use those fees to cover basic visitor services at the direction of the Director. The scope of those basic visitor services is articulated in the updated plan:

Parks that collect fees under the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA) will utilize available retained recreation fees balances to provide basic visitor services in a manner that maintains restrooms and sanitation, trash collection, road maintenance, campground operations, law enforcement and emergency operations, and staffing entrance gates as necessary to provide critical safety information. Parks must develop daily cost estimates for all employees and services to be supported by recreation fees for review and approval by the Director. This will include costs that parks planned to fund out of appropriations that have lapsed.

To the extent that acquisitions are required to provide the articulated basic visitor services then yes, I suppose there is the possibility that there may be some expansion of allowable acquisitions from the original guidance for some of these parks. All costs would need to be reviewed and approved by the Director. I left for Copenhagen on Saturday night, so I'm not up to speed on how the guidance has been unfolding over the last two days. Jessica is the final word on what parks can and can't do, so I'd run some of the things you're hearing by her. This isn't an opportunity, for example, for parks to use FLREA to award that services contract that they've always wanted to permanently move off of ONPS.

I'm in [b] through Friday of this week. I thought my work cell would work in [b], but turns out I have no work phone cell service or email on my work phone, so I'm limited to checking email in the morning and evening. That limits my overall usefulness this week, so Jessica is the best bet for a quick and relevant answer for up-to-the-minute info. If you do need to chat with me, you can always call or text me on my personal cell [b].

Thanks,

Lena

On Mon, Jan 7, 2019 at 11:59 AM Walden-McCabe, Beth <beth.walden@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi~I am getting questions from the field if allowing the use of rec fee funds will impact acquisitions? Will they only be used for essential activities? If so, I don't think that substantively changes the guidance we have been working from.

--
Beth Walden McCabe
Bureau Procurement Chief (acting)
National Park Service
Washington Contracting Office
7333 West Jefferson Ave
Suite 100
Lakewood, CO 80235-2034
Office: (303) 987-6739
Cell Phone: (720) 320-5395
Fax (303) 987-6922

Please visit our WCO website!
https://sites.google.com/a/nps.gov/waso-contracting/home

--

Lena McDowall
Deputy Director, Management and Administration
Ph: 202-513-7240
Cell: 202-641-1814
Email: Lena_McDowall@nps.gov
Marlon:

Question below (in red) on our drop-dead date for processing payroll. Jessica said she thought it was Wednesday evening, but to check with you to be sure.

Thanks!

Mike

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)
National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Lisa Desjardins <L.Desjardins@newshour.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 7, 2019 at 3:02 PM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Payroll question from PBS - Int
To: Litterst, Michael <mike_litterst@nps.gov>
Cc: Interior_press@ios.doi.gov <Interior_press@ios.doi.gov>, Nedra Darling <nedra_darling@ios.doi.gov>

Thank you for the fast help earlier today!

Now another question for deadline tonight.

OMB has told me on record that each affected agency has a different drop-dead date for payroll... by which payroll processing must begin in order for paychecks to go out Friday.

When is that date for you all?
From: Lisa Desjardins  
Sent: Monday, January 7, 2019 9:28 AM  
To: Litterst, Michael <mike_litterst@nps.gov>  
Cc: Interior_press@ios.doi.gov; Nedra Darling <nedra_darling@ios.doi.gov>  
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Reaching out for guidance/letter about parks reopening

Thank you!! Much appreciated.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 7, 2019, at 9:24 AM, Litterst, Michael <mike_litterst@nps.gov> wrote:

Lisa:

Attached are the memorandum from the Acting Secretary and a statement from the Deputy Director of the National Park Service regarding the updated contingency plan. At this point it's too early to speculate on which parks may be involved until they have had a chance to identify their available balances of FLREA funds; their immediate maintenance, health, and safety needs; and the staff and resources needed to address those needs. We'll be able to provide more detailed information in the next couple of days.

Hope this helps,

Mike

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Mike Litterst  
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)
National Park Service

Ph: (202) 306-4166

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

---------- Forwarded message ---------

From: Lisa Desjardins <LDesjardins@newshour.org>
Date: January 7, 2019 at 7:24:56 AM EST
To: "Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov" <Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov>,
"nedra_darling@ios.doi.gov" <nedra_darling@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Reaching out for guidance/letter about parks reopening

Hello Nedra and Team Interior,

Thank you for your help during a tricky time. It is much appreciated.

Could you send me the letter and or any guidance so far on how parks are to reopen some services or facilities? I have the letter from Sen. Daines asking for this and his press release saying it had happened, but am looking for the accurate information from your end.

Many thanks,

Lisa

Lisa Desjardins | PBS NewsHour Correspondent | 202-379-6015 | @LisaDNews

The most trusted brand in media. Nearly 2 million viewers nightly.
*All communication is considered on the record unless I have agreed otherwise.

<Secretarial Memorandum.pdf>
<Statement on Protecting Parks during Lapse of Appropriations 01.06.19.pdf>
Hi Michael,

Thank you for reaching out regarding this matter. The deadline is Wednesday, at 9:00 P.M. EST, however, because this is a question coming from the news media, I would like for Jeremy Barnum in his capacity to be able to opine before we go any further. Jeremy and I have spoken on this, so please do not provide this information until Jeremy has provided his guidance.

Best,

Marlon

On Mon, Jan 7, 2019 at 4:42 PM Litterst, Michael <mike_litterst@nps.gov> wrote:

Marlon:

Question below (in red) on our drop-dead date for processing payroll. Jessica said she thought it was Wednesday evening, but to check with you to be sure.

Thanks!

Mike

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Lisa Desjardins <LDesjardins@newshour.org>
Date: Mon, Jan 7, 2019 at 3:02 PM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Payroll question from PBS - Int
To: Litterst, Michael <mike_litterst@nps.gov>
Cc: Interior_press@ios.doi.gov <Interior_press@ios.doi.gov>, Nedra Darling <nedra_darling@ios.doi.gov>
Thank you for the fast help earlier today!

Now another question for deadline tonight.

OMB has told me on record that each affected agency has a different drop-dead date for payroll... by which payroll processing must begin in order for paychecks to go out Friday.

When is that date for you all?

Lisa Desjardins | Correspondent | PBS NewsHour | 202-379-6015 | @LisaDNews

---

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Hello Nedra and Team Interior,

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Could you send me the letter and or any guidance so far on how parks are to reopen some services or facilities? I have the letter from Sen. Daines asking for this and his press release saying it had happened, but am looking for the accurate information from your
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<Statement on Protecting Parks during Lapse of Appropriations 01.06.19.pdf>

--

Marlon V. Taubenheim
Deputy Associate Director
Workforce and Inclusion
National Park Service
(202) 354-1826
On Mon, Jan 7, 2019 at 9:32 PM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:
What do you think?

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Kaplan, Amanda <amanda_kaplan@nps.gov>
Date: Mon, Jan 7, 2019 at 7:38 PM
Subject: Re: For WASO Review: Joshua Tree Closure Press Release
To: Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Cc: Michael Litterst <mike_litterst@nps.gov>, Jessica Bowron <jessica_bowron@nps.gov>, Rick Obernesser <rick_obernesser@nps.gov>, Sarah Creachbaum <sarah_creachbaum@nps.gov>, Tuovinen, Katriina <katriina_tuovinen@nps.gov>

Super. Thanks so much for the help.
Amanda

Amanda Kaplan
On Mon, Jan 7, 2019 at 4:18 PM Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:
Ok, we’ll send back some suggested text tonight.

Jeremy Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service

On Jan 7, 2019, at 6:47 PM, Kaplan, Amanda <amanda_kaplan@nps.gov> wrote:

Thanks Jeremy,

Yes, my understanding is that their intention is to complete the cost estimator and eventually reopen using FLREA but we could use your assistance with some of that language since we don't have any TP's for that yet.

Amanda

Amanda Kaplan  
National Park Service  
Pacific West Regional Office  
909 1st Ave, 5th Floor  
Seattle, WA 98104  
Phone: (206) 220-4150  
Cell: (206) 475-4590
Hi Amanda,

Looping in Jessica and Rick for awareness. If the park intends to reopen under the guidelines of the new contingency plan, would it be prudent to mention the same in the news release? There didn’t appear to be a mention of that. We could help provide some suggested language.

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service

On Jan 7, 2019, at 6:36 PM, Kaplan, Amanda <amanda_kaplan@nps.gov> wrote:

Hey Jeremy and Mike

Heads up on this for you - the operations request is coming in as well but we wanted to get the press release review going. The situation at JOTR has continued to erode with people are chopping down joshua trees, driving around closures, off-roading in the park, etc. The park intends to implement a park-wide closure on Wednesday (this allows them to provide the local businesses time to cancel reservations).

What this means is that the park will be temporarily closed until they get their cost estimator approved and plan implemented to utilize FLREA funds to allow them to re-open areas they've had to close due to safety and resource concerns.

If we could get your review, comments (given the complexity of the revised contingency plan) and approval of the press release ASAP that would be greatly appreciated.

I'm available to discuss any edits or changes you feel are appropriate.

Thanks so much,

Amanda

Amanda Kaplan
National Park Service
Pacific West Regional Office
909 1st Ave, 5th Floor
Seattle, WA 98104
Phone: (206) 220-4150
Cell: (206) 475-4590
Amanda -

Attached is a draft press release that we would like to run ASAP.

Thanks,
David

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Land, George <george_land@nps.gov>
Date: Mon, Jan 7, 2019 at 3:12 PM
Subject: Release for closure
To: David Smith <david_smith@nps.gov>

--
David Smith
Superintendent
Joshua Tree National Park

(760) 367-5501 - Office
(760) 401-7999 - Mobile

<JOTR Closure 1.7.19.docx>
Hi Amanda,

Please see attached version with tracked suggested changes. We've tried to help provide some language that communicates the need for closure in order for the park to make needed cleanup, repairs, etc. before attempting to restore access. Please take a look and let us know what you all and the park think. We'd like to run whatever final version you come up with by a few folks before the park distributes.

Please thank the park for sharing and extend our sincere offer of assistance in any way we can -- they've had to deal with more than most.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

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Thanks so much,

Amanda

Amanda Kaplan
National Park Service
Pacific West Regional Office
909 1st Ave, 5th Floor
Seattle, WA 98104
Phone: (206) 220-4150
Cell: (206) 475-4590

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Smith, David <david_smith@nps.gov>
Date: Mon, Jan 7, 2019 at 3:23 PM
Subject: Fwd: Release for closure
To: Amanda Kaplan <Amanda_Kaplan@nps.gov>, Katarina Palermo <katarina_palermo@nps.gov>, Robert Palmer <bob_palmer@nps.gov>

Amanda -

Attached is a draft press release that we would like to run ASAP.

Thanks,
David

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Land, George <george_land@nps.gov>
Date: Mon, Jan 7, 2019 at 3:12 PM
Subject: Release for closure
To: David Smith <david_smith@nps.gov>

--
Good morning Jeremy,

Louis asked me to make a few revisions to this and to resend it to you for review prior to sharing internally. Cheers, Sara

Sara B. Newman, DrPH, MCP
Captain, USPHS
Director, Office of Public Health
Bureau Scientific Integrity Officer
National Park Service
1849 C Street NW, Room 2542
Washington DC 20240
Office: 202-513-7225
Cell: 202-222-8608
Fax: 202-371-1349
sara_newman@nps.gov

Please cut and paste this weblink into your browser to let us know how we are doing by completing a survey: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NPS-OPH-CustServ

nps.gov | FindYourPark.com | EncuentraTuParque.com
Jeremy, Rick:
I would like to talk with you about this messaging.
Louis

Louis Rowe
Associate Director (A)
Visitor and Resource Protection
National Park Service
Office 202 513-7082
Cell 703 994-5816
David,

Yes, I fully expect you will see a lot of media attention.

My understanding is that you can communicate with the media using the talking points and communications materials that have been provided. It is the policy questions about the updated contingency plan that should be referred to WASO. But in doing that you can also use the statement that "We are reviewing the updated contingency plan and are determining the appropriate next steps for Joshua Tree."

You can also refer to the Deputy Director's statement at https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1207/updatelapse.htm and the contingency plan available at doi.gov/shutdown.

Jeremy - do I have that right? Is there anything else you can provide?

Amanda

Amanda Kaplan
National Park Service
Pacific West Regional Office
909 1st Ave, 5th Floor
Seattle, WA 98104
Phone: (206) 220-4150
Cell: (206) 475-4590

---

On Tue, Jan 8, 2019 at 6:09 AM Smith, David <david_smith@nps.gov> wrote:
I imagine that I'm going to get pretty heavily by the local and national press. I need some direction on how best to direct the answers - sending them to an email address in DC is going to have a negative effect - is that our only option?

D

On Tue, Jan 8, 2019 at 3:58 AM Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:
All clear here. Thanks for your patience.
Anything we can do to help the park, David?

Jeremy Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service

On Jan 8, 2019, at 1:05 AM, David Smith <david_smith@nps.gov> wrote:

Thanks Jeremy. In order to expedite this and give businesses a chance to cancel tours, let’s run with it as is. Please forward to DOI.

David  
Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 7, 2019, at 7:13 PM, Kaplan, Amanda <amanda_kaplan@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi David,

Please see the attached revisions from Jeremy in WASO and his note below (it's nice). I did share with him that your plan was to complete the cost estimator to evaluate use of FLREA per the new contingency plan so he tried to integrate some of that into the press release. I thought this might be helpful since we haven't been provided talking points for that yet.

Once you've reviewed it, made any edits, and decided you're ok with it, Jeremy asks that it goes back to him one more time so he can share with some additional folks in WASO before it is distributed. I have a feeling yours is the first press release with this type of closure situation. I'm happy to discuss any thoughts, additional edits, concerns etc. Just let me know.

Thanks,  
Amanda

Amanda Kaplan  
National Park Service  
Pacific West Regional Office  
909 1st Ave, 5th Floor  
Seattle, WA 98104  
Phone: (206) 220-4150  
Cell: (206) 475-4590
Hi Amanda,

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Please thank the park for sharing and extend our sincere offer of assistance in any way we can -- they've had to deal with more than most.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

--
David Smith
Superintendent
Joshua Tree National Park

(760) 367-5501 - Office
(760) 401-7999 - Mobile
FYI - the press release for the additional press release DEVA is planning to close. I am not clear at this point about their intention to try and use FLREA going ahead but let me know if you need that info...

Amanda

Amanda Kaplan
National Park Service
Pacific West Regional Office
909 1st Ave, 5th Floor
Seattle, WA 98104
Phone: (206) 220-4150
Cell: (206) 475-4590

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Taylor, Patrick <patrick_taylor@nps.gov>
Date: Tue, Jan 8, 2019 at 9:33 AM
Subject: DEVA closure news release
To: Kaplan, Amanda <amanda_kaplan@nps.gov>, Wines, Abigail (Abby) 
<abby_wines@nps.gov>
Cc: Josh Hoines <josh_hoines@nps.gov>, Reynolds, Mike <mike_reynolds@nps.gov>

Hello Amanda,
See attached draft press release regarding closures in Death Valley. Please forward to WASO for review/comment.

Thank you,

--
Patrick Taylor
Chief of Interpretation & Education
Death Valley National Park

One sees great things from the valley; only small things from the peak. - Gilbert K. Chesterton
--
Gay Vietzke
Regional Director, Northeast Region
National Park Service
1234 Market Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107
215-597-5814
Hello Chris and Lena,

We sent this request to the NPS staff below, but we gather that they may all be out of the office. Would you be able to send us the materials listed below? Additionally, we are seeking two further documents in our work for Congress:

NPS Reference Manual 22B: Recreation Fee Project Management
NPS policy referred to on p. Rec Fee-2 of the FY2019 budget justification, stating: “The NPS established an updated expenditure policy in February 2016 to take effect in FY 2018. Parks are to obligate 55 percent of new allocations to deferred maintenance projects.”

As mentioned below, we’d be glad to discuss these requests by phone if that would be helpful.

Many thanks,

Laura

Laura Comay
Specialist in Natural Resources Policy, Congressional Research Service
101 Independence Ave., SE, Washington, DC 20540
phone: (202) 707-6036, fax: (202) 707-7289
lcomay@crs.loc.gov

This information is intended only for the congressional addressee or other individual to whom it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged material. Any review, retransmission, dissemination or other use of this information is only at the discretion of the intended recipient. If you received this in error, please contact the sender and delete the material from any computer.
Hello Melissa and Susan. We hope that this email finds you well. We are seeking information on NPS use of FLREA fees at park units during the shutdown. We are interested in readily available information on this topic, including the following:

1) Confirmation as to whether the Solicitor approved the use of FLREA fees at park units during the shutdown, and a copy of any related statement/opinion by the Solicitor. (Press stories indicate that the Solicitor approved use of these fees. See for instance: https://www.eenews.net/greenwire/2019/01/07/stories/1060111137 which states in part: [NPS acting director] Smith said NPS approved the plan after consulting with the Office of the Solicitor at the Department of the Interior. He said the agency had decided that fee revenues "can and should be used" to provide immediate help for parks during the shutdown.)

2) The purposes for which the fees are being/will be used, and citation to the specific portion of FLREA that authorizes the fees to be used for these purposes. (Presumably this would be some portion(s) of 16 USC 6807(a)(3).)

3) The total amount of FLREA fees that is available for use at park units during the shutdown.

4) The locations at which the fees are being used.

We would be glad to discuss this question and/or receive a response by phone if that would be easier for you.

Best,
Carol Hardy Vincent
202-707-8651
Laura B. Comay
202-707-6036

"This information is intended only for the congressional addressee or other individual to whom it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged material. Any review, retransmission, dissemination or other use of this information is only at the discretion of the intended recipient. If you received this in error, please contact the sender and delete the material from any computer.

The foregoing has not been cleared by CRS review and is not for attribution. This response is provided to help in time limited situations."
From: Tanner, John
To: Kaplan, Amanda
Cc: Jeremy Barnum; Sarah Creachbaum; Tuovinen, Katariina
Subject: Re: Congressional inquiry - Rep Tom McClintock
Date: Tuesday, January 8, 2019 3:59:56 PM

Amanda,

Thanks for the update.

John

On Mon, Jan 7, 2019 at 4:23 PM Kaplan, Amanda <amanda_kaplan@nps.gov> wrote:

Good afternoon John,

I understand you are the point of contact for Congressional inquiries related to the updated NPS Contingency Plan for the lapse in appropriations. Apparently Sequoia and Kings Canyon NP's fielded a question from CA Rep. Tom McClintock (see below). Apologies this didn't come to you first - we are working hard to spread the word that these communications should be directed to you but things are moving quickly and this one slipped through. I am forwarding it to you now for your awareness. If you have any other questions, please don't hesitate to reach me.

Thanks!
Amanda

Amanda Kaplan
National Park Service
Pacific West Regional Office
909 1st Ave, 5th Floor
Seattle, WA 98104
Phone: (206) 220-4150
Cell: (206) 475-4590

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Stephanie Burkhart <stephanie_burkhart@nps.gov>
Date: Mon, Jan 7, 2019 at 12:03 PM
Subject: Re: Congressional inquiry - Rep Tom McClintock
To: Brigham, Christy <christy_brigham@nps.gov>
Cc: Woody Smeck <woody_smeck@nps.gov>, melissa_kuckro@nps.gov, Michael Reynolds <michael_reynolds@nps.gov>, Amanda Kaplan <amanda_kaplan@nps.gov>

All - I’ve transitioned back to furlough today but am looping Amanda Kaplan in.

On Jan 7, 2019, at 11:51 AM, Brigham, Christy <christy_brigham@nps.gov> wrote:
Ned spoke to Congressman McClintock this morning. The Congressman was interested in when we would be opening, whether the trash and human feces were bad as reported, and whether we had sufficient FLREA funds to open.

Ned answered his questions. Our re-opening timeline is somewhat in flux due to weather. We are meeting today to listen to guidance and formulate a plan.

Let us know if you would like more information from us.

Thank you,

Christy

Christy Brigham Ph.D.
Chief of Resource Management and Science
Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks
47050 Generals Highway
Three Rivers, CA 93271-9598
559-565-3120
Christy_Brigham@nps.gov

Adjunct Professor of Biology, California State University Northridge
Adjunct Professor, Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, University of California
Los Angeles

--
John Tanner
Director
Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs
United States Department of the Interior
David:

Here's the updated story from the Times. Wish they had just corrected it instead of saying the park was going to be closed through the shutdown then "walked it back." But the reporter was within her right to report that, since that's what we did. In any event, it's much improved over the original; thanks for your help in getting it clarified.

Mike

Park officials first say Joshua Tree is closing, but then say it will reopen by end of week

By MARY FORGIONE
JAN 08, 2019 | 6:45 PM

Park officials early Tuesday said Joshua Tree National Park would close to visitors for the duration of the shutdown, but walked that back later in the day to say the park would reopen by week's end.

“The park has staff coming in Wednesday to start cleanup,” National Park Service spokesman Mike Litterst said Tuesday afternoon. “This is their top priority to get restrooms cleaned and trash picked up. We will have everything finished and access restored to the park ... by the end of the week.”

Previously the park planned to temporarily close 8 a.m. Thursday. If cleanup is complete by then, there will be no closure, Litterst said.

The plan is to restore access to closed areas and open campgrounds for overnight stays, he said. However, visitor centers will remain closed and
entrance fees will not be collected.

Campgrounds closed to overnight visitors Jan. 2 because of health and safety concerns over the park’s vault toilets, which were almost at capacity.

More problems emerged as visitors entered unchecked. Without rangers on hand, visitors created new roads by driving off pavement and defaced the park’s namesake Joshua trees, park spokesman George Land said earlier Tuesday.

“Law enforcement rangers will continue to patrol the park and enforce the closure until park staff completes the necessary cleanup and park protection measures,” a park statement said Tuesday.

Anyone with camping reservations with Recreation.gov will receive a refund.

Land said the decision to close the park was made at the national level. Earlier during the shutdown, the park’s toilets and trash barrels overflowed, prompting many volunteers to step up and try to help clean the park.

Other parks have felt the strain of visitors pouring into their unstaffed facilities without paying entrance fees. Yosemite National Park shut the popular Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias and two campgrounds because of human waste and trash on roadsides that pose a public health hazard.

In Death Valley, the Furnace Creek and Texas Springs campgrounds closed last week, along with access roads to Natural Bridge, Dante’s View and Keane Wonder Mine. The road to Salt Creek is also closed. Much of Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks are closed too.

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)

National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA
FYI - from SEKI

--------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Kawasaki-Yee, Sintia <sintia_kawasaki-yee@nps.gov>
Date: Tue, Jan 8, 2019 at 12:44 PM
To: Christy Brigham <christy_brigham@nps.gov>, Kelleher, Edward <ned_kelleher@nps.gov>, David Fox <dave_fox@nps.gov>, Jason Watkins <jason_watkins@nps.gov>, NPS PWR Public Affairs <pwr_public_affairs@nps.gov>

FYI

Sintia C. Kawasaki-Yee
Public Affairs Officer
Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks
Office: 559-565-3131 | Mobile: 559-679-2866 | Main Park Line: 559-565-3341
Find us online: www.nps.gov/seki | Facebook, Twitter, Instagram: @sequoiakingsnps

--------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Yeager, Joshua <JYeager@timesdeltamediagroup.com>
Date: Mon, Jan 7, 2019 at 10:09 PM
To: sintia_kawasaki-yee@nps.gov <sintia_kawasaki-yee@nps.gov>

Hi Sintia,

Josh here from Visalia Times-Delta. We spoke on the phone shortly before the parks’ closure last week. Hope you’re hanging in there with the shutdown.

I’m writing because Rep. Tom McClintock issued a Jan. 4 letter to the interim Secretary of the Interior suggesting that he may use FLREA funds and an exception in the Antideficiency Act to allow Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks to reopen.

The congressman’s office says the acting secretary approved this plan today and now expects the parks to reopen “within the next day or two.” I’ve included a link to his statement below, in case you haven’t seen yet.
Can you confirm whether this information is accurate? Does NPS plan to take the congressman up on his offer and reopen parks imminently? Would these funds, if used to keep the parks open during the shutdown period, possibly impact future park improvement and conservation efforts?

Thanks so much!

Josh


Josh Yeager

Mobile: 559-901-8328
Office: 559-735-3282
jyeager@gannett.com
www.visaliatimesdelta.com
Extension to the in kind services agreement at DEVA. May be no more when the FLREA plan gets reviewed/approved, but they want to ensure no gap in service. This is the one where xanterra isn't technically a concessioner to DEVA, but we decided waso would review/sign regardless.

I'll be in around 9 am tmrw.

Jessica Bowron  
Comptroller  
National Park Service  
(o) 202-513-7138  
(c) 202-280-8329

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Katariina Tuovinen <katariina_tuovinen@nps.gov>  
Date: Tue, Jan 8, 2019 at 8:33 PM  
Subject: Fwd: DEVA - 2nd Agreement for signature (Xanterra)  
To: <jessica_bowron@nps.gov>

Hi Jessica,

I’m routing this modification to you for your approval. Please note that it already was signed by Xantarr. While Xanterra is not a concessioner at DEVA they are a NPS concessioner. It is an in-kind donation so there is no cost estimate.

Also please note that the services provided in the agreement may also be moved over to FLREA, as the services provided are the covered in the updated contingency plan, however, this agreement was put into place after the first day of the shutdown at the donor's request so it may not be appropriate to fund via FLREA.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Katariina

Katariina Tuovinen  
Deputy Regional Director  
Pacific West Region  
National Park Service  
333 Bush Street, Suite 500  
San Francisco, CA 94104  
(415) 623-2105 (o)  
(628) 200-8271 (c)
Howdy,

This is the 2nd of 3 donation agreements DEVA currently has, all of which expire on January 10. We are working to have all 3 extended through January 31.

This specific agreement has the Xanterra, who own 2 resorts / private property near Furnace Creek, maintaining the restrooms and trash at 4 popular trailheads near Furnace Creek.

It is possible many of these areas / tasks will be potentially covered by the new FLREA plan in the future, however in order to prevent a gap in cleaning, resulting in additional health and human safety risks, the park is moving forward with this agreement.

If this should be going to someone different, please let me know.

There should be 1 more shortly.

Thanks,
-Mike

PS - My notes from the WASO call yesterday captured the following 2 points:

Donation Agreements

- Costs may now be covered under FLREA, but NOT ALL costs are covered
- If partners are willing to continue, partners may continue via donation.

Mike Reynolds
Superintendent
Death Valley National Park
Just a heads up that we'll probably have 6 - 9 initial proposals for your review.

One or two may generate discussion on the scope of allowed excepted services that support safe access by visitors and protect visitor-impacted park resources and facilities.

Emerging concern: With the shutdown, many construction contracts were suspended. We may need to inspect/reconsider temporary protections over historic fabric exposed mid-construction for deterioration. One example is at Fort Scott where historic buildings are being resided. The temporary wrap covering the now un-sided walls is weathering. I will discuss options CO. At minimum, will need to re-wrap, if shutdown continues much longer. Not sure how widespread this concern is.

Craig

Craig Kenkel
Acting Regional Director
Midwest Region
National Park Service
601 Riverfront Drive
Omaha, NE 68102
402-661-1520 office
440-668-2230 mobile
craig_kenkel@nps.gov
3 of 4: As you may have heard on the news, NPS is working to restore basic services in some parks with recreation fee funds (FLREA). Currently there are tight parameters for the use of these funds: first priority is to bring on staff to provide basic services (trash collection, urgent roadwork & sanitation) in park areas that were open when the shutdown started on December 22 and had to be closed since then or where partners provided resources. GWMP, NACE, NAMA, ROCR, and PRPA/WHHO are identifying basic services in these categories and are estimating the costs to pay for some employees to come back to work for these purposes. Approval for our plans goes all the way to the Department and we are working quickly to get things lined up to allow some employees to return to work, and to paid status. I am hopeful that we will be able to request additional parks in the coming days, but that will depend on the overall rate at which the FLREA money would be used by the first group of parks.

The sender provided the following contact information.
Sender's Name: NCRCC Alert Service
Sender's Email: ncr_dispatch@nps.gov
Sender's Contact Phone: 1(301) 714-2235
John,

Andrea and Ryan requested that I forward this CRS request to you.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Comay, Laura" <LCOMAY@crs.loc.gov>
Date: January 8, 2019 at 5:24:30 PM EST
To: Christine Powell <chris_powell@nps.gov>, "lena_mcdowall@nps.gov"<lena_mcdowall@nps.gov>
Cc: "Hardy-Vincent, Carol" <CHVINCENT@crs.loc.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Time-Sensitive CRS Request for Congress on Use of FLREA Fees

Hello Chris and Lena,

We sent this request to the NPS staff below, but we gather that they may all be out of the office. Would you be able to send us the materials listed below? Additionally, we are seeking two further documents in our work for Congress:

NPS Reference Manual 22B: Recreation Fee Project Management
NPS policy referred to on p. Rec Fee-2 of the FY2019 budget justification, stating: “The NPS established an updated expenditure policy in February 2016 to take effect in FY 2018. Parks are to obligate 55 percent of new allocations to deferred maintenance projects.”

As mentioned below, we’d be glad to discuss these requests by phone if that would be helpful.

Many thanks,
Laura

Laura Comay
Specialist in Natural Resources Policy, Congressional Research Service
101 Independence Ave., SE, Washington, DC 20540
phone: (202) 707-6036, fax: (202) 707-7289
Hello Melissa and Susan. We hope that this email finds you well. We are seeking information on NPS use of FLREA fees at park units during the shutdown. We are interested in readily available information on this topic, including the following:

1) Confirmation as to whether the Solicitor approved the use of FLREA fees at park units during the shutdown, and a copy of any related statement/opinion by the Solicitor. (Press stories indicate that the Solicitor approved use of these fees. See for instance: https://www.eenews.net/greenwire/2019/01/07/stories/1060111137 which states in part: [NPS acting director] Smith said NPS approved the plan after consulting with the Office of the Solicitor at the Department of the Interior. He said the agency had decided that fee revenues "can and should be used" to provide immediate help for parks during the shutdown."

2) The purposes for which the fees are being/will be used, and citation to the specific portion of FLREA that authorizes the fees to be used for these purposes. (Presumably this would be some portion(s) of 16 USC 6807(a)(3).)

3) The total amount of FLREA fees that is available for use at park units during the shutdown.

4) The locations at which the fees are being used.

We would be glad to discuss this question and/or receive a response by phone if that would be easier for you.

Best,
Carol Hardy Vincent
202-707-8651
Laura B. Comay
"This information is intended only for the congressional addressee or other individual to whom it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged material. Any review, retransmission, dissemination or other use of this information is only at the discretion of the intended recipient. If you received this in error, please contact the sender and delete the material from any computer.

The foregoing has not been cleared by CRS review and is not for attribution. This response is provided to help in time limited situations."
Thanks Craig

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329

On Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 10:12 AM Kenkel, Craig <craig_kenkel@nps.gov> wrote:
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safe access by visitors and protect visitor-impacted park resources and facilities.

Emerging concern: With the shutdown, many construction contracts were suspended. We
may need to inspect/reconsider temporary protections over historic fabric exposed mid-
construction for deterioration. One example is at Fort Scott where historic buildings are
being resided. The temporary wrap covering the now un-sided walls is weathering. I will
discuss options CO. At minimum, will need to re-wrap, if shutdown continues much
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Craig Kenkel
Acting Regional Director
Midwest Region
National Park Service
601 Riverfront Drive
Omaha, NE 68102
402-661-1520 office
440-668-2230 mobile
craig_kenkel@nps.gov
Thanks so much Chris.

From: Christine Powell <chris_powell@nps.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 9, 2019 10:06 AM
To: Comay, Laura <LCOMAY@crs.loc.gov>
Cc: lena_mcdowall@nps.gov; Hardy-Vincent, Carol <CHVINCENT@crs.loc.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Time-Sensitive CRS Request for Congress on Use of FLREA Fees

Laura,

Just letting you know I got your message. Someone will get back to you.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 8, 2019, at 5:24 PM, Comay, Laura <LCOMAY@crs.loc.gov> wrote:

Hello Chris and Lena,

We sent this request to the NPS staff below, but we gather that they may all be out of the office. Would you be able to send us the materials listed below? Additionally, we are seeking two further documents in our work for Congress:

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Many thanks,
Laura

<image001.gif>

Laura Comay
Specialist in Natural Resources Policy, Congressional Research Service
101 Independence Ave., SE, Washington, DC 20540
phone: (202) 707-6036, fax: (202) 707-7289
lcomay@crs.loc.gov

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Carol Hardy Vincent
202-707-8651
Laura B. Comay
202-707-6036

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Thank you.

On Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 10:35 AM Christine Powell <chris_powell@nps.gov> wrote:

John,

Andrea and Ryan requested that I forward this CRS request to you.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

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Date: January 8, 2019 at 5:24:30 PM EST
To: Christine Powell <chris_powell@nps.gov>, "lena_mcdowall@nps.gov"
Cc: "Hardy-Vincent, Carol" <CHVINCENT@crs.loc.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Time-Sensitive CRS Request for Congress on Use of FLREA Fees

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Many thanks,
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Carol Hardy Vincent
202-707-8651

Laura B. Comay
202-707-6036

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The foregoing has not been cleared by CRS review and is not for attribution. This response is provided to help in time limited situations."
John Tanner
Director
Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs
United States Department of the Interior
Hi Jeremy — are you among the employees still in the office?

I'm working on a follow-up story that examines how things are going at parks during the shutdown. In particular I'm interested to hear how things are going at Rocky Mountain. Is there someone at the park who can speak with me about this?

Best,

Julie

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 6:23 PM Kyle Patterson <kyle_patterson@nps.gov> wrote:
Thanks Julie. I’m sorry it didn’t work to connect this afternoon. Lots of moving parts.

If you can forward me Jack’s email I’ll make sure to follow up with him in the morning.

Happy Holidays to you as well!

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 21, 2018, at 5:54 PM, Turkewitz, Julie <julie@nytimes.com> wrote:

Hi there Jeremy,

Kyle and I had not been able to connect; we were waiting on DC signoff.

It's past deadline now. But I've forward both of your email address to my colleagues Jack Healy, based in Boulder, who will be taking up the baton on this tomorrow.

A happy holiday to both of you ...

Julie

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 4:50 PM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Julie,

Did you and Kyle connect?

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 3:43 PM Turkewitz, Julie <julie@nytimes.com> wrote:


I am looking to speak with Kyle Patterson with these specific RMNP questions. Can you assist by authorizing this? Kyle and I have worked together on past stories.

Very much appreciated.

Cell is (b) (6)

Best,

Julie Turkewitz

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Patterson, Kyle <kyle_patterson@nps.gov>
Date: Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 12:15 PM
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] NYT, Rocky Mountain National Park
To: Turkewitz, Julie <julie@nytimes.com>
Cc: News Media, NPS <newsmedia@nps.gov>

Hi Julie,

At this time, we have been asked to direct all media inquiries pertaining to the potential for a government shutdown to the NPS/Washington Communications office at (newsmedia@nps.gov)

If that guidance changes I will be back in touch with you. Sorry I can not be of more help at this time.

Thank you.

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 10:42 AM Turkewitz, Julie <julie@nytimes.com> wrote:

Kyle, hi there, hope all is well. I had very much hoped not to bother
anyone as the holiday approaches.

But: checking in about a possible government shut down.

If indeed this happens, what is the Rocky Mountain National Park plan?

-Will parks stay open? Will this be a case by case decision?
-Will RMNP be staffed?
-If not, how will this affect shuttles, trash collection, trail assistance, trail emergencies, etc.?
-What should holiday visitors expect?
-How many visitors does the park typically get in a day right around Christmas?
-How will a shutdown affect NPS employees?
-Anything else I should know about how a shutdown would affect the park or the park service?

Cell is (b) (6) if that's easier for you.

Much appreciated.

Best,

Julie

--

Julie Turkewitz
The New York Times
Denver Bureau
301 928 5072
@julieturkewitz

--

Julie Turkewitz
The New York Times
Denver Bureau
301 928 5072
@julieturkewitz
Copy, thanks!

Louis Rowe  
Associate Director (A)  
Visitor and Resource Protection  
National Park Service  
Office 202 513-7082  
Cell 703 994-5816

On Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 12:16 PM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:
  Just a simple heads up that it looks like we'll have a formal congressional request for this information at some point.

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
Mobile: (202) 617-7973  
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 12:14 PM Rowe, Louis <louis_rowe@nps.gov> wrote:
  Jeremy:
  Is this simply a head's up, or is this a specific request from you for the 2014-2018 data, and 1995. I know Captain Proctor has provided you some date previously, but do you have everything you need?

  Captain Proctor is out on sick leave today, so I don't anticipate having her back until tomorrow.

  Louis Rowe  
  Associate Director (A)  
  Visitor and Resource Protection  
  National Park Service  
  Office 202 513-7082  
  Cell 703 994-5816
Rep. Bishop wants documents on fees, deaths during shutdown

Rob Hotakainen, E&E News reporterPublished: Tuesday, January 8, 2019

NATIONAL PARKS

Trash piled up this week near the Washington Monument on the National Mall not far from the White House, which can be seen in the background of this photo. Rob Hotakainen/E&E News

With trash and sanitation problems growing at national parks during the partial government shutdown, the top Republican on the House Natural Resources Committee today said the National Park Service's unprecedented move to use visitor fees to pay for basic services was based on "a reasonable circumstance."

"I commend your actions to minimize the lapse in appropriations'
disruption to the American people's safe enjoyment of our public lands," Rep. Rob Bishop (R-Utah), the panel's ranking member, said in a letter to acting Interior Secretary David Bernhardt.

Bishop compared the current situation to the shutdown of 2013, when he said the Obama administration "took extraordinary measures to deny the public access to the nation's parks," such as barricading monuments on the National Mall.

"While the Obama administration claimed such actions were taken to safeguard 'life and property,' it could not prevent the suicide of a man who set himself on fire the afternoon of Oct. 4, 2013, on the National Mall," Bishop wrote.

Despite the praise, Bishop said he still wants Bernhardt to provide information showing what led to the decision and more information on deaths in the national parks.

Since the shutdown began Dec. 22, the Park Service has confirmed seven deaths in its parks, including four that were believed to be suicides (Greenwire, Jan. 7).

In his letter, Bishop said the number of deaths do not represent "a significant departure" from the death rate from 2007 to 2013.

"Unfortunately, with approximately 330 million annual visitors, some instances of death and injury at the 418 NPS sites are inevitable regardless of the federal government's operational status," Bishop said.

Bishop asked Bernhardt to provide documents showing "the number and manner" of all deaths in national parks since 2014 and during the government shutdown of 1995.

He also asked Bernhardt to give the Republican Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee "all documents and communications"
relating to the decision to use visitor fees to pay for trash pickup and cleaning bathrooms.

The decision by the Park Service, announced Sunday, had already aroused interest from Democrats on the committee.

Rep. Raúl Grijalva (D-Ariz.), the new chairman of the House Natural Resources Committee, said President Trump expects Americans "to either pay more to keep the toilets clean out of their own pockets or pay millions of dollars for his ridiculous wall," referring to Trump's proposal to spend more than $5 billion to build a barrier along the southern border.

"This is not how a rational president behaves, and the Natural Resources Committee will demand answers about whether these moves are legally justified," Grijalva said.

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
April, 

Attached is a rough draft of a letter to DC. Please feel free to edit away!!

Dave

--
David H. Moore
Associate Regional Director
1100 Ohio Drive SW
Washington, DC 20242
202 619-7045 (Office)
202 577-1427 (Cell)
Hi Jeremy,
I just wanted to follow up from my request from earlier. I wanted to see if it’s actually possible to talk to someone from NPS, even on background on the topics below too.

I’m also wanting to know how the operations of the parks differs from the 2013 shutdown, when according to my understand 401 NPS parks were closed?

I just wanted to see the status of response time to these request, if you can get back to me by 4 p.m.

Thank you


Rebecca Kern
Reporter
Bloomberg Environment

703-341-3715 (Office)
703-201-4953 (Signal/Cell)
rkern@bloombergenvironment.com
I will forward your email to NPS press.

On Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 9:38 AM Kern, Rebecca <rKern@bloombergenvironment.com> wrote:

Hi Faith,

I’ve got my deadline extended and am expanding the scope of this article. I wanted to see if the National Park Service can answer the following questions before 4 p.m. today.

1. How many National Parks sites have been closed during the current partial government shutdown? I’ve read one third of the parks – is this accurate?

2. How many reported deaths and suicides have occurred during the current partial government that the National Park Service has calculated? Is the amount 3 deaths, 4 suicides in the Bishop letter accurate?

3. What is the average number of deaths/suicides that occur during a week in the National Parks?

4. What actions are NPS/DOI taking to prevent injuries and deaths on NPS sites during the current government shutdown? Are you putting up physical barriers?

5. In using fee balances from the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act, are you planning to use any of these fees to specifically staff NPS sites to prevent future accidents/deaths, add future safety at the parks?

6. How much money is available in the FLREA currently? How long can the NPS continue to operate with these FLREA funds while the government remains partially shutdown?

Thank you for your time and assistance.

Best,

Rebecca Kern
Reporter
Bloomberg Environment

703-341-3715 (Office)
703-201-4953 (Signal/Cell)
rkern@bloombergenvironment.com
I’ve forwarded your inquiry to NPS.

On Tue, Jan 8, 2019 at 1:36 PM Kern, Rebecca <rKern@bloombergenvironment.com> wrote:

Hello,

I'm writing about this letter<https://republicans-naturalresources.house.gov/newsroom/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=405984> that Ranking Member Bishop sent to Acting Secretary Bernhardt today.

1. In light of reports of 3 deaths and 4 suicides at the National Park Service sites during the current partial government shutdown cited in the letter, what are your safety concerns about NPS sites remaining open during the shutdown?

2. What actions is NPS/DOI taking to prevent injuries and deaths on NPS sites?

3. In using fee balances from the Federal Lands Recreation Act, are you planning to use any of these fees to specifically staff NPS sites to prevent future accidents/deaths, add future safety at the parks?

I'm writing on this today if you can respond to me before 4 p.m. EST.

Thank you,


Rebecca Kern
Reporter
Bloomberg Environment
703-341-3715 (Office)
703-201-4953 (Signal/Cell)
rkern@bloombergenvironment.com<mailto:rkern@bloombergenvironment.com>

--

**Faith C. Vander Voort**
Deputy Press Secretary
Department of the Interior

--

**Faith C. Vander Voort**
Deputy Press Secretary
Department of the Interior
Hi Chris -

I can't access RM-22 on Inside NPS because I can't get onto the network from overseas. I don't seem to have a copy on my computer or I would send it. I believe you can download RM-22 from the Fee site on Inside NPS. I've attached the policy memo (RevisedPolicy-Federal-Lands-RecEnhancement-ActExpenditures_508c.pdf) and attachment with the 2016 policy update. Jessica has these as well, but if you haven't already I'd coordinate with her to make sure this is what you want to send rather than something else. Jessica also has contact info for Chris Williamson who can also help out if necessary.

Thanks,

Lena

On Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 10:05 AM Christine Powell <chris_powell@nps.gov> wrote:

Laura,

Just letting you know I got your message. Someone will get back to you.

Sent from my iPhone

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Laura

Laura Comay
Specialist in Natural Resources Policy, Congressional Research Service
101 Independence Ave., SE, Washington, DC 20540
phone: (202) 707-6036, fax: (202) 707-7289
lcomay@crs.loc.gov

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Hello Melissa and Susan. We hope that this email finds you well. We are seeking information on NPS use of FLREA fees at park units during the shutdown. We are interested in readily available information on this topic, including the following:

1) Confirmation as to whether the Solicitor approved the use of FLREA fees at park units during the shutdown, and a copy of any related statement/opinion by the Solicitor. (Press stories indicate that the Solicitor approved use of these fees. See for instance: https://www.eenews.net/greenwire/2019/01/07/stories/1060111137 which states in part: "[NPS acting director] Smith said NPS approved the plan after consulting with the Office of the Solicitor at the Department of the Interior. He said the agency had decided that fee revenues "can and should be used" to provide immediate help for parks during the shutdown."")

2) The purposes for which the fees are being/will be used, and citation to the specific portion of FLREA that authorizes the fees to be used for these purposes. (Presumably this would be some portion(s) of 16 USC 6807(a)(3).)

3) The total amount of FLREA fees that is available for use at park units during the shutdown.

4) The locations at which the fees are being used.

We would be glad to discuss this question and/or receive a response by phone if that would be easier for you.

Best,

Carol Hardy Vincent
202-707-8651

Laura B. Comay
202-707-6036

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The foregoing has not been cleared by CRS review and is not for attribution. This response is provided to help in time limited situations.

--

Lena McDowall
Deputy Director, Management and Administration
Ph: 202-513-7240
Cell: 202-641-1814
Email: Lena_McDowall@nps.gov
Hi Lena,

I did talk with Jessica. This request has come in previously and also similar questions have come in from OMB. Jessica and Andrea instructed me to send it upstairs and the Department will determine how to respond. I sent it to John Tanner.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 9, 2019, at 2:37 PM, McDowall, Lena <lena_mcdowall@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Chris -

I can't access RM-22 on Inside NPS because I can't get onto the network from overseas. I don't seem to have a copy on my computer or I would send it. I believe you can download RM-22 from the Fee site on Inside NPS. I've attached the policy memo (RevisedPolicy-Federal-Lands...pdf) and attachment with the 2016 policy update. Jessica has these as well, but if you haven't already I'd coordinate with her to make sure this is what you want to send rather than something else. Jessica also has contact info for Chris Williamson who can also help out if necessary.

Thanks,

Lena

On Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 10:05 AM Christine Powell <chris_powell@nps.gov> wrote:

Laura,

Just letting you know I got your message. Someone will get back to you.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 8, 2019, at 5:24 PM, Comay, Laura <LCOMAY@crs.loc.gov> wrote:

Hello Chris and Lena,

We sent this request to the NPS staff below, but we gather that they may all be out of the office. Would you be able to send us the materials listed below? Additionally, we are seeking two further documents in our work for Congress:
NPS policy referred to on p. Rec Fee-2 of the FY2019 budget justification, stating: “The NPS established an updated expenditure policy in February 2016 to take effect in FY 2018. Parks are to obligate 55 percent of new allocations to deferred maintenance projects.”

As mentioned below, we’d be glad to discuss these requests by phone if that would be helpful.

Many thanks,

Laura

Laura Comay
Specialist in Natural Resources Policy, Congressional Research Service
101 Independence Ave., SE, Washington, DC 20540
phone: (202) 707-6036, fax: (202) 707-7289
lcomay@crs.loc.gov

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Hello Melissa and Susan. We hope that this email finds you well. We are seeking information on NPS use of FLREA fees at park units during the shutdown. We are interested in readily available information on this topic, including the following:

1) Confirmation as to whether the Solicitor approved the use of FLREA fees at park units during the shutdown, and a copy of any related statement/opinion by the Solicitor. (Press stories indicate that the Solicitor approved use of these fees. See for instance: https://www.eenews.net/greenwire/2019/01/07/stories/1060111137 which states in part: [NPS acting director] Smith said NPS approved the plan after consulting with the Office of the Solicitor at the Department of the Interior. He said the agency had decided that fee revenues "can and should be used" to provide immediate help for parks during the shutdown.")

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3) The total amount of FLREA fees that is available for use at park units during the shutdown.

4) The locations at which the fees are being used.

We would be glad to discuss this question and/or receive a response by phone if that would be easier for you.

Best,

Carol Hardy Vincent

202-707-8651
Laura B. Comay
202-707-6036

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--

Lena McDowall
Deputy Director, Management and Administration
Ph: 202-513-7240
Cell: 202-641-1814
Email: Lena_McDowall@nps.gov


<ACFrOgDtLoifU9ahoX88PyaopqEcXpYSKaS3QLAgTbGo7KClfVHZ-4FUrsUwbU9_Kz74ZDWN1k6RrOYE-7mFLfmY-iJHIHIdSZoadAYYe41kRUm1RLaUXdVEmePGx7xarE50AUCZCZ5ijp2Ok.pdf>
Hi

I wanted to see if you will be able to respond to my requests below before 4 p.m. today?

Thank you,

Rebecca Kern

Reporter

Bloomberg Environment

703-341-3715 (Office)
703-201-4953 (Signal/Cell)

rkern@bloombergenvironment.com
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Bloomberg Inquiry on NPS - New Deadline 4 p.m. Today

I will forward your email to NPS press.

On Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 9:38 AM Kern, Rebecca <rKern@bloombergenvironment.com> wrote:

Hi Faith,

I’ve got my deadline extended and am expanding the scope of this article. I wanted to see if the National Park Service can answer the following questions before 4 p.m. today.

1. What how many National Parks sites have been closed during the current partial government shutdown? I’ve read one third of the parks – is this accurate?

2. How many reported deaths and suicides have occurred during the current partial government that the National Park Service has calculated? Is the amount 3 deaths, 4 suicides in the Bishop letter accurate?

3. What is the average number of deaths/suicides that occur during a week in the National Parks?

4. What actions are NPS/DOI taking to prevent injuries and deaths on NPS sites during the current government shutdown? Are you putting up physical barriers?

5. In using fee balances from the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act, are you planning to use any of these fees to specifically staff NPS sites to prevent future accidents/deaths, add future safety at the parks?

6. How much money is available in the FLREA currently? How long can the NPS continue to operate with these FLREA funds while the government remains partially shutdown?

Thank you for your time and assistance.

Best,

Rebecca Kern
Reporter
I've forwarded your inquiry to NPS.

On Tue, Jan 8, 2019 at 1:36 PM Kern, Rebecca <rKern@bloombergenvironment.com> wrote:

Hello,

I'm writing about this letter[https://republicans-naturalresources.house.gov/newsroom/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=405984] that Ranking Member Bishop sent to Acting Secretary Bernhardt today.

1. In light of reports of 3 deaths and 4 suicides at the National Park Service sites during the current partial government shutdown cited in the letter, what are your safety concerns about NPS sites remaining open during the shutdown?

2. What actions is NPS/DOI taking to prevent injuries and deaths on NPS sites?

3. In using fee balances from the Federal Lands Recreation Act, are you planning to use any of these fees to specifically staff NPS sites to prevent future accidents/deaths, add future safety at the parks?

I'm writing on this today if you can respond to me before 4 p.m. EST.

Thank you,
Rebecca Kern  
Reporter  
Bloomberg Environment  
703-341-3715 (Office)  
703-201-4953 (Signal/Cell)  
rkern@bloombergenvironment.com

Faith C. Vander Voort  
Deputy Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

Faith C. Vander Voort  
Deputy Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior

Faith C. Vander Voort  
Deputy Press Secretary  
Department of the Interior
Mike/Jeremy,

Please see the attached press release re: a campground closure at CHIS for a downed tree that has blocked access. The park is looking into submitting a FLREA budget proposal that would address this issue. The park only has one staff person qualified to work on a tree of this size (it is very large) and would need to call him in from furlough to do the work. With that I wasn’t sure if you would want to work the additional language in about fee $$ yet.

Let me know when it's ready/approved to go and if you have any edits you want to make or want me to make and resubmit.

thanks for all you are doing...again and again....

Amanda

Amanda Kaplan
National Park Service
Pacific West Regional Office
909 1st Ave, 5th Floor
Seattle, WA 98104
Phone: (206) 220-4150
Cell: (206) 475-4590

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Menard, Yvonne <yvonne_menard@nps.gov>
Date: Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 11:39 AM
Subject: Attached press release for your review
To: Amanda Kaplan <amanda_kaplan@nps.gov>

Amanda,

Attached should be the correct file. Thank you for all your work.

Yvonne Menard
Chief of Interpretation & Public Information Officer
Channel Islands National Park
1901 Spinnaker Drive
Hi all,

Can you take a look at this response about potential snow, general roadwork, and trash? The reporter is on a short deadline, so hoping to get back to her soon.

*During the lapse of appropriations, the National Park Service will treat roads and clear snow as planned for in the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Winter Weather Plan.*

*Crews are completing emergency repairs for large potholes on NPS roads in the region. Several long-term road projects that were funded by previous appropriations have continued during the shutdown.*

*The District of Columbia has assisted with trash collection while National Park Service employees are furloughed.*

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Litterst, Michael <mike_litterst@nps.gov>
Date: Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 12:12 PM
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] WUSA9 MEDIA REQUEST- SNOWS COMING-WILL NPS BE DOING SNOW REMOVAL DURING SHUTDOWN?
To: Katelyn Liming <katelyn_liming@nps.gov>

Katie:

Can you track this down (specifically #1) and share a draft response? We should probably have a statement on shutdown snow removal, since I'm sure we'll get lots more similar inquiries, given the forecast.

If there's a good, basic answer to #2, such as "National Park Service operations, including road maintenance, are suspended as a result of the lapse of appropriations," I would just go with that. But I don't know what GWMP and BW Parkway are doing because of the shutdown.

For #3 pull from the press release on DC picking up trash; we won't put a dollar figure on it (that would have to come from DC)

#4 we won't address.
Thanks!

Mike

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)
National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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

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---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Block, Eliana <eblock@wusa9.com>
Date: Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 11:52 AM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] WUSA9 MEDIA REQUEST- SNOWS COMING-WILL NPS BE DOING SNOW REMOVAL DURING SHUTDOWN?
To: Litterst, Michael <mike_litterst@nps.gov>

Good Morning Mike,

Eliana Block from WUSA9 here.

I hope you are doing well! Thank you for answering all our questions about the shutdown.

I have a few more:

1. Will the National Park Service be salting and removing snow from National Parkways with the approaching storm? If not, who will? D.C. Government?
2. How has the government shutdown impacted maintenance on national parkways like the George Washington Parkway and Baltimore-Washington Parkway?
3. As in any government shutdown, dome things fall to waist sides, how has D.C. government stepped up to help? What NPS responsibilities has D.C. government taken on? Can you put a figure to it—how much has it cost D.C. government to take on those responsibilities?
4. Lastly, will those costs be reimbursed to D.C.? 
Thanks so much,

Please give me a call,

I am on deadline,

Eliana Block | Verify/News Researcher

4100 Wisconsin Ave NW | Washington, DC 20016

P 202-895-5506

wusa9.com | P 202-895-5506 | @ElianaBlock

Katie Liming
Public Affairs Specialist
National Capital Region
National Park Service

katelyn_liming@nps.gov
Office: 202-619-7156
Cell: 703-399-4547
Thanks, Faith; working on it now.

Mike

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)
National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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

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On Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 3:14 PM Vander Voort, Faith <faith_vandervoort@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Kern, Rebecca <rKern@bloombergenvironment.com>
Date: Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 3:13 PM
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Bloomberg Inquiry on NPS - New Deadline 4 p.m. Today
To: Vander Voort, Faith <faith_vandervoort@ios.doi.gov>
CC: Interior_Press (Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov) <Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov>, Swift, Heather <heather_swift@ios.doi.gov>

Hi

I wanted to see if you will be able to respond to my requests below before 4 p.m. today?

Thank you,

Rebecca Kern
Reporter
I will forward your email to NPS press.

On Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 9:38 AM Kern, Rebecca <rKern@bloombergenvironment.com> wrote:

Hi Faith,

I’ve got my deadline extended and am expanding the scope of this article. I wanted to see if the National Park Service can answer the following questions before 4 p.m. today.

1. What how many National Parks sites have been closed during the current partial government shutdown? I’ve read one third of the parks – is this accurate?

2. How many reported deaths and suicides have occurred during the current partial government that the National Park Service has calculated? Is the amount 3 deaths, 4 suicides in the Bishop letter accurate?

3. What is the average number of deaths/suicides that occur during a week in the National Parks?

4. What actions are NPS/DOI taking to prevent injuries and deaths on NPS sites during the current government shutdown? Are you putting up physical barriers?

5. In using fee balances from the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act, are you planning to use any of these fees to specifically staff NPS sites to prevent future accidents/deaths, add future safety at the parks?
6. How much money is available in the FLREA currently? How long can the NPS continue to operate with these FLREA funds while the government remains partially shutdown?

Thank you for your time and assistance.

Best,

Rebecca Kern
Reporter

Bloomberg Environment

703-341-3715 (Office)
703-201-4953 (Signal/Cell)
rkern@bloombergenvironment.com

From: Vander Voort, Faith [mailto:faith_vandervoort@ios.doi.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, January 08, 2019 1:44 PM
To: Kern, Rebecca <rKern@bloombergenvironment.com>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Bloomberg Inquiry on House Letter on NPS Deaths

I’ve forwarded your inquiry to NPS.

On Tue, Jan 8, 2019 at 1:36 PM Kern, Rebecca <rKern@bloombergenvironment.com> wrote:

Hello,

I'm writing about this letter<https://republicans-naturalresources.house.gov/newsroom/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=405984> that Ranking Member Bishop sent to Acting Secretary Bernhardt today.

1. In light of reports of 3 deaths and 4 suicides at the National Park Service sites
during the current partial government shutdown cited in the letter, what are your safety concerns about NPS sites remaining open during the shutdown?

2. What actions is NPS/DOI taking to prevent injuries and deaths on NPS sites?

3. In using fee balances from the Federal Lands Recreation Act, are you planning to use any of these fees to specifically staff NPS sites to prevent future accidents/deaths, add future safety at the parks?

I'm writing on this today if you can respond to me before 4 p.m. EST.

Thank you,


Rebecca Kern
Reporter
Bloomberg Environment
703-341-3715 (Office)
703-201-4953 (Signal/Cell)
rkern@bloombergenvironment.com

--

Faith C. Vander Voort
Deputy Press Secretary
Department of the Interior

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Faith C. Vander Voort
Deputy Press Secretary
Department of the Interior

--

Faith C. Vander Voort
Deputy Press Secretary
Department of the Interior
Due to the federal government shutdown, I am not in the office and am unable to access or respond to email. I will respond to email messages as needed once government operations resume and I am back in the office.

--

Please note, I am out of the office on detail to National Capital Parks-East. For National Mall and Memorial Parks related issues, please contact Catherine Dewey at (202) 245-4711. Thank you.

Michael Comisso
Acting Chief of Resource Management
National Capital Parks-East
1900 Anacostia Drive SE
Washington, DC 20020
202.690.5160 office
202.494.6905 cell

Cultural Resources Program Manager
National Mall and Memorial Parks
National Park Service
900 Ohio Drive, SW
Washington, DC 20024
Thanks for your email.  
Due to the federal government shutdown I'm furloughed. If you are a reporter and need assistance related to the shutdown please contact Katie Liming at katelyn_liming@nps.gov or at 703-399-4547. You can also always contact newsmedia@nps.gov. If your inquiry is not related to the shutdown or a life/safety emergency, I'll be back in touch once the shutdown has ended.

Thank you,

Jenny

--

Jenny Anzelmo-Sarles  
Chief of Public Affairs  
National Park Service  
National Capital Region

jenny_anzelmo-sarles@nps.gov
Office: (202) 619-7177
Cell: (307) 690-2355

Who are we? National Capital Region - Office of Communications

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

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Thanks!
Jenni

On Tue, Jan 8, 2019 at 3:55 PM Jenni Gritters <(b) (6) @gmail.com> wrote:

Hi Mike,

One more clarifying question for you before this goes live:

From my read of the contingency plan, the NPS Director could choose to use funds from the fee-charging parks for other parks as well. Is that true? I want to confirm who will have the decision making power in this case. Will it be the individual parks? Or will the NPS director choose where the funds go?

Thank you,
Jenni

On Tue, Jan 8, 2019 at 2:22 PM News Media, NPS <newsmedia@nps.gov> wrote:

Parks that do not collect fees and have been accessible during the lapse in appropriations are eligible to receive funds to address maintenance, health or safety issues that have occurred in their parks during the shutdown.

Mike

On Tue, Jan 8, 2019 at 4:16 PM Jenni Gritters <(b) (6) @gmail.com> wrote:

Thanks, Mike. Any sense for what the parks who don't typically collect fees will do? I'm assuming they won't be affected by this new plan?

On Tue, Jan 8, 2019 at 12:49 PM News Media, NPS <newsmedia@nps.gov> wrote:

Jenni:

At this point we are unable to speculate or provide information on which parks will be affected by the revised contingency plan. Park are currently identifying their available balances of recreational fee funds; determining their immediate maintenance, health, and safety needs; and figuring out the staff and resources needed to address those needs. As parks complete their planning in the next couple of days, we'll be able to provide more detailed information.

Mike

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)
On Tue, Jan 8, 2019 at 3:14 PM Jenni Gritters <b>(6)<br>@gmail.com</b> wrote:

Hi Jeremy and Andrew,

I'm a journalist working on a story for the REI Co-op Journal about the recent announcement that the NPS will allow fee collecting parks to use those fees to fund a skeleton crew of workers during the government shut down.

Would you be able to comment on this program? I'm specifically interested in confirming which parks will be impacted by these programs, an estimate of how many employees will be returning to work, and which activities they will be addressing (ie. garbage collection, bathroom cleaning, other maintenance, etc).

I'd also welcome a comment from the NPS about the challenges of operating parks during the shut down, and how the organization at large is working toward short term solutions.

**My deadline is 2 pm PT today, 1/8.** You're welcome to call me as well for a quick 5 minute chat: 425-422-1251.

Thank you so much,
Jenni

--
Jenni W. Gritters
Freelance Outdoor & Health Journalist
Founder, ZEST Storycraft
(425) 422-1251
[www.zeststorycraft.com](http://www.zeststorycraft.com)

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National Park Service
Office of Public Affairs

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Jenni W. Gritters
Freelance Outdoor & Health Journalist
Founder, ZEST Storycraft
(425) 422-1251
[www.zeststorycraft.com](http://www.zeststorycraft.com)
Ok thanks

——
Lisa Mendelson, AICP
Acting Regional Director
National Park Service
Sent by Cell 202-297-1338

On Jan 9, 2019, at 3:42 PM, Liming, Katelyn <katelyn_liming@nps.gov> wrote:

The reporter is most interested in the snow plans. Is it okay to just send the below for now (minus the note on trash)?

During the lapse of appropriations, the National Park Service will treat roads and clear snow as planned for in the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Winter Weather Plan.

Crews are completing emergency repairs for large potholes on NPS roads in the region. Several long-term road projects that were funded by previous appropriations have continued during the shutdown.

On Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 3:36 PM Lisa Mendelson <lisa_mendelson-jelmini@nps.gov> wrote:

I think we have to acknowledge that the NPS is planning for a return to sanitation and trash via the FLREA funds. Once approved we will work w DC and others to return to service.

Or something like that.

——
Lisa Mendelson, AICP
Acting Regional Director
National Park Service
Sent by Cell 202-297-1338

On Jan 9, 2019, at 3:14 PM, Liming, Katelyn <katelyn_liming@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi all,

Can you take a look at this response about potential snow, general roadwork, and trash? The reporter is on a short deadline, so hoping
to get back to her soon.

During the lapse of appropriations, the National Park Service will treat roads and clear snow as planned for in the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Winter Weather Plan.

Crews are completing emergency repairs for large potholes on NPS roads in the region. Several long-term road projects that were funded by previous appropriations have continued during the shutdown.

The District of Columbia has assisted with trash collection while National Park Service employees are furloughed.

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Litterst, Michael <mike_litterst@nps.gov>
Date: Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 12:12 PM
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] WUSA9 MEDIA REQUEST-SNOWS COMING-WILL NPS BE DOING SNOW REMOVAL DURING SHUTDOWN?
To: Katelyn Liming <katelyn_liming@nps.gov>

Katie:

Can you track this down (specifically #1) and share a draft response? We should probably have a statement on shutdown snow removal, since I'm sure we'll get lots more similar inquiries, given the forecast.

If there's a good, basic answer to #2, such as "National Park Service operations, including road maintenance, are suspended as a result of the lapse of appropriations," I would just go with that. But I don't know what GWMP and BW Parkway are doing because of the shutdown.

For #3 pull from the press release on DC picking up trash; we won't put a dollar figure on it (that would have to come from DC)

#4 we won't address.

Thanks!

Mike
Good Morning Mike,

Eliana Block from WUSA9 here.

I hope you are doing well! Thank you for answering all our questions about the shutdown.

I have a few more:

1. Will the National Park Service be salting and removing snow from National Parkways with the approaching storm? If not, who will? D.C. Government?
2. How has the government shutdown impacted maintenance on national parkways like the George Washington Parkway and Baltimore-Washington Parkway?
3. As in any government shutdown, dome things fall to waist sides, how has D.C. government stepped up to help? What NPS responsibilities has D.C. government taken on? Can you put a figure to it—how much has it cost D.C. government to take on those responsibilities?
4. Lastly, will those costs be reimbursed to D.C.?
Thanks so much,

Please give me a call,

I am on deadline,

<image001.png>

**Eliana Block** Verify/News Researcher

4100 Wisconsin Ave NW | Washington, DC 20016

P 202-895-5506

[www.usa9.com](http://www.usa9.com) | P 202-895-5506 | <image002.png> @ElianaBlock

<image003.png>

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Katie Liming
Public Affairs Specialist
National Capital Region
National Park Service

[katelyn_liming@nps.gov](mailto:katelyn_liming@nps.gov)
Office: 202-619-7156
Cell: 703-399-4547

--

Katie Liming
Public Affairs Specialist
National Capital Region
National Park Service

[katelyn_liming@nps.gov](mailto:katelyn_liming@nps.gov)
Office: 202-619-7156
Cell: 703-399-4547
Rebecca:

The answers to your questions are in your original text below.

Mike

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)
National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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

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On Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 3:14 PM Vander Voort, Faith <faith_vandervoort@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Kern, Rebecca <rKern@bloombergenvironment.com>
Date: Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 3:13 PM
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Bloomberg Inquiry on NPS - New Deadline 4 p.m. Today
To: Vander Voort, Faith <faith_vandervoort@ios.doi.gov>
CC: Interior_Press (Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov) <Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov>, Swift, Heather <heather_swift@ios.doi.gov>

Hi

I wanted to see if you will be able to respond to my requests below before 4 p.m. today?

Thank you,


Rebecca Kern
I will forward your email to NPS press.

On Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 9:38 AM Kern, Rebecca wrote:

Hi Faith,

I’ve got my deadline extended and am expanding the scope of this article. I wanted to see if the National Park Service can answer the following questions before 4 p.m. today.

1. What how many National Parks sites have been closed during the current partial government shutdown? I’ve read one third of the parks – is this accurate?

   We do not have figures on how many parks have been accessible and how many have been closed during the lapse of appropriations.

2. How many reported deaths and suicides have occurred during the current partial government that the National Park Service has calculated? Is the amount 3 deaths, 4 suicides in the Bishop letter accurate?
The National Park Service has confirmed seven fatalities in the National Park System since December 22; we believe four of these to be suicides.

3. What is the average number of deaths/suicides that occur during a week in the National Parks?

Over the course of the year there an average six deaths a week in the National Park System including accidents like drownings, falls, and motor vehicle crashes; medical related incidents such as heart attacks; and suicides.

4. What actions are NPS/DOI taking to prevent injuries and deaths on NPS sites during the current government shutdown? Are you putting up physical barriers?

While some national park areas are accessible to the public during the lapse in federal appropriations, the National Park Service (NPS) is unable to fully staff the properties under its management. It is not feasible to close or otherwise prohibit all access to all areas managed by the NPS. For most parks, there will be no NPS-provided visitor services, such as restrooms, trash collection, facilities, or road maintenance and current park alerts and conditions may not be up to date. Emergency and rescue services will be limited. Park visitors are advised to use caution if choosing to enter NPS-managed areas as hazardous or dangerous conditions may exist.

Even when fully staffed, the National Park System offers a wide range of visitor experiences in unique landscapes with potential hazards that may exist at parks across the nation. Visitors can reduce their risk of injury if they plan ahead and prepare properly, select the most appropriate activity that matches their skill set and experience, seek information before they arrive at the park about hazards and environmental conditions, follow rules and regulations and use sound judgement while recreating.

5. In using fee balances from the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act, are you planning to use any of these fees to specifically staff NPS sites to prevent future accidents/deaths, add future safety at the parks?

FLREA funds will be used to address the following items in a manner that maintains: restrooms and sanitation, trash collection, road maintenance, campground operations, law enforcement and emergency operations, and staffing entrance gates as necessary to provide critical safety information.

6. How much money is available in the FLREA currently? How long can the NPS continue to operate with these FLREA funds while the government remains partially shutdown?

We don't have anything to share on this, as we are still gathering data to identify park available balances of recreation fee funds.
I’ve forwarded your inquiry to NPS.

On Tue, Jan 8, 2019 at 1:36 PM Kern, Rebecca <rKern@bloombergenvironment.com> wrote:

Hello,

I'm writing about this letter <https://republicans-naturalresources.house.gov/newsroom/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=405984> that Ranking Member Bishop sent to Acting Secretary Bernhardt today.

1. In light of reports of 3 deaths and 4 suicides at the National Park Service sites during the current partial government shutdown cited in the letter, what are your safety concerns about NPS sites remaining open during the shutdown?
2. What actions is NPS/DOI taking to prevent injuries and deaths on NPS sites?

3. In using fee balances from the Federal Lands Recreation Act, are you planning to use any of these fees to specifically staff NPS sites to prevent future accidents/deaths, add future safety at the parks?

I'm writing on this today if you can respond to me before 4 p.m. EST.

Thank you,

Rebecca Kern
Reporter

Bloomberg Environment

703-341-3715 (Office)
703-201-4953 (Signal/Cell)
rkern@bloombergenvironment.com

--

Faith C. Vander Voort
Deputy Press Secretary
Department of the Interior

--

Faith C. Vander Voort
Deputy Press Secretary
Department of the Interior
All,

Attached is the USPP Cost Estimator. Any questions please let me know.

Robert D. MacLean
Chief of Police
United States Park Police
202.619.7350 - Office
robert_maclean@nps.gov - Email

We are the oldest, federal, uniformed police force, which serves as the National Park Service urban-park-interface between our society and our nation’s most cherished symbols of democracy. We selflessly protect and defend these symbols, what they represent, and those that visit them. We embrace our duty and responsibility to those we serve and the civil liberties that make us all free. We are proud of our heritage, our history, and our mission. We are the United States Park Police.

USPP Strategic Plan: https://www.nps.gov/subjects/uspp/upload/USPP-Strategic-Plan-final.pdf
USPP Webpage: https://www.nps.gov/uspp/
USPP Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/USParkPolice/
USPP Twitter: https://twitter.com/usparkpolicepio

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FYI

Sent from my iPhone

John M Bockmier
Department of Interior
Director of Communications
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC
20240

202.208.3636 Office
202.897.7366 Cell

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Atagi, Colin" <Colin.Atagi@desertsun.com>
Date: January 9, 2019 at 3:17:15 PM EST
To: "Interior_press@ios.doi.gov" <Interior_press@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Joshua Tree National Park

Hello,

My name is Colin Atagi and I’m a reporter with The Desert Sun newspaper in Palm Springs, California. We’re based just outside of Joshua Tree and have been covering conditions at the national park related to the government shutdown.

We understand that the park will officially close Thursday morning so that staff may address sanitation and vandalism issues that occurred in the past three weeks. A news release states park access may be restored “in the coming days.” However, NPS spokesman Mike Litterst was quoted in an LA Times article that the restoration process could begin today (Wednesday) and the park could reopen by the end of the week. We’d like someone on your end to reiterate that statement.

Please feel free to respond via email or phone at (760) 534-4252.

Thank you very much.

Colin Atagi
Does this look okay?

*During the lapse of appropriations, the National Park Service will treat roads and clear snow from parkways and other commuter routes as needed throughout Greater Washington.*

*Crews are completing emergency repairs for large potholes on NPS roads in the region. Several long-term road projects that were funded by previous appropriations have continued during the shutdown.*

On Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 12:12 PM Litterst, Michael <mike_litterst@nps.gov> wrote:

Katie:

Can you track this down (specifically #1) and share a draft response? We should probably have a statement on shutdown snow removal, since I'm sure we'll get lots more similar inquiries, given the forecast.

If there's a good, basic answer to #2, such as "National Park Service operations, including road maintenance, are suspended as a result of the lapse of appropriations," I would just go with that. But I don't know what GWMP and BW Parkway are doing because of the shutdown.

For #3 pull from the press release on DC picking up trash; we won't put a dollar figure on it (that would have to come from DC)

#4 we won't address.

Thanks!

Mike

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)

National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA
Good Morning Mike,

Eliana Block from WUSA9 here.

I hope you are doing well! Thank you for answering all our questions about the shutdown.

I have a few more:

1. Will the National Park Service be salting and removing snow from National Parkways with the approaching storm? If not, who will? D.C. Government?
2. How has the government shutdown impacted maintenance on national parkways like the George Washington Parkway and Baltimore-Washington Parkway?
3. As in any government shutdown, some things fall to waist sides, how has D.C. government stepped up to help? What NPS responsibilities has D.C. government taken on? Can you put a figure to it—how much has it cost D.C. government to take on those responsibilities?
4. Lastly, will those costs be reimbursed to D.C.?

Thanks so much,

Please give me a call,

I am on deadline,
--
Katie Liming
Public Affairs Specialist
National Capital Region
National Park Service

katelyn_liming@nps.gov
Office: 202-619-7156
Cell: 703-399-4547
Thanks good to go

Lisa Mendelson, AICP
Acting Regional Director
National Park Service
Sent by Cell 202-297-1338

On Jan 9, 2019, at 3:56 PM, Liming, Katelyn <katelyn_liming@nps.gov> wrote:

Just talked to Cherie. How about this?:

During the lapse of appropriations, the National Park Service will treat roads and clear snow from parkways and other commuter routes as needed throughout Greater Washington.

Crews are completing emergency repairs for large potholes on NPS roads in the region. Several long-term road projects that were funded by previous appropriations have continued during the shutdown.

On Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 3:49 PM Lisa Mendelson <lisa_mendelson-jelmini@nps.gov> wrote:

Look at the park plans - and check w Cherie on specific language. She’s on her Gov cell phone.

------

Lisa Mendelson, AICP
Acting Regional Director
National Park Service
Sent by Cell 202-297-1338

On Jan 9, 2019, at 3:46 PM, Slayton, April <april_slayton@nps.gov> wrote:

That sounds ok to me - although I wasn't able to find a copy of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Winter Weather Plan anywhere, so the reporter's next question is likely to be, "what's in that plan?"

--

April Slayton
Acting Deputy Regional Director
National Park Service, National Capital Region
(202) 619-7022 - direct
(202) 641-0291 - mobile
On Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 3:42 PM Liming, Katelyn
<katelyn_liming@nps.gov> wrote:
The reporter is most interested in the snow plans. Is it okay to just send the below for now (minus the note on trash)?

*During the lapse of appropriations, the National Park Service will treat roads and clear snow as planned for in the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Winter Weather Plan.*

*Crews are completing emergency repairs for large potholes on NPS roads in the region. Several long-term road projects that were funded by previous appropriations have continued during the shutdown.*

On Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 3:36 PM Lisa Mendelson
<lisa_mendelson-ielmini@nps.gov> wrote:
I think we have to acknowledge that the NPS is planning for a return to sanitation and trash via the FLREA funds. Once approved we will work w DC and others to return to service.

Or something like that.

——
Lisa Mendelson, AICP
Acting Regional Director
National Park Service
Sent by Cell 202-297-1338

On Jan 9, 2019, at 3:14 PM, Liming, Katelyn
<katelyn_liming@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi all,

Can you take a look at this response about potential snow, general roadwork, and trash? The reporter is on a short deadline, so hoping to get back to her soon.

*During the lapse of appropriations, the National Park Service will treat roads and clear snow as planned for in the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments Winter Weather Plan.*

*Crews are completing emergency repairs for large*
potholes on NPS roads in the region. Several long-term road projects that were funded by previous appropriations have continued during the shutdown.

The District of Columbia has assisted with trash collection while National Park Service employees are furloughed.

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Litterst, Michael <mike_litterst@nps.gov>
Date: Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 12:12 PM
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] WUSA9 MEDIA REQUEST- SNOWS COMING-WILL NPS BE DOING SNOW REMOVAL DURING SHUTDOWN?
To: Katelyn Liming <katelyn_liming@nps.gov>

Katie:

Can you track this down (specifically #1) and share a draft response? We should probably have a statement on shutdown snow removal, since I'm sure we'll get lots more similar inquiries, given the forecast.

If there's a good, basic answer to #2, such as "National Park Service operations, including road maintenance, are suspended as a result of the lapse of appropriations," I would just go with that. But I don't know what GWMP and BW Parkway are doing because of the shutdown.

For #3 pull from the press release on DC picking up trash; we won't put a dollar figure on it (that would have to come from DC)

#4 we won't address.

Thanks!

Mike
Good Morning Mike,

Eliana Block from WUSA9 here.

I hope you are doing well! Thank you for answering all our questions about the shutdown.

I have a few more:

1. Will the National Park Service be salting and removing snow from National Parkways with the approaching storm? If not, who will? D.C. Government?
2. How has the government shutdown impacted maintenance on national parkways like the George Washington Parkway and Baltimore-Washington Parkway?
3. As in any government shutdown, dome things fall to waist sides, how has D.C. government stepped up to help? What NPS responsibilities has D.C. government taken on? Can you put a figure to it—how much
has it cost D.C. government to take on those responsibilities?

4. Lastly, will those costs be reimbursed to D.C.?

Thanks so much,

Please give me a call,

I am on deadline,

Eliana Block | Verify/News Researcher

4100 Wisconsin Ave NW | Washington, DC 20016

P 202-895-5506

wusa9.com | P 202-895-5506 |

@ElianaBlock

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Katie Liming
Public Affairs Specialist
National Capital Region
National Park Service

katelyn_liming@nps.gov
Office: 202-619-7156
Cell: 703-399-4547

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Katie Liming
Public Affairs Specialist
National Capital Region
National Park Service

katelyn_liming@nps.gov
Office: 202-619-7156
Cell: 703-399-4547
--
Katie Liming
Public Affairs Specialist
National Capital Region
National Park Service

katelyn_liming@nps.gov
Office: 202-619-7156
Cell: 703-399-4547
Thanks, John. He's sent inquiries to all of us; I'll send him the press release when it's ready.

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst  
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)  
National Park Service  
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

On Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 4:04 PM John Bockmier <john_bockmier@ios.doi.gov> wrote:
FYI

Sent from my iPhone

John M Bockmier  
Department of Interior  
Director of Communications  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC  
20240

202.208.3636 Office  
202.897.7366 Cell

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Atagi, Colin" <Colin_Atagi@desertsun.com>  
Date: January 9, 2019 at 3:17:15 PM EST  
To: "Interior_press@ios.doi.gov" <Interior_press@ios.doi.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Joshua Tree National Park

Hello,

My name is Colin Atagi and I’m a reporter with The Desert Sun newspaper in
Palm Springs, California. We’re based just outside of Joshua Tree and have been covering conditions at the national park related to the government shutdown.

We understand that the park will officially close Thursday morning so that staff may address sanitation and vandalism issues that occurred in the past three weeks. A news release states park access may be restored “in the coming days.” However, NPS spokesman Mike Litterst was quoted in an LA Times article that the restoration process could begin today (Wednesday) and the park could reopen by the end of the week. We’d like someone on your end to reiterate that statement.

Please feel free to respond via email or phone at (760) 534-4252.

Thank you very much.

Colin Atagi
Reporter
The Desert Sun
750 N. Gene Autry Trail
Palm Springs, California 92262
One last question – how many parks were closed in the shutdown of October 2013. I read 401 parks – is this correct? Was that all of the NPS parks?
Thank you

Rebecca Kern
Reporter
Bloomberg Environment

703-341-3715 (Office)
703-201-4953 (Signal/Cell)
rkern@bloombergenvironment.com

Thanks very much for your responses Mike, I really appreciate it. We'll update the story to include.

Rebecca Kern
Reporter
Bloomberg Environment

703-341-3715 (Office)
703-201-4953 (Signal/Cell)
rkern@bloombergenvironment.com
The answers to your questions are in your original text below.

Mike

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)

National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

On Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 3:14 PM Vander Voort, Faith <faith_vandervoort@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Kern, Rebecca <rKern@bloombergenvironment.com>
Date: Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 3:13 PM
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Bloomberg Inquiry on NPS - New Deadline 4 p.m. Today
To: Vander Voort, Faith <faith_vandervoort@ios.doi.gov>
CC: Interior_Press (<Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov>), Swift, Heather <heather_swift@ios.doi.gov>

Hi
I wanted to see if you will be able to respond to my requests below before 4 p.m. today?
Thank you,


Rebecca Kern
Reporter

Bloomberg Environment

703-341-3715 (Office)
703-201-4953 (Signal/Cell)
rkern@bloombergenvironment.com

From: Vander Voort, Faith [mailto:faith_vandervoort@ios.doi.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, January 09, 2019 9:40 AM
To: Kern, Rebecca <rKern@bloombergenvironment.com>
Cc: Interior_Press (<Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov>), Swift, Heather <heather_swift@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Bloomberg Inquiry on NPS - New Deadline 4 p.m. Today

I will forward your email to NPS press.

On Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 9:38 AM Kern, Rebecca <rKern@bloombergenvironment.com> wrote:

Hi Faith,

I've got my deadline extended and am expanding the scope of this article. I wanted to see if the National Park Service can answer the following questions before 4 p.m. today.

1. What how many National Parks sites have been closed during the current partial government shutdown? I've read one third of the parks – is this accurate?

We do not have figures on how many parks have been accessible and how many have been closed during the lapse of appropriations.

2. How many reported deaths and suicides have occurred during the current partial government that the National Park Service has calculated? Is the amount 3 deaths, 4 suicides in the Bishop letter accurate?

The National Park Service has confirmed seven fatalities in the National Park System since December 22; we believe four of these to be suicides.

3. What is the average number of deaths/suicides that occur during a week in the National Parks?

Over the course of the year there an average six deaths a week in the National Park System including accidents like drownings, falls, and motor vehicle crashes; medical related incidents such as heart attacks; and suicides.

4. What actions are NPS/DOI taking to prevent injuries and deaths on NPS sites during the current government shutdown? Are you putting up physical barriers?

While some national park areas are accessible to the public during the lapse in federal appropriations, the National Park Service (NPS) is unable to fully staff the properties under its management. It is not feasible to close or otherwise prohibit all access to all areas managed by the NPS. For most parks, there will be no NPS-provided visitor services, such as restrooms, trash collection, facilities, or road maintenance and current park alerts and conditions may not be up to date. Emergency and rescue services will be limited. Park visitors are advised to use caution if choosing to enter NPS-managed areas as hazardous or dangerous conditions may exist.

Even when fully staffed, the National Park System offers a wide range of visitor experiences in unique landscapes with potential hazards that may exist at parks across the nation. Visitors can reduce their risk of injury if they plan ahead and prepare properly,
select the most appropriate activity that matches their skill set and experience, seek information before they arrive at the park about hazards and environmental conditions, follow rules and regulations and use sound judgement while recreating.

5. In using fee balances from the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act, are you planning to use any of these fees to specifically staff NPS sites to prevent future accidents/deaths, add future safety at the parks?

FLREA funds will be used to address the following items in a manner that maintains: restrooms and sanitation, trash collection, road maintenance, campground operations, law enforcement and emergency operations, and staffing entrance gates as necessary to provide critical safety information.

6. How much money is available in the FLREA currently? How long can the NPS continue to operate with these FLREA funds while the government remains partially shutdown?

We don't have anything to share on this, as we are still gathering data to identify park available balances of recreation fee funds

Thank you for your time and assistance.

Best,

Rebecca Kern
Reporter

Bloomberg Environment

703-341-3715 (Office)
703-201-4953 (Signal/Cell)
rkern@bloombergenvironment.com

From: Vander Voort, Faith [mailto:faith_vandervoort@ios.doi.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, January 08, 2019 1:44 PM
To: Kern, Rebecca <rKern@bloombergenvironment.com>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Bloomberg Inquiry on House Letter on NPS Deaths

I’ve forwarded your inquiry to NPS.

On Tue, Jan 8, 2019 at 1:36 PM Kern, Rebecca <rKern@bloombergenvironment.com> wrote:

Hello,

that Ranking Member Bishop sent to Acting Secretary Bernhardt today.

1. In light of reports of 3 deaths and 4 suicides at the National Park Service sites during the current partial government shutdown cited in the letter, what are your safety concerns about NPS sites remaining open during the shutdown?

2. What actions is NPS/DOI taking to prevent injuries and deaths on NPS sites?

3. In using fee balances from the Federal Lands Recreation Act, are you planning to use any of these fees to specifically staff NPS sites to prevent future accidents/deaths, add future safety at the parks?

I'm writing on this today if you can respond to me before 4 p.m. EST.

Thank you,

Rebecca Kern
Reporter
Bloomberg Environment

703-341-3715 (Office)
703-201-4953 (Signal/Cell)
rkern@bloombergenvironment.com

--
Faith C. Vander Voort
Deputy Press Secretary
Department of the Interior

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Faith C. Vander Voort
Deputy Press Secretary
Department of the Interior

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Faith C. Vander Voort
Deputy Press Secretary
Department of the Interior
All -
Stan asked me to forward this to you all on his behalf. If you have any additional questions, please don't hesitate to reach back out to me or other members of the PWR team.

Below is the status information we have received from Joshua Tree NP. The current primary point of contact on the ground today while David Smith is out is:
Mike Leon, Supervisory Ranger
Office phone 760-367-5545
Cell Phone 760-401-0352
micheal_leon@nps.gov

Who is acting right now? (FYI David Smith is currently out of the park but will be back in the morning)

Park Point of Contact rotation schedule:
- Jan 9 – Jan 11: Mike Leon (David Smith will be in and out of the office)
- Jan 12: Kirk Diamond
- Jan 13: Christine Wilson
- Jan 14 – Jan 18: Mike Leon (David Smith may be in and out of the office)

What areas are currently closed?

Areas currently closed (as of Jan 9)
- All campgrounds are closed due to increased illegal activity, excessive out-of-bounds camping and fires, off-road driving, and damage and destruction to natural resources.
- Stirrup Tank Road, a posted day use area, is closed due to increased illegal activity, excessive out-of-bounds camping and fires, off-road driving, damage and destruction of natural resources, and closure violations.
- Lost Horse Mine Road and Trail, a posted day use area, is closed due to increased illegal activity, excessive out-of-bounds camping and fires, off-road driving, damage and destruction of natural resources, vandalism to cultural resources, and area closure violations.
- Key’s View Road is closed due to heavy traffic congestion, off-road driving and parking, and damage and destruction of natural resources.
- Rattlesnake Canyon Picnic Area and Road is closed to prevent search and rescue incidents that rangers currently do not have the capacity to respond to.

Were any areas closed on December 21 (at the beginning of the shutdown)?

Areas closed on Dec 21 (at the beginning of the shutdown)
- None

What is your staffing at the moment (actual number and position [e.g. LE Ranger, Maintenance worker, etc.])

Staffing level from Dec 22-Jan 7:
- Law enforcement: 9
Staffing level on Jan 8:
- Law enforcement: 9
- Wildland fire: 2
- Superintendent’s Office: 1
- Fees: 3
- Interpretation (fee collectors, media, PIO): 1
- Maintenance workers: 6
- Resources staff: 6
- Administrative: 4

Staffing level on Jan 9:
- Law enforcement: 9
- Wildland fire: 2
- Superintendent’s Office: 1
- Fees: 3
- Interpretation (fee collectors, media, PIO): 1
- Maintenance workers: 31
- Resources staff: 6
- Administrative: 3

What positions are projected to EOD in the next day or two, and when?
Staffing level beginning Jan 10:
- Law enforcement: 12 (10 duty stationed at JOTR; 2 detailed from LAKE)
- Wildland fire: 2
- Superintendent’s Office: 2
- Fees: 21
- Interpretation (fee collectors, media, PIO): 5
- Maintenance workers: 32
- Resources staff: 14
- Administrative: 8

What areas are prioritized for cleanup, and what does the cleanup timeline look like?
- Campgrounds: catchup completed by Jan 12; ongoing maintenance to ensure ongoing sanitation and health.
- Vault toilets: catchup completed by Jan 12; ongoing maintenance to ensure ongoing sanitation and health.
- Park wide trash collection and pickup: ongoing to ensure sanitation and health.
- Park wide damage to natural resources: ongoing
Thanks Gay let’s stay connected and let me know if you need anything. I didn’t copy Todd I assume Danny will share.

Stan Austin  
Regional Director  
Pacific West Region  
National Park Service  

Please excuse typographical errors.

Sent from my iPhone.

---

On Jan 9, 2019, at 1:58 PM, Christine Powell <chris_powell@nps.gov> wrote:

+ Gay

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 9, 2019, at 4:55 PM, Kaplan, Amanda <amanda_kaplan@nps.gov> wrote:

All -  
Stan asked me to forward this to you all on his behalf. If you have any additional questions, please don’t hesitate to reach back out to me or other members of the PWR team.

Below is the status information we have received from Joshua Tree NP. The current primary point of contact on the ground today while David Smith is out is:  
Mike Leon, Supervisory Ranger  
Office phone 760-367-5545  
Cell Phone 760-401-0352  
micheal_leon@nps.gov

Who is acting right now? (FYI David Smith is currently out of the park but will be back in the morning)

**Park Point of Contact rotation schedule:**

- Jan 9 – Jan 11: Mike Leon (David Smith will be in and out of the office)  
- Jan 12: Kirk Diamond  
- Jan 13: Christine Wilson  
- Jan 14 – Jan 18: Mike Leon (David Smith may be in and out of the office)
What areas are currently closed?

Areas currently closed (as of Jan 9)

- All campgrounds are closed due to increased illegal activity, excessive out-of-bounds camping and fires, off-road driving, and damage and destruction to natural resources.
- Stirrup Tank Road, a posted day use area, is closed due to increased illegal activity, excessive out-of-bounds camping and fires, off-road driving, damage and destruction of natural resources, and closure violations.
- Lost Horse Mine Road and Trail, a posted day use area, is closed due to increased illegal activity, excessive out-of-bounds camping and fires, off-road driving, damage and destruction of natural resources, vandalism to cultural resources, and area closure violations.
- Key’s View Road is closed due to heavy traffic congestion, off-road driving and parking, and damage and destruction of natural resources.
- Rattlesnake Canyon Picnic Area and Road is closed to prevent search and rescue incidents that rangers currently do not have the capacity to respond to.

Were any areas closed on December 21 (at the beginning of the shutdown)?

Areas closed on Dec 21 (at the beginning of the shutdown)

- None

What is your staffing at the moment (actual number and position [e.g. LE Ranger, Maintenance worker, etc.])

Staffing level from Dec 22-Jan 7:

- Law enforcement: 9
- Wildland fire: 2
- Maintenance workers: 5
- Resources staff: 1

Staffing level on Jan 8:

- Law enforcement: 9
- Wildland fire: 2
- Superintendent’s Office: 1
- Fees: 3
- Interpretation (fee collectors, media, PIO): 1
- Maintenance workers: 6
- Resources staff: 6
- Administrative: 4
**Staffing level on Jan 9:**
- Law enforcement: 9
- Wildland fire: 2
- Superintendent's Office: 1
- Fees: 3
- Interpretation (fee collectors, media, PIO): 1
- Maintenance workers: 31
- Resources staff: 6
- Administrative: 3

**What positions are projected to EOD in the next day or two, and when?**

**Staffing level beginning Jan 10:**
- Law enforcement: 12 (10 duty stationed at JOTR; 2 detailed from LAKE)
- Wildland fire: 2
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- Fees: 21
- Interpretation (fee collectors, media, PIO): 5
- Maintenance workers: 32
- Resources staff: 14
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**What areas are prioritized for cleanup, and what does the cleanup timeline look like?**
- Campgrounds: catchup completed by Jan 12; ongoing maintenance to ensure ongoing sanitation and health.
- Vault toilets: catchup completed by Jan 12; ongoing maintenance to ensure ongoing sanitation and health.
- Park wide trash collection and pickup: ongoing to ensure sanitation and health.
- Park wide damage to natural resources: ongoing

Amanda Kaplan  
National Park Service  
Pacific West Regional Office  
909 1st Ave, 5th Floor  
Seattle, WA 98104  
Phone: (206) 220-4150  
Cell: (206) 475-4590
Mike,

Thanks for the call and the follow up questions. Here is an email summarizing the responses we just discussed which provide additional clarification for the information we initially sent:

All campgrounds in Joshua Tree National Park will reopen tomorrow, January 10. A large amount of maintenance staff (approx 30) came on today to address the worst of the sanitation issues and are conducting vault toilet pumping, etc. That work and the additional trash collection and cleanup work will continue simultaneously while the campgrounds are open.

Similarly, all areas that were closed in the park will reopen tomorrow, January 10. The park will continue to conduct damage assessments, mitigation, and resource cleanup/restoration while these areas of the park are open.

If you need additional information, please don't hesitate to reach back out.

Best,
Amanda

Amanda Kaplan
National Park Service
Pacific West Regional Office
909 1st Ave, 5th Floor
Seattle, WA 98104
Phone: (206) 220-4150
Cell: (206) 475-4590

On Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 1:55 PM Kaplan, Amanda <amanda_kaplan@nps.gov> wrote:
All -
Stan asked me to forward this to you all on his behalf. If you have any additional questions, please don't hesitate to reach back out to me or other members of the PWR team.

Below is the status information we have received from Joshua Tree NP. The current primary point of contact on the ground today while David Smith is out is:
Mike Leon, Supervisory Ranger
Office phone 760-367-5545
Cell Phone 760-401-0352
micheal_leon@nps.gov
Who is acting right now? (FYI David Smith is currently out of the park but will be back in the morning)

Park Point of Contact rotation schedule:
- Jan 9 – Jan 11: Mike Leon (David Smith will be in and out of the office)
- Jan 12: Kirk Diamond
- Jan 13: Christine Wilson
- Jan 14 – Jan 18: Mike Leon (David Smith may be in and out of the office)

What areas are currently closed?
Areas currently closed (as of Jan 9)
- All campgrounds are closed due to increased illegal activity, excessive out-of-bounds camping and fires, off-road driving, and damage and destruction to natural resources.
- Stirrup Tank Road, a posted day use area, is closed due to increased illegal activity, excessive out-of-bounds camping and fires, off-road driving, damage and destruction of natural resources, and closure violations.
- Lost Horse Mine Road and Trail, a posted day use area, is closed due to increased illegal activity, excessive out-of-bounds camping and fires, off-road driving, damage and destruction of natural resources, vandalism to cultural resources, and area closure violations.
- Key’s View Road is closed due to heavy traffic congestion, off-road driving and parking, and damage and destruction of natural resources.
- Rattlesnake Canyon Picnic Area and Road is closed to prevent search and rescue incidents that rangers currently do not have the capacity to respond to.

Were any areas closed on December 21 (at the beginning of the shutdown)?
Areas closed on Dec 21 (at the beginning of the shutdown)
- None

What is your staffing at the moment (actual number and position [e.g. LE Ranger, Maintenance worker, etc.])

Staffing level from Dec 22-Jan 7:
- Law enforcement: 9
- Wildland fire: 2
- Maintenance workers: 5
- Resources staff: 1

Staffing level on Jan 8:
- Law enforcement: 9
- Wildland fire: 2
- Superintendent’s Office: 1
- Fees: 3
- Interpretation (fee collectors, media, PIO): 1
- Maintenance workers: 6
Staffing level on Jan 9:
- Law enforcement: 9
- Wildland fire: 2
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- Resources staff: 6
- Administrative: 3

What positions are projected to EOD in the next day or two, and when?

Staffing level beginning Jan 10:
- Law enforcement: 12 (10 duty stationed at JOTR; 2 detailed from LAKE)
- Wildland fire: 2
- Superintendent’s Office: 2
- Fees: 21
- Interpretation (fee collectors, media, PIO): 5
- Maintenance workers: 32
- Resources staff: 14
- Administrative: 8

What areas are prioritized for cleanup, and what does the cleanup timeline look like?
- Campgrounds: catchup completed by Jan 12; ongoing maintenance to ensure ongoing sanitation and health.
- Vault toilets: catchup completed by Jan 12; ongoing maintenance to ensure ongoing sanitation and health.
- Park wide trash collection and pickup: ongoing to ensure sanitation and health.
- Park wide damage to natural resources: ongoing

Amanda Kaplan
National Park Service
Pacific West Regional Office
909 1st Ave, 5th Floor
Seattle, WA 98104
Phone: (206) 220-4150
Cell: (206) 475-4590
Thoughts? Seems ok to me

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Tuovinen, Katariina" <katariina_tuovinen@nps.gov>
Date: January 9, 2019 at 5:32:55 PM EST
To: Jessica Bowron <jessica_bowron@nps.gov>
Cc: Aaron Dowe <aaron_dowe@nps.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Request for consideration of a waiver to DO 21 for critical life, health, safety training attendance

Hi Jessica,

SEKI is seeking NPS Director approval to send two employees to training using donated funds. Note the training starts tomorrow.

Below are the details of their request. Sorry for the short notice.

Thanks,
Katariina

Katariina Tuovinen
Deputy Regional Director
Pacific West Region
National Park Service
333 Bush Street, Suite 500
San Francisco, CA 94104
(415) 623-2105 (o)
(628) 200-8271 (c)
Date: Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 9:48 AM
Subject: Request for consideration of a waiver to DO 21 for critical life, health, safety training attendance
To: Katariina Tuovinen <katariina_tuovinen@nps.gov>
Cc: Kelleher, Edward <ned_kelleher@nps.gov>, Dowe, Aaron <aaron_dowe@nps.gov>

Katariina,

My apologies for sending you yet another memo during this busy, dynamic, and challenging time. Our Chief Ranger, Ned Kelleher, has been working with Aaron Dowe to try and find a solution to a very specific problem that the shutdown is causing us.

In brief, the issue is that as a remote park far from emergency service providers, similar to many other units, we are the primary providers of emergency medical care within the parks. A key linchpin to providing this service is to have trained park medics. The training for park medics only occurs every two years in Fresno and is extremely limited, difficult to find, and likely not occurring elsewhere. Missing this training is not simply a matter of rescheduling or sending staff somewhere else to take it. If our staff miss this opportunity, it will likely mean a two year break before they are able to get it - posing a significant long-term impact to our park safety operations. Charles Cuvelier in WASO has been working hard to get other staff to this training.

We have donated funds to cover the two staff who are scheduled to go to the training. But Aaron's read of the recent DO21 exemption to pay permanent salaries with donated funds wouldn't cover this type of training so we would need an additional exemption from the Director.

I have attached a memo for your consideration that asks you to ask the Director for an exemption.

Ned has been working on this since last week but we just figured out the possible path forward. Unfortunately the training starts tomorrow.

Thank you for your consideration.

Christy

--
Christy Brigham Ph.D.
Chief of Resource Management and Science and Acting Superintendent
Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks
47050 Generals Highway
Three Rivers, CA 93271-9598
559-565-3120
Christy_Brigham@nps.gov
Adjunct Professor of Biology, California State University Northridge
Adjunct Professor, Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, University of California Los Angeles
Thanks for the additional information; that was exactly what they were looking for.

Draft release is with DOI now; hope to have a final for everyone shortly.

Mike

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)
National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

On Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 5:26 PM Kaplan, Amanda <amanda_kaplan@nps.gov> wrote:

Mike,

Thanks for the call and the follow up questions. Here is an email summarizing the responses we just discussed which provide additional clarification for the information we initially sent:

All campgrounds in Joshua Tree National Park will reopen tomorrow, January 10. A large amount of maintenance staff (approx 30) came on today to address the worst of the sanitation issues and are conducting vault toilet pumping, etc. That work and the additional trash collection and cleanup work will continue simultaneously while the campgrounds are open.

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Best,
Amanda

Amanda Kaplan
National Park Service
Pacific West Regional Office
909 1st Ave, 5th Floor
Seattle, WA 98104
Phone: (206) 220-4150
Cell: (206) 475-4590
On Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 1:55 PM Kaplan, Amanda <amanda_kaplan@nps.gov> wrote:

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- Law enforcement: 9
- Wildland fire: 2
- Superintendent’s Office: 1
- Fees: 3
- Interpretation (fee collectors, media, PIO): 1
- Maintenance workers: 6
- Resources staff: 6
- Administrative: 4

Staffing level on Jan 9:
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Amanda Kaplan
National Park Service
Pacific West Regional Office
909 1st Ave, 5th Floor
Seattle, WA 98104
Phone: (206) 220-4150
Cell: (206) 475-4590
Please see attached press release Channel Islands would like to distribute tomorrow regarding a campground closure for a downed tree that has blocked access. The park concessioner that runs the boats/tours has asked the park to send a news release out in order to alert potential visitors/customers.

The park is looking into submitting a FLREA budget proposal that would address this issue. The park only has one staff person qualified to work on a tree of this size (it is very large) and would need to call him in from furlough to do the work. I've included some potential language to communicate the same (tracked in the attached) and will let you all know where that ends up.

Also checking to see if we can add a bit more information on what remains accessible but want to make you aware of the situation ASAP.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube
Long thread just to say this is resolved--he didn't copy anyone except Janice, so wanted to make sure you all were up to date. Robin

Robin Nixon

Deputy Superintendent (Acting)
National Mall and Memorial Parks
National Park Service
900 Ohio Drive, SW
Washington, DC 20024
202-245-4710 (ofc)
202-738-7956 (cell)
robin_nixon@nps.gov

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Tanner, John <john_tanner@ios.do.gov>
Date: Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 5:55 PM
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] FW: National Mall Event for January 15
To: DeSordi, Janice <janice_desordi@nps.gov>
Cc: Robin Nixon <robin_nixon@nps.gov>

Never mind. I found the response that you sent.

John

On Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 5:52 PM Tanner, John <john_tanner@ios.do.gov> wrote:
Checking back on this.

