



## 100th Anniversary Celebration



### 100 Years of Rocky Mountain National Park

On September 4, 1915, hundreds of people gathered in Horseshoe Park to celebrate the dedication of America's newest playground, Rocky Mountain National Park. Signed into law on January 26 of that same year by President Woodrow Wilson, Rocky Mountain National Park would forever protect the incredible resources found within its boundaries so that future generations might also benefit from its beauty and wildness.

Over the years, Rocky Mountain National Park has continued to delight and inspire visitors from down the street and around the world with spectacular scenery and recreational opportunities.

As the 100 year anniversary of its creation approaches, Rocky Mountain National Park will be planning events and working with partners and surrounding communities to commemorate the events and relationships that have made the park what it is today.

By celebrating the past, the resources that are protected here and the people who have found connections to them can look forward to another 100 years of Rocky Mountain National Park.

### A Year of Celebration

In order to accommodate the greatest variety of events possible, celebration of the Rocky Mountain National Park 100th Anniversary will begin on September 4, 2014, and will continue until September 4, 2015.

Over the course of the year, a calendar of events will be offered by the park, local organizations, and surrounding communities to celebrate Rocky Mountain National Park's natural and cultural history and the relationships that have developed over the last 100 years. Please visit our website (address below) for the updated schedule of events.

### Get Involved



Official 100th Anniversary Logo

Starting in 2013, businesses and organizations may apply to have their programs and events included in the Rocky Mountain National Park 100th Anniversary Celebration.

Applicants must be able to show the connection between their program/event and the Rocky Mountain National Park 100th Anniversary. Approved programs and events will be added to the Calendar of Centennial Events and may use the 100th Anniversary Signature (logo and slogan). Special rules may apply.

Vendors may apply to use the 100th Anniversary Signature on appropriate products. Interested parties should visit the 100th Anniversary website for guidelines, applications forms, and additional information:

[http://www.nps.gov/romo/planyourvisit/100th\\_anniversary.htm](http://www.nps.gov/romo/planyourvisit/100th_anniversary.htm)

Look for the 100th Anniversary Signature on official 100th Anniversary programs, events, and products.

### Find Out More

For questions about 100th Anniversary planning, please visit our website or email [ROMO\\_100th\\_Anniversary@nps.gov](mailto:ROMO_100th_Anniversary@nps.gov)

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## A Brief History of Rocky Mountain National Park

10,000 BC	Clovis Paleoindian hunters enter the park as the glaciers retreat.
1200-1300	Ute enter North Park, Middle Park, and Rocky Mountain National Park.
1800?	Arapaho make first appearance in the park.
1820	Stephen A. Long Expedition travels the plains and are the first non-Indians to see Longs Peak. Records of his expedition provide some information about the park.
1858	Joel Estes enters what is now Estes Park and starts a ranch.
1874	Abner Sprague homesteads in Moraine Park and builds Sprague's Ranch (later Stead's Ranch) and establishes tourism and dude ranching in the park.
1895-1935	Grand Ditch is built to bring water from Never Summer Range across La Poudre Pass and down the Cache Le Poudre to the plains for agriculture.
1907	Enos Mills, James Grafton Rodgers, and others begin lobbying for the establishment of Rocky Mountain National Park.
1914	Arapaho pack trip provides 30 Indian names for mountains and other topographic features in the park - trip published by Oliver Toll in 1962.
<b>1915</b>	<b>January 26 - Rocky Mountain National Park created by Congress (16 USC 191).</b>
<b>1915</b>	<b>September 4 - Rocky Mountain National Park dedicated in Horseshoe Park.</b>
1916	August 25 - Organic Act establishing National Park Service is enacted by Congress.
1929-1933	Trail Ridge Road constructed.
1936	Hidden Valley becomes a ski area; closed in 1992 and removed by 2002.
1937-1947	Colorado-Big Thompson Project and Alva B. Adams tunnel completed under park.
1977	Inclusion in the international system of Biosphere Reserves (UNESCO)
1978	Establishment and designation of the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail, including sections within RMNP (Public Law 95-625)
1982	Lawn Lake dam collapses - flood kills 3 people and severely impacts Estes Park.
1986	Designation of the Cache la Poudre River within RMNP (14 miles as Wild River) as a unit of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System
1996	Designation of Trail Ridge Road as an All American Road by the U.S. Department of Transportation (National Scenic Byways Program) and designated as a State Scenic Byway.
2000	New Fall River Visitor Center opens. Congressional act required to allow private company to build visitor center outside the park, with NPS staff.
2003	Grand Ditch breach occurs.
2004	Hidden Valley reopens for winter sledding and summer picnics.
2007	Final Elk and Vegetation Management Plan/EIS released. Record of Decision signed February 2008.
2009	March 30 - Addition of approximately 249,339 acres of RMNP in the National Wilderness Preservation System (Public Law 111-11)
2010	Trail Ridge Road resurfaced.
2012-2013	Bear Lake Road resurfacing completes the reconstruction or resurfacing of all major paved roads in the park in the last ten years.

For more history of Rocky Mountain National Park, please visit <http://www.nps.gov/romo/historyculture/stories.htm>