John

On Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 2:51 PM DeSordi, Janice <janice_desordi@nps.gov> wrote:
Robin -- Please contact John Tanner as soon as possible in terms of the status of this request. 202-208-5557
John -- Robin is on a FLREA call as we speak and will get back you as soon as she gets off.

Thanks!

On Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 2:41 PM DeSordi, Janice <janice_desordi@nps.gov> wrote:

Hello Robin

Can you please assist me with this? I got an urgent call from John Tanner from the Department.

Thank you!

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: DeSordi, Janice <janice_desordi@nps.gov>
Date: Mon, Jan 7, 2019 at 4:07 PM
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] FW: National Mall Event for January 15
To: Sheila Gotha <sheila_gotha-samuel@nps.gov>, Deborah Deas <deborah_deas@nps.gov>
Cc: Patricia Trap <patricia_trap@nps.gov>

Hello Sheila and Deborah

I received this message last week but was only able to get to it today. By any chance was this individual able to get hold of you? If not, do you mind reaching out to both Mr Ybarra and Mr Bradley?

Thank you!

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Ybarra, Cesar <Cesar.Ybarra@mail.house.gov>
Date: Thu, Jan 3, 2019 at 11:37 AM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] FW: National Mall Event for January 15
To: janice_desordi@nps.gov <janice_desordi@nps.gov>

Ms. Desordi, I hope this finds you well.

My name is Cesar Ybarra with the Office of Congressman Andy Biggs (AZ-05). Please see below from a constituent of the Congressman. Any insight you can offer on would be much appreciated it!

My phone number is 202-225-2635.
Best,

Cesar Ybarra
Legislative Assistant
Rep. Andy Biggs (AZ-05)

From: Tony Bradley <tbradley@aztrucking.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 3, 2019 11:03 AM
To: Ybarra, Cesar <Cesar.Ybarra@mail.house.gov>
Subject: National Mall Event for January 15

Cesar,

Thank you so much for reaching out yesterday. As you likely have seen, here is the question I sent to Daniel yesterday: “I have a quick question I am hoping you can help answer. I have a member doing a truckers against trafficking event on the national mall on January 15th. He has a permit number, but not his physical permit. He does not know if the shutdown is affecting national mall activities for 1) him to get his physical permit and 2) to have the event. Can you shed any light for me.”

Don Blake (Gilbert Resident) with the Inland Kenworth dealer (based in Tolleson) is spearheading the attached press conference. The press conference is to launch a tour of the newest “Everyday Heroes” truck, which will be auctioned off and raise money for Truckers Against Trafficking. Prior to the shutdown, Don had been in contact with the National Park Service to get his permit for the event. The person he was dealing with gave him the permit number 19-0173. The person said they would send him the permit, but never did. Then the government shut down. Any assistance is greatly appreciated.

Here is a copy of what he is getting back from NPS, but nobody is answering their phones:

“Hello,
Due to the federal government shutdown, I am not in the office and am unable to access or respond to e-mail. I will respond to e-mail messages as needed once government operations resume and I am back in the office.

I am out of the office until January 7, 2019. If you require assistance with permits or permit applications please contact Ms. Sheila Gotha or Deborah Deas at 202-245-4715.

Thank you

Marisa”

Please let me know if you need any other information.

Thank you in advance.

Sincerely,

Tony Bradley

President and CEO | Arizona Trucking Association

7500 W. Madison Street | Tolleson, AZ 85353

e. tbradley@aztrucking.com

p. 602-850-6000

c. 602-538-4378

--

Janice DeSordi

Staff Assistant to the Director
Janice DeSordi

**Staff Assistant to the Director**

National Park Service

1849 C Street NW, Room 3311

Washington DC  20240

Main line:  202-208-3818  ~~ Direct line:  202-354-1819

--

John Tanner

Director

Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs

United States Department of the Interior
John Tanner
Director
Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs
United States Department of the Interior
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Michael Reimers <michael_reimers@nps.gov>
Date: January 8, 2019 at 8:22:32 PM EST
To: lori_treves@nps.gov, Stacey Rickard <stacey_rickard@nps.gov>,
david_h_moore@nps.gov, john_k_warner@nps.gov
Subject: Fwd: FLREA shutdown funds and acquisition

FYI

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Walden-McCabe, Beth" <beth_walden@nps.gov>
Date: January 8, 2019 at 11:00:47 AM MST
To: Michelle Yates <Michelle_Yates@nps.gov>, Michael Reimers <michael_reimers@nps.gov>, "Shaffer, Jeffrey" <jeffrey_shaffer@nps.gov>, George Sievers <George_Sievers@nps.gov>, Tammy Gallegos <tammy_gallegos@nps.gov>, "Powers, Frank" <frank_powers@nps.gov>, "Finley, Yvonne" <yvonne_finley@nps.gov>
Subject: FLREA shutdown funds and acquisition

All,

Passing along guidance received regarding FLREA funding. Language in the updated contingency plan will govern what we can and cannot acquire during the shutdown. Parks with available rec fee balances can use those fees to cover basic visitor services at the direction of the Director. The scope of those basic visitor services is articulated in the updated plan:

Parks that collect fees under the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA)
will utilize available retained recreation fees balances to
provide basic visitor services in
a manner that maintains restrooms and sanitation, trash
collection, road maintenance,
campground operations, law enforcement and emergency
operations, and staffing
entrance gates as necessary to provide critical safety
information. Parks must develop
daily cost estimates for all employees and services to be
supported by recreation fees for
review and approval by the Director. This will include costs that
parks planned to fund
out of appropriations that have lapsed.

To the extent that acquisitions are required to provide the
articulated basic visitor services, there is the possibility that
there may be some expansion of allowable acquisitions from
the original guidance for some of these parks. All costs would
need to be reviewed and approved by the Director. This isn't
an opportunity, for example, for parks to use FLREA to award
that services contract that they've always wanted to
permanently move off of ONPS.

Beth Walden McCabe
Bureau Procurement Chief (acting)
National Park Service
Washington Contracting Office
7333 West Jefferson Ave
Suite 100
Lakewood, CO 80235-2034
Office: (303) 987-6739
Cell Phone: (720) 320-5395
Fax (303) 987-6922

Please visit our WCO website!
https://sites.google.com/a/nps.gov/waso-contracting/home
FYI

Sent from my iPhone

John M Bockmier
Department of Interior
Director of Communications
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC
20240

202.208.3636 Office
202.897.7366 Cell

Begin forwarded message:

From: John Bockmier <john_bockmier@ios.doi.gov>
Date: January 10, 2019 at 10:31:48 AM EST
To: Jessica.E.Ditto@who.eop.gov
Cc: Adam.R.Kennedy@who.eop.gov
Subject: Question from Interior Comms

Jessica,

In the coming days the National Parks Service will be taking over the funding for the operation of the Statue of Liberty (through the utilization of FLREA - Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act dollars).

The state of New York has been a generous partner by donating the money to keep the park open during the lapse in appropriations.

Acting Secretary Bernhardt would like to tweet out the proposed messaging below once NPS takes back the funding. We want to ensure that you and your team are in approval of the messaging.

Please let me know your thoughts when you have time.

Thanks very much,

Sent from my iPhone
Begin forwarded message:

From: "Vander Voort, Faith" <faith_vandervoort@ios.doi.gov>
Date: January 10, 2019 at 10:18:16 AM EST
To: John Bockmier <john_bockmier@ios.doi.gov>, "Newell, Russell" <russell_newell@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Thread of 3 tweets

1) The State of New York graciously assisted the @NatlParkService with the Statue of Liberty over the last 20 days, but that approach is not sustainable.

2) Lady Liberty serves as a beacon of hope for all who legally seek our shores. We must have safe borders, but we are also a welcoming nation.

3) Therefore, I directed the NPS to ensure that this beacon of hope is accessible to the public, maintained and safe during for the duration of partial lapse. We are preparing for a period of months. We need border security!

--

Faith C. Vander Voort
Deputy Press Secretary
Department of the Interior
From: Cannuscio, Lisa
To: Christine Powell
Subject: letters
Date: Thursday, January 10, 2019 9:18:04 AM
Attachments: signed Chairman Grijalva.pdf
           signed McCollum 1.9.19.pdf
           Bishop_FLREA response 0945_OCL draft with oes suggested edits.docx

Per our discussion. The Bishop letter is with DCOS as of this morning.

Thank you,
Lisa

--

Lisa Cannuscio
Office of the Executive Secretariat
1849 C Street, N.W., Room 7317
Washington, D.C. 20240
Office: (202) 208-2443
Email: Lisa_Cannuscio@ios.doi.gov
DOI Colleagues:

Please see attached letter to DC government and news release announcing that the NPS will resume basic maintenance services at DC parks. The plan is to send these two items out simultaneously, as soon as they are approved.

Let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Mike

---------------------
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)

National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA
From: Wines, Abigail (Abby)
To: Jeremy Barnum, NPS News Media
Cc: Kaplan, Amanda
Subject: URGENT - Reuters interview DEVA 10am Pacific
Date: Thursday, January 10, 2019 9:45:10 AM

WASO Comms - (Just spoke with Amanda Kaplan, she asked me to forward to you.)

I agreed to an interview with Reuters TV at 10am Pacific. The reporter sent me the questions:

1. We’d like to know how the government shutdown has affected Death Valley National Park, how many workers there are affected, what facilities are affected etc.
   
2. What impact does the shutdown have on visitors?
   
3. Should visitors still come to the park (overseas visitors often book months in advance)
   
4. Why the campsites are closed but the hotels remain open.
   
5. How donations are funding some facilities and how long those funds are likely to last? What happens if the donations stop?
   
6. On saturday, this becomes the longest shutdown in history - how long can DVNP carry on staying open?

Abby Wines
Management Assistant
Death Valley National Park
PO Box 579
Death Valley, CA 92328
760-786-3221
Amanda - I'll give you a call about this as soon as I send this email.

1. We’d like to know how the government shutdown has affected Death Valley National Park, how many workers there are affected, what facilities are affected etc.
2. What impact does the shutdown have on visitors?
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Abby Wines
Management Assistant
Death Valley National Park
PO Box 579
Death Valley, CA 92328
760-786-3221

Hi Abby,
Great to talk to you this morning and thanks for agreeing to an interview. We’d like to know how the government shutdown has affected Death Valley National Park, how many workers there are affected, what facilities are affected etc. What impact does the shutdown have on visitors? Should visitors still come to the park (overseas visitors often book months in advance) Why the campsites are closed but the hotels remain open. How donations are funding some facilities and how long those funds are likely to last? What happens if the donations stop?
On saturday, this becomes the longest shutdown in history - how long can DVNP carry on staying open?
Many thanks!
Jane
Sent from my iPhone
"Death Valley National Park has remained accessible throughout the shutdown and visitors have continued to enjoy the park's beauty and natural resources."

"While most visitors have been respectful of the park, we have had some issues with basic maintenance and sanitation as well as resource protection. Examples include overflowing trash and human waste around campgrounds and closed bathrooms, illegal camping and off-road driving, and minor incidents of vandalism."

Thanks to a park partner, we have been able to keep our visitor center open and provide resource protection messages to visitors which has helped prevent additional negative impacts on the park and its resources. We appreciate the generous support of our partners who have helped maintain the park during the lapse in appropriations."

"The park is exploring using recreation fee revenue to bring staff on for immediate maintenance, health and safety needs. We are currently identifying our available balance of funds, determining our specific needs, and figuring the staff and resources to address those needs. We should have additional information in the next couple of days."
Amanda:

Here are the four points we would suggest for Abby to stick to. As Jeremy said, anything else, she can say she'll get back to them, or refer to newsmedia@nps.gov (for questions about national issues/policy):

- "Death Valley National Park has remained accessible throughout the shutdown and visitors have continued to enjoy the park's beauty and natural resources."

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~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)

National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA
Thanks. Forwarded along.

Amanda Kaplan  
National Park Service  
Pacific West Regional Office  
909 1st Ave, 5th Floor  
Seattle, WA 98104  
Phone: (206) 220-4150  
Cell: (206) 475-4590

On Thu, Jan 10, 2019 at 9:47 AM Litterst, Michael <mike_litterst@nps.gov> wrote:

Amanda:

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- "Death Valley National Park has remained accessible throughout the shutdown and visitors have continued to enjoy the park's beauty and natural resources."

- "While most visitors have been respectful of the park, we have had some issues with basic maintenance and sanitation as well as resource protection. Examples include trash and sanitation issues, illegal camping and off-road driving."

- Thanks to a park partner, we have been able to keep our visitor center open and provide resource protection messages to visitors which has helped prevent additional negative impacts on the park and its resources. We appreciate the generous support of our partners who have helped maintain the park during the lapse in appropriations."

- "The park is exploring using recreation fee revenue to bring staff on for immediate maintenance, health and safety needs. We are currently
identifying our available balance of funds, determining our specific needs, and figuring the staff and resources to address those needs. We should have additional information in the next couple of days."

Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)

National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA
Mike,

Below is the list of existing contracts that need to be reinstated to provide basic visitor services for the National Mall and Memorial Parks. Would you please coordinate with the MABO and park to transition these back to active service.

Let me know if you need anything else.

Thanks -

Dave

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Gowen, Jeffrey <jeff_gowen@nps.gov>
Date: Thu, Jan 10, 2019 at 12:06 PM
Subject: Re: List of Contracts to Resume
To: David Moore <david_h_moore@nps.gov>
Cc: Robin Nixon <robin_nixon@nps.gov>

Dave,

I'm just following up on this to see if there has been any movement to get these contracts going again.

Thanks,

Jeff

On Tue, Jan 8, 2019 at 9:05 AM Gowen, Jeffrey <jeff_gowen@nps.gov> wrote:

Dave,

Here is a list of the contracts that will need to be resumed in order to begin some basic custodial and sanitation operations in the park:

**Landscape and Litter Picking Contracts**

Mall Maintenance - Custom Lawn Service Inc. P16PC00162 - Order #140P3018F0105
Jefferson Memorial Maintenance - Custom Lawn Service P16PC00162 - Order #140P3018F0187
Uptown Parks North Maintenance - Davey Tree P16PC00160 Order #140P3018F0040
Midtown Parks North Maintenance - Davey Tree P16PC00160 Order #140P3018F0041
SW Parks and Hains Point - Ruppert Landscape P16PC00161 Order #140P3018F0042
MLK, FDR, West Potomac Park - Ruppert Landscape P16PC00161 Order# 140P3018F0043

Trash Transfer Station Contract
BFI Waste Services, LLC Contract P15PC00610

On Call Dumpster Contract
Lawerence Stree Industry, LLC, Contract P15PC00542

Stacey already sent the notice to the recycling contractor letting them know they are to begin resuming services. If she already sent notices to the above contractors please let me know. I will assume the COR duties with these contracts for the duration of the shutdown.

Thanks,

Jeff

--

Jeff Gowen
Chief of Facility Management
National Mall and Memorial Parks
202-841-0110

--

Jeff Gowen
Chief of Facility Management
National Mall and Memorial Parks
202-841-0110

--

David H. Moore
Associate Regional Director
1100 Ohio Drive SW
Washington, DC  20242
202 619-7045 (Office)
202 577-1427 (Cell)
The below news release was distributed. I'm still working to post online.
Thanks,
Jenny

Jenny Anzelmo-Sarles
Chief of Public Affairs
National Park Service
National Capital Region

jenny_anzelmo-sarles@nps.gov
Office: (202) 619-7177
Cell: (307) 690-2355

Who are we? National Capital Region - Office of Communications

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EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA ®

National Park Service News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 10, 2019
CONTACT: ncr_communications@nps.gov
National Park Service resumes maintenance services in District of Columbia area parks

WASHINGTON— The National Park Service (NPS) announced today that it will resume trash collection, urgent roadwork and sanitation services at its parks within the District of Columbia starting on Friday, January 11. Some of these services had been donated by park partners since the start of the lapse of appropriations in December 22.

NPS will use fee revenue, collected by national parks across the country under the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act, to provide these basic services in order to ensure ongoing public access, health and safety and to protect park resources. Anacostia Park, Baltimore-Washington Parkway, Capitol Hill Parks, Civil War Defenses of Washington, George Washington Memorial Parkway, Georgetown area parks including Georgetown Waterfront Park, Kenilworth Park, Meridian Hill Park, National Mall and Memorial Parks, President’s Park, Rock Creek Park and Suitland Parkway.

During the first 20 days following the lapse in appropriations, the District of Columbia Department of Public Works and several Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) across the city collected trash at NPS sites across the District of Columbia.

“We appreciate the generous support of many of our partners, the D.C. government and BIDs across the city who helped us maintain our parks during the lapse in appropriations,” said acting National Capital Regional Director Lisa Mendelson. “National Park Service staff looks forward to continuing the outstanding work of our partners in ensuring that the basic needs for sanitation and maintenance are met in our parks.”

D.C. area national parks remain as accessible as possible during the lapse of appropriations, however some services are limited or unavailable, including visitor centers, ranger talks and programs and emergency services. Visitors should check park websites on nps.gov to confirm the operating status of park sites before they visit. Additional information is available at go.nps.gov/DCparks.

###
From: Lisa Mendelson
To: Nixon, Robin
Cc: Anzelmo-Sarles, Jenny; NPS NCR Superintendents Deputies Associates and Program Managers; April Slayton; Michael Litterst
Subject: Re: News Release: NPS resumes maintenance services in District of Columbia area parks
Date: Thursday, January 10, 2019 11:25:30 AM

No. I hope to have it later today for all 5 NCR parks. Pls stand by.

——
Lisa Mendelson, AICP
Acting Regional Director
National Park Service
Sent by Cell 202-297-1338

On Jan 10, 2019, at 1:23 PM, Nixon, Robin <robin_nixon@nps.gov> wrote:

So does that mean our plan has been approved?

Robin Nixon

Deputy Superintendent (Acting)
National Mall and Memorial Parks
National Park Service
900 Ohio Drive, SW
Washington, DC 20024
202-245-4710 (ofc)
202-738-7956 (cell)
robin_nixon@nps.gov

On Thu, Jan 10, 2019 at 1:14 PM Anzelmo-Sarles, Jenny <jenny_anzelmo-sarles@nps.gov> wrote:

The below news release was distributed. I'm still working to post online.
Thanks,
Jenny

———
Jenny Anzelmo-Sarles
Chief of Public Affairs
National Park Service
National Capital Region
National Park Service News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 10, 2019
CONTACT: ncr_communications@nps.gov

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Georgetown area parks including Georgetown Waterfront Park, Kenilworth Park, Meridian Hill Park, National Mall and Memorial Parks, President’s Park, Rock Creek Park and Suitland Parkway.

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“We appreciate the generous support of many of our partners, the D.C. government and BIDs across the city who helped us maintain our parks during the lapse in appropriations,” said acting National Capital Regional Director Lisa Mendelson. “National Park Service staff looks forward to continuing the outstanding work of our partners in ensuring that the basic needs for sanitation and maintenance are met in our parks.”

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###
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Nixon, Robin" <robin_nixon@nps.gov>
Date: January 10, 2019 at 1:22:15 PM EST
To: "O'Sullivan, Wendy" <wendy_o'sullivan@nps.gov>, Dave Moore <david_h_moore@nps.gov>
Subject: conditional approval to remain open

for the National Law enforcement Officers Memorial Fund--attached

Robin Nixon

Deputy Superintendent (Acting)
National Mall and Memorial Parks
National Park Service
900 Ohio Drive, SW
Washington, DC 20024
202-245-4710 (ofc)
202-738-7956 (cell)
robin_nixon@nps.gov
Wanted to share this as well, it was released a few minutes ago.
Hi David,

I hope this note finds you well despite current circumstances. My name is Nicole and I'm a journalist at Salon. I'm writing about the government shutdown and Joshua Park. Would you be able to chat for a few minutes today?

Nicole

--
Nicole Karlis
Writer & Reporter, Innovation
Nkarlis@salon.com
@nicolekarlis on Twitter

--
David Smith
Superintendent
Joshua Tree National Park

(760) 367-5501 - Office
(760) 401-7999 - Mobile
Hey there,

Here is the revised press release from DEVA. I did some work on it, but expect you will have additional edits and likely some questions. Just let me know and thanks.

Amanda

Amanda Kaplan
National Park Service
Pacific West Regional Office
909 1st Ave, 5th Floor
Seattle, WA 98104
Phone: (206) 220-4150
Cell: (206) 475-4590
Jeremy,
Hello again. I hope your week is going well.
Would you have any comment to offer on the issuance of permits to march on the Mall, during the partial government shutdown?

Thank you!
Susan

From: Susan Bruce
Sent: Tuesday, January 08, 2019 3:58 PM
To: 'Barnum, Jeremy' <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Cc: Jason Calvi <jcalvi@ewtn.com>
Subject: Request for Comment re: March for Life permit
Importance: High

Jeremy,

Thank you for your help last week with this response, below.
On a different matter, we are hearing reports that the annual March for Life may be at risk of not receiving a permit to march on the Mall, if the partial government shutdown continues. It sounds like their permit to march had not been processed before the partial shutdown went into effect.

Would you have a response to these reports? Is the issuance of a march permit on the National Mall for the 2019 March for Life pending the re-opening of the federal government?

Thank you!
Susan

Susan Bruce
Producer
sbruce@ewtn.com | 202-322-4834 | EWTN News Nightly

From: Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 02, 2019 12:11 PM
To: Susan Bruce <sbruce@ewtn.com>
Cc: Jason Calvi <jcalvi@ewtn.com>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] EWTN Interview Request
Hi Susan,

We are not able to accommodate your interview request during the shutdown.

During the partial government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. Services that require staffing and maintenance such as campgrounds and full service restrooms, will not be operating.

The National Park Service continues to follow its contingency plan in the absence of appropriations. The plan may be found here: https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf

**Background information:**

Accessibility to parks during the government shutdown varies on a number of factors which may change at any time. Some visitor services may be available when provided by concessioners or other entities. For most parks, there will be no National Park Service-provided visitor services, such as restrooms, trash collection, facilities, or road maintenance. Visitors should go to www.nps.gov and select “Find a Park” for additional information on access to parks and sites in a particular area.

Example of services that could be open: a free-standing gift shop, lodge, restaurant or gas station that requires no assistance from the Park to operate. "Assistance" could include but not be limited to snow removal, working as a cashier, unlocking gates, etc. However, if a private concessionaire has worked out in advance a way to remove snow, trash, etc, without the assistance of the park, they MAY be able to continue operations.

Example of services that would not be open: a gift shop inside a visitors center would not be open because a park ranger would not be available to unlock the visitors center or to staff the visitors center. A gas station on a road inside the park where it snowed overnight making it impassible would not be open if it relies on the park for snow removal.

Example of areas that may see restricted access: Due to lighter footprint of rangers and patrols, some public lands, trails and sites may see restricted access. Some parks are in winter season and see many skiers. The parks may choose to restrict access to some areas if there is a high risk of avalanche or it's a common spot for injuries since there will not be a regular patrol of the area. Additionally, sensitive cultural areas on all public land may see restricted access to protect the artifacts and objects.

Examples of areas we are prioritizing: We are prioritizing access to the most accessible and most iconic areas of parks and public lands. Each park, monument, recreation area, etc will have different plans in place.

The NPS contingency plan in the absence of appropriations provides for the ability to restrict access to national park areas for safety, health, or resource protection issues.

Per the contingency plan, if visitor access becomes a safety, health or resource protection issue (weather, road conditions, resource damage, garbage build-up to the extent that it endangers human health or wildlife, etc.), the area must be closed.

At the superintendent’s discretion, parks may close areas with sensitive natural, cultural, historic, or archaeological resources vulnerable to destruction, looting, or other damage that cannot be adequately protected by the excepted law enforcement staff that remain on duty to
Good morning! I hope your day is going well. I am following up to a voicemail message I just left for you. Correspondent Jason Calvi is reporting today on the government shutdown’s effects on national parks, which are still operating and which are now closed, and reaction from visitors who had planned to go to them. Would you have time to speak with him briefly this morning about this? We would be happy to go to you with a camera and keep it as brief as possible.

Thank you!
Susan

Susan Bruce
Producer
sbruce@ewtn.com | 202-322-4834 | EWTN News Nightly
Yes will do.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 10, 2019, at 5:16 PM, Slayton, April <april_slayton@nps.gov> wrote:

Good afternoon!
Lisa is looking for short summaries of the work that BIDs did during the initial phase of shutdown. Rock Creek Park put together this great example, which should give you an idea of what we're looking for:
   During the shutdown, they stepped up to conduct trash and litter removal throughout all the Georgetown areas administered by Rock Creek Park, including Georgetown Waterfront Park, Francis Scott Key Park, and "Meigs Park" (US Reservation 691, at the corner of Pennsylvania Avenue NW and M Street NW).
Could you possibly get us any additional BID related work at NACE/ROCR/CHOH park areas tomorrow as well?
Many thanks,
April
--
April Slayton
Acting Deputy Regional Director
National Park Service, National Capital Region
(202) 619-7022 - direct
(202) 641-0291 - mobile
<New Picture (1).bmp>
Facebook Twitter
Instagram YouTube
Hello GRCA, ROMO, YELL, ORPI and BRCA-

We received word from WASO that your "basic visitor services" proposals under FLREA have been approved or will be shortly. Please check in appropriate WASO shutdown google drive folder [here](#) for approved version from WASO; wait until it is posted to take action. Please note approvals at this time are for basic visitor services ONLY to be charged to FLREA, not excepted/essential or indirect/overhead.

Couple notes:
- Please run all public messaging regarding increased access/these basic visitor services through WASO Comms (Jeremy Barnum and Mike Litterst) before release/posting. A cc to me or Rick Frost would be helpful.
- Please provide these services as soon as able/practical, but exercise operational leadership as you call employees back and begin to open new areas/ clean restrooms/ provide trash services. Nothing is worth an employee or visitor being injured.
- Melinda Martinez will be in touch tomorrow regarding account numbers for these FLREA charges.
- We will seek guidance from WASO on how to handle the inevitable need for changes to anticipated costs.

Thanks for your continued patience and collaboration. Please keep us posted on how things go and update the IMR shutdown [status sheet](#) as you are able to resume services.

Kate Hammond
Deputy Regional Director and Acting Regional Director
Intermountain Region
National Park Service
(303) 969-2856
Thanks Kate. This is great. Since it is so late in the day I can't assure when we will actually start increasing access. Jeremy, I know you called about wanting some sound bites. Please stay general since I'm not sure we can round up staff to start opening access first thing tomorrow. In the case of Bryce, we will be opening Inspiration and Bryce Points as well as Loop A of the North campground. It could take a couple of days due to the amount of snow though before they are actually open.

On Thu, Jan 10, 2019 at 5:00 PM Hammond, Katharine (Kate) <kate_hammond@nps.gov> wrote:

Hello GRCA, ROMO, YELL, ORPI and BRCA-

We received word from WASO that your "basic visitor services" proposals under FLREA have been approved or will be shortly. Please check in appropriate WASO shutdown google drive folder here for approved version from WASO; wait until it is posted to take action. Please note approvals at this time are for basic visitor services ONLY to be charged to FLREA, not excepted/essential or indirect/overhead.

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Kate Hammond
Deputy Regional Director and Acting Regional Director
Intermountain Region
National Park Service
(303) 969-2856

--

Linda C. Mazzu, Superintendent
Bryce Canyon National Park

PO Box 640201
3000 S Highway 63, Bldg 1
Bryce Canyon, UT 84764
Office: (435) 834-4700
Cell: (435) 690 1177

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has. Margaret Mead
Mike - As requested, here are a few sentences from YELL for the briefing paper. Let us know if you have any questions. - Jody

Yellowstone National Park continues to operate under its winter use plan and, because of donations from concessioners during the shutdown allowing for road grooming, the park has maintained normal access for visitors at this time of year (excluding visitors centers). The park will now use FLREA funds to clean bathrooms across the park, collect trash, staff four out of five entrance stations to provide safety information, staff our busiest warming hut at Madison Junction, and increase our emergency medical services staffing.

Jody Lyle
Chief, Office of Strategic Communications
Yellowstone National Park
307-344-2012 (office)
406-589-7712 (cell)

Visit us online: Official Website | Facebook | Twitter | Instagram | Flickr | YouTube | Periscope
Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks
Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks will use recreation fee revenue from the Federal Lands Revenue Enhancement Act (FLREA) to provide access to all areas of the park that are normally accessible this time of year, with the exception of the visitor center. FLREA funds are allowing additional snow play areas and restrooms of the park to be opened, and restore access to the General Sherman and General Grant sequoia trees, which were closed after the start of the lapse of appropriations due to winter weather and ice. The funds also allow the park to staff entrance stations to provide visitor orientation, safety messages and information on protection park resources.

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)

National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA
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Jody Lyle
Chief, Office of Strategic Communications
Yellowstone National Park
307-344-2012 (office)
406-589-7712 (cell)
Hi Jessica,

We'd like to sign this agreement as soon as possible. It sounds like cash donations are going to WASO? Sorry for any confusion on our end.

They are hoping for quick approval so this can start tomorrow.

Thanks,
Katariina

Katariina Tuovinen
Deputy Regional Director
Pacific West Region
National Park Service
333 Bush Street, Suite 500
San Francisco, CA 94104
(415) 623-2105 (o)
(628) 200-8271 (c)
PWRO colleagues: Attached is a revised one-week donation agreement for trash pickup at Fort Funston for review. Fort Funston is one of the park areas that has been closed since Dec. 22. The partner (SF DOG) has provided a check to initiate this agreement, under which we would open the gate and call back GOGA maintenance staff to do trash collection. The partner hopes we can initiate this agreement as soon as possible, and it was in the works last week before the FLREA guidance came forward.

Revisions were made to the cost calculator per comments received 1/9/2019 from PWR, and the agreement to reflect the change in cost and a start date for tomorrow 1/11/2019.

As per the "Instructions for Accepting Donations December 2018 Lapse of Appropriations" guidance, please find attached:

- The cash donation agreement with SFDOG for provision of health and safety and basic visitor services at Fort Funston
- Check proviso
- GOGA Cost estimate justification for Fort Funston operations

**San Francisco Dog Owners Group (SFDOG) is poised to sign all agreements once we have PWR sign off and route to the Director.**

Golden Gate National Recreation Area affirms that:

1. Details of the offer (cash or in-kind, description of essential services being provided, description of public access the donation will support) - The offer is a cash donation for the support of staff to allow Fort Funston to be open to the public. These employees will provide health and safety coverage and basic visitor services at Fort Funston within Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

2. Identity of the donor(s) - San Francisco Dog Owners Group (SFDOG)

3. Relationship of the donor to the park (park concessioner, Friends Group, Chamber of Commerce, etc.) - SFDOG does not have a direct relationship with Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

4. List of agreements the donor currently has with the park if applicable (concession contract, Friends Group agreement, etc.) - None.
5. Any factors with respect to the Donor or the Donor’s business that may cause a reasonable person to question the NPS’s integrity, impartiality, or public confidence if the NPS accepts this donation.
None.

Please let us know if you have any questions, or if you require any further documentation.

Thanks for your consideration.

Carey Feierabend
Deputy Superintendent
Golden Gate National Recreation Area, National Park Service
(415)561-4739
National Parks of the Nation's Capital
The National Park Service's National Capital Region is using funds from the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act to resume trash collection and sanitation services and undertake urgent roadwork at five national parks within the District of Columbia, including all or portions of George Washington Memorial Parkway, National Capital Parks - East, National Mall and Memorial Parks, President's Park and Rock Creek Park. During the first 20 days following the lapse in appropriations, the DC Department of Public Works, several Business Improvement Districts and other partners collected trash at NPS sites across the city.

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)
National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA
Per your request

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Litterst, Michael <mike_litterst@nps.gov>
Date: Thu, Jan 10, 2019 at 8:44 PM
Subject: FLREA one pager
To: Jessica Bowron <Jessica_Bowron@nps.gov>

~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)

National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA
Attached is a slightly updated version. It includes the following sentence in the second paragraph: Of the approximately $300 million collected in FY 2018, hundreds of millions of dollars are unobligated, and can be re-directed to these purposes.

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329

On Thu, Jan 10, 2019 at 8:45 PM Bowron, Jessica <jessica_bowron@nps.gov> wrote:

Per your request

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Litterst, Michael <mike_litterst@nps.gov>
Date: Thu, Jan 10, 2019 at 8:44 PM
Subject: FLREA one pager
To: Jessica Bowron <Jessica_Bowron@nps.gov>

~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)

National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA
This includes Arches and Canyonlands

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329

On Thu, Jan 10, 2019 at 9:18 PM Bowron, Jessica <jessica_bowron@nps.gov> wrote:
Attended is a slightly updated version. It includes the following sentence in the second paragraph: Of the approximately $300 million collected in FY 2018, hundreds of millions of dollars are unobligated, and can be re-directed to these purposes.

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329

On Thu, Jan 10, 2019 at 8:45 PM Bowron, Jessica <jessica_bowron@nps.gov> wrote:
Per your request

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329

---------- Forwarded message ----------
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Date: Thu, Jan 10, 2019 at 8:44 PM
Subject: FLREA one pager
To: Jessica Bowron <Jessica_Bowron@nps.gov>

~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)
National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA
Good Morning:

The C&O Canal is a trash free park so the BID has not been involved here. Thanks

Todd

On Thu, Jan 10, 2019 at 5:16 PM Slayton, April <april_slayton@nps.gov> wrote:

Good afternoon!
Lisa is looking for short summaries of the work that BIDs did during the initial phase of shutdown. Rock Creek Park put together this great example, which should give you an idea of what we're looking for:
- During the shutdown, they stepped up to conduct trash and litter removal throughout all the Georgetown areas administered by Rock Creek Park, including Georgetown Waterfront Park, Francis Scott Key Park, and "Meigs Park" (US Reservation 691, at the corner of Pennsylvania Avenue NW and M Street NW).
Could you possibly get us any additional BID related work at NACE/ROCR/CHOH park areas tomorrow as well?

Many thanks,
April

--
April Slayton
Acting Deputy Regional Director
National Park Service, National Capital Region
(202) 619-7022 - direct
(202) 641-0291 - mobile

Facebook Twitter
Instagram YouTube
Assuming you all knew about this - first I've heard. Let me know if you have any questions and I'll try and run them down with Mike.

Jenny Anzelmo-Sarles  
Chief of Public Affairs  
National Park Service  
National Capital Region  
jenny_anzelmo-sarles@nps.gov  
Office: (202) 619-7177  
Cell: (307) 690-2355

**Who are we?** National Capital Region - Office of Communications

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-------- Forwarded message --------

From: Litterst, Michael <mike_litterst@nps.gov>  
Date: Fri, Jan 11, 2019 at 9:29 AM  
Subject: Photo op - NPS resumes maintenance services in DC parks - TODAY, 1 p.m.  
To:

Friends:

A photo opportunity for media is available today as National Park Service maintenance staff resume trash collection and sanitation services at five national parks in the D.C. area for the first time since the start of the lapse of appropriations on December 22, 2018. Some of these services had been donated by the D.C. Department of Public Works and park partners since the start of the lapse of appropriations.

A maintenance crew from National Mall and Memorial Parks will be cleaning litter and checking trash cans at the Lincoln Memorial **today** (Friday) from 1-2 p.m. Media is invited for b-roll and photographs; interviews will not be available. Parking is available on the south side...
of the memorial on Lincoln Memorial Drive NW [here].

Background information on the decision to bring NPS staff back for maintenance, health and safety issues is attached.

Mike

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)
National Park Service

Chief of Communications
National Mall and Memorial Parks
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA
Hi Jeremy, i'm doing story for Greenwire on growing outrage over vandalism at Joshua Tree, with all the pix of cut-down trees on Twitter, and 11 green groups writing a letter to Trump and congressional leaders today saying parks across the country now face a "grave situation" with decision to keep them open during shutdown. Do you want to comment or say anything about status of cleanup efforts, etc? Thanks, Rob
Good morning,

Please see NACE's summary of the work of the Cap Hill BID

The Capitol Hill BID was phenomenal* in stepping in during the shutdown to provide trash removal services for the Capitol Hill Parks (Lincoln Park, Stanton Park, Marion Park, Folger Park, Seward Square, Maryland Avenue NE and 10th Street NE, Maryland Avenue NE and 11th NE, and the Pennsylvania Avenue Corridor from 3rd Street SE to Barney Circle) managed by National Capital Parks East.

*that is the exact word Diana used to describe their support.

On Thu, Jan 10, 2019 at 5:17 PM Tara Morrison <tara_morrison@nps.gov> wrote:
Yes will do.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 10, 2019, at 5:16 PM, Slayton, April <april_slayton@nps.gov> wrote:

Good afternoon!
Lisa is looking for short summaries of the work that BIDs did during the initial phase of shutdown. Rock Creek Park put together this great example, which should give you an idea of what we're looking for:
   During the shutdown, they stepped up to conduct trash and litter removal throughout all the Georgetown areas administered by Rock Creek Park, including Georgetown Waterfront Park, Francis Scott Key Park, and "Meigs Park" (US Reservation 691, at the corner of Pennsylvania Avenue NW and M Street NW).
Could you possibly get us any additional BID related work at NACE/ROCR/CHOH park areas tomorrow as well?
Many thanks,
April
--
April Slayton
Acting Deputy Regional Director
National Park Service, National Capital Region
(202) 619-7022 - direct
(202) 641-0291 - mobile
<New Picture (1).bmp>

Facebook Twitter
Instagram YouTube
Clarification: Basic Visitor Services should be charged to the PX.XPARKDI19.00.1, i.e. direct charges. In the event indirect charges are approved the account for indirect charges can be used.

Melinda

Melinda L. Martinez, Regional Comptroller
"National Park Service – Intermountain Region " 303.969.2589 Voice " 303.969.2794 Fax " 303.478.6078 cell
The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

How are we doing? Please complete the following survey to let us know:

Feedback

On Fri, Jan 11, 2019 at 9:48 AM Martinez, Melinda <melinda_martinez@nps.gov> wrote:

Good morning,

WBSs have been released, see below. Each park has two WBSs. The format is PX.XPARKDI19.00.1 for direct costs and PX.XPARKIN19.00.1 for indirect costs. The functional area used is PFE00FEPR.YM0000. And the fund is XXXP511025. Let me know if you have questions related to use of the accounts. --Melinda (cell phone: (b) (6) )

image.png
On Thu, Jan 10, 2019 at 5:00 PM Hammond, Katharine (Kate) <kate_hammond@nps.gov> wrote:

Hello GRCA, ROMO, YELL, ORPI and BRCA-

We received word from WASO that your "basic visitor services" proposals under FLREA have been approved or will be shortly. Please check in appropriate WASO shutdown google drive folder here for approved version from WASO; wait until it is posted to take action. Please note approvals at this time are for basic visitor services ONLY to be charged to FLREA, not excepted/essential or indirect/overhead.

Couple notes:
- Please run all public messaging regarding increased access/these basic visitor services through WASO Comms (Jeremy Barnum and Mike Litterst) before release/posting. A cc to me or Rick Frost would be helpful.
- Please provide these services as soon as able/practical, but exercise operational leadership as you call employees back and begin to open new areas/ clean restrooms/provide trash services. Nothing is worth an employee or visitor being injured.
- Melinda Martinez will be in touch tomorrow regarding account numbers for these FLREA charges.
- We will seek guidance from WASO on how to handle the inevitable need for changes to anticipated costs.

Thanks for your continued patience and collaboration. Please keep us posted on how things go and update the IMR shutdown status sheet as you are able to resume services.

Kate Hammond
Deputy Regional Director and Acting Regional Director
Intermountain Region
National Park Service
(303) 969-2856
Hi April, we coordinated with Joe Sternlieb. I’ve copied his contact information below. Please call if you need anything further and thanks for handling the letter!

Nick

Joe Sternlieb | CEO | GEORGETOWN BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

1000 Potomac Street, NW | Suite 122

Washington, DC 20007 | www.georgetowndc.com

T: 202.298.9222 x207 | C: 202.664-4111

E: jsternlieb@georgetowndc.com

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 11, 2019, at 11:45 AM, Slayton, April <april_slayton@nps.gov> wrote:

Dear Nick,
Was there someone specific at the BID who worked most closely with the park on this effort? I'd like to address the thank you letter to that person.
Thanks!
April
--
April Slayton
Acting Deputy Regional Director
National Park Service, National Capital Region
(202) 619-7022 - direct
(202) 641-0291 - mobile

Facebook Twitter
Instagram YouTube

On Thu, Jan 10, 2019 at 4:41 PM Lisa Mendelson <lisa_mendelson-jelmini@nps.gov> wrote:
Thanks so much / exactly what I was looking for. Thanks!

Lisa Mendelson, AICP
Acting Regional Director
National Park Service
Hi Lisa, you mentioned this morning that you would like a quick sentence on the BID's accomplishments. During the shutdown, they stepped up to conduct trash and litter removal throughout all the Georgetown areas administered by Rock Creek Park, including Georgetown Waterfront Park, Francis Scott Key Park, and "Meigs Park" (US Reservation 691, at the corner of Pennsylvania Avenue NW and M Street NW).

Nick

Nick Bartolomeo
Chief of Resource Management
National Park Service, Rock Creek Park
3545 Williamsburg Lane, NW
Washington, DC 20008
Office: 202-895-6010
Cell: 202-579-8494
Fax: 202-895-6015
We'll obviously post this on our website (when approved). Should we post on social?

I'll also add a sentence at the end giving the newsmedia@nps.gov address for shutdown questions.

Jody Lyle
Chief, Office of Strategic Communications
Yellowstone National Park
307-344-2012 (office)
406-589-7712 (cell)

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On Fri, Jan 11, 2019 at 10:04 AM Lyle, Jody <jody_lyle@nps.gov> wrote:
Jeremy and Mike (copying Kate and Rick too) - Here is our draft public notification. It's drafted as what we call a "Heads Up" message. We post them just like news releases online. Any changes you want me to make? -- Jody

To: Employees, Partners, News Media
From: Office of Strategic Communications, Yellowstone National Park
Updated: 01/11/2019 xxxx p.m.

Update to operations at Yellowstone during the government shutdown

By Sunday, January 13, Yellowstone National Park will provide additional basic services during the government shutdown. National Park Service (NPS) staff will:

- Collect trash and clean bathrooms across the park.
- Staff entrance stations (all except Northeast) and the Madison Warming Hut to provide safety information for visitors. Fees will not be collected at the entrance stations.
- Remove snow at Canyon overlooks to provide better visitor access and improve safety.
- These additional basic services will be funded by the park's fee dollars as outlined in the recent statement by NPS Deputy Director, P. Daniel Smith.

The park will continue to provide services that have been in effect since the shutdown began:

- The road from the park’s North Entrance at Gardiner, Montana, through Mammoth Hot Springs to the Northeast Entrance at Cooke City, Montana, is open to wheeled vehicle travel. Visitors can access all the commercial services along this route.
- Visitors can also access commercial services in the interior of the park via oversnow
travel (e.g. at Old Faithful). Concessioners are currently donating money for road grooming by NPS so that oversnow access to the interior is possible.

- Guided snowmobile and snowcoach trips with commercial operators are allowed.
  Non-commercially guided snowmobile trips are also allowed.
- Park staff is providing emergency services and law enforcement. All park regulations, including those regarding oversnow travel, are in effect as normal.

If conditions become unsafe at any time, roads and/or developed areas in the park may be closed. The park website and social media sites are not being maintained. All administrative offices, including the public affairs office, are closed until the government reopens.

Jody Lyle
Chief, Office of Strategic Communications
Yellowstone National Park
307-344-2012 (office)
406-589-7712 (cell)

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FYI

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Soviak, Kevin <kevin_soviak@nps.gov>
Date: Fri, Jan 11, 2019 at 12:18 PM
Subject: Skyline Drive Closure
To: Deborah Conway <debbie_conway@nps.gov>, Rosalyn Fennell <rose_fennell@nps.gov>, Gay Vietzke <gay_vietzke@nps.gov>, Brian Strack <brian_strack@nps.gov>
Cc: Brian Sikes <brian_sikes@nps.gov>, Jennifer Flynn <jennifer_flynn@nps.gov>, James Schaberl <jim_schaberl@nps.gov>

Due to the expected weather, SHEN will be closing down Skyline Drive through the weekend starting at 1700 tonight. At 1430 we will swing the inbound gates at all entrance stations and we will start to sweep the park. At 1700 the gates will be closed and locked through the duration of the storm. This closure is normal for this park with such expected weather conditions. LE Ranger operations will be minimally staffed to protect our boundaries with many staff placed on-call in the case of an emergency. The backcountry will still be open.

All partners have been informed including PATC.

With our approved FLREA plan, the park’s snow plow team will be reporting to duty at 0700 on Monday to start plow operations to clear the road and all parking areas that were open as of 12/22 along the Central and North Districts of Skyline Drive. The South District remains closed due to storm damage incurred during a weather event previous to the Government Shutdown. Custodial and Trash Collection will commence as soon as Skyline Drive is safe for administrative use.

We will inform you once sections of Skyline Drive have been determined safe and opened for public use.

Call if you have any questions.
Thank you.

Kevin J Soviak; MBA, MSSM  
Deputy Superintendent  
Shenandoah National Park  
3655 US Hwy 211 East  
Luray, VA 22835  
(540) 999-3500 ext. 3200 (office)
I'm a Facility Manager Leaders Program (FMLP) Alumni, ask me about this leadership program.

--
Debbie Conway
Deputy Regional Director
Northeast Region, National Park Service
O. 215-597-1281
C. 215-370-3323
DOI Colleagues,

As many of you are aware we are working with a number of parks who are announcing restored accessibility and services today or tomorrow to communicate the same to the media and public.

We would like to broadly distribute the attached template ASAP for parks to make their own announcement to local media and communities.

We are also providing parks guidance on updating their website alerts and social media accounts.

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thanks,

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
Mobile: (202) 617-7973  
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube
Joe Sternlieb is the executive director FYI, in case you hadn’t found that name.

Lisa Mendelson, AICP
Acting Regional Director
National Park Service
Sent by Cell 202-297-1338

On Jan 11, 2019, at 11:45 AM, Slayton, April <april_slayton@nps.gov> wrote:

Dear Nick,
Was there someone specific at the BID who worked most closely with the park on this effort? I'd like to address the thank you letter to that person.
Thanks!
April
--
April Slayton
Acting Deputy Regional Director
National Park Service, National Capital Region
(202) 619-7022 - direct
(202) 641-0291 - mobile

Facebook Twitter
Instagram YouTube

On Thu, Jan 10, 2019 at 4:41 PM Lisa Mendelson <lisa_mendelson-jelmini@nps.gov> wrote:
Thanks so much / exactly what I was looking for. Thanks!

Lisa Mendelson, AICP
Acting Regional Director
National Park Service
Sent by Cell 202-297-1338

> On Jan 10, 2019, at 4:20 PM, Bartolomeo, Nick <nick_bartolomeo@nps.gov> wrote:
> Hi Lisa, you mentioned this morning that you would like a quick sentence on the BID's accomplishments. During the shutdown, they stepped up to conduct trash and litter removal throughout all the Georgetown areas administered by Rock Creek Park, including Georgetown Waterfront Park, Francis Scott Key Park, and "Meigs Park" (US Reservation 691, at the corner of Pennsylvania
Avenue NW and M Street NW).
>
> Nick
>
> Nick Bartolomeo
> Chief of Resource Management
> National Park Service, Rock Creek Park
> 3545 Williamsburg Lane, NW
> Washington, DC  20008
> Office: 202-895-6010
> Cell: 202-579-8494
> Fax: 202-895-6015
>
Jeremy - this cleared statement may help. You can use this if you think it answers his question appropriately.

Russell

The law is clear and straightforward that under the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA), fees collected and retained by the Bureau of Land Management, the Bureau of Reclamation, the Fish and Wildlife Service, and the National Park Service remain available to use for specified purposes, including repair, maintenance, visitor access, health and safety, visitor information, and law enforcement.

The Department of the Interior’s decision to utilize these fees to continue to meet our mandates to protect our treasured national parks for current and future generations while also providing for the safety and enjoyment of the American people is wholly appropriate, within our discretion, in full accord with FLREA, and unquestionably within our legal authority.

Should Congress prefer that Interior not use such funds during a period of lapse, and instead close these parks to the public, Congress has the power to write that requirement into law. If such a law is enacted, we will faithfully execute it, whether we agree with the policy or not.

Russell Newell
Deputy Director of Communications
U.S. Department of the Interior
(202) 208-6232
@Interior

---------- Forwarded message ----------

From: Rob Hotakainen <rhotakainen@eenews.net>
Date: Fri, Jan 11, 2019 at 1:07 PM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Call for IG investigation
To: Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>, interior_press@ios.doi.gov
    <interior_press@ios.doi.gov>

Hi all, I’m doing a story for our PM edition on NPCA calling for IG investigation into keeping parks open “without adequate staffing and services.” They claim its in violation of four provisions of federal law. (See below.)
Please let me know if you’d like to comment.

Many thanks,
Rob Hotakainen
I wanted to make sure you saw our recent news. Today, NPCA and Democracy Forward demanded that the Office of Inspector General of the Department of the Interior (DOI) open an investigation into DOI’s reckless decision to keep U.S. national parks open without adequate staffing and services during what is currently the second-longest government shutdown in America’s history. DOI’s decision, apparently made as a result of political pressure to lessen public opposition to the shutdown, endangers lives and is illegal, violating at least four separate provisions of federal law.

Rob Hotakainen
National parks, oceans and fisheries reporter
E&E NEWS
rhotakainen@eenews.net
202-446-0477
Twitter: @HotakainenRob
122 C Street NW, 7th floor, Washington, DC, 20001
www.eenews.net | @EENewsUpdates
Greenwire, E&E Daily, E&E News PM, Climatewire, Energywire
DOI Colleagues,

Heads up on that NBC has contacted the Statue of Liberty with the following question: It is my understanding that NY funding as approved by Gov. Cuomo runs out by midnight Monday, January 14th. Can you please advise if either NY or NJ (or some philanthropist, for that matter) has offered any more money to keep the two islands open to the public? It is my understanding that the money must be transferred by midnight tonight, three days in advance, to avoid a shutdown Tuesday.

In order to stay ahead of this we propose responding ASAP with the below statement followed by a news release from the park once the FLREA plan is fully approved. Please let us know if this looks okay.

*Today the National Park Service will finalize a plan to use fee revenue, collected by national parks across the country under the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act, to keep the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island accessible to the American public during the lapse in appropriations.*

*The National Park Service greatly appreciates the generous donation from the State of New York that has helped keep the park accessible during the lapse in appropriations.*

Thanks,

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
Mobile: (202) 617-7973  
[Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) [Instagram](#) [YouTube](#)
Jeremy,

George asked that I send you a few sentences to help describe the photos. This is a lot of verbiage, but hopefully you can glean what you need. I will have more quantifiable data by COB> see map for quick reference. The map is a WORK IN PROGRESS and we haven't had time to QAQC the data nor complete our full reconnaissance for many other areas within the park.

**JOTR Resource Damage Summary**

Resource managers have begun reconnaissance, documentation, clean up and mitigation of damage to resources as a result of illegal off road driving, illegal camping, and general vandalism.

As of close of business January 10th 2019, crews have surveyed a portion of the park focusing on the most popular attraction and camping areas and beginning to scout the north and eastern boundaries of the park.

Most of the damage is in proximity to roads and trails, with the majority consisting of off road driving, damaging soils, vegetation, and in one location a rare species of cacti (*Grusonia parishii*). Numerous low water crossings show evidence of illegal off road driving; with easy access to sandy drainages, there is little topography or vegetation to block access. Other observed damage includes illegal campfires, some of which show evidence of cutting nearby vegetation for use as kindling and fuel. Human waste near parking areas has been documented, and staff are developing a plan for clean up.

Cultural resource impacts include looting of historic objects at Keys Ranch, graffiti on historic objects, and campfires and human waste within archeological sites. During the last couple of weeks it appears well-meaning volunteers may have removed historic objects from sites mistaking them for modern trash. In once instance, park staff encountered visitors with a clear trash bag containing tin cans from the historic mining and ranching period. At the historic Olson House a portion of the historic trash dump has been removed.

*Jane Rodgers  
Chief, Science and Resource Stewardship  
Joshua Tree National Park  
760-367-5560 (office)  
760-401-5117 (mobile)*
Engineer, Educate, Enforce
Dear Colleagues,

Many of your parks have already received approval on FLREA plans to restore accessibility and services ASAP.

Please see the attached news release template for parks to announce their plans (only when approved) to local media and communities. These announcements will of course need to be customized for each park -- please encourage parks to contact me and Mike Litterst with questions.

Upon approval of the park’s FLREA plans, parks are encouraged to issue a news release ASAP (see attached template, also uploaded in the folder). The news release should provide clarify what will be available and when (if possible).

We are also providing parks guidance on updating their website alerts and social media accounts.

Once accessibility has been restored parks should update websites and social media (in some cases it may make sense to wait on social media updates until access is restored as to avoid confusion -- a news release offers more space for detail).

All media inquiries related to the updated contingency plan should be directed to newsmedia@nps.gov.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube
Due to the partial federal government shutdown, I am not in the office and am unable to access or respond to email. I will respond to your message as needed once government operations resume and I am back in the office.

--

Jennifer Werner
Deputy Comptroller, Budget Officer
National Park Service
202.513.7145 (o)
202.695.5662 (m)
I'll be excepted status during the furlough, working as required to fulfill shutdown activities associated with fire and aviation management.

--

William "Bill" Kaage
NPS Division Chief, Fire and Aviation Management
208-387-5216 (office)
208-866-5268 (cellular phone)

"If your nerve deny you, go above your nerve" Emily Dickinson
Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service

Begin forwarded message:

Date: January 11, 2019 at 3:02:20 PM EST
To: Chris Abbett <chris_abbett@nps.gov>, "Paul (Dan) Smith" <paul_smith@nps.gov>, David Moore <david_h_moore@nps.gov>, Bob Vogel <bob_vogel@nps.gov>, "Maclean, Robert" <robert_maclean@nps.gov>, Stan Austin <stan_austin@nps.gov>, William Kaage <william_kaage@nps.gov>, "Litterst, Michael" <mike_litterst@nps.gov>, Brian Strack <brian_strack@nps.gov>, "Katharine (Kate) Hammond" <kate_hammond@nps.gov>, Rick Obernesser <rick_obernesser@nps.gov>, "Kenkel, Craig" <craig_kenkel@nps.gov>, Herbert Frost <bert_frost@nps.gov>, "Mendelson, Lisa" <lisa_mendelson-ielmini@nps.gov>, "Gallegos, Tammy" <tammy_gallegos@nps.gov>, "Nhien (Tony) Nguyen" <nhien_nguyen@nps.gov>, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>, Sarah Creachbaum <sarah_creachbaum@nps.gov>, April Slayton <april_slayton@nps.gov>, Marlon Taubenheim <marlon_taubenheim@nps.gov>, Gay Vietzke <gay_vietzke@nps.gov>, "Williamson, Christine" <chris_williamson@nps.gov>, "Burkhart, Stephanie" <stephanie_burkhart@nps.gov>, Tara Riggs <tara_riggs@nps.gov>, Aaron Dowe <aaron_dowe@nps.gov>, Jennifer Werner <jennifer_werner@nps.gov>, John Spernoga <john_spernoga@nps.gov>, Katarina Tuovinen <katarina tuovinen@nps.gov>, Gregory Monahan <Gregory_Monahan@nps.gov>, "Walden-McCabe, Beth" <beth_walden@nps.gov>, Jason Gibson <jason_gibson@nps.gov>
Cc: "Bowron, Jessica" <jessica_bowron@nps.gov>, April Slayton <april_slayton@nps.gov>, Alexandra Picavet <alexandra_picavet@nps.gov>, Amanda Kaplan <Amanda_Kaplan@nps.gov>

Subject: Communications Guidance for Use of FLREA Funds

Dear Colleagues,

Many of your parks have already received approval on FLREA plans to restore accessibility and services ASAP.

Please see the attached news release template for parks to announce their plans
(only when approved) to local media and communities. These announcements will of course need to be customized for each park -- please encourage parks to contact me and Mike Litterst with questions.

Upon approval of the park’s FLREA plans, parks are encouraged to issue a news release ASAP (see attached template, also uploaded in the folder). The news release should provide clarify what will be available and when (if possible).

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All media inquiries related to the updated contingency plan should be directed to newsmedia@nps.gov.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube
Here's our latest draft using the template. Some small portions of the template did not make sense for BRCA so I made some edits accordingly. Thanks so much ahead of time for your swift review.

--

Linda C. Mazzu, Superintendent
Bryce Canyon National Park
PO Box 640201
3000 S Highway 63, Bldg 1
Bryce Canyon, UT 84764
Office: (435) 834-4700
Cell: (435) 690 1177

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has. Margaret Mead
Was just getting ready to contact my friends at Interior about this issue, as we got a nearly identical inquiry from Charlie Clark at Government Executive.

My normal response for something like this is to confirm receipt of the letter (or not, as the case may be) and simply reply that we will respond to the senator directly. Since the letter was to the Acting Secretary and not an NPS official, should that response come from DOI? Or should I just respond on the Department's behalf and say "the Acting Secretary will respond directly to Senator Peters?"

Mike

--------- Forwarded message ---------
From: John Bockmier <john_bockmier@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Fri, Jan 11, 2019 at 3:39 PM
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] inquiry from Detroit News reporter
To: <faith_vandervoort@ios.doi.gov>, <russell_newell@ios.doi.gov>

FYI

Sent from my iPhone

John M Bockmier
Department of Interior
Director of Communications
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20240
202.208.3636 Office
Begin forwarded message:

From: "Burke, Melissa" <mburke@detroitnews.com>
Date: January 11, 2019 at 3:25:07 PM EST
To: "John_Bockmier@ios.doi.gov" <John_Bockmier@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] inquiry from Detroit News reporter

Hi John,

I am seeking a response/comment from DOI to this letter sent today by Sen. Gary Peters, about the decision to staff the Old Post office Tower in the Trump Hotel during the shutdown. He’s asking, among other things, about the source of funding to keep the tower staffed, who made the decision to staff it during the shutdown and whether GSA or DOI officials had any communications with the White House or Trump Organization officials regarding the decision to reopen the tower.

My deadline is 6 p.m. today.

Thank you,
Melissa Burke

Melissa Nann Burke
Detroit News Washington Bureau
202.662.8736 // 202.657.7644 m
@nannburke

From: Green, Allison (Peters) <Allison_Green@peters.senate.gov> On Behalf Of Peters Communications
Sent: Friday, January 11, 2019 2:36 PM
To: Peters Communications <Media_Peters@peters.senate.gov>
WASHINGTON, DC – U.S. Senator Gary Peters (D-MI), Ranking Member of the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, sent a letter pressing the U.S. Department of Interior (DOI) and the General Services Administration (GSA) for information on the decision to staff the Old Post Office Tower located within the Trump International Hotel during the government shutdown. The National Park Service (NPS) attraction has continued to operate using NPS personnel, while other NPS sites and parks have closed or struggled to clean up trash and mitigate damage without federal funding.

“As the clock tower at Trump International Hotel in Washington stands open, staffed by NPS personnel, valuable public buildings such as the Smithsonian are shuttered,” wrote Senator Peters. “Meanwhile, mounting trash and unsafe conditions at national park sites across the country are putting people and wildlife in jeopardy. At least three people have died at national park sites since
the shutdown began.”

“When GSA has authority to transfer funds to NPS under certain conditions, the lengths to which to your agencies have gone to open the tower facility within a Trump business enterprise have raised public concerns that the tower may be receiving special treatment, in light of a shutdown that has left 800,000 federal workers furloughed or working without pay and crippled our national parks,” Senator Peters continued.

The Old Post Office is a historic building under lease by the GSA to the Trump Organization, which is required to permit public access to certain areas of the building, including the tower. According to recent news reports, the tower was closed on December 22, 2018, when funding lapsed for GSA and Interior, which includes the National Park Service. On January 2, 2019, the tower reopened with funding from GSA, despite the continued government shutdown. Peters is requesting information on why operating the tower is a priority while other critical NPS safety and security functions have been affected by the lapse in federal funding.

The full text of the letter is copied below and available here.

January 10, 2019

The Honorable David Bernhardt
Acting Secretary
Department of Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

The Honorable Emily W. Murphy
Administrator
General Services Administration
1800 F Street, NW
Dear Mr. Acting Secretary and Madam Administrator:

I write to request information regarding National Park Service (NPS) staffing of the Old Post Office Tower (tower) located within the Trump International Hotel during the current government shutdown.

The Old Post Office is a historic building under lease by the General Services Administration (GSA) to the Trump Organization, which is required to permit public access to certain areas of the building, including the tower. The tower was closed by the NPS on December 22, 2018, when funding lapsed for certain agencies including the GSA and the Department of Interior (DOI), of which the NPS is a part. On January 2, 2019, it was reported that the tower would reopen with funding from GSA, and it did. When questioned about this funding, a GSA spokesperson described the funds for reopening the tower as “not associated with the current fiscal year’s (FY 2019) appropriations bill.” Subsequently, it was reported that GSA would tap the Federal Buildings Fund to pay to reopen and staff the tower with NPS employees under an interagency agreement between GSA and DOI, which GSA stated was pursuant to Public Law 98-1.

I would like nothing more than to have all of our rangers and other federal civil servants back at work on behalf of the public. As the clock tower at Trump International Hotel in Washington stands open, staffed by NPS personnel, valuable public buildings such as the Smithsonian are shuttered. Meanwhile, mounting trash and unsafe conditions at national park sites across the country are putting people and wildlife in jeopardy. At least three people have died at national park sites since the shutdown began. Conditions are being described as “dire” and on the brink of causing lasting damage and financial repercussions for parks and surrounding communities.

While GSA has authority to transfer funds to NPS under certain conditions, the lengths to which to your agencies have gone to open the tower facility within a Trump business enterprise have raised public concerns that the tower may be receiving special treatment, in light of a shutdown that has left 800,000 federal workers furloughed or working without pay and crippled our national parks.

In order to better understand the current state of this matter and in light of the concerns outlined above, I request that you answer the following:
1. Please confirm the funding source for (1) the National Park Service employees, and (2) any other federal employees who are staffing the tower during the partial government shutdown. How much has GSA paid to date during this partial shutdown? Did GSA pay for these employees prior to the current shutdown?

2. What other costs are GSA and/or DOI paying to keep the tower open and provide services, what is the funding source, and how much has been paid and/or obligated to date? Did GSA pay any of these costs prior to the shutdown?

3. What other federal facilities are currently being kept open during the shutdown using the same funding source(s) as the tower? What federal facilities have been closed during the shutdown? How did GSA make the decision as to how to allocate these funds among federal properties during this government shutdown, and why was the tower prioritized over other federal facilities?

4. Who made the decision to reopen the tower? Please confirm the authority under which it was reopened. What other facilities did GSA determine needed to be reopened after closing those facilities due to the lapse in funding?

5. What, if any, communications did GSA and/or DOI officials have with White House officials concerning the decision to reopen the tower and the funding to keep the tower open? With officials from any business entity affiliated with President Trump or his family?

6. Was the tower kept open to the public directly preceding, during, and/or after the October 2013 shutdown?

7. Please provide a copy of the current lease and any prior leases with the Trump Organization for the Trump International Hotel in Washington, DC, as well as a copy of the current interagency agreement between GSA and DOI and prior interagency agreements from 2010 to the present that cover staffing of the tower by NPS employees.
I request that you provide separate agency responses to the above questions on or before January 31, 2019.

---

Faith C. Vander Voort
Deputy Press Secretary
Department of the Interior
Due to the federal government shutdown, I am not in the office and am unable to access or respond to e-mail. I will respond to e-mail messages as needed once government operations resume and I am back in the office.

--

Nigel A. Fields
Superintendent
Virgin Islands National Park
Virgin Islands Coral Reef National Monument
1300 Cruz Bay Creek
St. John, VI 00830

340-776-6201 ext 240
340-690-0366 (cell)
Jeremy and Chris,

I am seeking your approval on the attached draft. Please review and let me know. thank you,
Dave

------------------------------------------
David E. Hallac
Superintendent, National Parks of Eastern North Carolina
252-475-9032

On Fri, Jan 11, 2019 at 4:29 PM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:
You all have probably already received the guidance, but attaching it to this email as well just in case.

---

Dear Colleagues,

Many of your parks have already received approval on FLREA plans to restore accessibility and services ASAP.

Please see the attached news release template for parks to announce their plans (only when approved) to local media and communities. These announcements will of course need to be customized for each park -- please encourage parks to contact me and Mike Litterst with questions.

Upon approval of the park’s FLREA plans, parks are encouraged to issue a news release ASAP (see attached template, also uploaded in the folder). The news release should provide clarify what will be available and when (if possible).

We are also providing parks guidance on updating their website alerts and social media accounts.

Once accessibility has been restored parks should update websites and social media (in some cases it may make sense to wait on social media updates until access is restored as to avoid confusion -- a news release offers more space for detail).

All media inquiries related to the updated contingency plan should be directed to newsmedia@nps.gov.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
On Fri, Jan 11, 2019 at 1:34 PM Abbett, Chris <chris_abbett@nps.gov> wrote:
Thanks Dave. WASO Communications is working on that communications package for all of the FLREA parks, but it isn't yet ready. Jeremy Barnum and Mike Litterest are available to assist each of you on the press release today.

Chris Abbett
Associate Regional Director for Partnerships, Interpretation and Education
1924 Building,
100 Alabama Street SW
Atlanta, GA 30303
(404) 507-5685
(404) 307-9946 (cell phone)
chris_abbett@nps.gov

On Fri, Jan 11, 2019 at 1:31 PM Hallac, Dave <david_hallac@nps.gov> wrote:
Thank you for the update, Ed.

Is there approved public information that we can distribute to the media, e.g., a press release template notifying the public that we are now providing FLREA-funded basic services?

Dave

David E. Hallac
Superintendent, National Parks of Eastern North Carolina
252-475-9032
On Fri, Jan 11, 2019 at 12:43 PM Buskirk, Ed <ed_buskirk@nps.gov> wrote:
SER has received approval for the Basic Services for the following parks:

BLRI, LIRI, VIIS, VICK, CAHA

Here are the weekly limits:

BLRI $21,017.49
LIRI $350.32
VIIS $3,452.96
VICK $4,332.70
CAHA $7,042.80

Please understand that only Basic Services have been approved, no indirect or excepted/essential as of yet.

A reminder that FLREA funds are only authorized for specific purposes, as listed in the attachment. As personnel return to work for FLREA-authorized activities, they should not also complete work that is not authorized under FLREA.

As soon as the WBSs have been established, I will send to you.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Ed Buskirk
ARD-Administration, SER
404-507-5610
Jeremy,

I just sent this to Mike

I don't believe it's in the best interest of the NPS or VICK to issue a release about the FLREA funds.

While the FLREA funds will relieve the Friends of Vicksburg National Military Park and Campaign of the need to fund the maintenance and law enforcement operations of the park through their donations, they will still be providing funding to keep the park visitor center and the USS Cairo Museum open, and will continue to provide in-kind support to remove downed trees and keep the park tour road open. The park will continue to operate at the same limited level as it has since the shutdown began. No new areas of the park are opening. Visitors will notice no difference in their experience due to FLREA funding. The only change will be what funding is being used for some of the operations.

Issuing a press release will make it more difficult for the Friends to solicit or receive donations while providing no benefit to the visitor. We don't plan to issue a release for those reasons.

Bill Justice

Superintendent
Vicksburg National Military Park

601-619-2902 office
601-618-2237 cellular
bill_justice@nps.gov

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Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

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As soon as the WBSs have been established, I will send to you.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Ed Buskirk
ARD-Administration, SER
404-507-5610
FYI below. The latest statement (attached) addresses this -- we'll refer the reporter to the statement.

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
Mobile: (202) 617-7973  
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Gabrielle Canon <gabrielle.canon@guardian.co.uk> 
Date: Fri, Jan 11, 2019 at 3:21 PM  
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Press Inquiry about shutdown  
To: Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>  
Cc: Andrew Munoz <andrew_munoz@nps.gov>

Hi Jeremy and Andrew,

Following up on my previous request about the Joshua Tree shutdown, I was hoping to get a bit more context on who made the decision to keep the park open after there were reports that it was going to close due to vandalism. Another source just told me the Superintendent wanted to close the park but the decision was made by officials at the DOI. Hoping for more clarity or a comment about how the announcement to close Joshua Tree was then changed.

Thanks!

Best,  
Gabrielle

--  
Gabrielle Canon  
510.629.4261
Thoughts?

I see his point in that there's not change in the accessibility, but do you read this as I do, that by not issuing a press release, the public will think the Friends are continuing to fund maintenance and LE operations, and they'll be able to solicit donations based on this?

~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst  
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting) 
National Park Service  
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

--------- Forwarded message --------
From: Justice, Bill <bill_justice@nps.gov>  
Date: Fri, Jan 11, 2019 at 4:33 PM  
Subject: News release re FLREA  
To: Michael Litterst <Mike_Litterst@nps.gov>

Mike,

I don't believe it's in the best interest of the NPS or VICK to issue a release about the FLREA funds.

While the FLREA funds will relieve the Friends of Vicksburg National Military Park and Campaign of the need to fund the maintenance and law enforcement operations of the park through their donations, they will still be providing funding to keep the park visitor center and the USS Cairo Museum open, and will continue to provide in-kind support to remove downed trees and keep the park tour road open. The park will continue to operate at the same limited level as it has since the shutdown began. No areas of the park are opening. Visitors will notice no difference in their experience. The only change will be what funding is being used for some of the operations.

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Bill Justice
Superintendent
Vicksburg National Military Park

601-619-2902 office
601-618-2237 cellular
bill_justice@nps.gov
Draft. Let me know if you have suggestions. I'm showing to John right now. Lisa - have any over our recent letters contained language indicating we are not providing a complete response because of the shutdown?

On Fri, Jan 11, 2019 at 4:24 PM Powell, Christine <chris_powell@nps.gov> wrote:

Chris,

Attached is fee language you can use for the response letter.

Here is the basic
Christine Powell
Acting Chief of Staff
(o) 202-513-7181
(c) 202-878-2309

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Date: Fri, Jan 11, 2019 at 3:30 PM
Subject: Fwd: Communications Guidance for Use of FLREA Funds
To: Christine Powell <chris_powell@nps.gov>

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Barnum, Jeremy" <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Date: January 11, 2019 at 3:02:20 PM EST
To: Chris Abbett <chris_abbett@nps.gov>, "Paul (Dan) Smith" <paul_smith@nps.gov>, David Moore <david_h_moore@nps.gov>, Bob Vogel <bob_vogel@nps.gov>, "Maclean, Robert" <robert_maclean@nps.gov>, Stan Austin <stan_austin@nps.gov>, William Kaage <william_kaage@nps.gov>, "Litterst, Michael" <mike_litterst@nps.gov>, Brian Strack <brian_strack@nps.gov>, "Katharine (Kate) Hammond" <kate_hammond@nps.gov>, Rick Obernesser
Subject: Communications Guidance for Use of FLREA Funds

Dear Colleagues,

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All media inquiries related to the updated contingency plan should be directed to newsmedia@nps.gov.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
Mobile: (202) 617-7973  
Facebook  Twitter  Instagram  YouTube

--

Christopher P. Salotti  
Legislative Counsel  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Phone: 202.208.1403
Jeremy,

ISB is assisting TUMA with a vandalism incident that occurred during the shutdown. We typically issue a RFI on our social media platform as a tool and have experienced very positive results in the past. We have made several cases this way. In reviewing the social media guidance for the shutdown, there isn't any guidance on using the platforms in furtherance of criminal investigations. The only thing remotely related is for emergencies. We have staff excepted working various criminal cases and the staff to manage the tips such a posting may generate.

The attachments are the content we would like to use. Charles suggested I as you for guidance.

thank you,

Christopher Smith
Special Agent in Charge of Operations
National Park Service
Investigative Services Branch
(928) 606-2875

Want to report a crime in a national park? Please call the ISB Tip Line at 888-653-0009.

Seeking help when experiencing stress, depression, anxiety or suicidal thoughts is a sign of courage, not one of weakness. Seeking help for a colleague is an act of compassion and strength, not an act of disloyalty.

CONFIDENTIALITY/SENSITIVITY NOTICE:
This message is intended exclusively for the individual or entity to which it is addressed. This communication may contain information that is law enforcement sensitive, proprietary, privileged, confidential and may be legally protected or otherwise exempt from disclosure. If you are not the named addressee, you are not authorized to read, print, retain, copy or disseminate this message or any part of it. If you have received this message in error, please notify the sender immediately by email and delete all copies of the message.
Here's what I would go with...

While there were initially announced plans to close Joshua Tree National Park due to ongoing health, safety and resource protection issues, the park was able to take advantage of the decision by the Acting Secretary of the Interior to utilize recreation fee money collected under the Federal Land Recreation Enhancement to address the maintenance and sanitation issues that have arisen at a number of highly visited parks during the lapse in appropriations. This directive allowed Joshua Tree to immediately bring back park maintenance crews to correct trash and sanitation issues, ensure the protection of park resources, and mitigate some of the damage that has occurred during the lapse of appropriations. I've attached copies of the Secretarial memorandum that authorized the use of recreation fee revenue as well as a statement from the Deputy Director of the National Park Service that provides additional information.

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)
National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

On Fri, Jan 11, 2019 at 4:35 PM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Gabrielle Canon <gabrielle.canon@guardian.co.uk>
Hi Jeremy and Andrew,

Following up on my previous request about the Joshua Tree shutdown, I was hoping to get a bit more context on who made the decision to keep the park open after there were reports that it was going to close due to vandalism. Another source just told me the Superintendent wanted to close the park but the decision was made by officials at the DOI. Hoping for more clarity or a comment about how the announcement to close Joshua Tree was then changed.

Thanks!

Best,
Gabrielle

--
Gabrielle Canon
510.629.4261
www.gabriellecanon.com
@GabrielleCanon (Twitter)
@GabrielleCanon (Instagram)

On Wed, 2 Jan 2019 at 12:30, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Gabrielle,

The National Park Service continues to follow its contingency plan in the absence of appropriations. The plan may be found here: https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf

During the government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures.

I have attached the latest information on Joshua Tree National Park for your reference. I have also cc’d my colleague on the West Coast who may be able to provide additional information related to the park.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**
The NPS contingency plan in the absence of appropriations provides for the ability to restrict access to national park areas for safety, health, or resource protection issues.
Per the contingency plan, if visitor access becomes a safety, health or resource protection issue (weather, road conditions, resource damage, garbage build-up to the extent that it endangers human health or wildlife, etc.), the area must be closed.

At the superintendent’s discretion, parks may close areas with sensitive natural, cultural, historic, or archaeological resources vulnerable to destruction, looting, or other damage that cannot be adequately protected by the excepted law enforcement staff that remain on duty to conduct essential activities.

Accessibility to parks during the partial government shutdown varies on a number of factors which may change at any time. Some visitor services may be available when provided by concessioners or other entities. For most parks, there will be no National Park Service-provided visitor services, such as restrooms, trash collection, facilities, or road maintenance. Visitors should go to www.nps.gov and select “Find a Park” for additional information on access to parks and sites in a particular area.

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
Mobile: (202) 617-7973  
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

---

On Wed, Jan 2, 2019 at 2:13 PM Gabrielle Canon <gabrielle.canon@guardian.co.uk> wrote:

Hi Jeremy,

Just gave you a call. My name is Gabrielle and I am a reporter for the Guardian. I am writing about how the shutdown is affecting parks, particularly Joshua Tree. Was hoping for an official statement and a bit more context and it would be great if you have time for a quick call. My deadline is EOD today. Thanks!

Best,
Gabrielle

--

Gabrielle Canon  
510.629.4261  
www.gabriellecanon.com  
@GabrielleCanon (Twitter)  
@GabrielleCanon (Instagram)
Just to reiterate our conversation - no, we have not used language re: unable to respond due to shutdown. Comms has used a couple of lines in their press releases...

On Fri, Jan 11, 2019 at 4:43 PM Salotti, Christopher <chris_salotti@ios.doi.gov> wrote:
Draft. Let me know if you have suggestions. I'm showing to John right now. Lisa - have any over our recent letters contained language indicating we are not providing a complete response because of the shutdown?

On Fri, Jan 11, 2019 at 4:24 PM Powell, Christine <chris_powell@nps.gov> wrote:

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Christine Powell
Acting Chief of Staff
(o) 202-513-7181
(c) 202-878-2309

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From: Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Date: Fri, Jan 11, 2019 at 3:30 PM
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To: Christine Powell <chris_powell@nps.gov>

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Barnum, Jeremy" <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
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To: Chris Abbett <chris_abbett@nps.gov>, "Paul (Dan) Smith" <paul_smith@nps.gov>, David Moore <david_h_moore@nps.gov>, Bob Vogel <bob_vogel@nps.gov>, "Maclean, Robert" <robert_maclean@nps.gov>, Stan Austin <stan_austin@nps.gov>, William
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Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

--
Christopher P. Salotti
Legislative Counsel
U.S. Department of the Interior
Phone: 202.208.1403

--
Lisa Cannuscio
Office of the Executive Secretariat
1849 C Street, N.W., Room 7317
Washington, D.C. 20240
Office: (202) 208-2443
Email: Lisa_Cannuscio@ios.doi.gov
I think this is good too.

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329

On Fri, Jan 11, 2019 at 5:08 PM Maclean, Robert <robert_maclean@nps.gov> wrote:
USPP is good.

Robert D. MacLean
Chief of Police
United States Park Police
202.619.7350 - Office
robert_maclean@nps.gov - Email

We are the oldest, federal, uniformed police force, which serves as the National Park Service urban-park-interface between our society and our nation's most cherished symbols of democracy. We selflessly protect and defend these symbols, what they represent, and those that visit them. We embrace our duty and responsibility to those we serve and the civil liberties that make us all free. We are proud of our heritage, our history, and our mission. We are the United States Park Police.

USPP Strategic Plan: https://www.nps.gov/subjects/uspp/upload/USPP-Strategic-Plan-final.pdf
USPP Webpage: https://www.nps.gov/uspp/
USPP Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/USParkPolice/
USPP Twitter: https://twitter.com/usparkpolicepio

This e-mail (including any and all attachments) is intended for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed. It may contain information that is privileged, confidential or otherwise protected by applicable law. If you are not the intended recipient or the employee or agent responsible for delivery of this e-mail to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, copying or use of this e-mail or its contents is strictly prohibited. If you received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender immediately and destroy all copies.

On Fri, Jan 11, 2019 at 1:46 PM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:
DOI Colleagues,

Heads up on that NBC has contacted the Statue of Liberty with the following question: It is my understanding that NY funding as approved by Gov. Cuomo runs out by midnight Monday, January 14th. Can you please advise if either NY or NJ (or some philanthropist, for that matter) has offered any more money to keep the two islands open to the public? It is my understanding that the money must be transferred by midnight tonight, three days in advance, to avoid a shutdown Tuesday."
In order to stay ahead of this we propose responding ASAP with the below statement followed by a news release from the park once the FLREA plan is fully approved. Please let us know if this looks okay.

*Today the National Park Service will finalize a plan to use fee revenue, collected by national parks across the country under the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act, to keep the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island accessible to the American public during the lapse in appropriations.*

*The National Park Service greatly appreciates the generous donation from the State of New York that has helped keep the park accessible during the lapse in appropriations.*

Thanks,

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
Mobile: (202) 617-7973  
[Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) [Instagram](#) [YouTube](#)
Chris, John, Lisa and Julie,

Attached is the Feinstein response letter under Dan's signature. Thanks Chris and Lisa.

Christine Powell
Acting Chief of Staff
(o) 202-513-7181
(c) 202-878-2309

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From: "Barnum, Jeremy" <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Date: January 11, 2019 at 3:02:20 PM EST
To: Chris Abbett <chris_abbett@nps.gov>, "Paul (Dan) Smith" <paul_smith@nps.gov>, David Moore <david_h_moore@nps.gov>, Bob Vogel <bob_vogel@nps.gov>, "Maclean, Robert" <robert_maclean@nps.gov>, Stan Austin <stan_austin@nps.gov>, William Kaage <william_kaage@nps.gov>, "Litterst, Michael" <mike_litterst@nps.gov>, Brian Strack <brian_strack@nps.gov>, "Katharine (Kate) Hammond" <kate_hammond@nps.gov>, Rick Obernesser <rick_obernesser@nps.gov>, "Kenkel, Craig" <craig_kenkel@nps.gov>, Herbert Frost <bert_frost@nps.gov>, "Mendelson, Lisa" <lisa_mendelson-ielmini@nps.gov>, "Gallegos, Tammy" <tammy_gallegos@nps.gov>, "Nhien (Tony) Nguyen" <nhien_nguyen@nps.gov>, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>, Sarah Creachbaum <sarah_creachbaum@nps.gov>, April Slayton <april_slayton@nps.gov>, Marlon Taubenheim <marlon_taubenheim@nps.gov>, Gay Vietzke <gay_vietzke@nps.gov>, "Williamson, Christine" <chris_williamson@nps.gov>, "Burkhart, Stephanie" <stephanie_burkhart@nps.gov>, Tara Riggs <tara_riggs@nps.gov>, Aaron Dowe <aaron_dowe@nps.gov>, Jennifer Werner <jennifer_werner@nps.gov>, John Spernoga <john_spernoga@nps.gov>, Katariina Tuovinen <katariina_tuovinen@nps.gov>, Gregory Monahan <Gregory_Monahan@nps.gov>, "Walden-McCabe, Beth" <beth_walden@nps.gov>, Jason Gibson <jason_gibson@nps.gov>
Cc: "Bowron, Jessica" <jessica_bowron@nps.gov>, April Slayton <april_slayton@nps.gov>, Alexandra Picavet <alexandra_picavet@nps.gov>, Amanda Kaplan <Amanda_Kaplan@nps.gov>

Subject: Communications Guidance for Use of FLREA Funds

Dear Colleagues,

Many of your parks have already received approval on FLREA plans to restore accessibility and services ASAP.

Please see the attached news release template for parks to announce their plans (only when approved) to local media and communities. These announcements will of course need to be customized for each park -- please encourage parks to contact me and Mike Litterst with questions.

Upon approval of the park’s FLREA plans, parks are encouraged to issue a news release ASAP (see attached template, also uploaded in the folder). The
news release should provide clarify what will be available and when (if possible).

We are also providing parks guidance on updating their website alerts and social media accounts.

Once accessibility has been restored parks should update websites and social media (in some cases it may make sense to wait on social media updates until access is restored as to avoid confusion -- a news release offers more space for detail).

All media inquiries related to the updated contingency plan should be directed to newsmedia@nps.gov.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

Christopher P. Salotti
Legislative Counsel
U.S. Department of the Interior
Phone: 202.208.1403
On Fri, Jan 11, 2019 at 5:45 PM Salotti, Christopher <chris_salotti@ios.doi.gov> wrote:
Thanks!

On Fri, Jan 11, 2019 at 5:40 PM Powell, Christine <chris_powell@nps.gov> wrote:
Chris, John, Lisa and, Julie,

Attached is the Feinstein response letter under Dan's signature. Thanks Chris and Lisa.

Christine Powell
Acting Chief of Staff
(o) 202-513-7181
(c) 202-878-2309

On Fri, Jan 11, 2019 at 4:43 PM Salotti, Christopher <chris_salotti@ios.doi.gov> wrote:
Draft. Let me know if you have suggestions. I'm showing to John right now. Lisa - have any over our recent letters contained language indicating we are not providing a complete response because of the shutdown?

On Fri, Jan 11, 2019 at 4:24 PM Powell, Christine <chris_powell@nps.gov> wrote:
Chris,

Attached is fee language you can use for the response letter.

Here is the basic
Christine Powell
Acting Chief of Staff
(o) 202-513-7181
(c) 202-878-2309

--------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Date: Fri, Jan 11, 2019 at 3:30 PM
Subject: Fwd: Communications Guidance for Use of FLREA Funds
Dear Colleagues,

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Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

Christopher P. Salotti
Legislative Counsel
U.S. Department of the Interior
Phone: 202.208.1403
--

John Tanner
Director
Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs
United States Department of the Interior
Hi Jeremy and Mike,

Can you review the attached news release from GRCA? We can send it out whenever you have time to review/edit. Tomorrow or Sunday works for us. I will take tomorrow off- Nicole and Robin will cover.

Thank you for all your help, despite how busy you must be. It makes a huge difference knowing we have your support.

Emily

On Fri, Jan 11, 2019 at 1:12 PM Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Barnum, Jeremy" <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Date: January 11, 2019 at 3:02:20 PM EST
To: Chris Abbett <chris_abbett@nps.gov>, "Paul (Dan) Smith" <paul_smith@nps.gov>, David Moore <david_h_moo@nps.gov>, Bob Vogel <bob_vogel@nps.gov>, "Maclean, Robert" <robert_macle@nps.gov>, Stan Austin <stan_austin@nps.gov>, William Kaage <william_ka@nps.gov>, "Litterst, Michael" <mike_litterst@nps.gov>, Brian Strack <brian_strack@nps.gov>, "Katharine (Kate) Hammond" <kate_hammond@nps.gov>, Rick Obernesser <rick_obern@nps.gov>, "Kenkel, Craig" <craig_kenkel@nps.gov>, Herbert Frost <bert_frost@nps.gov>, "Mendelson, Lisa" <lisa_mendelson-ielmini@nps.gov>, "Gallegos, Tammy" <tammy_gallegos@nps.gov>, "Nhien (Tony) Nguyen" <nhien_nguyen@nps.gov>, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>, Sarah Creachbaum <sarah_cre@nps.gov>, April Slayton <april_slayton@nps.gov>, Marlon Taubenheim <marlon_taubenheim@nps.gov>, Gay Vietzke <gay_vietzke@nps.gov>, "Williamson, Christine" <chris_williamson@nps.gov>, "Burkhart, Stephanie" <stephanie_burkhart@nps.gov>, Tara Riggs <tara_riggs@nps.gov>, Aaron Dowe <aaron_dowe@nps.gov>, Jennifer Werner <jennifer_werner@nps.gov>, John Sperrioga <john_sperrioga@nps.gov>, Katarina Tuovinen <katarina_tuvo@nps.gov>, Gregory Monahan <Gregory_Monahan@nps.gov>, "Walden-McCabe, Beth" <walden-mcc@nps.gov>
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Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube
--
Emily Davis
Public Affairs Specialist
Grand Canyon National Park
O: 928-638-7609 | C: 928-525-6490
Thanks so much Mike. Bill, can you develop a press release on Saturday morning and run by Mike for review? We really appreciate it.

Chris Abbett
Associate Regional Director for Partnerships, Interpretation and Education
1924 Building,
100 Alabama Street SW
Atlanta, GA 30303
(404) 507-5685
(404) 307-9946 (cell phone)
chris_abbett@nps.gov

On Fri, Jan 11, 2019 at 6:08 PM Michael Litterst <mike_litterst@nps.gov> wrote:

Bill:

I appreciate the desire to help the Friends, especially in light of their support during the shutdown, but I’m a little concerned about allowing them to take credit for funding operations that they’re not actually paying for, just for their fundraising purposes.

And at the same time I also think we need to stand up and take credit for once again providing our own funding for the care, maintenance, and protection of our parks, albeit on a more limited basis than we would like.

I think both of those messages can coexist in a press release.

Mike

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Mike Litterst
Chief of Public Affairs and Chief Spokesperson (acting)

National Park Service
Cell: (202) 306-4166

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 11, 2019, at 4:33 PM, Justice, Bill <bill_justice@nps.gov> wrote:
Mike,

I don't believe it's in the best interest of the NPS or VICK to issue a release about the FLREA funds.

While the FLREA funds will relieve the Friends of Vicksburg National Military Park and Campaign of the need to fund the maintenance and law enforcement operations of the park through their donations, they will still be providing funding to keep the park visitor center and the USS Cairo Museum open, and will continue to provide in-kind support to remove downed trees and keep the park tour road open. The park will continue to operate at the same limited level as it has since the shutdown began. No areas of the park are opening. Visitors will notice no difference in their experience. The only change will be what funding is being used for some of the operations.

Issuing a press release will make it more difficult for the Friends to solicit or receive donations while providing no benefit to the visitor. We don't plan to issue a release for those reasons.

Bill Justice
Superintendent
Vicksburg National Military Park

601-619-2902 office
601-618-2237 cellular
bill_justice@nps.gov
Thanks Alanna!

Jeremy and Mike, great to e-meet you. Would love to get details about which parks are now closed, and any other park details that could be helpful to our readers during the shutdown.

Thanks!
Nena

--

Nena Farrell
Associate Digital Editor
nfarrell@sunset.com
www.sunset.com

From: Alanna Sobel <asobel@nationalparks.org>
Date: Friday, January 11, 2019 at 3:27 PM
To: Nena Farrell <nfarrell@sunset.com>
Cc: Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>, Mike Litterst <Mike_Litterst@nps.gov>,
Scott Anderson <sanderson@nationalparks.org>
Subject: Re: Sunset Mag Question

Nena,

Always nice to hear from you. We too are heartbroken over that news. Looping in Jeremy Barnum and Mike Litterst with National Park Service to address your question below.

Thanks for the update on the desert parks piece. Really looking forward to reading it.

Thought you may also be interested in spreading the word about National Park Foundation’s Parks Restoration Fund. More info here and happy to try to arrange a time for you to speak with NPF President Will Shafroth about it: https://www.nationalparks.org/about/pressroom/press-releases/national-park-foundations-parks-restoration-fund-will-provide-support

Please let me know if I can be of any further help.
Thank you and have a great weekend!
Alanna

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 11, 2019, at 5:57 PM, Nena Farrell <nfarrell@sunset.com> wrote:

Hi Alanna,

Hope you’re doing well! We’ve been so heartbroken seeing the news about the vandalism and damage of parks during the shutdown. I was wondering if you or anyone on your team can confirm which parks are, or will be, closed to the public? Any details on any closures would be helpful as we’re hoping to do a story on what parks are now open and closed during the shutdown.

Let me know, thank you! The desert parks piece is also lined up for later this month, but let me know if there’s any details in lieu of recent events to keep in mind for that story!

Thanks,
Nena
--

Nena Farrell
Associate Digital Editor
nfarrell@sunset.com
www.sunset.com
Ok.

Having read over the template there is only about one paragraph I can really use. There is no new access to facilities or new things we will be doing that we weren’t before or any employees who are returning to work.

I’ll take a crack at something.

Bill Justice
Superintendent
Vicksburg National Military Park
601-619-2902 office
601-618-2237 cell

Sent from my iPhone

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Mike Litterst
Chief of Public Affairs and Chief Spokesperson (acting)

National Park Service
Cell: (202) 306-4166

Sent from my iPhone

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Bill Justice
Superintendent
Vicksburg National Military Park

601-619-2902 office
601-618-2237 cellular
bill_justice@nps.gov
Thanks! I did see these. I was just hoping to confirm who made the decision to keep the park open and perhaps get a comment about why it was important to the Department to keep them open despite the potential threats of vandalism and degradation during the shutdown.

--
Gabrielle Canon
510.629.4261
www.gabriellecanon.com
@GabrielleCanon (Twitter)
@GabrielleCanon (Instagram)

On Fri, 11 Jan 2019 at 15:46, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:
Hi Gabrielle,

Making sure you saw the below news release.


https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1207/updatelapse.htm

**Joshua Tree National Park to Remain Accessible**

**Date:** January 9, 2019

By immediately utilizing revenue generated by recreation fees, National Park Service officials have been able to avert a temporary closure of Joshua Tree National Park that had been previously scheduled for January 10. In addition, recently closed areas of the park will once again be accessible to visitors starting January 10. Some visitor services, including campgrounds and entrance stations, will reopen utilizing recreation fee revenue.

All areas that have been recently closed will be accessible to park visitors starting on Thursday, January 10, including:

- All campgrounds
- Stirrup Tank Road
Lost Horse Mine Road and Trail

- Keys View Road
- Rattlesnake Canyon Picnic Area and Road

National Park Service officials have determined that by using Federal Land and Recreation Enhancement funds to immediately bring back park maintenance crews to address sanitation issues, the park will be able to maintain some visitor services, including reopening the campgrounds. The park will also bring on additional staff to ensure the protection of park resources and mitigate some of the damage that has occurred during the lapse of appropriations.

Outdoor areas of the park will remain accessible. Most facilities will remain closed with the exception of the Joshua Tree Visitor Center at 6554 Park Boulevard, owned and operated by the Joshua Tree National Park Association. Oasis Visitor Center, Cottonwood Visitor Center, and Black Rock Nature Center will remain closed for the duration of the lapse in appropriations. Entrance stations will be open to provide safety and resource protection messages to arriving visitors, but entrance fees and camping fees will not be collected.

The park expresses its appreciation for the contributions of local volunteers, who provided basic sanitation at campgrounds and other closed areas during the lapse in appropriations. Their efforts have contributed significantly to the reopening of campgrounds and restoring access to other closed areas of Joshua Tree National Park.

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service

On Jan 11, 2019, at 3:20 PM, Gabrielle Canon <gabrielle.canon@guardian.co.uk> wrote:

Hi Jeremy and Andrew,

Following up on my previous request about the Joshua Tree shutdown, I was hoping to get a bit more context on who made the decision to keep the park open after there were reports that it was going to close due to vandalism. Another source just told me the Superintendent wanted to close the park but the decision was made by officials at the DOI. Hoping for more clarity or a comment about how the announcement to close Joshua Tree was then changed.

Thanks!

Best,
Gabrielle

--
Gabrielle Canon
510.629.4261
www.gabriellecanon.com
On Wed, 2 Jan 2019 at 12:30, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Gabrielle,

The National Park Service continues to follow its contingency plan in the absence of appropriations. The plan may be found here: https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf [doi.gov]

During the government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures.

I have attached the latest information on Joshua Tree National Park for your reference. I have also cc'd my colleague on the West Coast who may be able to provide additional information related to the park.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The NPS contingency plan in the absence of appropriations provides for the ability to restrict access to national park areas for safety, health, or resource protection issues.

Per the contingency plan, if visitor access becomes a safety, health or resource protection issue (weather, road conditions, resource damage, garbage build-up to the extent that it endangers human health or wildlife, etc.), the area must be closed.

At the superintendent’s discretion, parks may close areas with sensitive natural, cultural, historic, or archaeological resources vulnerable to destruction, looting, or other damage that cannot be adequately protected by the excepted law enforcement staff that remain on duty to conduct essential activities.

Accessibility to parks during the partial government shutdown varies on a number of factors which may change at any time. Some visitor services may be available when provided by concessioners or other entities. For most parks, there will be no National Park Service-provided visitor services, such as restrooms, trash collection, facilities, or road maintenance. Visitors should go to www.nps.gov and select "Find a Park" for additional information on access to parks and sites in a particular area.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
On Wed, Jan 2, 2019 at 2:13 PM Gabrielle Canon <gabrielle.canon@guardian.co.uk> wrote:

Hi Jeremy,

Just gave you a call. My name is Gabrielle and I am a reporter for the Guardian. I am writing about how the shutdown is affecting parks, particularly Joshua Tree. Was hoping for an official statement and a bit more context and it would be great if you have time for a quick call. My deadline is EOD today. Thanks!

Best,
Gabrielle

---

Gabrielle Canon
510.629.4261
www.gabriellecanon.com
@GabrielleCanon (Twitter)
@GabrielleCanon (Instagram)
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Jeremy,
I will respond. Thank you.

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service

On Jan 11, 2019, at 8:21 PM, Jeremy Barnum wrote:

I can send to the reporter if Jerry isn’t available.

On Jan 11, 2019, at 7:43 PM, Joshua Laird wrote:

When will this go out?

Thanks,
Joshua

Joshua Laird
Commissioner, National Parks of New York Harbor
Federal Hall National Memorial
26 Wall Street, New York, NY 10005
tel. 212-668-5180 cell. 718-775-6038

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 11, 2019, at 5:36 PM, Barnum, Jeremy wrote:

Jerry,
Sorry the delay -- the below response has been cleared. Let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Are you responding?

"The National Park Service will finalize a plan to use fee revenue collected under the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act to keep the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island accessible to the American public during the lapse in appropriations.

The National Park Service greatly appreciates the generous donation from the State of New York that has helped keep the park accessible to visitors."

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
Mobile: (202) 617-7973  
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Fri, Jan 11, 2019 at 1:23 PM Willis, Gerald <jerry_willis@nps.gov> wrote:

Jeremy,

Here's the question from Brian Thompson at NBC NY

Jerry Willis | National Park Service  
Public Affairs Officer  
Statue of Liberty National Monument & Ellis Island  
(646) 356-2105 desk  
(917) 299-3843 mobile  
jerry_willis@nps.gov

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Thompson, Brian G (NBCUniversal) <BrianG.Thompson@nbcmuni.com>
Date: Fri, Jan 11, 2019 at 11:52 AM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SOL/Ellis
To: jerry_willis@nps.gov <jerry_willis@nps.gov>
Jerry,

I saw your reply to Amy Boon but have a further question please. It is my understanding that NY funding as approved by Gov. Cuomo runs out by midnight Monday, January 14th.

Can you please advise if either NY or NJ (or some philanthropist, for that matter) has offered any more money to keep the two islands open to the public?

It is my understanding that the money must be transferred by midnight tonight, three days in advance, to avoid a shutdown Tuesday.

Thank you so much,

Brian

Sent from my iPad
FYI

Sent from my iPhone

John M Bockmier  
Department of Interior  
Director of Communications  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC  
20240  

202.208.3636 Office  
202.897.7366 Cell

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Helsel, Philip (NBCUniversal)" <philip.helsel@nbculi.com>  
Date: January 11, 2019 at 9:04:42 PM EST  
To: "Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov" <Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] media request NBCNews.com comment on claim keeping parks open illegal

Hi, this is Phil Helsel from NBCNews.com.

I am sorry to reach out so late. Does the DOI have any comment on two groups, Democracy Now and the National Parks Conservation Association, claiming that keeping the parks open is a violation of federal law?

They also say that 16K NPS employees were furloughed – is that accurate?

---

https://www.npca.org/articles/2094-groups-claim-keeping-parks-open-without-adequate-staff-during-shutdown-is

--

Groups Claim Keeping Parks Open Without Adequate Staff During Shutdown is Illegal,
Demand Inspector General Investigate Trump Administration’s Reckless Decision

Acting Interior Secretary Bernhardt is violating the law, and we implore the Inspector General to investigate this matter before our parks, visitors, local communities and wildlife suffer any longer.

Washington DC— Today, Democracy Forward and National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA) demanded that the Office of Inspector General of the Department of the Interior (DOI) open an investigation into DOI’s reckless decision to keep U.S. national parks open without adequate staffing and services during what is currently approaching the longest shutdown in American history. DOI’s decision, apparently made as a result of political pressure to lessen public opposition to the shutdown, endangers lives and is illegal, violating at least four separate provisions of federal law.

Since the December 22, 2018 lapse in appropriations, NPS has furloughed nearly 16,000 of its employees and suspended most of its maintenance and visitor services, but has left two-thirds of our national parks partially open without adequate staff. As has been widely reported, this decision has adversely affected public health and visitor safety within our parks and poses substantial risks for the protection of natural and cultural resources. In the absence of adequate federal staffing, park visitors face greater risk of personal injury, and the Park Service has warned that staff shortages could lead to search-and-rescue delays.

DOI’s decision also creates unsafe conditions for federally protected species and their habitat, as well as cultural and historic sites. For example, despite multiple reports of damage to Joshua Tree National Park – from cutting down the namesake Joshua Tree to illegal off-roading – the park has announced that it will remain open to the public under the administration’s revised NPS contingency plan, which unlawfully diverts visitor fees to fund skeletal operations.

Keeping national parks open with inadequate staffing during the shutdown violates multiple laws including:

The Antideficiency Act, which specifies that federal agencies are barred from obligating funds in the absence of an appropriation by Congress except in rare circumstances in which such obligation is necessary to prevent an imminent threat to human life or property;

And The National Environmental Policy Act, which requires an environmental impact statement for “major federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment”; and

The Endangered Species Act, requiring that DOI ensure its actions are “not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered species or threatened species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of habitat of such species;”
and The Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act, which only permits the use of visitor fee funds for six enumerated purposes related to improving visitor experiences—not as a general purpose operating fund.

“During the government shutdown, we’ve seen terrible and sometimes irreversible damage to our national parks, including cut down trees, stolen artifacts, overflowing trash and human waste and illegal off-roading on fragile wilderness areas,” said Theresa Pierno, President and CEO for National Parks Conservation Association. “Gates to parks have been open while thousands of park rangers have been sidelined. And the few rangers who are on duty are not enough to safeguard visitors and park resources the way they deserve to be protected and, in fact, the way they’re legally mandated to be protected. The Department of the Interior recklessly ignored laws put in place to protect our public lands and wildlife and continues to pressure park staff to keep their gates open without adequate staff. Acting Interior Secretary Bernhardt is violating the law, and we implore the Inspector General to investigate this matter before our parks, visitors, local communities and wildlife suffer any longer.”

“The Trump Administration is putting protection of our national parks and the safety of park visitors at risk, all as part of a transparent public relations maneuver to avoid blame for the shutdown,” said Democracy Forward Executive Director Anne Harkavy. “Across administrations, parks have closed during shutdowns because keeping them open but unstaffed for extended periods of time is dangerous and illegal. This Administration’s decision to ignore the law for the sake of political expediency warrants an immediate investigation.”

“America’s national parks are some of the most beloved places on earth and have been preserved for generations. These places deserve more than to be used as a bargaining chip in this administration’s political stunt,” said Pierno.

The government shutdown began on December 22, 2018. The letter was sent to the Inspector General today.

###

About National Parks Conservation Association: Since 1919, the nonpartisan National Parks Conservation Association has been the leading voice in safeguarding our national parks. NPCA and its more than 1.3 million members and supporters work together to protect and preserve our nation’s most iconic and inspirational places for future generations. For more information, visit www.npca.org.

Democracy Forward is a nonprofit legal organization that scrutinizes Executive Branch activity across policy areas, represents clients in litigation to challenge unlawful actions, and educates the public when the White House or federal agencies break the law.
Thank you both!

Joshua Laird
Commissioner, National Parks of New York Harbor
Federal Hall National Memorial
26 Wall Street, New York, NY 10005
tel. 212-668-5180 cell. 718-775-6038

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 11, 2019, at 8:39 PM, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Thanks, Jerry!

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service

On Jan 11, 2019, at 8:31 PM, Gerald Willis <jerry_willis@nps.gov> wrote:

Jeremy,
I will respond. Thank you.

Jerry Willis | Public Affairs Officer
National Park Service
Statue of Liberty National Monument & Ellis Island
(646) 256-2105 desk
(917) 289-3843 mobile

Sent from a mobile device

On Jan 11, 2019, at 8:21 PM, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

I can send to the reporter if Jerry isn’t available.

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
On Jan 11, 2019, at 7:43 PM, Joshua Laird <joshua_laird@nps.gov> wrote:

When will this go out?

Thanks,
Joshua

---

**Joshua Laird**
Commissioner, National Parks of New York Harbor
Federal Hall National Memorial
26 Wall Street, New York, NY 10005
tel. 212-668-5180 cell. 718-775-6038

---

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 11, 2019, at 5:36 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Jerry,

Sorry the delay -- the below response has been cleared. Let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Are you responding?

"The National Park Service will finalize a plan to use fee revenue collected under the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act to keep the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island accessible to the American public during the lapse in appropriations.

The National Park Service"
greatly appreciates the generous donation from the State of New York that has helped keep the park accessible to visitors."

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973

On Fri, Jan 11, 2019 at 1:23 PM
Willis, Gerald
<jerry_willis@nps.gov> wrote:
Jeremy,

Here's the question from Brian Thompson at NBC NY

Jerry Willis | National Park Service
Public Affairs Officer
Statue of Liberty National Monument & Ellis Island
(646) 356-2105 desk
(917) 299-3843 mobile
jerry_willis@nps.gov

--------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Thompson, Brian G (NBCUniversal)
<BrianG.Thompson@nbcuni.com>
Date: Fri, Jan 11, 2019 at 11:52 AM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SOL/Ellis
To: jerry_willis@nps.gov
<jerry_willis@nps.gov>
Jerry,

I saw your reply to Amy Boon but have a further question please. It is my understanding that NY funding as approved by Gov. Cuomo runs out by midnight Monday, January 14th.

Can you please advise if either NY or NJ (or some philanthropist, for that matter) has offered any more money to keep the two islands open to the public?

It is my understanding that the money must be transferred by midnight tonight, three days in advance, to avoid a shutdown Tuesday.

Thank you so much,

Brian

Sent from my iPad
Simply tweeting out a 140-character message or putting up a Facebook post does not reach as many folks as does news media, and often those short messages leave unanswered questions.

National Parks Traveler is the country’s top-ranked editorially independent website for national parks coverage.

On Jan 11, 2019, at 8:40 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

I'm not sure I understand the premise of your question.

During the lapse in appropriations the NPS has encouraged parks to continue to provide information on current conditions, health, and safety at parks as appropriate. Parks have also been encouraged to provide the public updates on changes in accessibility and services at parks. Yosemite, for example, has provided detailed information during the lapse in appropriations on both its website and social media accounts.

During the lapse in appropriations we are generally unable to accommodate interview requests except in cases of public safety, emergencies, etc. A majority of NPS/park employees have been furloughed. Those still on duty have focused on health and safety issues, law enforcement operations, and additional staff returning from furlough using FLREA funds are restoring access to recently closed park areas and restoring limited basic visitor services.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Fri, Jan 11, 2019 at 10:13 AM Kurt Repanshek <kurt@nationalparkstraveler.org> wrote:

<NPT color logo_TM 2 300.png>
Jeremy,

With park personnel not being permitted to talk to the media, how is park-specific information regarding on-the-ground conditions being provided visitors? I realize some entrance gates can be staffed to provide information to arriving visitors, but what about the people who are considering a weekend trip to a Yosemite or Great Smoky or Arches?

Best,

Kurt

Kurt Repanshek
Founder, Editor-in-Chief
kurt@nationalparkstraveler.org

National Parks Traveler is the nation’s No. 1 editorially independent website dedicated to coverage of national parks. With 1.6 million annual visitors, Traveler has been featured in USA Today, Peter Greenberg Worldwide Radio, Los Angeles Times, San Jose Mercury News, The Charlotte Observer, aol.travel and more.

Join us on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/NationalParksTraveler
Follow us on Twitter: @parkstraveler
Track us on Instagram: national_parks_traveler
Support us on Amazon Smile

This message and any attachments are the property of National Parks Traveler and are intended solely for the named recipients or entity to whom this message is addressed. If you have received this message in error please inform the sender via e-mail and destroy the message. If you are not the intended recipient you are not allowed to use, copy or disclose the contents or attachments in whole or in part.
Attached is a draft of the release. One change is, in addition to providing custodial, trash, and law enforcement services within the main part of the park, the park can reopen the popular Circle units, Louisiana Circle and Navy Circle within the available fee funding. This provides a clearer division between the continued support of the Friends and what will be accomplished by the fee funds. I have approval from SER to do that.

Thoughts, recommended edits

Bill Justice
Superintendent
Vicksburg National Military Park

601-619-2902 office
601-618-2237 cellular
bill_justice@nps.gov

On Fri, Jan 11, 2019 at 5:08 PM Michael Litterst <mike_litterst@nps.gov> wrote:

Bill:

I appreciate the desire to help the Friends, especially in light of their support during the shutdown, but I’m a little concerned about allowing them to take credit for funding operations that they’re not actually paying for, just for their fundraising purposes.

And at the same time I also think we need to stand up and take credit for once again providing our own funding for the care, maintenance, and protection of our parks, albeit on a more limited basis than we would like.

I think both of those messages can coexist in a press release.

Mike

~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Mike Litterst
Chief of Public Affairs and Chief Spokesperson (acting)

National Park Service
Cell: (202) 306-4166

Sent from my iPhone
On Jan 11, 2019, at 4:33 PM, Justice, Bill <bill_justice@nps.gov> wrote:

Mike,

I don't believe it's in the best interest of the NPS or VICK to issue a release about the FLREA funds.

While the FLREA funds will relieve the Friends of Vicksburg National Military Park and Campaign of the need to fund the maintenance and law enforcement operations of the park through their donations, they will still be providing funding to keep the park visitor center and the USS Cairo Museum open, and will continue to provide in-kind support to remove downed trees and keep the park tour road open. The park will continue to operate at the same limited level as it has since the shutdown began. No areas of the park are opening. Visitors will notice no difference in their experience. The only change will be what funding is being used for some of the operations.

Issuing a press release will make it more difficult for the Friends to solicit or receive donations while providing no benefit to the visitor. We don't plan to issue a release for those reasons.

__________________________
Bill Justice
Superintendent
Vicksburg National Military Park
601-619-2902 office
601-618-2237 cellular
bill_justice@nps.gov
Here is the first of our announcements. This is for Sleeping Bear Dunes. Is it good to go? Is there still a 24 hour hold on these even if they used your template? Since this is our first- I just wanted to be sure before we continue with all the others. 
Thanks.
On Sat, Jan 12, 2019 at 10:53 AM Alexandra Picavet <alexandra_picavet@nps.gov> wrote:
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Is it good to go? Is there still a 24 hour hold on these even if they used your template? Since this is our first- I just wanted to be sure before we continue with all the others.
Thanks.

Alex

Alexandra Picavet
Chief of Communications
Midwest Region of the National Park Service
402-960-0688 cell
402-661-1840 office
Thanks, Bill - this is great. A few minor edits from me on the attached.

Mike

~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)
National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

On Sat, Jan 12, 2019 at 10:46 AM Justice, Bill <bill_justice@nps.gov> wrote:

Mike,

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Thoughts, recommended edits

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Bill Justice
Superintendent
Vicksburg National Military Park

601-619-2902 office
601-618-2237 cellular
bill_justice@nps.gov

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Mike Litterst
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National Park Service
Cell: (202) 306-4166

Sent from my iPhone

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    Issuing a press release will make it more difficult for the Friends to solicit or receive donations while providing no benefit to the visitor. We don't plan to issue a release for those reasons.

    ___________________________________________

    Bill Justice

    Superintendent
    Vicksburg National Military Park

    601-619-2902 office
    601-618-2237 cellular
    bill_justice@nps.gov
Alex:

Attached are some edits from Jeremy and me. No need to wait on the 24 hour hold.

Thanks!

Mike

~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)

National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

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Thanks.

Alex

Alexandra Picavet
Chief of Communications
Midwest Region of the
National Park Service
402-960-0688 cell
402-661-1840 office
I spoke with Mesa Verde Deputy Superintendent Nelligan 2 or 3 days ago. They were not planning to submit a FLREA request immediately. As I understand it they had a rock slide due to snow storms during the shutdown. The rock slide with car-sized boulders caused some damage to the entrance road and guard rails along it. As you know the entrance road is narrow, winding, has steep drop offs, and a history of soil and erosion issues. The road is still snow covered. They have been plowing the road to allow for administrative/residential access but do not believe it is safe for visitor use even if plowed due to icing/lack of guardrails not appropriate for people who do not know the road. They also note- as alluded to in article - that visitation this time of year is minimal and none of the cliff dwellings are regularly open in the winter. If there is pressure to open the park it may require some A/E work to evaluate the road; park would probably need to bring staff back to evaluate and we’d need to clarify whether all of this would be under ADA or FLREA. Frankly we had been focusing our energy on parks with more urgent issues, but can turn our energy here if merited. Please advise.

Thanks
Kate

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 12, 2019, at 1:14 PM, Bowron, Jessica <jessica_bowron@nps.gov> wrote:

I have not seen anything from MEVE.

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329

On Sat, Jan 12, 2019 at 3:09 PM Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Kate,

FYI on article below. Looks like they contacted us a while back. Do you know if MEVE has submitted a FLREA plan?

Thanks!
Jeremy

https://the-journal.com/articles/123549

Mesa Verde initially open; now
closed during U.S. shutdown

No appropriations to pay snowplow operators

Sean Dolan

An unpaid park ranger posted at the front entrance to Mesa Verde National Park has been turning away visitors for about two weeks because the partial federal government shutdown has parked the snowplows.

When the shutdown began midnight Dec. 21, a sign posted at the front gate initially informed visitors that the park would remain open during the shutdown but cautioned visitors to use “extreme caution” because there would be limited personnel to provide assistance, maintenance and emergency response. On Friday, the shutdown entered its 21st day, tying a record for the longest in U.S. history.

The ranger at the front gate on Thursday requested to remain anonymous because he is not a spokesperson for the National Park Service, but he provided The Journal with the same information he has provided to visitors.

He said the park closed Dec. 25 after the first big snowstorm, about four days into the federal shutdown. There are no paid plow operators in the park, and the road is unsafe, he said. The park also has limited cellphone service.

“Everything is closed right now,” the ranger said. “We can’t maintain it.”

When the federal government reopens, he said it could take two
days for plows to clear the roads before visitors are allowed. The ranger, who is working during the shutdown as an unpaid volunteer, said he has turned away international tourists, including some from as far away as Australia.

He said it’s frustrating working without pay, but he worries about federal employees who have bigger families and more mouths to feed.

Communications also have been affected by the shutdown.

The National Park Service website displays a banner stating that the website will not be updated during the shutdown. The Mesa Verde National Park homepage still says the park will remain open during the shutdown.

In an email to The Journal on Dec. 28, the National Park Service’s chief spokesman, Jeremy Barnum, stated the park would remain open during the shutdown, but visitor facilities and services have closed.

The local Mesa Verde public information officer, Cristy Brown, has not responded to requests for comment, but a Jan. 5 post on the Mesa Verde Facebook page stated that because of recent and forecast storms, all areas of the park would remain closed until the shutdown ends.

Depending how long the shutdown lasts, local government employees and hospitality managers believe there may be impacts to local tourism.

Cortez City Manager John Dougherty said in a December interview that the shutdown could hurt Cortez, Durango, Dolores and Mancos. He added that the shutdown, like last summer’s wildfires, could deter tourists who are planning summer vacations.
“Will people make plans to come visit a national park if they’re not sure it’s going to be open?” Dougherty said.

Justin Vasterling, general manager at the Holiday Inn Express Mesa Verde-Cortez, who reviews the hotel’s finances on a daily basis, said the shutdown has not impacted the hotel’s bottom line.

“We’re just not seeing a negative impact. ... I imagine if this happened in the summer that would be a completely different story,” Vasterling said.

He said bookings are generally scheduled about 90 days in advance, and he has not seen a significant number of cancellations. But if the partial government shutdown continues for another few weeks or a month, he predicted that it’s going to be a new situation for all Americans.

“My gut says if TSA isn’t working and flights can’t come to the country, you know, that’s an obvious and direct impact, but we haven’t seen anything already in regards to bookings,” Vasterling said.

And what about the unpaid ranger at Mesa Verde’s front gate? Vasterling on Thursday said he would send him a pizza.

sdolan@the-journal.com

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Hello Mike and Jeremy,

Attached is a draft. It's fairly different than the draft press release because we've already been open since the shutdown. So the press release is more about funding for San Sebastian Festival.

Also, I would like Puerto Rico Tourism Company to review quickly for comment. I want to make sure they're okay listing a dollar amount donated.

Sincerely,

*******************************
LCDR Jon H. Bergeron, MSCE, PE
Acting Superintendent
San Juan National Historic Site
Civil/Environmental Engineer
National Park Service/US Public Health Service
Phone: (787) 729-6777 ext. 230
Cell: (787) 644-3338
*******************************
FYI - this is coming up now quite a bit as a concern? Also, folks not wanting to come back to
work because it impacts unemployment payments??

Stan Austin
Regional Director
Pacific West Region
National Park Service

Please excuse typographical errors.

Sent from my iPhone.

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Buehl, Rene" <rene_buehl@nps.gov>
Date: January 12, 2019 at 1:53:13 PM PST
To: Stan Austin <Stan_Austin@nps.gov>
Cc: Andrew Munoz <andrew_munoz@nps.gov>, "Byerly, Julie" <julie_byerly@nps.gov>, Cicely Muldoon <cicely_muldoon@nps.gov>
Subject: Re: Rent Deductions and FLREA hours

Stan,
This is a very real problem especially in a park with such high rents and is likely a scenario that is
going to play out in a lot of our parks.
I think we should up this to OB, Jessica and their team to see what can be done.
Rene Buehl
acting Regional Chief Ranger/ Regional Law Enforcement Specialist
Pacific West Regional Office
Desk 415-623-2181
Mobile 415-609-0802

On Sat, Jan 12, 2019 at 1:48 PM Byerly, Julie <julie_byerly@nps.gov> wrote:

Gentlemen-

I am checking in to see if it is possible to get rent deductions stopped during the shutdown. Morale has hit an all time low for us
today and I am having a hard time getting folks to come in to help enforce the seal closure because as they understand it, any hours
worked will immediately get allocated to cover their rent and they will still end up with a negative or at best, $0 paycheck. Any help or
guidance on this would be much appreciated.

Julie Byerly, Chief Ranger
Point Reyes National Seashore
W: 415-464-5175
We’ll look into flexibilities immediately. Thanks for raising.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 12, 2019, at 8:36 PM, Stan Austin <stan_austin@nps.gov> wrote:

FYI - this is coming up now quite a bit as a concern? Also, folks not wanting to come back to work because it impacts unemployment payments??

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Pacific West Region
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W: 415-464-5175
This is real.

Sent from my iPhone

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Regional Director
Pacific West Region
National Park Service

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Sent from my iPhone.

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Julie Byerly, Chief Ranger
Point Reyes National Seashore
W: 415-464-5175
For situational awareness.

The Manassas Battlefield Trust’s message is very similar to the one sent out earlier this past week from NPF’s Will Shafroth.

- W

Wendy O’Sullivan
National Park Service
202-374-9051 work cell

Begin forwarded message:

From: Manassas Battlefield Trust <cforman@manassasbattlefield.org>
Date: January 13, 2019 at 10:07:08 AM EST
To: <wendy_o_sullivan@nps.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Help Manassas National Battlefield During the Shutdown
Reply-To: <director@manassasbattlefield.org>

Dear Manassas Battlefield Trust Supporters,

As you’ve likely seen in the press, our National Parks are the visible face of the current partial shutdown. Images of overflowing trash cans, dirty restrooms, and vandalism are bringing awareness to just how crucial park staff and volunteers are to keeping our national treasures safe.
In previous shutdowns parks have been completely shuttered, but this time they have remained open. Several parking areas and the complete grounds and trail system of Manassas National Battlefield Park have been accessible to park visitors. Despite this there has been no trail maintenance, trash pickup, or habitat monitoring. There have been no interpreters to share the importance of this hallowed ground to visitors who might not realize the negative physical impact they can leave here. A wayside damaged by a falling tree has been left with no maintenance staff to repair it.

While we hope the damage to Manassas National Battlefield Park will be minimal, there are bound to be consequences of weeks of unsupervised visitation. As the park’s official philanthropic partner we are committed to helping in any way we can when the government reopens. As such, we have established a Shutdown Restoration Fund as we stand by and wait for the gates to reopen and the battlefield’s irreplaceable staff and volunteers to get back to work.

You can help us ensure that the National Park Service is supported when this shutdown is over. Our Shutdown Restoration Fund will go directly to Manassas National Battlefield Park when it reopens to cover costs such as: trash pickup, trail maintenance, vandalism repair, natural habitat restoration, and any other effects of the shutdown.

CLICK HERE to donate to the Shutdown Restoration Fund

Thank you for your continued support of the Manassas Battlefield Trust!

Joseph Eaves
Manassas Battlefield Trust
www.manassasbattlefield.org
FYI
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Kirsten Talken-Spaulding <kirsten_talken-spaulding@nps.gov>
Date: January 13, 2019 at 9:46:37 AM EST
To: Conway Deborah <debbie_conway@nps.gov>
Cc: Fennell Rose <rose_fennell@nps.gov>, Strack Brian <brian_strack@nps.gov>
Subject: FRSP Weather-related closures

The following are normal closures associated with FRSP storm events (i.e., snow) that are put in place to better manage health/safety as we clear the park.

The following areas are closed for the duration of the weather event until cleared/safe to travel:
South Lee Dr
Pickett Circle parking area (on N. Lee Dr)
Spotsylvania Battlefield
Chancellorsville Battlefield at -
    Stuart Dr
    Sickles Dr
    Slocum Dr
Jackson Death Site (aka Jackson Shrine)
Chatham Exit Dr
The Fredericksburg National Cemetery walks are not treated but allowed to clear naturally. No barriers.

The only operational difference during the shutdown is the level of walkway clearing. Utilizing approved FLREA spending plan, only walkways necessary to provide emergency access for resource protection are being cleared as well as the Battlefield Bookstore walks since the store remains open via an approved agreement. However, this work is secondary to roadway treating and clearing.

Let me know if you have any follow-up questions.

Thank you,
Kirsten

***************
Kirsten Talken-Spaulding
Superintendent
Please see below clips from local media coverage of what a number of parks across the country are doing to restore access and basic services using FLREA revenue.

**Good federal shutdown news: Mount Rainier National Park entrance reopens**
The National Park Service said Saturday it rejuggled Federal Land and Recreation Enhancement funds to bring back park staff to provide information, plow roads and remove trash.

**Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks are back open, visitors excited**
Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks are back open using revenue generated by recreation fees, according to the National Parks Service.

**Great Smoky Mountains NP to restore accessibility and some basic visitor services**
Great Smoky Mountains National Park announced today that previously closed areas of the park are being reopened to visitors starting Sunday, January 13.

**Lassen Park finds way around federal shutdown**
Areas of Lassen Volcanic National Park that recently were off-limits due to the partial government shutdown reopened Saturday using a new revenue source.

**Cape Hatteras National Seashore to restore some visitor services**
The restrooms will reopen using revenue generated by recreation fees. Trash will also be removed from several visitor areas at Cape Hatteras National Seashore.

**Redwood National Park announces reopening of closed areas**
Redwood National Park announced Friday that recently closed areas of Redwood National Park will once again be accessible to visitors using revenue generated by recreation fees.

**Puuhonua o Honaunau National Historical Park resumes basic visitor services**
National Park Service officials say they determined that using Federal Land and Recreation Enhancement funds to immediately bring back park maintenance crews to clean restrooms and remove trash will allow continued accessibility to the park for visitors while ensuring health and safety.

**Vicksburg National Military Park to restore access**
Vicksburg National Military Park will once again be accessible to visitors starting January 14 using revenue generated by recreation fees.

**Sleeping Bear Dunes reopens despite continued government shutdown**
The Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore announced Saturday the park will be able to reopen using money collected from recreation fees.

**Despite shutdown, Voyageurs National Park gets funding to partially reopen**
Voyageurs National Park has received special funding to restore some winter operations for at least the next two weekends. Voyageurs National Park Association, a nonprofit that partners with the park, is giving a $5,000 grant to the park. Combined with some federal fee dollars, it will allow the park to open its Rainy Lake Visitors Center for at least the next two weekends.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube
Thanks Jeremy

Sent from my iPhone

John M Bockmier
Department of Interior
Director of Communications
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC
20240

202.208.3636 Office
202.897.7366 Cell

On Jan 13, 2019, at 2:45 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Please see below clips from local media coverage of what a number of parks across the country are doing to restore access and basic services using FLREA revenue.

**Good federal shutdown news: Mount Rainier National Park entrance reopens**
The National Park Service said Saturday it rejuggled Federal Land and Recreation Enhancement funds to bring back park staff to provide information, plow roads and remove trash.

**Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks are back open, visitors excited**
Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks are back open using revenue generated by recreation fees, according to the National Parks Service.

**Great Smoky Mountains NP to restore accessibility and some basic visitor services**
Great Smoky Mountains National Park announced today that previously closed areas of the park are being reopened to visitors starting Sunday, January 13.

**Lassen Park finds way around federal shutdown**
Areas of Lassen Volcanic National Park that recently were off-limits due to the partial government shutdown reopened Saturday using a new revenue source.
Cape Hatteras National Seashore to restore some visitor services
The restrooms will reopen using revenue generated by recreation fees. Trash will also be removed from several visitor areas at Cape Hatteras National Seashore.

Redwood National Park announces reopening of closed areas
Redwood National Park announced Friday that recently closed areas of Redwood National Park will once again be accessible to visitors using revenue generated by recreation fees.

Puuhonua o Honaunau National Historical Park resumes basic visitor services
National Park Service officials say they determined that using Federal Land and Recreation Enhancement funds to immediately bring back park maintenance crews to clean restrooms and remove trash will allow continued accessibility to the park for visitors while ensuring health and safety.

Vicksburg National Military Park to restore access
Vicksburg National Military Park will once again be accessible to visitors starting January 14 using revenue generated by recreation fees.

Sleeping Bear Dunes reopens despite continued government shutdown
The Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore announced Saturday the park will be able to reopen using money collected from recreation fees.

Despite shutdown, Voyageurs National Park gets funding to partially reopen
Voyageurs National Park has received special funding to restore some winter operations for at least the next two weekends. Voyageurs National Park Association, a nonprofit that partners with the park, is giving a $5,000 grant to the park. Combined with some federal fee dollars, it will allow the park to open its Rainy Lake Visitors Center for at least the next two weekends.
Jessica:

As you meet during the next few days to discuss the application of FLREA in regards to essential personnel or more broadly the service at large, I'd like to offer a rough draft of thoughts/analysis regarding law enforcement, a path forward and/or changes to the current/future contingency plan. As always, we are appreciative of these discussions and are available upon your request. I'm also reasonably confident that those included in the email could offer a better analysis or more inclusive thoughts but I wish to avoid a prolonged writing by committee effort. It is not my intent to exclude them as much as provide some substantive information for your timely review.

FLREA:
law enforcement related to public use and recreation
related – connected with; associated

Since the FLREA statute explicitly describes what is prohibited it would appear to be a management decision regarding what is law enforcement is related. We presume law enforcement personnel assigned in park units and currently designated as essential would be converted to FLREA. This analysis, therefore would expand what they can do as well as consider the return of personnel.

The verb related tells us what a subject is doing or in the case of a transitive verb what their action is directed at. Law enforcement therefore needs to be connected to or associated with public use and recreation. The nature of the association or connection does not require a narrow interpretation. There are no qualifiers regarding the relationship. We would note the same text applies to visitor service, therefore this analysis would apply to persons in other public safety positions such as emergency medical personnel, lifeguards, or structural firefighters.

The policy basis for the relationship, we suggest should be linked to the position description including the need to maintain proficiency and currency to perform the job. Proficiency and currency is achieved and sustained through various policy requirements, such as medicals, backgrounds, firearm qualifications, and training to name a few. These related activities whether done directly by the law enforcement officer, designated instructors, or support personnel (for example a background adjudicator) could be deemed appropriate and consistent with organizational necessity as part of a lapse of appropriations contingency plan.

Specific application would include:

Law enforcement officers completing medicals and backgrounds. While support staff adjudicate those items to issue new or recurring law enforcement commissions.

Law enforcement officers participating in training as students, instructors, evaluators, administering tests, practicals, regardless of provider, duration or location. Such would include basic training at DHS-FLETC; Field Training; instructor support at park ranger law enforcement academies.
Conduct annual law enforcement refreshers, physical efficiency battery tests, fire qualifications to meet or remediate requirements to sustain a valid, current law enforcement commission.

Special agents conducting resource, people, and property investigations.

Office of Professional Responsibility providing internal investigations of law enforcement personnel and programs.

Assuming human resources services are available, the recruitment, selection, and training of law enforcement personnel are related.

The position description may describe law enforcement personnel engaging in related items such as emergency medicine, structural fire, stock handling, or incident management as all these are connected to law enforcement in the manner, type, or kinds of actions officers perform within their public safety duties. As such these are also related to public use and recreation.

This is not to enumerate an exhaustive list but rather illustrate actions which have stopped during the current lapse of appropriations, and which we believe can begin again, continue, or remain on schedule.

We appreciate your response, any specific direction or controls that need to be implemented, and are available for addition discussion.

Title 54 describes our authority:

- maintain law and order and protect individuals and property within System units.

Further codified (2) Powers and duties of designees.—

In the performance of the duties described in paragraph (1), the designated officers or employees may—

(A) carry firearms;

(B) make arrests without warrant for any offense against the United States committed in the presence of the officer or employee, or for any felony cognizable under the laws of the United States if the officer or employee has reasonable grounds to believe that the individual to be arrested has committed or is committing the felony, provided the arrests occur within the System or the individual to be arrested is fleeing from the System to avoid arrest;

(C) execute any warrant or other process issued by a court or officer of competent jurisdiction for the enforcement of the provisions of any Federal law or regulation issued pursuant to law arising out of an offense committed in the System or, where the individual subject to the warrant or process is in the System, in connection with any Federal offense; and

(D) conduct investigations of offenses against the United States committed in the System in the absence of investigation of the offenses by any other Federal law enforcement agency having investigative jurisdiction over the offense committed or with the concurrence of the other agency

Charles Cuvelier
Chief Law Enforcement, Security, and Emergency Services
National Park Service
Room 2554
1849 C Street NW, Washington DC 20240
Office 202-513-7084
Cell 202-809-5519

Integrity - Leadership - Service - Innovation and Adaptability - Teamwork - Courage
April and Dave, here’s a recounting of some GWMP needs for before the next storm - there are 2 potential hits coming: Thursday/Fri and over the weekend. I’ll fwd the heads up from NWS in case you haven’t seen it.

Dave - Can you and mike please check in w GW and see if there’s any assistance we can give? Tony is a champ, he has been holding the whole thing together on his side of the river. What an awesome person for the GW staff.

On the ncr 2:30 call I will ask you, Dave, to update and check on needs during the quick after-snow check that I’ve asked Cherie to lead.

It’s beautiful and an ice rink outside so be safe today!

Thanks and talk with you later!

——
Lisa Mendelson, AICP
Acting Regional Director
National Park Service
Sent by Cell 202-297-1338

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Migliaccio, Tony" <tony_migliaccio@nps.gov>
Date: January 14, 2019 at 8:06:37 AM EST
To: Roland Rollinger <roland_rollinger@nps.gov>, Simone Monteleone <Simone_Monteleone@nps.gov>
Cc: Blanca Stransky <blanca_stransky@nps.gov>, "Dennings, Charles" <charles_dennings@nps.gov>, Michael Whalen <michael_whalen@nps.gov>, "Ferstl, Franz" <franz_ferstl@nps.gov>, John Dillon <john_dillon@nps.gov>, Cherie Shepherd <cherie_shepherd@nps.gov>, Michael Young <michael_young@nps.gov>, Jennifer Anzelmo-Sarles <jenny_anzelmo-sarles@nps.gov>, "Luke. Silvus" <luke.silvus@kiewit.com>
Subject: Weekend Winter Storm Report

Good morning all,

As far as storms go this one is not the worst as far as snow fall we have ever faced. As far as challenges go this storm takes the cake. Government Shutdown, vacant positions, ever changing forecast, equipment failure and an overall general pall over the staff as a result
of the shutdown has has called to bear every bit of resourcefulness we could muster. Our staff did and continues to do an outstanding job.

Monday morning road conditions @ 4:00 am

GWMP Mainline and Ramps from Alexandria to 495. Level 1 with about a scattered mile northbound between the CIA and 495 at level 2 that have some light scattered thin ice pack This area is being salted at this time.

Clara Barton Parkway ramps and Mainline are at a level 2-3 with a couple of miles of Level 1 We are actively working on this area at this time.

South Parkway (Alexandria to Mt. Vernon) Level 1

Sidewalks on Memorial Drive and Memorial Bridge have been cleared.

Arlington Memorial Bridge. Accumulated snow is in the closed middle lane. I will be putting together a plan to remove the accumulated snow in the closed center lane the goal of returning the bridge to normal operations. Removal may call for a brief closure as the piled snow and slush is not excessive. I have spoken with my contact Luke Silvus of Kiewit Infrastructure and 9:00 PM tonight would work best for them

Staffing: We are on our third 12 hour shift. Crews are very tired and with each 12 hour shift their numbers are dwindling. Stresses due to the storm and the shutdown are overwhelming some. I would prefer to get as much as I can with the shift that came in at midnight and get everyone home at noon today. We will need a pothole crew and a snow cleanup crew for tomorrow. We have salt deliveries scheduled today that I have tried to get postponed to until Wednesday/Thursday. We will be getting around 8 loads today. The rest will be here in Wednesday/Thursday. We have no equipment operator this morning. I will be running the loader pushing the salt

Equipment. We have several pieces of equipment fail during the storm. Three of which are our newest heavy dump trucks. I will be seeking permission to permission to get them repaired and back on line for the next event. We have a local shop that may be willing to expedite these repairs.

Supplies We will need to order additional non chloride deicer. We have enough on hand for a couple more storms.

Flea: I do not anticipate standing up any litter pickup or trash removal before Wednesday January 16, 2019. The pothole crew can
begin as soon as tomorrow.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thanks

--
Anthony F. Migliaccio
Chief of Maintenance
National Park Service
George Washington Memorial Parkway
Parkway Maintenance Facility
2700 GWMP Arlington, VA 22101
Office: 703-289-2525
Mobile: 202-438-6621
Tomorrow I’d like to send GSI a similar letter to what we did for the BIDs... a reminder to Lisa and April so I don’t forget! :) 

___

Lisa Mendelson, AICP  
Acting Regional Director  
National Park Service  
Sent by Cell 202-297-1338 

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Tinney, Chad" <chad_tinney@nps.gov>  
Date: January 14, 2019 at 9:05:23 AM EST  
To: "Rick Wayland - Vice President, Operations" <waylandr@guestservices.com>  
Cc: Robin Nixon <robin_nixon@nps.gov>, David Moore <david_h_moore@nps.gov>, Lisa Mendelson <lisa_mendelson-jelmini@nps.gov>  
Subject: Updated agreement 

Rick,

Please sign the new agreement that is attached and return to me via email. It is the same as before but with the requirement to have portable toilets in place removed.

The service to the NPS restrooms should be restored at this time so please also use this email as an official notice and record that the in-kind donation agreement to provide the portable toilets is terminated.

Thank you for all your help throughout this shutdown - it is much appreciated.

Chad

Chad D. Tinney  
National Park Service  
Chief of Commercial Services  
National Capital Region  
(o) 202-619-7072
Are you answering these types of questions?

--------- Forwarded message ---------
From: <editor@jhnewsandguide.com>
Date: Sun, Jan 13, 2019 at 3:13 PM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: (Heads Up) Update to operations at Yellowstone during the lapse of appropriations
To: YELL Public Affairs, NPS <yell_public_affairs@nps.gov>

Thank you.

Can you tell us if these employees are getting paid as they do this work?

Rebecca Huntington
Managing Editor
307-413-2643

-----Original Message-----
From: "YELL Public Affairs, NPS" <yell_public_affairs@nps.gov>
Sent: Friday, January 11, 2019 3:55pm
To: "NPS YELL Public Affairs" <yell_public_affairs@nps.gov>
Subject: (Heads Up) Update to operations at Yellowstone during the lapse of appropriations

To: Employees, Partners, News Media
From: Office of Strategic Communications, Yellowstone National Park
Updated: 01/11/2019 3:55 p.m.

Update to operations at Yellowstone during the lapse of appropriations
By Sunday, January 13, Yellowstone National Park will provide additional basic services during the lapse of government appropriations. National Park Service (NPS) staff will:

- Collect trash and clean bathrooms across the park. We appreciate the efforts of park concessioners, partners, and local community groups who have performed these services since December 22.
- Staff entrance stations (all except Northeast) and the Madison Warming Hut to provide safety information for visitors. Fees will not be collected at the entrance stations.
- Remove snow at Canyon overlooks to provide better visitor access and improve safety.
- These additional basic services will be funded by the park's recreation fee revenue as outlined in the recent statement by NPS Deputy Director, P. Daniel Smith. While basic visitor services have been restored, other services and facilities, including visitor centers, remain closed.

The park will continue to provide services that have been in effect since the shutdown began:

- The road from the park’s North Entrance at Gardiner, Montana, through Mammoth Hot Springs to the Northeast Entrance at Cooke City, Montana, is open to wheeled vehicle travel. Visitors can access all the commercial services along this route.
- Visitors can also access commercial services in the interior of the park via oversnow travel (e.g. at Old Faithful). The park extends a special thank you to the concessioners, especially Xanterra Travel Collection, who have made donations enabling NPS staff to groom roads and allow oversnow access to continue.
Guided snowmobile and snowcoach trips with commercial operators are allowed. Previously permitted non-commercially guided snowmobile trips are also allowed (new permits are not being issued).

- Park staff are providing emergency services and law enforcement. All park regulations, including those regarding oversnow travel, are in effect as normal.

If conditions become unsafe at any time, roads and/or developed areas in the park may be closed. The park website and social media sites are not being maintained. All administrative offices, including the public affairs office, are closed until the government reopens. All media inquiries related to the updated contingency plan should be directed to newsmedia@nps.gov. The information above is available on the park's website.

--

Public Affairs Office
Office of Strategic Communications
Yellowstone National Park
307-344-2015

Visit us online: Official Website | Facebook | Twitter | Instagram | Flickr | YouTube | Periscope

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Public Affairs Office
Office of Strategic Communications
Yellowstone National Park
307-344-2015

Visit us online: Official Website | Facebook | Twitter | Instagram | Flickr | YouTube | Periscope
Hey, Charlie!

This looks good; just a few suggested edits from me on the attached. I think it probably does make sense to do a press release, even if there's been no change since the start of the shutdown. Never hurts for people to be reminded of the good work you're doing, especially when it comes to providing service for and honoring veterans.

Hope you're well,

Mike

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)
National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

On Sat, Jan 12, 2019 at 2:52 PM Charles Sellars <charles_sellars@nps.gov> wrote:

Good afternoon,

I have drafted the attached press release using the template provided earlier. I have removed all of the sections that do not apply. Please let me know if we need to add any information to the release.

Thank you,

Charles D. Sellars
Superintendent
Andersonville National Historic Site
Andersonville National Cemetery
National Prisoner of War Museum
229-931-7200

Acting Superintendent
Jimmy Carter National Historic Site
229-824-4104

Mobile # 229-591-5391
Woot!

—+

Lisa Mendelson - Acting Regional Director
National Park Service - National Capital
202-619-7020 office - 202-297-1338 cell
Sent by ipad

On Jan 14, 2019, at 12:25 PM, David Moore <david_h_moore@nps.gov> wrote:

NACE salt is on my order and should be delivered along with GWMP and ROCR.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 14, 2019, at 12:14 PM, Lisa Mendelson <lisa_mendelson-jelmini@nps.gov> wrote:

Thanks for the updates. I feel like Diana also said she will likely need more salt

—

Lisa Mendelson, AICP
Acting Regional Director
National Park Service
Sent by Cell 202-297-1338

On Jan 14, 2019, at 11:26 AM, David Moore <david_h_moore@nps.gov> wrote:

Can do. Mike has been working with Stacey to strategize on options for GWMP. He is calling Tony now. Also ROCR is low on salt. So we are working to figure out options to get Don prepared for this coming weekend (option A: divert salt from GWMP and/or NACE shipments OR option B: get PR in system and give verbal from CO). Lastly, NAMA has down equipment. Have Mike calling Jeff directly to confirm extent of repair/failure so we can determine if we buy emergency equip or send out for emergency repair (sounded like a
truck and a spreader).

Will keep you posted so there are no surprises at 2:30.

Dave

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 14, 2019, at 8:49 AM, Lisa Mendelson <lisa_mendelson-ielmini@nps.gov> wrote:

April and Dave, here’s a recounting of some GWMP needs for before the next storm - there are 2 potential hits coming: Thursday/Fri and over the weekend. I’ll fwd the heads up from NWS in case you haven’t seen it.

Dave - Can you and mike please check in w GW and see if there’s any assistance we can give? Tony is a champ, he has been holding the whole thing together on his side of the river. What an awesome person for the GW staff.

On the ncr 2:30 call I will ask you, Dave, to update and check on needs during the quick after-snow check that I’ve asked Cherie to lead.

It’s beautiful and an ice rink outside so be safe today!

Thanks and talk with you later!

_____ 
Lisa Mendelson, AICP
Acting Regional Director
National Park Service
Sent by Cell 202-297-1338

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Migliaccio, Tony"
<tony_migliaccio@nps.gov>
Date: January 14, 2019 at 8:06:37
Good morning all,

As far as storms go this one is not the worst as far as snow fall we have ever faced. As far as challenges go this storm takes the cake. Government Shutdown, vacant positions, ever changing forecast, equipment failure and an overall general pall over
the staff as a result of the shutdown has called to bear every bit of resourcefulness we could muster. Our staff did and continues to do an outstanding job.

Monday morning road conditions @ 4:00 am

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Supplies We will need to order additional non chloride deicer. We have enough on hand for a couple more storms.

Flrea; I do not anticipate standing up any litter pickup or trash removal before Wednesday January 16, 2019. The pothole crew can begin as soon as tomorrow.
If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thanks

--
Anthony F. Migliaccio
Chief of Maintenance
National Park Service
George Washington Memorial Parkway
Parkway Maintenance Facility
2700 GWMP
Arlington, VA 22101
Office: 703-289-2525
Mobile: 202-438-6621
Hallie,

Nice to hear from you. I’ve looped in Jeremy Barnum and Mike Litterst with the National Park Service to address your questions below.

In addition, thought you might be interested to know that the National Park Foundation is raising money through its Parks Restoration Fund to help repair parks as soon as the partial shutdown ends and rangers are back to work. You can find more info here.

Sincerely,
Alanna

Alanna Sobel
Senior Manager, Communications
National Park Foundation
1110 Vermont Ave NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20005
202.796.2538 direct | 202.796.2500 main

From: Hallie Golden<br>(b) (6) gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 14, 2019 2:37 PM
To: Media
Subject: Washington State National Parks Request

Hello,

I'm working on a potential story for the Guardian about the impact the government shutdown has had on national parks in Washington and Oregon. I was wondering whether the national parks in either of these states have incurred any type of damage/vandalism during the
government shutdown. Any information you can give me would be a huge help.

Thanks and look forward to hearing from you!

All the best,

Hallie
206-310-4834

--

Hallie Golden
@HallieGolden4
www.halliegolden.com
Hi Tony and Marlon -

Do you want to find some time to check in tomorrow? I'm getting up to speed on events of the last week and also want to talk through HR areas where there may be value in trying to figure out if we can justify use of FLREA or other funds to restart some activities to reduce the significant start-up burden that we're going to have when the shutdown finally ends. Finding a way to resume seasonal hiring comes to mind. We could also talk on Wednesday or Thu morning. Depending on what questions come in from parks via regions tonight, you may need to focus most of your attention Tue and Wed morning preparing for the park call.

Hope you're both hanging in there.

Thanks,

Lena

--

Lena McDowall
Deputy Director, Management and Administration
Ph: 202-513-7240
Cell: 202-641-1814
Email: Lena_McDowall@nps.gov
Andrew:

Can you respond?

Mike

------------------
Mike Litterst
Chief of Public Affairs and Chief Spokesperson (acting)

National Park Service
Cell: (202) 306-4166

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Alanna Sobel <asobel@nationalparks.org>
Date: January 14, 2019 at 2:48:33 PM EST
To: Hallie Golden <b (6) gmail.com>, Media <Media@nationalparks.org>
Cc: "Barnum, Jeremy" <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>, Mike Litterst <mike_litterst@nps.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] The Guardian inquiry

Hallie,

Nice to hear from you. I've looped in Jeremy Barnum and Mike Litterst with the National Park Service to address your questions below.

In addition, thought you might be interested to know that the National Park Foundation is raising money through its Parks Restoration Fund to help repair parks as soon as the partial shutdown ends and rangers are back to work. You can find more info here.

Sincerely,

Alanna Sobel

Alanna Sobel
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Thanks and look forward to hearing from you!

All the best,

Hallie
206-310-4834

--

Hallie Golden
@HallieGolden4
www.halliegolden.com
Hi Jeremy and Rick,

Here is our draft release. Please let us know when we can more forward with distribution.

Thanks!

- Kyle

Kyle Patterson
Management Specialist/Public Affairs Officer
Rocky Mountain National Park
(970) 586-1363
www.nps.gov/romo
www.facebook.com/RockyNPS
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)
National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Munoz, Andrew <andrew_munoz@nps.gov>
Date: Mon, Jan 14, 2019 at 4:53 PM
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Damage at Death Valley?
To: Litterst, Michael <mike_litterst@nps.gov>

I will check in with the park. I do have a question: Are we deeming responding to these types of media inquiries as essential to respond to emergencies involving the safety of human life or the protection of property or as a "basic visitor service" for FLREA parks? My interpretation of the contingency plan has me leaning toward no.

Andrew S. Muñoz
Acting Chief of Public and Congressional Affairs
National Park Service
Pacific West Region, Office of Public and Congressional Affairs
206 220-4260 phone | 206 475-4598 cell | andrew_munoz@nps.gov

Find us on online at: https://nps.gov/pwro (public) & http://go.nps.gov/pwr (InsideNPS intranet)

On Mon, Jan 14, 2019 at 1:43 PM Litterst, Michael <mike_litterst@nps.gov> wrote:

Andrew:

Can you ground truth this with the park and respond to Alix? I've attached some talking points we prepared for Abby last week prior to an interview. I would presume they're still valid, but we haven't talked to the park for several days. And for the last bullet, they were approved for FLREA funds, so that could be tweaked to reflect what they're doing.

Thanks!

Mike
Hello,

I’m reaching out to see if you guys have heard of any reports of vandalism, off-roading, or other sorts of damage at Death Valley National Park? I’m hearing reports that much of what has been happening at Joshua Tree during the shutdown is also becoming a problem at Death Valley. Any information you have would be great.

Thanks,

Alix Martichoux
Supervising Producer, SFGATE

Twitter @AlixMartichoux
FYI

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Patterson, Kyle <kyle_patterson@nps.gov>
Date: Mon, Jan 14, 2019 at 4:52 PM
Subject: Rocky Mountain National Park Restores Accessibility And Resumes Basic Visitor Services
To:

Hi All,

Please see below for new information related to maintenance operations during the government shutdown pertaining to access at Rocky Mountain National Park.

I have been on furlough since December 22 and unfortunately have not been able to respond to your inquiries. I appreciate your understanding and patience.

Rocky Mountain National Park Restores Accessibility And Resumes Basic Visitor Services

Park restores access to recently closed areas after cleanup/maintenance operations

Rocky Mountain National Park announced today that areas that have been closed due to the inability to plow and maintain roads, will once again be accessible to visitors. On Saturday, January 12, a limited number of park staff began snowplowing US 36 past the Beaver Meadows Visitor Center and US 34 past the Fall River Entrance. This morning, US Highways 36 and 34 were reopened to Deer Ridge Junction. Trail Ridge Road beyond Deer Ridge Junction to Many Parks Curve has also reopened. US Highway 34 on the west side is now open to the Colorado River Trailhead. Snowplows are working today on Bear Lake Road and it is anticipated that it will reopen sometime tomorrow.

Also this past Saturday, a limited number of custodians began cleaning toilet facilities and trash receptacles. Some basic visitor services, including entrance stations and two out of five loops at the Moraine Park Campground, will also reopen later this week. Entrance stations will be open to provide safety and basic information to visitors, but entrance fees will not be collected.

These basic services are being funded with revenue generated by recreation fees. National Park Service officials have determined that by using Federal Land and Recreation Enhancement funds to bring back limited park maintenance staff to plow roads, clean
restrooms, and remove trash, the park can restore accessibility to the park for visitors.

Outdoor areas of the park remain accessible. Most facilities, including Beaver Meadows Visitor Center on the east side and Kawuneeche Visitor Center on the west side will remain closed. “We greatly appreciate Rocky Mountain Conservancy’s efforts to staff the Fall River Visitor Center during the lapse in appropriations,” said park superintendent Darla Sidles. Fall River Visitor Center is located outside of the park near the Fall River Entrance.

While basic visitor services have been restored, other services will be limited or unavailable during the lapse in appropriations, including visitor centers, ranger talks and programs. Visitors are reminded that all rules and regulations apply. Visitors should visit the park website at nps.gov/romo while planning their visit to get the latest information on accessibility and available services.

For updates on the shutdown, please visit www.doi.gov/shutdown.

- Kyle

Kyle Patterson
Management Specialist/Public Affairs Officer
Rocky Mountain National Park
(970) 586-1363
www.nps.gov/romo
www.facebook.com/RockyNPS

--
- Kyle

Kyle Patterson
Management Specialist/Public Affairs Officer
Rocky Mountain National Park
(970) 586-1363
www.nps.gov/romo
www.facebook.com/RockyNPS
1. What should parks do if any existing partner agreements/permits/leases, or other agreements (not shutdown agreements) are expiring during shutdown?
2. What happens to transportation subsidy program, for those staff who are excepted and working? Is the program still active?
3. Is there an updated list from contracting that alerts parks to what communications have been sent to contractors they work with (i.e., stop or suspension work orders?)
4. If contracts (like leased employee housing) were awarded with non-appropriated dollars (i.e., quarters funds) can those invoices get paid? If yes, are there any accepted contracting staff we can work with?
5. FLREA 20% - Should non-fee collecting parks be preparing requests to support "basic park functions" like garbage collection and cleaning restrooms, rather than continue to accept in-kind donation support from a partner?
6. We are wondering if WASO might be willing to provide standard language for parks to communicate our inability to process payments for invoices? We have quite a few contractors reaching out seeking payment for services rendered. We could provide a response, but would prefer to stick with consistent messaging from leadership if possible.
7. If back pay is authorized, will rehired annuitants be eligible to receive back pay?

Andrew S. Muñoz
Acting Chief of Public and Congressional Affairs

National Park Service
Pacific West Region, Office of Public and Congressional Affairs

206 220-4260 phone | 206 475-4598 cell | andrew_munoz@nps.gov

Find us on online at: https://nps.gov/ pwr (public) & http://go.nps.gov/ pwr (InsideNPS intranet)
Thanks for the clarification Mike!

Andrew S. Muñoz  
Acting Chief of Public and Congressional Affairs  
National Park Service  
Pacific West Region, Office of Public and Congressional Affairs  
206 220-4260 phone | 206 475-4598 cell | andrew_munoz@nps.gov  
Find us on online at: https://nps.gov/pwro (public) & http://go.nps.gov/pwr (InsideNPS intranet)

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Litterst, Michael <mike_litterst@nps.gov>
Date: Mon, Jan 14, 2019 at 2:35 PM
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Damage at Death Valley?
To: Munoz, Andrew <andrew_munoz@nps.gov>
Cc: Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>

Andrew:

With the use of FLREA funds alone, we are authorized to discuss improving accessibility and addressing the maintenance and sanitation issues that have arisen at parks since the start of the lapse of appropriations. And since the start of the shutdown, our office has regularly provided information on current conditions, health, and safety at parks as appropriate, and we have encouraged parks (and regional offices) to do the same. Parks have also been encouraged to provide the public updates on changes in accessibility and services at parks. For example, Yosemite has provided detailed information during the lapse in appropriations on both its website and social media accounts, and last week Amanda helped change the narrative on Joshua Tree by responding to inquiries regarding conditions at the park and the park’s response to those conditions.

So, yes, you should have no hesitation about providing requested information of this type.

Hope this helps,

Mike

-------------------

Mike Litterst  
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)  
National Park Service  
Ph: (202) 306-4166

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.
On Mon, Jan 14, 2019 at 4:53 PM Munoz, Andrew <andrew_munoz@nps.gov> wrote:
I will check in with the park. I do have a question: Are we deeming responding to these
types of media inquiries as essential to respond to emergencies involving the safety of
human life or the protection of property or as a "basic visitor service" for FLREA parks? My
interpretation of the contingency plan has me leaning toward no.

Andrew S. Muñoz
Acting Chief of Public and Congressional Affairs
National Park Service
Pacific West Region, Office of Public and Congressional Affairs
206 220-4260 phone | 206 475-4598 cell | andrew_munoz@nps.gov

Find us online at: https://nps.gov/pwro (public) & http://go.nps.gov/pwr (InsideNPS intranet)

On Mon, Jan 14, 2019 at 1:43 PM Litterst, Michael <mike_litterst@nps.gov> wrote:
Andrew:

Can you ground truth this with the park and respond to Alix? I've attached some talking
points we prepared for Abby last week prior to an interview. I would presume they're still
valid, but we haven't talked to the park for several days. And for the last bullet, they were
approved for FLREA funds, so that could be tweaked to reflect what they're doing.

Thanks!

Mike

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)

National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Martichoux, Alix <AMartichoux@sfchronicle.com>
Date: Mon, Jan 14, 2019 at 4:19 PM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Damage at Death Valley?
To: newsmedia@nps.gov <newsmedia@nps.gov>
Hello,

I’m reaching out to see if you guys have heard of any reports of vandalism, off-roading, or other sorts of damage at Death Valley National Park? I’m hearing reports that much of what has been happening at Joshua Tree during the shutdown is also becoming a problem at Death Valley. Any information you have would be great.

Thanks,

Alix Martichoux
Supervising Producer, SFGATE
Twitter @AlixMartichoux
Jeremy,

NBC NY checking in this morning with the question below. Am I free to say that we have switched to FLREA funding?

Jerry Willis | National Park Service
Public Affairs Officer
Statue of Liberty National Monument & Ellis Island
(646) 356-2105 desk
(917) 299-3843 mobile
jerry_willis@nps.gov

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Thompson, Brian G (NBCUniversal) <BrianG.Thompson@nbcuni.com>
Date: Tue, Jan 15, 2019 at 8:10 AM
Subject: ULDATE? Re: [EXTERNAL] SOL/Ellis
To: Gerald Willis <jerry_willis@nps.gov>

Jerry,

Just checking to see if NPS has taken over funding SoL/Ellis from NYS yet pls, and if so are there any changes “on the ground?”

Many thanks,

Brian

Sent from my iPad

On Jan 11, 2019, at 8:43 PM, Gerald Willis <jerry_willis@nps.gov> wrote:

Brian,

I’m sorry it has taken me this long to respond to you.

The National Park Service will finalize a plan to use fee revenue collected under the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act to keep the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island accessible to the American public during the lapse in appropriations.

The National Park Service greatly appreciates the generous donation from the State of New York that has helped keep the park accessible to our visitors.

Jerry Willis | Public Affairs Officer
On Jan 11, 2019, at 11:52 AM, Thompson, Brian G (NBCUniversal) <BrianG.Thompson@nbcuni.com> wrote:

Jerry,

I saw your reply to Amy Boon but have a further question please. It is my understanding that NY funding as approved by Gov. Cuomo runs out by midnight Monday, January 14th.

Can you please advise if either NY or NJ (or some philanthropist, for that matter) has offered any more money to keep the two islands open to the public?

It is my understanding that the money must be transferred by midnight tonight, three days in advance, to avoid a shutdown Tuesday.

Thank you so much,

Brian

Sent from my iPad
10:30 it is. We are developing a key issues document for the discussion.

One of the most critical issues is guidance for time keeping for PP 1902. DOI and IBC are expecting time cards to be released by Friday of this week — due to the holiday on Monday. We’ll need to be ready to provide guidance in time keeping as part of tomorrow’s call with Parks.

The basic guidance is that anyone working either exempted or excepted hours is asked to code their timesheet accordingly.

IBC will automatically code any timesheet not released as 100% “105” furloughed.

Thanks,
Tony

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 15, 2019, at 8:38 AM, Taubenheim, Marlon <marlon_taubenheim@nps.gov> wrote:

Good morning,

That would be great. I shall see you all then.

Best,

Marlon

On Tue, Jan 15, 2019 at 8:37 AM McDowall, Lena <lena_mcdowall@nps.gov> wrote:

How about we meet in-person tomorrow at 10:30am? I don't think Jessica has had a chance to send out a note yet, but we're hoping that all of the DC area people can be here in-person for the call with all of the parks. It will be a lot easier to handle the call that way. Will that work? --Lena

On Mon, Jan 14, 2019 at 3:09 PM Taubenheim, Marlon <marlon_taubenheim@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Lena,

Welcome back. I have a doctor's appt. tomorrow from 2:15 to 3:30 P.M., and another one on Wednesday at 3:30 P.M. Other than those times, I am available at any time that is most convenient to you both. I will most likely come to the office, so please let me know which time
works best for you both.

Best,

Marlon

On Mon, Jan 14, 2019 at 2:52 PM McDowall, Lena <lena_mcdowall@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Tony and Marlon -

Do you want to find some time to check in tomorrow? I'm getting up to speed on events of the last week and also want to talk through HR areas where there may be value in trying to figure out if we can justify use of FLREA or other funds to restart some activities to reduce the significant start-up burden that we're going to have when the shutdown finally ends. Finding a way to resume seasonal hiring comes to mind. We could also talk on Wednesday or Thu morning. Depending on what questions come in from parks via regions tonight, you may need to focus most of your attention Tue and Wed morning preparing for the park call.

Hope you're both hanging in there.

Thanks,

Lena

--

Lena McDowall
Deputy Director, Management and Administration
Ph: 202-513-7240
Cell: 202-641-1814
Email: Lena_McDowall@nps.gov

--

Marlon V. Taubenheim
Deputy Associate Director
Workforce and Inclusion
National Park Service
(202) 354-1826

--

Lena McDowall
Deputy Director, Management and Administration
Ph: 202-513-7240
Cell: 202-641-1814
Email: Lena_McDowall@nps.gov
Chris and Kelly
I know these questions/issues are late. I had wanted to submit them for the 3:00 call tomorrow, but if unable would still like to pursue getting an answer to the first question on use of Helium Act funds during the shutdown. The second item is more of a request than a question.
Thanks to you both.

----------------

1. For those parks with Helium Act funding, would it be possible to bring on the NPS project manager to keep those projects moving since the PM is paid for with Helium funds.
2. On the 3:00 1/16 call would WASO be willing to make a statement about the possible/probable impact on the future of projects that were depending on Rec Fee now that we are using FLREA funds to address current needs There is a feeling that people need to start hearing and understanding the implications.

Rose Fennell
Northeast Region

617-223-5137 (desk)
857-248-1107 (cell)
Thanks to you both!

Rose

On Jan 15, 2019, at 10:09 AM, Fox, Kelly <kelly_fox@nps.gov> wrote:

Thanks Rose, we added them to our list!

Kelly Fox
National Park Service
Staff Assistant
Office of Deputy Director, Operations
1849 C Street NW, Room 3311
Washington, DC 20240
202-354-1821 (office)

On Tue, Jan 15, 2019 at 9:46 AM Fennell, Rosalyn <rose_fennell@nps.gov> wrote:

Chris and Kelly
I know these questions/issues are late. I had wanted to submit them for the 3:00 call tomorrow, but if unable would still like to pursue getting an answer to the first question on use of Helium Act funds during the shutdown. The second item is more of a request than a question.
Thanks to you both.

1. For those parks with Helium Act funding, would it be possible to bring on the NPS project manager to keep those projects moving since the PM is paid for with Helium funds.
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Rose Fennell
Northeast Region
617-223-5137 (desk)
857-248-1107 (cell)
Jessica and Lena,

Please see attached/below draft news release announcing that we'll be taking over funding operations at STLI. Would you please give this a quick look and let us know if you have any concerns before we pass up to DOI?

Thanks,

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

Statue of Liberty to Remain Open Using National Park Service Fee Revenue

*Park has been open since the beginning of the lapse in appropriations through financial support from the State of New York*

New York, NY – The National Park Service announced today that Liberty and Ellis Islands will continue to be open to visitors using revenue generated by National Park Service (NPS) recreation fees. The park has been open since the beginning of the lapse in appropriations thanks to a donation from the State of New York.

[hold for possible mention of support from Statue of Liberty, Ellis Island Foundation]

[DRAFT SOI QUOTE “The Statue of Liberty is not only an economically important tourist destination, she is a beacon of hope and freedom to this nation and the world,” said Acting Secretary of the Interior David L. Bernhardt. “We share the State of New York’s commitment to ensuring that visitors from around the world may continue to visit Liberty and Ellis Islands and learn more about our nation’s proud history. We greatly appreciate the generous support of our partners at the State of New York who have kept the park open thus far. The National Park Service will use recreation fee revenue to keep the park open for the foreseeable future.”]

The National Park Service has funds derived from entrance, camping, parking and other
fees collected from park visitors. The Department of the Interior has determined that these funds can and should be used to provide immediate assistance and services to highly visited parks during the lapse in appropriations.

The NPS is using these funds at a number of highly visited national parks to dispose of trash, clean and maintain restrooms, bring additional law enforcement rangers into parks to patrol accessible areas, and to restore accessibility to areas that would typically be accessible this time of year. These efforts are making it possible for the American public to safely visit many national parks while providing these iconic treasures the protection they deserve.

[Hold for park superintendent quote]

The statue of “Liberty Enlightening the World” was a gift of friendship from the people of France to the United States and is recognized as a universal symbol of freedom and democracy. The Statue of Liberty was dedicated on October 28, 1886. It was designated as a National Monument in 1924. Employees of the National Park Service have been caring for the colossal copper statue since 1933.

www.nps.gov

About the National Park Service. More than 20,000 National Park Service employees who care for America’s 418 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities.
Should we mention that this also includes Castle Clinton National Monument?

Joshua Laird
Commissioner, National Parks of New York Harbor
Federal Hall National Memorial
26 Wall Street, New York, NY 10005
tel. 212-668-5180 cell. 718-775-6038

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 15, 2019, at 10:39 AM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Joshua, John, and Gerry,

Please see attached/below draft news release announcing that we'll be taking over funding operations at STLI. Would you please give this a quick look and let us know if you have any concerns before we pass up to DOI?

Would you like to include a quote from Joshua or John?

Let me know if you would like to discuss.

Thanks!

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

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[Hold for park superintendent quote]

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[www.nps.gov]

About the National Park Service. More than 20,000 National Park Service employees who care for America’s 418 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities.
Looks good!

Maybe add as a 2nd sentence to the first paragraph:

Castle Clinton National Monument at Battery Park in Manhattan, where ticketing for ferries to the Statue of Liberty occurs, will also be open.

Joshua Laird
Commissioner, National Parks of New York Harbor
Federal Hall National Memorial
26 Wall Street, New York, NY 10005
tel. 212-668-5180 cell. 718-775-6038

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 15, 2019, at 11:26 AM, Willis, Gerald <jerry_willis@nps.gov> wrote:

Jeremy,

I've provided language about the Foundation and a quote from John.

Statue of Liberty to Remain Open Using National Park Service Fee Revenue
Park has been open since the beginning of the lapse in appropriations through financial support from the State of New York

New York, NY – The National Park Service announced today that Liberty and Ellis Islands will continue to be open to visitors using revenue generated by National Park Service (NPS) recreation fees. The park has been open since the beginning of the lapse in appropriations thanks to a donation from the State of New York.

[DRAFT SOI QUOTE “The Statue of Liberty is not only an economically important tourist destination, she is a beacon of hope and freedom to this nation and the world,” said Acting Secretary of the Interior David L. Bernhardt. “We share the State of New York’s commitment to ensuring that visitors from around the world may continue to visit Liberty and Ellis Islands and learn more about our nation’s proud history. We greatly appreciate the generous support of
our partners at the State of New York who has kept the park open thus far. The National Park Service will use recreation fee revenue to keep the park open for the foreseeable future.”

The National Park Service has funds derived from entrance, camping, parking and other fees collected from park visitors. The Department of the Interior has determined that these funds can and should be used to provide immediate assistance and services to highly visited parks during the lapse in appropriations.

The NPS is using these funds at a number of highly visited national parks to dispose of trash, clean and maintain restrooms, bring additional law enforcement rangers into parks to patrol accessible areas, and to restore accessibility to areas that would typically be accessible this time of year. These efforts are making it possible for the American public to safely visit many national parks while providing these iconic treasures the protection they deserve.

The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Foundation, a long-time partner of the National Park Service, has generously donated additional funds to cover the costs of employees not eligible to be covered under the fee collection funds.

“We are pleased that remaining open will allow not only our federal employees but the nearly 500 non-government employees in the park to continue working together to provide an enjoyable and memorable experience for our visitors from across the nation and from around the globe”, said Superintendent John Piltzecker.

The statue of “Liberty Enlightening the World” was a gift of friendship from the people of France to the United States and is recognized as a universal symbol of freedom and democracy. The Statue of Liberty was dedicated on October 28, 1886. It was designated as a National Monument in 1924. Employees of the National Park Service have been caring for the colossal copper statue since 1933.

Jerry Willis | National Park Service
Public Affairs Officer
Statue of Liberty National Monument & Ellis Island
(646) 356-2105 desk
(917) 299-3843 mobile
jerry.willis@nps.gov

On Tue, Jan 15, 2019 at 10:40 AM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Joshua, John, and Gerry,

Please see attached/below draft news release announcing that we’ll be taking over funding operations at STLI. Would you please give this a quick look and let us know if you have any concerns before we pass up to DOI?

Would you like to include a quote from Joshua or John?

Let me know if you would like to discuss.
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_Park has been open since the beginning of the lapse in appropriations through financial support from the State of New York_

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[Hold for park superintendent quote]

The statue of “Liberty Enlightening the World” was a gift of friendship from the people of France to the United States and is recognized as a universal symbol of freedom and democracy. The Statue of Liberty was dedicated on October 28, 1886. It was designated as a National Monument in 1924.
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www.nps.gov

About the National Park Service. More than 20,000 National Park Service
employees who care for America’s 418 national parks and work with
communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create
close-to-home recreational opportunities.
Ingalisa:

We are not able to accommodate interview requests during the shutdown, but please let us know if you have any specific questions related to NPS operations during the lapse in appropriations and we will do our best to provide you that information.

Regarding the First Amendment events taking place on the National Mall this weekend, feel free to use the following statement, attributable to me.

"Permits will be issued for First Amendment events on the National Mall whose applications were submitted prior to the lapse of appropriations, including the Indigenous Peoples March, March for Life and the Women’s March. As with all events on the National Mall, the National Park Service and United States Park Police will ensure public safety and the protection of park resources during the events."

Hope this helps,

Mike

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Mike Litterst  
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)  
National Park Service  

Chief of Communications  
National Mall and Memorial Parks  

Ph: (202) 306-4166  

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

--------- Forwarded message ---------

From: Ingalisa Schrobsdorff <ingalisa@wamu.org>
Date: Tue, Jan 15, 2019 at 11:05 AM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Women's March and shutdown?
To: Mummart, Jennifer <jennifer_mummart@nps.gov>
Cc: Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>

Hi there,
WE are looking to have a brief conversation at the top of Thursday’s noon hour show about the Women’s March—specifically, how major events in DC will be held during a partial shutdown.

We’d love to speak to someone from NPS (if at all possible) about this. Is there any discussion around canceling the march given NPS’ status? What are the contingencies?

Are there other organizations you’d recommend we touch base with involved in logistics, planning, etc for large events and what happens in a shutdown (we are reaching out to DC Police since they will be working no doubt on security)—but anyone else?

Ingalisa

From: Mummart, Jennifer <jennifer_mummart@nps.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 2, 2019 3:47 PM
To: Ingalisa Schrobsdorff <ingalisa@wamu.org>
Cc: Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Kojo Show on NPS and shutdown

Good afternoon Ingalisa,

Thanks for reaching out. The NPS is not able to coordinate volunteer activities during a government shutdown. Visitors are encouraged to practice leave no trace principles and please pack out all trash.

Related to assistance, restroom buildings are closed due to the shutdown. However, on the National Mall, concessioner Guest Services, Inc. has provided portable toilets at several locations. See the press release for additional information:

And, the District of Columbia is assisting with trash collection while National Park Service employees are furloughed. However, this partner-assisted service may not occur in all areas or at the same frequency as when the government is open. The city can provide additional information about its service during the shutdown.

Best,

Jennifer

Jennifer A. Mummart
Associate Regional Director - Communications
National Capital Region
National Park Service
(202) 619-7174

--------- Forwarded message --------
From: Ingalisa Schrobsdorff <ingalisa@wamu.org>
Date: Wed, Jan 2, 2019 at 11:37 AM
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Kojo Show on NPS and shutdown
To: Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Cc: Monna Kashfi <mkashfi@wamu.org>

Thanks Jeremy.
Main question—are there volunteers stepping in to do things like trail cleanup etc? Are they organized, and is there a point of contact we might be able to reach out to?

Thanks!

---

From: Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 2, 2019 11:14 AM
To: Ingalisa Schrobsdorff <ingalisa@wamu.org>
Cc: Jennifer Mummart <jennifer_mummart@nps.gov>; Michael Litterst <mike_litterst@nps.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Kojo Show on NPS and shutdown

Hi Ingalisa,

We are not able to accommodate your interview request during the shutdown, but do let us know if you have any specific questions related to NPS operations during the lapse in appropriations and we will do our best to provide you that information.

Best,

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications

National Park Service

Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973

Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube
Hi Jeremy,

I suspect you won't be getting this email due to the shutdown!

WE were hoping to connect to find out the effect on national parks here in our region (the National Mall, Rock Creek Park), and who, if anyone, is helping manage the sites.

Are volunteers stepping in, and is there someone coordinating that we can speak to? I also hear local DC government has been helping with things like trash pickup.

If you are in the office or by any chance checking email, would love to know if there’s someone we can talk to for a show on Monday.

Many thanks,

Ingals

WAMU 88.5 American University Radio

Ingals Schrobsdorff

Managing Producer | Kojo Nnamdi Show | 202 885 3808 | wamu.org
DOI Colleagues,

Please see for your review attached/below draft news release announcing that we'll be taking over funding operations at STLI. The release has been reviewed by the park and includes the news we just received about the foundation's support.

Thanks,
Jeremy

Statue of Liberty to Remain Open Using National Park Service Fee Revenue

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Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube
Apologies -- should have cc'd you on this. Was under the gun....

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
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---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **Barnum, Jeremy** <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>  
Date: Tue, Jan 15, 2019 at 11:43 AM  
Subject: FOR DOI Review: Statue of Liberty News Release  
To: Todd Willens <todd_willens@ios.doi.gov>, Katharine MacGregor <katharine_macgregor@ios.doi.gov>, Andrea Travnicek <andrea_travnicek@ios.doi.gov>, John Bockmier <john_bockmier@ios.doi.gov>, Ryan Hambleton <ryan_hambleton@ios.doi.gov>, Russell Newell <russell_newell@ios.doi.gov>, Faith Vander Voort <faith_vandervoort@ios.doi.gov>  
Cc: Bowron, Jessica <jessica_bowron@nps.gov>, Michael Litterst <mike_litterst@nps.gov>, Paul (Dan) Smith <paul_smith@nps.gov>, Rick Obernesser <rickobernesser@nps.gov>, Lena McDowall <lena_mcdowall@nps.gov>

DOI Colleagues,

Please see for your review attached/below draft news release announcing that we'll be taking over funding operations at STLI. The release has been reviewed by the park and includes the news we just received about the foundation's support.

Thanks,
Jeremy

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National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube
Thanks. Looks good.

Joshua

Joshua Laird
Commissioner, National Parks of New York Harbor
Federal Hall National Memorial
26 Wall Street, New York, NY 10005
tel. 212-668-5180    cell. 718-775-6038

Sent from my iPhone

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<STLI FLREA News Release (5).docx>
Lena/Jessica,

Please see attached.

--
Beth Walden McCabe
Bureau Procurement Chief (acting)
National Park Service
Washington Contracting Office
7333 West Jefferson Ave
Suite 100
Lakewood, CO 80235-2034
Office: (303) 987-6739
Cell Phone: (720) 320-5395
Fax (303) 987-6922

Please visit our WCO website!
https://sites.google.com/a/nps.gov/waso-contracting/home
Hi Lena and Jessica,

I've received several questions about time sheets for PP 1902, and am anticipating live questions as well at the 1 PM call.

The guidance we have received from DOI and IBC is:

- Time card release is due early on Friday, 1/18, for PP 1902, due to the MLK federal holiday on Monday of next week
- Timesheets for EXEMPTED and EXCEPTED employees
  - Excepted employees continue to accrue leave for the hours worked, whereas furloughed employees do not
- IBC will code any time sheets not submitted as 100% "105" furlough status

The attached DOI memo has the guidance.

I wanted to make sure that I flag this for you, while staying on the same page related to NPS specific guidance on time keeping, especially as it relates to FLREA.

Thanks,
Tony

--

N. Tony Nguyen
Associate Director, Workforce & Inclusion
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

nhien_nguyen@nps.gov
202-354-1990 main
Tony -

Jessica and I just talked about this deadline. We think we should push back on IBC on payroll being due on Friday. I get that IBC is operating as thought there is no shutdown, but they need to understand that it is far from business as usual for us at NPS. Isn't payroll technically not due until Tuesday? We're working with limited staff, and we're going to be pressed to get out guidance and answer questions on what is likely to be some complicated guidance on time coding for PP02.

Thanks,

Lena

On Tue, Jan 15, 2019 at 12:52 PM Nguyen, Nhien (Tony) <nhien_nguyen@nps.gov> wrote:

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nhien_nguyen@nps.gov
Lena McDowall
Deputy Director, Management and Administration
Ph: 202-513-7240
Cell: 202-641-1814
Email: Lena_McDowall@nps.gov
Dan asked that I send you the following information.

The NPS has two in-kind donation agreements—one for individual volunteers and one for organizations (article VII is different). Parks must complete the respective in-kind donation agreement template before any volunteers efforts take place. The documentation is needed to ensure that the NPS has fulfilled its obligations and has conducted its due diligence.

The agreements will be completed by staff who working in parks that are open.

Both templates are attached. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Christine Powell
Acting Chief of Staff
(o) 202-513-7181
(c) 202-878-2309
Please let me know when it’s out so I can share with NYS.

Joshua Laird  
Commissioner, National Parks of New York Harbor  
Federal Hall National Memorial  
26 Wall Street, New York, NY 10005  
tel. 212-668-5180 cell. 718-775-6038

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Yes, we will distribute, but feel free to distribute to any national outlets you have that you feel would be appropriate.

Jerry Willis | National Park Service  
Public Affairs Officer  
Statue of Liberty National Monument & Ellis Island  
(646) 356-2105 desk  
(917) 299-3843 mobile  
jerry_willis@nps.gov

On Tue, Jan 15, 2019 at 1:28 PM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:
Have a few edits, will share final shortly. Jerry, does the park prefer to distribute? That makes the most sense to us.

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
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Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

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Katariina and Stan,

The change in the weather as well as the emergency staffing have significantly slowed down the impact to park resources. After consulting with Arron, we are continuing to release employees that were used in the initial mitigation of damage inside the park. We are continuing to document the issues of resource damage in the hopes of getting 19jj civil charges following the shutdown.

I am attaching a summary of the damage in the park form December 22 through January 10. With the rains, we are able to easily document new damage now - teams came across a new fence that was ripped out yesterday with off road vehicles going over a mile to our most significant rock art sites. Crews will repair the fence in the next couple of days. The most significant issues noted in the attached reports:

- Over ten miles of off road vehicle tracks in scores of different locations raked out and remedied with vertical revegetation work.
- Nearly one hundred new out of bond campfires associated with illegal campsites that were removed, raked, and documented.
- Significant human waste accumulations at all major trailheads (BoyScout Trailhead alone has about 30). Crews will begin removing this when the rains stop.

Thank you for all of your support - especially securing the additional LE rangers from LAME. I am coming in only as needed for the morning briefings - call me on my cell if you need me.

--

David Smith
Superintendent
Joshua Tree National Park

(760) 367-5501 - Office
(760) 401-7999 - Mobile
Stan Austin
Regional Director, Pacific West Region
National Park Service
One question, since it is open now. If they go out and find that the trail is blocked or washed out can they do anything about it other than close it?

Linda Lutz-Ryan  
Regional Chief of Interpretation and Education  
National Capital Region  
303-681-4073 Cell  
202-619-7245 Work

On Tue, Jan 15, 2019 at 3:27 PM Slayton, April <april_slayton@nps.gov> wrote:  
Hi Nick and Linda,  
I checked in with Lisa, and based on our current understanding of FLREA funding approvals, this activity does not fit under the basic services (bathrooms, trash, and potholes primarily) for areas that had to be closed since the start of the lapse in appropriations. It also does not fall under the excepted category since it is regularly scheduled maintenance and isn't an immediate risk to life/health (that we are aware of). If there was an immediate, emergency need to repair the trail (for example, if a visitor reported to park staff that there was a tree down on the trail), the park could go out and address the issue and it would be an excepted activity.  
These definitions are really complicated and challenging to navigate, and I know this is work that is important to the park. I hope this gives some clarity - happy to hop on a call to discuss further.  
Thanks,  
April  
--  
April Slayton  
Acting Deputy Regional Director  
National Park Service, National Capital Region  
(202) 619-7022 - direct  
(202) 641-0291 - mobile  
Facebook Twitter  
Instagram YouTube

On Tue, Jan 15, 2019 at 1:34 PM Lutz-Ryan, Linda <linda_lutz-ryan@nps.gov> wrote:  
April,
Nick justifies the use of Max for overseeing in the last paragraph. If Max does the work is it justified under FLREA funding.

Linda

Linda Lutz-Ryan
Regional Chief of Interpretation and Education
National Capital Region
303-681-4073 Cell
202-619-7245 Work

On Tue, Jan 15, 2019 at 1:22 PM Bartolomeo, Nick <nick_bartolomeo@nps.gov> wrote:

On the weekend of January 26th - 27th, the park proposes to allow Roads and Trails Crew Staffmember Max Newman to come on duty, using FLREA funding, to oversee a SCA Conservation Leadership Corps (CLC) crew in the park. The crew (already paid for with DDOT funding) will consist of 12 members and two leaders. Under Max's supervision, crew members will be walking the trails throughout the park repairing erosion damage, removing downed trees, and maintaining drainage structures in an effort to make the trails safer for users. The crew will arrive at 8:00 AM each day and leave by 3:30 PM.

The park considers this a life/safety issue. There are 36 miles of horse and foot trails in the park, and eight miles of paved trails. These trails are the most heavily used recreational facilities in the park. They have been open since December 22, and have not been examined by a subject matter expert for deficiencies since that time. This is critically important for the horse trails, where erosion caused by stormwater can quickly create gullies, holes and washouts that can endanger both horse and rider.

Max has been extensively trained in trail rehabilitation by both SCA and NPS. He is one of two people in the park who have this skill set, which would likely not be found with the Public Health Service engineers, who also are not familiar with the park's trails, usage levels and patterns, and inherent issues. It is critical that he work with the crew to oversee this work.

Thank you for your consideration. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Nick Bartolomeo
Chief of Resource Management
National Park Service, Rock Creek Park
3545 Williamsburg Lane, NW
Washington, DC 20008
Office: 202-895-6010
Cell: 202-579-8494
Fax: 202-895-6015
Thanks everyone, I appreciate your time and consideration!

Nick

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 15, 2019, at 3:30 PM, Lutz-Ryan, Linda <linda_lutz-ryan@nps.gov> wrote:

Thank you, April.

Linda Lutz-Ryan
Regional Chief of Interpretation and Education
National Capital Region
303-681-4073 Cell
202-619-7245 Work

On Tue, Jan 15, 2019 at 3:27 PM Slayton, April <april_slayton@nps.gov> wrote:
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Thanks,
April
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Linda

Linda Lutz-Ryan  
Regional Chief of Interpretation and Education  
National Capital Region  
303-681-4073 Cell  
202-619-7245 Work

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and washouts that can endanger both horse and rider.

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Thank you for your consideration. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Nick Bartolomeo
Chief of Resource Management
National Park Service, Rock Creek Park
3545 Williamsburg Lane, NW
Washington, DC 20008
Office: 202-895-6010
Cell: 202-579-8494
Fax: 202-895-6015
Thanks, Jeremy, and I am looping in Darryl, since I believe he’s writing on national parks and the shutdown today. That is probably where we would reflect this news.

Best, Juliet

Hi Dino,


And an earlier announcement from the Grand Canyon:

For Immediate Release
Date: January 12, 2019
Contact: Public Affairs, 928-638-7958
gcca_public_affairs@nps.gov

**Park accessibility and services made possible through recreation fee dollars and support from the State of Arizona**

Grand Canyon, AZ – Using revenue generated by recreation fees Grand Canyon National Park has reopened the South Rim and Desert View entrance stations to provide information and safety messages to visitors.

Park roads, trails and overlooks in Grand Canyon National Park have remained accessible since the beginning of the lapse in government appropriations thanks to support from the State of Arizona. Trash collection, custodial services, and snow removal will continue, as will public health and safety services using recreation fee revenue. Visitor services provided by park concessioners and other entities are also open, including lodging, restaurants and food service, grocery stores, retail, bicycle rental, concessioner-provided tours, and park shuttle operations.

“We greatly appreciate the generous contributions from the State of Arizona, which donated funding to help keep Grand Canyon open and accessible during the lapse in appropriations,” said Grand Canyon Deputy Superintendent Lisa Carrico. “The state helped provide access and basic services to Grand Canyon National Park visitors and residents.”

National Park Service officials have determined that by using Federal Land and Recreation Enhancement funds,
the park can continue to provide the services for which the State of Arizona donated funds from December 22, 2018 to January 11, 2019.

Some services at Grand Canyon may be limited or unavailable during the lapse in appropriations, including visitor centers, ranger talks and programs. All backcountry camping and Colorado River trips require appropriate permits. Anyone in violation of this requirement is subject to enforcement actions. New permits are not being issued and existing permits may not be amended during the government shutdown. Visitors with previously issued permits may proceed as permitted. Entrance Fees will not be collected.

Highway 67 to the North Rim of Grand Canyon remains closed for the season.

Visit [nps.gov/grandcanyon](http://nps.gov/grandcanyon) for information about accessibility and available services at Grand Canyon National Park.

For information about visitor services conducted by park concessioners and other entities please see contact information below:

Delaware North at Grand Canyon: 1-877-404-4611, [https://www.visitgrandcanyon.com](https://www.visitgrandcanyon.com)
Grand Canyon Conservancy: 1-800-858-2808, [https://www.grandcanyon.org](https://www.grandcanyon.org)
Grand Canyon Lodges (Xanterra): 1-888-29-PARKS (1-888-297-2757), [https://www.grandcanyonlodges.com](https://www.grandcanyonlodges.com)

- NPS -

_The National Park Service has more than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America’s 418 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities._

_Learn more at [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov)_

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
Mobile: (202) 617-7973  

---

[nps.gov]

On Thu, Jan 10, 2019 at 4:55 PM Grandoni, Dino <Dino.Grandoni@washpost.com> wrote:

OK, let us know. And thanks.

From: Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Sent: Thursday, January 10, 2019 4:46:43 PM
To: Grandoni, Dino
Cc: Eilperin, Juliet; Michael Litterst
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: a few shutdown-related questions

Hi Dino,
Plans for both parks have not yet been finalized. We will keep you posted.

Best,

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973

On Thu, Jan 10, 2019 at 1:25 PM Grandoni, Dino <Dino.Grandoni@washpost.com> wrote:

Hi Jeremy – Thanks for sending us that press release about Joshua Tree yesterday evening. Just following up one more time regarding our questions (in particular, about Grand Canyon and Statue of Liberty) before the piece runs in print tomorrow morning.

All the best,

Dino

From: Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 09, 2019 5:37 PM
To: Eilperin, Juliet <Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com>; Grandoni, Dino <Dino.Grandoni@washpost.com>
Cc: Michael Litterst <mike_litterst@nps.gov>
Subject: Fwd: a few shutdown-related questions

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Hi Juilet and Dino,

We're looking into these questions for you but might not have answers until tomorrow. What's your deadline?

Thanks,

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Dear Press Team,

Dino and I are doing a piece on how DOI is pursuing its priorities during the shutdown, which will be informed by the interview I did yesterday with a top DOI official, on background. Since the questions cover a few different agencies, we wanted to run them by you.

1. Is there a way to estimate the different amounts of unspent appropriated funds each major bureau or division has at its disposal? I know BLM’s numbers in the millions, and we were wondering about Fish and Wildlife, The National Park Service and other bureaus.

2. FWS has just decided to bring back some employees from furlough to partially or fully reopen 38 refuges. Can you estimate how many employees will return to work, unpaid, and is it possible to get a statement on why the department has decided to do this?

3. In terms of park developments, we understand that NPS will start using funds from NY state to pay park police at the Statue of Liberty (who were presumably working unpaid before) and are bringing on more park police. Can you let us know if that’s accurate? And it appears that the Grand Canyon now has a plan to use its fee money to help finance operations—are there any more parks who are poised to dip into their fee funds, and is Arizona going to stop financing the Grand Canyon’s operations?

Thanks so much,

Juliet

Juliet Eilperin
Senior National Affairs Correspondent
Washington Post
Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com
(O) 202-334-7774
(C) 202-302-3663
@eilperin
Ok, thanks Mike.

Ingalsia:

We are not able to accommodate interview requests during the shutdown, but please let us know if you have any specific questions related to NPS operations during the lapse in appropriations and we will do our best to provide you that information.

Regarding the First Amendment events taking place on the National Mall this weekend, feel free to use the following statement, attributable to me.

"Permits will be issued for First Amendment events on the National Mall whose applications were submitted prior to the lapse of appropriations, including the Indigenous Peoples March, March for Life and the Women’s March. As with all events on the National Mall, the National Park Service and United States Park Police will ensure public safety and the protection of park resources during the events."

Hope this helps,

Mike

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)
National Park Service

Chief of Communications
National Mall and Memorial Parks

Ph: (202) 306-4166

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

WE are looking to have a brief conversation at the top of Thursday’s noon hour show about the Women’s March—specifically, how major events in DC will be held during a partial shutdown.

We’d love to speak to someone from NPS (if at all possible) about this. Is there any discussion around canceling the march given NPS’ status? What are the contingencies?

Are there other organizations you’d recommend we touch base with involved in logistics, planning, etc for large events and what happens in a shutdown (we are reaching out to DC Police since they will be working no doubt on security)—but anyone else?

Ingalisa

From: Mummart, Jennifer <jennifer_mummart@nps.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 2, 2019 3:47 PM
To: Ingalisa Schrobsdorff <ingalisa@wamu.org>
Cc: Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Kojo Show on NPS and shutdown

Good afternoon Ingalisa,

Thanks for reaching out. The NPS is not able to coordinate volunteer activities during a government shutdown. Visitors are encouraged to practice leave no trace principles and please pack out all trash.

Related to assistance, restroom buildings are closed due to the shutdown. However, on the National Mall, concessioner Guest Services, Inc. has provided portable toilets at several locations. See the press release for additional information:

And, the District of Columbia is assisting with trash collection while National Park Service employees are furloughed. However, this partner-assisted service may not occur in all areas or at the same frequency as when the government is open. The city can provide additional information about its service during the shutdown.

Best,
Jennifer

Jennifer A. Mummart
Associate Regional Director - Communications
National Capital Region
National Park Service
(202) 619-7174

---------- Forwarded message ----------

From: Ingalisa Schrobsdorff <ingalisa@wamu.org>
Date: Wed, Jan 2, 2019 at 11:37 AM
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Kojo Show on NPS and shutdown
To: Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Cc: Monna Kashfi <mkashfi@wamu.org>

Thanks Jeremy.

Main question—are there volunteers stepping in to do things like trail cleanup etc? Are they organized, and is there a point of contact we might be able to reach out to?

Thanks!

From: Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 2, 2019 11:14 AM
To: Ingalisa Schrobsdorff <ingalisa@wamu.org>
Cc: Jennifer Mummart <jennifer_mummart@nps.gov>; Michael Litterst <mike_litterst@nps.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Kojo Show on NPS and shutdown

Hi Ingalisa,

We are not able to accommodate your interview request during the shutdown, but do let us know if
you have any specific questions related to NPS operations during the lapse in appropriations and we will do our best to provide you that information.

Best,

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Wed, Jan 2, 2019 at 10:39 AM Ingalisa Schrobsdorff <ingalisa@wamu.org> wrote:

Hi Jeremy,

I suspect you wont be getting this email due to the shutdown!

WE were hoping to connect to find out the effect on national parks here in our region (the National Mall, Rock Creek Park), and who, if anyone, is helping manage the sites.

Are volunteers stepping in, and is there someone coordinating that we can speak to? I also hear local DC government has been helping with things like trash pickup.

If you are in the office or by any chance checking email, would love to know if there’s someone we can talk to for a show on Monday.

Many thanks,

Ingalisa

WAMU 88.5 American University Radio
Ingalisa Schrobsdorff
Managing Producer | Kojo Nnamdi Show | 202 885 3808 | wamu.org
kojoshow.org | @kojoshow | www.facebook.com/kojoshow
Saw it. Thanks for the heads up, Jeremy.

Hi Darryl,

I believe my colleague Mike Litterst already responded -- please let us know if you didn't receive it.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973

On Tue, Jan 15, 2019 at 4:14 PM Fears, Darryl <Darryl.Fears@washpost.com> wrote:

Thanks, Jeremy. You might have gotten this request already from DOI hq but I’m trying to confirm statements from former parks officials at a committee hearing this morning that poaching has happened at Great Smoky Mtn NP and Big Cypress NR. Can NPS confirm or deny that three deer were poached at GSMNP and at least two and BCNR? Also, if animals are poached frequently even with full staff, please explain. Thanks again. - Darryl
Darryl,

A number of parks have restored accessibility and basic services using fee revenue. You can view news releases for many of them here:
https://www.nps.gov/aboutus/news/news-releases.htm#sort=Date_Released%20desc&fq[]=Date_Released%3A[NOW-29DAYS%20TO%20NOW] [nps.gov]

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973

On Tue, Jan 15, 2019 at 3:53 PM Fears, Darryl <Darryl.Fears@washpost.com> wrote:

Thank you for looping me in.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 15, 2019, at 3:46 PM, Eilperin, Juliet <Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com> wrote:

Thanks, Jeremy, and I am looping in Darryl, since I believe he’s writing on national parks and the shutdown today. That is probably where we would reflect this news.
Best, Juliet

From: Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 15, 2019 3:44 PM
To: Grandoni, Dino <Dino.Grandoni@washpost.com>
Cc: Eilperin, Juliet <Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com>; Michael Litterst <mike_litterst@nps.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: a few shutdown-related questions

Hi Dino,

And an earlier announcement from the Grand Canyon:

For Immediate Release
Date: January 12, 2019
Contact: Public Affairs, 928-638-7958
grea_public_affairs@nps.gov

Park accessibility and services made possible through recreation fee dollars and support from the State of Arizona

Grand Canyon, AZ – Using revenue generated by recreation fees Grand Canyon National Park has reopened the South Rim and Desert View entrance stations to provide information and safety messages to visitors.

Park roads, trails and overlooks in Grand Canyon National Park have remained accessible since the beginning of the lapse in government appropriations thanks to support from the State of Arizona. Trash collection, custodial services, and snow removal will continue, as will public health and safety services using recreation fee revenue. Visitor services provided by park concessioners and other entities are also open, including lodging, restaurants and food service, grocery stores, retail, bicycle rental, concessioner-provided tours, and park shuttle operations.

“We greatly appreciate the generous contributions from the State of Arizona, which donated funding to help keep Grand Canyon open and accessible during the lapse in appropriations,” said Grand Canyon Deputy Superintendent Lisa Carrico. “The state helped provide access and basic services to Grand Canyon National Park visitors and residents.”

National Park Service officials have determined that by using Federal Land and Recreation Enhancement funds, the park can continue to provide the services for which the State of Arizona donated funds from December 22, 2018 to January 11, 2019.

Some services at Grand Canyon may be limited or unavailable during the lapse in appropriations, including visitor centers, ranger talks and programs. All backcountry camping and Colorado River trips require appropriate permits. Anyone in violation of this requirement is subject to enforcement actions. New permits are not being issued and existing permits may not be
amended during the government shutdown. Visitors with previously issued permits may proceed as permitted. Entrance Fees will not be collected.

Highway 67 to the North Rim of Grand Canyon remains closed for the season.

Visit nps.gov/grandcanyon[nps.gov] for information about accessibility and available services at Grand Canyon National Park.

For updates on the shutdown, please visit www.doi.gov/shutdown[doi.gov].

For information about visitor services conducted by park concessioners and other entities please see contact information below:


- NPS -

The National Park Service has more than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America’s 418 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. Learn more at www.nps.gov[nps.gov].

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973

On Thu, Jan 10, 2019 at 4:55 PM Grandoni, Dino <Dino.Grandoni@washpost.com> wrote:

OK, let us know. And thanks.

From: Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Hi Dino,

Plans for both parks have not yet been finalized. We will keep you posted.

Best,

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973

On Thu, Jan 10, 2019 at 1:25 PM Grandoni, Dino <Dino.Grandoni@washpost.com> wrote:

Hi Jeremy – Thanks for sending us that press release about Joshua Tree yesterday evening. Just following up one more time regarding our questions (in particular, about Grand Canyon and Statue of Liberty) before the piece runs in print tomorrow morning.

All the best,

Dino
Hi Juiet and Dino,

We're looking into these questions for you but might not have answers until tomorrow. What's your deadline?

Thanks,

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973


---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: 'Eilperin, Juliet' via Interior Press <interior_press@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Wed, Jan 9, 2019 at 1:03 PM
Subject: a few shutdown-related questions
To: interior_press@ios.doi.gov <interior_press@ios.doi.gov>, Grandoni, Dino <Dino.Grandoni@washpost.com>

Dear Press Team,

Dino and I are doing a piece on how DOI is pursuing its priorities during the shutdown, which will be informed by the interview I did yesterday with a top DOI official, on background. Since the questions cover a few different agencies, we wanted to run them by you.

1. Is there a way to estimate the different amounts of unspent appropriated funds each major bureau or division has at its disposal? I
know BLM’s numbers in the millions, and we were wondering about Fish and Wildlife, The National Park Service and other bureaus.

2. FWS has just decided to bring back some employees from furlough to partially or fully reopen 38 refuges. Can you estimate how many employees will return to work, unpaid, and is it possible to get a statement on why the department has decided to do this?

3. In terms of park developments, we understand that NPS will start using funds from NY state to pay park police at the Statue of Liberty (who were presumably working unpaid before) and are bringing on more park police. Can you let us know if that’s accurate? And it appears that the Grand Canyon now has a plan to use its fee money to help finance operations—are there any more parks who are poised to dip into their fee funds, and is Arizona going to stop financing the Grand Canyon’s operations?

Thanks so much,

Juliet

Juliet Eilperin
Senior National Affairs Correspondent
Washington Post
Juliet.eilperin@washpost.com
(O) 202-334-7774
(C) 202-302-3663
@eilperin

--

Faith C. Vander Voort
Deputy Press Secretary
Department of the Interior
Copy. Will have that in the next 5 minutes.

Robert D. MacLean
Chief of Police
United States Park Police
202.619.7350 - Office
robert_maclean@nps.gov - Email

We are the oldest, federal, uniformed police force, which serves as the National Park Service urban-park-interface between our society and our nation's most cherished symbols of democracy. We selflessly protect and defend these symbols, what they represent, and those that visit them. We embrace our duty and responsibility to those we serve and the civil liberties that make us all free. We are proud of our heritage, our history, and our mission. We are the United States Park Police.

USPP Strategic Plan: https://www.nps.gov/subjects/uspp/upload/USPP-Strategic-Plan-final.pdf
USPP Webpage: https://www.nps.gov/uspp/
USPP Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/USParkPolice/
USPP Twitter: https://twitter.com/usparkpolicepio

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On Jan 15, 2019, at 6:12 PM, Hambleton, Ryan <ryan_hambleton@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

At this point, the only information needed is on how many USPP personnel would be brought onto exempted/pay status under the FLREA scenario. In the interest of expediency, a ballpark estimate is okay. 50? 100? 200? Thanks again.

On Tue, Jan 15, 2019 at 6:09 PM Robert Maclean <robert_maclean@nps.gov> wrote:

Ryan - unfortunately our folks are in the middle of their commutes home. Upon
their arrival they will put something together in response but it will take a bit longer than 30. Rob

Robert D. MacLean
Chief of Police
United States Park Police
202.619.7350 - Office
robert_maclean@nps.gov - Email

We are the oldest, federal, uniformed police force, which serves as the National Park Service urban-park-interface between our society and our nation's most cherished symbols of democracy. We selflessly protect and defend these symbols, what they represent, and those that visit them. We embrace our duty and responsibility to those we serve and the civil liberties that make us all free. We are proud of our heritage, our history, and our mission. We are the United States Park Police.

USPP Strategic Plan: https://www.nps.gov/subjects/uspp/upload/USPP-Strategic-Plan-final.pdf
USPP Webpage: https://www.nps.gov/uspp/
USPP Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/USParkPolice/
USPP Twitter: https://twitter.com/usparkpolicepio

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On Jan 15, 2019, at 5:35 PM, Hambleton, Ryan <ryan_hambleton@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Thanks, Chief. Anything that I could get in the next half hour would be fantastic. No need for exhaustive detail. Appreciate the help.

On Tue, Jan 15, 2019 at 5:18 PM Robert Maclean <robert_maclean@nps.gov> wrote:

Will jump on it right away. Assuming you want Park and USPP info.
Major Smith - please coordinate a joint response from STLI and USPP.

Robert D. MacLean
Chief of Police
United States Park Police
202.619.7350 - Office
robert_maclean@nps.gov - Email

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On Jan 15, 2019, at 5:10 PM, Hambleton, Ryan <ryan_hambleton@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Chief Maclean,

Thanks for talking earlier. There was desire to add an item of detail to the basic itinerary we discussed.
I have pasted it below. The request is to add detail about staffing as seen in the piece FWS turned in for Heinz, which I’ve highlighted. The goal is to add more about current staffing at Statue of Liberty. Unfortunately, I'm trying to turn this around very quickly. Thank you!

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  - Hiring of visitor services specialists and interns and youth crew hires on hold.

---

**Ryan Hambleton**

*Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks*

U.S. Department of the Interior

1849 C Street, NW, 3160

Washington, DC 20240

(202) 208-3047

---

**Ryan Hambleton**

*Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks*

U.S. Department of the Interior

1849 C Street, NW, 3160

Washington, DC 20240

(202) 208-4416

---

**Ryan Hambleton**

*Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks*

U.S. Department of the Interior

1849 C Street, NW, 3160

Washington, DC 20240

(202) 208-4416
Likewise.

Robert D. MacLean
Chief of Police
United States Park Police
202.619.7350 - Office
robert_maclean@nps.gov - Email

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On Jan 15, 2019, at 6:59 PM, Ryan Hambleton <ryan_hambleton@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

This is great. Thanks Chief and have a good night.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 15, 2019, at 6:58 PM, Robert Maclean <robert_maclean@nps.gov> wrote:
A total of 82 USPP personnel will be in an “exempted” status under FLREA in our Liberty District, which protects the Statue of Liberty. Sorry for the delay.

Robert D. MacLean
Chief of Police
United States Park Police
202.619.7350 - Office
robert_maclean@nps.gov - Email

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On Jan 15, 2019, at 6:12 PM, Hambleton, Ryan <ryan_hambleton@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

At this point, the only information needed is on how many USPP personnel would be brought onto exempted/pay status under the FLREA scenario. In the
interest of expediency, a ballpark estimate is okay. 50? 100? 200? Thanks again.

On Tue, Jan 15, 2019 at 6:09 PM Robert Maclean <robert_maclean@nps.gov> wrote:
Ryan - unfortunately our folks are in the middle of their commutes home. Upon their arrival they will put something together in response but it will take a bit longer than 30. Rob

Robert D. MacLean
Chief of Police
United States Park Police
202.619.7350 - Office
robert_maclean@nps.gov - Email

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On Jan 15, 2019, at 5:35 PM, Hambleton, Ryan <ryan_hambleton@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Thanks, Chief. Anything that I could get in the next half hour would be fantastic. No need for exhaustive detail. Appreciate the help.

On Tue, Jan 15, 2019 at 5:18 PM Robert Maclean <robert_maclean@nps.gov> wrote:
Will jump on it right away. Assuming you want Park and USPP info.

Major Smith - please coordinate a joint response from STLI and USPP.

Robert D. MacLean
Chief of Police
United States Park Police
202.619.7350 - Office
robert_maclean@nps.gov - Email

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know that we will be open for that Saturday event.

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--

Ryan Hambleton  
Deputy Assistant Secretary  
for Fish and Wildlife and Parks  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW, 3160  
Washington, DC 20240  
(202) 208-3047

--

Ryan Hambleton  
Deputy Assistant Secretary  
for Fish and Wildlife and Parks  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW, 3160  
Washington, DC 20240  
(202) 208-4416
Thanks for the Update Mike, please keep us posted and let us know if you need anything.

Best,

Stan

On Tue, Jan 15, 2019 at 3:54 PM Reynolds, Michael <michael_reynolds@nps.gov> wrote:

PWR Leadership:

We have been told by the NWS to expect up to 4 feet of snow up on our higher elevations, and up to 3-4 inches of rain in our burn scars and valleys with higher than average winds starting tomorrow night. This usually brings down a lot of trees and rocks and debris on roads, but with the fire scars, we expect some full road closures tomorrow night beginning late and into Thursday-possibly all roads into the park is a likely scenario overnight Wed to Thursday. Caltrans may choose to close the 140 Highway, our main winter entrance (because of the predicted burn scar mud flow depths in feet not inches). The Badger ski area with that much snow will close and dig out Thursday at a minimum if predictions hold.

We have to move some campers, let guests in hotels know to get out early and not count on being able to exit Thursday, and watch out for employees and about 200+ Nature Bridge kids in tent cabins under these big trees, etc. With FLREA and excepted employees already on, we have crews in roads, fire, and LE to handle things but even in normal times, these roads would go down so I think its good we warn everyone of expectations.

I would guess we are Ok by the weekend unless huge damage occurs. Scott may contact Andrew tomorrow about some storm related public messaging which I know is more complicated right now to approve in shutdown so I wanted an early heads up. Will keep you posted.

Stay safe. Keep facing the wind and pushing. Thanks for all you are doing.

Mike

--

Michael Reynolds
Superintendent
Yosemite National Park
(209) 372 0201
michael_reynolds@nps.gov
Stan Austin
Regional Director, Pacific West Region
National Park Service
Thanks!

Andrew S. Muñoz  
Acting Chief of Public and Congressional Affairs  
National Park Service  
Pacific West Region, Office of Public and Congressional Affairs  
206 220-4260 phone | 206 475-4598 cell | andrew_munoz@nps.gov  
Find us on online at: https://nps.gov/pwro (public) & http://go.nps.gov/pwr (InsideNPS intranet)

On Tue, Jan 15, 2019 at 4:13 PM Michael Litterst wrote:  
Andrew:

Your response is right on the mark - talk about what we are doing (including the use of fee revenue), and the rest of it we can’t answer at this time.

Thanks!

Mike

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Mike Litterst  
Chief of Public Affairs and Chief Spokesperson (acting)  
National Park Service  
Cell: (202) 306-4166

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 15, 2019, at 6:54 PM, Munoz, Andrew wrote:  
Here's our proposed response to this freelancer writing for Vox.

Hi Tracy:

Bears have been active in the park. Over the past few weeks, we have received reports of bears pushing on cars and trailers in the Upper Pines Campground. Through the use of donations and recreation fees, the park has been able to restore basic visitor services, such as visitor safety information, trash removal, and snow plowing. Restoring regular trash removal has helped alleviate the issue of bears and other wildlife being more attracted to populated areas. Bears becoming habituated to human food is a constant concern for the park. Visitors can find best practices for recreating near bears on the Yosemite website at: https://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/bears.htm.
For more information about recreation fees, please visit: [https://www.nps.gov/aboutus/fees-at-work.htm](https://www.nps.gov/aboutus/fees-at-work.htm).

Unfortunately, due to a lack of staff resources during the shutdown, we are not able to gather the information to answer your other questions. We can get back to you once normal government operations resume.

- Andrew

**Andrew S. Muñoz**  
Acting Chief of Public and Congressional Affairs  
National Park Service  
Pacific West Region, Office of Public and Congressional Affairs  
206 220-4260 phone | 206 475-4598 cell | andrew_munoz@nps.gov  
Find us online at: [https://nps.gov/pwro](https://nps.gov/pwro) (public) & [http://go.nps.gov/pwr](http://go.nps.gov/pwr) (InsideNPS intranet)

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: <photos@tracybarbutes.com>  
Date: Mon, Jan 14, 2019 at 6:02 PM  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Freelance photo/journalist with questions about Yosemite National Park  
To: <andrew_munoz@nps.gov>

Mr. Munoz,

I am a freelance photojournalist based near Yosemite National Park, currently working on an article for VOX about the partial government shutdown in relation to Yosemite.

After speaking with numerous people who are friends of Yosemite (volunteers collecting trash, visitor bureau representatives, private guides, local-area business owners), I realized the issue here is not simply about garbage collection, or the lack thereof, or limited visitor services.

The public needs know how this shutdown is affecting research projects, meadow restoration, wildlife habitat, bear behavior, etc.

I’m staring down the barrel of my VOX deadline, so I’m not sure you’ll be able to get back to me in time. However, I have pitched a story to a different publication specifically about bears/bear behavior and other issues in the Valley during this shutdown.
These are some of my questions:

Park entrance fees are what percentage of YNP’s budget? How much money is the park losing each day of the shutdown from not collecting entrance fees? Where can I find information about where entrance fees are used? I understand a percentage of park entrance fees are used for ‘visitor experience’ and deferred maintenance. Are entrance fees ever used for research projects? If so, are there any projects, specific to Yosemite that are disrupted by lack of funding and/or furloughs?

I saw a bear in Stoneman Meadow the other day, and I’ve heard reports of bear tracks leading up to trashcans and through employee housing areas. Are bears in danger of becoming used to food again? Are people using bear boxes to stash their food? Are park employees regulating this? If so, are these furloughed employees working without pay, for the time being? What happens if a bear become a ‘nuisance’? Will it be removed from the Valley and placed in another area of the park? How many chances does a bear get before being terminated? How long does it take for a bear to become accustomed to humans again? Are there park rangers specifically assigned to bears/bear management? If so, is their main job to monitor bear behavior? Are these employees currently furloughed? With the lack of park rangers staffed in the Valley, where will visitors gain valuable education about bear behavior?

I know park rangers have done a remarkable job over the years educating the public about bears, bear behavior, how to properly stow “food,” etc. I know the number of bear/human incidents in Yosemite Valley have dropped dramatically over the years. Where might I find historical data about bear/human incidents in Yosemite?

What will happen to meadow restoration areas in Yosemite Valley if people continue to ignore signs asking them to remain on trails and boardwalks? I’ve seen numerous people playing in off-limits meadows, though I honestly can’t say if the numbers are any greater than during the summer months.

I was at the Swinging Bridge picnic area for approximately ½ hour on Sunday, waiting for someone to return to an abandoned picnic area where there were open containers of food, garbage, etc. I had to move on before anyone returned. Wouldn’t this likely have been caught if more rangers were
working in the Valley? Isn’t leaving food unattended a ticket offense? Won’t this behavior quickly bring other wildlife to the area such as coyote and bear?

Are there vital research projects currently on hold during the shutdown? If so, what are they, and is this loss of research irrevocable? Are there employees assigned to monitoring endangered species? climate change? snow pack/water levels? bark beetle infestation? timber management? What happens to research when data cannot be collected in the short-term and long-term?

I know the park issues scientific research permits each year. Are these being affected? Are the employees who issue these permits currently being furloughed? Will these permits eventually be issues? Are those who currently have research permits allowed to continue their work during the shutdown?

What are other long-term effects of a shutdown the public should be made aware of, especially if the government shutdown lasts more than a few weeks?

Any information you can share with me will be greatly appreciated.

Respectfully,

Tracy Barbutes

c. 209.559.4477

o. 209.962.6882
Sounds good.

Linda Lutz-Ryan  
Chief of Interpretation and Education  
National Capital Region  
Work 202-619-7245  
Cell 303-681-4073

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 16, 2019, at 7:35 AM, Bartolomeo, Nick <nick_bartolomeo@nps.gov> wrote:

Thanks, I'll talk with Don this morning and get back to you.

Nick

Nick Bartolomeo  
Chief of Resource Management  
National Park Service, Rock Creek Park  
3545 Williamsburg Lane, NW  
Washington, DC 20008  
Office: 202-895-6010  
Cell: 202-579-8494  
Fax: 202-895-6015

On Tue, Jan 15, 2019 at 4:05 PM Mendelson, Lisa <lisa_mendelson-jelmini@nps.gov> wrote:

If the work can proceed without direct park supervision, or with the assistance of the public health service engineers then the work can proceed. Please let us know what you decide.

Lisa Mendelson, AICP  
Acting Regional Director, National Park Service  
202-619-7020 main office + 202-619-7194 direct + 202-297-1338 cell  
(serving as an excepted employee during the lapse)

On Tue, Jan 15, 2019 at 3:27 PM Slayton, April <april_slayton@nps.gov>
Hi Nick and Linda,

I checked in with Lisa, and based on our current understanding of FLREA funding approvals, this activity does not fit under the basic services (bathrooms, trash, and potholes primarily) for areas that had to be closed since the start of the lapse in appropriations. It also does not fall under the excepted category since it is regularly scheduled maintenance and isn't an immediate risk to life/health (that we are aware of). If there was an immediate, emergency need to repair the trail (for example, if a visitor reported to park staff that there was a tree down on the trail), the park could go out and address the issue and it would be an excepted activity. These definitions are really complicated and challenging to navigate, and I know this is work that is important to the park. I hope this gives some clarity - happy to hop on a call to discuss further.

Thanks,

April

---

April Slayton
Acting Deputy Regional Director
National Park Service, National Capital Region
(202) 619-7022 - direct
(202) 641-0291 - mobile

Facebook Twitter
Instagram YouTube

On Tue, Jan 15, 2019 at 1:34 PM Lutz-Ryan, Linda <linda_lutz-ryan@nps.gov> wrote:

April,

Nick justifies the use of Max for overseeing in the last paragraph. If Max does the work is it justified under FLREA funding.

Linda

Linda Lutz-Ryan
Regional Chief of Interpretation and Education
National Capital Region
303-681-4073 Cell
202-619-7245 Work

On Tue, Jan 15, 2019 at 1:22 PM Bartolomeo, Nick
On the weekend of January 26th - 27th, the park proposes to allow Roads and Trails Crew Staffmember Max Newman to come on duty, using FLREA funding, to oversee a SCA Conservation Leadership Corps (CLC) crew in the park. The crew (already paid for with DDOT funding) will consist of 12 members and two leaders. Under Max's supervision, crew members will be walking the trails throughout the park repairing erosion damage, removing downed trees, and maintaining drainage structures in an effort to make the trails safer for users. The crew will arrive at 8:00 AM each day and leave by 3:30 PM.

The park considers this a life/safety issue. There are 36 miles of horse and foot trails in the park, and eight miles of paved trails. These trails are the most heavily used recreational facilities in the park. They have been open since December 22, and have not been examined by a subject matter expert for deficiencies since that time. This is critically important for the horse trails, where erosion caused by stormwater can quickly create gullies, holes and washouts that can endanger both horse and rider.

Max has been extensively trained in trail rehabilitation by both SCA and NPS. He is one of two people in the park who have this skill set, which would likely not be found with the Public Health Service engineers, who also are not familiar with the park's trails, usage levels and patterns, and inherent issues. It is critical that he work with the crew to oversee this work.

Thank you for your consideration. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Nick Bartolomeo
Chief of Resource Management
National Park Service, Rock Creek Park
3545 Williamsburg Lane, NW
Washington, DC 20008
Office: 202-895-6010
Cell: 202-579-8494
Fax: 202-895-6015
Thank you sir, I just spoke to Jon Bergeron and he was waiting on the green light to proceed with the FLREA press release as well. He sent you and Mr. Barnum this one on Saturday, please find attached in case you missed.
Thank you once again for your prompt response and all the great work that you are doing under these circumstances.
And Hello Jeremy, Happy New Year!
Yanira

On Wed, Jan 16, 2019 at 10:10 AM Litterst, Michael <mike_litterst@nps.gov> wrote:

Yanira:

Attached is the draft, with some suggested edits.

Thanks!

Mike

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)

National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

On Tue, Jan 15, 2019 at 3:08 PM Martinez, Yanira <yanira_martinez@nps.gov> wrote:

Good afternoon Sir,
Please find attached as requested.
I will wait for your response to proceed.
Thank you,

--
Yanira Martinez
Park Ranger
Management Assistant
Special Use Permits and Commercial Use Authorizations

787-729-6777 ext 241
"The greatest leader is not necessarily the one who does the greatest things. He is the one that gets the people to do the greatest things." --Ronald Reagan

"El más grande de los líderes no es necesariamente el que hace cosas grandiosas. El es quién hace que las personas hagan las cosas grandiosas" --Ronald Regan

Report a Crime: saju_tip_hotline@nps.gov
Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/SanJuanNPS
Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/sanjuannps/
Twitter: https://www.twitter.com/SanJuanNPS

--
Yanira Martínez
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Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/SanJuanNPS
Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/sanjuannps/
Twitter: https://www.twitter.com/SanJuanNPS
JEREMY - FYI on the storm activity in Yosemite and the strong potential for a variety of temporary closure activities. Which might include temporary road and access closures due to:

- significant and rapid snow accumulation
- heavy and prolonged rains
- downed trees
- rock and mud slides
- anticipated/predicted rock/mud slides

At Yosemite, post a normal fire year and during a normal winter, this kind of weather and closure activity is not uncommon. I experienced this many times during my tour there in the 90s. The Yosemite staff is experienced working under these conditions and knows well how to safely and efficiently deal with these circumstances.

Pls advise if any questions.

Thx

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Austin, Stan <stan_austin@nps.gov>
Date: Tue, Jan 15, 2019 at 8:09 PM
Subject: Re: Yosemite storm planning
To: Reynolds, Michael <michael_reynolds@nps.gov>
Cc: Andrew Munoz <andrew_munoz@nps.gov>, Buehl, Rene <rene_buehl@nps.gov>, Katariina Tuovinen <katariina_tuovinen@nps.gov>, Sarah Creachbaum <sarah_creachbaum@nps.gov>, Teri Austin <teresa_austin@nps.gov>, Killian, Kevin <kevin_killian@nps.gov>, Gediman, Scott <scott_gediman@nps.gov>, Obernesser, Rick <rick_obernesser@nps.gov>

Thanks for the Update Mike, please keep us posted and let us know if you need anything.

Best,

Stan

On Tue, Jan 15, 2019 at 3:54 PM Reynolds, Michael <michael_reynolds@nps.gov> wrote:

PWR Leadership:

We have been told by the NWS to expect up to 4 feet of snow up on our higher elevations, and up to 3-4 inches of rain in our burn scars and valleys with higher than average winds starting tomorrow night. This usually brings down a lot of trees and rocks and debris on roads, but with the fire scars, we expect some full road closures tomorrow
night beginning late and into Thursday-possibly all roads into the park is a likely scenario overnight Wed to Thursday. Caltrans may choose to close the 140 Highway, our main winter entrance (because of the predicted burn scar mud flow depths in feet not inches). The Badger ski area with that much snow will close and dig out Thursday at a minimum if predictions hold.

We have to move some campers, let guests in hotels know to get out early and not count on being able to exit Thursday, and watch out for employees and about 200+ Nature Bridge kids in tent cabins under these big trees, etc. With FLREA and excepted employees already on, we have crews in roads, fire, and LE to handle things but even in normal times, these roads would go down so I think its good we warn everyone of expectations.

I would guess we are Ok by the weekend unless huge damage occurs. Scott may contact Andrew tomorrow about some storm related public messaging which I know is more complicated right now to approve in shutdown so I wanted an early heads up. Will keep you posted.

Stay safe. Keep facing the wind and pushing. Thanks for all you are doing.
Mike

--
Michael Reynolds
Superintendent
Yosemite National Park
(209) 372 0201
michael_reynolds@nps.gov

--
Stan Austin
Regional Director, Pacific West Region
National Park Service

--
Rick Obernesser, Acting - DDO
National Park Service
1849 C street NW
Washington, DC 20240
o - 202.208.3818
m - 202.641.1497
Yanira:

My apologies for the delay on this release; suggested edits on the attached.

Mike

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)
National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

On Wed, Jan 16, 2019 at 9:17 AM Martinez, Yanira <yanira_martinez@nps.gov> wrote:
Thank you sir, I just spoke to Jon Bergeron and he was waiting on the green light to proceed with the FLREA press release as well. He sent you and Mr. Barnum this one on Saturday, please find attached in case you missed. Thank you once again for your prompt response and all the great work that you are doing under these circumstances. And Hello Jeremy, Happy New Year!
Yanira

On Wed, Jan 16, 2019 at 10:10 AM Litterst, Michael <mike_litterst@nps.gov> wrote:
Yanira:

Attached is the draft, with some suggested edits.

Thanks!

Mike

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)
National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA
On Tue, Jan 15, 2019 at 3:08 PM Martinez, Yanira <yanira_martinez@nps.gov> wrote:

Good afternoon Sir,
Please find attached as requested.
I will wait for your response to proceed.
Thank you,

--
Yanira Martínez
Park Ranger
Management Assistant
Special Use Permits and Commercial Use Authorizations

787-729-6777 ext 241

"The greatest leader is not necessarily the one who does the greatest things. He is the one that gets the people to do the greatest things." --Ronald Reagan

"El más grande de los líderes no es necesariamente el que hace cosas grandiosas. El es quién hace que las personas hagan las cosas grandiosas" --Ronald Regan

Report a Crime: saju_tip_hotline@nps.gov
Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/SanJuanNPS
Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/sanjuannps/
Twitter: https://www.twitter.com/SanJuanNPS

--
Yanira Martinez
Park Ranger
Management Assistant
Special Use Permits and Commercial Use Authorizations

787-729-6777 ext 241

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"El más grande de los líderes no es necesariamente el que hace cosas grandiosas. El es quién hace que las personas hagan las cosas grandiosas" --Ronald Regan

Report a Crime: saju_tip_hotline@nps.gov
Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/SanJuanNPS
Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/sanjuannps/
Twitter: https://www.twitter.com/SanJuanNPS
I have mixed feelings. The person we would select would do well. He's articulate, and calm ... a long time Rocky employee, member of the park's Search and Rescue team and a veteran. So ... he would certainly provide a good NPS face to the public.

We would limit her time with him to 15 minutes and place parameters on the topics. It's a Wednesday in January so wouldn't expect a lot of visitors compared to this weekend. I would like to be responsive to her request. That said ... I also get what you are saying.

On Wed, Jan 16, 2019 at 6:12 AM Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:
I really don’t think it’s fair to put an employee who is not a PIO in a position like that. It’s essentially an hours-long interview.

I would suggest reminding the reporter that during the lapse in appropriations we are generally unable to accommodate interview requests except in cases of public safety, emergencies, etc. A majority of NPS/park employees have been furloughed. Those now on duty are focusing on health and safety issues, law enforcement operations, and additional staff returning from furlough using FLREA funds are restoring access to recently closed park areas and restoring limited basic visitor services. Under these circumstances it’s important that visitor information specialists are able to focus on that key function.

What do you think?

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service

On Jan 16, 2019, at 12:30 AM, Patterson, Kyle <kyle_patterson@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Jeremy,

I think the only way we should consider it is if we have the right person on tomorrow and ask Julie not to ask personal questions as to the staff member's opinion on the shutdown or how it is impacting them personally or comment on how others are dealing with it. Appreciate your thoughts!

--------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Turkewitz, Julie <julie@nytimes.com>
Date: Tue, Jan 15, 2019 at 10:27 PM
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] NYT, RMNP, Fee Booth
To: Patterson, Kyle <kyle_patterson@nps.gov>
Cc: Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Terrific.

Julie Turkewitz
The New York Times
301 928 5072

Thanks Julie. Let me check with some others in the morning to get their thoughts and I'll be back in touch.

On Tue, Jan 15, 2019 at 10:16 PM Turkewitz, Julie <julie@nytimes.com> wrote:

Kyle — exactly. I'm interested in sitting with an entrance station staff member for the morning or afternoon as they interact with the public and answer basic questions. It may sound a bit humdrum, but I bet there will be some interesting chit-chat between the staff and visitors, who may or may not have been aware that anyone would be there to help them out, and that a number of park services are now up and running. I'll also be interested in a bit of the staff member's story (what led him or her to work for the park service, that sort of thing).

Thanks so much.

Julie

On Tue, Jan 15, 2019 at 9:54 PM Patterson, Kyle <kyle_patterson@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Julie,

Just seeing your email. Can you give me some additional thoughts on what information you would be looking for? You mention you want to see what the work looks like. I'm interpreting that to mean seeing the interactions between our entrance station staff and the public?

On Tue, Jan 15, 2019 at 5:55 PM Turkewitz, Julie <julie@nytimes.com> wrote:

Kyle and Jeremy, thank you for your continued assistance in these current circumstances.

I spent the day at Rocky Mountain National Park and saw all the work that has been done over the past few days so that roads could be
reopened for visitors. I met quite a few grateful locals and tourists.

I’m writing to see if your team would be able to place me in a fee booth with one of your now-working park employees. (I realize these individuals are not taking fees, but rather providing tips.) As you can imagine, there is quite a bit of reader interest in the federal workers who are showing up for their jobs right now. We’re simply looking to show what that work looks like, and I could be at the park tomorrow (Weds.) to do this.

I hope we can do this. Happy to answer any questions.

Thank you,

Julie

Julie Turkewitz
The New York Times
301 928 5072

--

- Kyle

Kyle Patterson
Management Specialist/Public Affairs Officer
Rocky Mountain National Park
(970) 586-1363
www.nps.gov/romo
www.facebook.com/RockyNPS

--

Julie Turkewitz
National Correspondent
The New York Times
Denver Bureau
301 928 5072
@julieturkewitz
Dear Kristin,

Thanks for bringing this to my attention. I apologize for not getting back to you sooner - I am also furloughed and have been working about an hour a day just to check in with our staff to make sure that basic operations are moving forward and damage is being mitigated.

As you know, we received direction to address some of the resource issues that occurred in the park during the shutdown as well as provide a basic level of service that would allow visitors to continue to enjoy their parks. As of this weekend, our resource teams have documented:

- 13.01 miles of new OHV traffic in the park. Most of this has since been raked out. We have also used downed vegetation to help obscure some of these illegal roads to discourage other vehicles from using these routes.
- Staff has cleaned up 86 separate illegal campsites as well as their associated fire rings. In many of these sites, vegetation had been torn down in order to make campfires.
- We have three documented cases of Joshua Trees being cut down or damaged as a result of the shutdown. The first image that you shared with me is correct and is one of the trees that was cut down. The second image from Instagram is a windblown tree fall and is not associated with any vandalism that occurred since the shutdown.
- There are ten new incidents of graffiti in the park, one of which is at an archaeological site. These have not all been cleaned up yet.
- We have a number of separate incidents of theft of historic artifacts, graffiti on historic cars, and chiseling of rock holds.
- We have separate incidents of the removal of fencing, destruction of park signs, and destruction of gate locks.

We were able to bring on over a dozen resource specialists to remedy all of these issues. We are now winding down that operation and plan to leave two to four people on duty each day to address issues.

I hope this is helpful. As a reminder, I am furloughed so we are running most media inquiries up through our Washington office.

--
David Smith
Superintendent
Joshua Tree National Park

(760) 367-5501 - Office
(760) 401-7999 - Mobile
Hi Chris...thanks for the chat this morning. Please reach out to Ms. Angeline Jabbar, Legislative Director for Congresswoman Plaskett. Her number is 202-225-1790.

The outstanding inquiry concerns how many staff is the NPS going to dedicate during the shutdown to the Park trash clean-up, bathroom facilities, etc.

Thanks, Rob

Robert Howarth
Director, Office of Congressional Affairs
Office of Insular Affairs
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-4754 (direct)
(202) 208-4709 (office)
(202) 975-3030 (cell)

NOTE: Every email I send or receive is subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act.
Kurt M. Rausch  
Acting Chief, Commercial Services Program  
Washington Support Office  
National Park Service

202.513.7202 Office  
202.604.5558 Cell  
202.371.2090 Fax

Main Interior Building, Rm. 2221  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington DC  20240

To conserve resources, please consider whether it is necessary before printing this email.

On Wed, Jan 16, 2019 at 2:02 PM Rausch, Kurt <kurt_rausch@nps.gov> wrote:  
File for CFF.

Kurt  
Kurt M. Rausch  
Acting Chief, Commercial Services Program  
Washington Support Office  
National Park Service

202.513.7202 Office  
202.604.5558 Cell  
202.371.2090 Fax

Main Interior Building, Rm. 2221  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington DC  20240

To conserve resources, please consider whether it is necessary before printing this email.
Alex

Alexandra Picavet
Chief of Communications
Midwest Region of the
National Park Service
402-960-0688 cell
402-661-1840 office

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Bentley, Scott" <scott_bentley@nps.gov>
Date: January 16, 2019 at 10:44:56 AM CST
To: undisclosed-recipients:;
Subject: River Raisin National Battlefield Park to Restore Accessibility and Resume Basic Visitor Services

River Raisin National Battlefield Park to Restore Accessibility and Resume Basic Visitor Services

Monroe & Wayne Counties, Michigan – River Raisin National Battlefield Park Superintendent Scott J. Bentley announced today that areas of the Battlefield will remain accessible to visitors in coming days. Some visitor services including snow plowing of Battlefield parking lots, roads and primary trails, trash and litter cleanup, and basic cleaning will resume using revenue generated by recreation fees. Visitors should visit the park website at nps.gov/RIRA while planning their visit to get the latest information on accessibility and available services.

National Park Service officials have determined that recreation fee revenue collected under the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act may be used to immediately bring back park maintenance crews and contractors to plow parking lots, trails, sidewalks and roads; clean park grounds; and remove trash. This will allow the National Park Service to restore accessibility to the park for visitors while ensuring their health and safety.

Outdoor areas of the park will remain accessible. The visitor center in Monroe and all other National Park Service facilities will remain closed.

Annual Commemoration activities will be hosted by the River Raisin National Battlefield Park Foundation, Friends of the River Raisin Battlefield and City of Monroe on January 18th and 19th. All commemoration activities will take place on City of Monroe property...
located at 333 N. Dixie Highway in Monroe Michigan.

“We greatly appreciate the generous contributions of the City of Monroe, Wm. C. Sterling State Park, the River Raisin National Battlefield Park Foundation and the Friends of the River Raisin Battlefield who have provided assistance to the National Park Service during the lapse in appropriations,” said Superintendent Scott Bentley. “Their efforts have contributed significantly to our ability to restore access and basic services at River Raisin National Battlefield Park.”

While basic visitor services have been restored, other services may be limited or unavailable during the lapse in appropriations, including the visitor center, ranger talks and programs.

For updates on the shutdown, please visit www.doi.gov/shutdown.

www.nps.gov

River Raisin National Battlefield Park:

www.nps.gov/rira

River Raisin National Battlefield Park preserves, commemorates, and interprets the January 1813 battles of the War of 1812 and their aftermath in Monroe and Wayne counties in Southeast Michigan. The Battles of the River Raisin resulted in the greatest victory for Tecumseh’s Confederation and the greatest defeat for the United States during the War of 1812. Although American forces were victorious in the first battle, the second ended in what was described as a “national calamity” by then General William Henry Harrison, and later President of the United States. The battle cry, "Remember the Raisin!" inspired a massive U.S. victory at the Battle of the Thames, which sealed the War of 1812 in the western theater for the U.S., claimed the life of the great Shawnee War Chief, Tecumseh, and resulted in the end of the American Indian Confederation. The aftermath of the Battles resulted in the formation and implementation of Indian removal policies and laws at the conclusion of the War of 1812, an aftermath that continues to influence the United States today. For more in-depth information about the Battlefield please visit www.nps.gov/rira/ or www.battlefieldfoundation.org

About the National Park Service: More than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America’s 418 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. Visit us

-NPS-

Scott J. Bentley
Superintendent
River Raisin National Battlefield Park
1403 East Elm Avenue
Monroe, Michigan 48162

Visitor Center Phone: 734-243-7136
Office Phone: 734-639-2345

"He is no fool who gives that which he cannot keep to gain that which he cannot lose." Jim Elliott, 1948
Thanks, Alex!

Mike Litterst
Chief of Communications
National Mall and Memorial Parks

Ph: 202-245-4676
Cell: 202-306-4166

Sent from my iPad

On Jan 16, 2019, at 2:56 PM, Alexandra Picavet <alexandra_picavet@nps.gov> wrote:

Alex

Alexandra Picavet
Chief of Communications
Midwest Region of the National Park Service
402-960-0688 cell
402-661-1840 office

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Bentley, Scott" <scott_bentley@nps.gov>
Date: January 16, 2019 at 10:44:56 AM CST
To: undisclosed-recipients:;
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www.nps.gov

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www.nps.gov/rira

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War of 1812. Although American forces were victorious in the first battle, the second ended in what was described as a “national calamity” by then General William Henry Harrison, and later President of the United States. The battle cry, "Remember the Raisin!" inspired a massive U.S. victory at the Battle of the Thames, which sealed the War of 1812 in the western theater for the U.S., claimed the life of the great Shawnee War Chief, Tecumseh, and resulted in the end of the American Indian Confederation. The aftermath of the Battles resulted in the formation and implementation of Indian removal policies and laws at the conclusion of the War of 1812, an aftermath that continues to influence the United States today. For more in-depth information about the Battlefield please visit www.nps.gov/rira/ or www.battlefieldfoundation.org

About the National Park Service: More than 20,000 National Park Service employees care for America’s 418 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. Visit us at www.nps.gov, on Facebook www.facebook.com/nationalparkservice, Twitter www.twitter.com/natlparkservice, and YouTube www.youtube.com/nationalparkservice. -NPS-

Scott J. Bentley
Superintendent
River Raisin National Battlefield Park
1403 East Elm Avenue
Monroe, Michigan 48162

Visitor Center Phone: 734-243-7136
Office Phone: 734-639-2345

"He is no fool who gives that which he cannot keep to gain that which he cannot lose." Jim Elliott, 1948

<mime-attachment.html>

<2019_1_16_RIRA_Restores_Services.docx>

<2019_1_16_RIRA_Restores_Services.pdf>

<mime-attachment.html>
Subject: Fwd: Shutdown temporary closure request - GRSM

Making sure others are aware of this request from GRSM to close a road on Thursday for hazardous tree removal.

Mike

Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)
National Park Service

Chief of Communications
National Mall and Memorial Parks

Cell: 202-306-4166

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Chris Abbett <chris_abbett@nps.gov>
Date: January 16, 2019 at 12:07:29 PM EST
To: mike_litterst@nps.gov
Subject: Fwd: Shutdown closure request

FYI

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Vogel, Bob" <bob_vogel@nps.gov>
Date: January 16, 2019 at 12:06:13 PM EST
To: Joe Pond <joe_pond@nps.gov>
Cc: Chris Abbett <chris_abbett@nps.gov>, Lance Hatten <lance_hatten@nps.gov>, Ed Buskirk <ed_buskirk@nps.gov>
Subject: Re: Shutdown closure request
We are fine with that, but please be sure to update the change in ops spreadsheet and work with Mike Litterst to ensure proper public notice.

Robert A. Vogel  
Regional Director  
Southeast Region  
National Park Service  
(404) 507-5604  
bob_vogel@nps.gov

On Wed, Jan 16, 2019 at 11:58 AM Joe Pond <joe_pond@nps.gov> wrote:

I am requesting permission to close the Foothills Parkway “bypass” on Thursday January 17, 2019, from approximately 0900-1400 hours for maintenance staff to perform hazardous tree removal during that time.

The “Bypass” is a two lane road which bypasses the City of Gatlinburg TN. This road is heavily used locally and opening and maintaining this road was part of our FLREA Basic Services approved plan. Alternate routes of travel are available through the City of Gatlinburg.

Thank you for your consideration.

Joe Pond  
Chief Ranger (acting)  
Great Smoky Mountains National Park  
828-497-1918 o  
828-506-3015 c
Hi Lena,

If called back, Shelagh would be assisting with training for the agencies that have not been impacted by the partial shutdown, primarily the 500+ sites that the Army Corps manages.

Chris

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 16, 2019, at 3:37 PM, McDowall, Lena <lena_mcdowall@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Chris -

I'll get you guidance on payroll as soon as I have it. Rick, Amy and Jolene should use a regular work 010 code along with their normal rec fee funded account code. You'll use a FLREA account code for the hours that you've worked as well, but I'm waiting on the exact code from the Budget office. Give me a call to discuss Shelagh. In general, we have not been authorizing training under the basic services we're restoring under FLREA. I'd have to understand what activities she's needed for to provide direct support for exempted activities.

Thanks,

Lena

On Wed, Jan 16, 2019 at 1:29 PM Williamson, Christine <chris_williamson@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Lena,

Will you please let me know what I need to do for payroll for this pay period? Myself and two others (Carol and Maria) worked some this payperiod to provide information that Jessica requested. I also have three people - Rick, Amy, and Jolene that were "Exempted" to continue working and supporting Recreation.gov. If possible I would like to call Shelagh Forester back as well since she has been on detail to Recreation.gov leading the training effort.

All of these individuals, with the exception of myself, are paid out of FLREA Capacity accounts, so I think we can use our regular accounts. I understand that time not worked should be coded as 105 Furlough, but is there a special code for time worked?

Thanks, Chris

Christine Williamson
Fee Program Manager
National Recreation Fee Program
The organizers of the Women's March sent an email blast this morning updating their plans to attendees and media:

"Our original plan was to gather at the National Mall, march past the White House, and rally at Constitution Gardens. But D.C. is expecting more snow on Thursday. Because of the shutdown, National Park Service isn't plowing either of those locations, and they're using the streets around the White House as snow emergency routes.

They wanted us to cancel the march altogether. We told them we were marching with or without their permission, and we secured a permit to march on Pennsylvania Avenue, past the Trump International Hotel."

In response, we are replying to inquiries with the following statement, approved by the Department and Park Police:

"Any assertion that the National Park Service has encouraged any organizer to cancel their First Amendment demonstration is patently false. For generations, Americans have come to the National Mall to exercise their Constitutionally-guaranteed rights to assemble and be heard. The National Park Service has been clear that, despite the partial government shutdown, our process would protect those fundamental rights by processing applications for First Amendment events that had been submitted prior to lapse of appropriations. Permits for First Amendment demonstrations that are currently being processed include the Indigenous Peoples March, March for Life, and Women’s March."
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Creachbaum, Sarah" <sarah_creachbaum@nps.gov>
Date: January 16, 2019 at 6:41:15 PM EST
To: "Bowron, Jessica" <jessica_bowron@nps.gov>
Cc: Kim Gagliolo <Kim_Gagliolo@nps.gov>, Andrew Munoz <andrew_munoz@nps.gov>, Rene Buehl <rene_buehl@nps.gov>
Subject: Donation Agreement (in kind) DEVA and DEVA Lodging Company

Jessica

Please find attached the in-kind donation agreement with the Death Valley Lodging Company and DEVA to provide custodial services, garbage removal, and restroom supplies through January 31. The agreement was previously reviewed at the Regional level on Friday, January 11; however it seems to have been missed and was not forwarded to WASO for approval. We apologize.

Sarah

--
M. Sarah Creachbaum
Acting Deputy Regional Director -Public Use Management
NPS Pacific West Region
333 Bush Street, Suite 500
San Francisco, CA 94101-2828
(415) 623- 2106
Thanks Ray.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 16, 2019, at 6:49 PM, Raymond Sauvajot <ray_sauvajot@nps.gov> wrote:

Yes, all sounds very good. I’ll do my best to continue assisting, as needed.

Enjoy your time unplugged!

Clara, anything you need from my end in the near term, don’t hesitate to track me down. I’m furloughed but continue to track this issue. Also, feel free to use my personal cell, if needed: (b) (6) .

Thanks much!

Ray

Sent from my iPhone

Raymond M. Sauvajot, Ph.D.
Associate Director
Natural Resource Stewardship and Science
National Park Service
Washington, DC

202-354-6992 (office)
202-480-5652 (mobile)

ray_sauvajot@nps.gov

On Jan 16, 2019, at 6:25 PM, Kenkel, Craig <craig_kenkel@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Ray,

Yes, you make sense; I fully agree.

I spoke with Phyllis following our talk, and just had a call with
Jessica. I counseled Phyllis that these projects must proceed linearly. By that I mean 1) get WASO approval for one or both projects, assuming the scopes of work and cost estimates are accurate; 2) work through all logistics so everything is ready when there is a window of opportunity for wolves relocation; 3) do the work.

Whatever support you and your staff provide to either project must be included so everyone is in exempted status, meaning you all get paid with donated funds. Neither of these projects are essential shutdown work, nor do they qualify for FLREA basic services supporting visitor access and related resource protection (that may be something else you need to catch up on?). Thus, anyone and everyone who might work on these projects should be paid to do so.

Also, let's not forget Operational Leadership; the rush to get ready makes us vulnerable to someone getting hurt.

Phyllis agreed to stand down until there's a green light from WASO. I think the green light now needs to be both for donation agreement approval and your technical approval.

Sound good?

I've copied Clara Wooden, acting Midwest Deputy Regional Director, as she will be in-charge here in Omaha this Thursday through next Monday. I'm unplugging for a few days.

Thanks, everyone!

Craig

Craig Kenkel
Acting Regional Director
Midwest Region
National Park Service
601 Riverfront Drive
Omaha, NE 68102
402-661-1520 office
440-668-2230 mobile
craig_kenkel@nps.gov

On Wed, Jan 16, 2019 at 4:27 PM Raymond Sauvajot <ray_sauvajot@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Craig,

Thanks for the info here. My whole staff (except one public health officer) are on furlough, so my biggest concern is if/how I can mobilize NRSS folks from Fort Collins to implement these
projects. Folks would need to come off furlough, get salaries covered, and go into travel status (via federal T.A., I assume) to work on either project. Not sure if/what is needed from NRSS for the winter study, but can try to figure that out from these materials or from Phyllis. Regardless, I’m letting folks know that there’s no way we can mobilize NRSS folks to fly to Canada in the next 48 hours, but perhaps with more prep time, a future window might be possible (but still lots of logistic issues to work out). Also, since I’m not officially working, I haven’t been in the loop on partnership project approvals. I have expressed my concerns about the logistics and timing to Obe and Danny, but I don’t know if anything was actually “approved” by WASO. I have a call into Jessica, but haven’t heard back. Bottom line from me is that we can’t make the wolf capture happen by end of week (at least for the NRSS staff component), but perhaps options down the line. Make sense?

Ray

P.S. I sent a quick note to Phyllis, too, letting her know that end of week was not possible from NRSS perspective.

Sent from my iPad

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Raymond M. Sauvajot, Ph.D.
Associate Director
Natural Resource Stewardship and Science
National Park Service
Washington, DC

202-354-6992 office
202-480-5652 mobile

ray_sauvajot@nps.gov

On Jan 16, 2019, at 4:47 PM, Kenkel, Craig <craig_kenkel@nps.gov> wrote:

As discussed.

Craig Kenkel
Acting Regional Director
Midwest Region
National Park Service
601 Riverfront Drive
Omaha, NE 68102
402-661-1520 office
--------- Forwarded message --------
From: Kenkel, Craig <craig_kenkel@nps.gov>
Date: Mon, Jan 14, 2019 at 3:57 PM
Subject: ISRO Donor Agreements for Two Projects: Canadian Wolves Relocation and 2019 Wolves Winter Study
To: Bowron, Jessica <jessica_bowron@nps.gov>, Rick Obernesser <rick_obernesser@nps.gov>, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>, Chris Powell <Chris_Powell@nps.gov>
Cc: Alexandra Picavet <Alexandra_Picavet@nps.gov>, Green, Phyllis <phyllis_green@nps.gov>

WASO Leaders,

Here are the donor agreements, estimates, partner background information and a draft press release for two ISRO projects - one to relocate Canadian wolves to the park and another for the 2019 winter wolf study. The park will remain, as always, in winter closure to the public, but these projects support the mitigation of vegetative degradation on the island and determining the success and future management of wolf populations.

Superintendent Phyllis Green has done excellent work leveraging partner support to advance these critical natural resource protection projects during the shutdown. Should you have questions about either project, please call Phyllis at her mobile # (b) (6)

Thank you,

Craig

Craig Kenkel
Acting Regional Director
Midwest Region
National Park Service
601 Riverfront Drive
Omaha, NE 68102
402-661-1520 office
440-668-2230 mobile
craig_kenkel@nps.gov
Hi Craig, attached for forwarding to the department are three documents to support our first priority agreement 1: transfer wolves from Canada; agreement 2: allow winter study to occur and obtain information on status of wolves on the island and a draft newsrelease from the foundation announcing the weather dependent wolf relocation. Also included are spreadsheets for cost documentation and a potential newsrelease from the partner.

Funding for both agreements (wolf relocation and winter study) is in hand for a transfer however they are submitted separately so they can be reviewed on their own merit. How much background you share with WASO is your choice, but I wanted to apprise you of past negotiations.

Background: from 2016-2017 we had worked with Rolf and MTU to establish a fundraising agreement that included the university raising funds for the NPS costs of winter study. They declined to finalize the agreement when they determined if they did not add that task to their fundraising- they could continue to raise funds independently for university. Fortunately for Rolf, the Foundation which has an overarching agreement for fundraising approved in December 2018, and is willing to sign for the attached to agreements. The Foundation does have our mission at heart and is working directly with Rolf to ensure NPS needs are met.

Beyond this actual relocation event financing, which is ready for transfer, the Foundation intends to continue is fundraising using crowd sourcing, and internet appeals to help defray future costs of this project to the government per its original approved fundraising goals. The visibility of this project should enhance public awareness and support for the stewardship of the Isle Royale National Park ecosystem. If we could recieve confirmation or denial within the next 24 hours, and electronic transfer codes for money we could make the wolf relocation happen in the first weather window which appears to open up on this coming weekend. Your support and advice has been much appreciated. If one or both of these projects are approved
we should have a short call at your convenience tomorrow to go over the project.

Alex, if winter study is approved the foundation not Rolf will develop a second newsrelease for review. You and I can talk as to whether we should do anything from NPS. I'm fine with partners in lead and when we have the event occur put our the newsrelease we worked on before the holidays.

Note the 2019-20 agreement was verbally approved 12/18/18 by all superintendents but paper work is buried in closed offices. I have what I signed, it is the last document attached.

--
Phyllis Green
Isle Royale National Park
800 East Lakeshore Drive
Houghton, MI 49931
906-487-7140
Park General Number: 906-482-0984

<National Parks of Lake Superior Foundation Newsrelease.docx>

<Requested background on ISRO partnership.docx>

<ISRO Wolves Relocation Donor Agreement 2019 Shutdown.docx>

<ISRO Wolves Relocation Cost Estimate-2019 Shutdown.xlsx>

<ISRO Wolves Winter Study Donor Agreement.docx>

<ISRO Wolves Winter Study Cost Estimate-2019 Shutdown.xlsx>
DOI Colleagues,

Please see below question from E&E and our proposed response for your review.

The reporter says he is on a 10:30 deadline.

**Question:** Would you like to respond to this comment from Mr. Jarvis speaking to a group of House Dems?

“In my conversations with folks that are in the field, there is an element of fear that has been conveyed down that you'll be punished if you speak out, certainly if you speak to the press. And all decisions related to parks are being made at the departmental level and coming back down to the superintendents.”

**Answer:** Park superintendents and managers have and continue to make sound decisions according to their on-the-ground expertise and in the context of the National Park Service contingency plan and related Secretarial Memorandum (both are attached). Park managers have closed areas due to weather, health and sanitation issues, and damage to park resources. In many cases, park managers have been able to bring back staff to cleanup and restore access to those areas using recreation fee revenue. Washington has reviewed those plans to ensure that they follow all relevant rules and regulations.

During the lapse in appropriations the National Park Service (NPS) has encouraged parks to continue to provide information via media and on social media platforms regarding current conditions, health, and safety at parks as appropriate. Parks have also been encouraged to provide the public updates on changes in accessibility and services at parks.

Since the beginning of the lapse the National Park Service employees at all levels have generally been unable to accommodate interview requests except in cases of public safety, emergencies, etc. A majority of NPS employees have been furloughed. Those still on duty have focused on health and safety issues, law enforcement operations, and additional staff returning from furlough using FLREA funds are restoring access to recently closed park areas and restoring limited basic visitor services.

Per Department of the Interior Departmental Manual, Part 470, Public Communications, General Policy and Procedures (effective 03/07/2012) DOI bureaus must establish clear processes for interview and media request approvals. Washington should be notified in advance of any media interviews, media requests or contacts that may involve significant policy announcements or that may generate significant news coverage, public interest or inquiry.
Washington then works closely with park, program, and regional communicators to determine an appropriate response and/or interview opportunity, utilizing the park or program’s knowledge and expertise.

This same guidance applied during the lapse in appropriations in 2013 and during normal operations.

I’m sharing below a few highlighted references from the longstanding guidance.

---
https://www.doi.gov/elips/browse
Department of the Interior
Departmental Manual

Effective Date: 03/07/2012
Series: Information
Part 470: Public Communications
Chapter 1: General Policy and Procedures

Originating Office: Office of Communications

470 DM 1

1.1 Purpose. This chapter establishes the policy and procedures governing the official public communications of employees at the Department of the Interior (DOI) and identifies the laws, regulations and standards governing other public communications of DOI employees regarding the programs, operations or activities of the Department.

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Page 6 under C. Employees
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(7) Following Departmental, bureau or office procedures regarding official public communications; and
Referring questions to the OCO that have the potential to generate significant media coverage, public interest or inquiry, particularly those involving more than one bureau or office;

Ensuring the accuracy of public communications that do not require OCO concurrence by providing for review prior to release by scientists, scholars, engineers or other subject matter experts;

Providing guidance to employees for the coordination of public affairs and communications activities as part of their official duties, consistent with this chapter;

Providing guidance to employees on other public communications regarding programs, operations or activities of the Department, consistent with this chapter;

Monitoring and managing the content employees publish on blogs, wikis, social networking websites, or other forms of social media in their official capacity.

Providing guidance to employees on the use of social media, the intranet and web postings, consistent with Departmental social media policy and this chapter;

--- Forwarded message ---

**Official Communications Review/Approval Process**

**B. Bureaus must establish clear processes for interview and media request approvals.** OCO must be notified in advance of any media interviews, media requests or contacts that may involve significant policy announcements or that may generate significant news coverage, public interest or inquiry.

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“In my conversations with folks that are in the field, there is an element of fear that has been conveyed down that you’ll be punished if you speak out, certainly if you speak to the press. And all decisions related to parks are being made at the departmental level and coming back down to the superintendents.”

Rob Hotakainen
National parks, oceans and fisheries reporter
E&EE NEWS
rhotakainen@eenews.net
202-446-0477
Twitter: @HotakainenRob
122 C Street NW, 7th floor, Washington, DC, 20001
www.eenews.net | @EENewsUpdates
Greenwire, E&E Daily, E&E News PM, Climatewire, Energywire

On Jan 16, 2019, at 9:07 PM, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Do you have actual quotes from Jon Jarvis for which you are looking to get a response?

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service

On Jan 16, 2019, at 7:13 PM, Rob Hotakainen <rhotakainen@eenews.net> wrote:

Hi Jeremy, Jon Jarvis told House Dems yesterday that there’s an “element of fear” facing Park superintendents who’ve been told they’ll be punished for speaking to the press. He also said all decisions involving parks are now being made at the departmental level and then conveyed to supt — as example, he said Joshua tree supt wanted to shut down park only to be overruled by Washington. He says the current situation is very different from the past, when NPS was more transparent and supts were urged to be accessible to reporters. Writing for Greenwire tomorrow. If you’d like to comment please let me know by 10:30 am tomorrow. Thanks, rob

Rob Hotakainen
Thanks Jeremy.

From: Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Sent: Thursday, January 17, 2019 10:41 AM
To: Rob Hotakainen <rhotakainen@eenews.net>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Question

Park superintendents and managers have and continue to make sound decisions according to their on-the-ground expertise and in the context of the National Park Service contingency plan and related Secretarial Memorandum (both are attached).

Parks have remained accessible to the American public during the lapse in appropriations while still following all applicable laws and procedures. Park managers have in some cases closed areas due to weather, health and sanitation issues, and damage to park resources. In many cases, park managers have been able to bring back staff to cleanup and restore access to those areas using recreation fee revenue. Washington has reviewed those plans to ensure that they follow all relevant rules and regulations.

During the lapse in appropriations the National Park Service (NPS) has encouraged parks to continue to provide information via media and on social media platforms regarding current conditions, health, and safety at parks as appropriate. Parks have also been encouraged to provide the public updates on changes in accessibility and services at parks.

Since the beginning of the lapse the National Park Service employees at all levels have generally been unable to accommodate interview requests except in cases of public safety, emergencies, etc. A majority of NPS employees have been furloughed. Those still on duty have focused on health and safety issues, law enforcement operations, and additional staff returning from furlough using FLREA funds are restoring access to recently closed park areas and restoring limited basic visitor services.

Per Department of the Interior Departmental Manual, Part 470, Public Communications, General Policy and Procedures, effective since 03/07/2012, including during the lapse in appropriations in 2013 and during normal operations, DOI bureaus must establish clear processes for interview and media request approvals. Washington should be notified in advance of any media interviews, media requests or contacts that may involve significant policy announcements or that may generate significant news coverage, public interest or inquiry.
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Page 5 under B. Bureaus and Offices
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L. The Director, OCO may issue instructions to bureau public affairs and information officers to carry out the assigned responsibilities of OCO.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

---

On Wed, Jan 16, 2019 at 9:21 PM Rob Hotakainen <rhotakainen@eenews.net> wrote:

Yes, would you like to respond to this comment from Mr. Jarvis speaking to a group of House Dems?

“In my conversations with folks that are in the field, there is an element of fear that has been conveyed down that you’ll be punished if you speak out, certainly if you speak to the press. And all decisions related to parks are being made at the departmental level and coming back down to the superintendents.”
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Thank you.

On Thu, Jan 17, 2019 at 11:05 AM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Thanks, Kate. We included a line on park accessibility and spoke with Bockmier before responding to the reporter.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Thu, Jan 17, 2019 at 10:30 AM MacGregor, Katharine <katharine_macgregor@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Bockmier? Only thing missing is something in the first paragraph about how, unlike other shutdown scenarios, many parks have remained open for visitors during this shutdown.

On Thu, Jan 17, 2019 at 10:03 AM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

DOI Colleagues,

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Page 7 under 1.6  Official Communications Review/Approval Process

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Jeremy K. Barnum
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National Park Service
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Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

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From: Rob Hotakainen <rhotakainen@eenews.net>
Date: Wed, Jan 16, 2019 at 9:21 PM
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Question
To: Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>

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Rob Hotakainen
National parks, oceans and fisheries reporter
E&E NEWS
rhotakainen@eenews.net
202-446-0477
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National Park Service

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Rob Hotakainen  
National parks, oceans and fisheries reporter  
E&E NEWS  
rhotakainen@eenews.net  
202-446-0477  
Twitter: @HotakainenRob  
122 C Street NW, 7th floor, Washington, DC, 20001  
www.eenews.net | @EENewsUpdates  
Greenwire, E&E Daily, E&E News PM, Climatewire, Energywire

--  
Kate MacGregor  
Deputy Chief of Staff  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C ST NW  
Room 6625  
Washington DC 20240
Sure

Robert A. Vogel  
Regional Director  
Southeast Region  
National Park Service  
(404) 507-5604  
bob_vogel@nps.gov

On Thu, Jan 17, 2019 at 1:03 PM Christine Powell <chris_powell@nps.gov> wrote:

Bob,

Do you want to handle this at the region or park level? Thanks.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Howarth, Robert" <robert_g_howarth@ios.doi.gov>  
Date: January 16, 2019 at 1:26:12 PM EST  
To: Christine Powell <chris_powell@nps.gov>  
Cc: Dwayne Petersen <dwayne_petersen@ios.doi.gov>  
Subject: V.I. National Park

Hi Chris...thanks for the chat this morning. Please reach out to Ms. Angeline Jabbar, Legislative Director for Congresswoman Plaskett. Her number is 202-225-1790.

The outstanding inquiry concerns how many staff is the NPS going to dedicate during the shutdown to the Park trash clean-up, bathroom facilities, etc.

Thanks, Rob

Robert Howarth  
Director, Office of Congressional Affairs  
Office of Insular Affairs  
Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC  20240  
(202) 208-4754 (direct)  
(202) 208-4709 (office)  
(202) 975-3030 (cell)
NOTE: Every email I send or receive is subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act.
Hi, Sintia!

If you’re excepted and working, feel free to reply to the reporter directly. Questions a and C we’re not able to speculate on.

Mike

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief of Public Affairs and Chief Spokesperson (acting)
National Park Service
Cell: (202) 306-4166

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 17, 2019, at 1:13 PM, Kawasaki-Yee, Sintia <sintia_kawasaki-yee@nps.gov> wrote:

Forwarding as directed.

I can supply a couple of these answers if you’d like me to.

Thank you,
Sintia

Sintia C. Kawasaki-Yee
Public Affairs Officer
Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks
Office: 559-565-3131 | Mobile: 559-679-2866 | Main Park Line: 559-565-3341
Find us online: www.nps.gov/seki | Facebook, Twitter, Instagram: @sequoiakingsnps

--------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Yeager, Joshua <JYeager@timesdeltamediagroup.com>
Date: Thu, Jan 17, 2019 at 10:05 AM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] VTD: FLREA funding questions
To: sintia_kawasaki-yee@nps.gov <sintia_kawasaki-yee@nps.gov>

Hey Sintia,

Josh here from Times-Delta.
I’m not sure if you’re still working during the furlough. I had a few questions related to FLREA funding and park staffing following the parks’ soft re-opening.

A. How long do you expect FLREA funding to last should the government fail to reopen? What happens when it runs out?

B. Can you give a number for how many rangers and park staff are on-duty during the soft closure compared to normal staffing levels?

C. How much do you estimate the parks have lost in entry fees since the Dec. 22 shutdown?

D. Have there been any incidents or reports of Giant Sequoias being damaged by visitor activity?

E. Following this week’s ‘blockbuster’ storm, will crews be available to clear roads?

Feel free to give me a call at 901-8328 if that’s easier. Thanks!

Josh Yeager

Mobile: 559-901-8328

Office: 559-735-3282

jyeager@gannett.com

www.visaliatimesdelta.com
Kelly Fox
National Park Service
Staff Assistant
Office of Deputy Director, Operations
1849 C Street NW, Room 3311
Washington, DC 20240
202-354-1821 (office)
Lisa,

Here is the combined document, the dates are good, and the money matches the daily estimator. You signature is on page 6.

No need to talk Today. We questioned some language in the main agreement about being open to the public but decided to defer to your guidance of not changing or eliminating anything.

So the everything is ready. The other agreements for EN and FTS will come in tomorrow and I will give you advanced warning. FTS has agreed to do two weeks as did EN.

NAMA may be having more volunteer groups coming in soon.

Linda

Linda Lutz-Ryan
Regional Chief of Interpretation and Education
National Capital Region
303-681-4073 Cell
202-619-7245 Work
Andrea,

Kelly red lined the revisions to the plan per your request. The non-red lined version is also attached.

Chris
Christine Powell
Acting Chief of Staff
(o) 202-513-7181
(c) 202-878-2309
Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Riggs, Tara <tara_riggs@nps.gov>
Date: Wed, Jan 16, 2019 at 5:51 PM
Subject: Fwd: 2019 ZION Shuttle Service Funding
To: Bowron, Jessica <jessica_bowron@nps.gov>
Cc: Rick Frost <Rick_Frost@nps.gov>, Katharine Hammond <kate_hammond@nps.gov>, Melinda Martinez <melinda_martinez@nps.gov>, Tracy Thetford <tracy_thetford@nps.gov>

Jessica - I wanted to make you aware of an issue we are facing at ZION with the shuttle service contract. If possible, could we set up a short call in the coming days to discuss options during the lapse of appropriations to start shuttle service again on February 16th. Thanks,
Tara

Tara Riggs
Associate Regional Director
Business & Technology
NPS, Intermountain Region
Office: (303) 969-2544
Cell: (303) 501-2292

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Gallegos, Tammy <tammy_gallegos@nps.gov>
Date: Wed, Jan 16, 2019 at 11:11 AM
Subject: Fwd: 2019 ZION Shuttle Service Funding
To: Riggs, Tara <tara_riggs@nps.gov>, Melinda Dominguez <melinda_martinez@nps.gov>

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Arrington, Philip <philip_arrington@nps.gov>
Date: Wed, Jan 16, 2019 at 11:08 AM
Subject: 2019 ZION Shuttle Service Funding
To: Gallegos, Tammy <tammy_gallegos@nps.gov>, Sherry Packard
Tammy and Sherry,

Thanks in advance for any assistance you can provide ZION regarding 2019 shuttle service.

Of note:

- The park doesn't have funding approval/a PR for 2019 shuttle service. PMIS Project #219212B
- The park in conjunction with the IMR Transportation Planner, submitted its 2019 Alternative Transportation System Pro Forma for WASO approval on December 19, 2019 (per attached correspondence). On December 21, 2019 a reply was received noting a meeting would need to occur between the park, IMR, and WASO before approval could occur (in addition to some needed Pro Forma edits) per attached correspondence.
- 2019 weekend shuttle service is scheduled to begin on February 16, 2019 with full service (7 days per week) beginning on March 9, 2019.

Due to the government shutdown, the requested meeting between the park, IMR, and WASO offices is unable to occur to obtain WASO concurrence/approval for PMIS Project #219212B. As such, the park is requesting assistance with this project approval so that it can submit a PR to ensure service interruptions do not occur. Failure to get this project approved could drastically impair the parks ability to stay open. Funding amount for this project is $4,440,852.53.

Sincerely,

Philip Arrington
Concession Management Specialist
Zion National Park
(435) 772-0210

--

Tammy K. Gallegos
Regional Chief of Contracting, Financial Assistance, Property and Requisition Program
National Park Service - Intermountain Region
505-988-6085 (office) ~~ 505-231-2836 (cell)

IMR Contracting and Financial Assistance Share Point Site:
http://share.inside.nps.gov/sites/imrtranet/Business/IMRContracting/default.aspx
IMR Regional Requisition Program Share Point Site:
http://share.inside.nps.gov/sites/IMR/Requisitions/SitePages/Home.aspx

IMPORTANT: This e-mail, including attachments, constitute Federal Government records and property that is intended only for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed. It also may contain information that is privileged, confidential, or otherwise protected from disclosure under applicable law. If the reader of this e-mail transmission is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, copying or use of this email or its contents is strictly prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender by responding to this e-mail and then delete the e-mail immediately.
This is the draft Manchin response—we will use the similar wording for the King response. We were asked by Kate to provide more details than we had in the first draft. I have also included the incoming.

Thanks,
Chris

Christine Powell
Acting Chief of Staff
(o) 202-513-7181
(c) 202-878-2309
Below are summaries of parks that are requesting FLREA funding for special projects. We've asked them not to put them in the cost estimator, and instead try to give us some basic details on the estimated costs, justification, etc. Let me know what you think.

Grand Canyon Indian Garden pump project - expected total personnel costs of approx $85 for the construction project management, and approx $132k for the park helicopter/facilities maintenance team support over the duration of the contract (9 months est, detail attached). As a reminder, they're down to one of three pumps functioning, so they'd like to move forward with the pump replacement project to improve reliability for their water system. The South Rim isn't functional for long if the last pump goes down.

Olympic - a tree hit the roof a week ahead of the shutdown, and while they put some temp measures in place ahead of the lapse, they're not sure the tarp is holding up after a month. The estimated construction cost is $25k - add'l support would be minimal, as construction duration is estimated at a week.

San Juan - estimated at $40k to complete emergency repairs to the main door at el morro, a water line break, wall failure, manhole hatch failure, and water pump replacement. Some of these repairs are proceeding as emergency work to protect life and property, but the park is requesting FLREA funding for them to pay their staff. Please note, the region let me know that several cruise lines are interested in donating additional funds to support operations at the fort, so ensuring continued visitor access would allow the benefit of those donations.

Andersonville - more than 15,000 wreaths were placed at Andersonville on the headstones on Dec 15; they are supposed to stay on the graves through Jan 21. They are real, and will continue to deteriorate if left on the headstones. The park is requesting $7k for an all-hands one-day effort to remove and dispose of the wreaths. Its not a continuing weekly cost, more of a special project (somewhat akin to the National Christmas Tree takedown)

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329
FYI - would be interesting to chat about this

Jennifer A. Mummart  
Associate Regional Director - Communications 
National Capital Region 
National Park Service 
(202) 619-7174

------------ Forwarded message -----------
From: Accokeek Foundation <outreach@accokeek.org> 
Date: Fri, Jan 11, 2019 at 4:25 PM 
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Piscataway Park Shutdown Stories 
To: <jennifer_mummart@nps.gov>

January 2019 
THE JOURNAL E-NEWS 
Join Today!
SHUTDOWN STORIES

National Parks across the country are feeling the effects of the government shutdown. Trespassing, over-flowing facilities, and tons of trash building up threaten to impact park ecosystems well past the end of the shutdown, to say nothing of the impact on park service employees and their families.

So how is Piscataway Park faring compared to its sister park sites?

Piscataway Park will come through the shutdown largely unscathed, and that is thanks to the unique partnership between the National Park Service (NPS) and the Accokeek Foundation.

As guardian of the park, the Accokeek Foundation spends every day caring for the plants, animals, and people that call this space home. We maintain the nature trails, manage visitor services, educate students, clean up trash along the shoreline, and tell the stories of the land. And because we are an independent, non-profit partner of NPS, we can continue this important work even during the shutdown.

But the shutdown reminds us just how important the support of the community is to everything we do.

The generosity of our donors and private funders is the reason we are open today, and will remain open throughout the shutdown. We rely on these contributions every day, but they are especially important during times when government funding may be uncertain.

You can support Piscataway Park during the shutdown by donating to the Accokeek Foundation today.
Thank you for loving this special place as much as we do.

DONATE TODAY

tidying up: this trash does NOT spark joy

Yesterday, Foundation staff headed to the Accokeek Creek boardwalk to do some much needed shoreline clean-up. With record rainfall this year, a large amount of litter has been deposited in Piscataway Park wetlands from storm water run-off. In just under an hour, we managed to fill six bags and pull several bulk items from the Potomac. Each day we spend on the river reminds us of the urgent need to reduce the amount of waste we each create.
A small portion of the single-use plastic straws found along the shoreline.

Staff members Deanna and Kaylin are joined by Meghan, a senior at St. Mary's College of Maryland.

The amount of plastic bottles in the wetlands was staggering—an effect of record rainfalls.

There's still a lot of work to do. And every day more trash washes down to the Potomac. If you want to help, follow us on Facebook for updates on future clean-up efforts in Piscataway Park.

Save the Date!

Lattes with Lambs
April 6

Spend the morning with with the newest additions to the barnyard while enjoying coffee and donuts!

Activities include sheep shearing demonstrations, wool crafting, kids games, and of course, Sir Nigel—everyone's favorite Hog Island wether.

It's our cutest event of the year...

Learn More

Accokeek Foundation
301-283-2113
info@accokeek.org
accokeekfoundation.org

Connect with us

Accokeek Foundation | 3400 Bryan Point Road, Accokeek, MD 20607

Unsubscribe jennifer_mummart@nps.gov
Update Profile | About our service provider
Sent by outreach@accokeek.org in collaboration with
Lisa,

We changed the language and all the numbers correlate.

FTS is in your email to sign.

Once they get their partner signatures I will post them.

Linda

Linda Lutz-Ryan
Regional Chief of Interpretation and Education
National Capital Region
303-681-4073 Cell
202-619-7245 Work
Hi all, here are the revised drafts for the Manchin and King responses.

Kelly Fox
National Park Service
Staff Assistant
Office of Deputy Director, Operations
1849 C Street NW, Room 3311
Washington, DC 20240
202-354-1821 (office)

On Fri, Jan 18, 2019 at 2:04 PM Powell, Christine <chris.powell@nps.gov> wrote:
Hold on this version--another one coming.

Christine Powell
Acting Chief of Staff
(o) 202-513-7181
(c) 202-878-2309

On Fri, Jan 18, 2019 at 12:49 PM Powell, Christine <chris.powell@nps.gov> wrote:
Andrea,

Attached is the revised response. Jon Tanner approved the revisions and also approved the signature at Dan's level. Kate was also fine with having Dan sign the letter, but she wants to see the full package again.

We are now using this response letter to revise the King letter.

Chris
Christine Powell
Acting Chief of Staff
(o) 202-513-7181
(c) 202-878-2309
Looks good to me. I will submit this reply.

Charles Richardson  
Supervisory Human Resources Officer  
National Capital Region  
Office 202-619-7216  
Cell 202-631-0037  
Fax 202-619-7240  
"TEAM" Together Everyone Accomplishes the Mission

(Please take a moment and complete the attached survey below; your comments are important; thank you)

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WM2VMDX

NPS Employee Center (Check this HR Site out for more Information)  
https://sites.google.com/a/nps.gov/employeecenter/

"If you are going to achieve excellence in big things, you must develop the habit in little matters. Excellence is not an exception; it is a prevailing attitude." "Colin Powell"

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION: This email and any attachments contain confidential and/or legally privileged information intended only for the use of individual(s) named above. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that you should not review, use, disclose, distribute, or forward this email. If you have received this email in error, please notify the sender immediately and delete/destroy any copies of the original message.

On Fri, Jan 18, 2019 at 3:27 PM Slayton, April <april_slayton@nps.gov> wrote:
Hi Charles,
Lisa and I had some suggestions, included below. Let me know what you think, and thanks!

Matt
During the lapse in appropriations, the limited number of excepted staff working in the regional office are authorized under the Anti-Deficiency Act to only conduct work that is directly related to ensuring the safety of human life or the protection of property in parks. A
limited number of exempted employees, paid using Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act funds, are also working to ensure that basic services – trash collection, urgent roadwork and sanitation – are provided in some area parks. As a result, the requested information will not be available until the National Park Service returns to regular operations and the necessary staff become available to respond.

I work in an excepted position intermittently and that is why there is a delay in my response.

On Fri, Jan 18, 2019 at 2:55 PM Mendelson, Lisa wrote:

Thanks Charles, we'll take a look. Appreciate your getting this started!

____________________________________________________
Lisa Mendelson, AICP
Acting Regional Director, National Park Service
202-619-7020 main office + 202-619-7194 direct + 202-297-1338 cell
(serving as an excepted employee during the lapse)

On Fri, Jan 18, 2019 at 2:32 PM Richardson, Charles wrote:

I have attached the union response in a word document. Please make any changes as deemed necessary. I await your response.

Charles Richardson
Supervisory Human Resources Officer
National Capital Region
Office 202-619-7216
Cell  202-631-0037
Fax 202-619-7240
"TEAM" Together Everyone Accomplishes the Mission

(Please take a moment and complete the attached survey below; your comments are important; thank you)

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WM2VMDX

Have a good day!

NPS Employee Center (Check this HR Site out for more Information)
https://sites.google.com/a/nps.gov/employeecenter/

"If you are going to achieve excellence in big things, you must develop the habit in little matters. Excellence is not an exception; it is a prevailing attitude."  "Colin Powell"
FYI

Jeremy Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Munoz, Andrew" <andrew_munoz@nps.gov>  
Date: January 18, 2019 at 5:38:58 PM EST  
To: "Barnum, Jeremy" <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>, Michael Litterst <mike_litterst@nps.gov>  
Subject: Fwd: NEPE Lewiston Tribune article - FYI

FYI. I did let the supt know that he should consult with us first before conducting these types of interviews.

- Andrew  
  Andrew S. Muñoz  
  Acting Chief of Public and Congressional Affairs  
  National Park Service  
  Pacific West Region, Office of Public and Congressional Affairs  
  206 220-4260 phone | 206 475-4598 cell | andrew_munoz@nps.gov  
  Find us online at: https://nps.gov/pwro (public) & http://go.nps.gov/pwr (InsideNPS intranet)

-------- Forwarded message --------  
From: Gauthier, Mike <mike_gauthier@nps.gov>  
Date: Fri, Jan 18, 2019 at 2:24 PM  
Subject: Lewiston Tribune article - FYI  
To: Andrew Munoz <andrew_munoz@nps.gov>  

Hey Andrew, FYI. This didn't make any big splash but I thought I should share.

History in the waiting
Nez Perce National Historical Park employees among the many eager for federal shutdown to end

By JOEL MILLS of the Tribune
Jan 17, 2019 Updated Jan 17, 2019

As a longtime employee of the National Park Service, Mike Gauthier is accustomed to the occasional government shutdown.

But after the 26th day of being on furlough, the superintendent of the Nez Perce National Historical Park and his 35 employees are itching to get back to work.

“I’ve been communicating with a lot of our team and our staff, and I think a lot of people are just buckling down, not spending money, staying at home and trying to do little things like home improvement that don’t cost any money,” Gauthier said Wednesday. “What can you paint, what can you tinker with? I fixed a door jamb that was broken.”

Morale among staff members is “stable,” he said, in spite of the ongoing impasse between President Donald Trump and congressional Democrats over funding for a wall on the U.S. border with Mexico. But with a second payday come and gone this week, Gauthier said he is getting concerned about some of his more vulnerable, entry-level employees.

One young woman has only been on the job for about four months, and her partner is in the process of moving to the area to join her.

“I worry about her, starting at $12 an hour and probably doesn’t have the deep resources of a career savings to kind of make some things happen,” he said. “I’m sure there’s a certain level of anxiety and stress behind it all, but people are just staying positive and hoping it resolves itself so they can get back to work.”

He said the collective payroll for the park employees is about $100,000
every two weeks. And that’s money that will continue to sit on the economic sidelines as the shutdown drags on.

The most visible impact for the public is the closure of the visitor centers at the Spalding site north of Lapwai and the Big Hole National Battlefield near Wisdom, Mont. The visitor center at the Whitman Mission outside of Walla Walla is also closed, but it always shuts down over the winter. But the grounds of those and the multiple other sites remain open, as do the public restrooms where available.

Visitors are welcome to walk the grounds and enjoy the interpretive materials, but can’t get into any buildings. They include Bear Paw Battlefield, Buffalo Eddy, Canoe Camp, Heart of the Monster, the Old Chief Joseph Gravesite, the Weippe Prairie, and White Bird Battlefield. Maps and directions to those and other sites are available at nps.gov/nepe.

Security at the sites is an ongoing concern because of their cultural sensitivity, and the chances of vandalism and archaeological theft like pot and shard hunting only rise when sites aren’t staffed. Gauthier said such problems haven’t arisen here like they have at other national parks, and thanked the public for respecting the sites despite the lack of staff.

Still, he just got approval all the way from Washington, D.C., to pay one staff member to do intermittent security checks at certain locations. Another administrative officer has been doing some limited work, and another employee is doing required daily water quality checks at the Big Hole site, where there is employee housing. But that worker is doing the job without pay, Gauthier noted.

Concerns about the condition of the park sites go beyond public impacts, however. The Spalding site museum and archive houses the collections of three parks and the Nez Perce Tribe, so emergencies like floods, fires or humidity changes could go unnoticed until severe damage is done.
“That collection is the heart of our park in many regards,” Gauthier said, imagining the damage something like a frozen pipe could do. “That’s kind of in the back of my mind as a threat.”

The sites don’t see many visitors this time of year, but staff would still normally be busy planning and preparing to get ahead of the summer season. That includes things like designing educational programs, getting ready for weed control to cut down on fire risks, prepping for pest control and working with tour operators to get their visits coordinated.

And even in this time of high insecurity, Gauthier said he is sure of one thing: His staff wants to get back to work.

“People want to make use of their time by being productive, and they want to contribute,” he said. “And it’s hard to be on the sidelines. People really do enjoy being professional, they like working hard, they want to be productive.”

*Mills may be contacted at jmills@lmtribune.com or (208) 848-2266.*
Hi Lisa/April/Perry - I am prepping an email for our parks and timekeepers on Timekeeping for PP19-02. Would like to get this out tomorrow morning if possible since I know some of our timekeepers are working hard to get time in before Tuesday. Can y'all take a look and provide feedback, comments and additions/deletions before I send out?

Thanks,
Sarah

Hi everyone - a few things in this email for our timekeeping for PP 19-02. Please read this email in its entirety - it contains some important information as we get time cards completed for this pay period. Do not hesitate to reach out to Jeanette, Charles or me with any questions you may have - I will be monitoring email and text messages this weekend.

1. Please see email below from Jeanette Organ RE: coding hours appropriately (i.e., exempt v excepted, etc.). Let us know what questions you have here since we know it can get confusing.

2. I have attached the example OF-288, Incident Time Report, to be used for this pay period (PP19-02). We will only be using the OF-288 for THIS PAY PERIOD (PP19-02). We will begin using the SF-261, Crew Time Report, AND the OF-288 in PP19-03.

   • BLOCK 4 - Park Acronym
   • BLOCK 5 - Employee Name (Last, First)
   • BLOCK 8 - Category of Work Performed (i.e., DIRECT FLREA, DIRECT FLREA SNOW, INDIRECT FLREA, INDIRECT FLREA SNOW, DONATION, EXCEPTED, FURLOUGHED)
   • BLOCK 15 - Corresponding WBS/Account (See 3. below for account list guidance) and date and time worked
   • BLOCK 20 - Employee Signature
   • Block 21 - Supervisor Signature

3. I have attached the link to the accounts to use for exempt time this week.

   WBSs that end with **FLR1** are to be used for all DIRECT PERSONNEL COSTS that are allowable under the guidance put out by Jessica on the 1/17/2019 phone call
WBSs that end with **FLR3** are to be used for all INDIRECT PERSONNEL COSTS that are allowable under the guidance put out by Jessica on the 1/17/2019 phone call.

**IF** snow operations are approved under FLREA, WBSs that end with **FLR4** are to be used for all DIRECT PERSONNEL COSTS associated with the snow operation. If snow operations DIRECT PERSONNEL COSTS are not approved under FLREA, time is to be coded as EXCEPTED (hour code 107).

**IF** snow operations are approved AND snow operation INDIRECT PERSONNEL cost are approved under FLREA, WBSs that end with **FLR6** are to be used for all INDIRECT PERSONNEL COSTS associated with the snow operation. If snow operations INDIRECT PERSONNEL COSTS are not approved under FLREA, this time is to be coded as EXCEPTED (hour code 107).

If your park has any time that is for work performed for a donation and/or a reimbursable account, please use the already assigned WBS as done in PP 19-01. Let me know if you need these accounts.

For all EXCEPTED work (hour code 107) and FURLOUGH time (hour code 105), please continue to use the employee's default base account.

4. A quick reminder on using WBSs in QuickTime: you will need to omit any “.” in the WBS field in order for it to be recognized. I double checked all WBSs on Friday and all are released for use.

I cannot thank you enough for your efforts to get time in before the Tuesday deadline. As stated above, do not hesitate to reach out with any questions you have. We are here to help!

Thanks,
Sarah

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Organ, Jeanette <jeanette_organ@nps.gov>
Date: Fri, Jan 18, 2019 at 6:37 PM
Subject: Clarification on Pay Codes for Pay Period 1902
To: David Moore <david_h_moore@nps.gov>, Charles Richardson <Charles_Richardson@nps.gov>, Hertig, Sarah <sarah_hertig@nps.gov>, Shepherd, Cherie <cherie_shepherd@nps.gov>, April Slayton <april_slayton@nps.gov>
Hi,

Below is the information that I received in an email from Michelle Fisher today. I thought that I would pass it along just for your information or if you wanted to send out to the time keepers.

Hello all,

I want to make sure everyone clearly understands how the coding of EXEMPT hours are to be used, versus excepted hours and the furlough non-pay status codes.

**Below are the codes and how they are to be used:**
1) **Employee working only Exempt Hours** -- code "010" for hours worked and "105" for hours not worked
2) **Employee working only Excepted Hours** -- code "107" for hours worked and "105" for hours not worked
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4) **Furlough Employee** -- code "105" for hours not worked (keeping in mind that IBC is mass coding those time cards)

**Example for Item 3:** An employee who normally worked an eight hour day is scheduled to work 3 hours on a task that is funded by FLREA, then he works 4 hours on a task not funded by FLREA project; then he leaves for the day. Although he worked a total of 7 hours (during his normal 8 hour day), his timecard for that one-day should be coded as such:
- Paycode 010 = 3 hours (FLREA account code)
- Paycode 107 = 4 hours (regular account code)
- Paycode 105 = 1 hour (regular account code)

TOTAL # of hours = 8 hours

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thanks,

The Human Resources Office appreciates the feedback, your feedback is helpful in identifying what areas we need to improve and the areas where we are meeting or exceeding your expectations.

**We value your feedback. Please click on this link to complete a short survey.**
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2018YM5HRUJ2

Jeanette Organ
NCR, Human Resources Specialist
202-619-7234 Office
202-619-7240 Fax
jeanette_organ@nps.gov

We value your feedback. Please click on this link to complete a short survey.
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WM2VMDX

Thank you for your feedback.
Makes sense to me, Sarah. I have only one suggestion, that your intro strongly point out that this direction applies to PPD2 unless noted. And that you will provide additional direction for PPD3.... thank you so much for your dedication and professionalism.

Lisa Mendelson, AICP
Acting Regional Director
National Park Service
Sent by Cell 202-297-1338

On Jan 18, 2019, at 7:49 PM, Hertig, Sarah <sarah_hertig@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Lisa/April/Perry - I am prepping an email for our parks and timekeepers on Timekeeping for PP19-02. Would like to get this out tomorrow morning if possible since I know some of our timekeepers are working hard to get time in before Tuesday. Can y'all take a look and provide feedback, comments and additions/deletions before I send out?

Thanks,
Sarah

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- **IF** snow operations are approved AND snow operation **INDIRECT PERSONNEL cost** are approved under FLREA, WBSs that end with **FLR6** are to be used for all **INDIRECT PERSONNEL COSTS** associated with the snow operation. If snow operations **INDIRECT PERSONNEL COSTS** are not approved under FLREA, this time is to be coded as **EXCEPTED** (hour code 107).

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4. A quick reminder on using WBSs in QuickTime: you will need to omit any “.” in the WBS field in order for it to be recognized. I double checked all WBSs on Friday and all are released for use.

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Thanks,
Sarah

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Organ, Jeanette <jeanette.organ@nps.gov>
Hi,

Below is the information that I received in an email from Michelle Fisher today. I thought that I would pass it along just for your information or if you wanted to send out to the time keepers.

Hello all,

I want to make sure everyone clearly understands how the coding of EXEMPT hours are to be used, versus excepted hours and the furlough non-pay status codes.

**Below are the codes and how they are to be used:**

1) **Employee working only Exempt Hours** -- code "010" for hours worked and "105" for hours not worked
2) **Employee working only Excepted Hours** -- code "107" for hours worked and "105" for hours not worked
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TOTAL # of hours = 8 hours

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thanks,

The Human Resources Office appreciates the feedback, your feedback is helpful in identifying what areas we need to improve and the areas where we are meeting or exceeding your expectations.

*We value your feedback. Please click on this link to complete a short survey.*

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2016YM5HRJZ](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2016YM5HRJZ)

Jeanette Organ
NCR, Human Resources Specialist
202-619-7234 Office
202-619-7240 Fax
jeanette_organ@nps.gov

We value your feedback. Please click on this link to complete a short survey.
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WM2vMDX

Thank you for your feedback.

2019 Shutdown Accounts

Sample OF-288.pdf
Hi everyone - a few things in this email for our timekeeping for PP 19-02. This applies to PP 19-02 only unless otherwise noted. Another email will be sent with instructions for PP19-03 at a later date. Please share this message with anyone I may have missed.

Please read this email in its entirety - it contains important information and instruction for time cards completed this pay period. Do not hesitate to reach out to Jeanette, Charles or me with any questions you may have - I will be monitoring email and text messages this weekend and will back in the office on Tuesday, 22 January 2019.

1. Please see email below from Jeanette Organ RE: coding hours appropriately (i.e., exempt v excepted, etc.). Let us know what questions you have here since we know it can get confusing.

2. I have attached the example OF-288, Incident Time Report, to be used for this pay period (PP19-02). We will only be using the OF-288 for THIS PAY PERIOD (PP9-02). We will begin using both the SF-261, Crew Time Report, AND the OF-288 in PP19-03.

- BLOCK 4 - Park Acronym

- BLOCK 5 - Employee Name (Last, First)

- BLOCK 8 - Category of Work Performed (i.e., DIRECT FLREA, DIRECT FLREA SNOW, INDIRECT FLREA, INDIRECT FLREA SNOW, DONATION, EXCEPTED, FURLOUGHED)

- BLOCK 15 - Corresponding WBS/Account (See 3. below for account list guidance) and date and time worked

- BLOCK 20 - Employee Signature
3. I have attached the link to the accounts to use for exempt time this week. Shutdown donation accounts are listed on TAB 1; shutdown FLREA accounts are listed on TAB 2.

WBSs that end with **FLR1** are to be used for all DIRECT PERSONNEL COSTS that are allowable under the guidance put out by Jessica on the 1/17/2019 phone call.

WBSs that end with **FLR3** are to be used for all INDIRECT PERSONNEL COSTS that are allowable under the guidance put out by Jessica on the 1/17/2019 phone call.

**IF** snow operations are approved under FLREA, WBSs that end with **FLR4** are to be used for all DIRECT PERSONNEL COSTS associated with the snow operation.

**IF** snow operations are approved AND snow operation INDIRECT PERSONNEL cost are approved under FLREA, WBSs that end with **FLR6** are to be used for all INDIRECT PERSONNEL COSTS associated with the snow operation.

If your park has any time that is for work performed for a donation and/or a reimbursable account, please use the already assigned WBS as done in PP19-01. Let me know if you need these accounts.

For all EXCEPTED work (hour code 107) and FURLOUGH time (hour code 105), please continue to use the employee’s default base account.

4. A quick reminder on using WBSs in QuickTime: you will need to omit
any "." in the WBS field in order for it to be recognized. I double checked all WBSs on Friday and all are released for use.

I cannot thank you enough for your efforts to get time in before the Tuesday deadline. As stated above, do not hesitate to reach out with any questions you have. We are here to help!

Thanks,
Sarah

Sarah V. Hertig
Budget Officer
National Park Service
National Capital Region

2-W29
1100 Ohio Drive SW
Washington, DC 20242

Office: 202.619.7061
Mobile: 202.510.7452

---------- Forwarded message --------
From: Organ, Jeanette <jeanette_organ@nps.gov>
Date: Fri, Jan 18, 2019 at 6:37 PM
Subject: Clarification on Pay Codes for Pay Period 1902
To: David Moore <david_h_moore@nps.gov>, Charles Richardson <Charles_Richardson@nps.gov>, Hertig, Sarah <sarah_hertig@nps.gov>, Shepherd, Cherie <cherie_shepherd@nps.gov>, April Slayton <april_slayton@nps.gov>

Hi,

Below is the information that I received in an email from Michelle Fisher today. I thought that I would pass it along just for your information or if you wanted to send out to the time keepers.

Hello all,

I want to make sure everyone clearly understands how the coding of EXEMPT hours are to be used, versus excepted hours and the furlough non-pay status codes.

Below are the codes and how they are to be used:
1) Employee working only Exempt Hours -- code "010" for hours worked and "105" for hours not worked
2) Employee working only Excepted Hours -- code "107" for hours worked and "105" for hours not worked
3) **Employee who is working both Exempted and Excepted Hours** -- code "010" for exempt hours, "107" for excepted hours worked" and "105" for hours not worked (see example below)

4) **Furlough Employee** -- code "105" for hours not worked (keeping in mind that IBC is mass coding those time cards)

**Example for Item 3:** An employee who normally worked an eight hour day is scheduled to work 3 hours on a task that is funded by FLREA, then he works for 4 hours on a task not funded by FLREA project; then he leaves for the day. Although he worked a total of 7 hours (during his normal 8 hour day), his timecard for that one-day should be coded as such:

- Paycode 010 = 3 hours (FLREA account code)
- Paycode 107 = 4 hours (regular account code)
- Paycode 105 = 1 hour (regular account code)
- TOTAL # of hours = 8 hours

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thanks,

The Human Resources Office appreciates the feedback, your feedback is helpful in identifying what areas we need to improve and the areas where we are meeting or exceeding your expectations.

**We value your feedback. Please click on this link to complete a short survey.**
[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2016YM5HRJZ](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2016YM5HRJZ)

Jeanette Organ
NCR, Human Resources Specialist
202-619-7234 Office
202-619-7240 Fax
jeanette_organ@nps.gov

We value your feedback. Please click on this link to complete a short survey.
[https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WM2VMDX](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WM2VMDX)

Thank you for your feedback.
Very interesting.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 19, 2019, at 11:28 AM, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Fyi

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service

Begin forwarded message:

From: Rob Hotakainen <rhotakainen@eenews.net>
Date: January 19, 2019 at 10:53:06 AM EST
To: Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Question

Thanks, Jeremy, Sorry to hear you thought the story was misleading. As I told Faith, while I didn’t include all of the detail from your manual, I did make sure to include your point that this guidance dates back to 2012 and is not something new. Hope you have a great long weekend. Rob

Rob Hotakainen
National parks, oceans and fisheries reporter
E&E NEWS
rhotakainen@eenews.net
202-446-0477
Twitter: @HotakainenRob
122 C Street NW, 7th floor, Washington, DC, 20001
www.eenews.net | @EENewsUpdates
Greenwire, E&E Daily, E&E News PM, Climatewire, Energywire

On Jan 19, 2019, at 10:21 AM, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

It’s misleading to write a story about the National Park Service following Department of the Interior policy in place since 2012 and not make clear that it is indeed policy. Especially when we have provided you specific references to that policy on at least two occasions.

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service

On Jan 17, 2019, at 10:45 AM, Rob Hotakainen <rhotakainen@eenews.net> wrote:

Thanks Jeremy.
Park superintendents and managers have and continue to make sound decisions according to their on-the-ground expertise and in the context of the National Park Service contingency plan and related Secretarial Memorandum (both are attached).

Parks have remained accessible to the American public during the lapse in appropriations while still following all applicable laws and procedures. Park managers have in some cases closed areas due to weather, health and sanitation issues, and damage to park resources. In many cases, park managers have been able to bring back staff to cleanup and restore access to those areas using recreation fee revenue. Washington has reviewed those plans to ensure that they follow all relevant rules and regulations.

During the lapse in appropriations the National Park Service (NPS) has encouraged parks to continue to provide information via media and on social media platforms regarding current conditions, health, and safety at parks as appropriate. Parks have also been encouraged to provide the public updates on changes in accessibility and services at parks.

Since the beginning of the lapse the National Park Service employees at all levels have generally been unable to accommodate interview requests except in cases of public safety, emergencies, etc. A majority of NPS employees have been furloughed. Those still on duty have focused on health and safety issues, law enforcement operations, and additional staff returning from furlough using FLREA funds are restoring access to recently closed park areas and restoring limited basic visitor services.

Per Department of the Interior Departmental Manual, Part 470, Public Communications, General Policy and Procedures, effective since 03/07/2012, including during the lapse in appropriations in 2013 and during normal operations, DOI bureaus must establish clear processes for interview and media request approvals. Washington should be notified in advance of any media interviews, media requests or contacts that may involve significant policy announcements or that may generate significant news coverage, public interest or inquiry.

Washington then works closely with park, program, and regional communicators to determine an appropriate response and/or interview opportunity, utilizing the park or program's knowledge and expertise.
I'm sharing below a few highlighted references from the longstanding guidance.

https://www.doi.gov/elips/browse
Department of the Interior
Departmental Manual

Effective Date: 03/07/2012
Series: Information
Part 470: Public Communications
Chapter 1: General Policy and Procedures

Originating Office: Office of Communications

470 DM 1

1.1 Purpose. This chapter establishes the policy and procedures governing the official public communications of employees at the Department of the Interior (DOI) and identifies the laws, regulations and standards governing other public communications of DOI employees regarding the programs, operations or activities of the Department.

1.2 Scope.

A. The policy in this chapter applies to all DOI bureaus, offices, and employees except as provided in section 1.2 (B).

B. The policy in this chapter does not apply to the official public communications of the Office of Inspector General.

Page 6 under C. Employees
(6) Referring through appropriate bureau channels any news releases or requests for media interviews concerning policy matters, or that cut across Department or bureau lines for prior review and approval, consistent with this chapter;

Page 5 under B. Bureaus and Offices
(3) Referring questions to the OCO that have the potential to generate significant media coverage, public interest or inquiry, particularly those involving more than one bureau or office;

(4) Ensuring the accuracy of public communications that do not require OCO concurrence by providing for review prior to release by scientists, scholars, engineers or other subject matter experts;

(5) Providing guidance to employees for the coordination of public affairs and communications
activities as part of their official duties, consistent with this chapter;

(6) Providing guidance to employees on other public communications regarding programs, operations or activities of the Department, consistent with this chapter;

(7) Monitoring and managing the content employees publish on blogs, wikis, social networking websites, or other forms of social media in their official capacity.

(8) Providing guidance to employees on the use of social media, the intranet and web postings, consistent with Departmental social media policy and this chapter;

Page 7 under 1.6 Official Communications
Review/Approval Process
B. Bureaus must establish clear processes for interview and media request approvals. OCO must be notified in advance of any media interviews, media requests or contacts that may involve significant policy announcements or that may generate significant news coverage, public interest or inquiry

L. The Director, OCO may issue instructions to bureau public affairs and information officers to carry out the assigned responsibilities of OCO.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Wed, Jan 16, 2019 at 9:21 PM Rob Hotakainen <rhotakainen@eenews.net> wrote:

Yes, would you like to respond to this comment from Mr. Jarvis speaking to a group of House Dems?

“In my conversations with folks that are in the field, there is an element of fear that has been conveyed down that you’ll be punished if you speak out, certainly if you speak to the press. And all decisions related to parks are being made at the departmental level and coming back down to the superintendents.”
On Jan 16, 2019, at 9:07 PM, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Do you have actual quotes from Jon Jarvis for which you are looking to get a response?

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service

On Jan 16, 2019, at 7:13 PM, Rob Hotakainen <rhotakainen@eenews.net> wrote:

Hi Jeremy, Jon Jarvis told House Dems yesterday that there’s an “element of fear” facing Park superintendents who’ve been told they’ll be punished for speaking to the press. He also said all decisions involving parks are now being made at the departmental level and then conveyed to supts — as example, he said Joshua tree supt wanted to shut down park only to be overruled by Washington. He says the current situation is very different from the past, when NPS was more transparent and supts were urged to be accessible to reporters. Writing for Greenwire tomorrow. If you’d like to comment please let me know by 10:30 am tomorrow. Thanks, rob

Rob Hotakainen
National parks, oceans and fisheries reporter
E&E NEWS
rhotakainen@eenews.net
202-446-0477
Twitter: @HotakainenRob
122 C Street NW, 7th floor, Washington, DC, 20001
www.eenews.net | @EENewsUpdates
Greenwire, E&E Daily, E&E News PM, Climatewire, Energywire
We need to discuss this matter and how to respond.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

-------- Original message --------
From: Matt Allinson <Matt.Allinson@NTEU.ORG>
Date: 1/18/19 6:28 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: "Richardson, Charles" <charles_richardson@nps.gov>
Cc: Dan Johnston <daniel_johnston@nps.gov>, Sarah Riger <sarah.riger@NTEU.ORG>,
"Green, Tiffany" <tiffany_n_green@nps.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] RE: Information Regarding BU Employees

Charles,

It would not be helpful at all to receive a list of employees after the shutdown concludes and you return to regular operations. Management officials had to designate employees and notify them of their excepted or furlough status prior to the shutdown commencing. As such, the information requested should be readily available. Additionally, the park will have to reissue notices this coming week just like all the other agencies we represent have notified us that they plan to do. Are Park Superintendents considered excepted employees? If you can’t comply with this basic request, please let me know who I should contact from the Department of Interior. Thank you for your prompt attention.

Matt
Matt

During the lapse in appropriations, the limited number of excepted staff working in the regional office are authorized under the Anti-Deficiency Act to only conduct work that is directly related to ensuring the safety of human life or the protection of property in parks. A limited number of exempted employees, are paid using Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act funds, are also working to ensure that basic services – trash collection, urgent roadwork and sanitation – are provided in some area parks. As a result, the requested information will not be available until the National Park Service returns to regular operations and the necessary staff become available to respond.

I work in an excepted position intermittently and that is why there is a delay in my response.

Charles Richardson
Supervisory Human Resources Officer
National Capital Region
Office 202-619-7216
Cell 202-631-0037
Fax 202-619-7240
"TEAM" Together Everyone Accomplishes the Mission

(Please take a moment and complete the attached survey below; your comments are important; thank you)

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WM2VMDX

NPS Employee Center (Check this HR Site out for more Information)
https://sites.google.com/a/nps.gov/employecenter/

"If you are going to achieve excellence in big things, you must develop the habit in little matters. Excellence is not an exception; it is a prevailing attitude." "Colin Powell"

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION: This email and any attachments contain confidential
Hi Charles,

I’m following up on the email below to see when NTEU can expect to receive the information requested.

Thanks,

Matt

---

From: Matt Allinson
Sent: Tuesday, January 15, 2019 2:49 PM
To: Richardson, Charles <charles_richardson@nps.gov>; Dan Johnston <daniel_johnston@nps.gov>; Sarah Riger <sarah.riger@NTEU.ORG>
Cc: Green, Tiffany <tiffany_n_green@nps.gov>
Subject: RE: Information Regarding BU Employees

Thanks, Charles. Please provide us with a list of any employees who have been recalled or are expected to be recalled. On the list, please provide the reason for the recall, the date of recall or expected recall, and the employee’s position, division, and location. Also, what are the entities that you reference?

Thanks,

Matt

---

From: Richardson, Charles [mailto:charles_richardson@nps.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, January 15, 2019 11:58 AM
To: Dan Johnston <daniel_johnston@nps.gov>; Sarah Riger <sarah.riger@NTEU.ORG>; Matt
We know these are difficult times with the lapse of appropriations. This is to inform the Union (NTEU) that National Capital Region has and will be bringing employees back to work using funds received from other entities.

Charles Richardson
Supervisory Human Resources Officer
National Capital Region
Office 202-619-7216
Cell 202-631-0037
Fax 202-619-7240
"TEAM" Together Everyone Accomplishes the Mission

(Please take a moment and complete the attached survey below; your comments are important; thank you)

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WM2VMDX

Have a good day!

NPS Employee Center (Check this HR Site out for more Information)
https://sites.google.com/a/nps.gov/employeecenter/
"If you are going to achieve excellence in big things, you must develop the habit in little matters. Excellence is not an exception; it is a prevailing attitude." "Colin Powell"

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION: This email and any attachments contain confidential and/or legally privileged information intended only for the use of individual(s) named above. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that you should not review, use, disclose, distribute, or forward this email. If you have received this email in error, please notify the sender immediately and delete/destroy any copies of the original message.
Thanks ⚘

Jennifer A. Mummart  
Associate Regional Director-Communications  
National Park Service - National Capital Region  
(202) 619-7174  

On Jan 19, 2019, at 12:21 PM, Jeremy Barnum < jeremy_barnum@nps.gov > wrote:

I don’t

Jeremy Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  

On Jan 18, 2019, at 4:55 PM, Jennifer Mummart < jennifer_mummart@nps.gov > wrote:

Thanks. Do you know what she’s referring to related to Destination DC?

Jennifer A. Mummart  
Associate Regional Director-Communications  
National Park Service - National Capital Region  
(202) 619-7174  

On Jan 18, 2019, at 3:52 PM, Barnum, Jeremy < jeremy_barnum@nps.gov > wrote:

FYI below.

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
Mobile: (202) 617-7973  
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube  

![NATIONAL PARKS](image-url)
You may want to tell Destination DC about this part:

The National Parks of the Nation's Capital is using FLREA funds to resume trash collection and sanitation services and undertake urgent roadwork at five national parks within the District of Columbia, including George Washington Memorial Parkway, National Capital Parks-East, National Mall and Memorial Parks, President's Park and Rock Creek Park. During the first 20 days following the lapse in appropriations, the DC Department of Public Works, several Business Improvement Districts and other partners collected trash at NPS sites across the city.

Katia

------
Katia Hetter
Senior producer
CNN Digital Travel
@katiahetter

Let me know what else you need.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube
On Fri, Jan 18, 2019 at 12:53 PM Hetter, Katia wrote:

Our emails just crossed each other — yes, thanks!

Katia

------
Katia Hetter
Senior producer
CNN Digital Travel
@katiahetter

From: Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Date: Friday, January 18, 2019 at 12:50 PM
To: Katia Hetter <katia.hetter@turner.com>
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] CNN/What's the latest

Did you not receive the below response?

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

------------ Forwarded message ------------
From: Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Hi Katia,

Sorry to have missed this.

During the lapse of appropriations, the National Park Service (NPS) has gone to great lengths to keep America’s iconic national parks as accessible as possible to the American public. Thanks to the strong relationships that many national parks have built with partners across the country, a number of states, private concession companies, and park nonprofit groups have stepped up to provide millions of dollars’ worth of donations and in-kind services to help over forty parks continue to provide key services for visitors. As the lapse in appropriations continues, it has become clear that highly visited parks with limited staff have urgent needs that cannot be addressed solely through the generosity of our partners.

The NPS charges fees through the payment of visitor services at parks through the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act ("FLREA"). This fee revenue is retained by the NPS and can be used for a variety of specified purposes. The NPS modified its contingency plan to provide that each park which has available balances of FLREA funds will be able to utilize such funds to address basic visitor services at parks including trash removal, custodial services, visitor information, snow plowing, and campground services. The NPS estimates that over 80 national parks are already utilizing FLREA funds for these purposes.

Examples of the parks that have already approved plans to immediately utilize FLREA funds:

Liberty and Ellis Islands will continue to be open to visitors using revenue generated by National Park Service (NPS) recreation fees and support from its partners. Castle Clinton National Monument at Battery Park in Manhattan, where ticketing for ferries to the Statue of Liberty occurs, will also remain open. The parks have been open since the beginning of the lapse in appropriations thanks to a previous donation from the State of New York.
The National Parks of the Nation’s Capital is using FLREA funds to resume trash collection and sanitation services and undertake urgent roadwork at five national parks within the District of Columbia, including George Washington Memorial Parkway, National Capital Parks - East, National Mall and Memorial Parks, President's Park and Rock Creek Park. During the first 20 days following the lapse in appropriations, the DC Department of Public Works, several Business Improvement Districts and other partners collected trash at NPS sites across the city.

Yellowstone National Park is using FLREA funds to clean bathrooms across the park, collect trash, staff four out of five entrance stations to provide safety information, staff the busiest warming hut at Madison Junction, and increase staffing of emergency medical services. The park continues to operate under its winter use plan and, because of donations from concessioners during the shutdown allowing for road grooming, the park has maintained normal access for visitors at this time of year (excluding visitors centers).

Grand Canyon National Park is using FLREA funds to continue custodial services, trash removal and snow removal on walkways and trails that have been previously provided by the State of Arizona. Funds will also be used to provide visitor use assistants at the park’s two entrance stations on the South Rim provide visitor orientation, safety messages and information on protection park resources. The Grand Canyon Conservancy has also donated funds to keep several visitor facilities open.

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks is using FLREA funds to provide access to all areas of the park that are normally accessible this time of year, with the exception of the visitor center. The funds will also allow for additional park snow play areas and restrooms to be opened, and restore access to the General Sherman and General Grant sequoia trees, which were closed after the start of the lapse of appropriations due to winter weather and ice. The park will also use funds to staff entrance stations to provide visitor orientation, safety messages and information on protection park resources.

Bryce Canyon National Park opened Inspiration and Bryce Points as well as Loop A of the North campground at the park. The Bryce Canyon Natural History Association has provided
donations to keep the park’s visitor center open at least through January 30.

**Great Smoky Mountains National Park** announced that recently closed areas of the park will once again be accessible to visitors beginning Sunday, January 13. Some basic visitor services, including campgrounds and restrooms, will reopen using revenue generated by recreation fees.

**Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historical Park** will from Saturday, January 19 through February 3, in advance of the Martin Luther King, Jr. national holiday and days after the 90th anniversary of his birth. This is possible thanks to a grant from The Delta Air Lines Foundation and revenue generated by NPS recreation fees.

Here's our current list of parks that are utilizing recreation fee revenue to restore accessibility and basic visitor services at parks.

- Acadia National Park
- American Memorial Park
- Amistad National Recreation Area
- Andersonville National Historic Site
- Arches National Park
- Assateague Island National Seashore
- Big Bend National Park
- Big Cypress National Preserve
- Big Thicket National Preserve
- Biscayne National Park
- Blue Ridge Parkway
- Bryce Canyon National Park
- Buffalo National River
- Canyonlands National Park
- Cape Hatteras National Seashore
- Castillo de San Marcos National Monument
- Channel Islands National Park
- Christiansted National Historic Site
- Colonial National Historical Park
- Crater Lake National Park
- Cuyahoga Valley National Park
- Death Valley National Park
- Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area
- Devil’s Tower National Monument
- Dry Tortugas National Park
Hey Jeremy,

We want to do an update to the impact of the shutdown on NPS sites and other travel related sites. Do you have an overall sense of how the NPS sites that are open are faring? I know it varies by site but as of today, how many NPS sites are open and a) using fees to pay some staff and cleanup b) getting donations or state funding to do the same and c) suffering damage as Joshua Tree has done. Even if the effects are piecemeal, we can say that.

We want to publish tomorrow late morning or early afternoon. Can you get me something by your EOB today or first thing tomorrow?

Thanks,

Katia

-----

Katia Hetter
Senior producer
CNN Digital Travel
and so it goes. thanks for all of your help. we passed along the message to our park POCs to give us a big heads up if there are anticipated 1st amendment events.

Rose

On Sat, Jan 19, 2019 at 4:35 PM Michael Litterst <mike_litterst@nps.gov> wrote:
Wow. Thanks for the update, Rose!

~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief of Public Affairs and Chief Spokesperson (acting)

National Park Service
Cell: (202) 306-4166

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 19, 2019, at 4:28 PM, Fennell, Rosalyn <rose_fennell@nps.gov> wrote:

FYI

Rose Fennell
Northeast Region

617-223-5137 (desk)
857-248-1107 (cell)

Get to know your Park's NPS Score Card!!

-------------- Forwarded message -------------
From: Morrison, Melody <melody_morrison@nps.gov>
Date: Sat, Jan 19, 2019 at 4:11 PM
Subject: WORI status update
To: Rosalyn Fennell <Rose_Fennell@nps.gov>, Conway, Deborah <debbie_conway@nps.gov>, Strack, Brian <brian_strack@nps.gov>, Gay Vietzke <gay_vietzke@nps.gov>
Cc: Alan Saperstein <alan_saperstein@nps.gov>, Sierra Kraushofer <sierra_kraushofer@nps.gov>, Brady, Maria <maria_brady@nps.gov>, Guy Hock <guy_hock@nps.gov>, Dustin Gunderson <dustin_gunderson@nps.gov>, Eric Lisnik <eric_lisnik@nps.gov>, Kyle Lehmkuhl <kyle_lehmkuhl@nps.gov>
Good afternoon everyone,

I just heard back from WORI POC Guy Hock on events for today. It is believed the weather (2 ft of snow, temperatures and an advisory expected) significantly impacted events. It is estimated that around 1000 people were in attendance or less (these are not official numbers). Either way, when he was not able to drive through town for some time after the event last year, Guy was able to drive home through town in the middle of the day. There was a "significant decline" in numbers from years previous.

The park had very few visitors on property, there were no damages and there was no significant trash or clean up issues. When we return from the shutdown we will re-contact the local PD and ensure we foster that relationship and hopefully establish a good POC for WORI.

Thank you everyone for your help with this event.

--
Melody Morrison
Branch Chief Law Enforcement and Emergency Services NERO
1234 Market St. (20th Floor Ranger Services)
Philadelphia, PA 19107
215-796-4950 (cell)

WARNING: THIS MESSAGE CONTAINS CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION AND IS INTENDED ONLY FOR THE INDIVIDUAL(S) NAMED. IF YOU ARE NOT THE NAMED ADDRESSEE YOU SHOULD NOT DISSEMINATE, DISTRIBUTE OR COPY THIS E-MAIL. PLEASE NOTIFY THE SENDER IMMEDIATELY BY EMAIL IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS E-MAIL BY MISTAKE AND DELETE THIS E-MAIL FROM YOUR SYSTEM.

WASO team,

Please see attached memo from Craig Ackerman concerning a change in a planned FLREA funded trail opening at Crater Lake. As I understand it the local ski patrol is unable provide promised personnel to patrol the Rim Trail. Without theses added personnel Craig doesn't feel it is safe to open the trail. The park did not release any press announcing the opening of the trail so they don't expect much attention now that it will remain closed.

Out of an abundance of caution I thought it best to make you aware in case anything popped up.

Aaron Dowe has reviewed the proposed changes in the FLREA plan and doesn't believe any alterations are necessary.

Sarah

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Craig Ackerman <craig_ackerman@nps.gov>
Date: Fri, Jan 18, 2019 at 9:42 AM
Subject: Recommendations on Operations at Crater Lake under FLREA
To: <sarah_creachbaum@nps.gov>, Austin Stan <stan_austin@nps.gov>

See attached.

--
M. Sarah Creachbaum
Acting Deputy Regional Director - Public Use Management
NPS Pacific West Region
333 Bush Street, Suite 500
San Francisco, CA 94101-2828
(415) 623-2106
Hi everyone - we have approval from WASO to go ahead and code snow time (both Basic Visitor Services AND Excepted/Essential) under FLREA SNOW DIRECT PERSONNEL (FLR4).

For those listed on the indirect support tab, code their time worked toward supporting snow operations as FLREA SNOW DIRECT PERSONNEL (FLR4) as well.

I am attaching the approved snow plans. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Sarah

Sarah V. Hertig
Budget Officer
National Park Service
National Capital Region

2-W29
1100 Ohio Drive SW
Washington, DC 20242

Office: 202.619.7061
Mobile: 202.510.7452
On Sun, Jan 20, 2019 at 10:19 AM Hertig, Sarah <sarah_hertig@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi everyone - one last thing for PP19-02:

6. Timekeepers please forward a list of the assigned timekeepers and certifiers for the staff you are entering into QuickTime. We will need this information to certify at the regional level.

Thanks,
Sarah

Sarah V. Hertig

Budget Officer
National Park Service
National Capital Region

2-W29
1100 Ohio Drive SW
Washington, DC 20242

Office: 202.619.7061
Mobile: 202.510.7452

On Sat, Jan 19, 2019 at 8:09 PM Hertig, Sarah <sarah_hertig@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi everyone - one quick addition to the list of things to do for PP19-02:

5. Please scan and upload **all** OF288s to your park's folder at the link below. This can be done as a batch and not individually. I just ask that they be scanned in alphabetical order so we can find them easily.

Let me know what your questions are.

Thanks,
Sarah

Sarah V. Hertig
On Fri, Jan 18, 2019 at 9:35 PM Hertig, Sarah <sarah_hertig@nps.gov> wrote:
Hi everyone - a few things in this email for our timekeeping for PP 19-02. This applies to PP 19-02 only unless otherwise noted. Another email will be sent with instructions for PP19-03 at a later date. Please share this message with anyone I may have missed.

**Please read this email in its entirety** - it contains important information and instruction for time cards completed this pay period. Do not hesitate to reach out to Jeanette, Charles or me with any questions you may have - I will be monitoring email and text messages this weekend and will back in the office on Tuesday, 22 January 2019.

1. Please see email below from Jeanette Organ RE: coding hours appropriately (i.e., exempt v excepted, etc.). Let us know what questions you have here since we know it can get confusing.

2. I have attached the example OF-288, Incident Time Report, to be used for this pay period (PP19-02). We will only be using the OF-288 for THIS PAY PERIOD (PP9-02). We will begin using both the SF-261, Crew Time Report, AND the OF-288 in PP19-03.

   • BLOCK 4 - Park Acronym

   • BLOCK 5 - Employee Name (Last, First)

   • BLOCK 8 - Category of Work Performed (i.e., DIRECT FLREA, DIRECT FLREA SNOW, INDIRECT FLREA, INDIRECT FLREA SNOW, DONATION, EXCEPTED, FURLoughed)
• BLOCK 15 - Corresponding WBS/Account (See 3. below for account list guidance) and date and time worked

• BLOCK 20 - Employee Signature

• Block 21 - Supervisor Signature

3. I have attached the link to the accounts to use for exempt time this week. Shutdown donation accounts are listed on TAB 1; shutdown FLREA accounts are listed on TAB 2.

- WBSs that end with **FLR1** are to be used for all DIRECT PERSONNEL COSTS that are allowable under the guidance put out by Jessica on the 1/17/2019 phone call

- WBSs that end with **FLR3** are to be used for all INDIRECT PERSONNEL COSTS that are allowable under the guidance put out by Jessica on the 1/17/2019 phone call

- **IF** snow operations are approved under FLREA, WBSs that end with **FLR4** are to be used for all DIRECT PERSONNEL COSTS associated with the snow operation.

- **IF** snow operations are approved AND snow operation INDIRECT PERSONNEL cost are approved under FLREA, WBSs that end with **FLR6** are to be used for all INDIRECT PERSONNEL COSTS associated with the snow operation.

- If your park has any time that is for work performed for a donation and/or a reimbursable account, please use the already assigned WBS as done in PP19-01. Let me know if you need
these accounts.

- For all EXCEPTED work (hour code 107) and FURLOUGH time (hour code 105), please continue to use the employee's default base account.

4. A quick reminder on using WBSs in QuickTime: you will need to omit any “.” in the WBS field in order for it to be recognized. I double checked all WBSs on Friday and all are released for use.

I cannot thank you enough for your efforts to get time in before the Tuesday deadline. As stated above, do not hesitate to reach out with any questions you have. We are here to help!

Thanks,
Sarah

Sarah V. Hertig
Budget Officer
National Park Service
National Capital Region

2-W29
1100 Ohio Drive SW
Washington, DC 20242

Office: 202.619.7061
Mobile: 202.510.7452

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Organ, Jeanette <jeanette_organ@nps.gov>
Date: Fri, Jan 18, 2019 at 6:37 PM
Subject: Clarification on Pay Codes for Pay Period 1902
To: David Moore <david_h_moore@nps.gov>, Charles Richardson <Charles_Richardson@nps.gov>, Hertig, Sarah <sarah_hertig@nps.gov>, Shepherd, Cherie <cherie_shepherd@nps.gov>, April Slayton <april_slayton@nps.gov>

Hi,

Below is the information that I received in an email from Michelle Fisher today. I thought that I would pass it along just for your information or if you wanted to send it out to the time keepers.

Hello all,
I want to make sure everyone clearly understands how the coding of **EXEMPT** hours are to be used, versus excepted hours and the furlough non-pay status codes.

**Below are the codes and how they are to be used:**

1) **Employee working only Exempt Hours** -- code "010" for hours worked and "105" for hours not worked

2) **Employee working only Excepted Hours** -- code "107" for hours worked and "105" for hours not worked

3) **Employee who is working both Exempted and Excepted Hours** -- code "010" for exempt hours, "107" for excepted hours worked" and "105" for hours not worked **(see example below)**

4) **Furlough Employee** -- code "105" for hours not worked (keeping in mind that IBC is mass coding those time cards)

**Example for Item 3**: An employee who normally worked an eight hour day is scheduled to work 3 hours on a task that is **funded by FLREA**, then he works for 4 hours on a task **not funded by FLREA** project; then he leaves for the day. Although he worked a total of 7 hours (during his normal 8 hour day), his timecard for that one-day should be coded as such:

- Paycode 010 = 3 hours (FLREA account code)
- Paycode 107 = 4 hours (regular account code)
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TOTAL # of hours = 8 hours

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thanks,

The Human Resources Office appreciates the feedback, your feedback is helpful in identifying what areas we need to improve and the areas where we are meeting or exceeding your expectations.

We value your feedback. Please click on this link to complete a short survey:
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2016YM5116JX

Jeanette Organ
NCR, Human Resources Specialist
202-619-7234 Office
202-619-7240 Fax
jeanette_organ@nps.gov

We value your feedback. Please click on this link to complete a short survey.
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WM2VMDX

Thank you for your feedback.
As you’ve probably inferred, thanks to the good work of Sarah and Dave we got permission to move these costs to FLREA. Huge deal! We do have to associate some of the non personal with excepted since they were credit card and won’t be paid now anyway, but this is tremendous news for those employees who are on snow duty.

——
Lisa Mendelson, AICP
Acting Regional Director
National Park Service
Sent by Cell 202-297-1338

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Hertig, Sarah" <sarah_hertig@nps.gov>
Date: January 20, 2019 at 3:12:50 PM EST
To: "Stransky, Blanca" <blanca_stransky@nps.gov>, Tony Migliaccio <tony_migliaccio@nps.gov>, Edie Johnston <edie_johnston@nps.gov>, Tara Morrison <tara_morrison@nps.gov>, Diana Bramble <diana_bramble@nps.gov>, Valarie Ragland-English <valarie_ragland-english@nps.gov>, Patricia Trap <patricia_trap@nps.gov>, "Kennealy, Sean" <sean_kennealy@nps.gov>, "Gowen, Jeffrey" <jeff_gowen@nps.gov>, Rivka Zuares <rivka_zuares@nps.gov>, Donald Kirk <donald_kirk@nps.gov>, "Young, Frank" <frank_young@nps.gov>, Nick Bartolomeo <nick_bartolomeo@nps.gov>, Dontre Fitzhugh <dontre_fitzhugh@nps.gov>, John Stanwich <john_stanwich@nps.gov>, Betty Brody <betty_brody@nps.gov>
Cc: Jeanette Organ <jeanette_organ@nps.gov>, Charles Richardson <charles_richardson@nps.gov>, Dave Moore <david_h_moore@nps.gov>, Perry Wheelock <perry_wheelock@nps.gov>, April Slayton <april_slayton@nps.gov>, "Mendelson, Lisa" <lisa_mendelson-jelmini@nps.gov>
Subject: UPDATED GUIDANCE: TIMEKEEPING FOR PP19-02

Hi everyone - we have approval from WASO to go ahead and code snow time (both Basic Visitor Services AND Excepted/Essential) under FLREA SNOW DIRECT PERSONNEL (FLR4).

For those listed on the indirect support tab, code their time worked toward supporting snow operations as FLREA SNOW DIRECT PERSONNEL (FLR4) as well.

I am attaching the approved snow plans. Please let us know if
you have any questions.

Thanks,
Sarah

---

Sarah V. Hertig

Budget Officer
National Park Service
National Capital Region

2-W29
1100 Ohio Drive SW
Washington, DC 20242

Office: 202.619.7061
Mobile: 202.510.7452

---

On Sun, Jan 20, 2019 at 10:19 AM Hertig, Sarah <sarah_hertig@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi everyone - one last thing for PP19-02:

6. Timekeepers please forward a list of the assigned timekeepers and certifiers for the staff you are entering into QuickTime. We will need this information to certify at the regional level.

Thanks,
Sarah

Sarah V. Hertig

Budget Officer
On Sat, Jan 19, 2019 at 8:09 PM Hertig, Sarah <sarah_hertig@nps.gov> wrote:
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National Park Service
National Capital Region
2-W29
1100 Ohio Drive SW
Washington, DC 20242
Office: 202.619.7061
Mobile: 202.510.7452
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National Park Service
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Date: Fri, Jan 18, 2019 at 6:37 PM
Subject: Clarification on Pay Codes for Pay Period 1902
To: David Moore <david.h.moore@nps.gov>, Charles Richardson <Charles.Richardson@nps.gov>, Hertig, Sarah <sarah.hertig@nps.gov>, Shepherd, Cherie <cherie.shepherd@nps.gov>, April Slayton <april.slayton@nps.gov>

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Jeanette Organ
NCR, Human Resources Specialist
202-619-7234 Office
202-619-7240 Fax
jeanette_organ@nps.gov
We value your feedback. Please click on this link to complete a short survey.
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WM2VMDX

Thank you for your feedback.
Hi all,

Attached please find a draft op-ed from Danny Smith about operating the national parks during a lapse in appropriations.

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Jeremy Barnum told me that we are at over 80 parks for the FLREA funds, with a list that included Yosemite, Yellowstone, and the National Mall (hence the WWII Memorial's inclusion). An NPF release at the time had the total number of NPS units closed at 401.

--

Sincerely,

Eli Nachmany
Speechwriter, Office of Communications
U.S. Department of the Interior
(202) 706-9285
FYI.

Robert D. MacLean  
Chief of Police  
United States Park Police  
202.619.7350 - Office  
robert_maclean@nps.gov - Email  

We are the oldest, federal, uniformed police force, which serves as the National Park Service urban-park-interface between our society and our nation's most cherished symbols of democracy. We selflessly protect and defend these symbols, what they represent, and those that visit them. We embrace our duty and responsibility to those we serve and the civil liberties that make us all free. We are proud of our heritage, our history, and our mission. We are the United States Park Police.

USPP Strategic Plan: https://www.nps.gov/subjects/uspp/upload/USPP-Strategic-Plan-final.pdf  
USPP Webpage: https://www.nps.gov/uspp/  
USPP Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/USParkPolice/  
USPP Twitter: https://twitter.com/usparkpolicepio

This e-mail (including any and all attachments) is intended for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed. It may contain information that is privileged, confidential or otherwise protected by applicable law. If you are not the intended recipient or the employee or agent responsible for delivery of this e-mail to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, copying or use of this e-mail or its contents is strictly prohibited. If you received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender immediately and destroy all copies.

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Blitzblau, Ira" <ira_blitzblau@nps.gov>  
Date: January 21, 2019 at 2:04:48 PM EST  
To: NPS National Ranger Council Extended  
<national_ranger_council_extended@nps.gov>
Subject: Border Surge FLREA Guidance

All,

Here is the updated guidance on the FLREA accounts for border surge activities. There are separate accounts and information sheets for each park. This will also be sent to the detailers who are travelling today, and has been posted to our border surge google page.

I am also attaching the timekeeping guidance that includes Quicktime pay code guidance.

Ira Blitzblau  
Law Enforcement Specialist  
Intermountain Regional Office  
(520) 791-6473 Office  
(520) 310-1800 Cell  
(720) 279-4642 24-hour Duty Officer Line  
FY19 Border Surge Information  
Branch Google Site
I think where we ended up on this was that if they were actively doing structural fire protection in facilities currently accessible to visitors, then it could fit under FLREA. But if its related to closed facilities, or facilities not open to visitors, then no FLREA. So most of what our structural fire folks are doing is going to be excepted, not exempted. Sound right?

Jessica Bowron  
Comptroller  
National Park Service  
(o) 202-513-7138  
(c) 202-280-8329

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Gallegos, Tammy <tammy_gallegos@nps.gov>  
Date: Sat, Jan 19, 2019 at 11:19 AM  
Subject: Fwd: Structural fire protection and response: Use of FLREA for Visitor Services during shut down and WBS accounts  
To: Bowron, Jessica <jessica_bowron@nps.gov>, Melinda Dominguez <melinda_martinez@nps.gov>

Hi Jessica,

We have a request regarding the use of FLREA for structural fire staff; Melinda and I are both sure at this time this activity has not been approved for those charges; please advise. Thanks again.

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Martinez, Melinda <melinda_martinez@nps.gov>  
Date: Fri, Jan 18, 2019 at 3:54 PM  
Subject: Re: Structural fire protection and response: Use of FLREA for Visitor Services during shut down and WBS accounts  
To: Moore, Richard <richard_moore@nps.gov>  
Cc: Gallegos, Tammy <tammy_gallegos@nps.gov>, Helms, Elizabeth <lisa_helms@nps.gov>, Kenney, Patrick <pat_kenney@nps.gov>, Jody Lyle <jody_lyle@nps.gov>, Daniel Hallett <daniel_hallett@nps.gov>

Hi Richard,

I recall Jessica Bowron saying she would look into it. For now, we are not authorized to use FLREA for structural fire. Tammy, would you like to send this on to Jessica in case it fell through the cracks?

Melinda
How are we doing? Please complete the following survey to let us know: Feedback

On Fri, Jan 18, 2019 at 3:40 PM Moore, Richard <richard_moore@nps.gov> wrote:

Melinda:

We were waiting on more specific guidance about the appropriate use of rec fee money for structural-fire-related personal services in this effort: base hours for our two excepted structural fire program employees, and overtime expenses for rangers to respond to fire incidents in visitor and concessioner facilities. I didn't see any language below. Our argument is that this fits under the law enforcement "bucket" similar to SAR, EMS etc. but we were told to hold off until guidance. Also, I imagine in other IMR parks they have the same question about wildland fire personnel who are excepted. Thanks.

Richard Moore
Deputy Chief Ranger
Yellowstone National Park
307-344-2103

On Fri, Jan 18, 2019 at 1:43 PM Frost, Rick <rick_frost@nps.gov> wrote:

Richard,

This should answer your question about accounts to charge to.

Rick

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Martinez, Melinda <melinda_martinez@nps.gov>
Date: Fri, Jan 18, 2019 at 12:44 PM
Subject: Information on use of FLREA for Visitor Services during shut down and WBS accounts
To: Daniel Seifert <daniel_seifert@nps.gov>, Mazzu, Linda <linda_mazzu@nps.gov>, Seth Maile <seth_maile@nps.gov>, Paul Austin <paul_austin@nps.gov>, Angela Boyers <angela_boyers@nps.gov>, Kerns, Michelle <michelle_kerns@nps.gov>, Vandzura, Matt <matt_vandzura@nps.gov>, Christopher Flesch <christopher_flesch@nps.gov>, William Gallus <william_gallus@nps.gov>, Mark Pita <mark_pita@nps.gov>, Gregory Smith <gregory_smith@nps.gov>, Ray O'Neil <Ray_O'Neil@nps.gov>, Matt Stoffolano <matt_stoffolano@nps.gov>, Allen Etheridge <allen_sEtheridge@nps.gov>, Scott Brown <scott_brown@nps.gov>, Kayci Cook <kayci_cook@nps.gov>, Joseph Alvillar <joseph_alvillar@nps.gov>, Patrick Kenney <pat_kenny@nps.gov>
Cc: Tara Riggs <tara_riggs@nps.gov>, Tammy Gallegos <Tammy_Gallegos@nps.gov>, Rick Frost <rick_frost@nps.gov>, Katharine (Kate) Hammond <kate_hammond@nps.gov>
FLREA has specific categories of functions allow for the use of Recreation Fee Dollars. The Acting Secretary of the Interior has made the decision to expend Recreation Fee Dollars to provide for limited basic visitor services to maintain accessibility to parks for areas that were accessible at the time of the lapse in appropriations.

Your park has been approved to utilize Recreation Fee Dollars for these purposes based on the cost estimator that was reviewed and approved by WASO. Four WBS accounts have been created to charge Personnel and non personnel costs directly related to the park areas that are accessible for visitors to include:

**Maintenance WBS:**
*Trash removal; custodial services wastewater/water utilities directly related to accessible visitor area/facilities; building checks for facilities open to visitors, etc. Concession facilities can be included in these charges.*
*Fuel, cleaning supplies, toilet paper, etc.*

**Visitor Information WBS:**
*Staffing entrance stations to provide safety information, campground operations, PIO/PAO for a limited time to let the public know what open

**Law Enforcement**
*Patrols for visitor accessible areas, checking for compliance and enforcement of rules and regulations in accessible areas, SAR/EMS related to visitors and dispatch services directly related to visitor services.*

Employees listed under excepted providing visitors service as authorized by the Acting Secretary are allowed to split their time between visitor service function and charge to FLREA

**Indirect Costs**
*Budget/timekeeping directly related to the most basic visitor services and limited management/supervision of those employees providing basic visitor service operations. Premium pay is allowed, however no leave can be charged.*

FLREA will pay for only the most basic services possible to meet the intent of the Secretary’s memo. Park’s are allowed to spend less or slightly more than what is approved in your estimator as needs will vary. For example you find that it takes more hours to pick up trash than estimated or you planned costs for snow plow operations and there was not a snow event in that week.

Do not open program beyond what is authorized in the Secretary’s memo.

Please reach out to Tammy Gallegos or Melinda Martinez with any questions.

Melinda L. Martinez, Regional Comptroller
National Park Service – Intermountain Region 303.969.2589 Voice 303.969.2794 Fax 303.478.6078 cell
The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

Budget and Finance Google Site
How are we doing? Please complete the following survey to let us know:

Feedback

--

Rick Frost
Deputy Regional Director, Protection, Partnerships and Interpretation
Intermountain Region
National Park Service
Office 303 987 6732
Cell 303 378 0255

--

Tammy K. Gallegos
Regional Chief of Contracting, Financial Assistance, Property and Requisition Program
National Park Service ~ Intermountain Region
505-988-6085 (office) ~~ 505-231-2836 (cell)

IMR Contracting and Financial Assistance Share Point Site:

IMR Regional Requisition Program Share Point Site:
http://share.inside.nps.gov/sites/IMR/Requisitions/SitePages/Home.aspx

IMPORTANT: This e-mail, including attachments, constitute Federal Government records and property that is intended only for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed. It also may contain information that is privileged, confidential, or otherwise protected from disclosure under applicable law. If the reader of this e-mail transmission is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, copying or use of this email or its contents is strictly prohibited. If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender by responding to this e-mail and then delete the e-mail immediately.
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Paul (Dan) Smith" <paul_smith@nps.gov>
Date: January 21, 2019 at 4:35:24 PM EST
To: "Nachmany, Eli" <eli_nachmany@ios.doi.gov>
Cc: Todd Willens <todd_willens@ios.doi.gov>, Katharine MacGregor <kate_macgregor@ios.doi.gov>, John Bockmier <john_bockmier@ios.doi.gov>, "Newell, Russell" <russell_newell@ios.doi.gov>, Faith Vander Voort <faith_vandervoort@ios.doi.gov>, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>, David Bernhardt <dbernhardt@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Re: DRAFT: Danny Smith NPS op-ed

I am not in agreement with this draft op ed I will work tomorrow with my staff to present my point of view on this issue without emphasizing the Southern border or WW I I veterans Take care Dan

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 21, 2019, at 12:14 PM, Nachmany, Eli <eli_nachmany@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Hi all,

Attached please find a draft op-ed from Danny Smith about operating the national parks during a lapse in appropriations.

In the op-ed, I cite that "according to Interior Department leaders at the time, the 2013 shutdown resulted in an estimated loss of $414 million in visitor spending around national parks, as compared to previous years." The source for that figure can be found here: https://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/secretary-jewell-nps-director-release-new-report-showing-national-parks-remain-strong-economic-engines-support-243000-jobs-nationwide

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Sincerely,

Eli Nachmany
Speechwriter, Office of Communications
U.S. Department of the Interior
(202) 706-9285

<0121 oped.docx>
Sent from my iPhone

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From: "Nachmany, Eli" <eli_nachmany@ios.doi.gov>
Date: January 21, 2019 at 12:14:28 PM EST
To: Todd Willens <todd_willens@ios.doi.gov>, Katharine MacGregor <kate_macgregor@ios.doi.gov>, "Newell, Russell" <russell_newell@ios.doi.gov>, Faith Vander Voort <faith_vandervoort@ios.doi.gov>, "Paul (Dan) Smith" <paul_smith@nps.gov>, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Cc: David Bernhardt <dwbernhardt@ios.doi.gov>
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Attached please find a draft op-ed from Danny Smith about operating the national parks during a lapse in appropriations.

In the op-ed, I cite that "according to Interior Department leaders at the time, the 2013 shutdown resulted in an estimated loss of $414 million in visitor spending around national parks, as compared to previous years." The source for that figure can be found here: https://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/secretary-jewell-nps-director-release-new-report-showing-national-parks-remain-strong-economic-engines-support-243000-jobs-nationwide

Jeremy Barnum told me that we are at over 80 parks for the FLREA funds, with a list that included Yosemite, Yellowstone, and the National Mall (hence the WWII Memorial's inclusion). An NPF release at the time had the total number of NPS units closed at 401.

--

Sincerely,

Eli Nachmany
Speechwriter, Office of Communications
U.S. Department of the Interior
(202) 706-9285
Thanks Lena. My concern with the HPTC Reimbursable Staff is that their carrying cost is $500K per month. My understanding is that their back pay will need to come out of W&I's ONPS rather than the funds received for HPTC projects because we can't charge them for work not done during that time. In previous years, such as the shutdown in 2013, there was enough money available within W&I to absorb such costs. However, the difference this year is that the proposed realignment to fix HR had already accounted for $2.6M in available W&I funds. I understand the proposal is on hold, but I just wanted to make sure that I communicated the drivers for having made the request at this time.

Thanks,
Tony

On Tue, Jan 22, 2019 at 9:54 AM McDowall, Lena <lena_mcdowall@nps.gov> wrote:

Thanks, Tony. Unfortunately, we're not entertaining proposals to exempt additional staff. I know people are anxious about getting back to work, and we're getting a lot of these requests both for indiv staff and entire programs. But at this point, we're still just looking at FLREA. If we need an estimate or a proposal from a program, we will definitely reach out and ask for it. --L

On Tue, Jan 22, 2019 at 9:50 AM Nguyen, Nhien (Tony) <nhien_nguyen@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Lena and Jessica,

Could I have your review of the following proposal to exempt HPTC Reimbursable Staff under the use of Non-Lapsed Project Funds and Donations. The project funding and donations were received by HPTC prior to the lapse. The proposal and project summaries are included in the attached Word document.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Tony

--

N. Tony Nguyen
Associate Director, Workforce & Inclusion
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

nhien_nguyen@nps.gov
202-354-1990 main

--

Lena McDowall
Deputy Director, Management and Administration
--

N. Tony Nguyen
Associate Director, Workforce & Inclusion
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

nhien_nguyen@nps.gov
202-354-1990 main
Hi Sarah-

QuickTime just rejected both GWMP's FLREA Direct and Snow Direct account numbers.

Thanks,
Edie Johnston
George Washington Memorial Parkway
Administrative Program Specialist
703-289-2526

On Tue, Jan 22, 2019 at 10:48 AM Hertig, Sarah <sarah_hertig@nps.gov> wrote:
Blanca and Edie - GWMPs accounts have been updated. Please use the accounts on TAB 3 of the attached workbook.

For Exempt (010, 110, etc.) time for:

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Snow Direct: PX.XGWMPPSD19.00.1
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Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Sarah

Sarah V. Hertig
Budget Officer
On Tue, Jan 22, 2019 at 10:00 AM Stransky, Blanca <blanca_stransky@nps.gov> wrote:
Will do.
  Blanca Alvarez Stransky
  Deputy Superintendent
  George Washington Memorial Parkway
  700 George Washington Memorial Parkway
  McLean, VA 22101
  (703)289-2503 or (703)289-2500
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Budget Officer
National Park Service
National Capital Region

2-W29
1100 Ohio Drive SW
Washington, DC 20242

Office: 202.619.7061
Mobile: 202.510.7452

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We are actively working on our payroll. We are working to get it to you before noon today. Edie is our timekeeper.

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With thanks,
April

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April Slayton  
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(202) 619-7022 - direct  
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Facebook Twitter  
Instagram YouTube

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Sarah V. Hertig

Budget Officer  
National Park Service  
National Capital Region  
2-W29  
1100 Ohio Drive SW
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Let me know what your questions are.

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Please read this email in its entirety - it contains important information and instruction for time cards completed this pay period. Do not hesitate to reach out to Jeanette, Charles or me with any questions you may have - I will be monitoring email and text messages this weekend and will back in the office on Tuesday, 22 January 2019.

1. Please see email below from Jeanette Organ RE: coding hours appropriately (i.e., exempt v excepted, etc.). Let us know what questions you have here since we know it can get confusing.

2. I have attached the example OF-288, Incident Time Report, to be used for this pay period (PP19-02). We will only be using the OF-288 for THIS PAY PERIOD (PP9-02). We will begin using both the SF-261, Crew Time Report, AND the OF-288 in PP19-03.

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| 2019 Shutdown Accounts |

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- **IF** snow operations are approved under FLREA, WBSs that end with [FLR4] are to be used for all DIRECT PERSONNEL COSTS associated with the snow operation.

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- For all EXCEPTED work (hour code 107) and FURLough time (hour code 105), please continue to use the employee's default base account.

4. A quick reminder on using WBSs in QuickTime: you will
need to omit any "." in the WBS field in order for it to be recognized. I double checked all WBSs on Friday and all are released for use.

I cannot thank you enough for your efforts to get time in before the Tuesday deadline. As stated above, do not hesitate to reach out with any questions you have. We are here to help!

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National Capital Region

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Mobile: 202.510.7452

---------- Forwarded message --------
From: Organ, Jeanette <jeanette.organ@nps.gov>
Date: Fri, Jan 18, 2019 at 6:37 PM
Subject: Clarification on Pay Codes for Pay Period 1902
To: David Moore <david_h.moore@nps.gov>, Charles Richardson <Charles.Richardson@nps.gov>, Hertig, Sarah <sarah_hertig@nps.gov>, Shepherd, Cherie <cherie.shepherd@nps.gov>, April Slayton <april.slayton@nps.gov>

Hi,

Below is the information that I received in an email from Michelle Fisher today. I thought that I would pass it along just for your information or if you wanted to send out to the time keepers.

Hello all,

I want to make sure everyone clearly understands how the coding of **EXEMPT** hours are to be used, versus excepted hours and the furlough non-pay status codes.

**Below are the codes and how they are to be used:**
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**Example for Item 3:** An employee who normally worked an eight hour day is scheduled to work 3 hours on a task that is funded by FLREA, then he works for 4 hours on a task not funded by FLREA project; then he leaves for the day. Although he worked a total of 7 hours (during his normal 8 hour day), his timecard for that one-day should be coded as such:

- Paycode 010 = 3 hours (FLREA account code)
- Paycode 107 = 4 hours (regular account code)
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TOTAL # of hours = 8 hours

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thanks,

The Human Resources Office appreciates the feedback, your feedback is helpful in identifying what areas we need to improve and the areas where we are meeting or exceeding your expectations.

*We value your feedback. Please click on this link to complete a short survey.*
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2016YM5HRJZ

Jeanette Organ
NCR, Human Resources Specialist
202-619-7234 Office
202-619-7240 Fax
jeanette_organ@nps.gov

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Thank you for your feedback.
Valarie, Tara and Diana - NACE accounts have been updated. Please use the accounts on TAB 3 of the attached workbook.

For Exempt (010, 110, etc.) time for:

Law Enforcement (GWMP won't have)

Maintenance: PX.XGWMPMA19.00.1

Visitor Services: PX.XGWMPVS19.00.1

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Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Sarah
Sarah V. Hertig

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Thank you for your feedback.
Sarah,

Do I need to update every 288 form with these new numbers and rescanning them for Edie? Edie is using the new numbers in QuickTime which she is inputting them.

Blanca Alvarez Stransky  
Deputy Superintendent  
George Washington Memorial Parkway  
700 George Washington Memorial Parkway  
McLean, VA 22101  
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Hello all,

I want to make sure everyone clearly understands how the coding of **EXEMPT** hours are to be used, versus excepted hours and the furlough non-pay status codes.
Below are the codes and how they are to be used:

1) **Employee working only Exempt Hours** -- code "010" for hours worked and "105" for hours not worked

2) **Employee working only Excepted Hours** -- code "107" for hours worked and "105" for hours not worked

3) **Employee who is working both Exempted and Excepted Hours** -- code "010" for exempt hours, "107" for excepted hours worked" and "105" for hours not worked (see example below)

4) **Furlough Employee** -- code "105" for hours not worked (keeping in mind that IBC is mass coding those time cards)

**Example for Item 3:** An employee who normally worked an eight hour day is scheduled to work 3 hours on a task that is funded by FLREA, then he works for 4 hours on a task not funded by FLREA project; then he leaves for the day. Although he worked a total of 7 hours (during his normal 8 hour day), his timecard for that one-day should be coded as such:

- Paycode 010 = 3 hours (FLREA account code)
- Paycode 107 = 4 hours (regular account code)
- Paycode 105 = 1 hour (regular account code)

TOTAL # of hours = 8 hours

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thanks,

The Human Resources Office appreciates the feedback, your feedback is helpful in identifying what areas we need to improve and the areas where we are meeting or exceeding your expectations.

We value your feedback. Please click on this link to complete a short survey.
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2016YM5HRJZ

Jeanette Organ
NCR, Human Resources Specialist
202-619-7234 Office
202-619-7240 Fax
jeanette_organ@nps.gov

We value your feedback. Please click on this link to complete a short survey.
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WM2VMDX

Thank you for your feedback.
Hello Mrs. Hertig,

It was requested for timekeepers to provide names in which OF-288's they're responsible for as well as their respective certifier's.

I'm the time keeper for ROCR at the Maintenance Facility and this list contains the employee's that have OF-288's that worked. I have uploaded, categorized the OF-288's by groups/folders in the OF-288 upload link. The folders are named with the certifier of that group and below you will find the certifier's for some certifier's that worked below.

Certifier - Alvin Cromer (employee's responsible below, however, his certifier is Doug Rowley)
-Briscoe, Stanley
-Claytor, Michael
-Harris, Kevin E.
-Jackson, Marcus
-Spriggs, Leo

Certifier - Michael Ransome (employee's responsible below, however, his certifier is Donald Kirk)
-McDuffie, Ricardo
-Minter, Wes
- Newman, Maxwell
- Patrick, Sherman
- Ransome, Michael

Certifier - Michael Papa (employee's responsible below, however, his certifier is Doug Rowley)
- Sherwood Hall

Certifier - Anthony Smith (employee's responsible below, however, his certifier is Doug Rowley)
- Montgomery, Avery
- Seering, Joseph
- Smith, Anthony
- Woodland, Vernon

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns and thank you for your time!

Best Regards,

Donnie Fitzhugh
Facility Service Assistant/MVO
Department of Interior – National Park Service
Call 301-741-1221 Office: 202-895-8019

On Tue, Jan 22, 2019 at 11:32 AM Hertig, Sarah <sarah_hertig@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi everyone.

It has come to our attention we will not be able to use the new accounts today, so please continue to use the old accounts on Tab 2.

2019 Shutdown Accounts

We (region) will move the labor charges to the correct accounts once labor posts.

Please upload your OF288s as soon as possible (today) as we will be using this to move to the correct accounts.

I am SO SORRY for the confusion and I appreciate your patience.

Thanks,
Sarah

Sarah V. Hertig

Budget Officer
National Park Service
National Capital Region
On Tue, Jan 22, 2019 at 9:45 AM Slayton, April <april_slayton@nps.gov> wrote:

Good morning all,
We have some new information related to the WBS accounts, and Sarah is making some changes on the back end. PLEASE WAIT to enter account codes until Sarah can send out new guidance - we expect that to come very soon.
With thanks,
April
--
April Slayton
Acting Deputy Regional Director
National Park Service, National Capital Region
(202) 619-7022 - direct
(202) 641-0291 - mobile

Facebook Twitter
Instagram YouTube

On Sun, Jan 20, 2019 at 10:19 AM Hertig, Sarah <sarah_hertig@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi everyone - one last thing for PP19-02:

6. Timekeepers please forward a list of the assigned timekeepers and certifiers for the staff you are entering into QuickTime. We will need this information to certify at the regional level.

Thanks,
Sarah

Sarah V. Hertig

Budget Officer
National Park Service
National Capital Region
On Sat, Jan 19, 2019 at 8:09 PM Hertig, Sarah <sarah.hertig@nps.gov> wrote:
Hi everyone - one quick addition to the list of things to do for PP19-02:

5. Please scan and upload **all** OF288s to your park’s folder at the link below. This can be done as a batch and not individually. I just ask that they be scanned in alphabetical order so we can find them easily.

Let me know what your questions are.

Thanks,
Sarah

Sarah V. Hertig
Budget Officer
National Park Service
National Capital Region
2-W29
1100 Ohio Drive SW
Washington, DC 20242

Office: 202.619.7061
Mobile: 202.510.7452

On Fri, Jan 18, 2019 at 9:35 PM Hertig, Sarah <sarah.hertig@nps.gov> wrote:
Hi everyone - a few things in this email for our timekeeping for PP 19-02. This applies to PP 19-02 only unless otherwise noted. Another email will be sent with instructions for PP19-03 at a later date. Please share this message with anyone I may have missed.
Please read this email in its entirety - it contains important information and instruction for time cards completed this pay period. Do not hesitate to reach out to Jeanette, Charles or me with any questions you may have - I will be monitoring email and text messages this weekend and will back in the office on Tuesday, 22 January 2019.

1. Please see email below from Jeanette Organ RE: coding hours appropriately (i.e., exempt v excepted, etc.). Let us know what questions you have here since we know it can get confusing.

2. I have attached the example OF-288, Incident Time Report, to be used for this pay period (PP19-02). We will only be using the OF-288 for THIS PAY PERIOD (PP9-02). We will begin using both the SF-261, Crew Time Report, AND the OF-288 in PP19-03.

   • BLOCK 4 - Park Acronym

   • BLOCK 5 - Employee Name (Last, First)

   • BLOCK 8 - Category of Work Performed (i.e., DIRECT FLREA, DIRECT FLREA SNOW, INDIRECT FLREA, INDIRECT FLREA SNOW, DONATION, EXCEPTED, FURLOUGHED)

   • BLOCK 15 - Corresponding WBS/Account (See 3. below for account list guidance) and date and time worked

   • BLOCK 20 - Employee Signature

   • Block 21 - Supervisor Signature

3. I have attached the link to the accounts to use for exempt time this week. Shutdown donation accounts are listed on TAB 1; shutdown FLREA accounts are listed on TAB 2.

   2019 Shutdown Accounts
WBSs that end with **FLR1** are to be used for all DIRECT PERSONNEL COSTS that are allowable under the guidance put out by Jessica on the 1/17/2019 phone call.

WBSs that end with **FLR3** are to be used for all INDIRECT PERSONNEL COSTS that are allowable under the guidance put out by Jessica on the 1/17/2019 phone call.

**IF** snow operations are approved under FLREA, WBSs that end with **FLR4** are to be used for all DIRECT PERSONNEL COSTS associated with the snow operation.

**IF** snow operations are approved AND snow operation INDIRECT PERSONNEL cost are approved under FLREA, WBSs that end with **FLR6** are to be used for all INDIRECT PERSONNEL COSTS associated with the snow operation.

If your park has any time that is for work performed for a donation and/or a reimbursable account, please use the already assigned WBS as done in PP19-01. Let me know if you need these accounts.

For all EXCEPTED work (hour code 107) and FURLOUGH time (hour code 105), please continue to use the employee's default base account.

4. A quick reminder on using WBSs in QuickTime: you will need to omit any “.” in the WBS field in order for it to be recognized. I double checked all WBSs on Friday and all are released for use.

I cannot thank you enough for your efforts to get time in before the Tuesday deadline. As stated above, do not hesitate to reach out with any questions you have. We are here to help!

Thanks,
Sarah
Hi,

Below is the information that I received in an email from Michelle Fisher today. I thought that I would pass it along just for your information or if you wanted to send out to the time keepers.

Hello all,

I want to make sure everyone clearly understands how the coding of EXEMPT hours are to be used, versus excepted hours and the furlough non-pay status codes.

Below are the codes and how they are to be used:
1) Employee working only Exempt Hours -- code "010" for hours worked and "105" for hours not worked
2) Employee working only Excepted Hours -- code "107" for hours worked and "105" for hours not worked
3) Employee who is working both Exempted and Excepted Hours -- code "010" for exempt hours, "107" for excepted hours worked" and "105" for hours not worked (see example below)
4) Furlough Employee -- code "105" for hours not worked (keeping in mind that IBC is mass coding those time cards)

Example for Item 3: An employee who normally worked an eight hour day is scheduled to work 3 hours on a task that is funded by FLREA, then he works for 4 hours on a task not funded by FLREA project; then he leaves for the day.
Although he worked a total of 7 hours (during his normal 8 hour day), his timecard for that one-day should be coded as such:
Paycode 010 = 3 hours (FLREA account code)
Paycode 107 = 4 hours (regular account code)
Paycode 105 = 1 hour (regular account code)
TOTAL # of hours = 8 hours

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thanks,

The Human Resources Office appreciates the feedback, your feedback is helpful in identifying what areas we need to improve and the areas where we are meeting or exceeding your expectations.

We value your feedback. Please click on this link to complete a short survey.
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2016YM5HRU7

Jeanette Organ
NCR, Human Resources Specialist
202-619-7234 Office
202-619-7240 Fax
jeanette_organ@nps.gov

We value your feedback. Please click on this link to complete a short survey.
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WM2VMDX

Thank you for your feedback.
Got it, thanks. I put it back to “more than 80,” or roughly 1 in 5 (of 418 total).

Bear in mind that some of those listed, i.e. National Mall and Memorial Parks, actually include multiple NPS units. Nearly all of the parks currently using FLREA funds to maintain accessibility and limited services were accessible at the beginning of the lapse in appropriations.

Few parks are fully open, but many are accessible with limited basic services, some have outdoor areas that are accessible but with no services, and still other NPS units are completely closed.

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
Mobile: (202) 617-7973  
Facebook  
Twitter  
Instagram  
YouTube

On Tue, Jan 22, 2019 at 2:30 PM Rob Hotakainen <rhotakainen@eenews.net> wrote:

Just fyi, I moved it saying “fewer than 80” since I noticed some of the parks were mentioned twice, both as examples and on overall list.  
Thanks much.  
rob
Ok, gotta wrap this one up for PM --- so I’m saying NPS says more than 80 of its 418 sites are now open, with possibly more to follow. Then I’ll cite some of your examples.

From: Rob Hotakainen
Sent: Tuesday, January 22, 2019 12:10 PM
To: 'Barnum, Jeremy' <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Question

Thanks, Jeremy.
So NPS estimates that more than 80 of the 418 park sites are now partially open and using FLREA funds to operate? All of the rest are closed but more may reopen?
Just making sure I understand.
Thanks.
Rob

From: Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 22, 2019 12:01 PM
To: Rob Hotakainen <rhotakainen@eenews.net>
Cc: NPS News Media <newsmedia@nps.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Question

During the lapse of appropriations, the National Park Service (NPS) has gone to great lengths to keep America’s iconic national parks as accessible as possible to the American public.

Thanks to the strong relationships that many national parks have built with partners across the country, a number of states, private concession companies, and park nonprofit groups have stepped up to provide millions of dollars' worth of donations and in-kind services to help over forty parks continue to provide key services for visitors. As the lapse in appropriations continued, it become clear that highly visited parks with limited staff had urgent needs that cannot be addressed solely through the generosity of our partners.

The NPS charges fees through the payment of visitor services at parks through the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (“FLREA”). This fee revenue is retained by the NPS and can be used for a variety of specified purposes. The NPS modified its contingency plan to provide that each park which has available balances of FLREA funds will be able to utilize such funds to address basic visitor services at parks including trash removal, custodial services, visitor information, snow plowing, and campground services. The NPS estimates that over 80 national parks are already utilizing FLREA funds for these purposes.

Examples of the parks that have already approved plans to immediately utilize FLREA funds:

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks is using FLREA funds to provide access to all areas of the park that are normally accessible this time of year, with the exception of the visitor center. The
funds will also allow for additional park snow play areas and restrooms to be opened, and restore access to the General Sherman and General Grant sequoia trees, which were closed after the start of the lapse of appropriations due to winter weather and ice. The park will also use funds to staff entrance stations to provide visitor orientation, safety messages and information on protection park resources.

**Liberty and Ellis Islands** will continue to be open to visitors using revenue generated by National Park Service (NPS) recreation fees and support from its partners. Castle Clinton National Monument at Battery Park in Manhattan, where ticketing for ferries to the Statue of Liberty occurs, will also remain open. The parks have been open since the beginning of the lapse in appropriations thanks to a previous donation from the State of New York.

**The National Parks of the Nation's Capital** is using FLREA funds to resume trash collection and sanitation services and undertake urgent roadwork at five national parks within the District of Columbia, including George Washington Memorial Parkway, National Capital Parks - East, National Mall and Memorial Parks, President's Park and Rock Creek Park. During the first 20 days following the lapse in appropriations, the DC Department of Public Works, several Business Improvement Districts and other partners collected trash at NPS sites across the city.

**Yellowstone National Park** is using FLREA funds to clean bathrooms across the park, collect trash, staff four out of five entrance stations to provide safety information, staff the busiest warming hut at Madison Junction, and increase staffing of emergency medical services. The park continues to operate under its winter use plan and, because of donations from concessioners during the shutdown allowing for road grooming, the park has maintained normal access for visitors at this time of year (excluding visitors centers).

**Grand Canyon National Park** is using FLREA funds to continue custodial services, trash removal and snow removal on walkways and trails that have been previously provided by the State of Arizona. Funds will also be used to provide visitor use assistants at the park’s two entrance stations on the South Rim provide visitor orientation, safety messages and information on protection park resources. The Grand Canyon Conservancy has also donated funds to keep several visitor facilities open.

**Bryce Canyon National Park** opened Inspiration and Bryce Points as well as Loop A of the North campground at the park. The Bryce Canyon Natural History Association has provided donations to keep the park’s visitor center open at least through January 30.

**Great Smoky Mountains National Park** announced that recently closed areas of the park will once again be accessible to visitors beginning Sunday, January 13. Some basic visitor services, including campgrounds and restrooms, will reopen using revenue generated by recreation fees.

**Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historical Park** will be open from Saturday, January 19 through February 3, in advance of the Martin Luther King, Jr. national holiday and days after the 90th anniversary of his birth. This is possible thanks to a grant from The Delta Air Lines Foundation and revenue generated by NPS recreation fees.
See below for a list of parks that are utilizing recreation fee revenue to restore accessibility and basic visitor services at parks (not a full list, as we are receiving additional requests from parks).

- Acadia National Park
- American Memorial Park
- Amistad National Recreation Area
- Andersonville National Historic Site
- Arches National Park
- Assateague Island National Seashore
- Big Bend National Park
- Big Cypress National Preserve
- Big Thicket National Preserve
- Biscayne National Park
- Blue Ridge Parkway
- Bryce Canyon National Park
- Buffalo National River
- Canyonlands National Park
- Cape Hatteras National Seashore
- Castillo de San Marcos National Monument
- Channel Islands National Park
- Christiansted National Historic Site
- Colonial National Historical Park
- Crater Lake National Park
- Cuyahoga Valley National Park
- Death Valley National Park
- Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area
- Devil’s Tower National Monument
- Dry Tortugas National Park
- Everglades National Park
- Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument
- Fredericksburg National Military Park
- Gateway National Recreation Area
- George Washington Memorial Parkway
- Gettysburg National Military Park
- Grand Canyon National Park
- Grand Teton National Park
- Great Smoky Mountains National Park
- Haleakala National Park
- Hawai‘i Volcanoes National Park
- Hovenweep National Monument
- Hot Springs National Park
- Independence National Historical Park
- Joshua Tree National Park
- Kaloko-Honokohau National Historical Park
Lake Mead National Recreation Area
Lassen Volcanic National Park
Little River Canyon National Preserve
Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historical Park
Mount Rainier National Park
National Capital Parks - East
National Mall and Memorial Parks
Natural Bridges National Monument
Olympic National Park
Oregon Caves National Monument & Preserve
Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument
Pea Ridge National Military Park
Point Reyes National Seashore
President’s Park
Pu’u’honua o Honaunau National Historical Park
Redwood National Park
River Raisin National Battlefield Park
Rock Creek Park
Rocky Mountain National Park
Saguaro National Park
San Antonio Missions National Historical Park
Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks
Shenandoah National Park
Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore
Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument
Virgin Islands National Park
Vicksburg National Military Park
Voyageurs National Park
War in the Pacific National Historical Park
Whiskeytown National Recreation Area
Yellowstone National Park
Yosemite National Park
Zion National Park

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube
On Tue, Jan 22, 2019 at 7:54 AM Rob Hotakainen <rhotakainen@eenews.net> wrote:

Hi Jeremy, how many of the 418 park sites are now open and how many additional parks opened as a result of the acting director’s order to use their fee revenue to resume operations? Thanks, rob

Rob Hotakainen
National parks, oceans and fisheries reporter
E&E NEWS
rhotakainen@eenews.net
202-446-0477
Twitter: @HotakainenRob
122 C Street NW, 7th floor, Washington, DC, 20001
www.eenews.net | @EENewsUpdates
Greenwire, E&E Daily, E&E News PM, Climatewire, Energywire
See below as of Jan 6.

-------- Forwarded message --------

From: Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Date: Sun, Jan 6, 2019 at 3:17 PM
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] WSJ question
To: Torry, Harriet <harriet.torry@wsj.com>
Cc: NPS News Media <newsmedia@nps.gov>

Harriet,

The National Park Service has confirmed seven deaths in the National Park System since Dec. 22. We believe four of those deaths were suicides, but out of respect for the families of the deceased we are not providing further information.

I have provided information on the other three fatalities below.

Over the course of the year there an average six deaths a week in the National Park System including accidents like drownings, falls, and motor vehicle crashes and medical related incidents such as heart attacks.

Throughout the year, the National Park System offers a wide range of visitor experiences in unique landscapes with potential hazards that may exist at parks across the nation. Visitors can reduce their risk of injury if they plan ahead and prepare properly, select the most appropriate activity that matches their skill set and experience, seek information before they arrive at the park about hazards and environmental conditions, follow rules and regulations and use sound judgement while recreating.

While some national park areas are accessible to the public during the lapse in federal appropriations, the National Park Service (NPS) is unable to fully staff the properties under its management. It is not feasible to close or otherwise prohibit all access to all areas managed by the NPS. For most parks, there will be no NPS-provided visitor services, such as restrooms, trash collection, facilities, or road maintenance and current park alerts and conditions may not be up to date. Emergency and rescue services will be limited. Park
visitors are advised to use caution if choosing to enter NPS-managed areas as hazardous or dangerous conditions may exist.

If visitor access becomes a safety, health or resource protection issue (weather, road conditions, resource damage, garbage build-up to the extent that it endangers human health or wildlife, etc.), park areas will be closed.

**Background Information**

Our visitors are coming to wild and natural places which they need to research in advance, prepare for adequately and understand the hazards before they go, and act appropriately, follow rules, warning signs and guidance at parks. Key points to remember are:

“Know before you go” - research the park and the activity you plan to do and potential hazards you may encounter, be realistic about your limits and of those traveling with you, identify the right equipment for your trip and test it/try it out before you go; provide your travel itinerary to someone who is not going with you so they know when you should return and who to contact if you don’t. Have a “Plan B” in case something impacts your planned activity.

“Responsible decisions” – Make responsible decisions on your trip; turn around if weather, your health or others, or environmental conditions change. Stay on trail and don’t change plans. Follow the rules and regulations.

Learn more here: [https://www.nps.gov/subjects/healthandsafety/index.htm](https://www.nps.gov/subjects/healthandsafety/index.htm)

**Yosemite NP Statement**

On the afternoon of Tuesday, December 25, Yosemite National Park Emergency Communications Center (Dispatch) received a 911 call regarding a male park visitor with a head injury above Nevada Fall. The visitor was in the Silver Apron area, a body of water between Vernal and Nevada Falls. Rangers were on scene in less than an hour and the visitor was removed from the water. Medical attention was provided to the visitor, but he died from his injuries.

We aren't releasing more detail because the incident remains under investigation, which is taking longer than usual because of the shutdown. A news release wasn’t issued because of the shutdown. The visitor was not in a closed area.
Great Smoky Mountains National Park Statement

A woman was struck and killed by a falling tree in Great Smoky Mountains National Park on Thursday, December 27, 2018. The accident occurred on Porter Creek Trail amid high winds.

Laila Jiwani, age 42 from Plano, Texas, was in the park hiking with her husband and three children. One of the children, age 6, was injured and airlifted to UT Medical Center with non-life threatening injuries.

No further details regarding the incident are available at this time.

Statement from Coconino County Sheriff's Office on Horseshoe Bend (Glen Canyon National Recreation Area)


Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Sun, Jan 6, 2019 at 1:45 PM Torry, Harriet <harriet.torry@wsj.com> wrote:

Hi Jeremy,
I'm a reporter with the Wall Street Journal and I'm writing about the government shutdown today. I saw news reports about three deaths at national parks since the start of the shutdown and I just wanted to ask whether that's accurate? Do you know how many deaths have occurred since Friday?
Best wishes,
Harriet

Harriet Torry
Reporter | The Wall Street Journal
Desk: 202-862-6601| Cell: 202-304-9076
harriet.torry@wsj.com | @HarrietTorry
we are not going to be able to respond to this inquiry in this level of detail. we have been asked these questions multiple times across parks/regions during the shutdown and consistently said that we can't answer this level of question because we are in a shutdown.

you can provide some generic info related to donation agreements that have been signed, or the basic vis services provided under flrea. But we're not able to provide the requested level of detail during a shutdown.

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329

On Tue, Jan 22, 2019 at 4:14 PM Powell, Christine <chris_powell@nps.gov> wrote:

Stan and Amanda,

The Department received the Congressional request below and asked each of the bureaus to respond by COB today. We told them we would not have any information for them until tomorrow.

"OCL received an inquiry about the effect of the lapse in Hawaii.

By COB today (Tuesday), would you please send examples of impacts in Hawaii? Also could we please get the total number of employees impacted?"

Can you begin to quantify some of the impacts in HI? I know this is a general question and could be answered any number of ways. I would quantify it by looking at the impacts to HI parks and any possible impacts to gateway communities that you can quantify.

As for total number of employees impacted, I would list the staff in each of the categories--furloughed, exempted, accepted. All employees are impacted, so I think this is the best way to respond to this question.

Thanks--sorry to ask you to do this while you are dealing with other issues.

Christine Powell
Acting Chief of Staff
(o) 202-513-7181
(c) 202-878-2309
Simply FYI and an early heads up on this - the park is trying to track this down and figure out what division this individual volunteers for. He is a BLM-furloughed employee. Just looping you in now and if you have any additional questions please give me a call.

thanks,
Amanda

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Vanover, Christie <christie_vanover@nps.gov>
Date: Tue, Jan 22, 2019 at 2:20 PM
Subject: VIP Working in Park
To: Tammy Morris <tammy_morris@nps.gov>
Cc: NPS LAKE Mgmt Staff <lake_mgmt_staff@nps.gov>, NPS PWR Public Affairs <pwr_public_affairs@nps.gov>

Tammy,

Can you please confirm which division Daniel Patterson volunteers for, so we can contact him by phone. He is apparently volunteering in the park right now, wearing his NPS VIP arm band.

https://twitter.com/DanPattersonUSA
If his supervisor is furloughed, please provide me with his phone number, and I will contact him.

We need to let him know that while we appreciate all of our volunteers, during the lapse of appropriation, the National Park Service is not able to support official volunteer activities. If he wants to pack out trash on his own time, he is able to do that, but not as an official NPS volunteer.

Please be advised that he routinely tags media outlets and the congressional delegation, expressing his dissatisfaction with the shutdown. This tweet has already been acknowledged by a member of the media. He is also the person who tweeted the photos of an overflowing trashcan and dirty restroom in the park that was picked up nationally, so be cognizant that any correspondence we have with him may be shared publicly.

--

Respectfully,

Christie Vanover
Public Affairs Officer
Lake Mead National Recreation Area
Tule Springs Fossil Beds National Monument
National Park Service
601 Nevada Way, Boulder City, NV 89005
702-293-8691 (office)
702-283-2344 (cell)
christie_vanover@nps.gov

#FindYourPark
www.nps.gov/lake
www.facebook.com/lakemeadnps
Twitter: @LakeMeadNPS
Instagram: @LakeMeadNPS
Hi Jessica/Obe-

Below are the questions we received to date for tomorrow’s call. Hopefully this one will make you smile: I got a request that we think about a Comms plan to inform the general public about the ethical restrictions that federal employees are under. There have been a lot of awkward situations with partners and the general public trying to give things to federal employees. The one that gave me a chuckle was the visitor that threw a $100 bill in the open window of the YELL snowplow operator’s cab then ran. Others are trying to give money at entrance stations. It’s really nice that people value federal employees and the work we do. Something tells me you’re not getting $100 bills thrown in the window of Main Interior, but please know how much we all appreciate the excellent communication, efforts, empathy, and teamwork of the WASO gang.

> Could WASO please provide info to employees in writing about backpay legislation that passed.

> How does WASO envision FLREA money will be managed/prioritized for basic visitor services. Will 80% parks exhaust their fee balances first then be moved to 20%? Or have 80% fee funds already been pulled and centralized to fund all plans? What is the current national burn rate with FLREA uses that have been approved to date?

> What other policy changes does the WASO office see are possible/likely if this shutdown lasts another few weeks?

> What will WASO’s approach be to service limitations/delayed openings at parks since seasonal hiring, permanent hiring, and contracting is delayed as a result of the shutdown?

> What will the approach to the SCC be for this year?

> Can/will WASO coordinate advice for parks/regions on how employees who worked through the shutdown should be recognized/awarded so this is not done unevenly across the service?

> Sent from my iPhone
I’m going to leave my office window open tomorrow just in case....

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service

> On Jan 22, 2019, at 10:24 PM, Katharine (Kate) Hammond <kate_hammond@nps.gov> wrote:
> 
> Hi Jessica/Obe-
> Below are the questions we received to date for tomorrow’s call.
> Hopefully this one will make you smile: I got a request that we think
> about a Comms plan to inform the general public about the ethical
> restrictions that federal employees are under. There have been a lot
> of awkward situations with partners and the general public trying to
> give things to federal employees. The one that gave me a chuckle was
> the visitor that threw a $100 bill in the open window of the YELL
> snowplow operator’s cab then ran. Others are trying to give money at
> entrance stations. It’s really nice that people value federal
> employees and the work we do. Something tells me you’re not getting
> $100 bills thrown in the window of Main Interior, but please know how
> much we all appreciate the excellent communication, efforts, empathy,
> and teamwork of the WASO gang.
> 
> >> Could WASO please provide info to employees in writing about backpay legislation that passed.
> >>
> >> How does WASO envision FLREA money will be managed/prioritized for basic visitor services. Will 80% parks
> exhaust their fee balances first then be moved to 20%? Or have 80% fee funds already been pulled and centralized to
> fund all plans? What is the current national burn rate with FLREA uses that have been approved to date?
> >>
> >> What other policy changes does the WASO office see are possible/likely if this shutdown lasts another few
> weeks?
> >>
> >> What will WASO’s approach be to service limitations/delayed openings at parks since seasonal hiring,
> permanent hiring, and contracting is delayed as a result of the shutdown?
> >>
> >> What will the approach to the SCC be for this year?
> >>
> >> Can/will WASO coordinate advice for parks/regions on how employees who worked through the shutdown
> should be recognized/awarded so this is not done unevenly across the service?
> >>
> >> Sent from my iPhone
Jessica Bowron  
Comptroller  
National Park Service  
(o) 202-513-7138  
(c) 202-280-8329

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>  
Date: Tue, Jan 22, 2019 at 10:30 PM  
Subject: Re: Questions for WASO call tomorrow  
To: Katharine (Kate) Hammond <kate_hammond@nps.gov>  
Cc: <jessica_bowron@nps.gov>, <rick_obernesser@nps.gov>, <nhien_nguyen@nps.gov>

I’m going to leave my office window open tomorrow just in case....

Jeremy Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service

> On Jan 22, 2019, at 10:24 PM, Katharine (Kate) Hammond <kate_hammond@nps.gov> wrote:
> 
> Hi Jessica/Obe-
> Below are the questions we received to date for tomorrow’s call.
> Hopefully this one will make you smile: I got a request that we think
> about a Comms plan to inform the general public about the ethical
> restrictions that federal employees are under. There have been a lot
> of awkward situations with partners and the general public trying to
> give things to federal employees. The one that gave me a chuckle was
> the visitor that threw a $100 bill in the open window of the YELL
> snowplow operator’s cab then ran. Others are trying to give money at
> entrance stations. It’s really nice that people value federal
> employees and the work we do. Something tells me you’re not getting
> $100 bills thrown in the window of Main Interior, but please know how
> much we all appreciate the excellent communication, efforts, empathy,
> and teamwork of the WASO gang.
> 
> >>
> >> Could WASO please provide info to employees in writing about backpay legislation that passed.
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services. Will 80% parks exhaust their fee balances first then be moved to 20%? Or have 80% fee funds already been pulled and centralized to fund all plans? What is the current national burn rate with FLREA uses that have been approved to date?

>>

>> What other policy changes does the WASO office see are possible/likely if this shutdown lasts another few weeks?

>>

>> What will WASO’s approach be to service limitations/delayed openings at parks since seasonal hiring, permanent hiring, and contracting is delayed as a result of the shutdown?

>>

>> What will the approach to the SCC be for this year?

>>

>> Can/will WASO coordinate advice for parks/regions on how employees who worked through the shutdown should be recognized/awarded so this is not done unevenly across the service?

>>

>> Sent from my iPhone
Good morning April,

GWMP has received the email and I will be submitting the names per your request.

Blanca Alvarez Stransky
Deputy Superintendent
George Washington Memorial Parkway
700 George Washington Memorial Parkway
McLean, VA 22101
(703)289-2503 or (703)289-2500
419 341-2325 (cell)

Success in life has nothing to do with what you gain in life or accomplish for yourself. It’s what you do for others. --Danny Thomas

On Wed, Jan 23, 2019 at 9:55 AM Slayton, April <april_slayton@nps.gov> wrote:

Good morning,

We are working to respond to an inquiry from the union regarding bargaining unit (BU) employees working during the lapse in appropriations.

Using this sheet, each park should identify the bargaining unit employees in your park or program who have done excepted or exempted work since the shutdown began. Please indicate if they have been working full time or part time and if they were called back after initially being furloughed. It may be useful to use information from the NCR list of excepted employees and park-specific approved FLREA cost estimators to identify employees who need to be added to the BU information sheet.

We do not need you to list BU employees who have been furloughed and not working for the duration of the lapse, and we don't need you to list employees who are not BU employees.

The deadline for this request is COB THURSDAY (1/24/2019). If this is not possible, please give me a call to discuss.

EACH PARK POC AND ARD, please reply to let me know that you've received this message and indicate who from your park team will complete this request.

Thank you so much for your help!
All the best,
April

--
April Slayton
Acting Deputy Regional Director
April, I received this and will take care of it for Antietam.
Thanks
Rory

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 23, 2019, at 9:55 AM, Slayton, April <april_slayton@nps.gov> wrote:

Good morning,

We are working to respond to an inquiry from the union regarding bargaining unit (BU) employees working during the lapse in appropriations.

Using this sheet, each park should identify the bargaining unit employees in your park or program who have done excepted or exempted work since the shutdown began. Please indicate if they have been working full time or part time and if they were called back after initially being furloughed. It may be useful to use information from the NCR list of excepted employees and park-specific approved FLREA cost estimators to identify employees who need to be added to the BU information sheet.

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EACH PARK POC AND ARD, please reply to let me know that you've received this message and indicate who from your park team will complete this request.

Thank you so much for your help!
All the best,
April

--
April Slayton
Acting Deputy Regional Director
National Park Service, National Capital Region
(202) 619-7022 - direct
(202) 641-0291 - mobile
<New Picture (1).bmp>
Facebook Twitter
Instagram YouTube
April,

I have received the email and will fill out the sheet today.

Thank you,
Cynthia

On Wed, Jan 23, 2019 at 9:55 AM Slayton, April <april_slayton@nps.gov> wrote:

Good morning,

We are working to respond to an inquiry from the union regarding bargaining unit (BU) employees working during the lapse in appropriations.

Using this sheet, each park should identify the bargaining unit employees in your park or program who have done excepted or exempted work since the shutdown began. Please indicate if they have been working full time or part time and if they were called back after initially being furloughed. It may be useful to use information from the NCR list of excepted employees and park-specific approved FLREA cost estimators to identify employees who need to be added to the BU information sheet.

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EACH PARK POC AND ARD, please reply to let me know that you've received this message and indicate who from your park team will complete this request.

Thank you so much for your help!
All the best,
April

--
April Slayton
Acting Deputy Regional Director
National Park Service, National Capital Region
(202) 619-7022 - direct
(202) 641-0291 - mobile
April:

I have the request and I am working on it. I should have it to you today.

Regards,
John

John Stanwich
National Park Service Liaison to the White House
voice: (202) 219-0322
cell: (202) 438-1200

On Wed, Jan 23, 2019 at 9:55 AM Slayton, April <april_slayton@nps.gov> wrote:

Good morning,

We are working to respond to an inquiry from the union regarding bargaining unit (BU) employees working during the lapse in appropriations.

Using this sheet, each park should identify the bargaining unit employees in your park or program who have done excepted or exempted work since the shutdown began. Please indicate if they have been working full time or part time and if they were called back after initially being furloughed. It may be useful to use information from the NCR list of excepted employees and park-specific approved FLREA cost estimators to identify employees who need to be added to the BU information sheet.

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EACH PARK POC AND ARD, please reply to let me know that you've received this message and indicate who from your park team will complete this request.

Thank you so much for your help!
All the best,
April

April Slayton
April

I have received your email. I have filled out the requested info. MONO only has 1 BU employee working.

Thanks

Travis Baker
Chief Ranger
Monocacy National Battlefield
301 331 1147

On Wed, Jan 23, 2019 at 9:55 AM Slayton, April <april_slayton@nps.gov> wrote:

Good morning,

We are working to respond to an inquiry from the union regarding bargaining unit (BU) employees working during the lapse in appropriations.

Using this sheet, each park should identify the bargaining unit employees in your park or program who have done excepted or exempted work since the shutdown began. Please indicate if they have been working full time or part time and if they were called back after initially being furloughed. It may be useful to use information from the NCR list of excepted employees and park-specific approved FLREA cost estimators to identify employees who need to be added to the BU information sheet.

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EACH PARK POC AND ARD, please reply to let me know that you've received this message and indicate who from your park team will complete this request.

Thank you so much for your help!
All the best,
April

--
April Slayton
Acting Deputy Regional Director
National Park Service, National Capital Region
(202) 619-7022 - direct
From: Bowron, Jessica  
To: Lena McDowall; Marlon Taubenheim; Nhien (Tony) Nguyen  
Subject: Fwd: HR Question  
Date: Wednesday, January 23, 2019 8:51:52 AM

Jessica Bowron  
Comptroller  
National Park Service  
(t) 202-513-7138  
(c) 202-280-8329

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Conway, Deborah <debbie_conway@nps.gov>  
Date: Wed, Jan 23, 2019 at 10:02 AM  
Subject: Fwd: HR Question  
To: Jessica Bowron <jessica_bowron@nps.gov>  
Cc: Gay Vietzke <Gay_Vietzke@nps.gov>, Rosalyn Fennell <rose_fennell@nps.gov>

Jessica

I hope you were able to get a few days off this past weekend GATE is beginning to experience a shortage of LE rangers due to seasons ending and employees leaving. They had several new hires almost ready to on-board prior to the shutdown. They are asking if FLREA funds could be used to bring in an HR specialist to complete those actions in order to maintain the present level of access to visitors. What would you advise?

Thanks

Debbie

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Nersesian, Jennifer <jen_nersesian@nps.gov>  
Date: Mon, Jan 21, 2019 at 11:27 AM  
Subject: HR Question  
To: Debbie Conway <Debbie_Conway@nps.gov>  
Cc: Capt Greg Norman <greg_norman@nps.gov>, James Grant <jim_grant@nps.gov>

Hi Debbie:

We just had a LE seasonal end their hours and another permanent LE employee is leaving, leaving us short-handed for our protection work under visitor services. We had several hires that were in the end stages of the process when the shutdown hit as per the FLREA condition below, could we pay from our fee S to have an HR person complete that hiring process?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HR work allowed under shutdown</th>
<th>Please reiterate Hiring on Hold- status of bringing on Regional SHRO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Looking into the level of HR that can be performed as the shutdown continues. Work funded by FLREA that requires HR processing to occur will need to charge the hours of that HR work against their FLREA funding plans. This &quot;exempted HR processing&quot; must be limited in scope to only the work required to execute FLREA funding ACTION plans.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Jennifer T Nersesian, Superintendent  
Gateway National Recreation Area  
718-354-4665  
Like us on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/GatewayNPS

---

Debbie Conway  
Deputy Regional Director  
Northeast Region, National Park Service  
O 215-597-1281  
C 215-370-3323
April,

I received this message and entered the BU employees into the Google sheet.

Thanks!

Jay

On Wed, Jan 23, 2019 at 9:55 AM Slayton, April <april_slayton@nps.gov> wrote:

> Good morning,

> We are working to respond to an inquiry from the union regarding bargaining unit (BU) employees working during the lapse in appropriations.

> Using this sheet, each park should identify the **bargaining unit employees** in your park or program who have done excepted or exempted work since the shutdown began. Please indicate if they have been working full time or part time and if they were called back after initially being furloughed. It may be useful to use information from the NCR list of excepted employees and park-specific approved FLREA cost estimators to identify employees who need to be added to the BU information sheet.

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> EACH PARK POC AND ARD, please reply to let me know that you've received this message and indicate who from your park team will complete this request.

> Thank you so much for your help!

> All the best,

> April

--

April Slayton  
Acting Deputy Regional Director  
National Park Service, National Capital Region  
(202) 619-7022 - direct  
(202) 641-0291 - mobile

[Facebook](https://www.facebook.com)  [Twitter](https://twitter.com)  [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com)  [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com)
Jay Copper, US Park Ranger
Antietam National Battlefield

Office: 301-432-2243
Cell: 301-988-1998
Days off: Thursday, Friday, every other Saturday
Sarah,

Per our phone conversation, I am attaching the SF-288's that I reviewed and corrected in Quicktime.

After making the corrections in Quicktime to match the SF-288, I made notes on what I changed on the time card in the system on the attached SF-288 for you information.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thanks,

The Human Resources Office appreciates the feedback, your feedback is helpful in identifying what areas we need to improve and the areas where we are meeting or exceeding your expectations.

We value your feedback. Please click on this link to complete a short survey.
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WM2VMDX

Jeanette Organ
NCR, Human Resources Specialist
202-619-7234 Office
202-619-7240 Fax
jeanette_organ@nps.gov

We value your feedback. Please click on this link to complete a short survey.
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WM2VMDX

Thank you for your feedback.

On Tue, Jan 22, 2019 at 11:57 AM Hertig, Sarah <sarah_hertig@nps.gov> wrote:

Sarah V. Hertig
Budget Officer
Hello Mrs. Hertig,

It was requested for timekeepers to provide names in which OF-288's they're responsible for as well as their respective certifier's.

I'm the time keeper for ROCR at the Maintenance Facility and this list contains the employee's that have OF-288's that worked. I have uploaded, categorized the OF-288's by groups/folders in the OF-288 upload link. The folders are named with the certifier of that group and below you will find the certifier's for some certifier's that worked below.

Certifier - (b) (6) (employee's responsible below, however, his certifier is (b) (6))

Certifier - (b) (6) (employee's responsible below, however, his certifier is (b) (6))

Certifier - (b) (6) (employee's responsible below, however, his certifier is (b) (6))

Certifier - (b) (6) (employee's responsible below, however, his certifier is (b) (6))
Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns and thank you for your time!

Best Regards,

Dontre Fitzhugh
Facility Service Assistant/MVO
Department of Interior - National Park Service
Cell 301-741-1221 Office: 202-895-6019

On Tue, Jan 22, 2019 at 11:32 AM Hertig, Sarah <sarah_hertig@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi everyone.

It has come to our attention we will not be able to use the new accounts today, so please continue to use the old accounts on Tab 2.

2019 Shutdown Accounts

We (region) will move the labor charges to the correct accounts once labor posts.

Please upload your OF288s as soon as possible (today) as we will be using this to move to the correct accounts.

I am SO SORRY for the confusion and I appreciate your patience.

Thanks,
Sarah

Sarah V. Hertig

Budget Officer
National Park Service
National Capital Region

2-W29
1100 Ohio Drive SW
Washington, DC 20242

Office: 202.619.7061
Mobile: 202.510.7452
On Tue, Jan 22, 2019 at 9:45 AM Slayton, April <april_slayton@nps.gov> wrote:

Good morning all,

We have some new information related to the WBS accounts, and Sarah is making some changes on the back end. PLEASE WAIT to enter account codes until Sarah can send out new guidance - we expect that to come very soon.

With thanks,

April

--

April Slayton
Acting Deputy Regional Director
National Park Service, National Capital Region
(202) 619-7022 - direct
(202) 641-0291 - mobile

[Social media links]

On Sun, Jan 20, 2019 at 10:19 AM Hertig, Sarah <sarah_hertig@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi everyone - one last thing for PP19-02:

6. Timekeepers please forward a list of the assigned timekeepers and certifiers for the staff you are entering into QuickTime. We will need this information to certify at the regional level.

Thanks,

Sarah

Sarah V. Hertig

Budget Officer
National Park Service
National Capital Region

2-W29
1100 Ohio Drive SW
Washington, DC 20242

Office: 202.619.7061
Mobile: 202.510.7452

On Sat, Jan 19, 2019 at 8:09 PM Hertig, Sarah <sarah_hertig@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi everyone - one quick addition to the list of things to do for PP19-02:
5. Please scan and upload **all** OF288s to your park’s folder at the link below. This can be done as a batch and not individually. I just ask that they be scanned in alphabetical order so we can find them easily.

Let me know what your questions are.

Thanks,
Sarah

Sarah V. Hertig
Budget Officer
National Park Service
National Capital Region
2-W29
1100 Ohio Drive SW
Washington, DC 20242
Office: 202.619.7061
Mobile: 202.510.7452

On Fri, Jan 18, 2019 at 9:35 PM Hertig, Sarah <sarah_hertig@nps.gov> wrote:
Hi everyone - a few things in this email for our timekeeping for PP 19-02. This applies to PP 19-02 only unless otherwise noted. Another email will be sent with instructions for PP19-03 at a later date. Please share this message with anyone I may have missed.

Please read this email in its entirety - it contains important information and instruction for time cards completed this pay period. Do not hesitate to reach out to Jeanette, Charles or me with any questions you may have - I will be monitoring email and text messages this weekend and will back in the office on Tuesday, 22 January 2019.

1. Please see email below from Jeanette Organ RE: coding hours
appropriately (i.e., exempt excepted, etc.). Let us know what questions you have here since we know it can get confusing.

2. I have attached the example OF-288, Incident Time Report, to be used for this pay period (PP19-02). We will only be using the OF-288 for THIS PAY PERIOD (PP9-02). We will begin using both the SF-261, Crew Time Report, AND the OF-288 in PP19-03.

- BLOCK 4 - Park Acronym
- BLOCK 5 - Employee Name (Last, First)
- BLOCK 8 - Category of Work Performed (i.e., DIRECT FLREA, DIRECT FLREA SNOW, INDIRECT FLREA, INDIRECT FLREA SNOW, DONATION, EXCEPTED, FURLOUGHED)
- BLOCK 15 - Corresponding WBS/Account (See 3. below for account list guidance) and date and time worked
- BLOCK 20 - Employee Signature
- Block 21 - Supervisor Signature

3. I have attached the link to the accounts to use for exempt time this week. Shutdown donation accounts are listed on TAB 1; shutdown FLREA accounts are listed on TAB 2.

- [2019 Shutdown Accounts]

- WBSs that end with **FLR1** are to be used for all DIRECT PERSONNEL COSTS that are allowable under the guidance put out by Jessica on the 1/17/2019 phone call
- WBSs that end with **FLR3** are to be used for all INDIRECT
PERSONNEL COSTS that are allowable under the guidance put out by Jessica on the 1/17/2019 phone call

- **IF** snow operations are approved under FLREA, WBSs that end with FLR4 are to be used for all DIRECT PERSONNEL COSTS associated with the snow operation.

- **IF** snow operations are approved AND snow operation INDIRECT PERSONNEL cost are approved under FLREA, WBSs that end with FLR6 are to be used for all INDIRECT PERSONNEL COSTS associated with the snow operation.

- If your park has any time that is for work performed for a donation and/or a reimbursable account, please use the already assigned WBS as done in PP19-01. Let me know if you need these accounts.

- For all EXCEPTED work (hour code 107) and FURLOUGH time (hour code 105), please continue to use the employee's default base account.

4. A quick reminder on using WBSs in QuickTime: you will need to omit any “.” in the WBS field in order for it to be recognized. I double checked all WBSs on Friday and all are released for use.

I cannot thank you enough for your efforts to get time in before the Tuesday deadline. As stated above, do not hesitate to reach out with any questions you have. We are here to help!

Thanks,
Sarah

Sarah V. Hertig
Budget Officer
National Park Service
National Capital Region
2-W29
1100 Ohio Drive SW
Washington, DC 20242
Hi,

Below is the information that I received in an email from Michelle Fisher today. I thought that I would pass it along just for your information or if you wanted to send out to the time keepers.

Hello all,

I want to make sure everyone clearly understands how the coding of EXEMPT hours are to be used, versus excepted hours and the furlough non-pay status codes.

**Below are the codes and how they are to be used:**

1) **Employee working only Exempt Hours** -- code "010" for hours worked and "105" for hours not worked
2) **Employee working only Excepted Hours** -- code "107" for hours worked and "105" for hours not worked
3) **Employee who is working both Exempted and Excepted Hours** -- code "010" for exempt hours, "107" for excepted hours worked" and "105" for hours not worked **(see example below)**
4) **Furlough Employee** -- code "105" for hours not worked (keeping in mind that IBC is mass coding those time cards)

**Example for Item 3:** An employee who normally worked an eight hour day is scheduled to work 3 hours on a task that is funded by FLREA, then he works for 4 hours on a task not funded by FLREA project; then he leaves for the day. Although he worked a total of 7 hours (during his normal 8 hour day), his timecard for that one-day should be coded as such:

- Paycode 010 = 3 hours (FLREA account code)
- Paycode 107 = 4 hours (regular account code)
- Paycode 105 = 1 hour (regular account code)
- TOTAL # of hours = 8 hours

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.
Thanks,

The Human Resources Office appreciates the feedback, your feedback is helpful in identifying what areas we need to improve and the areas where we are meeting or exceeding your expectations.

We value your feedback. Please click on this link to complete a short survey. 
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2016YM5HRJZ

Jeanette Organ
NCR, Human Resources Specialist
202-619-7234 Office
202-619-7240 Fax
jeanette_organ@nps.gov

We value your feedback. Please click on this link to complete a short survey. 
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WM2VMDX

Thank you for your feedback.
Yes - pretty much everything is cancelled... the only outlier is VALR who has essentially been functioning normally due to a donation agreement that funded their whole operation. However, I am unsure if that included any programs or meetings. Let me try and ping Jacqueline to ask her what is the current status of their agreement and get back to you....

If for some reason I don't reach her, a better way to say it is "All park programs and meetings are cancelled unless a donation agreement is in place to fund such activities"?

Amanda Kaplan  
National Park Service  
Pacific West Regional Office  
909 1st Ave, 5th Floor  
Seattle, WA 98104  
Phone: (206) 220-4150  
Cell: (206) 475-4590

On Wed, Jan 23, 2019 at 8:54 AM Powell, Christine <chris.powell@nps.gov> wrote:

I hate to do this, but one more question that just caught my eye:

"Most park programs and meetings are cancelled."

Aren't all park programs and meetings cancelled? Or would the programs and meetings that are still taking place be ones that are funded through donations?

Christine Powell  
Acting Chief of Staff  
(o) 202-513-7181  
(c) 202-878-2309

On Wed, Jan 23, 2019 at 11:49 AM Kaplan, Amanda <amanda_kaplan@nps.gov> wrote:

Sure thing!
On Wed, Jan 23, 2019 at 8:48 AM Powell, Christine <chris_powell@nps.gov> wrote:
Great--I will send this revised version up Amanda. Thanks again.

Christine Powell
Acting Chief of Staff
(o) 202-513-7181
(c) 202-878-2309

On Wed, Jan 23, 2019 at 11:28 AM Kaplan, Amanda <amanda_kaplan@nps.gov> wrote:
I think that works. I agree the examples just created more questions/confusion vs. being helpful.

thanks,
Amanda

Amanda Kaplan
National Park Service
Pacific West Regional Office
909 1st Ave, 5th Floor
Seattle, WA 98104
Phone: (206) 220-4150
Cell: (206) 475-4590
On Wed, Jan 23, 2019 at 7:41 AM Powell, Christine <chris_powell@nps.gov> wrote: How about this revision?

Parks in Hawaii are working to remain as accessible as possible. Generally, roads, parking lots and trails are open, with closures in place for visitor safety and resource protection where needed. Visitor facilities such as visitor centers are closed. Most park programs and meetings are cancelled.

Christine Powell
Acting Chief of Staff
(o) 202-513-7181
(c) 202-878-2309

On Wed, Jan 23, 2019 at 10:33 AM Kaplan, Amanda <amanda_kaplan@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Chris,

That's my general understanding of closures for the shutdown though I don't have an inventory of every specific parking area status in HI. There are some areas that were closed prior to the shutdown (eg Jaggar Museum at HAVO due to eruption) but I wasn't looking at that fine a scale. That last sentence in the first paragraph was the one I debated including - if you think it isn't solid enough we can edit in a different direction.

Amanda

Amanda Kaplan
National Park Service
Pacific West Regional Office
909 1st Ave, 5th Floor
Seattle, WA 98104
Phone: (206) 220-4150
Cell: (206) 475-4590
Hi Amanda,

We looked at this and it looks good. Just one clarification--if you have additional closures for visitor safety such as the parking lot at Pu'uhonua O Honaunau, does that mean that all other parking lots are generally open (along with roads and trails)?

Thanks for getting this back so quickly.

Chris
Christine Powell
Acting Chief of Staff
(o) 202-513-7181
(c) 202-878-2309

Good evening Chris and Jessica,

Here is the Draft PWR response to this inquiry for you. Sending it tonight so if there is anything else you need/want you can let us know in time to send a revised response and still meet the deadline tomorrow. Thanks - Amanda

Parks in Hawaii are working to remain as accessible as possible. Generally, roads and trails are open while visitor facilities such as visitor centers are closed. Most park programs and meetings are cancelled. Some additional closures are in place for visitor safety and resource protection concerns, such as the parking lot at Pu’uhonua O Honaunau National Historical Park and the gated road to the Kaloko Fishpond at Kaloko Honokohau National Historical Park.

The following parks have donation agreements in place to support park operations, including the operation of park visitor centers:

- World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument
- Hawaii Volcanoes National Park
- Pu’uhonua O Honaunau National Historical Park

The following parks are using FLREA (Recreation Fee Funding) to support basic visitor services (and have approved DOI Plans to do so as of PP02):
Here is a sample Press Release from Hawaii Volcanoes National Park announcing the use of FLREA to provide basic visitor services.

Amanda Kaplan
National Park Service
Pacific West Regional Office
909 1st Ave, 5th Floor
Seattle, WA 98104
Phone: (206) 220-4150
Cell: (206) 475-4590

On Tue, Jan 22, 2019 at 2:34 PM Powell, Christine <chris_powell@nps.gov> wrote:

NEW TIMELINE

John Tanner and I spoke; he reached out to the member.

The new deadline is 3:00 on Wednesday. Guidance continues to evolve; I appreciate everyone's patience.

Christine Powell
Acting Chief of Staff
(o) 202-513-7181
(c) 202-878-2309

On Tue, Jan 22, 2019 at 4:34 PM Kaplan, Amanda <amanda_kaplan@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Chris,

Sending an email back to acknowledge we received this and will start working on it. I may call you with some questions in terms of what is really possible to gather during the timeframe but will start with your guidance on employee counts.
On Tue, Jan 22, 2019 at 1:14 PM Powell, Christine <chris_powell@nps.gov> wrote:

Stan and Amanda,

The Department received the Congressional request below and asked each of the bureaus to respond by COB today. We told them we would not have any information for them until tomorrow.

"OCL received an inquiry about the effect of the lapse in Hawaii. By COB today (Tuesday), would you please send examples of impacts in Hawaii? Also could we please get the total number of employees impacted?"

Can you begin to quantify some of the impacts in HI? I know this is a general question and could be answered any number of ways. I would quantify it by looking at the impacts to HI parks and any possible impacts to gateway communities that you can quantify.

As for total number of employees impacted, I would list the staff in each of the categories--furloughed, exempted, accepted. All employees are impacted, so I think this is the best way to respond to this question.

Thanks--sorry to ask you to do this while you are dealing with other issues.

Christine Powell
Acting Chief of Staff
(o) 202-513-7181  
(c) 202-878-2309
thank you so much, Jeremy

Russell Newell
Deputy Director of Communications
U.S. Department of the Interior
(202) 208-6232
@Interior

On Wed, Jan 23, 2019 at 12:02 PM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

During the lapse of appropriations, the National Park Service (NPS) has gone to great lengths to keep America’s iconic national parks as accessible as possible to the American public.

Thanks to the strong relationships that many national parks have built with partners across the country, a number of states, private concession companies, and park nonprofit groups have stepped up to provide millions of dollars’ worth of donations and in-kind services to help over forty parks continue to provide key services for visitors. As the lapse in appropriations continued, it become clear that highly visited parks with limited staff had urgent needs that cannot be addressed solely through the generosity of our partners.

The NPS charges fees through the payment of visitor services at parks through the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (“FLREA”). This fee revenue is retained by the NPS and can be used for a variety of specified purposes. The NPS modified its contingency plan to provide that each park which has available balances of FLREA funds will be able to utilize such funds to address basic visitor services at parks including trash removal, custodial services, visitor information, snow plowing, and campground services. The NPS estimates that over 80 national parks are already utilizing FLREA funds for these purposes.

Examples of the parks that have already approved plans to immediately utilize FLREA funds:

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks is using FLREA funds to provide access to all areas of the park that are normally accessible this time of year, with the exception of the visitor center. The funds will also allow for additional park snow play areas and restrooms to be opened, and restore access to the General Sherman and General Grant sequoia trees, which were closed after the start of the lapse of appropriations due to winter weather and ice. The park will also use funds to staff entrance stations to provide visitor orientation, safety messages and information on protection park resources.
Liberty and Ellis Islands will continue to be open to visitors using revenue generated by National Park Service (NPS) recreation fees and support from its partners. Castle Clinton National Monument at Battery Park in Manhattan, where ticketing for ferries to the Statue of Liberty occurs, will also remain open. The parks have been open since the beginning of the lapse in appropriations thanks to a previous donation from the State of New York.

The National Parks of the Nation's Capital is using FLREA funds to resume trash collection and sanitation services and undertake urgent roadwork at five national parks within the District of Columbia, including George Washington Memorial Parkway, National Capital Parks - East, National Mall and Memorial Parks, President's Park and Rock Creek Park. During the first 20 days following the lapse in appropriations, the DC Department of Public Works, several Business Improvement Districts and other partners collected trash at NPS sites across the city.

Yellowstone National Park is using FLREA funds to clean bathrooms across the park, collect trash, staff four out of five entrance stations to provide safety information, staff the busiest warming hut at Madison Junction, and increase staffing of emergency medical services. The park continues to operate under its winter use plan and, because of donations from concessioners during the shutdown allowing for road grooming, the park has maintained normal access for visitors at this time of year (excluding visitors centers).

Grand Canyon National Park is using FLREA funds to continue custodial services, trash removal and snow removal on walkways and trails that have been previously provided by the State of Arizona. Funds will also be used to provide visitor use assistants at the park’s two entrance stations on the South Rim provide visitor orientation, safety messages and information on protection park resources. The Grand Canyon Conservancy has also donated funds to keep several visitor facilities open.

Bryce Canyon National Park opened Inspiration and Bryce Points as well as Loop A of the North campground at the park. The Bryce Canyon Natural History Association has provided donations to keep the park’s visitor center open at least through January 30.

Great Smoky Mountains National Park announced that recently closed areas of the park will once again be accessible to visitors beginning Sunday, January 13. Some basic visitor services, including campgrounds and restrooms, will reopen using revenue generated by recreation fees.

Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historical Park will be open from Saturday, January 19 through February 3, in advance of the Martin Luther King, Jr. national holiday and days after the 90th anniversary of his birth. This is possible thanks to a grant from The Delta Air Lines Foundation and revenue generated by NPS recreation fees.

On Wed, Jan 23, 2019 at 11:04 AM Newell, Russell <russell_newell@ios.doi.gov> wrote:
All - anything you can send me to add to this list by noon today?
Here are some functions that have continued at DOI during the partial shutdown:

- Brought in dedicated team to fund retired miners.
- All 183 Bureau of Indian Education schools have remained open and fully operational. There has been no lapse in service.
- Major national parks remain open and are being cleaned and maintained, including the National Mall, Yellowstone, the Grand Canyon, the Statue of Liberty, Bryce Canyon, and Arches and Canyonlands. Roads are being plowed.
- 38 national refuges in 19 states have reopened.
- Wildland fire preparation and training continues. Fire preparedness and suppression continues.
- Inspections and enforcement for oil and gas and logging operations, rights-of-way contracts have continued.
- Law enforcement personnel continue to operate at BLM, NPS, BIA, & FWS.
- Emergency response.
- We are paying U.S. National Park Police retroactively.
- Natural disaster monitoring continues uninterrupted at USGS.
- We’ve brought in HR leaders to assist employees through the lapse.
- Wild Horses and Burros are being fed and cared for, and holding facilities are being managed.
- A limited number of special recreation permit authorizations and concession/commercial recreation leases and renewals may be processed.
  - BLM is processing a special recreation permit for a mountain bike group tour event on Black Canyon National Recreation Trail (AZ).
  - BLM is processing a special recreation permit for a Glendale Union School District (AZ) JROTC Invitation Orienteering Event.
- Campgrounds, boat ramps, and other recreation sites will be open.
- CA Desert Quartzite Solar EIS
- North Gila-Imperial Valley Substation 500 KV Transmission Line – assessing project needs for ROW.
- Continue working on outstanding ROW grant for Palen Solar project (CA)
- Walker Ridge Wind Project EIS (CA)– assessing project needs.
- Continuing rehabilitation efforts for Bull Draw and Buttermilk Fires. BLM CO needs shipment from the BLM Seed warehouse and work from the SWD contracting officer. Need to seed by mid-February.
- BLM employees have continued inspecting oil and gas drilling sites for the presence of cultural resources and endangered or threatened species.
- BLM employees are processing grazing, drilling, and renewable energy permits, but their funding comes from fees unrelated to the congressional appropriations process.
- FOIA officials are being brought back.
- Ethics legal team is operating.
- The Office of Insular Affairs (OIA) continues to operate the following essential programs with non-lapsing permanent funding:
  - The Compact of Free Association Economic Assistance;
  - Capital Improvement Project on-going construction program grants; and
  - The American Samoa Judiciary.
- OIA has also provided $300,000 to LBJ Hospital in American Samoa for emergency continuing operations funding due to the lack of new appropriations.
- Energy development is part of Interior’s mission. Many energy programs are mandatory. We also derive revenues from energy that fund many conservation initiatives, such as LWCF.
Russell Newell
Deputy Director of Communications
U.S. Department of the Interior
(202) 208-6232
@Interior
Travis Baker will respond for MONO.

Chris Stubbs
Superintendent
Monocacy National Battlefield
Cell: 301-302-6239

Sent from a mobile device

On Jan 23, 2019, at 9:55 AM, Slayton, April <april_slayton@nps.gov> wrote:

Good morning,

We are working to respond to an inquiry from the union regarding bargaining unit (BU) employees working during the lapse in appropriations.

Using [this sheet](#), each park should identify the **bargaining unit employees** in your park or program **who have done excepted or exempted work since the shutdown began**. Please indicate if they have been working full time or part time and if they were called back after initially being furloughed. It may be useful to use information from the [NCR list of excepted employees](#) and park-specific approved FLREA cost estimators to identify employees who need to be added to the BU information sheet.

We do not need you to list BU employees who have been furloughed and not working for the duration of the lapse, and we don't need you to list employees who are not BU employees.

The deadline for this request is COB THURSDAY (1/24/2019). If this is not possible, please give me a call to discuss.

EACH PARK POC AND ARD, please reply to let me know that you've received this message and indicate who from your park team will complete this request.

Thank you so much for your help!
All the best,
April

--

April Slayton
Acting Deputy Regional Director
National Park Service, National Capital Region
(202) 619-7022 - direct
Hi April.

I completed the requested sheet for CHOHO. We wanted to confirm our interpretation of the information requested. We had employees who were submitted as excepted from the beginning of the shutdown. Some of these employees were on approved leave at the beginning of the shutdown and were allowed to continue to stay out until the completion of their original leave request. We did not consider this "as being called back" on the sheet you provided. Please let me know if this is correct.

Thank you very much,

Josh

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Thank you so much for your help!
All the best,
April

--
April Slayton
Acting Deputy Regional Director
National Park Service, National Capital Region
Joshua Cunningham
Law Enforcement Supervisor
C&O Canal NHP

Cell: (301) 491-6279
e-mail: joshua_cunningham@nps.gov

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION: This email and any attachments may contain confidential and/or legally privileged information intended only for the use of individual(s) named above. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that you should not review, use, disclose, distribute, or forward this email. If you have received this email in error, please notify the sender immediately and delete/destroy any copies of the original message.
Thanks April. I will be completing this request.

Sent from my iPhone

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Thank you so much for your help!
All the best,
April

--
April Slayton
Acting Deputy Regional Director
National Park Service, National Capital Region
(202) 619-7022 - direct
(202) 641-0291 - mobile
<New Picture (1).bmp>
Facebook Twitter
Instagram YouTube
GREAT to hear from you!

EFMO has been best served by the visitor accessibility - facility closure - excepted skeleton crew formula during this shutdown. Myself and a maintenance employee are the excepted employees while the rest (10) have been furloughed. A shutdown during this time of year is optimal(?) from an EFMO resource protection / employee impact point of view due to frozen ground, lowest visitation, and lightest annual staffing.

I attached the EFMO Shutdown AAR DRAFT I have been creating in preparation for everyone's return. Please forgive how rough it is, I've been brainstorming it without consultation due to the current lone ranger situation here, but it should provide a window into my vision for this unit. I'm sure the EFMO team will embrace this since AAR's have become a part of our normal operating culture and the end product of this review should be robust due to the hyper-collaboration strategy we use. I realize we are not a complex NPS Unit but this will help us immensely. It will also rebuild morale locally by giving everyone a chance to have their experiences appreciated which feeds a mechanism that transforms into positive change. We'll also adjust this template once we learn its' weaknesses.

At the least I think WASO can encourage similar strategies from NPS Units/Programs. Those individual AAR's will have tons of extractable data for interested leadership groups on a wide variety of topics and disciplines. Having data to back up some theories may serve the agency well. Distilling the data will be challenging in this format but also fascinating especially for disparate critical thinkers like me. I'm particularly curious about the long range unintended consequences of the shutdown on resources, operations and staff. I am also curious about the cumulative effect of the shutdown and what can be quantifiable - nerdy stuff there but thought provoking. Lastly, this shutdown has impacted every NPS employee more than any other single event in history (I think)! We should brace for the impact of that and find a way to make something out of it.

These findings might not contribute to the prevention of a future shutdown but they'll help the agency with strategic thinking in preparation for the next one. You've heard me say it before - "intelligence drives future operations."

I'm honored by your interest and I hope this helps. I'm also pleased my thoughts on this matter didn't evaporate into the ether - quite the opposite - kudos.

All the best,

DB-L.

On Wed, Jan 23, 2019 at 11:10 AM Obernesser, Rick <rick_obernesser@nps.gov> wrote:

Hey DBL

How are you? How has the shut down played out for you at EFMO?
I have been thinking AAR for a while now, although have not had much time to do a lot with it. Yesterday however, we had a mini 'status check' with the Regional Leadership Teams and WASO where we discussed how we were communicating and how the field was being effected. It helped us make a minor course correction and improve what we are doing every day.

I am interested in the the strategy you are working on however and hope you can share it with me. Once we get back to work everyone will be very busy getting people paid and putting people and systems back to work. I am afraid we will miss a great opportunity to review and learn. Am trying to consider how we, in a very simple and straight-forward way, get a chance to learn from this.

Any thoughts appreciated. BTW - I called Craig and let him know we were old friends and I would like go direct to you.

Thx

obe

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Fox, Kelly <kelly_fox@nps.gov>
Date: Wed, Jan 23, 2019 at 11:11 AM
Subject: Fwd: Question for WASO
To: Rick Obernesser <rick_obernesser@nps.gov>

Kelly Fox
National Park Service
Staff Assistant
Office of Deputy Director, Operations
1849 C Street NW, Room 3311
Washington, DC 20240
202-354-1821 (office)

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Craig Kenkel <craig_kenkel@nps.gov>
Date: Wed, Jan 23, 2019 at 11:09 AM
Subject: Fwd: Question for WASO
To: <kelly_fox@nps.gov>, <alexandra_picavet@nps.gov>
Hi Kelly. If not too late, here’s a question from the field for today’s call.

Craig Kenkel
Acting Midwest Regional Director
National Park Service
402-661-1520 office
440-668-2230 mobile

Sent from iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Barland-Liles, Dave" <david_barland-liles@nps.gov>
Date: January 23, 2019 at 8:52:10 AM CST
To: Craig Kenkel <craig_kenkel@nps.gov>
Subject: Question for WASO

Craig,

Question for this afternoons service-wide POC call.

I am interested in hearing the agencies after action review (AAR) / debriefing strategy following the conclusion of the shutdown.

Capturing data related to the agencies reaction to, and performance during the shutdown, the short and long-term impacts the shutdown had on the resources protected by the system, the short and long-term impacts the shutdown imposed upon the service, and the related impacts to the work force may serve us, our successors, and future elected officials well.

A robust AAR may benefit the mental wellness of the agencies personnel and increase the credibility of the agencies leaders. It may also improve procedures that will smooth future shutdown processes.

I am working on an AAR strategy to set EFMO up for success - likely every unit/branch can benefit including the MWRO.

Thank you for your hard and effective work - all the best as you prepare to return to your previous assignment,

David Barland-Liles
Lead Ranger
EFMO

--

Please note: This e-mail may contain confidential and privileged material. Any review or distribution by anyone other than the intended recipient is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please delete all copies of this message and
contact the sender by return e-mail.

--
Rick Obernesser, Acting - DDO
National Park Service
1849 C street NW
Washington, DC 20240
o - 202.208.3818
m - 202.641.1497

--
Please note: This e-mail may contain confidential and privileged material. Any review or distribution by anyone other than the intended recipient is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please delete all copies of this message and contact the sender by return e-mail.
April,
RESS does not have any BU employees who are working in any capacity during the lapse.
Thank you,
Perry

Sent from my iPhone

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Thank you so much for your help!
All the best,
April

--
April Slayton
Acting Deputy Regional Director
National Park Service, National Capital Region
(202) 619-7022 - direct
(202) 641-0291 - mobile
April:

I have added all our BUE’s working during the government shutdown on the google sheet under a tab entitled "WHHO". Please let me know if you have any questions or need anything additional.

Thank you,
John

John Stanwich
National Park Service Liaison to the White House
voice: (202) 219-0322
cell: (202) 438-1200

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Thank you so much for your help!
All the best,
April
April,
   Received. I filled out the google form.

Thanks,
MARK HOWARD

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   April

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April Slayton
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National Park Service, National Capital Region
(202) 619-7022 - direct
(202) 641-0291 - mobile

Facebook Twitter
Instagram YouTube
Hello - just wanted to circle back on this to make sure you saw it. My deadline is quickly approaching. Thanks again.

On Wed, Jan 23, 2019 at 11:42 AM Eric Katz <ekatz@govexec.com> wrote:

Hello,

Hope you both are doing well, or at least surviving shutdown craziness ok. I know that many NPS employees are currently working because of carryover or fee-collected funds, and some work that is ongoing at certain parks (trash collection, etc.) is being funded by fees. As the shutdown drags into the second month, I was wondering if there is any risk of these funds being depleted and more employees being furloughed or some of that work stopping. If so, how is that determination being made and what does the timeframe look like? Are employees being kept in the loop with updates?

I'm on my cell at 215-779-8842 if you are available to chat. Thanks for your help,

Eric

--

Eric Katz
Senior Correspondent
Government Executive Media Group
office: 202.266.7742 | cell: 215.779.8842 | twitter: @EricM_Katz

ekatz@govexec.com

govexec | nextgov | DefenseOne | routefifty
Thank you Chris,

That’s great to hear and I appreciate the feedback.

Amanda

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 23, 2019, at 1:53 PM, Powell, Christine <chris_powell@nps.gov> wrote:

Amanda et al,

I wanted to let you know that the Department appreciated the information you put together to respond to this request--it was just what they were looking for.

Christine Powell
Acting Chief of Staff
(o) 202-513-7181
(c) 202-878-2309

On Wed, Jan 23, 2019 at 12:07 AM Kaplan, Amanda <amanda_kaplan@nps.gov> wrote:

Good evening Chris and Jessica,

Here is the Draft PWR response to this inquiry for you. Sending it tonight so if there is anything else you need/want you can let us know in time to send a revised response and still meet the deadline tomorrow. Thanks - Amanda

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- Hawaii Volcanoes National Park
- Kaloko-Honokohau National Historical Park
- Pu’uhonua O Honaunau National Historical Park

Here is a sample Press Release from Hawaii Volcanoes National Park announcing the use of FLREA to provide basic visitor services.

Amanda Kaplan
National Park Service
Pacific West Regional Office
909 1st Ave, 5th Floor
Seattle, WA 98104
Phone: (206) 220-4150
Cell: (206) 475-4590

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NEW TIMELINE

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Christine Powell
Acting Chief of Staff
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Amanda

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Thanks--sorry to ask you to do this while you are dealing with other issues.

Christine Powell
Acting Chief of Staff
(o) 202-513-7181
(c) 202-878-2309
Hi all,

Attached, please find a draft narrative from Russ Newell on Interior operations during the lapse in appropriations. We are requesting that you review the attached and respond to John, Russ, and I by 6PM tonight. Sorry for the short turnaround request. This is a Chief of Staff priority.

From your responses, I will compile the final and ensure it gets to Todd.

In your review, please verify and confirm the information contained within the document as it relates to your hallway. Please also add where you see something missing.

--

Sincerely,

Eli Nachmany
Speechwriter, Office of Communications
U.S. Department of the Interior
(202) 706-9285
April,

I just saw this sorry for the delay.

Yes they have all been working and have been working full time. No reduced hours. No one has been recalled from furlough.

Sincerely

Jeremy Murphy
Regional Chief Ranger
National Capital Region
301-491-3928
Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 23, 2019, at 3:37 PM, Slayton, April <april_slayton@nps.gov> wrote:

Thanks, Jeremy - they have all been working since the beginning of the shutdown, so no one was recalled, correct? And are they working full time?
I added a tab for NCRO staff and included their names.
--
April Slayton
Acting Deputy Regional Director
National Park Service, National Capital Region
(202) 619-7022 - direct
(202) 641-0291 - mobile
<i>New Picture (1).bmp</i>
Facebook Twitter
Instagram YouTube

On Wed, Jan 23, 2019 at 10:12 AM Jeremy Murphy <jeremy_murphy@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi April,

For Ranger Services- Those that are still working are:
All the Dispatchers are BU employees:
Blair Williamson
Mike Stacey
Lori Floro
Terri King
Alan Baughman
Michelle Nolan
On Jan 23, 2019, at 9:55 AM, Slayton, April <april_slayton@nps.gov> wrote:

Good morning,

We are working to respond to an inquiry from the union regarding bargaining unit (BU) employees working during the lapse in appropriations.

Using this sheet, each park should identify the bargaining unit employees in your park or program who have done excepted or exempted work since the shutdown began. Please indicate if they have been working full time or part time and if they were called back after initially being furloughed. It may be useful to use information from the NCR list of excepted employees and park-specific approved FLREA cost estimators to identify employees who need to be added to the BU information sheet.

We do not need you to list BU employees who have been furloughed and not working for the duration of the lapse, and we don't need you to list employees who are not BU employees.

The deadline for this request is COB THURSDAY (1/24/2019). If this is not possible, please give me a call to discuss.

EACH PARK POC AND ARD, please reply to let me know that you've received this message and indicate who from your park team will complete this request.

Thank you so much for your help!
All the best,
April

--
April Slayton
Acting Deputy Regional Director
National Park Service, National Capital Region
(202) 619-7022 - direct
(202) 641-0291 - mobile
<New Picture (1).bmp>
Facebook  Twitter
Instagram  YouTube
Hi Dave and Charles -

I shared info on the 9 am call today that you should be aware of - it’s from the 1 pm RD call yesterday and **will require action on the part of NCR**, perhaps as early as next week.

WASO will soon request info from the regions related to other seasonal hiring— they will ask us for our seasonal hiring workload and potentially cost estimates for turning seasonal hiring back on. We will need to identify work our SHRO usually does that would be appropriate under FLREA.

Based on what I heard we should hear more next week. In the meantime I asked each park to send us their needs for seasonal hiring. I will share with you when I get them and will TRY to PDF them into a folder on the NCR shutdown google site for your easy access.

Charles, please be thinking about what this means for your operation.

Thanks all,

~Lisa

—+—

Lisa Mendelson - Acting Regional Director
National Park Service - National Capital
202-619-7020 office - 202-297-1338 cell
Sent by ipad
Completed for NACE. Please let me know if you need anything else.

On Wed, Jan 23, 2019 at 1:33 PM Ann Honious <ann_honious@nps.gov> wrote:
Thanks April. I will be completing this request.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 23, 2019, at 9:55 AM, Slayton, April <april_slayton@nps.gov> wrote:

Good morning,

We are working to respond to an inquiry from the union regarding bargaining unit (BU) employees working during the lapse in appropriations.

Using this sheet, each park should identify the bargaining unit employees in your park or program who have done excepted or exempted work since the shutdown began. Please indicate if they have been working full time or part time and if they were called back after initially being furloughed. It may be useful to use information from the NCR list of excepted employees and park-specific approved FLREA cost estimators to identify employees who need to be added to the BU information sheet.

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EACH PARK POC AND ARD, please reply to let me know that you've received this message and indicate who from your park team will complete this request.

Thank you so much for your help!
All the best,
April

--
April Slayton
As we enter day 34 of this unprecedented government shutdown with many going yet again without a pay check, I felt compelled to reach out to you to offer my empathy and support. This is a very difficult time and while I don't have a magical cure for this national struggle, I need you to know that I care. I care about each of you. I care about the resources we protect and preserve. I care about our visitors.

I am painfully aware that we have employees and their families who are being unduly impacted.

I am aware that there is frustration and a sense of unfairness that some are getting paid through the use of FLREA dollars while others working just as hard are doing so without compensation.

I realize that some of you are very, very tired from working almost every day, while others are frustrated at home simply wishing they could come to work.

Yet in this time of anguish there are still stories of encouragement. Local communities, businesses, neighbors and fellow employees are reaching out to help one another -- sometimes with food and services, sometimes just a kind word and a listening ear.

While I share your feelings of helplessness, I don't want that to turn into feelings of hopelessness. Now more than ever is the time when the value of the Park Service family can be seen throughout the parks and offices of the Southeast Region. I hope that you will continue to reach out and support each other. We all need support during this trying time. If you need to talk to someone, Employee Assistance Program (EAP) staff are available 24/7 for short term counseling. Call 800-869-0276.

Finally, I realize that this message will not reach everyone immediately, so I encourage those of who you do have access to your government email to please share it with your coworkers who do not.

I wish you all the best and look forward to the day we will all be back at work caring properly for the very special places that have been entrusted to our care.

Bob

Robert A. Vogel
Regional Director
Southeast Region
National Park Service
(404) 507-5604
bob_vogel@nps.gov
As we enter day 34 of this unprecedented government shutdown with many going yet again without a pay check, I felt compelled to reach out to you to offer my empathy and support. This is a very difficult time and while I don't have a magical cure for this national struggle, I need you to know that I care. I care about each of you. I care about the resources we protect and preserve. I care about our visitors.

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Bob

Robert A. Vogel
Regional Director
Southeast Region
National Park Service
(404) 507-5604
bob_vogel@nps.gov
In order to begin collecting fees in the parks, I think we would need at a minimum the following:

- WASO Recreation-One-Stop (R1S) Staff - Needed to support Recreation.gov that is still available to visitors and to provide support to the participating agencies that are not shutdown.
- WASO Interagency Pass Program Staff - Needed to coordinate getting YourPassNow (YPN) electronic passes back up and running to assist with the collection of entrance fees. We may even want to consider expanding to additional parks, but we would need to coordinate with AOC as processing the ACH's on the back-end is fairly labor intensive for them. The staff may also resume their work with Recreation.gov on the electronic pass integration. The integration was planned for the end of February, but will likely be delayed due to Lisa and Traci not being available over the past month.
- WASO Point-of-Sale System Staff - May be needed intermittently to offer IT/POSS support primarily to the parks that are currently using the Crimson/Scoria product.
- WASO Expenditure Staff - Needed at least intermittently to track expenditures/balances.
- WASO Budget Staff - Needed at least once a month to run revenue reports.
- WASO Background Adjudicators - Needed if parks will be hiring seasonal positions for fee collection activities.
- Regional Fee Managers to provide direction and support to the parks.
- Regional Budget to process income transfers and funding advises.
- Regional IT Support in IMR where the Crimson/Scoria server lives.

- Park Fee Collectors at all entry locations typically accessible at this time of year (consider limited hours to reduce staffing need i.e. 9:00-5:00pm)
- Park Remitters - ideally two to complete a deposit at least one a week. Remit needs
may be reduced to just once a week if we try to push credit card sales and YourPassNow (YPN) sales).

- Park Courier - to move funds from collection to deposit location and to the bank. Most likely a Law Enforcement Person.
- Park Reconciler/Income Transfer Preparer - once a month. Most likely a Budget Person.

- AOC Personnel to process ACH from YPN and Cash/Check/Credit Card Files from Treasury. (Jennifer will have to speak to how many, but this is likely a daily activity).

- WASO Budget Office Staff to prepare and process Funding Advises (Jennifer would know who).

**Christine Williamson**
Fee Program Manager  
National Recreation Fee Program  
1849 C Street, NW, Mail Stop: 2346  
Washington, DC 20240  
(202) 513-7132 (Office)  
(720) 360-9903 (Mobile)

--

**Lena McDowall**  
Deputy Director, Management and Administration  
Ph: 202-513-7240  
Cell: 202-641-1814  
Email: Lena_McDowall@nps.gov
Thanks Charles!

I did make a subfolder on the NCR shutdown site where we will place this info as we get it.

~Lisa

Lisa Mendelson, AICP
Acting Regional Director, National Park Service
202-619-7020 main office + 202-619-7194 direct + 202-297-1338 cell
(serving as an excepted employee during the lapse)

On Thu, Jan 24, 2019 at 11:05 AM charles_richardson <charles_richardson@nps.gov> wrote:
Thanks. We will make it happen when clear guidance is received.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

-------- Original message --------
From: Lisa Mendelson <lisa_mendelson-jelmini@nps.gov>
Date: 1/24/19 10:45 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: David H Moore <david_h_moore@nps.gov>, Charles Richardson <Charles_Richardson@nps.gov>
Cc: April Slayton <april_slayton@nps.gov>
Subject: NCR Seasonal Hiring

Hi Dave and Charles -

I shared info on the 9 am call today that you should be aware of - it’s from the 1 pm RD call yesterday and will require action on the part of NCR, perhaps as early as next week.

WASO will soon request info from the regions related to other seasonal hiring— they will ask us for our seasonal hiring workload and potentially cost estimates for turning seasonal hiring back on. We will need to identify work our SHRO usually does that would be appropriate under FLREA.

Based on what I heard we should hear more next week. In the meantime I asked each park to send us their needs for seasonal hiring. I will share with you when I get them and will TRY to PDF them into a folder on the NCR shutdown google site for your easy access.

Charles, please be thinking about what this means for your operation.
Thanks all,

~Lisa

___

Lisa Mendelson - Acting Regional Director
National Park Service - National Capital
202-619-7020 office - 202-297-1338 cell
Sent by ipad
Thanks Jessica, will review.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 24, 2019, at 11:17 AM, Bowron, Jessica <jessica_bowron@nps.gov> wrote:

Andrea, the system that holds the park’s project plans for the year is down, so I can’t give you the larger look we previously discussed. But I have added some additional details below - let me know if this is sufficient info to move forward. Still working on San Juan and Olympic

Andersonville NHS - The park is requesting $7k for an all-hands one-day effort to remove and dispose of the 15,000 wreaths that were placed on the headstones on December 15 and were scheduled to be removed by January 21. This project would be funded from 20% Nationwide Rec fee and will not have a material impact of availability of funding for provision of basic services at other parks.

Virgin Islands NP - The park is requesting $6k for a road clearing crew to do roadside vegetation removal. Over the duration of the lapse, vegetation has overtaken the roadway reducing the two lane road to a single lane. VIIS has $266k in FLREA revenue available and a weekly services rate of $12k ($3.4k basic services and $8.7k in excepted services), sufficient to complete the vegetation removal and maintain the current service level for 20 weeks.

Grand Canyon NP - An estimate of $217k is needed for construction project management and park helicopter/facilities maintenance team support over the duration of the contract (9 months est). Currently, only one of three pumps at the Indian Gardens pumphouse is functioning. Replacement of the pumps is critical to maintaining water supply for the South Rim. GRCA currently has $9.88M available in FLREA revenue and weekly services rate of $159k ($45k in basic visitor services and $114k in excepted services). The construction contract was previously obligated against FLREA - the park is just requesting funding to provide oversight and support to allow the contractor to proceed.

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329
On Fri, Jan 18, 2019 at 8:35 AM Bowron, Jessica <jessica_bowron@nps.gov> wrote:

Another one-time project at Virgin Islands - $6k for a road clearing crew to do vegetation removal at two locations near park roads. The veg has begun intruding into the roadway, narrowing the road from a two lane road into one lane. This will eventually become an emergency, but the park is asking to complete under FLREA now.

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329

On Thu, Jan 17, 2019 at 10:47 PM Bowron, Jessica <jessica_bowron@nps.gov> wrote:

Below are summaries of parks that are requesting FLREA funding for special projects. We've asked them not to put them in the cost estimator, and instead try to give us some basic details on the estimated costs, justification, etc. Let me know what you think.

Grand Canyon Indian Garden pump project - expected total personnel costs of approx $85 for the construction project management, and approx $132k for the park helicopter/facilities maintenance team support over the duration of the contract (9 months est, detail attached). As a reminder, they're down to one of three pumps functioning, so they'd like to move forward with the pump replacement project to improve reliability for their water system. The South Rim isn't functional for long if the last pump goes down.

Olympic - a tree hit the roof a week ahead of the shutdown, and while they put some temp measures in place ahead of the lapse, they're not sure the tarp is holding up after a month. The estimated construction cost is $25k - add'l support would be minimal, as construction duration is estimated at a week.

San Juan - estimated at $40k to complete emergency repairs to the main door at el morro, a water line break, wall failure, manhole hatch failure, and water pump replacement. Some of these repairs are proceeding as emergency work to protect life and property, but the park is requesting FLREA funding for them to pay their staff. Please note, the region let me know that several cruise lines are interested in donating additional funds to support operations at the fort, so ensuring continued visitor access would allow the benefit of those donations.

Andersonville - more than 15,000 wreaths were placed at Andersonville on the headstones on Dec 15; they are supposed to stay on the graves through Jan 21. They are real, and will continue to deteriorate if left on the headstones. The park is requesting $7k for an all-hands one-day effort to remove and dispose of the wreaths. Its not a continuing weekly cost, more of a special project (somewhat akin to the National Christmas Tree takedown)
So I am clear: You want all excepted actions to be paid for on a government purchase card? These would be actions that are not funded through an exempt source (FLREA, Partnership, etc.), and are necessary to protect life and property.

On Thu, Jan 24, 2019 at 11:09 AM McDowall, Lena <lena_mcdowall@nps.gov> wrote:

Beth -

This looks good. I added a few words - in blue below - and have one question. In the absence of an appropriation, they will not be able to undertake contracting actions that are not already funded. To the extent that they have urgent life, property, health and safety purchasing needs under a shutdown they'll need to go on a charge card, or we'll have to see if it's an appropriate expense under a non-lapsing appropriation. Does that need to be said, or do you think that's well understood?

Thanks,

Lena

On Thu, Jan 24, 2019 at 12:52 PM Walden-McCabe, Beth <beth_walden@nps.gov> wrote:

Lena,

I would like to send this to the RCCs, as I am getting repeated inquiries on this.

Guidance for contracting work under available funds such as FLREA and Partnership donations.

Contracting work necessary to protect life or government property is allowable as an excepted activity in the absence of an appropriation; this exception is provided for in the Ant-Deficiency Act. Contract extensions, exercise of renewal options, or any other new contract may not be executed unless supporting essential activities or functions.

With the release of FLREA funds, contracting work that is not excepted may be performed, however it can only be in support of basic visitor services that were approved in the FLREA request. This also applies to partner donation funded work. This work is considered exempt and must be charged to a non-lapsing appropriation.

It is recommended that if you are approached for work that is not excepted or exempt and are told FLREA or partner money is being used, to check with your Regional Director.
to verify the work is part of the basic services agreement.

Contracting personnel should track the time they spend on exempt, as opposed to excepted activity. We will provide Quicktime guidance as we get closer to the end of PP03.

--
Beth Walden McCabe
Bureau Procurement Chief (acting)
National Park Service
Washington Contracting Office
7333 West Jefferson Ave
Suite 100
Lakewood, CO 80235-2034
Office: (303) 987-6739
Cell Phone: (720) 320-5395
Fax (303) 987-6922

Please visit our WCO website!
https://sites.google.com/a/nps.gov/waso-contracting/home

--
Lena McDowall
Deputy Director, Management and Administration
Ph: 202-513-7240
Cell: 202-641-1814
Email: Lena_McDowall@nps.gov

--
Beth Walden McCabe
Bureau Procurement Chief (acting)
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Please visit our WCO website!
https://sites.google.com/a/nps.gov/waso-contracting/home
Jeremy

Just to follow up, it looks like we will have 2 LE rangers near Slaven's Roadhouse for the race health and safety. The email below details what they will or won't be doing.

Bert

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Mihata, Lindy <lindy_mihata@nps.gov>
Date: Thu, Jan 24, 2019 at 10:13 AM
Subject: Fwd: Use of Slaven's during Gov shutdown
To: Herbert Frost <bert_frost@nps.gov>

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Sample, Scott <scott_sample@nps.gov>
Date: Wed, Jan 23, 2019 at 11:39 AM
Subject: Re: Use of Slaven's during Gov shutdown
To: <(b) (6)> @gmail.com>, Scannell, Heather L (DFG) <heather.scannell@alaska.gov>
Cc: Lindy Mihata <lindy_mihata@nps.gov>

Bri and Heather.

Just a follow up to inform you that the use of Slaven's is not exclusive under your Special Use Permit. Meaning, the public is welcome to stay at the roadhouse or public use cabin during this event just as any volunteer, musher or veterinarian would. Turning the public away from use would be a violation of the Special Use Permit. We have had fat bikers and snowmachiners come by and stay, so it is possible to see the general public out there at that time.

Thank you
On Wed, Jan 23, 2019 at 11:19 AM Sample, Scott <scott_sample@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Bri and Heather,

I have asked the NPS Regional Directorate about your inquiry whether you could use the Slaven's Roadhouse as a dog drop with Quest volunteers. The answer is yes you can.

The downside is that all equipment to be used except that which is already on hand at Slaven's must be brought in and removed when finished. This includes ice augers, garbage cans for water, any pots, pans, cooking stoves, propane, cots, mats, menu boards, etc... Any snowmachines used to haul water, dogs to airstrips, etc... must be brought in and removed when done. Additionally, all dog straw must be raked and piled on the river and burned.

Firewood is available for use at Slaven's.

I am authorized to bring on duty two LE Rangers for visitor safety and resource protection during the Quest. They will be stationed out of Coal Creek Camp (3 miles from Slaven's). They are available to respond to emergencies such as Spot activations, or other life safety issues. They are dispatched out of our regional dispatch center at Denali NP. The number to pass on to anyone going to Slaven's is (907) 683-9652 and (907) 683-2276 for the emergency line at our dispatch center who then can dispatch the Rangers to respond.

Although the two Rangers have experience working the YQ at Slaven's, they are prohibited by law to assist in the volunteering efforts under the Anti-Deficiency Act which covers their duty as life safety and resource protection only during this shutdown. Therefore, Quest volunteers must refrain from asking any NPS employee to assist with any chore whatsoever associated with the dog drop or ask to use any NPS equipment.

As I mentioned to Marti, if we are funded by February 4th, I believe the NPS can at least have some presence at Slaven's for the dog drop. Whether that would be our full anticipated participation, that's unclear, but we would do our best to make it happen on time for the first musher's arrival.

If you have any further inquiries or questions, let me know, and I look forward to working with you through this year's YQ.

Thank you
Scott

--
Scott S. Sample
Chief Ranger/Pilot
Bering Land Bridge National Preserve
Cape Krusenstern National Monument
Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve
Kobuk Valley National Park
Noatak National Preserve
Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve

Cell: (907) 385-7036
Work: (907) 455-0616

--
Scott S. Sample
Chief Ranger/Pilot
Bering Land Bridge National Preserve
Cape Krusenstern National Monument
Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve
Kobuk Valley National Park
Noatak National Preserve
Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve

Cell: (907) 385-7036
Work: (907) 455-0616

--
Lindy Mihata
Regional Chief Ranger
National Park Service
240 W. 5th Ave
Anchorage, AK 99501
(907) 644-3406

I am a proud graduate of the GOAL Leadership Academy. Ask me about the program!
Good thanks

I am not sure we will be able to provide that number given limited staffing during the lapse in appropriations, but will check.

Will check on your second question.

On Thu, Jan 24, 2019 at 1:43 PM Rob Hotakainen <rhotakainen@eenews.net> wrote:

Good thanks, can you tell me how many horses and other animals are included when you say “all livestock at national parks, including horses used by the United States Park Police for mounted patrols, are government property” and being taken care of? Also how does the agency pay for feed for the horses and other animals, medical care, etc, if you’re not getting any appropriations? Many thanks, rob

Rob Hotakainen
National parks, oceans and fisheries reporter
On Jan 24, 2019, at 9:02 AM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Since the beginning of the lapse the National Park Service employees at all levels have generally been unable to accommodate interview requests except in cases of public safety, emergencies, etc. A majority of NPS employees have been furloughed. Those still on duty have focused on health and safety issues, law enforcement operations, and additional staff returning from furlough using FLREA funds are restoring access to recently closed park areas and restoring limited basic visitor services.

We would be happy to try to arrange for you to visit the stables and to speak with someone in the horse unit once we have appropriations and normal operations have resumed.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Wed, Jan 23, 2019 at 1:20 PM Rob Hotakainen <rhotakainen@eenews.net> wrote:

Great, thanks, and can I interview someone with the horse unit and get in to see the stables on the mall?

Rob Hotakainen
National parks, oceans and fisheries reporter
E&E NEWS
rhotakainen@eenews.net
202-446-0477
On Jan 23, 2019, at 1:18 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

All livestock at national parks, including horses used by the United States Park Police for mounted patrols, are government property and therefore taken care of by employees as an excepted function during a lapse in appropriations.

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
Mobile: (202) 617-7973  
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Tue, Jan 22, 2019 at 3:09 PM Rob Hotakainen <rhotakainen@eenews.net> wrote:

I’d like to do a story on horses --- I’ve had a couple questions from readers asking what happens to all the NPS horses during a shutdown. I assume they’re all fed and that their caretakers are excepted employees, but I’d like to explain how it works as a quick feature. And I’d love to do it tomorrow if that’s doable. If possible, I’d like to go to the horse stables on the national mall, maybe look for tonto (zinke’s old horse), talk to a worker or two, shoot a few pix, and it would be good to put in broader context, how many animals across the system that still must be fed during a shutdown, at assateague, bison at Yellowstone, whatever, etc. Could be a good story I’m thinking.

Can you help me on that one?
Thanks.

Rob

Rob Hotakainen
National parks, oceans and fisheries reporter

E&E NEWS

rhotakainen@eenews.net

202-446-0477

Twitter: @HotakainenRob

122 C Street NW, 7th floor, Washington, DC, 20001

www.eenews.net | @EENewsUpdates

Greenwire, E&E Daily, E&E News PM, Climatewire, Energywire
Darryl:

Attached is an updated list of the 17 fatalities in the National Park System that have occurred since the start of the lapse (December 22). As previously shared, we estimate that there are on average six deaths a week in the National Park System including accidents like drownings, falls, motor vehicle crashes and medical related incidents such as heart attacks.

(the list is strictly NPS investigated fatalities; U.S. Park Police data is kept in a separate database. There have been two motor vehicle fatalities investigated by the U.S. Park Police - one on Constitution Avenue on December 23 and one on the Baltimore-Washington Parkway on January 5).

[Should we include the background information from last time...?]

Throughout the year, the National Park System offers a wide range of visitor experiences in unique landscapes with potential hazards that may exist at parks across the nation. Visitors can reduce their risk of injury if they plan ahead and prepare properly, select the most appropriate activity that matches their skill set and experience, seek information before they arrive at the park about hazards and environmental conditions, follow rules and regulations and use sound judgement while recreating.

**Background Information**
While some national park areas are accessible to the public during the lapse in federal appropriations, the National Park Service (NPS) is unable to fully staff the properties under its management. It is not feasible to close or otherwise prohibit all access to all areas managed by the NPS. For most parks, there will be no NPS-provided visitor services, such as restrooms, trash collection, facilities, or road maintenance and current park alerts and conditions may not be up to date. Emergency and rescue services will be limited. Park visitors are advised to use caution if choosing to enter NPS-managed areas as hazardous or dangerous conditions may exist.

If visitor access becomes a safety, health or resource protection issue (weather, road conditions, resource damage, garbage build-up to the extent that it endangers human health or wildlife, etc.), park areas will be closed.

Our visitors are coming to wild and natural places which they need to research in advance, prepare for adequately and understand the hazards before they go, and act appropriately, follow rules, warning signs and guidance at parks. Key points to remember are:

“Know before you go” - research the park and the activity you plan to do and potential hazards you may encounter, be realistic about your limits and of those traveling with you, identify the right equipment for your trip and test it/try it out before you go; provide your
travel itinerary to someone who is not going with you so they know when you should return and who to contact if you don’t. Have a “Plan B” in case something impacts your planned activity.

“Responsible decisions” – Make responsible decisions on your trip; turn around if weather, your health or others, or environmental conditions change. Stay on trail and don’t change plans. Follow the rules and regulations.

Learn more here: https://www.nps.gov/subjects/healthandsafety/index.htm

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)

National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

On Wed, Jan 23, 2019 at 5:52 PM Fears, Darryl <Darryl.Fears@washpost.com> wrote:

  Thanks, Mike.

From: Michael Litterst [mailto:mike_litterst@nps.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, January 23, 2019 5:50 PM
To: Fears, Darryl <Darryl.Fears@washpost.com>
Cc: Eilperin, Juliet <Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] National Parks

We’ve got several to add since the last list, but I’m still waiting to hear from a couple of the regions. I’ll press the laggards in the morning.

Mike

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Mike Litterst
Chief of Public Affairs and Chief Spokesperson (acting)
Hi Michael,

Just wanted to check in again on this without being too much of a pest. In the past I’ve done this and you have said, I sent you this already, so I’m looking both ways before crossing the street so to speak.

Darryl

---

**From:** Litterst, Michael [mailto:mike_litterst@nps.gov]
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 22, 2019 3:46 PM
**To:** Fears, Darryl &lt;Darryl.Fears@washpost.com&gt;
**Cc:** Eilperin, Juliet &lt;Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com&gt;
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] National Parks

I'll pull together a list for you.

Mike

------------------

Mike Litterst

Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)
Hi Michael,

We’re looking to update our Jan. 5 story about national park fatalities since the shutdown. Can you share an updated list since Jan. 5, when the story published? At that time there were seven fatalities, including four suicides. If there’s a synopsis (explanation) for how the more recent deaths happened, that would be helpful. We understand, as always, that accidental deaths are common in the national parks. Thank you.

Darryl

Darryl Fears
Staff Writer
The Washington Post
202.334.7511
darryl.fears@washpost.com
Twitter: @bydarrylfears
Lisa/April,

See attachments as promised.

Greg

--
Deputy Chief Gregory T. Monahan  
United States Park Police  
Commander, Field Operations Division

202-619-7029 (O)  
202-870-1216 (C)
Hi Lena,

A couple of additions to my earlier email....

Christine Williamson
Fee Program Manager
National Recreation Fee Program
1849 C Street, NW, Mail Stop: 2346
Washington, DC 20240
(202) 513-7132 (Office)
(720) 360-9903 (Mobile)

On Wed, Jan 23, 2019 at 12:59 PM Williamson, Christine <chris_williamson@nps.gov> wrote:

In order to begin collecting fees in the parks, I think we would need at a minimum the following:

- **WASO Recreation-One-Stop (R1S) Staff** - (b) (6)
  Needed to support Recreation.gov that is still available to visitors and to provide support to the participating agencies that are not shutdown.

- **WASO Interagency Pass Program Staff** - (b) (6)
  Needed to coordinate getting YourPassNow (YPN) electronic passes back up and running to assist with the collection of entrance fees. We may even want to consider expanding to additional parks, but we would need to coordinate with AOC as processing the ACH's on the back-end is fairly labor intensive for them. The staff may also resume their work with Recreation.gov on the electronic pass integration. The integration was planned for the end of February, but will likely be delayed due to Lisa and Traci not being available over the past month.
  - We may need to look at bringing USGS back on board to fulfill pass orders for the public as well as bulk pass orders for the parks (they are (b) (6))

- **WASO Point-of-Sale System Staff** - (b) (6)
  May be needed intermittently to offer IT/POSS support primarily to the parks that are currently using the Crimson/Scoria product.

- **WASO Expenditure Staff** - (b) (6)
  Needed at least intermittently to track expenditures/balances.

- **WASO Budget Staff** - (b) (6)
  Needed at least once a month to run revenue reports.

- **WASO Background Adjudicators** - (b) (6)
  Needed if parks will be hiring seasonal positions for
fee collection activities.

- **Regional Fee Managers** to provide direction and support to the parks.
- **Regional Budget** to process income transfers and funding advises.
- **Regional IT Support** in IMR where the Crimson/Scoria server lives.

- Park Fee Collectors at all entry locations typically accessible at this time of year (consider limited hours to reduce staffing need i.e. 9:00-5:00pm)
- Park Remitters - ideally two to complete a deposit at least once a week. Remit needs may be reduced to just once a week if we try to push credit card sales and YourPassNow (YPN) sales.
- **Park Fee Supervisor** to coordinate, manage, and provide breaks.

- Park Courier - to move funds from collection to deposit location and to the bank. Most likely a Law Enforcement Person.
- Park Reconciler/Income Transfer Preparer - once a month. Most likely a Budget Person.

- AOC Personnel to process ACH from YPN and Cash/Check/Credit Card Files from Treasury. (Jennifer will have to speak to how many, but this is likely a daily activity).

- **WASO Budget Office Staff** to prepare and process Funding Advises (Jennifer would know who).

---

**Christine Williamson**
Fee Program Manager
National Recreation Fee Program
1849 C Street, NW, Mail Stop: 2346
Washington, DC 20240
(202) 513-7132 (Office)
(720) 360-9903 (Mobile)
A revised cost estimator has been shared with you; here is a narrative prepared by the park:

SACN is a 250 mile stretch of NPS land consisting of the St. Croix River and the Namekagon River. SACN is open to the public year round and the park staff have no way to shutdown all the access points in the park no matter what time of year it is but especially during the winter months with what mother nature provides in the area. During the winter months, the St. Croix River gets continuous visitation from people hiking, snow shoeing, cross country skiing, ice fishing and snowmobiling. The St. Croix River is located within 30 minutes of Minneapolis and St. Paul which creates a lot of visitation for the park no matter the time of year. The Namekagon River is located at the northern end of the park and gets continuous visitation from people hiking, snow shoeing, cross country skiing, ice fishing and snowmobiling as well. The Namekagon River is in a destination area this time of year for folks leaving the Twin Cities in seek of the many winter opportunities to include the above activities. So both rivers are well visited on a daily basis in the winter by a variety of visitors wanting to do a variety of activities and are destinations for the winter outdoor enthusiast year round.

SACN is requesting to have 5 field LE rangers and the field LE supervisor working their normal 40 hour a week work schedule for this time of year as to monitor visitor activities given their unlimited access to the park and also provide protection of property and life during this time. SACN is also requesting to have one maintenance worker come on at a minimum of twice a month depending on the severity and amount of severe weather SACN receives during this time of year to remove snow and plow highly used park access points (requires an 8 hour day), along with a maintenance employee to come on once every two to three weeks to do trash collection at these highly used access points (requires approximately 6 hours).

Lastly SACN was fully open to the public before the shutdown began and is still fully open to the public minus the government facilities.

Thank you.

Craig Kenkel  
Acting Regional Director  
Midwest Region 
National Park Service 
601 Riverfront Drive 
Omaha, NE 68102 
402-661-1520 office 
440-668-2230 mobile 
craig_kenkel@nps.gov
Thank you so much Charles. At this time I don’t know when the call would be. Also potus is speaking @ 130 so .... ?

——
Lisa Mendelson, AICP
Acting Regional Director
National Park Service
Sent by Cell 202-297-1338

On Jan 25, 2019, at 1:22 PM, charles_richardson <charles_richardson@nps.gov> wrote:

This will depend on if we are doing SROC work or will we be doing our own. In addition, it will also depend on if it is DE or MP.

To get my Specialists should not be a problem.

What time would the call be on Monday. If possible I would prefer 10:00 am or later. I have a doctor's appointment at 9. Please advise and I will contact the appropriate Specialists.

Thanks.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

-------- Original message --------
From: Lisa Mendelson <lisa_mendelson-jelmini@nps.gov>
Date: 1/25/19 1:07 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: charles_richardson <charles_richardson@nps.gov>
Cc: David H Moore <david_h_moore@nps.gov>, April Slayton <april_slayton@nps.gov>, Sarah Hertig <sarah_hertig@nps.gov>
Subject: UPDATE — Re: NCR Seasonal Hiring

We will have more info today which I will share when I have it —appears likely that we will need to begin this information gathering on this coming MONDAY as it will be due to waso on WEDNESDAY.

Pls call back whomever you need for this work.

Even if we are getting back to work on a CR we will need to assemble this info.

Call will be set w regional HR for Monday w WASO to talk through.
More as I have it.

Thank you.

_____  
Lisa Mendelson, AICP  
Acting Regional Director  
National Park Service  
Sent by Cell 202-297-1338

On Jan 24, 2019, at 11:13 AM, Mendelson, Lisa <lisa_mendelson-ielmini@nps.gov> wrote:

Thanks Charles!

I did make a [subfolder on the NCR shutdown site](mailto:subfolder@nps.gov) where we will place this info as we get it.

~Lisa

---

On Thu, Jan 24, 2019 at 11:05 AM charles_richardson <charles_richardson@nps.gov> wrote:

Thanks. We will make it happen when clear guidance is received.

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

-------- Original message --------
From: Lisa Mendelson <lisa_mendelson-ielmini@nps.gov>
Date: 1/24/19 10:45 AM (GMT-05:00)
To: David H Moore <david_h_moore@nps.gov>, Charles Richardson <Charles_Richardson@nps.gov>
Cc: April Slayton <april_slayton@nps.gov>
Subject: NCR Seasonal Hiring

Hi Dave and Charles -

I shared info on the 9 am call today that you should be aware of - it’s from the 1 pm RD call yesterday and **will require action on the part of NCR**, perhaps as early as next week.
WASO will soon request info from the regions related to other seasonal hiring— they will ask us for our seasonal hiring workload and potentially cost estimates for turning seasonal hiring back on. We will need to identify work our SHRO usually does that would be appropriate under FLREA.

Based on what I heard we should hear more next week. In the meantime I asked each park to send us their needs for seasonal hiring. I will share with you when I get them and will TRY to PDF them into a folder on the NCR shutdown google site for your easy access.

Charles, please be thinking about what this means for your operation.

Thanks all,

~Lisa

—+—
Lisa Mendelson - Acting Regional Director
National Park Service - National Capital
202-619-7020 office - 202-297-1338 cell
Sent by ipad
Hi Andrew and Jeremy,

Hope you are doing well. I am following up to see if there are any updates on the situation in Joshua Tree during the shutdown. I know the park remains open but was wondering if there has been any more reported damage in recent weeks. I am also writing about the evidence of off roading in Death Valley and wanted to see if you could comment or provide any further info on what's happening there or efforts to mitigate it.

My deadline is noon PST.

Thanks!

Best,
Gabrielle

---
Gabrielle Canon
510.629.4261
www.gabriellecanon.com
@GabrielleCanon (Twitter)
@GabrielleCanon (Instagram)

On Wed, 2 Jan 2019 at 12:30, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Gabrielle,

The National Park Service continues to follow its contingency plan in the absence of appropriations. The plan may be found here: https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf [doi.gov]

During the government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures.

I have attached the latest information on Joshua Tree National Park for your reference. I have also cc'd my colleague on the West Coast who may be able to provide additional information related to the park.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION**
The NPS contingency plan in the absence of appropriations provides for the ability to restrict access to national park areas for safety, health, or resource protection issues.

Per the contingency plan, if visitor access becomes a safety, health or resource protection
issue (weather, road conditions, resource damage, garbage build-up to the extent that it endangers human health or wildlife, etc.), the area must be closed.

At the superintendent’s discretion, parks may close areas with sensitive natural, cultural, historic, or archaeological resources vulnerable to destruction, looting, or other damage that cannot be adequately protected by the excepted law enforcement staff that remain on duty to conduct essential activities.

Accessibility to parks during the partial government shutdown varies on a number of factors which may change at any time. Some visitor services may be available when provided by concessioners or other entities. For most parks, there will be no National Park Service-provided visitor services, such as restrooms, trash collection, facilities, or road maintenance. Visitors should go to www.nps.gov and select “Find a Park” for additional information on access to parks and sites in a particular area.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Wed, Jan 2, 2019 at 2:13 PM Gabrielle Canon <gabrielle.canon@guardian.co.uk> wrote:
Hi Jeremy,

Just gave you a call. My name is Gabrielle and I am a reporter for the Guardian. I am writing about how the shutdown is affecting parks, particularly Joshua Tree. Was hoping for an official statement and a bit more context and it would be great if you have time for a quick call. My deadline is EOD today. Thanks!

Best,
Gabrielle

--
Gabrielle Canon
510.629.4261
www.gabriellecanon.com
@GabrielleCanon (Twitter)
@GabrielleCan (Instagram)
Hi Jeremy - Yay, shutdown over (well fit at least three weeks.) Hope your lives haven’t been too disrupted. Do you know how and when the NPS personnel will be getting back to work in the national parks? Thx :-)
Jim

Sent from my iPhone

On Dec 28, 2018, at 6:44 AM, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Jim,

During the government shutdown national parks remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. For most parks, there will be no National Park Service-provided visitor services, such as restrooms, trash collection, facilities, or road maintenance. Some visitor services may be available when provided by concessioners or other entities.

The National Park Service has signed over forty agreements since the lapse in appropriations with a number of concessioners, partner organizations, and states to provide various visitor services at a number of national parks. The extent of services and duration varies by agreement.

Background Information/Examples
(not a complete list)
Note that some of these initial donations are for relatively short portions of time, and may or may not extend for the duration of a shutdown.

The Friends of Vicksburg National Military Park and Campaign have donated the necessary funds to provide for essential services at Vicksburg National Military Park during the shutdown.

Xanterra Parks and Resorts is providing funding for the grooming of oversnow roads at Yellowstone National Park during the shutdown.

The California Department of Parks and Recreation has made an in-kind donation to provide for the cleaning of restrooms and trash removal at Redwoods National and State Parks.

The State of New York is providing funding to operate the Statue of Liberty
National Monument.

The Utah Office of Tourism is providing funding to staff visitor centers and custodial services at Arches, Bryce Canyon, and Zion National Parks.

In 2017, 331 million visitors to national parks spent an estimated $18.2 billion in local gateway regions, supporting 306,000 jobs and $35.8 billion in economic output in the national economy.

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service

On Dec 27, 2018, at 5:20 PM, Carlton, Jim <jim.carlton@wsj.com> wrote:

Hi Jeremy (or whoever is on duty!)

I'm writing a followup on the economic impact of the shutdown to the national park gateway communities. ie, outfitters, book stores and other ancillary businesses having to also shut down because many parks are on sharply curtailed operations. Can someone give me a comment addressing that issue please? My deadline is Friday.

Many thanks,

Jim

On Mon, Dec 24, 2018 at 2:42 PM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Jim,

Please see the below statement and background information. Let us know if you have any other questions. Hope you're not working too late tonight -- have a great holiday....

Jeremy Barnum
Chief Spokesperson, National Park Service

During the government shutdown national parks will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. Services that require staffing and maintenance will not be operating.

Background Information:

Due to lighter footprint of rangers and patrols, some public lands,
trails and sites may see restricted access. Some parks are in winter season and see many skiers. The parks may choose to restrict access to some areas if there is a high risk of avalanche or it's a common spot for injuries since there will not be a regular patrol of the area. Additionally, sensitive cultural areas on all public land may see restricted access to protect the artifacts and objects.

The NPS contingency plan in the absence of appropriations provides for the ability to restrict access to national park areas for safety, health, or resource protection issues. The plan may be found here: https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/2018_01_nps_contingency_plan.pdf

Per the contingency plan, if visitor access becomes a safety, health or resource protection issue (weather, road conditions, resource damage, garbage build-up to the extent that it endangers human health or wildlife, etc.), the area must be closed.

At the superintendent’s discretion, parks may close grounds/areas with sensitive natural, cultural, historic, or archaeological resources vulnerable to destruction, looting, or other damage that cannot be adequately protected by the excepted law enforcement staff that remain on duty to conduct essential activities.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube
Hello, I drew the short straw and having to work Christmas Eve. Is there someone on duty who can respond to this warning from an enviro group that the national parks face vandalism threats, etc. by being left open during the shutdown? Thanks, Jim
415 235 3220

CONTACT
Aaron Weiss, Media Director
Center for Western Priorities
aaron@westernpriorities.org
720-279-0019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 20, 2018

STATEMENT on national parks during likely government shutdown
DENVER—As President Trump pushes for a Christmas shutdown of the federal government, the Interior Department intends to keep America’s national parks open to the public, while closing many critical visitor centers and facilities. The Center for Western Priorities issued the following statement from Executive Director Jennifer Rokala:

“Secretary Zinke should not let one of his final acts be a short-sighted and irresponsible stunt to leave America’s national parks open but unstaffed. Zinke should have learned from the last time he did this, when people were able to walk into our parks and break laws intended to protect our national treasures. He has one last chance to do the right thing for America’s public lands—we hope he makes a good decision.”

In January 2018, Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke left many national parks open to the public which resulted in a number of avoidable events including a poacher killing a pregnant elk in Zion National Park, snowmobilers riding into a restricted area in Yellowstone National Park, and visitors with metal detectors and a drone entered Gettysburg National Military Park.

For more information, visit westernpriorities.org. To speak with
an expert on public lands, contact Aaron Weiss at 720-279-0019 or aaron@westernpriorities.org. Sign up for Look West to get daily public lands and energy news sent to your inbox.

###

The Center for Western Priorities is a conservation policy and advocacy organization focused on land and energy issues across the American West.

Center for Western Priorities | 820 16th Street Ste 450, Denver, CO 80202 | 303.974.7761

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Jim Carlton
The Wall Street Journal
201 California St., Suite 1100
San Francisco, CA 94111
415 765-6123-o
415 235-3220-c
415 956-0797-f
@jimcarltonsf

--

Jim Carlton
DOI Colleagues,

Please see attached communications guidance we plan to send to parks once the CR is enacted.

We also plan to issue the below media statement from Danny with your concurrence.

Let us know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Jeremy

Statement from NPS Deputy Director P. Daniel Smith on the Resumption of Full National Park Service Operations

Following the enactment of the continuing resolution, the National Park Service is preparing to resume regular operations nationwide though the schedule for individual parks may vary depending on staff size and complexity of operations.

Many parks which have been accessible throughout the lapse in appropriations remain accessible with basic services.

Visitors should contact individual parks or visit park websites for their opening schedules and the latest information on accessibility and visitor services. Some parks which have been closed throughout the lapse in appropriations may not reopen immediately.

We appreciate the support of state and local partners nationwide who stepped up to offer support to national parks. We are grateful to have the dedicated men and women of the National Park Service back at work, serving the American people and welcoming visitors to their national parks.

###

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube
Please review this reopening guidance as soon as you can and let me know what I need to change or add. I have to get this to Andrea to sign off on, and I'm still hoping to send this out tonight. It doesn't contain any inspirational messages - I figure I'll leave that for Dan's message.

Thanks!

--Lena

--
Lena McDowall
Deputy Director, Management and Administration
Ph: 202-513-7240
Cell: 202-641-1814
Email: Lena_McDowall@nps.gov
I made a minor tweak to the budget section.

Jessica Bowron  
Comptroller  
National Park Service  
(o) 202-513-7138  
(c) 202-280-8329

On Fri, Jan 25, 2019 at 7:13 PM McDowall, Lena <lena_mcdowall@nps.gov> wrote:

Please review this reopening guidance as soon as you can and let me know what I need to change or add. I have to get this to Andrea to sign off on, and I'm still hoping to send this out tonight. It doesn't contain any inspirational messages - I figure I'll leave that for Dan's message.

Thanks!

--Lena

--

Lena McDowall  
Deputy Director, Management and Administration  
Ph: 202-513-7240  
Cell: 202-641-1814  
Email: Lena_McDowall@nps.gov
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Bowron, Jessica" <jessica_bowron@nps.gov>
Date: January 25, 2019 at 7:24:39 PM EST
To: "McDowall, Lena" <lena_mcdowall@nps.gov>
Cc: "Obernesser, Rick" <rick_obernesser@nps.gov>, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>, Michael Litterst <mike_litterst@nps.gov>, Chris Williamson <Chris_Williamson@nps.gov>, Tony Nguyen <nhien_nguyen@nps.gov>, Marlon Taubenheim <marlon_taubenheim@nps.gov>
Subject: Re: Draft Initial Reopening Guidance - Please Review ASAP

I made a minor tweak to the budget section.

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329

On Fri, Jan 25, 2019 at 7:13 PM McDowall, Lena <lena_mcdowall@nps.gov> wrote:

Please review this reopening guidance as soon as you can and let me know what I need to change or add. I have to get this to Andrea to sign off on, and I'm still hoping to send this out tonight. It doesn't contain any inspirational messages - I figure I'll leave that for Dan's message.

Thanks!

--Lena

--

Lena McDowall
Deputy Director, Management and Administration
Ph: 202-513-7240
Cell: 202-641-1814
Email: Lena_McDowall@nps.gov
Hi Andrea -

I'd like to send this internal, high-level reopening guidance out to regional and associate directors tonight. They're all asking for it knowing that the President is likely to sign the CR at any moment.

Thanks!

--Lena

--
Lena McDowall
Deputy Director, Management and Administration
Ph: 202-513-7240
Cell: 202-641-1814
Email: Lena_McDowall@nps.gov
As we prepare to resume operations, I want to provide you with important information and guidance concerning the actions and activities that we will undertake as we return to work following the lapse in appropriations. We know that there will be many additional questions and we are working to address those as quickly as possible.

Reporting to Work

In general, employees should report to work on their first normally scheduled workday after the shutdown ends unless the employee is on previously scheduled and approved leave, is approved for telework, or has made other arrangements with their supervisor.

Some parks and offices that have been closed for the duration of the shutdown may have more work to do to be ready for employees to return. They may need to plow parking lots, shovel walkways, heat buildings, etc., so workplaces and visitor centers are safe for employees and visitors. If necessary, you may direct employees to work from home or an alternate park location. Your Human Resources staff can advise you if you believe you need to put employees on paid administrative leave until it is safe to return to the office.

A checklist for employees returning from furlough is attached. WASO will also e-mail this checklist to all employees.

Resuming Operations

The safety of our employees and visitors is always our top priority. Staff should take the time to fully assess facility conditions and address potential safety issues before reopening an area to employees or visitors. NPS Communications is making every effort to inform the public that it will take some time for parks to fully resume normal operations.

Parks should also assess and document any changes in resource conditions that have occurred over the last month.

Communications

WASO Communications will be issuing guidance on restarting website operations, social media posting, press releases and other important topics.

Fee Collection and Reservations
Parks should resume fee collection once visitor services are substantially restored, their fee collection program is adequately staffed and equipment is in good working order. Please let WASO know if you have any parks that will likely not be ready to resume collection by February 1, 2019.

The WASO Fee Program is working with the online pass provider to set February 1, 2019 as the first available date for which visitors can purchase an online pass.

Suspensions of reservations for campgrounds, tours and other services on Recreation.gov were issued on a park-by-park basis at the beginning of the shutdown. Parks will need to work with Recreation.gov staff to lift reservation suspensions on a facility by facility basis.

**Payroll and Human Resources**

The Department is committed to getting employees paid for previous pay periods as quickly as possible. IBC is planning for off-cycle payments. We anticipate that amended timecards for pay periods 18-27, 19-01 and 19-02 will be due midday Tuesday, January 29, 2019. Watch for specific instructions from Human Resources on completing timecards. Please do not amend any previous pay periods until you receive specific guidance.

HR’s priority in the coming days will be getting employees paid and processing personnel actions such as, retirements, onboarding of new personnel, promotions, new FEHB enrollments and awards. The deadline to submit performance awards passed during the shutdown, so HR will establish a new deadline.

We recognize there are many other HR issues that employees are concerned about, including transit subsidies, job announcements and certs that were in process before the shutdown, seasonal hiring, etc. We are working as quickly as possible to address these issues and to provide information and guidance to employees.

**Information Technology**

Email and other systems may be a little slow in the first few days back as many employees log onto systems at the same time and as IT restores systems that were turned off during the lapse to full service. IT will provide more information on what employees can expect.

IT will also issue instructions on what to do about PIV cards that expired during the lapse in appropriations.

**Budget and Finance**

Parks that received donations or provided basic visitor services using FLREA funding should leave these costs on the donation and/or FLREA account. Further guidance will be provided. WASO Budget will hold a phone call with regional Comptrollers next week.

**Contracting**
Contracting priorities as we restart operations including paying invoices, utility and other critical bills and assessing status of contracts that were continued or were suspended during the shutdown. WASO will issue specific restart guidance as necessary to your regional procurement chiefs later next week.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

--

Lena McDowall
Deputy Director, Management and Administration
Ph: 202-513-7240
Cell: 202-641-1814
Email: Lena_McDowall@nps.gov
Dear Colleagues,

Please see the attached communications guidance for resuming operations now that the continuing resolution has been enacted. This has also been posted to the Google drive.

As discussed during today's call we are working to make clear that park accessibility/status will vary over the next few days and the public/visitors should plan accordingly. Please let us know if there are other things we can be doing to that end.

We have released/posted the Deputy Director's statement and are at the ready to address media queries throughout the weekend -- feel free to refer media to newsmedia@nps.gov if a particular park does not yet have the staff to address questions.

We hope to update the banner at the top of all nps.gov pages with similar language ASAP and will leave that up for the next few days. We would recommend parks update their individual park website alerts when they can.

I'm available anytime this weekend to assist with any communications needs you or your parks might have.

Best,

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973

Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube
Not sure if you saw this...

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "McDowall, Lena" <lena_mcdowall@nps.gov>
Date: January 25, 2019 at 10:52:51 PM EST
To: NPS Regional Directors <nps_regional_directors@nps.gov>, Robert Maclean <robert_maclean@nps.gov>, NPS Deputy Regional Directors <nps_deputyregionaldirectors@nps.gov>, NPS Associate and Assistant Directors <nps_associate_and_assistant_directors@nps.gov>, NPS Deputy Associate and Assistant Directors <deputy_associate_and_assistant_directors@nps.gov>, "Paul (Dan) Smith" <paul_smith@nps.gov>, "Obernesser, Rick" <rick_obernesser@nps.gov>, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>, Michael Litterst <mike_litterst@nps.gov>, Chris Williamson <Chris_Williamson@nps.gov>, Beth Walden <beth_walden@nps.gov>, Marlon Taubenheim <marlon_taubenheim@nps.gov>, Alma Ripps <alma_ripps@nps.gov>, Stephen Morris <stephen_morris@nps.gov>, "Powell, Christine" <chris_powell@nps.gov>, Jessica Bowron <jessica_bowron@nps.gov>, "Trap, Patricia" <patricia_trap@nps.gov>
Cc: Andrea Travnicek <andrea_travnicek@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Initial Guidance on Returning to Full Operations

As we prepare to resume operations, I want to provide you with important information and guidance concerning the actions and activities that we will undertake as we return to work following the lapse in appropriations. We know that there will be many additional questions and we are working to address those as quickly as possible.

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A checklist for employees returning from furlough is attached. WASO will also e-mail this checklist to all employees.

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Please let me know if you have any questions.

--

Lena McDowall  
Deputy Director, Management and Administration  
Ph: 202-513-7240  
Cell: 202-641-1814  
Email: Lena_McDowall@nps.gov
It feels good to be sending this note. Please read the memo on re-opening directions from Lena provided below. Looking forward to seeing and interacting with folks who are fully employed come Monday. I do expect issues with equipment and software, and lots of questions regarding payroll, contracting, payments, etc in the coming days. Let's give each of ourselves and our compatriots some time to work through the kinks. Karma and Brock along with Debbie will be hard at work processing time for all of us. Let's be attentive to helping them complete their work within the timeframe provided.

I'll watch for, and share, any further pertinent direction that comes in to my in-box over the weekend.

Enjoy your weekend.

William "Bill" Kaage
NPS Division Chief, Fire and Aviation Management
208-387-5216 (office)
208-866-5268 (cellular phone)

"If your nerve deny you, go above your nerve" Emily Dickinson

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Louis Rowe <louis_rowe@nps.gov>
Date: Sat, Jan 26, 2019 at 6:39 AM
Subject: Fwd: Initial Guidance on Returning to Full Operations
To: <john_callhoun@nps.gov>, <john_leonard@nps.gov>, <william_kaage@nps.gov>, 
<michael_may@nps.gov>, <sara_newman@nps.gov>, <roger_semler@nps.gov>,
<georgia_shaw@nps.gov>, <robert_maclean@nps.gov>, <jennifer_proctor@nps.gov>
Cc: Sonya Rowe <sonya_rowe@nps.gov>, <kris_baenziger@nps.gov>,
<thomas_garcia@nps.gov>

Chiefs:
Please read Lena’s note and communicate with your staff. Monday is a workday for anyone who would report to duty that day per normal work schedule.

Thanks for hanging in there!

Louis

Sent from my iPhone
Begin forwarded message:

From: "McDowall, Lena" <lena_mcdowall@nps.gov>
Date: January 25, 2019 at 10:52:51 PM EST
To: NPS Regional Directors <nps_regional_directors@nps.gov>, Robert Maclean <robert_maclean@nps.gov>, NPS Deputy Regional Directors <nps_deputyregionaldirectors@nps.gov>, NPS Associate and Assistant Directors <nps_associate_and_assistant_directors@nps.gov>, NPS Deputy Associate and Assistant Directors <deputy_associate_and_assistant_directors@nps.gov>, "Paul (Dan) Smith" <paul_smith@nps.gov>, "Obernesser, Rick" <rick_obernesser@nps.gov>, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>, Michael Litterst <mike_litterst@nps.gov>, Chris Williamson <Chris_Williamson@nps.gov>, Beth Walden <beth_walden@nps.gov>, Marlon Taubenheim <marlon_taubenheim@nps.gov>, Alma Ripps <alma_ripps@nps.gov>, Stephen Morris <stephen_morris@nps.gov>, "Powell, Christine" <chris_powell@nps.gov>, Jessica Bowron <jessica_bowron@nps.gov>, "Trap, Patricia" <patricia_trap@nps.gov>
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**Lena McDowall**
Deputy Director, Management and Administration
Ph: 202-513-7240
Cell: (b) (6)
Email: Lena_McDowall@nps.gov
Hi Lena, I do have a question for WICR. We have a career-seasonal employee who was scheduled to be in non-pay status beginning next week. I am told a personnel action was already submitted by our Admin staff before shutdown but I don't know if it was fully processed. The employee name is [b] (6) [b]. I just want to confirm that his non-pay status is still in effect???? We need to know for sure if he should report to work or not. THANKS!

Michelle Lee
Administrative Officer
Wilson's Creek National Battlefield

------- Forwarded message -------
From: Kenkel, Craig <craig_kenkel@nps.gov>
Date: Fri, Jan 25, 2019 at 10:22 PM
Subject: Fwd: Initial Guidance on Returning to Full Operations
To: Legault, Albert <ai_legault@nps.gov>, Chris Smith <chris_e_smith@nps.gov>, Karen Bradford <karen_l_bradford@nps.gov>, Casey Osback <casey_osback@nps.gov>, Treva Sykes <Treva_Sykes@nps.gov>, Mark Foust <mark_foust@nps.gov>, Evan Webber <b> (6) [b] @gmail.com>, Necia Alexander <necia_alexander@nps.gov>, Bruce Gagnon <bruce_gagnon@nps.gov>, Kassovic, Ivan <ivan_kassovic@nps.gov>, Dave Barland-Liles <david_barland-liles@nps.gov>, Elmore, George <george_Elmore@nps.gov>, Shawn Calkins <Shawn_calkins@nps.gov>, Boyko, Betty <betty_boyko@nps.gov>, Carl Brenner <carl_brenner@nps.gov>, Darin Huggins <darin_huggins@nps.gov>, Andrew Banta <b> (6) [b] @nps.gov>, Gregory Ficker <b> (6) [b] @gmail.com>, Douglas Blome <Dong_Blome@nps.gov>, Craig Hansen <craig_hansen@nps.gov>, Christopher Reed <chris_reed@nps.gov>, Randall Becker <randall_becker@nps.gov>, Michael Wilson <mike_i_wilson@nps.gov>, Peter Swisher <pete_swisher@nps.gov>, Mark Engler <mark_engler@nps.gov>, Sue Bruns <sue_bruns@nps.gov>, Travis-Allen@nps.gov>, Justin Cully <justin_cully@nps.gov>, Diana Merrill <diana_merrill@nps.gov>, Stalling, Kristen <kristen_stalling@nps.gov>, Eric Gabriel <eric_gabriel@nps.gov>, Labovitz, Paul <Paul_Labovitz@nps.gov>, Chris Pergiel <Chris_Pergiel@nps.gov>, Michael Ausema <Mike_ausema@nps.gov>, Coral Conway <coral_conway@nps.gov>, William Hance
Please review and we can discuss any questions you have during our Saturday morning call.

Craig Kenkel
Acting Regional Director
Midwest Region
National Park Service
601 Riverfront Drive
Omaha, NE 68102
402-661-1520 office
440-668-2230 mobile
craig_kenkel@nps.gov

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From: McDowall, Lena <lena_mcdowall@nps.gov>
Date: Fri, Jan 25, 2019 at 9:53 PM
Subject: Initial Guidance on Returning to Full Operations
To: NPS Regional Directors <nps_regional_directors@nps.gov>, Robert Maclean <robert_maclean@nps.gov>, NPS Deputy Regional Directors <nps_deputyregionaldirectors@nps.gov>, NPS Associate and Assistant Directors <nps_assoc_and_assist_rdl@nps.gov>, NPS MWR Park Superintendents <mwr_park_superintendents@nps.gov>, NPS MWRO Assoc RD <mwro_assoc_and_assist_rd@nps.gov>
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Michelle Lee
Administrative Officer
Wilson's Creek National Battlefield

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From: Collier, Clifford (Cliff) <cliff_collier@nps.gov>
Sent: Saturday, January 26, 2019 8:41 AM
To: Theodore Hillmer; Michelle Lee; Gary Sullivan; [b] (6) [b] att.net; Mike DeBacker; [b] (6) [b] yahoo.com
Subject: Fwd: Initial Guidance on Returning to Full Operations

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402-661-1520 office  
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Cell: 202-641-1814  
Email: Lena_McDowall@nps.gov
Thanks Chris. Talk to you Monday!

Shelagh

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 25, 2019, at 8:02 PM, Williamson, Christine <chris_williamson@nps.gov> wrote:

Welcome Back! See email below from Lena. Have a nice weekend! Chris

Christine Williamson
Fee Program Manager
National Recreation Fee Program
1849 C Street, NW, Mail Stop: 2346
Washington, DC 20240
(202) 513-7132 (Office)
(720) 360-9903 (Mobile)

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Some parks and offices that have been closed for the duration of the shutdown may have more work to do to be ready for employees to return. They may need to plow parking lots, shovel walkways, heat buildings, etc., so workplaces and visitor centers are safe for employees and visitors. If necessary, you may direct employees to work from home or an alternate park location. Your Human Resources staff can advise you if you believe you need to put employees on paid administrative leave until it is safe to return to the office.

A checklist for employees returning from furlough is attached. WASO will also e-mail this checklist to all employees.

**Resuming Operations**

The safety of our employees and visitors is always our top priority. Staff should take the time to fully assess facility conditions and address potential safety issues before reopening an area to employees or visitors. NPS Communications is making every effort to inform the public that it will take some time for parks to fully resume normal operations.

Parks should also assess and document any changes in resource conditions that have occurred over the last month.

**Communications**

WASO Communications will be issuing guidance on restarting website operations, social media posting, press releases and other important topics.

**Fee Collection and Reservations**

Parks should resume fee collection once visitor services are substantially restored, their fee collection program is adequately staffed and equipment is in good working order. Please let WASO know if you have any parks that will likely not be ready to resume collection by February 1, 2019.

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We recognize there are many other HR issues that employees are concerned about, including transit subsidies, job announcements and certs that were in process before the shutdown, seasonal hiring, etc. We are working as quickly as possible to address these issues and to provide information and guidance to employees.

**Information Technology**

Email and other systems may be a little slow in the first few days back as many employees log onto systems at the same time and as IT restores systems that were turned off during the lapse to full service. IT will provide more information on what employees can expect.

IT will also issue instructions on what to do about PIV cards that expired during the lapse in appropriations.

**Budget and Finance**

Parks that received donations or provided basic visitor services using FLREA funding should leave these costs on the donation and/or FLREA account. Further guidance will be provided. WASO Budget will hold a phone call with regional Comptrollers next week.

**Contracting**

Contracting priorities as we restart operations including paying invoices, utility and other critical bills and assessing status of contracts that were continued or were suspended during the shutdown. WASO will issue specific restart guidance as necessary to your regional procurement chiefs later next week.
Please let me know if you have any questions.

--
Lena McDowall
Deputy Director, Management and Administration
Ph: 202-513-7240
Cell: 202-641-1814
Email: Lena_McDowall@nps.gov

<Welcome Back Checklist.docx>
Thank you. Should you send to the Assistants as well?

Kelly Fox
Staff Assistant
National Park Service
Sent from my phone

On Jan 26, 2019, at 8:56 AM, Christine Powell <chris_powell@nps.gov> wrote:

Not sure if you saw this...

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "McDowall, Lena" <lena_mcdowall@nps.gov>
Date: January 25, 2019 at 10:52:51 PM EST
To: NPS Regional Directors <nps_regional_directors@nps.gov>, Robert Maclean <robert_maclean@nps.gov>, NPS Deputy Regional Directors <nps_deputyregionaldirectors@nps.gov>, NPS Associate and Assistant Directors <nps_associate_and_assistant_directors@nps.gov>, NPS Deputy Associate and Assistant Directors <deputy_associate_and_assistant_directors@nps.gov>, "Paul (Dan) Smith" <paul_smith@nps.gov>, "Obernesser, Rick" <rick_obernesser@nps.gov>, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>, Michael Litterst <mike_litterst@nps.gov>, Chris Williamson <Chris_Williamson@nps.gov>, Beth Walden <beth_walden@nps.gov>, Marlon Taubenheim <marlon_taubenheim@nps.gov>, Alma Ripps <alma_ripps@nps.gov>, Stephen Morris <stephen_morris@nps.gov>, "Powell, Christine" <chris_powell@nps.gov>, Jessica Bowron <jessica_bowron@nps.gov>, "Trap, Patricia" <patricia_trap@nps.gov>
Cc: Andrea Travnicek <andrea_travnicek@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: Initial Guidance on Returning to Full Operations

As we prepare to resume operations, I want to provide you with
important information and guidance concerning the actions and activities that we will undertake as we return to work following the lapse in appropriations. We know that there will be many additional questions and we are working to address those as quickly as possible.

**Reporting to Work**

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Some parks and offices that have been closed for the duration of the shutdown may have more work to do to be ready for employees to return. They may need to plow parking lots, shovel walkways, heat buildings, etc., so workplaces and visitor centers are safe for employees and visitors. If necessary, you may direct employees to work from home or an alternate park location. Your Human Resources staff can advise you if you believe you need to put employees on paid administrative leave until it is safe to return to the office.

A checklist for employees returning from furlough is attached. WASO will also e-mail this checklist to all employees.

**Resuming Operations**

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Parks should also assess and document any changes in resource conditions that have occurred over the last month.

**Communications**

WASO Communications will be issuing guidance on restarting website operations, social media posting, press releases and other important topics.

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equipment is in good working order. Please let WASO know if you have any parks that will likely not be ready to resume collection by February 1, 2019.

The WASO Fee Program is working with the online pass provider to set February 1, 2019 as the first available date for which visitors can purchase an online pass.

Suspensions of reservations for campgrounds, tours and other services on Recreation.gov were issued on a park-by-park basis at the beginning of the shutdown. Parks will need to work with Recreation.gov staff to lift reservation suspensions on a facility by facility basis.

Payroll and Human Resources

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HR’s priority in the coming days will be getting employees paid and processing personnel actions such as, retirements, onboarding of new personnel, promotions, new FEHB enrollments and awards. The deadline to submit performance awards passed during the shutdown, so HR will establish a new deadline.

We recognize there are many other HR issues that employees are concerned about, including transit subsidies, job announcements and certs that were in process before the shutdown, seasonal hiring, etc. We are working as quickly as possible to address these issues and to provide information and guidance to employees.

Information Technology

Email and other systems may be a little slow in the first few days back as many employees log onto systems at the same time and as IT restores systems that were turned off during the lapse to full service. IT will provide more information on what employees can expect.

IT will also issue instructions on what to do about PIV cards that expired during the lapse in appropriations.

Budget and Finance
Parks that received donations or provided basic visitor services using FLREA funding should leave these costs on the donation and/or FLREA account. Further guidance will be provided. WASO Budget will hold a phone call with regional Comptrollers next week.

**Contracting**

Contracting priorities as we restart operations including paying invoices, utility and other critical bills and assessing status of contracts that were continued or were suspended during the shutdown. WASO will issue specific restart guidance as necessary to your regional procurement chiefs later next week.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

--

Lena McDowall  
Deputy Director, Management and Administration  
Ph: 202-513-7240  
Cell: 202-641-1814  
Email: Lena_McDowall@nps.gov

<mime-attachment.html>

<Welcome Back Checklist.docx>
From: Lisa Mendelson
To: Lisa Mendelson
Subject: ACTION REQUIRED: NCR parks and regional office initial reopening guidance
Date: Saturday, January 26, 2019 9:53:29 AM

NCR POCs, ARDs, Supts/Deputies,

Welcome back. And more importantly, thank you. The past 5 weeks would have been markedly more difficult without your dedication and engagement. Thanks for all you’ve done. And yet, we have more to do to lead our staffs back toward normal operations.

Reopening - Initial Guidance

As we prepare to resume operations, I want to provide you with important information and guidance concerning the actions and activities that we will undertake as we return to work following the lapse in appropriations. We know that there will be many questions, and we will work to address those as quickly as possible. As I’m writing this we are learning more every minute so we will do our best to keep you up to date on direction.

This email contains important initial guidance from WASO and NCRO about reopening. You are welcome to share this email with key staff. The employee checklist linked below will be finalized later today and shared with all NCR employees.

Reporting to Work

In general, employees should report to work on their first normally scheduled workday after the shutdown ends unless the employee is on previously scheduled and approved leave, is approved for telework, or has made other arrangements with their supervisor. As parks are ready, you may begin to welcome staff back tomorrow if that would have been their usual schedule. The Regional offices will open on Monday.

Some parks and offices that have been closed for the duration of the shutdown may have more work to do to be ready for employees to return. They may need to plow parking lots, shovel walkways, reopen and heat buildings, etc., so workplaces and visitor centers are safe for employees and visitors.

If necessary, you may direct employees to work from home or an alternate park location. NCR Human Resource staff can advise you if you believe you need to put employees on paid administrative leave until it is safe to return to the office. Charles Richardson and Tiffany Green are available to discuss this and any changes in schedules.

An NCR checklist for employees returning from furlough is at this location. I will share this with all employees later today. https://docs.google.com/document/d/1B4OUcg7FjAKuvZsJXOnXfSweSgiwZCPNvTHeqiFiV94 This is a modified WASO checklist, so if you see another version, you’ll note that the NCR checklist is much longer and covers people both in furloughed and working status.
Resuming Operations

The safety of our employees and visitors is always our top priority. Staff should take the time to fully assess facility conditions and address potential safety issues before reopening an area to employees or visitors. NPS WASO Communications is making every effort to inform the public that it will take some time for parks to fully resume normal operations.

Parks should also assess and document any changes in resource conditions that have occurred over the last month. If you need assistance please contact Cherie Shepherd.

Fee Collection and Reservations

Parks should resume fee collection once visitor services are substantially restored, their fee collection program is adequately staffed, and equipment is in good working order. Please let Dave Moore, April Slayton, and me know if you have any parks that will likely not be ready to resume collection by February 1, 2019.

For NCR parks that had been set to go to a new fee structure on January 1, 2019, please let us know your preparedness in your park reopening plan. We can have further discussions on a park by park basis.

The WASO Fee Program is working with the online pass provider to set February 1, 2019 as the first date that online passes will be available to for purchase.

Suspensions of reservations for campgrounds, tours and other services on Recreation.gov were issued on a park-by-park basis at the beginning of the shutdown. Parks will need to work with Recreation.gov to lift reservation suspensions on a facility by facility basis.

Payroll and Human Resources

The Department is committed to getting employees paid for previous pay periods as quickly as possible. IBC is planning for off-cycle payments. We anticipate that amended timecards for pay periods 18-27, 19-01 and 19-02 will be due midday Tuesday, January 29, 2019. Watch for specific instructions from Human Resources on completing timecards. Please do not go into Quicktime or amend any previous pay periods until you receive specific guidance.

HR’s priority in the coming days will be getting employees paid and processing personnel actions such as retirements, onboarding of new personnel, promotions, new FEHB enrollments and awards. The deadline to submit performance awards passed during the shutdown, so HR will establish a new deadline. Additionally, HR will be working with parks and programs to address appointments that may have had NTE dates during the 5 weeks of lapsed appropriations, specifically term, temporary and seasonal.

We recognize there are many other HR issues that employees are concerned about, including transit
subsidies, job announcements and certs that were in process before the shutdown, seasonal hiring, etc.

We are working as quickly as possible to address these issues and to provide information and guidance to employees.

If you have any questions please reach out to Charles Richardson, Dave Moore or April Slayton.

**Information Technology**

Email and other systems may be a little slow in the first few days back, as many employees log onto systems at the same time and as IT restores systems that were turned off during the lapse to full service. IT will provide more information on what employees can expect.

IT will also issue instructions on what to do about PIV cards that expired during the lapse in appropriations, as well as expired passwords and network access

**Budget and Finance**

Parks that received donations or provided basic visitor services using FLREA funding should leave these costs on the donation and/or FLREA account. Further guidance will be provided. WASO Budget will hold a phone call with regional Comptrollers in the next few days.

**Contracting**

Contracting priorities as we restart operations will include paying invoices, utility and other critical bills and assessing status of contracts that were continued or were suspended during the shutdown. WASO will issue specific restart guidance as necessary to regional procurement chiefs later next week.

**Communications**

Please see the WASO communications guidance for resuming operations now that the continuing resolution has been enacted.

https://docs.google.com/file/d/1ZboWJb5bPNyj2XIAw5w0zn9SaOBa4ymR/edit?usp=docslist_api&filetype=msword

WASO is working to make clear that park accessibility/status will vary over the next few days and the public/visitors should plan accordingly.

WASO hopes to update the banner at the top of all nps.gov pages with similar language ASAP and will leave that up for the next few days. We would recommend parks update their individual park website alerts when they can.

WASO has released/posted the Deputy Director's statement and are at the ready to address media queries throughout the weekend. Katie Liming is on duty in NCRO through this weekend to help you address any media issues for which you need assistance.
Park and ARD reopening plans

As we discussed on the call Friday evening, we have a template for your use in creating unit specific reopening plans. https://docs.google.com/document/d/16aMsCek1LB41SjJmzFFGxz1U-XQsKjvafIwdauNkO5g

ACTION: Please take advantage of creating a plan to think and document your priorities, noting where you would like assistance from NCRO, and the timeline in which you can accomplish reopening. We are checking the google site frequently for your plans, in part because we want to know what assistance you’ll need from us in NCRO. I believe these plans will also be useful tools for communicating with your employees.

Apologies for the clunky links, I’m working from an iPad and it’s not as elegant as inserting hot links.

Again, my thanks for all you’ve done and will continue to do. Let us know of your questions, we’re here to support you.

~Lisa

—+—
Lisa Mendelson - Acting Regional Director
National Park Service - National Capital
202-619-7020 office - 202-297-1338 cell
Sent by ipad
From: Frost, Lisa
To: Groomer, Michael
Subject: Fwd: Initial Guidance on Returning to Full Operations
Date: Saturday, January 26, 2019 10:27:43 AM
Attachments: Welcome Back Checklist.docx

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Kenkel, Craig <craig_kenkel@nps.gov>
Date: Fri, Jan 25, 2019 at 10:23 PM
Subject: Fwd: Initial Guidance on Returning to Full Operations
To: Legault, Albert <aj_legault@nps.gov>, Chris Smith <chris_e_smith@nps.gov>, Karen Bradford <karen_l_bradford@nps.gov>, Casey Osback <casey_osback@nps.gov>, Treva Sykes <Treva_Sykes@nps.gov>, Mark Fou <mark_foust@nps.gov>, Evan Webber <evan_webber@gmail.com>, Necia Alexander <necia_alexander@nps.gov>, Bruce Gagnon <bruce_gagnon@nps.gov>, Kassovic, Ivan <ivan_kassovic@nps.gov>, Dave Barland-Liles <david_barland-liles@nps.gov>, Elmore, George <george_Elmore@nps.gov>, Shawn Calkins <Shawn_calkins@nps.gov>, Boyko, Betty <betty_boyko@nps.gov>, Carl Brenner <carl_brenner@nps.gov>, Darin Huggins <darin_huggins@nps.gov>, Andrew Banta <Andy_Banta@nps.gov>, Gregory Ficker <gregory_ficker@gmail.com>, Douglas Blome <Doug_Blome@nps.gov>, Craig Hansen <craig_hansen@nps.gov>, Christopher Reed <chris_reed@nps.gov>, Randall Becker <randall_becker@nps.gov>, Michael Wilson <mike_j_wilson@nps.gov>, Peter Swisher <pete_swisher@nps.gov>, Mark Engler <mark_engler@nps.gov>, Sue Bruns <sue_bruns@nps.gov>, <travis-allen@nps.gov>, Justin Cully <justin_cully@nps.gov>, Diana Merrill <diana_merrill@nps.gov>, Stalling, Kristen <kristen_stalling@nps.gov>, Eric Gabriel <eric_gabriel@nps.gov>, Labovitz, Paul <Paul_Labovitz@nps.gov>, Chris Pergiel <Chris_Pergiel@nps.gov>, Michael Ausema <Michael_ausema@nps.gov>, Coral Conway <coral_conway@nps.gov>, William Hance <william_hance@nps.gov>, Green, Phyllis <Phyllis_Green@nps.gov>, Michelle Wheatley <michelle_wheatley@nps.gov>, Robert Bjelland <robert_bjelland@nps.gov>, Michael Horton <mike_horton@nps.gov>, Coty Stief <coty_stief@nps.gov>, Jeffrey Alhanati <jeffrey_alhanati@nps.gov>, Kenneth Kipina <ken_kipina@nps.gov>, Jesse Schiferl <jesse_schiferl@nps.gov>, Mark Weekley <mark_Weekley@nps.gov>, Robert Zimmerman <Bob_Zimmerman@nps.gov>, RODNEY NAYLOR <rodney_naylor@nps.gov>, Eric Leonard <eric_leonard@nps.gov>, John Anfinson <john_anfinson@nps.gov>, Rick Clark <Rick_Clark@nps.gov>, Cheryl Schreier <cheryl_schreier@nps.gov>, Brad Eggers <brad_eggers@nps.gov>, Bauermeister, Ann <ann_bauermeister@nps.gov>, Craig Kenkel <craig_kenkel@nps.gov>, Clara Wooden <clara_wooden@nps.gov>, Alexandra Picavet <alexandra_picavet@nps.gov>, Bubac, Duane <duane_bubac@nps.gov>, Tim Colyer <Tim_Colyer@nps.gov>, Kesteloot, Kurt <kurt_kesteloot@nps.gov>, Enimini Ekong <Enimini_Ekong@nps.gov>, Thede, Stephen <steve_thede@nps.gov>, Christopher Loudenslager <christopher_loudenslager@nps.gov>, Jodi Towery <jodi_towery@nps.gov>, Linda Gregory <lindel_gregory@nps.gov>, Eads, Gregory <kevin_eads@nps.gov>, Matthew Fry <matt_fry@nps.gov>, Fearon, Barbara <barbara_fearon@nps.gov>, Cody Goraczkowski <cody_goraczkowski@nps.gov>, David Horne <david_horne@nps.gov>, Kathleen Schneider <kathy_schneider@nps.gov>, Scott Bentley <scott_bentley@nps.gov>, Nicholas Shope <nick_shope@nps.gov>, Merford, Dan <dan_merford@nps.gov>, Justin Cawiezel <justin_cawiezel@nps.gov>, Andrew Blake <Andrew_Blake@nps.gov>, Troy Rodgers <troy_rogers@nps.gov>, Grant Geis <grant_geis@nps.gov>, Anthony DeMarco <tony_demarco@nps.gov>, Bob DeGross <bob_degross@nps.gov>, Benjamin Welch
Please review and we can discuss any questions you have during our Saturday morning call.

Craig Kenkel  
Acting Regional Director  
Midwest Region  
National Park Service  
601 Riverfront Drive  
Omaha, NE 68102  
402-661-1520 office  
440-668-2230 mobile  
craig_kenkel@nps.gov

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: McDowall, Lena <lena_mcdowall@nps.gov>  
Date: Fri, Jan 25, 2019 at 9:53 PM  
Subject: Initial Guidance on Returning to Full Operations  
To: NPS Regional Directors <nps REGIONAL directors@nps.gov>, Robert Maclean <robert_maclean@nps.gov>, NPS Deputy Regional Directors <nps deputyregionaldirectors@nps.gov>, NPS Associate and Assistant Directors <nps associate and assistant directors@nps.gov>, NPS Deputy Associate and Assistant Directors <deputy associate and assistant directors@nps.gov>, Paul (Dan) Smith <paul_smith@nps.gov>, Obernesser, Rick <rick_obernesser@nps.gov>, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>, Michael Litterst <mike_litterst@nps.gov>, Chris Williamson <Chris_Williamson@nps.gov>, Beth Walden <beth_walden@nps.gov>, Marlon Taubenheim <marlon_taubenheim@nps.gov>, Alma Rippis <alma_ripps@nps.gov>, Stephen Morris <stephen_morris@nps.gov>, Powell, Christine <chris_powell@nps.gov>, Jessica Bowron <jessica_bowron@nps.gov>, Trap, Patricia <patricia_trap@nps.gov>  
Cc: Andrea Travnicek <andrea_travnicek@ios.doi.gov>

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pay periods until you receive specific guidance.

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Please let me know if you have any questions.

--

**Lena McDowall**  
Deputy Director, Management and Administration  
Ph: 202-513-7240  
Cell: 202-641-1814  
Email: Lena_McDowall@nps.gov

--
Did you know there are 8 National Parks in Arkansas? Like Fort Smith NHS on Facebook.
Lena,

Your guidance is accurate. No need for correction from me.

Best,

Marlon

On Sat, Jan 26, 2019 at 11:47 AM McDowall, Lena <lena_mcdowall@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Michelle -

The employee does not need to report to work next week if he was scheduled to enter a non-pay status. Your SHRO will be processing these types of pending personnel actions over the next few days as they return to work. I've copied the Deputy Associate Director of Workforce, Marlon Taubenheim, who can answer more detailed questions about this, or correct me if I've steered you wrong.

Thanks,

Lena

On Sat, Jan 26, 2019 at 10:00 AM Danny and Michelle Lee (b) (6) @hotmail.com wrote:

Hi Lena, I do have a question for WICR. We have a career-seasonal employee who was scheduled to be in non-pay status beginning next week. I am told a personnel action was already submitted by our Admin staff before shutdown but I don't know if it was fully processed. The employee name is (b) (6) I just want to confirm that his non-pay status is still in effect???? We need to know for sure if he should report to work or not. THANKS!

Michelle Lee
Administrative Officer
Wilson's Creek National Battlefield
Forwarded message

From: Kenkel, Craig <craig_kenkel@nps.gov>
Date: Fri, Jan 25, 2019 at 10:22 PM
Subject: Fwd: Initial Guidance on Returning to Full Operations
To: Legault, Albert <aj_legault@nps.gov>, Chris Smith <chris_e_smith@nps.gov>, Karen Bradford <karen_1_bradford@nps.gov>, Casey Osback <casey_osback@nps.gov>, Treva Sykes <treva_sykes@nps.gov>, Mark Foust <mark_foust@nps.gov>, Evan Webber <jbbwebber@gmail.com>, Necia Alexander <necia alexander@nps.gov>, Bruce Gagnon <bruce_gagnon@nps.gov>, Kassovic, Ivan <ivan_kassovic@nps.gov>, Dave Barland-Liles <david_barland-liles@nps.gov>, Elmore, George <george_elmore@nps.gov>, Shawn Calkins <shawn_calkins@nps.gov>, Boyko, Betty <betty_boyko@nps.gov>, Carl Brenner <carl_brenner@nps.gov>, Darin Huggins <daran_huggins@nps.gov>, Andrew Banta <andy_banta@nps.gov>, Gregory Ficker <g_ficker@nps.gov>, Douglas Blome <doug_blome@nps.gov>, Craig Hansen <craig_hansen@nps.gov>, Christopher Reed <chris_reed@nps.gov>, Randall Becker <randall Becker@nps.gov>, Michael Wilson <mike_wilson@nps.gov>, Peter Swisher <pete_swisher@nps.gov>, Mark Engler <mark_engler@nps.gov>, Sue Bruns <sue bruns@nps.gov>, Travis Allen <travis allen@nps.gov>, Justin Cully <justin_cully@nps.gov>, Diana Merrill <diana merrill@nps.gov>, Stalling, Kristen <kristen_stalling@nps.gov>, Eric Gabriel <eric gabriel@nps.gov>, Labovitz, Paul <paul_labovitz@nps.gov>, Chris Pergiel <chris Pergiel@nps.gov>, Michael Ausema <michael ausema@nps.gov>, Coral Conway <coral conway@nps.gov>, William Hance <william hance@nps.gov>, Green, Phyllis <phyllis Green@nps.gov>, Michelle Wheatley <michelle wheatley@nps.gov>, Robert Bjelland <robert bjelland@nps.gov>, Michael Horton <mike horton@nps.gov>, Coty Stief <coty stief@nps.gov>, Jeffrey Alhanati <jeffrey alhanati@nps.gov>, Kenneth Kipina <ken kipina@nps.gov>, Jesse Schiferl <jesse schiferl@nps.gov>, Mark Weekley <mark Weekley@nps.gov>, Robert Zimmerman <bob Zimmerman@nps.gov>, RODNEY NAYLOR <rodney naylor@nps.gov>, Eric Leonard <eric leonard@nps.gov>, John Anfinson <john anfinson@nps.gov>, Rick Clark <rick Clark@nps.gov>, Cheryl Schreier <cheryl schreier@nps.gov>, Brad Eggers <brad eggers@nps.gov>, Baumesteir, Ann <ann baumesteir@nps.gov>, Craig Kenkel <craig kenkel@nps.gov>, Clara Wooden <clara wooden@nps.gov>, Alexandra Picavet <alexandra picavet@nps.gov>, Bubac, Duane <duane bubac@nps.gov>, Tim Colyer <tim colyer@nps.gov>, Kesteloot, Kurt <kurt kesteloot@nps.gov>, Enimini Ekong <enimini ekong@nps.gov>, Thede, Stephen <steve thede@nps.gov>, Christopher Loudenslager <christopher loudenslager@nps.gov>, Jodi Towery <jodi towery@nps.gov>, Lindel Gregory <lindel gregory@nps.gov>, Eads, Gregory <kevin eads@nps.gov>, Matthew Fry <matt fry@nps.gov>, Fearon, Barbara <barbara fearon@nps.gov>, Cody Goraczkowski <cody goraczkowski@nps.gov>, David Horne <david horne@nps.gov>, Kathleen Schneider <kathleen schneider@nps.gov>, Scott Bentley <scott bentley@nps.gov>, Nicholas Shope <nick shope@nps.gov>, Morford, Dan <dan morford@nps.gov>, Justin Cawiezel <justin cawiezel@nps.gov>, Andrew Blake <andrew Blake@nps.gov>, Troy Rodgers <troy rodgers@nps.gov>, Grant Geis <grant geis@nps.gov>, Anthony DeMarco <anthony demarco@nps.gov>, Bob DeGross <bob degross@nps.gov>, Benjamin Welch <benjamin welch@nps.gov>, Davila, Vidal
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Please let me know if you have any questions.

--

**Lena McDowall**  
Deputy Director, Management and Administration  
Ph: 202-513-7240  
Cell: 202-641-1814  
Email: Lena_McDowall@nps.gov
--
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--
Marlon V. Taubenheim
Deputy Associate Director
Workforce and Inclusion
National Park Service
(202) 354-1826
I spoke with Doris. She is planning to come in on Monday even though it’s her lieu day.

Looking forward to getting back to normal.

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Barnum, Jeremy" <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Date: January 26, 2019 at 12:48:01 PM EST
To: OCOMM/WASO <nps_waso_ocomm_contact_list@nps.gov>
Subject: Welcome Back!!!

Dear OCOM Team,

As I'm sure you are all aware, a continuing resolution reopening the government was signed last night and we are beginning the process of resuming full NPS operations. It's been a long shutdown as we've faced financial uncertainty and the professional frustration of not being able to support parks and programs at a time when there was regular national attention on what we do.

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Also note that a checklist for employees returning from furlough is attached.
Supervisors: I've bcc'd the personal emails I have on file, but please also share with your teams to make sure we haven't missed anyone.

Let's tentatively plan to talk on Monday at 11:30 AM -- I will send a calendar invite with conference line information.

Looking forward to talking with you soon!

Sincerely,

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

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Please let me know if you have any questions.
Looking forward to seeing you on Monday Jeremy! I will plan to be in at 8am.

All the best,
Shelby

On Jan 26, 2019, at 12:48 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

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Please let me know if you have any questions.

<Welcome Back Checklist.docx>
Jeremy, FYI. Weird that it happened while we were on the phone...

--

Tim Cash  
Chief of Digital Strategy  
National Park Service  
(202) 436-6206  
www.nps.gov

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Condon, Stephen" <stephen_condon@contractor.nps.gov>  
Date: January 26, 2019 at 2:47:22 PM CST  
To: Tim Cash <tim_cash@nps.gov>  
Cc: Michael Tangorre <michael_tangorre@contractor.nps.gov>, Todd Edgar <todd_edgar@nps.gov>, Ken Handwerger <ken_handwerger@nps.gov>, Billy Swistak <william_swistak@nps.gov>  
Subject: Re: Shutdown Banner

All,

I've just updated the banner text, and purged the relevant file to make it live. Please let me know if you need anything else.

On Sat, Jan 26, 2019 at 3:40 PM Tim Cash <tim_cash@nps.gov> wrote:

Mike, per our FB messenger thread, here are the language changes needed for the banner. Thanks.

--

Tim Cash  
Chief of Digital Strategy  
National Park Service  
(202) 436-6206  
www.nps.gov

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Edgar, Todd" <todd_edgar@nps.gov>  
Date: January 26, 2019 at 7:06:20 AM CST
Good morning, Jeremy and everyone.

Jeremy, forgive me for not directly replying to your message to Shane but I thought it would be best to share that message with the team who has access to change the banner alert. Please do let us know if there are any changes to what you recommend the new banner text be.

Ken, Billy, and Stephen, might you or someone from WSD make the magic happen in response to Jeremy's request below?

Thanks, everyone...and welcome back to us all!

Hi Shane,

As discussed by phone earlier today we need to post the below banner across all nps.gov websites ASAP. Now that the shutdown has ended we're trying to mitigate confusion as some parks may not be immediately open. Please let me know if this banner is too long and we can edit accordingly.

Thanks,
Jeremy

*With the enactment of the continuing resolution, the National Park Service is preparing to resume regular operations though the schedule for individual parks may vary depending on staff size and complexity of operations. Many parks which have been accessible throughout the lapse in appropriations remain accessible with basic services. Visitors should contact individual parks or visit park websites for the latest information opening schedules and accessibility and visitor services. Some parks which have been closed throughout the lapse in appropriations may not reopen immediately.*

- Todd M. Edgar
  NPS.gov Manager
On Sat, Dec 22, 2018 at 9:03 AM Tim Cash <tim_cash@nps.gov> wrote:

    Great, thank you.

    --

    Tim Cash
    Chief of Digital Strategy
    National Park Service
    (202) 436-6206
    www.nps.gov

On Dec 22, 2018, at 7:32 AM, Condon, Stephen <stephen_condon@contractor.nps.gov> wrote:

    All,

    I've just made the shutdown alert live with the text Todd sent over last night. It's been purged from the CDN, and is already showing up.

    On Sat, Dec 22, 2018 at 12:09 AM Tim Cash <tim_cash@nps.gov> wrote:
        The official shutdown letter from OMB just came through, so it’s definitely happening.

        Stephen, thanks for posting the global notice. Please let me know if you need anything from us.

        Oh...and happy holidays!
        Tim

        --

        Tim Cash
        Chief of Digital Strategy
        National Park Service
        (202) 436-6206
        www.nps.gov

On Dec 21, 2018, at 8:18 PM, Edgar, Todd <todd_edgar@nps.gov> wrote:
Greetings, everyone.

So, it is still too early to post anything tonight. However, as the Senate has adjourned and won't be reconvening until noon tomorrow, there will officially be a lapse in appropriations at midnight tonight. Therefore, Tim has given the OK to post the shutdown notice after midnight.

Stephen, when you get up in the morning (just definitely not before midnight tonight!) would you please post the shutdown message as a global notice on NPS.gov? (Unless, of course, Tim learns any new news and instructs otherwise.)

During the federal government shutdown, this website will not be updated and may not reflect current conditions. Some national parks may remain accessible to visitors; however, access may change without notice. Some parks are closed completely. Some visitor services may be available when provided by concessioners or other entities. For most parks, there will be no National Park Service-provided visitor services, such as restrooms, trash collection, facilities, or road maintenance. For more information, see www.doi.gov/shutdown and the park website.

Thank you, Stephen. We'll keep a lookout for the notice in the morning. Have a great evening.

- Todd M. Edgar
  NPS.gov Manager
On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 3:13 PM
Handwerger, Ken
<ken_handwerger@nps.gov> wrote:

@Stephen,

There's been a slight change to the wording. New wording is below. There might be additional changes, but Todd will let you know if that is the case Sat morning.

*During the federal government shutdown, this website will not be updated and may not reflect current conditions. Some national parks may remain accessible to visitors; however, access may change without notice. Some parks are closed completely. Some visitor services may be available when provided by concessioners or other entities. For most parks, there will be no National Park Service-provided visitor services, such as restrooms, trash collection, facilities, or road maintenance. For more information, see [www.doi.gov/shutdown](http://www.doi.gov/shutdown) and the park website.*

Ken Handwerger, PMP
Chief, Web Services Division

Information Resources Management Directorate
National Information Services Center
National Park Service, DOI
202.713.9220
On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 2:47 PM
Edgar, Todd
< t o d d _ e d g a r @ n p s . g o v > w r o t e :
  Confirmed! Thank you, Ken, 
  Stephen, et al.

- Todd M. Edgar
 N P S . g o v Manager

National Park Service
Office of Communications
Digital Strategy Division
https://www.nps.gov

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 2:44 PM
Handwerger, Ken
< k e n _ h a n d w e r g e r @ n p s . g o v >
wrote:
  Stephen / Tim / Todd,

  As discussed, can you please 
  reply to this email when you 
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  go up. I am unable to check my 
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  Please make sure to reply to 
  THIS MESSAGE as both of 
  Stephen's email addresses are on 
  the message.

  Thanks,
  Ken

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Chief, Web Services Division

Information Resources
Management Directorate
National Information Services
Center
National Park Service, DOI
202.713.9220
Hi Tim -

The change has already propagated. Let us know if you need anything else.

Thanks!

-Mike

On Sat, Jan 26, 2019 at 4:07 PM Tim Cash <tim_cash@nps.gov> wrote:

Thanks, Stephen. Any idea how long it will take to propagate?

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Tim Cash
Chief of Digital Strategy
National Park Service
(202) 436-6206
www.nps.gov

On Jan 26, 2019, at 2:47 PM, Condon, Stephen <stephen_condon@contractor.nps.gov> wrote:

All,

I've just updated the banner text, and purged the relevant file to make it live. Please let me know if you need anything else.

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Tim Cash
Chief of Digital Strategy
National Park Service
(202) 436-6206
www.nps.gov

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Edgar, Todd" <todd_edgar@nps.gov>
Date: January 26, 2019 at 7:06:20 AM CST
Good morning, Jeremy and everyone.

Jeremy, forgive me for not directly replying to your message to Shane but I thought it would be best to share that message with the team who has access to change the banner alert. Please do let us know if there are any changes to what you recommend the new banner text be.

Ken, Billy, and Stephen, might you or someone from WSD make the magic happen in response to Jeremy's request below?

Thanks, everyone...and welcome back to us all!

Hi Shane,

As discussed by phone earlier today we need to post the below banner across all nps.gov websites ASAP. Now that the shutdown has ended we're trying to mitigate confusion as some parks may not be immediately open. Please let me know if this banner is too long and we can edit accordingly.

Thanks,
Jeremy

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*NPS.gov* Manager
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Stephen, thanks for posting the global notice.
Please let me know if you need anything from
us.

Oh...and happy holidays!
Tim

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Tim Cash
Chief of Digital Strategy
National Park Service
(202) 436-6206
www.nps.gov

On Dec 21, 2018, at 8:18 PM, Edgar, Todd
Greetings, everyone.

So, it is still too early to post anything tonight. However, as the Senate has adjourned and won't be reconvening until noon tomorrow, there will officially be a lapse in appropriations at midnight tonight. Therefore, Tim has given the OK to post the shutdown notice after midnight.

Stephen, when you get up in the morning (just definitely not before midnight tonight!) would you please post the shutdown message as a global notice on NPS.gov? (Unless, of course, Tim learns any new news and instructs otherwise.)

During the federal government shutdown, this website will not be updated and may not reflect current conditions. Some national parks may remain accessible to visitors; however, access may change without notice. Some parks are closed completely. Some visitor services may be available when provided by concessioners or other entities. For most parks, there will be no National Park Service-provided visitor services, such as restrooms, trash collection, facilities, or road maintenance. For more information, see www.doi.gov/shutdown and the park website.
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National Park Service
Office of Communications
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<todd_edgar@nps.gov> wrote:
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     National Park Service
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   Please make sure to reply to THIS MESSAGE as both of Stephen's email addresses are on the message.

   Thanks,
   Ken

Ken Handwerger, PMP
Christian Stirn
Chief, Web Services Division
Information Resources
Management Directorate
National Information Services Center
National Park Service, DOI
202.713.9220

--
Stephen Condon
Contractor, Web Services Division
National Information Services Center
National Park Service, DOI

--
Stephen Condon
Contractor, Web Services Division
National Information Services Center
National Park Service, DOI

Fig Leaf Software, Inc.
https://www.figleaf.com/
Full-Service Solutions Integrator
Their ADs should be sending it to them.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 26, 2019, at 10:52 AM, Kelly Fox <kelly_fox@nps.gov> wrote:

Thank you. Should you send to the Assistants as well?

Kelly Fox
Staff Assistant
National Park Service
Sent from my phone

On Jan 26, 2019, at 8:56 AM, Christine Powell <chris_powell@nps.gov> wrote:

Not sure if you saw this...

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "McDowall, Lena" <lena_mcdowall@nps.gov>
Date: January 25, 2019 at 10:52:51 PM EST
To: NPS Regional Directors
<<nps_regional_directors@nps.gov>, Robert Maclean
<robert_maclean@nps.gov>, NPS Deputy Regional Directors
<nps_deputyregionaldirectors@nps.gov>, NPS Associate and Assistant Directors
<nps_associate_and_assistant_directors@nps.gov>,
NPS Deputy Associate and Assistant Directors
<deputy_associate_and_assistant_directors@nps.gov>,
"Paul (Dan) Smith" <paul_smith@nps.gov>,
"Obernesser, Rick" <rick_obernesser@nps.gov>,
Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>, Michael Litterst <mike_litterst@nps.gov>,
Chris Williamson <Chris_Williamson@nps.gov>, Beth Walden
<beth_walden@nps.gov>, Marlon Taubenheim
<marlon_taubenheim@nps.gov>, Alma Ripps
<alma_ripps@nps.gov>, Stephen Morris
<stephen_morris@nps.gov>, "Powell, Christine"
<chris_powell@nps.gov>, Jessica Bowron
As we prepare to resume operations, I want to provide you with important information and guidance concerning the actions and activities that we will undertake as we return to work following the lapse in appropriations. We know that there will be many additional questions and we are working to address those as quickly as possible.

**Reporting to Work**

In general, employees should report to work on their first normally scheduled workday after the shutdown ends unless the employee is on previously scheduled and approved leave, is approved for telework, or has made other arrangements with their supervisor.

Some parks and offices that have been closed for the duration of the shutdown may have more work to do to be ready for employees to return. They may need to plow parking lots, shovel walkways, heat buildings, etc., so workplaces and visitor centers are safe for employees and visitors. If necessary, you may direct employees to work from home or an alternate park location. Your Human Resources staff can advise you if you believe you need to put employees on paid administrative leave until it is safe to return to the office.

A checklist for employees returning from furlough is attached. WASO will also e-mail this checklist to all employees.

**Resuming Operations**

The safety of our employees and visitors is always our top priority. Staff should take the time to fully assess facility conditions and address potential safety issues before reopening an area to employees or visitors. NPS Communications is making every effort to inform the public that it will take some time for parks to fully resume normal operations.
Parks should also assess and document any changes in resource conditions that have occurred over the last month.

**Communications**

WASO Communications will be issuing guidance on restarting website operations, social media posting, press releases and other important topics.

**Fee Collection and Reservations**

Parks should resume fee collection once visitor services are substantially restored, their fee collection program is adequately staffed and equipment is in good working order. Please let WASO know if you have any parks that will likely not be ready to resume collection by February 1, 2019.

The WASO Fee Program is working with the online pass provider to set February 1, 2019 as the first available date for which visitors can purchase an online pass.

Suspensions of reservations for campgrounds, tours and other services on Recreation.gov were issued on a park-by-park basis at the beginning of the shutdown. Parks will need to work with Recreation.gov staff to lift reservation suspensions on a facility by facility basis.

**Payroll and Human Resources**

The Department is committed to getting employees paid for previous pay periods as quickly as possible. IBC is planning for off-cycle payments. We anticipate that amended timecards for pay periods 18-27, 19-01 and 19-02 will be due midday Tuesday, January 29, 2019. Watch for specific instructions from Human Resources on completing timecards. Please do not amend any previous pay periods until you receive specific guidance.

HR’s priority in the coming days will be getting employees paid and processing personnel actions such as, retirements, onboarding of new personnel, promotions, new FEHB enrollments and awards. The deadline to submit performance awards passed during the shutdown, so HR will establish a new deadline.
We recognize there are many other HR issues that employees are concerned about, including transit subsidies, job announcements and certs that were in process before the shutdown, seasonal hiring, etc. We are working as quickly as possible to address these issues and to provide information and guidance to employees.

**Information Technology**

Email and other systems may be a little slow in the first few days back as many employees log onto systems at the same time and as IT restores systems that were turned off during the lapse to full service. IT will provide more information on what employees can expect.

IT will also issue instructions on what to do about PIV cards that expired during the lapse in appropriations.

**Budget and Finance**

Parks that received donations or provided basic visitor services using FLREA funding should leave these costs on the donation and/or FLREA account. Further guidance will be provided. WASO Budget will hold a phone call with regional Comptrollers next week.

**Contracting**

Contracting priorities as we restart operations including paying invoices, utility and other critical bills and assessing status of contracts that were continued or were suspended during the shutdown. WASO will issue specific restart guidance as necessary to your regional procurement chiefs later next week.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

--

Lena McDowall  
Deputy Director, Management and Administration  
Ph: 202-513-7240  
Cell: 202-641-1814  
Email: Lena_McDowall@nps.gov

<mime-attachment.html>
<Welcome Back Checklist.docx>
Thank you for the heads up. I appreciate it.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 26, 2019, at 5:27 PM, Arndt, Michael (Mike) <michael_arndt@nps.gov> wrote:

Just in case you did not receive this information.
Ed Wenschhof, acting Superintendent of GETT forwarded this to all GETT / EISE employees.

I am sure KTS received the same and shared.

Best,

Michael Arndt

Information Technology Specialist
National Park Service
(540) 424-0513 (Mobile)
michael_arndt@nps.gov

I am, but a humble monk, at your service.

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Edward Wenschhof <ed_wenschhof@nps.gov>
Date: Sat, Jan 26, 2019 at 9:51 AM
Subject: Fwd: Initial Guidance on Returning to Full Operations
To: NPS GETT All Employees <gett_all_employees@nps.gov>, NPS EISE All Employees <eise_all_employees@nps.gov>, ed_wenschhof <ed_wenschhof@nps.gov>

Please review the below and attached information. Employees should plan to return on the next regularly scheduled workday (coordinate with supervisor as needed). We will target Sunday as our first day of operations (coordinating with Chris on VC any other operations please let me know). I’ll send more later today.

Thanks

Ed Wenschhof
240-291-0677

Begin forwarded message:
From: "Vietzke, Gay" <gay_vietzke@nps.gov>
Date: January 26, 2019 at 7:19:25 AM EST
To: Alan Saperstein <alan_saperstein@nps.gov>, James West <stuart_west@nps.gov>, "Picard, Therese" <therese_picard@nps.gov>, Kelly Cobble <kelly_cobble@nps.gov>, "Farley, Carin" <carin_farley@nps.gov>, Edward West <walt_west@nps.gov>, Gregg Tinkham <gregg_tinkham@nps.gov>, Betsy Haynes <betsy_haynes@nps.gov>, Christopher Major <christopher_major@nps.gov>, Leslie Reynolds <leslie_reynolds@nps.gov>, "Cupples, Jamie" <jamie_cupples@nps.gov>, Jason Flood <jason_flood@nps.gov>, Eric Lisnik <eric_lisnik@nps.gov>, Joseph Hinkes <joe_hinkes@nps.gov>, John Stewart <john_stewart@nps.gov>, Dan Albus <dan_albus@nps.gov>, Glen Clark <glen_clark@nps.gov>, Scott Law <scott_law@nps.gov>, Jeffrey Flick <jeff_flick@nps.gov>, Greg Norman <greg_norman@nps.gov>, Edward Wenschhof <ed_wenschhof@nps.gov>, "H. Lachowski" <joe_lachowski@nps.gov>, Robert Dickinson <robert_dickinson@nps.gov>, Tim Sveum <tim_sveum@nps.gov>, "Adams, Bryan" <bryan_a_adams@nps.gov>, Joshua Scrudder <joshua_scrudder@nps.gov>, Peter Glover <peter_glover@nps.gov>, William Brooks <bill_brooks@nps.gov>, Sierra Kraushofer <sierra_kraushofer@nps.gov>, Nicholas Moore <nicholas_moore@nps.gov>, "Michael, Duane" <ronald_michael@nps.gov>, SCOTT CARRIGAN <scott_carrigan@nps.gov>, Eric Tillson <eric_tillson@nps.gov>, "Charles (Dave) Bullock" <dave_bullock@nps.gov>, Steve Walasewicz <steve_walasewicz@nps.gov>, Michael Parr <michael_parr@nps.gov>, Jeremy Bumagin <jeremy_bumagin@nps.gov>, David Lamere <david_lamere@nps.gov>, Brian Sikes <brian_sikes@nps.gov>, Daniel DeLucia <daniel_delucia@nps.gov>, Sean McNeil <sean_mcneil@nps.gov>, Michael Valora <michael_valora@nps.gov>, Guy Hock <guy_hock@nps.gov>
Cc: Deborah Conway <debbie_conway@nps.gov>, Rosalyn Fennell <rose_fennell@nps.gov>, "Strack, Brian" <brian_strack@nps.gov>, Alexa Molnar <alexa_molnar@nps.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Initial Guidance on Returning to Full Operations

Park POCs,
Please see below.

We will discuss this on the 9am call today.

Thank you!
As we prepare to resume operations, I want to provide you with important information and guidance concerning the actions and activities that we will undertake as we return to work following the lapse in appropriations. We know that there will be many additional questions and we are working to address those as quickly as possible.

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Lena McDowall
Deputy Director, Management and Administration
Ph: 202-513-7240
Cell: 202-641-1814
Email: Lena_McDowall@nps.gov
--

Gay Vietzke
Regional Director, Northeast Region
National Park Service
1234 Market Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107
215-597-5814

Notice: This e-mail transmission contains information that is solely for the use of the individual(s) or entity to whom or which it is addressed. If you are not the intended recipient, any review, copying, printing, disclosure, distribution or any other use of this information may be considered unlawful. If you received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender and delete the subject e-mail. Thank you.

<Welcome Back Checklist.docx>
Change has been made and the necessary files purged from the CDN. You should see the changes on the site now.

Thanks!

-Mike

On Sat, Jan 26, 2019 at 6:36 PM Mike Tangorre <mtangorre@figleaf.com> wrote:
I am logging on now and will make the update. Give me a few minutes... I'll reply once the changes are done and the necessary files have been purged.

Thanks!

-Mike

On Sat, Jan 26, 2019 at 6:29 PM Jeremy Barnum <jeremy.barnum@nps.gov> wrote:
Hi Mike,

The banner still has the words “Government Shutdown” at the top. Can we please remove that? If we need to replace it with another title/header can we say “Resuming Operations”? 

Thanks!

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service

On Jan 26, 2019, at 4:45 PM, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy.barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Thank you, Mike!

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service

On Jan 26, 2019, at 4:35 PM, Mike Tangorre <mtangorre@figleaf.com> wrote:

Hi Tim -

The change has already propagated. Let us know if you need anything else.

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<edgar@nps.gov>
Date: January 26, 2019 at 7:06:20 AM CST
To: Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>, Tim Cash <tim_cash@nps.gov>
Cc: "Condon, Stephen"
<stephen_condon@contractor.nps.gov>, "Handwerger, Ken"
<ken_handwerger@nps.gov>, William Swistak <William_Swistak@nps.gov>,
Stephen Condon <scondon@figleaf.com>, billy vable <b@yahoo.com>,
Virginia Reams <virginia_reams@nps.gov>
Subject: Re: Shutdown Banner
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Oh...and happy holidays!
Tim

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  NPS.gov
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  National Park Service
  Office of Communications
  Digital Strategy Division

https://www.nps.gov
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Tim
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Please make sure to reply to THIS MESSAGE as both of Stephen's email addresses are on the
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Thanks,
Ken

Ken
Handwerger,
PMP
Chief,
Web
Services
Division

Information
Resources
Management
Directorate
National
Information
Services
Center
National
Park
Service, 
DOI
202.713.9220

--
Stephen Condon
Contractor, Web Services 
Division
National Information 
Services Center
National Park Service, DOI

Fig Leaf Software, Inc.
https://www.figleaf.com/
Full-Service Solutions Integrator
Fig Leaf Software, Inc.
https://www.figleaf.com/
Full-Service Solutions Integrator

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Regards,

Mike Tangorre

----------------------------------------
Contractor, Web Services Division
National Information Systems Center
National Park Service, DOI
http://www.nps.gov
----------------------------------------
I can do 8 or whatever time is decided. I'll be meeting with my folks at 6 and 6:30 so will be done by 8.

On Jan 26, 2019 4:30 PM, "Jessica Ferracane" <jessica_ferracane@nps.gov> wrote:
Monday morning meeting works for me. I’m working in Kawaihae currently but will be home Sunday afternoon. Can’t do much before then, but Ben has updated our social media with the WASO statement.

Jessica

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 26, 2019, at 9:26 AM, lesly awong <lesly_awnong@msn.com> wrote:

DJ will be going into work tomorrow to assess our trail at Kahuiku I’m sure everything is over grown. Don’t think we will be able to open tomorrow because of the trails. Everyone will be back at work on Monday and we should be able to open to the public on Wednesday.

Keola

Get [Outlook for iOS](https://outlook.com)

---

Monday works. Admin staff will be reporting to work on Monday. VUA staff already working entrance station.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 26, 2019, at 8:30 AM, Schuster, Laura <laura_e_schuster@nps.gov> wrote:
Thanks John for the information. I think let's err on the side of nene and check the road etc, as per NRM needs, and then open likely Monday - before noon(?) or so...

This weekend can be the time to check for trees, and other hazards other than nene... Jon C can get regular staff in, or use who is on board currently.

Let's try for an 8:00 am meeting in the park - HQ - conference room.

How does that sound to meet staff needs, nene, and maint needs. Haven't heard from Ben yet.

Laura

On Sat, Jan 26, 2019 at 8:21 AM Danielle Foster
<redacted@gmail.com> wrote:
I'd rather wait to open to coast until I at least check in with staff on potential issues with birds on road, similar to our last closure. And until we are ready to collect fees. Are we ready for fee collection already?

On Sat, Jan 26, 2019, 8:18 AM Broward, John
<john_broward@nps.gov> wrote:
Monday is my day off and I have appointments in town, but I can send Jack or Tyla in my place. Can we consider opening the sections closed to visitors because of the shutdown sooner? Maybe by the end of today? We have the normal Ranger staff on who can check everything first and if we find anything that needs facilities to address, we can hold off until they are back. We will also keep the Mauna Loa Road closed until fire management says it is okay.

On Sat, Jan 26, 2019 at 8:11 AM Schuster, Laura
<laura_c_schuster@nps.gov> wrote:
Okay, how about let's meet in the park on Monday morning?

That works for me and that way you can all find out about your staff, get your plans together, see where there are gaps etc...

That will certainly work for me.

Laura

On Sat, Jan 26, 2019 at 8:06 AM Danielle Foster
<redacted@gmail.com> wrote:
so 2 won't work for me.

I will check with staff on Monday for coming in.

We probably need to do a sweep of Chain of Craters to see if potential bird issues. But with staff allowed to work, they could probably check it over course of first day or two. I'll get back with you on that.
On Sat, Jan 26, 2019, 8:01 AM Schuster, Laura
<laura_c_schuster@nps.gov wrote:
Folks please share this with your staff - reach out and find out who / when staff will be returning to work. Please make sure that all employees are accounted for and that you will have what you need to get back to "normal".

If a call is needed to discuss reopening - how about this afternoon - 2:00 pm?

If that doesn't work for folks please let Crystal know and we can set up another time for the call.

We may just have a soft opening get folks into place and concurrently have Jessica send info out when appropriate for what is open etc... need to know about opening up the road to the coast, the facilities folks, etc...

Please get word get back to me regarding a call for all MT - if needed... if not, please let me know what your plans are.

Thank you,
Laura

On Sat, Jan 26, 2019 at 5:41 AM Cindy Orlando
<cindy_orlando@nps.gov> wrote:
All,
Not sure if this went out to all employees or not yet. Sorry for duplication if did.

Cindy Orlando
Acting Deputy Regional Director
Pacific West Region
National Park Service

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Stan Austin
<stan_austin@nps.gov>
Date: January 25, 2019 at 8:15:26 PM PST
To: Cindy Orlando
<cindy_orlando@nps.gov>,
amanda_kaplan@nps.gov, Rene Buehl
<rene_buehl@nps.gov>
Cc: jo_anne_blankenship@nps.gov
Subject: Fwd: Initial Guidance on Returning to Full Operations

FYI

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: "McDowall, Lena"
<lena_mcdowall@nps.gov>
Date: January 25, 2019 at 7:52:51 PM PST
To: NPS Regional Directors <nps_regional_directors@nps.gov>,
Robert Maclean <robert_maclean@nps.gov>,
NPS Deputy Regional Directors <nps_deputyregionaldirectors@nps.gov>,
NPS Associate and Assistant Directors <nps_associate_and_assistant_directors@nps.gov>,
NPS Deputy Associate and Assistant Directors <deputy_associate_and_assistant_directors@nps.gov>,
"Paul (Dan) Smith" <paul_smith@nps.gov>,
"Obernesser, Rick" <rick_obernesser@nps.gov>,
Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>,
Michael Litterst <mike_litterst@nps.gov>,
Chris Williamson <Chris_Williamson@nps.gov>,
Beth Walden <beth_walden@nps.gov>,
Marlon Taubenheim <marlon_taubenheim@nps.gov>,
Alma Ripps <alma_ripps@nps.gov>,
Stephen Morris <stephen_morris@nps.gov>,
"Powell, Christine" <chris_powell@nps.gov>,
As we prepare to resume operations, I want to provide you with important information and guidance concerning the actions and activities that we will undertake as we return to work following the lapse in appropriations. We know that there will be many additional questions and we are working to address those as quickly as possible.

**Reporting to Work**

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necessary, you may direct employees to work from home or an alternate park location. Your Human Resources staff can advise you if you believe you need to put employees on paid administrative leave until it is safe to return to the office. A checklist for employees returning from furlough is attached. WASO will also e-mail this checklist to all employees.

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WASO Communications will be issuing guidance on restarting website operations, social media posting, press releases and other important topics.

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**Information Technology**

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Contracting priorities as we restart operations including paying invoices, utility and other critical bills and assessing status of contracts that were continued or were suspended during the shutdown. WASO will issue specific restart guidance as necessary to your regional procurement chiefs later next week.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

--

Lena McDowall
Deputy Director, Management and Administration
Ph: 202-513-7240
Cell: 202-641-1814
Email: Lena_McDowall@nps.gov

--

Laura C Schuster
Division Chief, Cultural Resources - HAVO
P.O. Box 52
1 Crater Rim Drive
Hawaii National Park, HI 96718
Phone: 808-985-6130
Cell: 808-785-4604 / Fax: 808-985-6029
Laura C Schuster  
Division Chief, Cultural Resources - HAVO  
P.O. Box 52  
1 Crater Rim Drive  
Hawaii National Park, HI 96718  
Phone: 808-985-6130  
Cell: 808-785-4604 / Fax: 808-985-6029

John Broward  
Chief Ranger  
Hawaii Volcanoes National Park  
Visitor and Resource Protection  
PO Box 52, Hawaii National Park, HI 96718  
Phone (808) 985-6030  
Cell: (808) 345-0434  
Dispatch (808) 985-6170  
Fax (808) 985-6109  
E-Mail: John_Broward@nps.gov
Begin forwarded message:

    From: "McDowall, Lena" <lena_mcdowall@nps.gov>
    Date: January 25, 2019 at 10:52:51 PM EST
    To: NPS Regional Directors <nps_regional_directors@nps.gov>, Robert Maclean <robert_maclean@nps.gov>, NPS Deputy Regional Directors <nps_deputyregionaldirectors@nps.gov>, NPS Associate and Assistant Directors <nps_associate_and_assistant_directors@nps.gov>, NPS Deputy Associate and Assistant Directors <deputy_associate_and_assistant_directors@nps.gov>, "Paul (Dan) Smith" <paul_smith@nps.gov>, "Obernesser, Rick" <rick_obernesser@nps.gov>, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>, Michael Litterst <mike_litterst@nps.gov>, Chris Williamson <Chris_Williamson@nps.gov>, Beth Walden <beth_walden@nps.gov>, Marlon Taubenheim <marlon_taubenheim@nps.gov>, Alma Ripps <alma_ripps@nps.gov>, Stephen Morris <stephen_morris@nps.gov>, "Powell, Christine" <chris_powell@nps.gov>, Jessica Bowron <jessica_bowron@nps.gov>, "Trap, Patricia" <patricia_trap@nps.gov>
    Cc: Andrea Travnicek <andrea_travnicek@ios.doi.gov>
    Subject: Initial Guidance on Returning to Full Operations

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Please let me know if you have any questions.

--
Lena McDowall
Deputy Director, Management and Administration
Ph: 202-513-7240
Cell: 202-641-1814
Email: Lena_McDowall@nps.gov
For info...

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Herbert Frost <bert_frost@nps.gov>
Date: Sun, Jan 27, 2019 at 10:39 AM
Subject: Fwd: Initial Guidance on Returning to Full Operations
To: NPS ALC <akr_alc@nps.gov>
Cc: Lindy Mihata <lindy_mihata@nps.gov>, Oliver Dillard <oliver_dillard@nps.gov>, Keith Burgess <keith_burgess@nps.gov>, William (Stephens) Harper <stephens_harper@nps.gov>, John Brad Honerlaw <john_honerlaw@nps.gov>, Karl Sommerhauser <karl_sommerhauser@nps.gov>, <anne_matsov@nps.gov>, Robert Wissinger <rob_wissinger@nps.gov>, Scott Sample <scott_sample@nps.gov>, <valerie_atkinson@nps.gov>

Here is the checklist I mentioned in the call today.

Bert Frost
Regional Director, Alaska
National Park Service

Office: 907-644-3510

Begin forwarded message:

From: "McDowall, Lena" <lena_mcdowall@nps.gov>
Date: January 25, 2019 at 6:52:51 PM AKST
To: NPS Regional Directors <nps_regional_directors@nps.gov>, Robert Maclean <robert_maclean@nps.gov>, NPS Deputy Regional Directors <nps_deputyrregionaldirectors@nps.gov>, NPS Associate and Assistant Directors <nps_associate_and_assistant_directors@nps.gov>, NPS Deputy Associate and Assistant Directors <deputy_associate_and_assistant_directors@nps.gov>, "Paul (Dan) Smith" <paul_smith@nps.gov>, "Obernesser, Rick" <rick_obernesser@nps.gov>, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>, Michael Litterst <mike_litterst@nps.gov>, Chris Williamson <Chris_Williamson@nps.gov>, Beth Walden <beth_walden@nps.gov>, Marlon Taubenheim <marlon_taubenheim@nps.gov>, Alma Ripps <alma_ripps@nps.gov>, Stephen Morris <stephen_morris@nps.gov>, "Powell, Christine" <chris_powell@nps.gov>, Jessica Bowron <jessica_bowron@nps.gov>, "Trap, Patricia" <patricia_trap@nps.gov>
Cc: Andrea Travnicek <andrea_travnicek@ios.doi.gov>
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Contracting priorities as we restart operations including paying invoices, utility and other critical bills and assessing status of contracts that were continued or were suspended during the shutdown. WASO will issue specific restart guidance as necessary to your regional procurement chiefs later next week.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

--

Lena McDowall
Deputy Director, Management and Administration
Ph: 202-513-7240
Cell: 202-641-1814
Email: Lena_McDowall@nps.gov
DLG received and disseminated

On Jan 26, 2019, at 4:57 PM, Dale Carpenter <brenda_karl@nps.gov> wrote:

Brenda,

Thanks- received and forwarded to STMA and DLG.

On Sat, Jan 26, 2019 at 8:47 AM Karl, Brenda <brenda_karl@nps.gov> wrote:

Good Morning. Please review the Re-Open guidance below. I expect that most folks will be very interested in 'when pay will be issued'. Note that we are directed NOT to make any inputs or changes to time in QT. IBC will be doing that time entry. We, as supervisors, will get notification to certify when that input is completed. Welcome back! Let me know if you have any questions.

[Copied from below]
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Enjoy your weekend! Looking forward to talking to you next week.

**Brenda Karl**

Acting Chief of Learning and Development
National Park Service
Room 2449 MIB: Phone 202-354-1409

Superintendent, Albright Training Center, Grand Canyon Village, AZ
(303) 562-7949 Work Cell
(928) 638-7989 Office

"Education is the kindling of a flame, not the filling of a vessel" - Socrates

Kindle your flame at.........

The Common Learning Portal: Take Classes Share Lessons Find Answers Connect Be Inspired Check out the video

---------- Forwarded message ----------
Dear W&I Senior Team and Supervisors, please review in preparation for a return to duty next week.

Thank you, and look forward to bringing our Directorate back together in support of the NPS.

Tony

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: McDowall, Lena <lena_mcdowall@nps.gov>
Date: Fri, Jan 25, 2019 at 10:53 PM
Subject: Initial Guidance on Returning to Full Operations
To: NPS Regional Directors <nps_regional_directors@nps.gov>, Robert Maclean <robert_maclean@nps.gov>, NPS Deputy Regional Directors <nps_deputyregionaldirectors@nps.gov>, NPS Associate and Assistant Directors <nps_associate_and_assistant_directors@nps.gov>, NPS Deputy Associate and Assistant Directors <deputy_associate_and_assistant_directors@nps.gov>, Paul (Dan) Smith <paul_smith@nps.gov>, Obernesser, Rick <rick_obernesser@nps.gov>, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>, Michael Litterst <mike_litterst@nps.gov>, Chris Williamson <Chris_Williamson@nps.gov>, Beth Walden <beth_walden@nps.gov>, Marlon Taubenheim <marlon_taubenheim@nps.gov>, Alma Ripps <alma_ripps@nps.gov>, Stephen Morris <stephen_morris@nps.gov>, Powell, Christine <chris_powell@nps.gov>, Jessica Bowron <jessica_bowron@nps.gov>, Trap, Patricia <patricia_trap@nps.gov>
Cc: Andrea Travnicek <andrea_travnicek@ios.doi.gov>

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Lena McDowall
Deputy Director, Management and Administration
--

N. Tony Nguyen
Associate Director, Workforce & Inclusion
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

nhien_nguyen@nps.gov
202-354-1990 main
Hi -

Welcome back, I guess. Who can say? I hope I can bring myself to get up earlier tomorrow than I have been for the past month so I can arrive at work (what’s that?) more or less on time. The guidance in this message I am forwarding will help us get back in the groove tomorrow. I think there will be more guidance, but this message I am forwarding is enough to get us started.

I’m glad the political process has come to its senses, at least for 3 weeks.

See you tomorrow!

JGD

-----Original Message-----

Sent: Sun, Jan 27, 2019 8:43 pm
Subject: Fwd: Initial Guidance on Returning to Full Operations

Hi everyone,

In case you aren't yet checking your work email...

Ray

-----Original Message-----

From: Sauvajot, Raymond <ray_sauvajot@nps.gov>
To: Carol McCoy <Carol_McCoy@nps.gov>; Cat Hoffman <cat_hawkins_hoffman@nps.gov>; Dave Steensen <Dave_Steensen@nps.gov>; David Anderson <d_l_anderson@nps.gov>; Elaine Leslie <Elaine_Leslie@nps.gov>; Forrest Harvey <Forrest_Harvey@nps.gov>; Guy Adema <guy_adema@nps.gov>; Heather Eggleston <heather_eggleston@nps.gov>; James Haas <james_haas@nps.gov>; Jennifer Wyse <jennifer_wyse@nps.gov>; John Dennis <john_dennis@nps.gov>; Karel Morales <karel_morales@nps.gov>; Karen Trevino <karen_trevino@nps.gov>; Kirsten Gallo <kirsten_gallo@nps.gov>; Raymond Sauvajot <ray_sauvajot@nps.gov>

Sent: Sun, Jan 27, 2019 5:46 pm
Subject: Fwd: Initial Guidance on Returning to Full Operations

Hi everyone,

Here is general information and guidance regarding getting back to work. FYI.

Ray

P.S. Welcome back!!
As we prepare to resume operations, I want to provide you with important information and guidance concerning the actions and activities that we will undertake as we return to work following the lapse in appropriations. We know that there will be many additional questions and we are working to address those as quickly as possible.

**Reporting to Work**

In general, employees should report to work on their first normally scheduled workday after the shutdown ends unless the employee is on previously scheduled and approved leave, is approved for telework, or has made other arrangements with their supervisor.

Some parks and offices that have been closed for the duration of the shutdown may have more work to do to be ready for employees to return. They may need to plow parking lots, shovel walkways, heat buildings, etc., so workplaces and visitor centers are safe for employees and visitors. If necessary, you may direct employees to work from home or an alternate park location. Your Human
Resources staff can advise you if you believe you need to put employees on paid administrative leave until it is safe to return to the office.

A checklist for employees returning from furlough is attached. WASO will also e-mail this checklist to all employees.

**Resuming Operations**

The safety of our employees and visitors is always our top priority. Staff should take the time to fully assess facility conditions and address potential safety issues before reopening an area to employees or visitors. NPS Communications is making every effort to inform the public that it will take some time for parks to fully resume normal operations.

Parks should also assess and document any changes in resource conditions that have occurred over the last month.

**Communications**

WASO Communications will be issuing guidance on restarting website operations, social media posting, press releases and other important topics.

**Fee Collection and Reservations**

Parks should resume fee collection once visitor services are substantially restored, their fee collection program is adequately staffed and equipment is in good working order. Please let WASO know if you have any parks that will likely not be ready to resume collection by February 1, 2019.

The WASO Fee Program is working with the online pass provider to set February 1, 2019 as the first available date for which visitors can purchase an online pass.

Suspensions of reservations for campgrounds, tours and other services on Recreation.gov were issued on a park-by-park basis at the beginning of the shutdown. Parks will need to work with Recreation.gov staff to lift reservation suspensions on a facility by facility basis.

**Payroll and Human Resources**

The Department is committed to getting employees paid for previous pay periods as quickly as possible. IBC is planning for off-cycle payments. We anticipate that amended timecards for pay periods 18-27, 19-01 and 19-02 will be due midday Tuesday, January 29, 2019. Watch for specific instructions from Human Resources on completing timecards. Please do not amend any previous pay periods until you receive specific guidance.

HR’s priority in the coming days will be getting employees paid and processing personnel actions such as, retirements, onboarding of new personnel, promotions, new FEHB enrollments and awards. The deadline to submit performance awards passed during the shutdown, so HR will establish a new
We recognize there are many other HR issues that employees are concerned about, including transit subsidies, job announcements and certs that were in process before the shutdown, seasonal hiring, etc. We are working as quickly as possible to address these issues and to provide information and guidance to employees.

**Information Technology**

Email and other systems may be a little slow in the first few days back as many employees log onto systems at the same time and as IT restores systems that were turned off during the lapse to full service. IT will provide more information on what employees can expect.

IT will also issue instructions on what to do about PIV cards that expired during the lapse in appropriations.

**Budget and Finance**

Parks that received donations or provided basic visitor services using FLREA funding should leave these costs on the donation and/or FLREA account. Further guidance will be provided. WASO Budget will hold a phone call with regional Comptrollers next week.

**Contracting**

Contracting priorities as we restart operations including paying invoices, utility and other critical bills and assessing status of contracts that were continued or were suspended during the shutdown. WASO will issue specific restart guidance as necessary to your regional procurement chiefs later next week.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

--

Lena McDowall  
Deputy Director, Management and Administration  
Ph: 202-513-7240  
Cell: 202-641-1814  
Email: Lena_McDowall@nps.gov
Welcome back. I know the past 35 days have been stressful to all NPS staff – and unfortunately to many of your partners, too.

To us, there is a silver lining: many, many organizations and individuals demonstrated love for our parks by taking on special responsibilities during the partial shutdown AND in calling for action to insulate our national parks and other special places from future political clashes on totally unrelated topics. The ORR statement on the shutdown, signed by virtually all major recreation trade associations including NPHA, is attached. We are meeting with key groups like NPCA to discuss ways to achieve this protection. This topic will be a part of our NPHA March meeting in DC (March 18-20) and we look forward to great conversations with you and other key NPS officials.

I do have several issues that are time-sensitive.

1. Many of our members operated during the partial shutdown and have indicated no plans for seeking some type of consideration – such as the franchise fee “forgiveness” provided following the 2013 shutdown. Others were significantly impacted and will be asking for NPS action. There is a fast-approaching time requirement for such filings. Is there anything NPS would like to suggest as a way to minimize the workload of such requests? Our thoughts include a standardized format and/or a national policy determination, both potentially reducing the burden on individual parks.

2. Several prospectuses were active at the inception of the partial shutdown and have had deadlines for offers extended. For at least one, though, we have been told that modifications to the prospectus will be made – significant enough to require significant changes to the pending offers. Can a timetable for the revisions and a revised submission deadline for offers be announced soon?

3. We look forward to planning NPS participation in the NPHA annual meeting (overview attached).

Derrick

*Derrick A. Crandall, Counselor*
National Park Hospitality Association
1200 G Street, N.W. Suite 650
Washington, D.C. 20005
202-682-9530, F 202-682-9529
www.parkpartners.org
Happy Monday to you Dan,

Welcome back to work to your NPS team! It’s a good day for America!

I am forwarding the email that I sent before the break and the shutdown interrupted our progress. Is there anything Tim or I can do to help you or your team get back up to speed so that we can get this off your plate? Please let me know.

Sincerely,

Doug

Doug Willmore
City Manager
City of Rancho Palos Verdes
dwillmore@rpvca.gov
310-544-5202

Dan,

Attached is a draft site plan for our Civic Center site. It may take some explanation, so please let me know when you have a convenient time for us to meet or talk about it.

Thank you so much for your time on this matter and for your help.

Happy holidays and many thanks,

Doug

Doug Willmore
City Manager
City of Rancho Palos Verdes
dwillmore@rpvca.gov
Ryan--below is the updated language for the WH Report.

With the end of the lapse in appropriations Friday evening, some parks were reopening and resuming full operations as early as Saturday morning. The majority of parks are open at this point, though we expect it may be another couple of days until all are up and running again. With the majority of NPS staff returning to work this morning, the first priority has been making sure staff receive retroactive pay as soon as possible. Time keepers were called in and worked through the weekend to ensure that employees receive their retroactive pay by the end of the week. Over the next few days the NPS focus is continuing to ensure parks are safe and protected as we welcome back employees and visitors alike as we resume full operations. Some parks and programs will require time to clear snow, heat buildings, address administrative issues, etc. Employees are happy to be back to work (as seen in park social media platforms), and visitors are likewise happy to see them.

Christine Powell
Acting Chief of Staff
(o) 202-513-7181
(c) 202-878-2309

On Mon, Jan 28, 2019 at 12:11 PM Hambleton, Ryan <ryan_hambleton@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Chris,

Could you please have NPS update the paragraph from the weekly below? Based on the government reopening on Friday, this needs to be updated. Apologies for the quick turnaround, but we need this by 2:30pm today. It doesn't have to be extensive but just acknowledge what NPS is doing to get back up and running. Thank you!

a. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE KEEPS PARKS OPEN: Most National Park Service employees are furloughed with the exception of employees deemed essential for protection of life and property. Because of the Administration’s priority on increased access, the NPS’ open air memorials, park roads, lookouts, trails and other generally open areas will remain accessible to visitors during a lapse, though NPS will only provide limited visitor services. Where appropriate, NPS will also allow concessioners, commercial use authorization holders, and other third parties to continue operations. NPS will also accept donations from third parties (including states, friends’ groups, and others) to continue operations. On January 5, 2019, the Acting Secretary of the Interior instructed the NPS to use FLREA funds to continue operations, where appropriate, on a limited basis to provide for the protection and cleanliness of resources, manage conflict issues, and provide basic visitor services. Parks that have begun using these funds include the
National Mall, Grand Canyon, Sequoia-King’s Canyon, Joshua Tree, and the Statue of Liberty. In addition to basic visitor services at these and other parks, NPS is reviewing the potential use of FLREA funds for other activities related to rudimentary visitor services or resource protection.

--

Ryan Hambleton
Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Fish and Wildlife and Parks
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW, 3160
Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-4416
Joshua Tree National Park fans rally, decry impact from shutdown

Shane Newell  | Palm Springs Desert Sun Updated 3:29 p.m. EST Jan. 28, 2019

Myshkin Warbler performs at government shutdown-related event in Joshua Tree

Warbler was one of several musicians and speakers that appeared at the rally to "Shutdown the shutdown for Joshua Tree National Park" on Saturday.

Shane Newell

The federal government shutdown may be over, but fans of Joshua Tree National Park are still angry and upset about the furlough that kept park rangers off the job.

More than 100 rallied Saturday near the Southern California desert park to draw attention to the environmental and economic impacts of the five-week shutdown. Former Joshua Tree National Park Superintendent Curt Sauer and musician Matt Adams were among those who turned out for the rally to "Shutdown the Shutdown for Joshua Tree National Park."

The event was originally aimed at calling on the government to stop the shutdown and to fund and protect National Parks, but dozens still turned out in
the wake of Friday's three-week reprieve to discuss the short- and long-term impacts of the shutdown, the importance of volunteering and other environmental concerns.

Park gates remained open during the shutdown as vandals cut down several Joshua trees and damaged rocks. Without park maintenance crews for the first three weeks, volunteers stepped up to clean bathrooms and collect trash.

Sauer, who retired in 2010, praised the work of volunteers and lamented the damage caused to the park from illegal campfires, camping and vehicle travel.

"What's happened to our park in the last 34 days is irreparable for the next 200 to 300 years," he said.

John Lauretig, executive director of the Friends of Joshua Tree nonprofit, has lived in the area for two decades. During the shutdown, he cleaned the park as a volunteer for nearly three weeks.

"The local community is fed up with our parks being held hostage and the fact that it's open and partially staffed is not good for the park, it's not good for the public and it's not good for the local community here," he said.

"We want the government to operate appropriately, fund the parks appropriately and be open so we can have a regular, normal life," he added.

As a volunteer, Lauretig and other volunteers helped clean toilets and restock toilet paper. He estimated the crew, which included locals and tourists, cleaned about 30 to 50 bathrooms per day.

He's hopeful another shutdown doesn't occur.

"If the government doesn't fund or staff the parks appropriately, then they should just close the parks to protect the parks and protect the people," he said.

For the first hour of the rally, residents mingled and talked to each other about what happened over the past month. Across the street, parking overflowed from
the reopened visitor center lot as dozens of cars headed into the park.

Some at the rally walked around with signs reading, "Please stop treating human beings like pawns," "Hug a ranger" and "End shutdowns."

Myshkin Warbler, a Joshua Tree musician, performed a Woody Guthrie classic, strumming an acoustic guitar and singing, "This land is your land, this land is my land, from California to the New York island, from the redwood forest to the Gulf Stream waters, this land was made for you and me..."

More: At Joshua Tree National Park, Rep. Raul Ruiz surveys effects of government shutdown

More: Some Joshua trees have been cut down during the partial government shutdown

Joshua Tree resident Ray Roberts recalled the economic hardships the town faced in 2013 during the last major partial government shutdown. Local businesses lost money, he said.

Roberts visited the park on Friday and said there was "graffiti all over the place," including spray paint he saw on a Ford Model A inside the park.

"There shouldn't be a shutdown," he said.

Timothy Scott, an employee at the nearby Crossroads Cafe, held a "Protect our parks" sign and talked about the shutdown's economic impact.

He said the shutdown led to fewer customers than expected walking through the restaurant's doors.

"It's definitely in flux," he said.

More: Joshua Tree campground closure spoils vacations, forces campers to find someplace else to sleep
More: Here's why you shouldn’t damage Joshua trees (if it's not already obvious)

An avid volunteer who cleans up desert sites, Colin Sauter drove to the event in his low-rider truck that can haul a 35-foot trailer used for picking up trash.

After cleaning bathrooms during the shutdown, Sauter said he's ready to lend a hand if the government shuts down again.

"My supplies are sitting in my garage waiting to go," he said.

Shane Newell covers breaking news and the western Coachella Valley cities of Palm Springs, Cathedral City and Desert Hot Springs. He can be reached at Shane.Newell@DesertSun.com, (760) 778-4649 or on Twitter at @journoshane.

Originally Published 8:00 p.m. EST Jan. 26, 2019
Updated 3:29 p.m. EST Jan. 28, 2019

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
April and Jenny

The email string below has the pending request from FCMCF via Elliott Curzon. The balance we are trying to strike is to support a rapid clean up and be instructive in the letter to allow that to happen. Establishing the liaison will allow us to address the issues that may come up during the cleanup. We have not resolved the propane request as it may be our responsibility not FCMCF.

We appreciate the quick response.

Charles Cuvelier
Superintendent
George Washington Memorial Parkway
Office 703-289-2511
Cell 202-809-5519

One Park - One Team
Preserving and protecting the parkway for future generations.

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: LaRocca, Aaron <aaron_larocca@nps.gov>
Date: Tue, Jan 29, 2019 at 8:15 AM
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Removal of Property From the Claude Moore Colonial Farm site
To: Charles Cuvelier <charles_cuvelier@nps.gov>

Aaron LaRocca
Chief of Staff
George Washington Memorial Parkway
c. 202-438-6619
d. 703-289-2508

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: GWMP Superintendent, NPS <gwmp SUPERINTENDENT@nps.gov>
Date: Mon, Jan 28, 2019 at 11:39 AM
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Removal of Property From the Claude Moore Colonial Farm site
To: Aaron LaRocca <aaron_larocca@nps.gov>, Joshua Nadas <joshua_nadas@nps.gov>, Einar Olsen <einar_olsen@nps.gov>, Blanca Stransky <blanca_stransky@nps.gov>
Dear Superintendent Stransky,

As you know, the government shutdown has adversely affected plans to complete the removal of the property of the Friends of the Claude Moore Colonial Farm from the Farm site. You indicated, both in written and verbal communications, the Park Service’s willingness to accommodate our scheduling needs in light of the shutdown by extending the January 20 deadline as needed.

All livestock, port-a-potties, and some of the easily removable personal property of the Friends has been removed from the Farm site. What remains is additional personal property, property loaned by volunteers, heavy equipment, vehicles, containers and trailers. We had anticipated the assistance of numerous student volunteers on weekdays, however, most or all have returned to school and are now unavailable, except perhaps on weekends. In addition, the shutdown has prevented us scheduling heavy equipment for the removal of trailers, containers or other large items.

On the basis of the foregoing we are asking for the following:

1. Access to the Farm site on the first available day to conduct an assessment of the property that remains to be removed
2. Daily access to the Farm site from sunrise to sunset until removal of all personal property is completed – we will advise you if access is not needed on a particular day in the event of weather, lack of available volunteer help or other unforeseen circumstance.
3. Access to the Farm site on weekends from 8AM to 5PM, Saturday and Sunday until removal of all personal property is completed.
4. Access to the Farm site on a scheduled basis to deliver and remove trash and recycling dumpsters. Scheduling deliveries and removals may require a week or more, so we will advise on these as soon as they become available.

5. Access to the Farm site for removal of the bee hives is constrained by weather – which must be greater than 30F – so we will advise on a proposed date.

In addition, please advise on the following:

- As we noted to you, a tractor was loaned to the Farm in 1981. A new engine was installed at the expense of the Friends and the tractor has been in continuous use. We understand that if the tractor were returned to the NPS with or without a motor it would likely be declared obsolete and surplus and would be disposed of. We do not wish to go to the expense of removing the motor only to have the Park Service dispose of the tractor, so we propose to remove and retain the tractor as personal property of the Friends.

- We do not plan to remove any permanent buildings from the property.

- Certain temporary buildings listed in attachments to the original agreement as belonging to the Park Service will be left on the Farm site. The list will be provided to the Park Service.

- Personal property loaned to the Friends under the original Agreement has largely been consumed as a result of normal wear and tear. Such personal property as remains will be returned to the Park Service.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Elliott Curzon
Partner
Dechert LLP
1900 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
+1 202 261 3341
+1 202 261 3041 Fax
elliott.curzon@dechert.com
http://www.dechert.com

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Dear Superintendent Stransky,

I am reforwarding the message I sent below to your attention now that the government has been reopened for at least 3 weeks. We would like to take advantage of this window and complete the removal of Friends property and return the Farm to its appropriate state under the agreement. In accordance with that goal, in addition to the matters listed in the prior e-mail below, we would request that we be given access to the farm 24/7 starting tomorrow, Monday January 27, 2019 for the next three weeks and that clean-out Managers and volunteers be permitting to remain overnight Monday nights to Thursday nights, in order to make most effective cleanup and widest window for our own AND outsourced trucking services:

1. Propane delivery and removal of equipment
2. Dumpster and skips for trash/recycle
3. Flatbeds for moving 20 ft. containers
4. Our moving van to have a wider, safer window, i.e. traffic and weather
5. Overnight stays save road time, for safety and health, weather permitting

Please let me know if you have any objections to this plan and your response to the open items below.

Sincerely,

Elliott Curzon

Friends of the Claude Moore Colonial Farm
Jeremy et al,

I am attaching the talking points we came up with yesterday based on our conversation. If you could give them a once over, that would be great. KPCC will be in the park this morning and I want to make sure that you are comfortable with them.

David

Talking Points – Effects of Shutdown on Joshua Tree NP

1. Although the park received significant impact during the shutdown, volunteer work and mitigation by NPS crews have significantly remedied the vast majority of problems that affected the facilities and resources.
2. Park maintenance crews were brought back during the shutdown to deal with garbage, human waste, and other health and safety related issues. Science staff mitigated most of the damage that occurred as a result of off road vehicle use, out of bound camping, and issues with human waste.
3. During the shutdown, park rangers identified problems in the park. Joshua Tree management was given permission from DOI to use some of the park generated revenue from entrance fees to bring back employees to deal with some of the health and safety issues as well as mitigate resource damage. Initially, this included all of our law enforcement staff, all of our maintenance employees, and many of our scientists. The park also received permission to employ our fee rangers who were able to address some of the ongoing safety and closure issues. As soon as the campgrounds were cleaned and the majority of our resource issues addressed, we were able to dial back down our staff.
4. During the shutdown, the park continued to employ the minimum number of rangers and other employees to maintain public safety and mitigate resource damage.
5. Teams that were working in the park responded to and mitigated over 20 miles of OHV activity and approximately 100 out of bound campsites and illegal fires.
6. Although some plants were damaged by OHV use during the shutdown - including three Joshua Trees - these were isolated incidents. Overtime, we expect these areas and plant populations to recover.
7. Joshua Tree NP was extremely lucky to have such a large visitor response with volunteers helping to maintain the toilets, pick up litter, and help out in campgrounds. We are encouraging those volunteers to stay involved in the future by being part of our VIP program.
8. Although the park was unable to collect user fees and camping fees during the lapse in funding, the park hopes that revenue collection of the rest of the year will help to offset the shortfall. The park estimates that it lost approximately $1,030,000 in fee revenue during the shutdown.
9. The vast majority of people that came to Joshua Tree over the shutdown were conscientious visitors who care about their parks. Most of the damage we saw resulted from a relatively small number of users – most of who were unaware of how fragile the desert can be. The park relies heavily on interpreters, naturalists, and educators to help inform the public about the fragile nature of desert ecosystems. The park also relies on our law
enforcement staff to help educate intentional rule violators.

--

David Smith
Superintendent
Joshua Tree National Park

(760) 367-5501 - Office
(760) 401-7999 - Mobile
Sounds good, and thanks!

---

Mike Litterst  
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)  
National Park Service  
Ph: (202) 306-4166  

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA  

On Tue, Jan 29, 2019 at 10:44 AM Eilperin, Juliet <Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com> wrote:

Dear Mike,
Thanks so much for extending this offer. I am sure that someone from the Post will want to do this, we just need to sort out who that will be (it may depend on the day and time, obviously). I assume that we can send photographer along as well, correct? Just confirm that, if you don’t mind, and then Darryl and I can work with our editors to determine who would be best positioned to cover it.

And I believe the story based on the Mount Rainier trip will post today—when I see it, I will send along a link.
Best, Juliet
Juliet:

Our chief of resource management is making plans to visit the monuments, memorials and statuary around the city that are under the National Mall's care in the next week or so to check for any damage or vandalism that may have occurred, and she's happy for you to join in on the inspection tour. With the maintenance staff having returned on January 11, and the memorials remaining open for the duration of the shutdown, this is probably the best (and most uniquely National Mall) reopening process to observe. Let me know if that's of interest, and I'll keep you apprised of when it gets scheduled.

Mike

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)

National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

On Mon, Jan 28, 2019 at 8:49 AM Eilperin, Juliet <Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com> wrote:

| Dear Mike,
| Any word on whether we can send a reporter to trail a ranger on the Mall? And thanks again on Mount Rainier, we are all set.
| Best,
| Juliet |
And sorry, the story just posted, here’s a link: https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/atop-mount-rainier-digging-out-from-the-government-shutdown-means-epic-snow-plowing/2019/01/29/ef40b940-2345-11e9-81fd-b7b05d5bed90_story.html?tid=ss_tw&utm_term=.ac1df0773769

Juliet

From: Litterst, Michael <mike_litterst@nps.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 29, 2019 10:46 AM
To: Eilperin, Juliet <Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com>
Cc: Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>; Fears, Darryl <Darryl.Fears@washpost.com>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Checking back on following a ranger on the Mall

Sure, we don’t need a commitment on who it will be. When we nail down a time and place, we'll take along whoever you send. And you are, of course, welcome to bring a photographer.

Thanks, Juliet; we'll be in touch.

Mike

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)

National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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Best, Juliet

From: Litterst, Michael <mike_litterst@nps.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 29, 2019 10:39 AM
To: Eilperin, Juliet <Juliet.Eilperin@washpost.com>
Cc: Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>; Fears, Darryl <Darryl.Fears@washpost.com>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Checking back on following a ranger on the Mall

[EXTERNAL EMAIL]

Juliet:

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Mike

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Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)
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Dear Mike,

Any word on whether we can send a reporter to trail a ranger on the Mall? And thanks again on Mount Rainier, we are all set.

Best,

Juliet
Just talked to Dan. Do you know if we ever got an approval from Andrea on the GRCA waterline FLREA request during the shutdown? If Andrea never responded, Dan wants to authorize the park to move forward (using whatever fund source they were supposed to use) given the critical nature of the work and says he'll provide whatever email or other written authorization the park or you feel we need to cover ourselves. --L

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Hammond, Katharine (Kate) <kate_hammond@nps.gov>
Date: Thu, Jan 24, 2019 at 2:58 PM
Subject: Re: Any update on approvals for Zion shuttle bus contract (using transportation fee) or GRCA waterline construction project (using FLREA)
To: Lena McDowall <lena_mcdowall@nps.gov>
Cc: Jessica Bowron <jessica_bowron@nps.gov>, Melinda Dominguez <melinda_martinez@nps.gov>

We very much appreciate the update and will let Zion know they are unlikely to hear anything until next week.

We'll keep our fingers crossed on GRCA, and we know you are doing everything possible to get an answer.

I know I've said this before but the two of you have been outstanding. Whatever it is they are (not) paying you is not enough!

Kate Hammond
Deputy Regional Director and Acting Regional Director
Intermountain Region
National Park Service
(303) 969-2856

On Thu, Jan 24, 2019 at 12:13 PM Lena McDowall <lena_mcdowall@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Kate -

No worries about being a nudge - I know you’re probably swamped with calls from parks tired of waiting on answers.

We pinged Andrea again on GRCA.

We’re still working through a number of issues related to a decision to start up contracting on contracts funded out of non-lapsed appropriations - we have a number of requests to starting up the contracting process. We got through an issue related to distribution of these types of indirect costs to non-lapsed appropriations with the lawyers this morning, but we still need to define the universe of ok contracts and need to get guidance out to all of you.
We won’t have definitive answers and guidance for Zion and others until next week.

Please let me know if you have questions.

Thanks,

Lena

Lena McDowall
Deputy Director, Management and Administration
Ph: (202) 513-7240
Cell: (202) 641-1814

On Jan 24, 2019, at 1:59 PM, Hammond, Katharine (Kate) <kate_hammond@nps.gov> wrote:

I don't mean to be a nudge and understand how busy you are. I just know the parks are asking on a regular basis.

Kate Hammond
Deputy Regional Director and Acting Regional Director
Intermountain Region
National Park Service
(303) 969-2856

--

Lena McDowall
Deputy Director, Management and Administration
Ph: 202-513-7240
Cell: 202-641-1814
Email: Lena_McDowall@nps.gov
David:

Thanks for the talking points you provided last night and this morning. We synthesized them into the following, along with the background information about what people can do to help. Please share this with Liam Stack from the Times; perhaps he'll update his story with this information.

Of the resource damage noted at Joshua Tree National Park, among the most concerning is the effect of off-road vehicle use. In desert park environments, a single tire track can break through the fragile microbiotic crust and cause significant scarring and damage. While it is unlikely the effects will last for as long as 300 years, the damage is long term. For example, the tracks left by General George Patton on the desert training grounds in 1942 are still visible in the park today.

The effects of these tracks can be mitigated by raking them out, ideally when the soil is moist. The recovery process can also be accelerated by mixing chunks of cryptobiotic crust and mixing it in with the affected soil. Resource managers at Joshua Tree have used this process to deal with approximately 20 miles of vehicle tracks in the park so far. Volunteer work and mitigation by NPS crews have significantly remedied the vast majority of problems that affected the facilities and resources.

The vast majority of visitors who came to Joshua Tree National Park during the lapse in appropriations were conscientious visitors who care about their parks. Most of the damage resulted from a relatively small number of users – most of whom were unaware of how fragile the desert can be. Park interpreters, naturalists, and educators will play an important role in helping inform future visitors about the fragile nature of desert ecosystems.

**Background Information**

Unfortunately there are isolated incidents of vandalism and resource damage at national parks throughout the year.

Visitors can help protect our treasured National Park Service (NPS) sites.

The Joshua Tree National Park volunteer program assists in the restoration efforts by collecting seeds which are used to germinate plants in the park nursery. These plants are later used to revegetate areas that have been disturbed by off road vehicle use and mining activities.

If you see something suspicious in any NPS location, or if you have information that could aid an investigation, stay safe and tell us about it.

Talk to any NPS employee for help in reporting suspicious activity, or give the Special
Agents of the NPS Investigative Services Branch a call.

Submit a tip:
You don't have to tell us who you are, but please tell us what you know:
☎ CALL or TEXT the ISB Tip Line 888-653-0009
ONLINE at www.nps.gov/ISB and click "Submit a Tip"
EMAIL nps_isb@nps.gov
MESSAGE on Facebook @InvestigativeServicesNPS or Twitter @SpecialAgentNPS

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)

National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA
I’ve answered the question a few times this week, and texted Kate on grca specifically.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 29, 2019, at 3:25 PM, McDowall, Lena <lena_mcdowall@nps.gov> wrote:

Just talked to Dan. Do you know if we ever got an approval from Andrea on the GRCA waterline FLREA request during the shutdown? If Andrea never responded, Dan wants to authorize the park to move forward (using whatever fund source they were supposed to use) given the critical nature of the work and says he’ll provide whatever email or other written authorization the park or you feel we need to cover ourselves. --L

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Hammond, Katharine (Kate) <kate_hammond@nps.gov>
Date: Thu, Jan 24, 2019 at 2:58 PM
Subject: Re: Any update on approvals for Zion shuttle bus contract (using transportation fee) or GRCA waterline construction project (using FLREA)
To: Lena McDowall <lena_mcdowall@nps.gov>
Cc: Jessica Bowron <jessica_bowron@nps.gov>, Melinda Dominguez <melinda_martinez@nps.gov>

We very much appreciate the update and will let Zion know they are unlikely to hear anything until next week.

We'll keep our fingers crossed on GRCA, and we know you are doing everything possible to get an answer.

I know I've said this before but the two of you have been outstanding. Whatever it is they are (not) paying you is not enough!

Kate Hammond
Deputy Regional Director and Acting Regional Director
Intermountain Region
National Park Service
(303) 969-2856

On Thu, Jan 24, 2019 at 12:13 PM Lena McDowall <lena_mcdowall@nps.gov> wrote:
   Hi Kate -

   No worries about being a nudge - I know you’re probably swamped with calls
from parks tired of waiting on answers.

We pinged Andrea again on GRCA.

We’re still working through a number of issues related to a decision to start up contracting on contracts funded out of non-lapsed appropriations - we have a number of requests to starting up the contracting process. We got through an issue related to distribution of these types of indirect costs to non-lapsed appropriations with the lawyers this morning, but we still need to define the universe of ok contracts and need to get guidance out to all of you. We won’t have definitive answers and guidance for Zion and others until next week.

Please let me know if you have questions.

Thanks,

Lena

Lena McDowall
Deputy Director, Management and Administration
Ph: (202) 513-7240
Cell: (202) 641-1814

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Kate Hammond
Deputy Regional Director and Acting Regional Director
Intermountain Region
National Park Service
(303) 969-2856

--

Lena McDowall
Deputy Director, Management and Administration
Ph: 202-513-7240
Cell: 202-641-1814
Email: Lena_McDowall@nps.gov
Interesting...SER has set up a "shutdown resource damage documentation" Google folder.

~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)
National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: SER Regional Director, NPS <ser_regional_director@nps.gov>
Date: Wed, Jan 30, 2019 at 10:47 AM
Subject: Post-Shutdown Technical Assistance and Documentation
To: NPS SER Superintendents by Name <ser_superintendents_by_name@nps.gov>
Cc: NPS SER Regional Directorate <ser_regional_directorate@nps.gov>, Janet Cakir <janet_cakir@nps.gov>, Brian Mitchell <brian_mitchell@nps.gov>, David Morgan <david_morgan@nps.gov>, Mary Troy <mary_troy@nps.gov>, Ellen Rankin <gwilym_rankin@nps.gov>, Barbara Judy <barbara_judy@nps.gov>

OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL
NO HARD COPY TO FOLLOW

United States Department of the Interior
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Southeast Regional Office
Atlanta Federal Center
1924 Building
100 Alabama St., SW.
Atlanta, Georgia 30303

IN REPLY REFER TO:
10.D. (SER–RD)

January 30, 2019

Memorandum

To: Superintendents, Southeast Region
From: Deputy Regional Director, Southeast Region /s/ Lance Hatten

Subject: Post-Shutdown Technical Assistance and Documentation

The lengthy government shutdown may have left the cultural and natural treasures NPS stewards vulnerable to looting, vandalism, or damage due to neglect. As you return to normal operations and assess the impact of the lapse in appropriation on your parks, we want you to know that the Southeast regional office is here to support you. Staff are available to provide you with technical assistance, expert opinion, assessments, and compliance support.

If your park resources were damaged, we ask that you please share documentation of the damage by posting pictures and a description in the SER Shutdown Resource Damage Documentation folder. This will enable the regional office to accurately and completely communicate the consequences of the shutdown to the Washington office.

Below are points of contacts for requesting assistance. These individuals will assign a staff member with the necessary expertise to support you as you seek to return to normal operations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Natural Resources</th>
<th>Inventory and Monitoring</th>
<th>Archeology and Archeological Collections</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Janet Cakir</td>
<td>Brian Mitchell</td>
<td>David Morgan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:Janet_Cakir@nps.gov">Janet_Cakir@nps.gov</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:Brian_Mitchell@nps.gov">Brian_Mitchell@nps.gov</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:David_Morgan@nps.gov">David_Morgan@nps.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(919) 707-0288</td>
<td>(404) 507-5820</td>
<td>(850) 580-8423</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Museum and Archival Services</th>
<th>History and Ethnography</th>
<th>Historic Architecture and Cultural Landscapes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mary Troy</td>
<td>Ellen Rankin</td>
<td>Barbara Judy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:Mary_Troy@nps.gov">Mary_Troy@nps.gov</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:Ellen_Rankin@nps.gov">Ellen_Rankin@nps.gov</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:Barbara_Judy@nps.gov">Barbara_Judy@nps.gov</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(404) 507-5802</td>
<td>(404) 507-5791</td>
<td>(404) 507-5781</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please do not hesitate to reach and ask for assistance. We look forward to working with you!
Just an FYI. We'll pull this together in the coming weeks.

Jessica Bowron  
Comptroller  
National Park Service  
(o) 202-513-7138  
(c) 202-280-8329

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: FOIA, NPS <npsfoia@nps.gov>  
Date: Tue, Jan 29, 2019 at 1:12 PM  
Subject: 19-411 Bogardus outside funding agreements FOIA  
To: Jessica Bowron <jessica_bowron@nps.gov>

Hi Jessica,

I have been advised that your office is the place to start my search for records responsive to this request, especially as far as getting a master list of all the agreements we had. Although this request was sent on January 5, 2019, it is not considered to be received until yesterday. Accordingly, our response is due by February 25, 2019. However, if your office does not have copies of all the agreements, please let me know what other offices and/or parks I will need to reach out to for responsive records, since I can take a ten-day extension if we need to search more than one office. But if we are going to take a ten day extension, I need to let the requester know that before the February 25, 2019, deadline.

The easiest way to transfer the records to me, would be to load them onto a Google Drive folder named "19-411 Responsives" and then share it with NPSFOIA@nps.gov and my charis_wilson@nps.gov addresses. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Thanks in advance for your help on this.

C.

------------------
Ms. Charis Wilson, PhD, CRM  
NPS FOIA Officer  
12795 W. Alameda Parkway  
PO Box 25287  
Denver, CO  80225-0287  
303-969-2959  
Fax: 303-969-2557  
1-855-NPS-FOIA
Copied and pasted below is a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request from E&E News. Please confirm receipt of this email. Thank you for your help.

To Whom It May Concern:

This is a request under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA).

I request copies of all agreements between the National Park Service and concessionaires, partner organizations, state governments and any other entities outside of NPS to staff, service, clean and/or otherwise continue operations at national parks in the event of a lapse in funding and a government shutdown that began on Dec. 22, 2018.

NPS spokesman Jeremy Barnum has said these agreements are to provide “various visitor services, including trash removal and serving restrooms, at a number of national parks.” (please click on this link for more detail on these agreements https://www.eenews.net/greenwire/stories/1060110757)

I prefer to receive the response to this request in electronic form. If the response to this request exceeds more than 15 megabytes, please contact me in order to arrange another form of delivery other than email.

I am filing this FOIA request as a “representative of the news media” since I am a reporter for E&E News. This designation entitles me to a waiver of fees accumulated during the actual search and review process. Nevertheless, if your agency does determine that I should be charged for any part of these requests, please contact me before estimated costs exceed $25.

This request is made as part of news-gathering activity and is not for commercial use.

The information responsive to this FOIA request will contribute to the public’s understanding of your agency and the government at large. This information is not in the public domain but once your agency responds to this FOIA request, it will be printed on our website, www.eenews.net, which has more than 40,000 unique visitors a day. We expect the information that is produced through these and other FOIA requests to serve as the basis for several articles that explain the government’s actions and operations to the public. For more information about E&E News, please refer to www.eenews.net.
FOIA requires that if part of a record is exempt from disclosure, you must redact and release all segregated parts. Please describe the deleted material in detail and specify the reasons for believing that the alleged statutory justification applies in this instance.

If my request is denied in whole or in part, please specify which exemption(s) is (are) claimed for each passage or whole document denied. In addition, please give the number of pages in each document and the total number of pages pertaining to this request and the dates of the documents withheld. Such statements will be helpful in deciding whether to appeal an adverse determination.

As required by FOIA, I look forward to hearing from your office within 20 days in response to this request.

If you have any questions about the nature or scope of this request, please call me at 202-446-0401 or email me at kbogardus@eenews.net.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Kevin Bogardus
Reporter
E&E News
122 C Street NW, Suite 722
Washington, DC 20001
Office: 202-446-0401
Cell: 202-247-7844
Fax: 202-737-5299
kbogardus@eenews.net
Mike,

I fine with this response.

Thanks,

Sent from my iPhone

John M Bockmier
Department of Interior
Director of Communications
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC
20240

202.208.3636 Office
202.897.7366 Cell

On Jan 30, 2019, at 5:13 PM, Litterst, Michael <mike_litterst@nps.gov> wrote:

DOI colleagues:

We received the below inquiry from AP about damage at parks during the shutdown. Proposed response is as follows; please advise on any edits or approval:

During the first three days that full staffs have been back at the parks, our priorities have been to ensure that employees receive their retroactive pay as quickly as possible, and to provide a safe environment in the reopened parks for visitors and staff alike. Resource managers are also now in the process of inspecting parks for any resource damage that may have occurred, and mitigation efforts are underway where necessary.

While we have seen isolated examples of resource damage and vandalism at some parks that occurred during the lapse of appropriations, the vast majority of visitors who came to the parks were conscientious visitors who care about their national parks. What damage we have seen, such as the off-road vehicle use at Joshua Tree National Park, resulted from a relatively small number of users. Park interpreters, naturalists, and educators will play an important role in helping inform future visitors about the fragile nature of these parks.
Donations from concessioners, partner organizations, and state and local governments combined with recreation fee revenue collected at parks allowed more than 80 parks to bring in staff to clean up trash that had built up at numerous parks, clean and maintain restrooms, and bring additional law enforcement rangers into parks to patrol accessible areas.

-------------
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)
National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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

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-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Knickmeyer, Ellen <EKnickmeyer@ap.org>
Date: Wed, Jan 30, 2019 at 10:53 AM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Talk on national park damage during shutdown?
To: jeremy_barnum@nps.gov <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>

Hi, Jeremy,

Can you all give me a rundown on what problems you’re finding at national parks post shutdown – the extent of damage at Joshua Tree and Death Valley, any other findings? Would you or someone else be able to talk to me on it by early afternoon?

Thanks much,

Ellen

The information contained in this communication is intended for the use of the designated recipients named above. If the reader of this communication is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that you have received this communication in error, and that any review, dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify The Associated Press immediately by telephone at +1-212-621-1500 and delete this email. Thank you.
Joshua Tree National Park To Close For Cleanup, Repairs To Vandalism, Illegal Roads

Illegal roads, cut down Joshua trees, and damaged federal property, along with the need to clean up garbage, prompted Joshua Tree National Park Superintendent David Smith to announce Tuesday that the park would close indefinitely on Thursday to address those impacts incurred during the ongoing partial government shutdown.
“The park will be closed until I can ensure that resources inside the park are protected,” Smith said during a short phone call. "We’re hoping that the shutdown will be over soon."

While the closure will take effect 8 a.m. Thursday, the superintendent could not say how long it would last. Acting Interior Secretary David Bernhardt has directed the National Park Service to use fee revenues brought in under the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act to pay for cleanup and additional law enforcement personnel. Smith said that while his park normally takes in about $9 million a year, most of that has been committed to projects. Staff was working to see how much in unobligated funds remained.
Joshua Tree is a geologic showcase that is a climber's gymnasium, one that offers two different desert settings. Straddling the geographic divide that splits the Mojave Desert from an element of the Sonoran Desert, the park located about two hours east of Los Angeles in Southern California is both a day tripper's paradise and an adventurer's escape. The cooler winter months are the busiest in the park, which has made the task of preventing damage with a handful of rangers during the ongoing shutdown extremely difficult.
Last week park staff closed its campgrounds to overnight use because of sanitation problems, but many visitors ignored that closure. With just eight law enforcement rangers working during the partial government shutdown it was impossible to cover all areas of the park, which is about the size of Delaware.

"There are about a dozen instances of extensive vehicle traffic off roads and in some cases into wilderness," Smith replied when asked about the damage in the park. "We have two new roads that were created inside the park. We had destruction of government property with the cutting of chains and locks for people to access campgrounds. We’ve never seen this level of out-of-bounds camping. Every day use area was occupied every evening.

"Joshua trees were actually cut down in order to make new roads.”

Since the National Park Service was told to keep as many units of the National Park System open as possible during the partial government shutdown, but only with essential personnel, many have struggled with skeleton contingents of law enforcement rangers. With no maintenance crews to collect trash or maintain restrooms, and no budget to pay for outside help, many parks have been blighted by litter and human waste. There have been reports of illegal off-road travel, metal detecting on battlefields in the park system, and damage to resources.

Following Bernhardt's directive to use fee revenues, park staff across the country was busy seeing how much was available.

The new roads at Joshua Tree didn't run for miles, but rather jogged around gates to gain access in many cases, according to the superintendent.

“It’s short spurts for people to get around gates for the most part. They would just go out into the country, and then once 20 or 30 cars would go over it you would essentially have a new road created in pristine desert,” he said.
One place that saw traffic was around Joshua Tree's Live Oak area, which is not far from the north entrance to the park.

“We had some pretty extensive four-wheel driving around the entire area to access probably our most significant tree in the park,” Smith said. "We have this hybrid live oak tree that is deciduous. It is one of our kind of iconic trees inside the park. People were driving to it and camping under it. Through the
virgin desert to get to this location. That would probably be a quarter-mile or so around the rock formation that is there.”

The superintendent said there also were instances of graffiti in the park this past week. Park officials were identifying additional staff and resources needed to address immediate maintenance and sanitation issues.

Monitoring a park the size of Joshua Tree, which covers 1,235 square miles and has about 20 different entrances due to dirt roads that ring the park, is extremely difficult with just eight law enforcement rangers. Were it not for the shutdown, there would have been more than 100 other "sets of eyes" to help keep an eye on visitor behavior, the superintendent said.

"We have 120 employees in the park, plus 30 associates that work for Great Basin Institute, the majority of whom are in the park every day," he said.
"Those are the folks that are in the campgrounds and in the day-use areas and doing science. So you’ve got 100 sets of eyes in the park every day with folks contacting visitors."

Law enforcement rangers were to continue to patrol the park and enforce the closure until park staff completes the necessary cleanup and park protection measures.

*If you appreciate this coverage of the National Park System, please consider a donation to National Parks Traveler, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit media organization dedicated to covering national parks and protected areas. Your support enables us to send writers and photographers out into the parks to provide this coverage for you.*

Jeremy Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service
Another for you — thought I forwarded this last night.

Amanda

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Smith, David" <david_smith@nps.gov>
Date: January 29, 2019 at 6:05:15 PM PST
To: Sarah Creachbaum <sarah_creachbaum@nps.gov>, Stan Austin <stan_austin@nps.gov>
Cc: Amanda Kaplan <Amanda_Kaplan@nps.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Shutdown Tally 1/28/2019

Sarah and Stan -

Attached is our final tally for damage that occurred at JOTR during the shutdown period. We are in the process of matching all of the GIS data, images, and maps as well as a summary for the park's files. I imagine that this information will eventually be requested by the public so it would be helpful if we had some regional overview. Please advise on who we should send the internal draft report to once we have it all compiled.

David

Sent from my iRanger

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Marrs, Caitlyn" <caitlyn_marrs@nps.gov>
Date: January 28, 2019 at 1:44:06 PM PST
To: Jane Rodgers <jane_rodders@nps.gov>
Subject: Shutdown Tally 1/28/2019

Jane,

I'm done for today but wanted to give you the updated tally of damage. This is only what was collected in GIS data, I have not yet looked into making sure all the data reported in emails has been captured (I'll try and look at that tomorrow if time allows). Also still working on what was mitigated! A large scale map is saved if anyone wants it (R:\FY2019_Shutdown_DamageAssessment\Maps\20190128_FINAL_DamageAssessment_Basemap_CJC)
Mapped OHV = 39,124.11 meters (24.31 miles)
* At least 14 location indicate tracks continued beyond mapped location, 2 locations plotted showing GPS error but believed in NPS boundary
A total of 204 incidents of OHV incursions have been documented and 3 locations of illegal parking causing resource damage
4 OHV tracks mapped over rare plant population
1 area (repeat offenses) within previously unrecorded archeological site

114 Illegal Fires Reported
(36 using native vegetation, 5 damage to cultural resources)

11 Graffiti Reports (1 within arch site)
*Tried to weed out "old" graffiti reports but would need additional time to confirm numbers with park's graffiti tracking log

74 Reports of Human Waste/TP

35 Reports of Vandalism to Resources
(4 Joshua trees damaged, artifact theft, graffiti on historic car, chiseled climbing holds on boulder, and 28 vegetation collection/damage)

3 Reports of property damage (2 signs, 1 gate lock)
12 Reports of visitor created campsites
2 Reports of moved cultural objects
12 Reports of rock stacking/alignments (1 disturbed artifacts)
6 Reports of trash
1 Shrine bolted to bedrock

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~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

Caitlyn Clyde
760-367-5572
Archeological Technician
Division of Science and Resource Stewardship
Joshua Tree National Park
Twentynine Palms, CA

--

David Smith
Superintendent
Joshua Tree National Park

(760) 367-5501 - Office
(760) 401-7999 - Mobile
Hello,
Can you also tell me roughly how much revenue you estimate was lost in uncollected entrance fees? The NPCA says $13 M - is that correct?
Our deadline’s COB today.
Thanks,
Ellen

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 31, 2019, at 10:53 AM, Knickmeyer, Ellen <EKnickmeyer@ap.org> wrote:

Hi, Mike and Jeremy,
Can you please detail for me the main damage found so far? Or are you all refusing to?
Thanks,
Ellen

From: Knickmeyer, Ellen
Sent: Wednesday, January 30, 2019 6:49 PM
To: Michael Litterst <mike_litterst@nps.gov>
Cc: Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Talk on national park damage during shutdown?

Hi, Mike,
Thank you, but that doesn’t answer my question.
When you say isolated resource damage and vandalism, what damage where, and on what scale? I understand the NPS hasn’t compiled an inventory, but please answer transparently on what key damage has been found, especially beyond that already reported. That is my question.
Best,
Ellen
Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 30, 2019, at 6:16 PM, Michael Litterst <mike_litterst@nps.gov> wrote:

Ellen:

During the first three days that full staffs have been back at the parks, our priorities have been to ensure that employees receive their retroactive pay as quickly as possible, and to provide a safe environment in the reopened parks for visitors and staff alike. Resource managers are also now in the process of inspecting parks
for any resource damage that may have occurred, and mitigation efforts are underway where necessary.

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Mike

~~~~~~~~~

Mike Litterst
Chief of Public Affairs and Chief Spokesperson (acting)

National Park Service
Cell: (202) 306-4166

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:
EKnickmeyer@ap.org

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Knickmeyer, Ellen <EKnickmeyer@ap.org>
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To: jeremy_barnum@nps.gov <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>

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Tony is sending out guidance today. I’ll wait til Sunday to enter mine. Thanks!

——

Lisa Mendelson, AICP
Acting Regional Director
National Park Service
Sent by Cell 202-297-1338

On Jan 31, 2019, at 3:16 PM, Watts, Christopher <cwatts@nps.gov> wrote:

yes- just wanted to be 100% since time is due tomorrow :)

Christopher Watts
Freedom of Information Act Officer
National Park Service / National Capital Region
1100 Ohio Drive SW
Washington, DC 20242
202-619-7485 (d)

I am a graduate of the 2017 GOAL Leadership Academy.

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
http://www.nps.gov/faqs.htm

On Thu, Jan 31, 2019 at 3:10 PM Lisa Mendelson <lisa_mendelson-jelmini@nps.gov> wrote:

For PP3 we are to use appropriate accounts (which may include FLREA for people funded in that manner) for the first 6 days.

The remainder of the time in the pay period is to be charged to the usual non-lapsing accounts.

Does this help?

——

Lisa Mendelson, AICP
Acting Regional Director
National Park Service
Sent by Cell 202-297-1338

On Jan 31, 2019, at 2:46 PM, Watts, Christopher <cwatts@nps.gov> wrote:
just checking to see if there’s been any new news on using the FLREA account.

Christopher Watts
Freedom of Information Act Officer
National Park Service / National Capital Region
1100 Ohio Drive SW
Washington, DC 20242
202-619-7485 (d)

I am a graduate of the 2017 GOAL Leadership Academy.

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
http://www.nps.gov/faqs.htm

On Wed, Jan 30, 2019 at 4:54 PM Lisa Mendelson
<lisa_mendelson-ielmini@nps.gov> wrote:
I heard Jessica say today (on the 3 pm call) that those 6 days (sun-fri) were to be coded using FLREA and other shutdown accounts. We might need to be explicitly clear about that. Thanks for all you’re doing to spread the news about accurate timekeeping.

——-
Lisa Mendelson, AICP
Acting Regional Director
National Park Service
Sent by Cell 202-297-1338

On Jan 30, 2019, at 4:33 PM, Watts, Christopher
<cwatts@nps.gov> wrote:

Thanks Dave- I did this already for my groups, except for Lisa.
I can’t recall if I did it for April- but will double-check all the same.

Christopher Watts
Freedom of Information Act Officer
National Park Service / National Capital Region
1100 Ohio Drive SW
Washington, DC 20242
202-619-7485 (d)

I am a graduate of the 2017 GOAL Leadership Academy.

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
http://www.nps.gov/faqs.htm
On Wed, Jan 30, 2019 at 4:28 PM Moore, David <david_h_moore@nps.gov> wrote:

Supts, ARDs, Program Manager and AOs,

In an effort to most effectively and accurately enter time in Quicktime for pay period 3 (19-03) we are strongly recommending that the park and program level timekeepers enter employees time for the first 6 days of the pay period, which occurred during the shutdown. The timekeepers have now had at least two pay periods of experience following the WASO guidance on entering time during the shutdown. I can not stress enough the importance for accuracy in coding time during the furlough period and the need to get it right initially. Again, this is only for the first 6 days. If your employees normally enter their own time in Quicktime, we encourage them to take that activity back on for the 2nd week of the Pay Period (after 1/25/2019).

If you have any question, please feel free to contact Charles Richardson, Kim Brown, Jeanette Organ or me.

Thanks again for all your support in getting payroll processed and our employees paid!! You and your teams have done an amazing job....so far!!!

Dave

--
David H. Moore
Associate Regional Director
1100 Ohio Drive SW
Washington, DC  20242
202 619-7045 (Office)
202 577-1427 (Cell)
Hi Mike,

We can pull a report from FBMS for the dates you identified, but it would not accurately tell us how much we collected on those days. We do not currently have a national point-of-sale system to pull sales data from, so we have to rely totally on revenue reports in FBMS from when the money is deposited. In many cases the money is not deposited on the day it is collected. We run monthly revenue reports and based on the January 2018 report, we estimate a loss of approximately $10-12 million in park revenue for the duration of the shutdown. Please see attached FY18 Month-By-Month FLREA Report as a reference. Let me know if you have any questions or need anything additional.

Thanks, Chris

Christine Williamson
Fee Program Manager
National Recreation Fee Program
1849 C Street, NW, Mail Stop: 2346
Washington, DC 20240
(202) 513-7132 (Office)
(720) 360-9903 (Mobile)

On Thu, Jan 31, 2019 at 4:19 PM Litterst, Michael <mike_litterst@nps.gov> wrote:

Chris:

We're getting a lot of post-shutdown inquiries about lost fee revenue during the shutdown. While we aren't going to speculate on numbers, we're thinking we might provide figures for the same time period last year (December 22, 2017 through January 25, 2018). Is that a number your office could easily determine for us?

Mike

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)

National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA
Interesting. Thanks for the information, Chris!

Mike

____________________
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)
National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

On Thu, Jan 31, 2019 at 5:32 PM Williamson, Christine <chris_williamson@nps.gov> wrote:
Hi Mike,

We can pull a report from FBMS for the dates you identified, but it would not accurately tell us how much we collected on those days. We do not currently have a national point-of-sale system to pull sales data from, so we have to rely totally on revenue reports in FBMS from when the money is deposited. In many cases the money is not deposited on the day it is collected. We run monthly revenue reports and based on the January 2018 report, we estimate a loss of approximately $10-12 million in park revenue for the duration of the shutdown. Please see attached FY18 Month-By-Month FLREA Report as a reference. Let me know if you have any questions or need anything additional.

Thanks, Chris

Christine Williamson
Fee Program Manager
National Recreation Fee Program
1849 C Street, NW, Mail Stop: 2346
Washington, DC 20240
(202) 513-7132 (Office)
(720) 360-9903 (Mobile)

On Thu, Jan 31, 2019 at 4:19 PM Litterst, Michael <mike_litterst@nps.gov> wrote:
Chris:

We're getting a lot of post-shutdown inquiries about lost fee revenue during the shutdown. While we aren't going to speculate on numbers, we're thinking we might provide figures for the same time period last year (December 22, 2017 through January 25, 2018). Is that a number your office could easily determine for us?
Mike

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)

National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA
Lisa and April,

Attached are my notes for the activities within each of my divisions and on my plate for the reopening and next couple of quarters. I apologize if it is too much or in some cases not enough detail.

Dave

--

David H. Moore
Associate Regional Director
1100 Ohio Drive SW
Washington, DC  20242
202 619-7045 (Office)
202 577-1427 (Cell)
Shane,

Yes we have the $35,000 if needed immediately to renew the agreement and ensure the site stays up and active. While FLREA remains the most logical and appropriate source of funds for this park pass program, we want to ensure there isn't a gap in service so let me know how we should proceed.

Tom

On Thu, Jan 31, 2019 at 2:31 PM Shane Compton <shane_compton@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Tom

So, during the shutdown, the agreement with GSA expired. Do you have funds to continue the hosting and management the program?

Hi, Shane,

Do you have an ETA for the EKIP related websites to be working and accessible? Both the public facing site that the 4th graders, their educators and parents access to download vouchers required for exchange for an interagency annual 4th Grade Pass and the internal redemption site used by all interagency sites for pass accountability are not working. Sites have been contacting me about the issues and asking when to expect a fix.

Thanks for any insight you can provide.

Lisa

Lisa Bourne McCaslin
National Park Service
Interagency Pass Program Manager, Acting
Washington, DC
📞: 202.306.1160
Lisa Bourne@nps.gov

--

Tom Medema
Acting Associate Director for Interpretation, Education, & Volunteers
National Park Service
1849 C Street, NW, Room 3322
Washington, DC 20240
Direct: 202-513-7247
Cell: 202-641-7129
Assistant: Lynette Garner lynette_garner@nps.gov
LinkedIn: Tom Medema
Thanks for keeping us up to date, Saudia.

Stephanie Loeb  
Public Affairs Specialist  
National Park Service  
Office of Communications

Office: 202-513-7265  
Cell: 202-339-1509  
stephanie_loeb@nps.gov

---

On Fri, Feb 1, 2019 at 11:08 AM Muwwakkil, Saudia <saudia_muwwakkil@nps.gov> wrote:

Jeremy/Mike:

For your situational awareness, Ocmulgee National Monument (Georgia) this week released surveillance video to media of a Native American home replica being vandalized at the park during the shutdown. To date, the footage and story appear to have been picked up by local media and Georgia Public Radio, the statewide NPR affiliate. The park is preparing a briefing statement on the matter. No action is needed at this time.


Saudia Muwwakkil  
Assistant Regional Director  
Communications and Legislative Affairs

National Park Service | Southeast Region  
100 Alabama Street, SW  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
Desk: 404-507-5612  
Cell: 404-275-9838
Leif, our comms leads are cc’d here. They have answered similar questions from the media throughout the lapse.

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 1, 2019, at 12:30 PM, Fonnesbeck, Leif (Appropriations) wrote:

Jessica, we have a staff person in Senator Daines’ office who is trying to address some reporter’s questions concerning the NPS use of FLREA funds during the shutdown. Things like the legal basis, how much funding was available, and how much was expended. Is there a good person at the agency for this staff person to talk to?
Hi Andrea,

Please see below statement that has been cleared by Danny.

---

Statement from Joshua Tree National Park Superintendent David Smith

In the early days of the partial government shutdown, Joshua Tree National Park issued a photograph of a downed Joshua Tree that park rangers believed was caused by vandalism during the shutdown. When park botanists were able to get to the site at a later date, they confirmed that this tree was in fact cut down prior to the shutdown. The park apologizes for any confusion this initial report may have caused.

Joshua Tree science staff are currently working to assemble an accurate and detailed report documenting natural and cultural resource damage that occurred during the shutdown. Botanists have confirmed that during the shutdown an out of bounds vehicle at Ryan Campground struck and killed at least one Joshua Tree.

Jeremy
From: Michael Litterst <mike_litterst@nps.gov>
Date: Wed, Jan 30, 2019 at 6:16 PM
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Talk on national park damage during shutdown?
To: <EKnickmeyer@ap.org>
Cc: Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>

Ellen:

During the first three days that full staffs have been back at the parks, our priorities have been to ensure that employees receive their retroactive pay as quickly as possible, and to provide a safe environment in the reopened parks for visitors and staff alike. Resource managers are also now in the process of inspecting parks for any resource damage that may have occurred, and mitigation efforts are underway where necessary.

While we have seen isolated examples of resource damage and vandalism at some parks that occurred during the lapse of appropriations, the vast majority of visitors who came to the parks were conscientious visitors who care about their national parks. What damage we have seen, such as the off-road vehicle use at Joshua Tree National Park, resulted from a relatively small number of users. Park interpreters, naturalists, and educators will play an important role in helping inform future visitors about the fragile nature of these parks.

Donations from concessioners, partner organizations, and state and local governments combined with recreation fee revenue collected at parks allowed more than 80 parks to bring in staff to clean up trash that had built up at numerous parks, clean and maintain restrooms, and bring additional law enforcement rangers into parks to patrol accessible areas.

Mike
Hi, Jeremy,

Can you all give me a rundown on what problems you’re finding at national parks post shutdown – the extent of damage at Joshua Tree and Death Valley, any other findings? Would you or someone else be able to talk to me on it by early afternoon?

Thanks much,

Ellen

The information contained in this communication is intended for the use of the designated recipients named above. If the reader of this communication is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that you have received this communication in error, and that any review, dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify The Associated Press immediately by telephone at +1-212-621-1500 and delete this email. Thank you.
The park has informed us that the photo of a downed Joshua Tree that the park provided to media in the early days of the lapse in appropriations is not in fact a photo of a tree downed by vandalism during the lapse in appropriations. Park rangers who first discovered the tree initially thought it had been destroyed by vandalism during the shutdown. When park botanists were able to get to the site at a later date, they confirmed that this tree was in fact destroyed by vandalism prior to the lapse in appropriations. The park apologizes for any confusion this initial report may have caused.

On Wed, Jan 30, 2019 at 10:18 AM Jake B SLC <(b) (6) @gmail.com> wrote:
Hello,

Attached is a photo that is circulating several news outlets and being credited only NPS.

There is a dispute with photo credibility. Apparently it's part of an article that was written several years ago.

Can validate when and where the photo was taken?

Thank you,

Jake Buxton
Like a Libertarian

--

National Park Service
Office of Public Affairs
The photo of the downed Joshua tree in the first/top link you sent.

On Fri, Feb 1, 2019 at 5:18 PM Chiu, Jeff (<jchiu@ap.org>) wrote:

Thanks for getting back to me Jeremy. Can you tell me which photo it is you’re talking about, so we don’t attempt to pursue it again?

Best,

Jeff Chiu

Jeff Chiu
Staff Photographer
The Associated Press
300 Montgomery St.
Suite 700
San Francisco, CA 94104
jchiu@ap.org
(415) 495-1192

The park has informed us that the photo of a downed Joshua Tree that the park provided to media in the early days of the lapse in appropriations is not in fact a photo of a tree downed by vandalism during the lapse in appropriations. Park
rangers who first discovered the tree initially thought it had been destroyed by vandalism during the shutdown. When park botanists were able to get to the site at a later date, they confirmed that this tree was in fact destroyed by vandalism prior to the lapse in appropriations. The park apologizes for any confusion this initial report may have caused.

On Fri, Feb 1, 2019 at 1:08 PM Chiu, Jeff <jchiu@ap.org> wrote:

Hello,

Writing to see about how the Associated Press can use National Park Service-staff generated photos of damage at parks, such as photos on the San Francisco Chronicle website from Joshua Tree credited to NPS.

https://www.sfgate.com/local/article/Assessing-the-damage-It-could-take-years-for-13568429.php#photo-16755082

https://www.sfgate.com/local/article/Assessing-the-damage-It-could-take-years-for-13568429.php#photo-16755083

https://www.sfgate.com/local/article/Assessing-the-damage-It-could-take-years-for-13568429.php#photo-16755085

Other damage parks such as Arches, Death, Rocky Mountain, Olympic, etc. could be helpful as well. We would be able to use them provided they were taken by NPS staff, and I would send you a photo release form if so.

You can reach me at 415-652-1607.

Thanks,

Jeff Chiu

Jeff Chiu
Staff Photographer
The Associated Press
300 Montgomery St.
Suite 700
San Francisco, CA 94104
David:

Since you only sent the incorrect photo to NPT. We think the best strategy is to go ahead and just forward the statement only to Kurt R. at NPT to correct the record, rather than doing a blast out to everyone. If you could get your email to Kurt out ASAP tonight, hopefully we can put this to bed. Please copy me on the email. Thanks.

- Andrew

Andrew S. Muñoz
Acting Chief of Public and Congressional Affairs

National Park Service
Pacific West Region, Office of Public and Congressional Affairs

206 220-4260 phone | 206 475-4598 cell | andrew_munoz@nps.gov

Find us on online at: https://nps.gov/pwr (public) & http://go.nps.gov/pwr (InsideNPS intranet)

On Fri, Feb 1, 2019 at 11:40 AM David Smith <david_smith@nps.gov> wrote:

Looks good. I am pretty sure we will have demands to see photos of the tree. How would you like us to respond.

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 1, 2019, at 11:36 AM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Please see below statement as reviewed by Danny and Stan.

---

Statement from Joshua Tree National Park Superintendent David Smith

In the early days of the partial government shutdown, Joshua Tree National Park issued a photograph of a downed Joshua Tree that park rangers believed was caused by vandalism during the shutdown. When park botanists were able to get to the site at a later date, they confirmed that this tree was in fact cut down prior to the shutdown. The park apologizes for any confusion this initial report may have caused.

Joshua Tree science staff are currently working to assemble an accurate and detailed report documenting natural and cultural resource damage that occurred during the shutdown. Botanists have confirmed that during the shutdown an out of bounds vehicle at Ryan Campground struck and killed at least one Joshua Tree.
Congratulations! I won't say a word until it's announced. Thanks for sending your home email, I'll keep in touch and you're welcome here anytime.

Eric

Eric Veach
Superintendent
Kenai Fjords National Park
907-422-0518

On Fri, Feb 1, 2019 at 11:41 AM Obernesser, Rick <rick_obernesser@nps.gov> wrote:

   \textbf{ERIC}

   Thanks for the pass-on of info. Poor Urban...

   FYI - I put pictures from the field on the back of my office door. A lot of people come in here to look at them. You and Akilena, with the big fish, are on the door. People always ask me about it. It is a real blessing that you and she both enjoy fishing so much.

   The shutdown has been hard back here. But really tough on certain parks, like those with pretty good weather (Death Valley, Joshua Tree, etc...). Looks like the use of FLREA dollars will change the way we manage shutdowns in the future though.

   Thanks for staying in touch. FYI - I added an address to this e-mail. Very soon it will be the only one to use for me.

   Thx

rick

On Wed, Jan 30, 2019 at 5:26 PM Veach, Eric <eric_veach@nps.gov> wrote:

   Hey Rick,

   I'm sure you've already seen this but thought I'd pass it on anyway. Not sure you saw the article in the FBX Newsminer but there's a link to it too. It's been good to hear you on the national calls for the last 5 weeks. We were pretty fortunate here, the weather was warm enough that we didn't have much in the way of facilities issues. I didn't envy the folks at WRST working out how to pay for heating oil with temps substantially below 0. I hope you're not working too hard back there.

   Eric

   \url{http://www.newsminer.com/three-men-sentenced-for-illegal-hunting-wolf-poisoning-at-urban/article_40560cde-1fa6-11e9-8aeb-63e4d1723f77.html}
Good morning. I thought you would find this press release on the case in Wrangell-St. Elias to be interesting. Good work done in a team effort that resulted in one of the most successful convictions ever for wildlife violations in Alaska national parks. This release is found on a variety of websites and social media platforms.

https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1563/isb-wrst-sentencing.htm

Sent from my iPad

--

Rick Obernesser, Acting - DDO
National Park Service
1849 C street NW
Washington, DC 20240
o - 202.208.3818
m - 202.641.1497
FYI - In case you get asked about it  Joel and I were not aware of it until I saw it today

Bert

Herbert C. Frost, Ph.D.
Regional Director, Alaska
National Park Service
907-644-3510 - Office

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Philip Hooge <philip_hooge@nps.gov>
Date: Fri, Feb 1, 2019 at 3:04 PM
Subject: Re: article
To: Hard, Joel <joel_hard@nps.gov>
Cc: Bert Frost <bert_frost@nps.gov>

Joel,
Just saw this 10 minutes ago. They caught me yesterday cold call. They said they were talking to a lot of parks. Pulled a picture off Twitter. Had no idea it would just be about me. So a bit of a surprise. However that being said it was accurate and with hindsight now I should have mentioned it to both of you that I was contacted. There is also a Alaska magazine article from before the shutdown which I have not seen yet.

Philip

Philip N. Hooge, Ph D.
Superintendent
Glacier Bay National Park & Preserve
P.O. Box 140
Gustavus, Alaska 99826
907-697-2230
907-230-7243 mobile

Let us be guardians rather than gardeners.
Adolph Murie

On Feb 1, 2019, at 13:48, Hard, Joel <joel_hard@nps.gov> wrote:

Hi Philip,
Very nice article (some may wince at the title). I don't know if you noticed this with Christina or Deb while I was gone, but Bert might ask if he didn't get a heads up.
Just FYI.
J

This park superintendent braces for another shutdown
Maxine Joselow, E&E News reporter Published: Friday, February 1, 2019
Philip Hooge loves his job as superintendent of Glacier Bay National Park in Alaska.

Just not when the federal government is closed.

The soft-spoken leader says the partial government shutdown threw a wrench into his planning for the summer, when half a million visitors flock to Glacier Bay on cruise ships.

Energy and environmental newsmakers dish on politics, pet peeves and their TV addictions. Click here to read more stories in this series.

"We have the cruise industry here, and we partner with them. We have rangers on all of the ships," Hooge said in a recent interview. "Our ability to give those programs for half a million people was in jeopardy," he said. "So we feel like the shutdown ended in the nick of time."

Like most national parks, Glacier Bay remained open during the shutdown. But nearly 60 employees were furloughed, and many of them struggled to get by without paychecks. Morale took a serious blow.

Hooge originally hails from Texas, where his family owns a ranch. He left home at 18 to go climbing in Yosemite National Park before receiving a bachelor's degree from the University of California, Santa Cruz, and a doctorate in biology from the University of California, Berkeley.

An avid scuba diver and underwater photographer, Hooge worked for 15 years as a marine biologist before becoming a manager at Alaska's Denali National Park and later the superintendent at Glacier Bay.

The 60-year-old father of two recently spoke with E&E News from his office in Alaska about the difficulties of the shutdown, the joys of being a superintendent and what comes next:

**How did the partial shutdown affect Glacier Bay?**

Here at Glacier Bay, we were definitely lucky on timing. We have an intense summer season and a light winter season.

But it definitely had an effect on employees here and their basic health and welfare in terms of paying bills. It also threatened our ability to hire more people for the summer. It was going to be difficult or impossible to hire enough staff for the summer programs, which attract half a million people to the park.

**How many Glacier Bay employees were furloughed?**

In the winter, we have about 60 employees. Almost all of them were furloughed. At any one point in time, there were only a few people working. Just a few rangers and maintenance workers.

**Was morale affected?**

Yes. Right now, there's a significant morale hit. There's stress and worry. We have a very dedicated workforce that really believes in this park, but I do hear folks saying they're not sure whether they want to continue to work.

**Will that affect recruitment in the long term?**

We may have long-term recruiting issues. We have our challenges recruiting here in Alaska. I mean, it's a beautiful location. But we require a highly skilled workforce to be able to do this type of activity. And we've definitely been seeing more and more challenges with hiring and retaining people independent of this.

**Joshua Tree National Park in California saw vandalism and trees cut down during the shutdown. Was there any damage at Glacier Bay?**

Other parks definitely had a lot more potential for that. Given the nature of visitation in the winter, there's not that many tourists that come, so we were kind of protected from that. On the other hand, the local community really depends on the park and wasn't able to go. But we had very little damage. I can't think of any.

**What was the economic impact of the shutdown?**

It was a very substantial economic impact on a very small community. We live in a town that is very dependent on tourism. It's the largest employer by far.

There were people who had bought new houses and stretched themselves financially, not knowing that this was going to happen. And there were people saying, "We're really struggling in terms of how we're going to make our house payments."

**How long will it take the park to recover?**

If there's not another shutdown, we're going to be able to make it so that the American public doesn't have a significantly reduced experience here at this park.

You know, Glacier Bay is a bit different than a lot of the other parks. We have the cruise industry here, and we partner with them. We have rangers on all of the cruise ships. Our ability to give those programs for half a million people was in jeopardy.

So we feel like the shutdown ended in the nick of time. We feel like we're probably going to recover here with most of the hiring that we
need. And that's barring another shutdown.

So are you bracing for another shutdown when the temporary funding expires on Feb. 15?

Oh, yeah [laughs].

**How did you occupy yourself when you were furloughed?**

I think you go through different stages. First there's the enjoyment of having the day off. But then that degrades to worry about what's happening to all the folks who work for me and who are so dedicated to this place.

So I just tried to stay busy and do things I can't normally do. I was a marine biologist and researcher before I became a park superintendent, so I worked on some old papers and some underwater photography.

Oh, and my wife and I did the whole eBay thing. We went through the house and figured out what stuff we could sell.

**Why did you decide to become a park superintendent?**

I was a marine biologist here for 15 years during a lot of the big controversies over cruise ships. I complained to the superintendent one day that not enough superintendents knew about science. She said, "That's not my problem; that's your problem. What are you going to do about it?"

So I made the transition into park management. I was able to get the job as deputy at Denali, which was a wonderful apprenticeship to learn about the realities of park management. And then I got to come back here as a superintendent.

**What was it like coming back?**

It's rare that a superintendent gets to come back to a place they know so well. I know this place so well, having done 3,000 dives here. And of course I'm very close to the community here. So that's been one of the blessings and special things that's happened to me.

**Have you dealt with any controversies as superintendent?**

Yes. As I mentioned, there were some controversies over cruise ships. The cruise industry didn't like being regulated here. But now they see a real advantage to having our rangers on the ships to educate tourists.

And with the Huna Tlingit, there was some tension. They're the indigenous people who were here historically but were driven out by the ice before the park was established. So it's a unique situation where this is homeland to them, but they were driven out, and the park was established afterwards. There's been a changing relationship and reconciliation between the tribe and the Park Service to the place where we are now, where we're working together.

**How do you like the job of superintendent overall?**

It's a wonderful job. I feel like my life has been leading me to this point. And I do feel like this is far more than a job. When things happen to people in the community, they happen to me. So I'm very emotionally invested in the community and what we've done here. And few people have gotten the opportunity to come back as a manager to a place they know and love so much.

---

*Joel L. Hard*  
*Deputy Regional Director*  
*Alaska Region, NPS*  
*240 W. 5th Ave.*  
*Anchorage, AK 99501*  
*(907) 644-3506*  
*joel_hard@nps.gov*
Statement from Joshua Tree National Park Superintendent David Smith

In the early days of the partial government shutdown, Joshua Tree National Park issued a photograph of a downed Joshua Tree that park rangers believed was caused by vandalism during the shutdown. When park botanists were able to get to the site at a later date, they confirmed that this tree was in fact cut down prior to the shutdown. The park apologizes for any confusion this initial report may have caused.

Joshua Tree science staff are currently working to assemble an accurate and detailed report documenting natural and cultural resource damage that occurred during the shutdown. Botanists have confirmed that during the shutdown an out of bounds vehicle at Ryan Campground struck and killed at least one Joshua Tree.

Sent from my iPhone
Kurt - sorry - the previous email was from our home email.

Statement from Joshua Tree National Park Superintendent David Smith

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Sent from my iPhone
FYI

Sent from my iPhone

John M Bockmier
Department of Interior
Director of Communications
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC
20240

202.208.3636 Office
202.897.7366 Cell

Begin forwarded message:

From: Miranda Green <mgreen@thehill.com>
Date: February 2, 2019 at 12:31:54 PM PST
To: <interior_press@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comment on shutdown figures

Happy Saturday.

I'm publishing a story today that talks to the amount of fee revenue lost under the most recent five week shutdown at national parks, and steps NPS and Interior are considering to mitigate the issue.

I'm looking for comments on the issues listed below:

1) How does the NPS plan to mitigate the $10-$11 million revenue fees lost during the 5 week shutdown?

2) How is NPS staff planning to deal with the time crunch left by 5 weeks of lost work?

3) Is the use of FLREA fees under the shutdown under current legal review? Can you comment on the timeline of that review, and what charges, if any, may be moved to pulling from ONPS?

4) How is NPS preparing for potential legal challenges on the decision to pull
from rec fees under the shutdown?

5) Is Interior and NPS considering keeping park visitor fee collections running under a future shutdown? What would be the legal basis of this and how many parks would continue to collect?

Looking for a response as soon as possible. I have already reached out to NPS.

Thanks,
Miranda

--
Miranda Green
Energy and Environment Reporter, The Hill
202-999-0660
mgreen@thehill.com
@mirandacgreen
Volunteers play a vital role in helping to protect and preserve our nation’s special places. By sharing your time, talent, and skills, you can make a difference. The National Park Service offers a variety of year-round volunteer opportunities for individuals and groups as part of the Volunteers-In-Parks (VIP) program. Contact your local park site to see how you can get involved.

Learn more about volunteering with the National Park Service at https://www.nps.gov/getinvolved/volunteer.htm.

During the first week that full staffs have been back at the parks, our priorities have been to ensure that employees receive their retroactive pay as quickly as possible, and to provide a safe environment in the reopened parks for visitors and staff alike. Resource managers are also now in the process of inspecting parks for any resource damage that may have occurred, and mitigation efforts are underway where necessary.

While we have seen isolated examples of resource damage and vandalism at some parks that occurred during the lapse of appropriations, the vast majority of visitors who came to the parks were conscientious visitors who care about their national parks. What damage we have seen, such as the off-road vehicle use at Joshua Tree National Park, resulted from a relatively small number of users. Park interpreters, naturalists, and educators will play an important role in helping inform future visitors about the fragile nature of these parks.

Donations from concessioners, partner organizations, and state and local governments combined with recreation fee revenue collected at parks allowed more than 80 parks to bring in staff to clean up trash that had built up at numerous parks, clean and maintain restrooms, and bring additional law enforcement rangers into parks to patrol accessible areas.

On Fri, Feb 1, 2019 at 2:17 PM Prior, Ryan <Ryan.Prior@turner.com> wrote:

Hi all,

I’m a writer for CNN working on a story on how volunteers can help and get involved in restoring parks particularly with damage/litter in the wake of the shutdown.

I’ve spoken with the National Park Foundation, and wanted to follow up with someone from NPS to get the latest on how the damage assessment is going and how NPS thinks resources should be allocated now that the government has reopened.

My cell phone number is (b) (6) 7___.

Thanks so much,
Ryan

---

National Park Service
Office of Public Affairs
Copy. Thanks.

Have been on the phone with Stan.

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 3, 2019, at 9:39 AM, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:


**National Parks struggle with up to $11 million in revenue loss from shutdown**

By Miranda Green
February 03, 2019 - 06:00 AM EST

Getty
An internal email sent to National Park Service (NPS) staff reveals for the first time that the parks lost between $10 million and $11 million during the 35-day partial government shutdown, which left a number of popular parks open but furloughed most rangers and staff.

The email strongly suggests the shutdown and its aftermath had a detrimental effect on the morale of park staff, and that lawyers are looking into whether it was legal for the Department of Interior to use "rec fees" to pay for maintenance and trash collection while parks such as Joshua Tree in California were kept open.

Parks resumed operations this past week, and the email makes clear the Park Service is scrambling to keep up morale while catching up on lost time.

"Our work has become increasingly stressful. For some, the shutdown was a much-needed relief, for others the shutdown added a new dimension of stress, anxiety, anger," NPS regional fee manager Cindy David told Pacific West Region (PWR) staff in an emailed two-part document Friday.

David's email states that the parks lost between $10 million and $11 million in visitor fee revenue during the shutdown, the majority of which came from losses in high-revenue parks in California and Hawaii that are popular in winter months.

In addition to Joshua Tree, these parks include Yosemite and Muir Woods in California and Hawaii Volcanoes National Park.

"Most of these costs were in our region because we have big winter visitation parks that remained accessible to visitors at the start of the shutdown," David wrote.

David stressed in her email that employees must take care of
themselves as they work to get the parks back up and running. During the shutdown, there were reports of vandalism in Joshua Tree, and numerous reports of illegal activity, unsanitary camp grounds and blocked roads.

"Your #1 priority is your health and wellness. That needs to be your foundational priority," David wrote. "Don't convince yourself that work comes first. You take care of yourself so that you can do your work well."

In blunt terms, the guidance said staff would need to accept they couldn't do everything after over a month of missed work.

"We cannot make up for 5+ weeks of work," David wrote. Instead she suggested staff would "shift priorities," "delay tasks" and "cut corners where we can."

In early January, acting Interior Secretary David Bernhardt directed 23 parks to dip into their revenue fund, known as the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA) or "rec fees," in order to bring back toilet maintenance and trash collection.

"We had 23 parks use this funding to pay for law enforcement staff, custodial, visitor services and some other salary costs," she wrote. "Most of these costs were in our region because we have big winter visitation parks that remained accessible to visitors at the start of the shutdown." (We have this quote higher up.)

And David said that decision is now under internal legal review.

"There is a legal review of those charges to determine if they will stay with rec fee or if some will be moved to ONPS," she said, referring to the appropriated funds given by Congress to the national park system.
In a statement to The Hill, the NPS said the decision to use the funds was made after consultation with legal officials at the Department of Interior.

"After consultation with the Office of the Solicitor at the Department of the Interior, it was determined that FLREA funds could and should be used to provide immediate assistance and services to highly visited parks during the lapse in appropriations," the statement said.

"During the first week that full staffs have been back at the parks, our priorities have been to ensure that employees receive their retroactive pay as quickly as possible, and to provide a safe environment in the reopened parks for visitors and staff alike."

Kristen Brengel, vice president of government affairs for the National Parks Conservation Association, said it wasn't surprising that lawyers were looking into the funding decision.

"It doesn't surprise me that they feel that they need to go back and see if they've spent the money correctly under the law," said Brengel. "Fee money historically is not used for operations and it hasn't been used in the past during shutdowns - so this is unprecedented what they've done here."

David also told staff in the email that "senior leadership is still figuring out next steps. This is what we know now."

Those next steps include preparing for a future shutdown - which President Trump has threatened could happen as early as two weeks from now.

In a second section of the same document sent to staff Friday, Laura Segars, revenue and fee program manager at Glacier National Park in Montana, suggested that the Trump administration is considering a
new plan if there is another shutdown.

Under the plan, all parks would be kept open and entrance fees would be collected as normal.

"No specific guidance yet, but in the event of another shutdown be aware of the possibility that parks may be asked to continue fee collection," Segars wrote in the document, in section labeled "update on fee collection."

Lawmakers face a Feb. 15 deadline to reach a deal on government funding. The sticking point remains money for President Trump's wall on the Mexican border.

Interior's initial decision to dip into park revenue coffers met strong criticism from environmentalists, park rangers and politicians alike, who warned it would cripple parks' ongoing maintenance needs and set them up for failure in high traffic seasons.

They also cautioned that the move was likely illegal.

"The law is clear: if the federal government is shut down, our National Parks must also be closed to protect public safety and pristine spaces," Rep. Betty McCollum (D-Minn.), chairwoman of the House Appropriations subcommittee with authority over the Interior's budget, said at the time.

"It is not acceptable to use FLREA funds to keep the parks open, and the Department of the Interior's actions likely violate appropriations law."

McCollum has a scheduled oversight hearing on the issue for this week.

Having parks collect entrance fees could also lead to legal
"If you are going to collect $25 dollars from a visitor going into a park, then you are supposed to provide them with certain amenities. That's part of the guidance and regulations with collecting fees," said Brengel.

"So if the toilets aren't open and you can't get potable water, what are you paying for if you charge fees at the entrance? I think they are on a very slippery slope."

Phil Francis, chair of The Coalition to Protect America's National Parks, called the move "inappropriate."

"It seems inappropriate to me. When people pay a fee they should have access to a full array of services that one should expect at a park or a campground," Francis said.

"The parks should either be closed to protect park resources and ensure no risk to the public, or the full array of services should be provided and the full funding should be provided. We already saw what happens when you try to do it with a partial crew. There is damage across the country to parks from the impact of the shutdown. We should not do it again."

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Thank Jeremy

Sent from my iPhone

John M Bockmier
Department of Interior
Director of Communications
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, DC
20240

202.208.3636 Office
202.897.7366 Cell

On Feb 3, 2019, at 2:13 PM, Jeremy Barnum <jeremy.barnum@nps.gov> wrote:


That viral photo of a cut-down Joshua tree? The damage was pre-shutdown, experts say

Shane Newell, Kristin Scharkey | Palm Springs Desert Sun 9:00 a.m. EST Feb. 3, 2019

Some of the most iconic photographs taken inside national parks during the partial government shutdown were of fallen Joshua trees inside Joshua Tree National Park.
One of those images, which showed a downed Joshua tree that had apparently been felled, was published in early January by the nonprofit publication National Parks Traveler.

The image was later seen by thousands online and used in stories from The Daily Mail, CNN and other news sites.

But that tree, which park officials believed was downed as a result of vandalism during the shutdown, was actually cut down before the shutdown, the park's superintendent told National Parks Traveler in a recent article.

"When park botanists were able to get to the site at a later date, they confirmed that this tree was in fact cut down prior to the shutdown," Superintendent David Smith told the publication.

"The park apologizes for any confusion this initial report may have caused," Smith added.

Smith did not respond to several requests for comment from The Desert Sun on Saturday.

New details about the tree photograph came after the park garnered national media attention as one of the places visually impacted during the government shutdown. At a rally in Joshua Tree after the shutdown ended, former Joshua Tree National Park Superintendent Curt Sauer said "what's happened to our park in the last 34 days is irreparable for the next 200 to 300 years."

The photo from National Parks Traveler, which updated its first story with an editor's note on Saturday, was not the only fallen Joshua tree image shared online during the shutdown.

Photos of another Joshua tree taken originally by The Los Angeles
Times were circulated in various media reports, from the Huffington Post to The New York Times.

More: Joshua Tree National Park was supposed to close. But it's open and some visitors are confused

More: Joshua Tree National Park fans rally, decry impact from shutdown

Reports of damage inside the park emerged weeks into the shutdown.

Last month, Smith said park staff "documented three cases of Joshua trees being cut down or damaged during the shutdown." A January news release from the park also acknowledged incidents of "new roads being created by motorists."

In his comments to National Parks Traveler, Smith confirmed at least one Joshua tree was damaged.

"Joshua Tree science staff are currently working to assemble an accurate and detailed report documenting natural and cultural resource damage that occurred during the shutdown," he told the publication. "Botanists have confirmed that during the shutdown an out of bounds vehicle at Ryan Campground struck and killed at least one Joshua Tree."

During the shutdown, the surrounding community rallied to keep the park maintained by cleaning bathrooms, picking up trash in campgrounds, restocking toilet paper and taking trailers full of waste to the dump.

More: At Joshua Tree National Park, Rep. Raul Ruiz surveys effects of government shutdown
"I feel that the local volunteers as well as our maintenance crews have done a great job taking care of the park, dealing with issues of damage and providing visitor services," Smith told The Desert Sun last month.

Cliffhanger Guides owners Seth Zaharias and Sabra Purdy were among the leaders spearheading volunteer efforts.

With so many people wanting to help, they started having a standing morning meeting at local gift shop Coyote Corner, just across the street from the park's west entrance visitors center.

"There is no way the park could have withstood the onslaught of humanity that is the Christmas/New Year's holiday without the efforts of volunteers," Purdy said in a Facebook message.

"I can't stress enough how bad it could have gotten," she added. "The reports of overflowing toilets and trash strewn across the desert in the media were quite overblown, but it definitely would have gotten there very quickly if people hadn't sprung into action."

*Shane Newell covers breaking news and the western Coachella Valley cities of Palm Springs, Cathedral City and Desert Hot Springs. He can be reached at Shane.Newell@DesertSun.com, (760) 778-4649 or on Twitter at @journoshane.*

9:00 a.m. EST Feb. 3, 2019

Jeremy Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Thanks
Saudia Muwwakkil
Assistant Regional Director
Communications and Legislative Affairs

National Park Service | Southeast Region
100 Alabama Street, SW
Atlanta, GA 30303
Desk: 404-507-5612
Cell: 404-275-9838
Saudia_Muwwakkil@nps.gov

On Sat, Feb 2, 2019 at 5:42 PM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:
This is terrible. Please keep us updated and let us know if you need any comms assistance.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Fri, Feb 1, 2019 at 11:08 AM Muwwakkil, Saudia <saudia_muwwakkil@nps.gov> wrote:
Jeremy/Mike:

For your situational awareness, Ocmulgee National Monument (Georgia) this week released surveillance video to media of a Native American home replica being vandalized at the park during the shutdown. To date, the footage and story appear to have been picked up by local media and Georgia Public Radio, the statewide NPR affiliate. The park is preparing a briefing statement on the matter. No action is needed at this time.

April,

I was wondering if you are getting the weekly reports from dispatch? If not I can get you signed up.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Murphy
Regional Chief Ranger
National Capital Region
1100 Ohio Dr. SW
Washington, DC 20242
202-619-7057 office
301-491-3928 cell

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---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Williamson, Blair <blair_williamson@nps.gov>
Date: Sat, Feb 2, 2019 at 4:29 PM
Subject: NCRCC Activity Report 19-04 (1/21 to 1/27/18)
To: <NCR_Chiefs_of_Administration@nps.gov>, Brandon Bies <Brandon_Bies@nps.gov>,
Center for Urban Ecology <ncr_nrs_all_employees@nps.gov>, Chris Alford
<chris_alford@nps.gov>, Einar Olsen <Einar_Olsen@nps.gov>, George Liffert
<George_Liffert@nps.gov>, James King <james_king@nps.gov>, James Pieper
<james_pieper@nps.gov>, Janette Lemons <Jan_Lemons@nps.gov>, Jason Newman
<Jason_Newman@nps.gov>, Jeffrey Seabright <Jeffrey_Sebright@nps.gov>, Jennifer
Mummart <jennifer_mummart@nps.gov>, Jenny Anzelmo-Sarles <Jenny_Anzelmo-
Sarles@nps.gov>, Jeremy Murphy <Jeremy_Murphy@nps.gov>, Joshua Nadas
<joshua_nadas@nps.gov>, Lisa Mendelson-Ielmini <Lisa_Mendelson-Ielmini@nps.gov>,
NPS USPP DCDispatch <uspp_dcdispatch@nps.gov>, Raul Castillo
<raul_castillo@nps.gov>, Santo, Maria <Maria_Santo@nps.gov>, Shaun Lehmann
<shaun_lehmann@nps.gov>, Susan Eaves <susan_eaves@nps.gov>, Susan Trail
<Susan_Trail@nps.gov>, Tanya Gossett <Tanya_Gossett@nps.gov>, WatchOffice DOI
<DOI_Watch_Office@ios.doi.gov>, NPS NCR Chief Rangers <ncr-chief_rangers@nps.gov>
Cc: Anthony Arena <Anthony_Arena@nps.gov>, Anthony Troxel
<Anthony_Troxel@nps.gov>, Carin Farley <Carin_Farley@nps.gov>, Christopher Hey
<brick_Hey@nps.gov>, Clinton Burkholder <Clinton_Burkholder@nps.gov>, Cynthia Sirk-
Fear <Cynthia_Sirk-Fear@nps.gov>, Dan Johnston <Daniel_Johnston@nps.gov>, Darius
Respectfully Submitted, see attached pdf

--
Blair Williamson
Lead Dispatcher
National Capital Region Communication Center
301-714-2235 (work)
301-964-0469 (cell)
Days off Monday and Tuesday
Hi Jeremy and Faith,

Nate Hegyi here from the Mountain West News Bureau (a consortium of NPR member stations covering the region). I’m working on a short, one-minute radio preview on congressional democrats looking at how DOI / NPS used visitor fees to fund maintenance at some parks during the shutdown. They say it violated the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act.

Does DOI / NPS have a comment?

Thanks,
Nate

--
Nate Hegyi
Utah Reporter, Mountain West News Bureau
KUER 90.1 (NPR Utah)
Cell: 406.552.9140
Office: 801.587.7019
Email: nhegyi@kuer.org
www.kuer.org
HI Lena

OMB issued a FAQ regarding contracts and IT. Section III covers IT. For PEPC, the activity was not excepted, the contracts that managed the system, including security, was under a stop work order. Hence, the decision to shut it down. (I was not involved) This would be consistent with Question 12 and 13 of the FAQ. I have summarized here:

Q12: What is the controlling consideration for the continuity or suspension of IT operations for an agency during a lapse in appropriations?
A12: The consideration governing all determinations concerning continuity or suspension of Federal activities funded through lapsed appropriations is that such activities, including IT operations, may continue only if they are excepted activities under the Antideficiency Act, or where their continuation is necessarily implied from a congressional authorization or appropriation of other continued functions.

Q14: How should agencies determine what systems, including linked interoperable systems, are to be maintained and operated during an appropriations lapse?
A14: If a single system must operate to avoid significant damage to the execution of authorized or excepted activities, including activity necessary to avoid imminent threat to Federal property, as discussed above, this system should maintain operations. Support for the continued operation of the single system (whether by agency IT staff or by a contractor) should be the minimum necessary to maintain functionality and ensure the security and integrity of the system and any other necessary agency information technology resources during the period of the lapse.

I did notice in the BLM shutdown guidance, they may have additional sources of funds, which allowed adequate staff and security for their public comment system:

"There are several groups of employees [BLM] in the “exempt” category who will continue to report to duty including employees: funded by the Helium Fund; working with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) on the Buy-Back Program; in Alaska working on the administration and regulation of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline; and working on selected energy, minerals, rights of way, grazing, and associated activities. Where keeping employees working is in the best interest of the Bureau and public health, safety and protection of property, employees or services authorized to use available recreational fees collected pursuant to the Federal Lands and Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA), cost recovery, cost reimbursements, or prior authorized funding (carry-over), may be considered for exempt status."
Shane -

Andrea has scheduled a meeting for tomorrow to talk about PEPC status during shutdown. She wants to understand why PEPC was turned off during the shutdown. Apparently other bureaus left it in operation. Natural Resources is under the impression that it was turned off per DOI's IT security requirements during the shutdown. Is there a specific rule from DOI that we can point to on this? Let me know if you have a few minutes to discuss before tomorrow's meeting. I'm hoping the meeting with Andrea can be a 10 min discussion rather than the hour long one they've scheduled on the calendar.

Thanks,

Lena

--
Lena McDowall
Deputy Director, Management and Administration
Ph: 202-513-7240
Cell: 202-641-1814
Email: Lena_McDowall@nps.gov
Good afternoon,

WOTR conducted its After Action Review last week relative to the partial government shutdown. The notes are attached.

GL

George Liffert
Superintendent
Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts
703-255-1808 office
703-255-1971 fax
www.nps.gov/wotr
Andrea,

Per your request, attached is the list of parks that were approved for FLREA for basic services and excepted costs where appropriate during the FY 2019 lapse in appropriations. In some cases, there is more than one park on each line, consistent with how the parks requested the use of funds. For example, the western PA parks are jointly managed, and submitted one FLREA request for all four parks impacted, including Flight 93, Johnstown Flood, Fort Necessity, and Friendship Hill.

As I mentioned, final labor costs for the shutdown won't show up in the system until middle of next week. Its very likely some costs will get processed in the wrong account, requiring further time to correct them. Many of our non-labor costs will trickle in throughout Feb and March - utilities, credit card payments, contract invoices, etc, so assuming these costs stay on FLREA, it will be March before we have a final accounting. For now, the weekly estimate of $6M total, including basic services and excepted services where appropriate, is the best we have. The first week of the shutdown would likely be lower than that, since many parks weren't approved until well into that first week/second week, and wouldn't have recalled all their employees until it was approved.

Thanks,

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329
J

This doc will go to Regional Directors and subsequently all FLREA parks that operated during shutdown, with BASIC SERVICES. We are attempting to get a feel for how things worked out in parks AND specifically answer the question, DID USE OF FLREA DOLLARS HELP OR HURT.

My ask is to buff this doc in to something better than this, as a draft, let me take a look and get a final done as soon as possible. Then I will get it out to the field.

THANK YOU for your help.

obe

--
Rick Obernesser, Acting - DDO
National Park Service
1849 C street NW
Washington, DC 20240
o - 202.208.3818
m - 202.641.1497
Will do, Pam. I'm attaching a copy of the combined requests here, but I'll also bring some printed copies.

G. Kyle Earnest  
Legislative Affairs Specialist  
Office of Legislative and Congressional Affairs  
National Park Service  
(202) 513-7258  
kyle_earnest@nps.gov

On Tue, Feb 5, 2019 at 11:33 AM Barkin, Pamela <pamela_barkin@ios.doi.gov> wrote:
    Thanks. Would you be able to bring copies of all the requests that we have on this one to the meeting today?

    Pamela Barkin  
    Assistant Legislative Counsel  
    Office of the Secretary of the Interior  
    (202) 501-2563

On Tue, Feb 5, 2019 at 10:45 AM Earnest, Gifford <kyle_earnest@nps.gov> wrote:
    Hi Pam,

    Another incoming shutdown/fees related request from CRS for your awareness.

    I've copied in John and Jessica and looped them in on our discussions this morning.

    Best,  
    Kyle

        Forwarded message

From: Comay, Laura <LCOMAY@crs.loc.gov>  
Date: Mon, Feb 4, 2019 at 5:27 PM  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] CRS request for Friday 2/8  
To: Susan Martin <susan_farinelli@nps.gov>, Gifford Earnest <kyle_earnest@nps.gov>

    Hi Susan and Kyle,
We have a request from congressional offices for information on park openings during the shutdown. The information is requested by this Friday, Feb. 8. The questions would apply to each park unit, and the hope would be to get the information in a table or spreadsheet format, or whatever is easiest, with an entry for each park. The questions are as follows.

**Accessibility to the Public**

The NPS contingency plan provided that open-air areas would generally be accessible during the shutdown, while facilities or areas that would typically be locked during non-business hours would be closed. This general situation may have changed in some cases due to availability of funds (e.g., donations or rec fees) that allowed for some facilities to operate that would otherwise have been closed. Within that framework, can you report, for each park unit, whether it was (a) entirely closed, (b) partly accessible (e.g., open-air areas accessible but visitor centers closed), or (c) fully accessible during the shutdown? If a unit’s status changed over the course of the shutdown, please report as something like “Closed/Partly Accessible,” or “Partly Accessible/Fully Accessible/Partly Accessible,” as appropriate to more or less capture the changes. No need to give dates or further details.

**Staffing**

The contingency plan designated 3,298 NPS employees as excepted, and the remaining 21,383 employees as furloughed. During the shutdown, some of the employees designated for furlough were able to work for part of the time using funding sources other than annual appropriations, like donations and rec fees. Can you report, for each park unit, whether it was staffed with one or more of the following categories: (a) excepted employees (those originally identified as being among the 3,298 excepted); (b) employees paid through donations, with funding source briefly identified (e.g., State of Utah, Xanterra, Delta Airlines, etc.); (c) employees paid with rec fees; (d) other (if any employees were paid through other means, please briefly identify how).

I am not sure if you guys are already tracking this info, so that this would be a relatively easy ask—if so, we’d be happy to take it in whatever format you are tracking it. If not, is it something that would be tracked at the regional office level, so that it wouldn’t involve an information call to individual units? I realize that the latter would likely be time-consuming beyond this week.

Thanks,
Laura Comay

Specialist in Natural Resources Policy, Congressional Research Service

101 Independence Ave., SE, Washington, DC 20540

phone: (202) 707-6036, fax: (202) 707-7289
lcomay@crs.loc.gov

This information is intended only for the congressional addressee or other individual to whom it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged material. Any review, retransmission, dissemination or other use of this information is only at the discretion of the intended recipient. If you received this in error, please contact the sender and delete the material from any computer.
A few minor edits from me; ready for formatting.

Mike

----------------
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)
National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

On Tue, Feb 5, 2019 at 1:14 PM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Mike,
Can you take a look at the content of this and make any edits you see appropriate?

Steph/Matt,

Could you please make this official with a NPS header?

Let me know if you all want to discuss.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube
With black bar/arrowhead

Matt Turner
Public Affairs Specialist, Social Media
Office of Communications
National Park Service
Office: 202-513-7243
Cell: 202-579-3870
www.nps.gov

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On Tue, Feb 5, 2019 at 1:24 PM Litterst, Michael <mike_litterst@nps.gov> wrote:
A few minor edits from me; ready for formatting.

Mike

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)

National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

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Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook  Twitter  Instagram  YouTube
Attached are memos/opinions/etc impacting the NPS during the lapse related to FLREA. I think this is all the formal stuff, plus some excel lists, but I'll add anything I find later. Comms folks, jump in with anything you think I missed.

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329
Aaron - Per your request, below is a brief follow up on the Rep. Guthrie's visit to Abraham Lincoln Birthplace from the Superintendent.

No press/public, and nothing controversial/problematic.

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Grass, Jay <jay_grass@nps.gov>
Date: Thu, Jan 31, 2019 at 4:58 PM
Subject: Guthrie's Visit
To: Saudia Muwwakkil <saudia_muwwakkil@nps.gov>
Cc: Karen Cucurullo <karen_cucurullo@nps.gov>

Saudia,

Today's visit with Congressman Guthrie went very well. He spent approximately 1 hour talking with park staff regarding the lapse and its impact. Both the Congressman and park staff appropriately shared personal stories and a mutual hope that further shutdowns are avoided.

No public or press were in attendance.

Specific questions of note from the Congressman included:
1. How was the shutdown initiated at the park?
2. What access/operations were conducted and/or available to the public during the shutdown.
3. Did the park experience any vandalism or damage during the shutdown.
4. He inquired about our payroll timing/process and expressed that it was different then congress' (which he didn't know).
5. He inquired which local businesses were particularly supportive to furloughed employees.

Let me know if you have any questions!

Thanks,

Jay Grass
Superintendent
Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park
Camp Nelson National Monument
Office 270-358-3138
Cell 270-201-4464
On Wed, Jan 30, 2019 at 2:18 PM Earnest, Gifford <kyle_earnest@nps.gov> wrote:
Will do. Thanks Aaron.

G. Kyle Earnest
Legislative Affairs Specialist
Office of Legislative and Congressional Affairs
National Park Service
(202) 513-7258
kyle_earnest@nps.gov

On Wed, Jan 30, 2019 at 10:46 AM Thiele, Aaron <aaron_thiele@ios.doi.gov> wrote:
Sounds good to me, thanks for the heads up. Can we just get a short follow-up email on how the visit went and if the Congressman had any concerns/thoughts on any issues.

Thanks,
Aaron

On Wed, Jan 30, 2019 at 10:42 AM Earnest, Gifford <kyle_earnest@nps.gov> wrote:
Aaron,

I'm sorry for the late notice, but Rep. Brett Guthrie is going to be visiting Abraham Lincoln Birthplace this afternoon to speak with park staff. The Congressman contacted the Superintendent yesterday and asked to come by to speak with park staff about how they were doing after the shutdown. No press or public have been invited and the Superintendent noted that he doesn't have any concerns about the visit.

I'll add this visit to the weekly report, but wanted to make sure to alert you in advance.

Thanks,
Kyle

G. Kyle Earnest
Legislative Affairs Specialist
Office of Legislative and Congressional Affairs
National Park Service
(202) 513-7258
kyle_earnest@nps.gov
On Tue, Feb 5, 2019 at 10:05 AM Obernesser, Rick <rick_obernesser@nps.gov> wrote:

J

This doc will go to Regional Directors and subsequently all FLREA parks that operated during shutdown, with BASIC SERVICES. We are attempting to get a feel for how things worked out in parks AND specifically answer the question, DID USE OF FLREA DOLLARS HELP OR HURT.

My ask is to buff this doc in to something better than this, as a draft, let me take a look and get a final done as soon as possible. Then I will get it out to the field.

THANK YOU for your help.

obe

--

Rick Obernesser, Acting - DDO
National Park Service
1849 C street NW
Washington, DC 20240
o - 202.208.3818
m - 202.641.1497
On Tue, Feb 5, 2019 at 1:58 PM Earnest, Gifford <kyle_earnest@nps.gov> wrote:
Aaron - Per your request, below is a brief follow up on the Rep. Guthrie's visit to Abraham Lincoln Birthplace from the Superintendent.

No press/public, and nothing controversial/problematic.

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Grass, Jay <jay_grass@nps.gov>
Date: Thu, Jan 31, 2019 at 4:58 PM
Subject: Guthrie's Visit
To: Saudia Muwwakkil <saudia_muwwakkil@nps.gov>
Cc: Karen Cucurullo <karen_cucurullo@nps.gov>

Saudia,

Today's visit with Congressman Guthrie went very well. He spent approximately 1 hour talking with park staff regarding the lapse and its impact. Both the Congressman and park staff appropriately shared personal stories and a mutual hope that further shutdowns are avoided.

No public or press were in attendance.

Specific questions of note from the Congressman included:
1. How was the shutdown initiated at the park?

2. What access/operations were conducted and/or available to the public during the shutdown.

3. Did the park experience any vandalism or damage during the shutdown.

4. He inquired about our payroll timing/process and expressed that it was different then congress' (which he didn't know).

5. He inquired which local businesses were particularly supportive to furloughed employees.

Let me know if you have any questions!

Thanks,

Jay Grass
Superintendent
Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park
On Wed, Jan 30, 2019 at 2:18 PM Earnest, Gifford <kyle_earnest@nps.gov> wrote:
Will do. Thanks Aaron.

G. Kyle Earnest  
Legislative Affairs Specialist  
Office of Legislative and Congressional Affairs  
National Park Service  
(202) 513-7258  
kyle_earnest@nps.gov

On Wed, Jan 30, 2019 at 10:46 AM Thiele, Aaron <aaron_thiele@ios.doi.gov> wrote:
Sounds good to me, thanks for the heads up. Can we can just get a short follow-up email on how the visit went and if the Congressman had any concerns/thoughts on any issues.

Thanks,  
Aaron

On Wed, Jan 30, 2019 at 10:42 AM Earnest, Gifford <kyle_earnest@nps.gov> wrote:
Aaron,

I'm sorry for the late notice, but Rep. Brett Guthrie is going to be visiting Abraham Lincoln Birthplace this afternoon to speak with park staff. The Congressman contacted the Superintendent yesterday and asked to come by to speak with park staff about how they were doing after the shutdown. No press or public have been invited and the Superintendent noted that he doesn't have any concerns about the visit.

I'll add this visit to the weekly report, but wanted to make sure to alert you in advance.

Thanks,  
Kyle

G. Kyle Earnest  
Legislative Affairs Specialist  
Office of Legislative and Congressional Affairs  
National Park Service  
(202) 513-7258  
kyle_earnest@nps.gov
Jeremy and Andrew - This Tuesday, JTNPA will be hosting a thank you event for the local partners who helped during the shutdown. This would include cake and light refreshments at two of our visitor centers as well as a number of unscheduled interpretive events. In order to better reach the hundreds of volunteers who aided the park, we would like to issue a press release and/or a letter to the editor in local newspapers to communicate the event. Please let me know what you think the best approach might be. Please see the following draft letter which we are thinking of sending out to the local papers.

Thanks
David

Dear Sir/Madam:

On behalf of all the staff of Joshua Tree National Park, I would like to extend our heartfelt thanks for the work our local community partners did to keep the park open, safe, and clean during the recent partial government shutdown.

Coming during one of the busiest times of the year, we feared that the shutdown would cause visitors to encounter piles of trash, filthy bathrooms, and general mayhem. Within just a few days, local businesses, concerned citizens, tribal members, and Marines arrived at the park daily to restock and clean bathrooms, clean up errant garbage, and provide direction and encouragement to visitors who were unfamiliar with park regulations and rules. Through their efforts, over a hundred thousand visitors were still able to enjoy the beauty that is Joshua Tree.

The park staff and our partner the Joshua Tree National Park Association would like to personally thank the community for their continued support. On Tuesday, February 12, please consider joining the staff for cake at the Oasis Visitor Center at 10 a.m. in Twentynine Palms. Rangers will conduct special tours of our nursery, museum collection, Keys Ranch, and the Oasis of Mara. The day will be topped off with light refreshments at the visitor center in the town of Joshua Tree at 4:30 p.m. A full list of events can be found at www.nps.gov/jotr.

Although the park did experience damage to some of our natural and cultural resources, volunteers helped keep it from being far worst. The commitment of these individuals allows our NPS staff to focus their energy on addressing some of the long-lasting impacts that affected the park resources. We are grateful to work with friends and partners from throughout the southland and around the world who value and care about our nation’s parks.

--
David Smith
Superintendent
Joshua Tree National Park

(760) 367-5501 - Office
(760) 401-7999 - Mobile
Chris, I'll go up and grab them off of Melissa's desk and bring them to Tasha.

Susan Farinelli  
Acting Deputy Assistant Director  
Office of Legislative and Congressional Affairs  
National Park Service  
202-513-7254

On Tue, Feb 5, 2019 at 4:31 PM Christine Powell <chris.powell@nps.gov> wrote:  
| Sent from my iPhone
I'm interested in Mike and Jeremy's take on this. I understand trying to reach a broad audience of folks that lent a hand, I'm just curious about the best method.

Are they doing this in addition to social media? There's a good chance that the people who care that much about the park are tuned into the park's social media channels.

On Tue, Feb 5, 2019, 4:14 PM Munoz, Andrew <andrew_munoz@nps.gov wrote:
FYI - I'm going to advise the park that the best way to share this with media is through a media advisory or news release, rather than letters to the editor.

Andrew S. Muñoz  
Acting Chief of Public and Congressional Affairs  
National Park Service  
Pacific West Region, Office of Public and Congressional Affairs  
206 220-4260 phone | 206 475-4598 cell | andrew_munoz@nps.gov  
Find us online at: https://nps.gov/pwro (public) & http://go.nps.gov/pwr (InsideNPS intranet)

On Tue, Feb 5, 2019 at 12:39 PM Smith, David <david_smith@nps.gov> wrote:  
Jeremy and Andrew - This Tuesday, JTNPA will be hosting a thank you event for the local partners who helped during the shutdown. This would include cake and light refreshments at two of our visitor centers as well as a number of unscheduled interpretive events. In order to better reach the hundreds of volunteers who aided the park, we would like to issue a press release and/or a letter to the editor in local newspapers to communicate the event. Please let me know what you think the best approach might be. Please see the following draft letter which we are thinking of sending out to the local papers.

Thanks  
David

Dear Sir/Madam:  
On behalf of all the staff of Joshua Tree National Park, I would like to extend our heartfelt thanks for the work our local community partners did to keep the park open, safe, and clean during the recent partial government shutdown.

Coming during one of the busiest times of the year, we feared that the shutdown would cause visitors to encounter piles of trash, filthy bathrooms, and general mayhem. Within just a few days, local businesses, concerned citizens, tribal members, and Marines arrived at the park daily to restock and clean bathrooms, clean up errant garbage, and provide direction and
encouragement to visitors who were unfamiliar with park regulations and rules. Through their efforts, over a hundred thousand visitors were still able to enjoy the beauty that is Joshua Tree.

The park staff and our partner the Joshua Tree National Park Association would like to personally thank the community for their continued support. On Tuesday, February 12, please consider joining the staff for cake at the Oasis Visitor Center at 10 a.m. in Twentynine Palms. Rangers will conduct special tours of our nursery, museum collection, Keys Ranch, and the Oasis of Mara. The day will be topped off with light refreshments at the visitor center in the town of Joshua Tree at 4:30 p.m. A full list of events can be found at www.nps.gov/jotr.

Although the park did experience damage to some of our natural and cultural resources, volunteers helped keep it from being far worst. The commitment of these individuals allows our NPS staff to focus their energy on addressing some of the long-lasting impacts that affected the park resources. We are grateful to work with friends and partners from throughout the southland and around the world who value and care about our nation’s parks.

--

David Smith
Superintendent
Joshua Tree National Park

(760) 367-5501 - Office
(760) 401-7999 - Mobile
I have confirmed with the Office of Management and Budget that this funding authority enables the Department to move obligations made during the appropriations lapse form the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA) fee account and apply those obligations to the National Park Service annual operating account now available under the FY 2019 Continuing Resolution, where such obligations would have ordinarily been charged to that account if not for the lapse in appropriations. This will enable restoration of the FLREA balances to the levels existing prior to the lapse.

Restoring the FLREA balances under this authority simultaneously enable us to maintain a commitment to the visitor experience at the national parks, I know we both share, and conserves FLREA funds while making the best use of the time limited one-year operating funds available in the FY 2019 Continuing Resolution. Thank you very much for our shared interest in managing our national parks for the use and enjoyment if the American people.

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)

National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA
Parks that were approved to use FLREA during the lapse in appropriations for basic visitor services and excepted activities where appropriate should not move any charges to or from FLREA accounts until further guidance is provided in the coming days.

Sent from my iPhone
They moved on Flrea during the second week, not the third.

And I’d take safety out of the ‘urgent’ issues list, we didn’t get any Flrea requests for safety stuff that wasn’t otherwise covered as excepted.

I would not thank our partners in this message. They will likely not be thrilled that we aren’t delivering the same message to them RE their donations. Is there anything more specific from whatever DOI has that can help differentiate why they’re making this decision for Flrea and not donations? Because what is written RE them wisely making the funds available for the period of the lapse sounds like we’ll also be returning donations, and sol hasn’t been willing to go that far yet.

On that note, any reason why Danny is only referencing OMB and not SOL also?

I can talk if you’d prefer

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 5, 2019, at 7:09 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

Current draft:

SUBJECT: Good News on FLREA Funds Used during the Lapse in Appropriations.

I wanted to share with you an important update related to the use of Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA) funds during the lapse in appropriations.

At the start of the lapse of appropriations parks were kept as accessible as possible with limited staff resources. However, by the third week of the 35-day lapse in appropriations, it became clear that this model was not sustainable. The longer the lapse continued, the more apparent it became that parks, especially those with high visitation, had urgent resource, safety and maintenance issues that could not be addressed with the limited personnel available under the original contingency plan.

We worked with the Department of the Interior to make recreation fee revenue available to provide additional staff to address the mounting maintenance, safety and sanitation issues that arose at a number of highly visited parks across the country. As a result, parks were not only able to quickly address
these issues, but also provide necessary protection for park resources. This solution allowed us to keep our commitments to the American public to ensure they have access to their parks while protecting the resources under our care.

I am thankful to all of you who quickly used these funds to restore accessibility and basic services including maintaining restrooms, trash collection, road maintenance, campground operations, law enforcement and emergency operations, and distribution of critical safety information at entrance gates.

In the FY 2019 Further Additional Continuing Appropriation Act (Public Law 116-5) Congress extended appropriations through February 15 and wisely made such funds available to cover the period during which there was a lapse in appropriations.

We have confirmed with the Office of Management and Budget that funding under this continuing resolution enables the NPS to move obligations made during the appropriations lapse from the FLREA fee account and apply those obligations to the National Park Service annual operating account. This will enable restoration of park’s FLREA balances to the levels existing prior to the lapse. However, parks that were approved to use FLREA during the lapse in appropriations for basic visitor services and excepted activities where appropriate should not move any charges to or from FLREA accounts until further guidance is provided in the coming days.

Restoring these FLREA balances enables us to maintain our commitment to the visitor experience at parks by using these funds for important projects at parks moving forward.

We are also thankful for the continued efforts of our partners, including state and local governments, nonprofits, concessionaires, and other volunteers with whom you all have built strong relationships who supported our parks and employees during the lapse of appropriations.

We are still working to address issues related to the lapse in appropriations, most importantly ensuring that every employee receives their pay as soon as possible.

I want to thank you for the professional and dedicated manner in which you all have resumed the important work at parks and programs after a long and difficult lapse in appropriations.

We are most grateful to have you back.
Attached, for Kate's final review, is the letter we would send to the Interior Approps subcommittee. She is going to scrub it a bit more, and send it to David for a final look. The plan is still to deliver it to the Hill before 10 am Wednesday.

Thanks,
Scott
Scott J. Cameron
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget
Office of the Secretary of the Interior
Office 202 208 1927
Direct 202 208 4242
Cell 202 706 9031

NOTE: Every email I send or receive is subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act.
FYI on below draft all-employee message that we’ve been asked to send out at 9:30 tomorrow. This is still pending final clearance.

SUBJECT: Good News on FLREA Funds Used during the Lapse in Appropriations.

I wanted to share with you an important update related to the use of Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA) funds during the lapse in appropriations.

As you may know during the recent lapse in appropriations we worked with the Department of the Interior to make recreation fee revenue available to many of our national parks. This allowed us to provide additional staff to address the mounting maintenance and sanitation issues that arose at a number of highly visited parks across the country. As a result, parks were not only able to quickly address these issues, but also provide necessary protection for park resources. This solution allowed us to keep our commitments to the American public to ensure they have access to their parks while protecting the resources under our care.

I am thankful to all of you who quickly used these funds to restore accessibility and basic services including maintaining restrooms, trash collection, road maintenance, campground operations, law enforcement and emergency operations, and distribution of critical safety information at entrance gates.

In the FY 2019 Further Additional Continuing Appropriation Act (Public Law 116-5), Congress extended appropriations through February 15 and wisely made such funds available to cover the period during which there was a lapse in appropriations.

We have confirmed with the Office of Management and Budget that funding under this continuing resolution enables the NPS to move obligations made during the appropriations lapse from the FLREA fee account and apply those obligations to the National Park Service annual operating account. In short, Congress has enabled us to fully restore the FLREA account to pre-lapse levels.

Parks that were approved to use FLREA during the lapse in appropriations for basic visitor services and excepted activities where appropriate should not move any charges to or from FLREA accounts until further guidance is provided this week.

Restoring these FLREA balances enables us to maintain our commitment to the visitor experience at parks by using these funds for important projects at parks moving forward.

We are still working to address issues related to the lapse in appropriations, most importantly ensuring that every employee receives their pay as soon as possible.

I want to thank you for the professional and dedicated manner in which you all have resumed the important work at parks and programs after a long and difficult lapse in appropriations.

We are most grateful to have you back.
All,

DB has given approval for this final attached version. He had no changes but I fixed a couple spacing issues that were visible once the previous edits were 'accepted' in Word. But we should be good to go.

DB wants this letter to get transmitted first this morning, with the NPS employee message to be transmitted within minutes afterward.

Scott, can you take care of the final formatting steps and get this cranked out to the Hill?

Danny/Andrea, can you do the same and be ready to press "send" once Scott transmits David's letter?

Thanks

Matthew Dermody
Special Assistant
Office of the Deputy Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240
202-513-7778 (office)
202-570-5029 (cell)

NOTE: Every email I send or receive is subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act.
FYI in case you didn't have this. Randy Bowman

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Dermody, Matthew <matthew_dermody@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Wed, Feb 6, 2019 at 10:40 AM
Subject: FINAL FLREA Letter
To: Scott Cameron <scott_cameron@ios.doi.gov>, Todd Willens <todd_willens@ios.doi.gov>, MacGregor, Katharine <katharine_macgregor@ios.doi.gov>, Andrea Travnicke <andrea_travnicke@ios.doi.gov>, Dan Smith <paul_smith@nps.gov>

All,

DB has given approval for this final attached version. He had no changes but I fixed a couple spacing issues that were visible once the previous edits were "accepted' in Word. But we should be good to go.

DB wants this letter to get transmitted first this morning, with the NPS employee message to be transmitted within minutes afterward.

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Thanks

Matthew Dermody
Special Assistant
Office of the Deputy Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240
202-513-7778 (office)
202-570-5029 (cell)

NOTE: Every email I send or receive is subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act.
Lisa,

Attached is the FLREA letter to Chair McCollum from David. Tim Murphy and Ed Keable from Gen Law have seen and approved, as have Danny Smith, Andrea Travnicek, Scott Cameron, Todd Willens, and David himself.

This should be put on letter head and ready to go ASAP and is high priority from DB. Scott Cameron (CC’d) is awaiting the signed PDF and he will then email it to the congressional offices per DB's directive due to the unique timing of this.

Please let me know if you have questions.

Thanks,

Matthew Dermody
Special Assistant
Office of the Deputy Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240
202-513-7778 (office)
202-570-5029 (cell)

NOTE: Every email I send or receive is subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act.
Hi Lena and Chris - just following up on a FOIA request that has been transferred from Yellowstone to WASO.

The requester is asking for the following:

"a copy of the daily cost estimate prepared by Yellowstone National Park for the providing of basic services with fees collected under the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act during the partial federal government shutdown that lasted from Dec. 22, 2018, to Jan. 25, 2019."

When I spoke with Kerrie, she indicated that a spreadsheet with this information from Yellowstone had been sent to WASO and that a call for each park to enter this information was made during the shutdown. I did not receive this email during the shutdown but thought you might have some awareness on this.

Do you recall seeing an email ( with links) about collecting this information during the shutdown?

If so, could you please send me that spreadsheet?

Thanks so much for your help.

Warmly,
Stacey Ann Ferguson

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: WASO FOIA Requests, NPS <waso_foia_requests@nps.gov>
Date: Wed, Feb 6, 2019 at 11:50 AM
Subject: SEARCH REQUEST: FOIA-NPS-2019-00461 (Wright )YELL FLREA
To: Stacey Ferguson <stacey_ferguson@nps.gov>

Stacey,

Thanks for taking the time to speak with me this morning. As we discussed, the following FOIA NPS-2019-00461 was initially received by the Yellowstone FOIA Office. Kerrie Evans has consulted with Charis regarding this FOIA and it has been deemed that WASO likely holds records responsive to this request.

Our response is due on 2/28 so I will need responsive records back by 2/19 so to ensure time for any next level review that may be required.

Since I anticipate there to be only one or two files you may provide them to me via email as opposed to the uploading them to a google drive.
Should you need to make any proposed redactions please be sure to provide a clean copy of the records to me as well.

Please also be sure to have those conducting searches complete and provide the attached (new) form so we may add it to our administrative file.

Should you have any additional questions please feel free to contact me.

Thanks.

Jessica McHugh  
WASO FOIA Liaison  
202-354-1449  
waso_foia_requests@nps.gov

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Evans, Kerrie <kerrie_evans@nps.gov>  
Date: Thu, Jan 31, 2019 at 1:34 PM  
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Bozeman Chronicle — FOIA  
To: Charis Wilson <charis_wilson@nps.gov>

Do we have any guidance on how to process these yet? Are we doing this at the park level? If so, we have a spreadsheet we sent to WASO that was approved that I can release in entirety to him.  
Thanks,  
Kerrie Evans  
P.O. Box 168  
Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming 82190  
(307) 344-2002

---------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Michael Wright <mwright@dailychronicle.com>  
Date: Thu, Jan 31, 2019 at 11:20 AM  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bozeman Chronicle — FOIA  
To: kerrie_evans@nps.gov <kerrie_evans@nps.gov>

Hi Kerrie (and happy 2019),

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, I request a copy of the daily cost estimate prepared by Yellowstone National Park for the providing of basic services with fees collected under the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act during the partial federal government shutdown that lasted from Dec. 22, 2018, to Jan. 25, 2019.

I'd like these records in electronic form, preferably delivered by email.
This request for the purpose of news gathering, as I am a reporter for the Bozeman Daily Chronicle. Furthermore, as a member of the news media, I’m only required to pay for the direct cost of duplication after the first 100 pages. I also ask that any applicable fees be waived because the request is for news gathering and not for commercial use.

If my request is denied in whole or in part, I ask that you justify all deletions by reference to specific exemptions of the act. I will also expect that all segregable portions of otherwise exempt material be released. I reserve the right to appeal your decision to withhold any information or deny a waiver of fees.

If there are any questions about this request, please call me at 406-582-2638 or email at mwright@dailychronicle.com. My mailing address is P.O. Box 1190, Bozeman, Montana, ZIP 59771.

I look forward to your reply within 20 business days as the statute requires.

Michael Wright
City Editor | Environmental Reporter
Bozeman Daily Chronicle
406-582-2638

--
Stacey Ann Ferguson
Business Manager
Office of the Deputy Director of Management and Administration
National Park Service
202-513-7201 - office
Hi Janice,

As discussed could you please distribute this from the NPS Director box in Danny's name?

Thanks!

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262  
Mobile: (202) 617-7973  
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube
Hi Faith and Jeremy-

As you may have seen, Rep. McCollum is seeking a GAO opinion on whether NPS broke the law in using FLREA money for certain purposes during the shutdown: https://mccollum.house.gov/sites/mccollum.house.gov/files/wysiwyg_uploaded/02.06.19%20GAO%20Shutdown%20spending%20Legal%20Opinion%20request_signed.pdf

Would you like to comment? Or at least generally defend the use of the fees?

Thanks

---
Timothy Cama, Staff writer
The Hill
(202) 695-6245
Secure: timothy.cama@protonmail.com
Someone on my team will get back to you - I'm on the road

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 6, 2019, at 10:51 AM, Timothy Cama <tcama@thehill.com> wrote:

Hi Faith and Jeremy,

As you may have seen, Rep. McCollum is seeking a GAO opinion on whether NPS broke the law in using FLREA money for certain purposes during the shutdown: https://mccollum.house.gov/sites/mccollum.house.gov/files/wysiwyguploaded/02.06.19%20GAO%20shutdown%20spending%20legal%20opinion%20request_signed.pdf

Would you like to comment? Or at least generally defend the use of the fees?

Thanks

--

Timothy Cama, Staff writer
The Hill
(202) 695-6245
Secure: timothy.cama@protonmail.com
Dan, this is indeed great news and I appreciate your sharing it widely!

All the best.

Bob

Bob Krumenaker  
Superintendent  
Big Bend National Park  
and Rio Grande Wild & Scenic River  
PO Box 129  
Big Bend, TX 79834  
(432)477-1102  
bob_krumenaker@nps.gov

On Feb 6, 2019, at 12:00 PM, Director, NPS <nps_director@nps.gov> wrote:

All NPS Employees

I wanted to share an important update with you related to the use of Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA) funds during the lapse in appropriations.

As you may know during the recent lapse in appropriations we worked with the Department of the Interior to make recreation fee revenue available to many of our national parks. This allowed us to provide additional staff to address the mounting maintenance and sanitation issues that arose at a number of highly visited parks across the country. As a result, parks were not only able to quickly address these issues, but also provide necessary protection for park resources. This solution allowed us to keep our commitments to the American public to ensure they have access to their parks while protecting the resources under our care.

I am thankful to all of you who quickly used these funds to restore accessibility and basic services including maintaining restrooms, trash collection, road maintenance, campground operations, law enforcement and emergency operations, and distribution of critical safety information at entrance gates.

In the FY 2019 Further Additional Continuing Appropriation Act (Public Law 116-5), Congress extended appropriations through February 15 and wisely made such funds available to cover the period during which there was a lapse.

We have confirmed with the Office of Management and Budget that the NPS can move obligations made during the appropriations lapse from the FLREA fee account and apply those obligations to the National Park Service annual operating account. In short, Congress has enabled us to fully restore the FLREA account to pre-lapse levels.
Restoring these FLREA balances enables us to maintain our commitment to the visitor experience at parks by using these funds for important projects at parks moving forward.

Parks that were approved to use FLREA during the lapse in appropriations for basic visitor services and excepted activities where appropriate should not move any charges to or from FLREA accounts until further guidance is provided.

We are still working to address issues related to the lapse in appropriations, most importantly ensuring that every employee receives their pay as soon as possible.

I want to thank you for the professional and dedicated manner in which you all have resumed the important work at parks and programs after a long and difficult lapse in appropriations.

We are most grateful to have you back.

Sincerely,

P. Daniel Smith
Deputy Director
Exercising the Authority of the Director for the National Park Service

<NPS FLREA Memo 2.6.19.pdf>
Hi all-

We're seeing that Dan Smith just told staff that NPS is backtracking on using FLREA funds for shutdown operations, and will instead use the money from the Jan. 25 continuing resolution.

Would you like to comment on this beyond what's in the email? And/or if there's a formal memo from Smith or Bernhardt, we'd be interested to see.

Thank you.

--

Timothy Cama, Staff writer
The Hill
(202) 695-6245
Secure: timothy.cama@protonmail.com
Hi Jeremy--I'll post this is a Need to Know today.

Suki Baz
InsideNPS Manager
(202) 527-2121

On Wed, Feb 6, 2019 at 11:55 AM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:
Can we post this to InsideNPS?

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

------------- Forwarded message ---------
From: Director, NPS <nps_director@nps.gov>
Date: Wed, Feb 6, 2019 at 1:00 PM
Subject: Good News on FLREA Funds Used during the Lapse in Appropriations
To: NPS All Employees <nps_all_employees@nps.gov>

All NPS Employees

I wanted to share an important update with you related to the use of Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA) funds during the lapse in appropriations.

As you may know during the recent lapse in appropriations we worked with the Department of the Interior to make recreation fee revenue available to many of our national parks. This allowed us to provide additional staff to address the mounting maintenance and sanitation issues that arose at a number of highly visited parks across the country. As a result, parks were not only able to quickly address these issues, but also provide necessary protection for park resources. This solution allowed us to keep our commitments to the American public to ensure they have access to their parks while
protecting the resources under our care.

I am thankful to all of you who quickly used these funds to restore accessibility and basic services including maintaining restrooms, trash collection, road maintenance, campground operations, law enforcement and emergency operations, and distribution of critical safety information at entrance gates.

In the FY 2019 Further Additional Continuing Appropriation Act (Public Law 116-5), Congress extended appropriations through February 15 and wisely made such funds available to cover the period during which there was a lapse.

We have confirmed with the Office of Management and Budget that the NPS can move obligations made during the appropriations lapse from the FLREA fee account and apply those obligations to the National Park Service annual operating account. In short, Congress has enabled us to fully restore the FLREA account to pre-lapse levels.

Restoring these FLREA balances enables us to maintain our commitment to the visitor experience at parks by using these funds for important projects at parks moving forward.

Parks that were approved to use FLREA during the lapse in appropriations for basic visitor services and excepted activities where appropriate should not move any charges to or from FLREA accounts until further guidance is provided.

We are still working to address issues related to the lapse in appropriations, most importantly ensuring that every employee receives their pay as soon as possible.

I want to thank you for the professional and dedicated manner in which you all have resumed the important work at parks and programs after a long and difficult lapse in appropriations.

We are most grateful to have you back.

Sincerely,

P. Daniel Smith
Deputy Director
Exercising the Authority of the Director for the National Park Service
This is up now.

Suki Baz
InsideNPS Manager
(202) 527-2121

On Wed, Feb 6, 2019 at 11:55 AM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:
Can we post this to InsideNPS?

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

---------- Forwarded message ----------
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We are most grateful to have you back.

Sincerely,

P. Daniel Smith
Deputy Director
Exercising the Authority of the Director for the National Park Service
Thanks Jeremy.

Rob Hotakainen
National parks, oceans and fisheries reporter
E&E NEWS
rhotakainen@eenews.net
202-446-0477
Twitter: @HotakainenRob
122 C Street NW, 7th floor, Washington, DC, 20001
www.eenews.net | @EENewsUpdates
Greenwire, E&E Daily, E&E News PM, Climatewire, Energywire

On Feb 6, 2019, at 4:31 PM, Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:

See attached.

On Wed, Feb 6, 2019 at 4:00 PM Rob Hotakainen <rhotakainen@eenews.net> wrote:

Was surprised to see this story. Can you send me the memo? Thanks much.

Dan Smith, NPS's deputy director and its top official, told staff in an emailed memo that the agency will reverse its earlier, controversial decision to use park visitor entrance fees to pay for maintenance and staffing needs under the shutdown.

Instead, he said the NPS will use money from the spending bill Congress approved to end the shutdown to pay for those costs.
"We have confirmed with the [White House] Office of Management and Budget that the NPS can move obligations made during the appropriations lapse form the FLREA fee account and apply those obligations to the National Park Service annual operating account," Smith said, making reference to "rec fees" collected under the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA).

Rob Hotakainen
National parks, oceans and fisheries reporter
E&E NEWS
rhotakainen@eenews.net
202-446-0477
Twitter: @HotakainenRob
122 C Street NW, 7th floor, Washington, DC, 20001
www.eenews.net | @EENewsUpdates
Greenwire, E&E Daily, E&E News PM, Climatewire, Energywire

<NPS FLREA Memo 2.6.19.pdf>
Rebecca:

Attached is a copy of the memo that was issued to employees this afternoon regarding FLREA funds used during the lapse of appropriations.

As the last of the charges against the FLREA accounts has not yet hit our accounting system, we are unable to provide a total amount of funds used from those accounts.

Mike

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)
National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

On Wed, Feb 6, 2019 at 4:33 PM Kern, Rebecca <rKern@bloombergenvironment.com> wrote:

Hello,

I’d like to confirm this document that was posted by The Hill this afternoon from the National Park Service was able to refund the funds taken from the FLREA account with the FY 2019 appropriations funded through Feb. 15?

https://twitter.com/mirandacgreen/status/1093227337250992133/photo/1

Separately, can you tell me the total amount of funding taken from the FLREA funds during the 35-day shutdown?

If you can get back to me as soon as possible, ideally before 5:30 p.m. EST.

Thank you
Stephanie:

Attached is the memo that went to employees today regarding the FLREA funds used during the lapse of appropriations. Costs for salaries and supplies charged to the FLREA accounts would be moved to NPS operational accounts, thereby replenishing the FLREA accounts to their pre-lapse levels.

Hope this helps,

Mike

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)
National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

On Wed, Feb 6, 2019 at 2:33 PM Ebbs, Stephanie <Stephanie.Ebbs@abc.com> wrote:

Hey guys,

I just saw The Hill story that NPS may no longer need to use park fees to pay for the shutdown. Do you have anything on that?

And just logistically how would that work? Staff were being paid as normal during the shutdown so does money need to be moved from this new source back into the fee reserves to cover that amount?

Thanks

Stephanie Ebbs

ABC News-Washington

(office)202-222-7271
(cell) 202-875-4377

@stephebbs
Thanks very much for your timely response Michael. I very much appreciate it.

Can you tell me when you estimate the accounting will be done on how much of the FLREA funds were spent?

And I was told there was approximately $330 in FLREA funds available for FY 2019- is that accurate?


Rebecca Kern
Reporter

Bloomberg Environment

703-341-3715 (Office)
703-201-4953 (Signal/Cell)
rkern@bloombergenvironment.com

Rebecca:

Attached is a copy of the memo that was issued to employees this afternoon regarding FLREA funds used during the lapse of appropriations.

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~~~~~~~~~~~~

Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)

National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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If you can get back to me as soon as possible, ideally before 5:30 p.m. EST. Thank you

Rebecca Kern
Reporter
Bloomberg Environment
703-341-3715 (Office)
703-201-4953 (Signal/Cell)
rkern@bloombergenvironment.com
Thanks!

Stephanie Ebbs
ABC News-Washington
(office) 202-222-7271
(cell) 202-875-4377
@stephebbs

From: Litterst, Michael <mike_litterst@nps.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 6, 2019 5:11:42 PM
To: Ebbs, Stephanie
Cc: NPS Jeremy Barnum
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Update on using park fees for shutdown?

Stephanie:

Attached is the memo that went to employees today regarding the FLREA funds used during the lapse of appropriations. Costs for salaries and supplies charged to the FLREA accounts would be moved to NPS operational accounts, thereby replenishing the FLREA accounts to their pre-lapse levels.

Hope this helps,

Mike

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)

National Park Service
Ph: (202) 306-4166

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And just logistically how would that work? Staff were being paid as normal during the shutdown so does money need to be moved from this new source back into the fee reserves to cover that amount?

Thanks

Stephanie Ebbs
ABC News-Washington
(office) 202-222-7271
(cell) 202-875-4377
@stephebbs
Your label: "19-428 DIR & WASO Shutdown Sanitation & Vandalism Shane Compton" finished processing successfully.

The label was processed and can now be found in your Google Drive:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1wvVscYFjoDRMFT5W5UkbjPMvV1Q2f-d2

It took less than 5 minutes to complete. If you chose to send via email, you will also find a zip file with the same name in your Drive view. If the folder was shared, the folder icon will indicate it. You can also add more viewers:

1. Open Google Drive
2. Find the folder in the list
3. Right click, and choose "Share"
4. Enter in desired recipients
5. Adjust sharing settings accordingly
6. Click "Done"

*Recipients must belong to the Department of the Interior

If you need more assistance, please contact your local help desk.

*Created with the FOIA DMU Processing Application*
-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Nevils, Joseph <joseph.nevils@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Wed, Feb 6, 2019 at 5:13 PM
Subject: Legislative Summary, Thursday, February 7, 2019
To: Legs Summary Group <mareid@blm.gov>, Legs Summary Group <martin_kodis@fws.gov>, Legs Summary Group <kaini_kalo@ios.doi.gov>, Legs Summary Group <congressional@usbr.gov>, Legs Summary Group <jctaylor@usgs.gov>, Legs Summary Group <tracy_goodluck@ios.doi.gov>, Legs Summary Group <duane_galloway@ios.doi.gov>, Legs Summary Group <matthew_quinn@ios.doi.gov>, Legs Summary Group <susan_hatton@doioig.gov>, Legs Summary Group <ariana.wisniewski@sol.doi.gov>, Legs Summary Group <tracie_lassiter@ios.doi.gov>, Legs Summary Group <james_voyles@ios.doi.gov>, Legs Summary Group <bryan_p_leon@omb.eop.gov>, Legs Summary Group <melissa_kuckro@nps.gov>, Legs Summary Group <marshall_j_rodbrooks@omb.eop.gov>, Legs Summary Group <mgins@blm.gov>, Legs Summary Group <anita.gonzales-evans@onrr.gov>, Legs Summary Group <lkwan@usgs.gov>, Legs Summary Group <markee_connors@ios.doi.gov>, Legs Summary Group <kimberly_elmore@doioig.gov>, Legs Summary Group <john_d_burnim@omb.eop.gov>, Legs Summary Group <p2wilkin@blm.gov>, Legs Summary Group <christopher_watts@nps.gov>, Legs Summary Group <mjcolomb@usgs.gov>, Legs Summary Group <pamela_barkin@ios.doi.gov>, Legs Summary Group <wlukas@usgs.gov>, Legs Summary Group <karen.frazier@bia.gov>, Legs Summary Group <julie.fleming@bsee.gov>, Legs Summary Group <robertleach@usgs.gov>, Legs Summary Group <kathy_kupper@nps.gov>, Legs Summary Group <lwilliams@osmre.gov>, Legs Summary Group <wholmes@blm.gov>, Legs Summary Group <yspears@usgs.gov>, Legs Summary Group <chris_salotti@ios.doi.gov>, Legs Summary Group <russell.husen@sol.doi.gov>, Legs Summary Group <liberty.metcalf@bia.gov>, Legs Summary Group <robert_g_howarth@ios.doi.gov>, Legs Summary Group <dominic_maione@ios.doi.gov>, Legs Summary Group <harry_humbert@ios.doi.gov>, Legs Summary Group <matthew_huggler@fws.gov>, Legs Summary Group <joseph.nevils@ios.doi.gov>, Legs Summary Group <audrey_haskins@ios.doi.gov>, Legs Summary Group <mark_bathrick@ios.doi.gov>, Legs Summary Group <kimberly_mcgovern@doioig.gov>, Legs Summary Group <ariana.rigsby@sol.doi.gov>, Legs Summary Group <agarrison@usgs.gov>, Legs Summary Group <mark_bathrick@nb.gov>, Legs Summary Group <christopher_stubbs@doioig.gov>, Legs Summary Group <lori_williams@ios.doi.gov>, Legs Summary Group <alyssa_hausman@fws.gov>, Legs Summary Group <tiffany_taylor@ios.doi.gov>, Legs Summary Group <jonizuk@usgs.gov>, Legs Summary Group <bruce_delaplaine@doioig.gov>, Legs Summary Group <yan UNDERWOOD@bsee.gov>, Legs Summary Group <onrrcongressionalaffairs@onrr.gov>, Legs Summary Group <basil_ottley@ios.doi.gov>, Legs Summary Group <angela_gustavson@fws.gov>
Legislative Summary, Thursday, February 7, 2019

--

**Joseph Nevils**  
Legislative Assistant

Department of the Interior  
1849 C St, NW 20240  
(202) 208-4580 (O)  
(202) 208-7619 (F)

--

Corneshia Levy  
Management Support Specialist  
National Park Service  
1849 C Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20240  
202.513.7259
corneshia_levy@nps.gov
Hey guys, what's the status of this response?

------------- Forwarded message -------------
From: Timothy Cama <tcama@thehill.com>
Date: Wed, Feb 6, 2019 at 1:45 PM
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Park Service shutdown funding
To: Interior Press <interior_press@ios.doi.gov>, Jeremy Barnum <Jeremy_Barnum@nps.gov>

Hi all-

We're seeing that Dan Smith just told staff that NPS is backtracking on using FLREA funds for shutdown operations, and will instead use the money from the Jan. 25 continuing resolution.

Would you like to comment on this beyond what's in the email? And/or if there's a formal memo from Smith or Bernhardt, we'd be interested to see.

Thank you.

--
Timothy Cama, Staff writer
The Hill
(202) 695-6245
Secure: timothy.cama@protonmail.com

--
Alex Hinson
Deputy Press Secretary
Department of the Interior
I've invited you to fill out a form:

Post Lapse of Appropriations Review: FLREA Parks

Please provide brief comments about your experiences with the lapse of appropriations related to FLREA.
We missed one park on the earlier list - Cuyahoga Valley has been added here.

Jessica Bowron  
Comptroller  
National Park Service  
(o) 202-513-7138  
(c) 202-280-8329

---

On Thu, Feb 7, 2019 at 5:05 PM Earnest, Gifford <kyle_earnest@nps.gov> wrote:  
I'm sending everyone an invitation for another quick call/meeting tomorrow morning (11) regarding our response to Congressional inquiries. The first deadlines are tomorrow, and I'd like to know if we have any agreement on information we can share.

I've reserved the NPS OLCA conference room (2749), but folks are also welcome to call in from their desks if that's easier (1-877-633-5916/5809343).

G. Kyle Earnest  
Legislative Affairs Specialist  
Office of Legislative and Congressional Affairs  
National Park Service  
(202) 513-7258  
kyle_earnest@nps.gov

---

On Wed, Feb 6, 2019 at 12:35 PM Bowron, Jessica <jessica_bowron@nps.gov> wrote:  
Here's another one, hot off the presses. Other three approps corners will also get one. And I'm looking for the earliest DB memo as well.

Jessica Bowron  
Comptroller  
National Park Service  
(o) 202-513-7138  
(c) 202-280-8329

---

On Tue, Feb 5, 2019 at 9:27 PM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:  
Attaching Dep. Director Smith's statement on the use of FLREA as well.

Jeremy K. Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  
Office: (202) 513-7262
On Tue, Feb 5, 2019 at 1:52 PM Bowron, Jessica <jessica_bowron@nps.gov> wrote:
Attached are memos/opinions/etc impacting the NPS during the lapse related to
FLREA. I think this is all the formal stuff, plus some excel lists, but I'll add anything
I find later. Comms folks, jump in with anything you think I missed.

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329
Andrea and Ryan,

Attached is a revised NPS contingency plan. We'll discuss this tomorrow morning. I took the old plan apart to try to make more sense of the new approach, so most of it should be pretty familiar.

I've gotten initial SOL feedback on this, but following your review and approval, it still needs to go through PMB, SOL, and 6th floor review, then OMB. Since the end of this week is still a question mark, I'd like to get it through that entire review process by COB Weds at the latest so we can roll it out to the parks on Thurs if needed.

For reference, the current contingency plan can be found at doi.gov/shutdown.

Thanks, talk with you tmrw

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329
Hi,
I'm just re-upping this request. If you can please respond by 4 p.m. today, or at least provide partial responses.

1. How many seasonal employees does the National Park Service employee every year? What percentage of your total workforce do seasonal employees make up?
2. What percentage/ total number of parks hire seasonal employees?
3. How did the 35-day government shutdown impact the NPS seasonal hiring? How delayed is the seasonal hiring process now- by how many days/months can you estimate? And at which parks?
4. What impacts did the government shutdown have on scientific research and ongoing animal studies? I understand that ongoing predator-prey study at the Isle Royale was stalled, do you have a list of other scientific studies that were impacted?

And on Wednesday you said these hadn't yet hit your accounting, but can you give me an answer for these questions by Monday?

5. What was the total amount of funds that were used from FLREA park entrance fees during the 35-day government shutdown? What percentage of total FLREA fees were spent?
6. What was the total amount of FLREA fees available before the shutdown?

Rebecca Kern
Reporter
Bloomberg Environment

703-341-3715 (Office)
703-201-4953 (Signal/Cell)
rkern@bloombergenvironment.com

Hi Mike
I hope you’re doing well. I’m following up on my earlier request, adding in Jeremy and Faith
1. How many seasonal employees does the National Park Service employ every year? What percentage of your total workforce do seasonal employees make up?
2. What percentage / total number of parks hire seasonal employees?
3. How did the 35-day government shutdown impact the NPS seasonal hiring? How delayed is the seasonal hiring process now - by how many days / months can you estimate? And at which parks?
4. What impacts did the government shutdown have on scientific research and ongoing animal studies? I understand that ongoing predator-prey study at the Isle Royale was stalled, do you have a list of other scientific studies that were impacted?

And on Wednesday you said these hadn’t yet hit your accounting, but can you give me an answer for these questions by Monday?

5. What was the total amount of funds that were used from FLREA park entrance fees during the 35-day government shutdown? What percentage of total FLREA fees were spent?
6. What was the total amount of FLREA fees available before the shutdown?

If you can respond by 4 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 11.

Thank you,

Rebecca Kern
Reporter

Bloomberg Environment

703-341-3715 (Office)
703-201-4953 (Signal/Cell)
rkern@bloombergenvironment.com

From: Kern, Rebecca
Sent: Wednesday, February 06, 2019 11:54 AM
To: Litterst, Michael <mike_litterst@nps.gov>
Subject: Bloomberg Questions on NPS Shutdown Impacts
Importance: High

Hi Michael,

I hope you’re doing well. I have some questions about the impact of the 35-day federal shutdown.

Three questions I needed an answer on today before 4 p.m. EST.

1. How many seasonal employees does the National Park Service employ every year? What percentage of your total workforce do seasonal employees make up?
2. What percentage / total number of parks hire seasonal employees?
3. How did the 35-day government shutdown impact the NPS seasonal hiring? How delayed is the seasonal hiring process now - by how many days / months can you estimate? And at which parks?
estimate?

These questions if you’re able to answer these questions **before Friday at noon EST.**

1. What was the total amount of funds that were used from FLREA park entrance fees during the 35-day government shutdown? What percentage of total FLREA fees were spent?
2. What was the total amount of FLREA fees before the shutdown?
3. What impacts did the government shutdown have scientific research and ongoing? I understand that ongoing predator-prey study at the Isle Royale was stalled, do you have a list of other scientific studies that were impacted?

Thank you for your time and assistance.

I look forward to hearing from you.


**Rebecca Kern**  
Reporter  

**Bloomberg Environment**

703-341-3715 (Office)  
703-201-4953 (Signal/Cell)  
rkern@bloombergenvironment.com
I added comments throughout on this version, identifying major updates or changes from the prior plan.

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329

On Sun, Feb 10, 2019 at 2:28 PM Bowron, Jessica <jessica_bowron@nps.gov> wrote:
Andrea and Ryan,

Attached is a revised NPS contingency plan. We'll discuss this tomorrow morning. I took the old plan apart to try to make more sense of the new approach, so most of it should be pretty familiar.

I've gotten initial SOL feedback on this, but following your review and approval, it still needs to go through PMB, SOL, and 6th floor review, then OMB. Since the end of this week is still a question mark, I'd like to get it through that entire review process by COB Weds at the latest so we can roll it out to the parks on Thurs if needed.

For reference, the current contingency plan can be found at doi.gov/shutdown.

Thanks, talk with you tmrw

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329
I think AK is good on both fronts. No FLREA funds were used in AK and there are not any clean-up or restoration issues up here either.

Bert

- - -
Herbert C. Frost, Ph.D.
Regional Director, Alaska
National Park Service

907-644-3510 - Office

On Fri, Feb 8, 2019 at 12:12 PM Obernesser, Rick <rick_obernesser@nps.gov> wrote:

- Follow up from yesterday - The GOOGLE FORM post shutdown review of FLREA funds we spoke of yesterday on the NLC call is currently being reviewed by the AS and the 6th floor. As soon as discussion is complete, we will release this out to each of you to subsequently be sent to your appropriate parks. Stand by please...
- If you are aware of any parks with significant post-shutdown clean-up and/or restoration projects at hand, please let me know. Late next week is plenty of time for this.

Call any time with questions. I am in the office Monday and Tuesday next week. Leave on Wednesday and travel on Thursday and Friday.

Have a great weekend.

--
Rick Obernesser, Acting - DDO
National Park Service
1849 C street NW
Washington, DC 20240
o - 202.208.3818
m - 202.641.1497
Maureen D. Foster  
Chief of Staff  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for  
Fish and Wildlife and Parks.  
202.208.5970 office  
202.306.3845 cell

Begin forwarded message:

From: Andrea Travnicek <andrea_travnicek@ios.doi.gov>  
Date: February 11, 2019 at 1:22:56 PM EST  
To: maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov  
Subject: Fwd: Refuges Lapse Re-Staffing BP

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Margaret Everson <margaret_e_everson@fws.gov>  
Date: February 9, 2019 at 9:14:41 AM EST  
To: andrea_travnicek@ios.doi.gov, todd_willens@ios.doi.gov, katharine_macgregor@ios.doi.gov, todd_wynn@ios.doi.gov  
Subject: Fwd: Refuges Lapse Re-Staffing BP

Please find an overview of the benefits that resulted from the restaffing at the 38 refugees during Laspe. We will be providing this information to Rick May per his request as well.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:
Margaret,

Attached is an electronic version of this BP.

Thanks!
Melissa

--
Melissa Beaumont
Advisor, Office of the Director, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Office: 202-208-4545
Desk: 202-208-4299
Maureen D. Foster  
Chief of Staff  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for  
   Fish and Wildlife and Parks.  
202.208.5970 office  
202.306.3845 cell  

Begin forwarded message:

From: Maureen Foster <maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov>  
Date: February 11, 2019 at 2:22:48 PM EST  
To: McDowall Lena <Lena_McDowall@nps.gov>, jessica_bowron@nps.gov  
Subject: Fwd: Refuges Lapse Re-Staffing BP

Maureen D. Foster  
Chief of Staff  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for  
   Fish and Wildlife and Parks.  
202.208.5970 office  
202.306.3845 cell  

Begin forwarded message:

From: Andrea Travnicek <andrea_travnicek@ios.doi.gov>  
Date: February 11, 2019 at 1:22:56 PM EST  
To: maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov  
Subject: Fwd: Refuges Lapse Re-Staffing BP

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:
From: Margaret Everson
<mailto:margaret_e_everson@fws.gov>

Date: February 9, 2019 at 9:14:41 AM EST
To: andrea_travnicek@ios.doi.gov,
todd_willens@ios.doi.gov,
katharine_macgregor@ios.doi.gov,
todd_wynn@ios.doi.gov

Subject: Fwd: Refuges Lapse Re-Staffing BP

Please find an overview of the benefits that resulted from the restaffing at the 38 refugees during Laspe. We will be providing this information to Rick May per his request as well.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Beaumont, Melissa"
<mailto:melissa_beaumont@fws.gov>

Date: February 8, 2019 at 6:52:25 PM EST
To: Margaret Everson
<mailto:margaret_e_everson@fws.gov>

Subject: Refuges Lapse Re-Staffing BP

Margaret,

Attached is an electronic version of this BP.

Thanks!
Melissa

--
Melissa Beaumont
Advisor, Office of the Director, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Office: 202-208-4545
Desk: 202-208-4299
Okay thank you. One additional question:

1. How is the National Park Service preparing for another possible government shutdown in the case a funding agreement is not reached by Feb. 15 at midnight? Are the parks going to remain open again using FLEA funding or do you have exiting appropriations you will use?

Thank you,

Rebecca Kern
Reporter

Bloomberg Environment

703-341-3715 (Office)
703-201-4953 (Signal/Cell)
rkern@bloombergenvironment.com
Hi,
I’m just re-upping this request. If you can please respond by 4 p.m. today, or at least provide partial responses.

1. How many seasonal employees does the National Park Service employ every year? What percentage of your total workforce do seasonal employees make up?

2. What percentage/ total number of parks hire seasonal employees?

3. How did the 35-day government shutdown impact the NPS seasonal hiring? How delayed is the seasonal hiring process now—by how many days/months can you estimate? And at which parks?

4. What impacts did the government shutdown have on scientific research and ongoing animal studies? I understand that ongoing predator-prey study at the Isle Royale was stalled, do you have a list of other scientific studies that were impacted?

And on Wednesday you said these hadn’t yet hit your accounting, but can you give me an answer for these questions by Monday?

5. What was the total amount of funds that were used from FLREA park entrance fees during the 35-day government shutdown? What percentage of total FLREA fees were spent?

6. What was the total amount of FLREA fees available before the shutdown?

Rebecca Kern
Reporter
Bloomberg Environment

703-341-3715 (Office)
703-201-4953 (Signal/Cell)
rkern@bloombergenvironment.com

From: Kern, Rebecca
Sent: Friday, February 08, 2019 3:53 PM
To: Litterst, Michael <mike_litterst@nps.gov>
Cc: Jeremy Barnum <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>; Vander Voort, Faith <faith_vandervoort@ios.doi.gov>
Subject: RE: Bloomberg Questions on NPS Shutdown Impacts
Importance: High
Hi Mike
I hope you’re doing well. I’m following up on my earlier request, adding in Jeremy and Faith too. If you can please respond by 4 p.m. on Mon. Feb. 11.

1. How many seasonal employees does the National Park Service employee every year? What percentage of your total workforce do seasonal employees make up?

2. What percentage/ total number of parks hire seasonal employees?

3. How did the 35-day government shutdown impact the NPS seasonal hiring? How delayed is the seasonal hiring process now- by how many days/months can you estimate? And at which parks?

4. What impacts did the government shutdown have on scientific research and ongoing animal studies? I understand that ongoing predator-prey study at the Isle Royale was stalled, do you have a list of other scientific studies that were impacted?

And on Wednesday you said these hadn’t yet hit your accounting, but can you give me an answer for these questions by Monday?

5. What was the total amount of funds that were used from FLREA park entrance fees during the 35-day government shutdown? What percentage of total FLREA fees were spent?

6. What was the total amount of FLREA fees available before the shutdown?

If you can respond by 4 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 11.

Thank you,

Rebecca Kern
Reporter
Bloomberg Environment
703-341-3715 (Office)
703-201-4953 (Signal/Cell)
rkern@bloombergenvironment.com

From: Kern, Rebecca
Sent: Wednesday, February 06, 2019 11:54 AM
To: Litterst, Michael <mike_litterst@nps.gov>
Subject: Bloomberg Questions on NPS Shutdown Impacts
Hi Michael,

I hope you're doing well. Have some questions about the impact of the 35-day federal shutdown.

Three questions I needed an answer on **today before 4 p.m. EST**.

1. How many seasonal employees does the National Park Service employee every year? What percentage of your total workforce do seasonal employees make up?

2. What percentage/total number of parks hire seasonal employees?

3. How did the 35-day government shutdown impact the NPS seasonal hiring? How delayed is the seasonal hiring process now—by how many days/months can you estimate?

These questions if you're able to answer these questions **before Friday at noon EST**.

1. What was the total amount of funds that were used from FLREA park entrance fees during the 35-day government shutdown? What percentage of total FLREA fees were spent?

2. What was the total amount of FLREA fees before the shutdown?

3. What impacts did the government shutdown have on scientific research and ongoing? I understand that ongoing predator-prey study at the Isle Royale was stalled, do you have a list of other scientific studies that were impacted?

Thank you for your time and assistance.

I look forward to hearing from you.

---

**Rebecca Kern**  
Reporter  

**Bloomberg Environment**  
703-341-3715 (Office)  
703-201-4953 (Signal/Cell)  
rkern@bloombergenvironment.com
Let's talk about this tomorrow please.

-------- Forwarded message --------
From: Maureen Foster <maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Mon, Feb 11, 2019 at 2:35 PM
Subject: Fwd: Refuges Lapse Re-Staffing BP
To: <chris_powell@nps.gov>, <rick_obernesser@nps.gov>

Maureen D. Foster
Chief of Staff
Office of the Assistant Secretary for
    Fish and Wildlife and Parks.
202.208.5970 office
202.306.3845 cell

Begin forwarded message:

    From: Maureen Foster <maureen_foster@ios.doi.gov>
    Date: February 11, 2019 at 2:22:48 PM EST
    To: McDowall Lena <Lena_McDowall@nps.gov>, jessica_bowron@nps.gov
    Subject: Fwd: Refuges Lapse Re-Staffing BP

Maureen D. Foster
Chief of Staff
Office of the Assistant Secretary for
    Fish and Wildlife and Parks.
202.208.5970 office
202.306.3845 cell

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todd_willens@ios.doi.gov,  
katharine_macgregor@ios.doi.gov,  
todd_wynn@ios.doi.gov  
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<mailto:melissa_beaumont@fws.gov>  
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To: Margaret Everson  
<mailto:margaret_e_everson@fws.gov>  
Subject: Refuges Lapse Re-Staffing BP

Margaret,

Attached is an electronic version of this BP.

Thanks!
Melissa

--
Melissa Beaumont
Advisor, Office of the Director, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Office: 202-208-4545
It would help if I included the attachment - contingency plan now attached.

On Mon, Feb 11, 2019 at 4:29 PM McDowall, Lena <lena_mcdowall@nps.gov> wrote:

Steve -

Andrea asked me to send you a copy of the latest draft of an amended NPS shutdown contingency plan. We've redrafted ours to reflect an operating posture that has us essentially starting out where we left off in the shutdown that ended 2 weeks ago. We're still waiting for comments back from ASFWP and the Assistant Secretary's office, and we still need to add in our excepted and exempt employee numbers. Assuming this draft meets with approval within the building, we still need to send it to OMB. If you have questions about anything in here, please let Jessica know.

Thanks,

Lena

--

Lena McDowall
Deputy Director, Management and Administration
Ph: 202-513-7240
Cell: 202-641-1814
Email: Lena_McDowall@nps.gov

--

Lena McDowall
Deputy Director, Management and Administration
Ph: 202-513-7240
Cell: 202-641-1814
Email: Lena_McDowall@nps.gov
Thanks. Same issue for us — have to have Federal staff to supervise volunteers. Thx. Steve

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 11, 2019, at 4:44 PM, Bowron, Jessica <jessica_bowron@nps.gov> wrote:

Volunteers are called out in two places -

Near the top of page 2, under Other Activity - Volunteer activities must be discontinued in cases where necessary oversight by NPS personnel cannot be provided. BLM's plan has a similar statement. This leaves the door open for volunteers where we can provide oversight.

Middle of page 3, under Accessible Park Areas, using FLREA funding - "Necessary management of volunteers providing the same services is also appropriate." Where NPS has staff on board paid through non-lapsing appropriations (for us, that's primarily FLREA), our volunteers can similarly stay on. SOL has provided initial review of this, but it hasn't gone to them for final review.

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329

On Mon, Feb 11, 2019 at 4:38 PM Stephen Guertin <stephen_guertin@fws.gov> wrote:
Thank you so much Lena we are particularly interested in your strategy for volunteers. Steve

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 11, 2019, at 4:30 PM, McDowall, Lena <lena_mcdowall@nps.gov> wrote:

It would help if I included the attachment - contingency plan now attached.

On Mon, Feb 11, 2019 at 4:29 PM McDowall, Lena <lena_mcdowall@nps.gov> wrote:
Steve -

Andrea asked me to send you a copy of the latest draft of an amended NPS shutdown contingency plan. We've redrafted ours to reflect an operating posture that has us essentially starting out where we left off in the shutdown that ended 2 weeks ago. We're still waiting for comments back from ASFWP and the Assistant Secretary's office, and we still need to add in our excepted and exempt employee numbers. Assuming this draft meets with approval within the building, we still need to send it to OMB. If you have questions about anything in here, please let Jessica know.

Thanks,

Lena

--

Lena McDowall
Deputy Director, Management and Administration
Ph: 202-513-7240
Cell: 202-641-1814
Email: Lena_McDowall@nps.gov

<National Park Service Contingency Plan for a Lapse in Appropriations_v5_02102019.docx>
Rebecca:

The National Park Service hires approximately 8,000 seasonal employees each summer, of which approximately 50% are non-competitive hires who have previously worked for the NPS. These non-competitive hires already meet the qualifications and requirements for the position, and require less time to recruit, hire and process than the other 50%, which comes from vacancy announcements posted via USAJobs. In 2018, 280 parks hired summer seasonals, the year before 286 parks made summer hires. We expect a similar number again this summer.

The National Park Service National Staffing Office was approximately ten weeks ahead of their summer recruitment timeline when the lapse in appropriations occurred. While the lost productivity during the shutdown will impact our hiring, the cushion they had achieved is helping to alleviate issues with summer hiring. Right now we are prioritizing the needs of the parks to determine which require their summer employees soonest, and hiring accordingly (for example, parks whose summer seasons begin the earliest are being processed first). Because the staffing office serves parks nationally, we can't say that one park is ahead or behind another.

The lapse in appropriations introduced a variety of disruptions to National Park Service (NPS) operations and activities. While we are not aware of scientific projects or programs that suffered irreparable impacts during the lapse in appropriations, NPS staff continue to evaluate implications on scientific research and monitoring. Information about the effect of the lapse on the Isle Royale wolf introduction is included in this press release about the recent departure of one of the reintroduced wolves from the island.

The focus of these efforts is to ensure that any work that was delayed gets back on track, and that shutdown related disruptions are minimized and mitigated. For example, park staff are restarting and maintaining monitoring equipment that was not serviced during the shutdown, returning to field sites to continue collecting scientific data, and ensuring our partner scientists have access to NPS units to continue their important work investigating the natural and cultural resources under the care of the NPS.

I don't have any additional information I can share regarding FLREA funds.

We are not going to speculate on the possibility of another lapse of appropriations. National parks are open and continue to welcome visitors.

Hope this helps,

Mike

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Mike Litterst
Chief Spokesperson and Chief of Public Affairs (acting)
On Mon, Feb 11, 2019 at 11:01 AM Kern, Rebecca <rKern@bloombergenvironment.com> wrote:

Hi,

I’m just re-upping this request. If you can please respond by 4 p.m. today, or at least provide partial responses.

1. How many seasonal employees does the National Park Service employ every year? What percentage of your total workforce do seasonal employees make up?

2. What percentage/total number of parks hire seasonal employees?

3. How did the 35-day government shutdown impact the NPS seasonal hiring? How delayed is the seasonal hiring process now- by how many days/months can you estimate? And at which parks?

4. What impacts did the government shutdown have on scientific research and ongoing animal studies? I understand that ongoing predator-prey study at the Isle Royale was stalled, do you have a list of other scientific studies that were impacted?

And on Wednesday you said these hadn’t yet hit your accounting, but can you give me an answer for these questions by Monday?

5. What was the total amount of funds that were used from FLREA park entrance fees during the 35-day government shutdown? What percentage of total FLREA fees were spent?

6. What was the total amount of FLREA fees available before the shutdown?
Hi Mike

I hope you’re doing well. I’m following up on my earlier request, adding in Jeremy and Faith too. If you can please respond by 4 p.m. on Mon. Feb. 11.

1. How many seasonal employees does the National Park Service employee every year? What percentage of your total workforce do seasonal employees make up?

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3. How did the 35-day government shutdown impact the NPS seasonal hiring? How delayed is the seasonal hiring process now- by how many days/months can you estimate? And at which parks?

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6. What was the total amount of FLREA fees available before the shutdown?

If you can respond by 4 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 11.

Thank you,

Rebecca Kern
Reporter

Bloomberg Environment

703-341-3715 (Office)
703-201-4953 (Signal/Cell)
rkern@bloombergenvironment.com

Hi Michael,

I hope you’re doing well. have some questions about the impact of the 35-day federal shutdown.
Three questions I needed an answer on today before 4 p.m. EST.

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2. What percentage/total number of parks hire seasonal employees?

3. How did the 35-day government shutdown impact the NPS seasonal hiring? How delayed is the seasonal hiring process now - by how many days/months can you estimate?

These questions if you’re able to answer these questions before Friday at noon EST.

1. What was the total amount of funds that were used from FLREA park entrance fees during the 35-day government shutdown? What percentage of total FLREA fees were spent?

2. What was the total amount of FLREA fees before the shutdown?

3. What impacts did the government shutdown have scientific research and ongoing? I understand that ongoing predator-prey study at the Isle Royale was stalled, do you have a list of other scientific studies that were impacted?

Thank you for your time and assistance.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Rebecca Kern
Reporter

Bloomberg Environment

703-341-3715 (Office)
Hi Todd,

Earlier today, Faith indicated that we would like to rebut the FLREA narrative through an op-ed. To that end, attached is a draft op-ed for Andrea on this topic.

Andrea and I worked on this draft together, so she has seen the attached and has cleared the text.

Jeremy, can you take a look in case anything in here is not factually accurate?

Thanks so much everyone, and thanks especially Andrea for taking the time to edit with me through the evening.
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Bowron, Jessica" <jessica_bowron@nps.gov>
Date: February 8, 2019 at 10:20:15 AM EST
To: "Earnest, Gifford" <kyle_earnest@nps.gov>
Cc: "Barnum, Jeremy" <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov>, Aaron Thiele <aaron_thiele@ios.doi.gov>, Pamela Barkin <pamela_barkin@ios.doi.gov>, Melissa Kuckro <melissa_kuckro@nps.gov>, "Farinelli, Susan" <susan_farinelli@nps.gov>, Jennifer Werner <jennifer_werner@nps.gov>, John Spernoga <john_spernoga@nps.gov>, "Litterst, Michael" <mike_litterst@nps.gov>
Subject: Re: docs related to NPS' use of FLREA during lapse

We missed one park on the earlier list - Cuyahoga Valley has been added here.

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329

On Thu, Feb 7, 2019 at 5:05 PM Earnest, Gifford <kyle_earnest@nps.gov> wrote:
I'm sending everyone an invitation for another quick call/meeting tomorrow morning (11) regarding our response to Congressional inquiries. The first deadlines are tomorrow, and I'd like to know if we have any agreement on information we can share.

I've reserved the NPS OLCA conference room (2749), but folks are also welcome to call in from their desks if that's easier (b) (5) - (b) (5).

G. Kyle Earnest
Legislative Affairs Specialist
Office of Legislative and Congressional Affairs
National Park Service
(202) 513-7258
On Wed, Feb 6, 2019 at 12:35 PM Bowron, Jessica <jessica_bowron@nps.gov> wrote:
Here's another one, hot off the presses. Other three approps corners will also get one. And I'm looking for the earliest DB memo as well.

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329

On Tue, Feb 5, 2019 at 9:27 PM Barnum, Jeremy <jeremy_barnum@nps.gov> wrote:
Attaching Dep. Director Smith's statement on the use of FLREA as well.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Tue, Feb 5, 2019 at 1:52 PM Bowron, Jessica <jessica_bowron@nps.gov> wrote:
Attached are memos/opinions/etc impacting the NPS during the lapse related to FLREA. I think this is all the formal stuff, plus some excel lists, but I'll add anything I find later. Comms folks, jump in with anything you think I missed.

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329
Jeremy Barnum  
Acting Assistant Director for Communications  
National Park Service  

Begin forwarded message:

From: Eli Nachmany <eli_nachmany@ios.doi.gov>  
Date: February 11, 2019 at 9:20:25 PM EST  
To: todd_willens@ios.doi.gov  
Cc: kate_macgregor@ios.doi.gov, john_bockmier@ios.doi.gov, russell_newell@ios.doi.gov, "Vander Voort, Faith" <faith_vandervoort@ios.doi.gov>, andrea_travnicek@ios.doi.gov, jeremy_barnum@nps.gov, john_tanner@ios.doi.gov  
Subject: DRAFT: FLREA op-ed from Andrea

Hi Todd,

Earlier today, Faith indicated that we would like to rebut the FLREA narrative through an op-ed. To that end, attached is a draft op-ed for Andrea on this topic.

Andrea and I worked on this draft together, so she has seen the attached and has cleared the text.

Jeremy, can you take a look in case anything in here is not factually accurate?

Thanks so much everyone, and thanks especially Andrea for taking the time to edit with me through the evening.
Hi all,

Attached please find a new draft of the FLREA op-ed with some redlined edits from NPS comms. Thanks Jeremy for your help on this.

--

Sincerely,

Eli Nachmany
Speechwriter, Office of Communications
U.S. Department of the Interior
(202) 706-9285
My edits in attached, as track changes.

Russell Newell
Deputy Director of Communications
U.S. Department of the Interior
(202) 208-6232
@Interior

On Tue, Feb 12, 2019 at 10:57 AM Nachmany, Eli <eli_nachmany@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

Hi all,

Attached please find a new draft of the FLREA op-ed with some redlined edits from NPS comms. Thanks Jeremy for your help on this.

--

Sincerely,

Eli Nachmany
Speechwriter, Office of Communications
U.S. Department of the Interior
(202) 706-9285
Sorry, please use this version.

Russell Newell  
Deputy Director of Communications  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 208-6232  
@Interior

On Tue, Feb 12, 2019 at 1:14 PM Newell, Russell <russell_newell@ios.doi.gov> wrote:  
Attached is ready for your review.

Russell Newell  
Deputy Director of Communications  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
(202) 208-6232  
@Interior

On Tue, Feb 12, 2019 at 12:57 PM Willens, Todd <todd_willens@ios.doi.gov> wrote:  
Send it to me after all the edits are made and you feel it is ready to be submitted.

Todd Willens  
Acting Chief of Staff  
Associate Deputy Secretary  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, NW -- MIB Room 6136  
Washington, DC  20240  
office: 202-208-6291  
NOTE: Every email I send or receive is subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act.
On Tue, Feb 12, 2019 at 12:52 PM Nachmany, Eli <eli_nachmany@ios.doi.gov> wrote:
Thanks Russ. Good here. Todd - this is the latest copy.

--

Sincerely,

Eli Nachmany
Speechwriter, Office of Communications
U.S. Department of the Interior
(202) 706-9285

On Tue, Feb 12, 2019 at 12:51 PM Newell, Russell <russell_newell@ios.doi.gov> wrote:
My edits in attached, as track changes.

Russell Newell
Deputy Director of Communications
U.S. Department of the Interior
(202) 208-6232
@Interior

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--

Sincerely,

Eli Nachmany
Speechwriter, Office of Communications
U.S. Department of the Interior
(202) 706-9285
Attaching a slightly revised version - OMB A-11 requires that we estimate the number of employees that fall into the different buckets. The table added on the bottom of the last page contains those estimates, plus comments on where they came from.

Once ASFWP approves it, it then needs to go to PMB, SOL, DOI leadership, and OMB. I'd like to get this posted no later than Thursday so parks and programs can plan ahead in the event we don't have a new approp by Friday night. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns, or if it can move on to the next step of the review process.

Jessica Bowron  
Comptroller  
National Park Service  
(o) 202-513-7138  
(c) 202-280-8329

On Mon, Feb 11, 2019 at 11:00 AM Bowron, Jessica <jessica_bowron@nps.gov> wrote:  
I added comments throughout on this version, identifying major updates or changes from the prior plan.

Jessica Bowron  
Comptroller  
National Park Service  
(o) 202-513-7138  
(c) 202-280-8329

On Sun, Feb 10, 2019 at 2:28 PM Bowron, Jessica <jessica_bowron@nps.gov> wrote:  
Andrea and Ryan,

Attached is a revised NPS contingency plan. We'll discuss this tomorrow morning. I took the old plan apart to try to make more sense of the new approach, so most of it should be pretty familiar.

I've gotten initial SOL feedback on this, but following your review and approval, it still needs to go through PMB, SOL, and 6th floor review, then OMB. Since the end of this week is still a question mark, I'd like to get it through that entire review process by COB Weds at the latest so we can roll it out to the parks on Thurs if needed.

For reference, the current contingency plan can be found at doi.gov/shutdown.

Thanks, talk with you tmrw

Jessica Bowron
Please see attached.

Jeremy K. Barnum
Acting Assistant Director for Communications
National Park Service
Office: (202) 513-7262
Mobile: (202) 617-7973
Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube
Hey Aaron - The requests from both sides (Majority and Minority) were received over the phone, rather than in writing. I can attach the incoming CRS requests, as those were sent via email.

G. Kyle Earnest  
Legislative Affairs Specialist  
Office of Legislative and Congressional Affairs  
National Park Service  
(202) 513-7258  
kyle_earnest@nps.gov

On Wed, Feb 13, 2019 at 11:54 AM Aaron Thiele <aaron_thiele@ios.doi.gov> wrote:  
Can whoever received the initial requests from HNR please forward me requests. Thanks.

On Feb 8, 2019, at 10:22 AM, Barkin, Pamela <pamela_barkin@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

January 5, 2019 Memo

Pamela Barkin  
Assistant Legislative Counsel  
Office of the Secretary of the Interior  
(202) 501-2563

On Fri, Feb 8, 2019 at 10:20 AM Bowron, Jessica <jessica_bowron@nps.gov> wrote:  
We missed one park on the earlier list - Cuyahoga Valley has been added here.

Jessica Bowron  
Comptroller  
National Park Service  
(o) 202-513-7138  
(c) 202-280-8329

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G. Kyle Earnest
Legislative Affairs Specialist
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kyle_earnest@nps.gov

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Facebook Twitter Instagram YouTube

On Tue, Feb 5, 2019 at 1:52 PM Bowron, Jessica <jessica_bowron@nps.gov> wrote:
Attached are memos/opinions/etc impacting the NPS during the lapse
related to FLREA. I think this is all the formal stuff, plus some excel lists, but I'll add anything I find later. Comms folks, jump in with anything you think I missed.

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329

<010619_Bernhardt memo on NPS funding.pdf>
Denise, per our discussion, attached is the revised NPS contingency plan. This has not yet received full ASFWP clearance, but Andrea asked me to move it forward to the next step for review.

I've attached two versions - one has comments throughout, indicating where major changes were made. The other version is clean.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Jessica Bowron
Comptroller
National Park Service
(o) 202-513-7138
(c) 202-280-8329
Respectfully Submitted

--
Blair Williamson
Lead Dispatcher
National Capital Region Communication Center
301-714-2235 (work)
301-964-0469 (cell)
Days off Monday and Tuesday
Howdy Obe,

Thank you very much for the [b] (6) [b] from the directorate! I passed it on to [b] (6) [b], who should receive it today. You'd be happy to know that [b] (6) [b] attached is a copy of DEVA's Shutdown Impacts per our discussion last week. It is a living document so not final, but represents what we know of right now.

We are excited that Stan Austin and Andrew Munoz are visiting from PWR next week to, among other things, take a look at some of the shutdown impacts here.

Thanks again for all of your help and support!

cheers,
-Mike

Mike Reynolds
Superintendent
Death Valley National Park
760-786-3240
Thanks Tammy!

On Thu, Feb 14, 2019 at 2:51 PM Duchesne, Tammy <tammy_duchesne@nps.gov> wrote:

Thanks.

I'll get on it and send to Tony and Lena for them to give green light to send forward.

Thanks

____________________________
Tammy Ann Duchesne
Harassment Prevention and Response Coordinator
National Park Service
1849 C Street, NW
Room 2356- MIB,
Washington, DC., 20240
O- 202-513-7297
Tammy_Duchesne@nps.gov
Visit the Harassment Prevention and Response web page

On Thu, Feb 14, 2019 at 2:29 PM Farinelli, Susan <susan_farinelli@nps.gov> wrote:

All,

See that we need a briefing paper on workplace harassment for the Secretary's budget hearings ASAP. You can submit the paper to me to be added to the review package.

Thanks,
Susan

Susan Farinelli
Acting Deputy Assistant Director
Office of Legislative and Congressional Affairs
National Park Service
202-513-7254

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Earnest, Gifford <kyle_earnest@nps.gov>
Date: Wed, Feb 13, 2019 at 2:06 PM
Subject: Re: Heads up, request from Briefing Statements for the Secretary's FY20 hearing
To: Peter May <peter_may@nps.gov>, Vanessa Lacayo <vanessa_lacayo@nps.gov>, Ellen Carlson <ellen_carlson@nps.gov>, Alexandra Picavet <Alexandra_Picavet@nps.gov>, Leigh Welling <leigh_welling@nps.gov>, Andrew
Hi everyone,

I have an update on the Departmental call for briefing statements.

The bad news is that we basically need to turn the Secretary level statements around immediately. The good news is that we'll be submitting relatively few statements to the Secretary, and no region is responsible for submitting more than 2 statements. Please see the updated issue list, including responsibility for initial drafting of the statement, below.

In order to meet the deadline for submitting the statements to the Department, we're asking regions to submit their Secretary level statements by tomorrow COB, or as soon as possible thereafter. Most of these statements should be in development already, but if you have any questions (about content or process) please contact your OLCA legislative specialist.

We're requesting that briefing statements for the Director's hearings be submitted by February 27, but please concentrate on the Secretary's statements first.

Best,
Kyle

Secretary Level Statements (to respective WASO OLCA leg. specialist by tomorrow COB, or as soon as possible thereafter)

- Alaska, Earthquake Damage (AKR)
- Border Parks, NPS/USPP Law Enforcement Personnel (VRP)
- Budget Request Overview, NPS (Budget)
- Deferred Maintenance (Budget w/ PPFL)
- Mississippi River HQ/St. Anthony's Lock (MWR)
- National Mall, First Amendment Regs (NCR)
- Hurricane Supplemental Status/HIM Damage (WASO Budget)
- Natural Disasters, Impacts/Status of Response (individual regional
statements on issues below will be combined by Budget/OLCA)

- AK Earthquake (AKR)
- CA Wildfires (PWR)
- HI Volcanoes (PWR)
- SER Hurricanes (SER)
- IMR Hurricanes (IMR)
- Potential NCR Land Exchanges [Oxon Cove, RFK, BWP] (NCR) RFK/Oxon Cove (NCR)
- Sexual Harassment Response, Updates (Workforce)
- Shutdown/Use of FLREA Funds (Budget)
- Shutdown/Impacts (Budget)
- USPP Bodycams (VRP)

**Director Level Statements** (to respective WASO OLCA leg. specialist by February 27)

- Alaska - Local Hire (AKR)
- Alaska - State/Federal Wildlife Management (AKR)
- Natchez Trace VC
- Martin Luther King, Jr NHS Acquisition
- Budget Briefing Statements (Budget)
- Climate Change & Parks (NRSS)
- Elwha status (PWR)
- Everglades - Ecosystem Restoration (SER)
- Fee Schedule, Changes to (Business Services)
- Fees – Proposal and Implementation
- LWCF - State and Federal (SLAP & PPFL)
- Memorial Bridge Repairs (NCR)
- New Parks (bullet on Antiquities Act/Monument Review but that wouldn’t be the focus)
- Overflights – Olympic and Ebeys Landing [2 statements] (PWR)
- Point Reyes - Ranching (PWR)
Hi everyone,

Please accept my apologies for not sending this follow-up email sooner.

With the shutdown, the previous deadlines for supplying updated briefing statements have already passed. We haven't received any further guidance from the Department on an updated timeline, but I would suggest continuing to review/update the listed statements at your earliest possible convenience, and we'll provide an update on timing as soon as we know more.

Some of the events during the shutdown will probably lead to the need for new briefing statements. OLCA and Budget will review the previous list with the Director's hallway, but if you have any suggestions for statements that you believe should be added or deleted, please feel free to pass that along to me or your regular OLCA point of contact.

Again, I'm sorry for not getting this out sooner, and thank you all for your patience and flexibility. I'll hopefully have more to share soon.

Best,
Kyle

G. Kyle Earnest
Legislative Affairs Specialist
Office of Legislative and Congressional Affairs
National Park Service
(202) 513-7258
kyle_earnest@nps.gov

On Fri, Dec 21, 2018 at 4:41 PM Earnest, Gifford <kyle_earnest@nps.gov> wrote:

Hey folks,
I know this is the last thing on anyone's mind right now, but I wanted to let you know that we received the request from the Department this week for briefing statements for the FY20 budget hearings. Assuming the timeline doesn't change (which, if there's a shutdown, it could), the Secretary level statements are due to the Department on January 25th.

For your awareness, I've been working with the folks in the budget office to develop a preliminary list of statements to request of the field. We'll probably need to expand or refine the list as we get closer to the hearings and the makeup of the Committees is determined, but we wanted to give you an idea of the statements that will likely be requested.

As in past years, we'll be asking for the statements in two phases: first, a very short list of statements that we'll be sharing with the Secretary (see below; tentatively due to WASO OLCA by Jan 11), and then an expanded list of statements for the Director (see below; tentatively due to WASO OLCA by February 1).

I'll send more detailed instructions about which regions/programs are responsible for which statements and how to submit these statements through QABECS next week and I'll follow up again in the new year.

**Secretary Level Statements (will tentatively be due to WASO OLCA by January 11)**

- Alaska, Earthquake Damage (AKR)
- RFK/Oxon Cove (NCR)
- Budget Request Overview, NPS (WASO Budget)
- Deferred Maintenance (WASO Budget w/ WASO PPFL)
- Hurricane Supplemental Status/HIM Damage (WASO Budget)
- Mississippi River HQ/St. Anthony's Lock (MWR)
- National Mall, First Amendment Regs (NCR)
- Sexual Harassment Response, Updates (Workforce)

**Director Level Statements (will tentatively be due to WASO OLCA by February 1)**

- Alaska - Local Hire
- Alaska - State/Federal Wildlife Management
- Natchez Trace VC
- Martin Luther King, Jr NHS Acquisition
- Budget Briefing Statements - TBD
- Everglades - Ecosystem Restoration
- Fees - Proposal and Implementation
- Hawaii Volcano Damage
- LWCF - State and Federal
- Memorial Bridge Repairs
New Parks (bullet on Antiquities Act/Monument Review but that wouldn’t be the focus)
• Olympic - Overflights
• Sexual Harassment Response
• Wildfires (NPS Specific)
• Yosemite - Intellectual Property, Concessions
• Commercial Services - Visitor Experience Improvement Authority
• Business Services - Changes to Fee Schedule
• USPP – Bodycams
• WWII Valor – Damage to Pier

Best,
Kyle

G. Kyle Earnest
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---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Salotti, Christopher <chris_salotti@ios.doi.gov>
Date: Wed, Dec 19, 2018 at 12:21 PM
Subject: Planning and information needs for the FY 2020 budget season ..

All -

It's time to start planning for the FY 2020 budget hearings.

Current expectation is that the budget roll out and hearing schedule will be in line with a typical year, with a roll out during the 1st week in February. This means that hearings before Appropriations Committees, SENR, and HNR could occur anywhere from late that week to sometime in early March, depending on schedules.

The desire is to focus Department-level hearings on big picture issues or issues that have been identified as important to Committee members, leaving the truly parochial issues to post-hearing QFR or staff follow-up.

As in the past, we’d first like to develop a list of issues for both sets of hearings - authorizers and appropriators, and follow that with briefing papers detailing those issues.

We are generally looking for issues that the Department's CL offices (and programs) are aware of or that have been raised by Members during meetings, authorizing committee oversight and legislative hearings, correspondence, etc., that are important to members and that could be raised to the Secretary at these hearings.

In order to reduce duplication, please make sure you are coordinating with your bureau budget offices; we will be coordinating with the Department's Budget Office. At the same time, we have to set deadlines and we
have to make sure the process is moving forward. So, when the time comes, we will need the information regardless of what stage of clearance it is in or who is currently reviewing it.

With that in mind, here is what we need and when:

1. Please identify any issues you think may be relevant for these hearings, whether they have been raised by Committee members at briefings/meetings, in correspondence, or received significant press. Provide me with a list of those issues by COB on Friday, January 11, 2018. We will review with the Department’s Budget Office and figure out if we have anything to add. Let me know if you want me to forward to you the list you sent us last year;

2. We will let you know shortly after we receive and review your lists what additional papers and other information we may need you to develop. For the time being, let’s shoot to have any papers developed for those issues you all have identified as important (in addition to any information we may request) by COB on Friday, January 25, 2018. And for this one, too, let me know if you want me to provide you with the papers we finalized last year.

We’ll plan to use the same format that we’ve used in the past.

We will work with you to try to keep the prep work to a minimum and to use existing information where we can. As noted above, timing could also change. As dates become clearer we will let you know and adjust the schedule accordingly.

For the briefing paper format, please use Times New Roman, 12 point type for these papers and present the information in bullet format. Please try to limit each paper to just the key facts, one page maximum. Be forewarned: we will return briefing papers to you if they are not in this format or if they are longer than one page!!

Again, we are looking for general interest or member-related issues that you reasonably believe could be an issue at this hearing.

If you have any questions, work with your attorney in this office or feel free to e-mail me.

--

Christopher P. Salotti
Legislative Counsel
U.S. Department of the Interior
Phone: 202.208.1403

G. Kyle Earnest
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