



Preserving National Parks for the 21st Century

The National Park System includes 419 units across the country, covering more than 85 million acres. These diverse sites contain historic buildings, battlefields, recreation facilities, monuments, trails, and roads along with significant natural and cultural resources. Maintaining our infrastructure and addressing our maintenance backlog is critical to our core mission and remains a top priority. Please find a snapshot of our work below.

Invest in Our Visitors

VISITOR FACILITIES:

We reduced **\$201 million in building maintenance backlog** across approximately 65% of park units.

EXAMPLE:



Mount Rainier National Park's Paradise Inn (WA)

has welcomed nearly 2 million guests during its century-long service. More than 500 workers worked on preserving the historic features of the inn while modernizing it to current building safety codes. This project reduced more than \$5 million in deferred maintenance.

VISITOR ACCESS:

We reduced **\$213 million in transportation maintenance backlog** on more than 1,000 transportation assets such as paved and unpaved roads, parking areas, bridges, and tunnels.

EXAMPLE:



The Great Smoky Mountains National Park (NC and TN)

completed an additional 16 miles of the planned 72 miles of the Foothills Parkway located in Tennessee. With this recent opening, visitors can now enjoy a total of 39 miles of the proposed 72 mile Foothills Parkway corridor.

IMPROVE BACKBONE INFRASTRUCTURE:

We reduced **\$56 million in water and wastewater systems maintenance backlog** across 108 park units. These activities are essential to the behind-the-scenes operations that contribute to positive visitor experiences.

EXAMPLE:



Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks (CA)

commissioned a surface water treatment plant to replace failing ground water well. Designed to meet a peak daily water demand of 72,000 gallons per day, serving 326 campsites, concessions lodge and market/shower complex, fire station, maintenance facility and 19 employee housing units, and more.

Preserve Our History

IMPROVE MAINTAINED LANDSCAPES:

We reduced **\$28 million in managed landscapes maintenance backlog** across 176 park units.

Retired Deferred Maintenance:

Definition = The estimated cost of all deferred maintenance work orders closed out in a given fiscal year.



Valley Forge National Historical Park (PA)

is investing \$14 million in future improvements including a fully renovated visitor center, new exhibits, and an expanded trail system that will add 3.4 miles of grass and gravel trail. You'll also experience two flagstone overlooks, a meadow shelter and new plantings. These significant projects will immerse the park's 2.1 million annual visitors in the park's history.

Enhance Recreational Opportunities

MODERNIZE CAMPGROUNDS:

We reduced **\$11 million in campgrounds maintenance** backlog across 57 park units.



As part of a \$40 million private donation, **Acadia National Park (ME)** offers a new modern campground that is generally 80% occupied during open season. It offers new bike trails, day use parking, a welcome center, an operating endowment, and more. Total cost included purchasing the campground land for \$12 million.

REHABILITATE TRAILS:

We reduced **\$52 million in trail maintenance** backlog across 146 park units.



Grand Teton National Park (WY) completed \$5 million multi-year backcountry trail project that among other items reduces congestion, provides larger boat docks, increased restroom facilities, interpretive elements, and disabled accessibility. All of which was done with low impact construction techniques decreasing the environmental impact and adding a 70+ year lifespan.

Improve in Our Workplace

IMPROVE HOUSING INFRASTRUCTURE:

We reduced **\$18 million in housing maintenance** backlog across 136 park units.



At **Boston National Historical Park**, NPS is investing \$652,000 to replace roofs on the historic Marine Barracks that house offices and park housing.



In the past five years there have been about **1.6 billion recreational visits to national parks.**

How Parks impact your community



Visitor spending in communities near national parks in 2018 resulted in a **\$40.1 billion benefit** to the nation's economy and **supported 329,000 jobs.**

By the numbers around the National Park System in 2018:

Parks with high visitation that also have high deferred maintenance.

- Great Smoky Mountains National Park
- Grand Canyon National Park
- Yellowstone National Park
- Yosemite National Park
- Rocky Mountain National Park
- National Mall and Memorial Parks

13,950,759
overnight stays



28 parks
set a new record
for visitation

17 parks
broke a record
they set in 2017



9 parks have more than
5 million recreation visits



77 parks had more than
1 million recreation visits



Footnotes

- DM reduced: The estimated cost of all deferred maintenance work orders closed out in a given fiscal year.
- In 2018, the NPS also reduced \$92 million in deferred maintenance associated with the following asset types that are not shown in the fact sheet above: utility systems, dams, constructed waterways, marinas, aviation systems, railroads, ships, monuments, fortifications, towers, interpretive media and amphitheatres.
- The project examples used may include both deferred maintenance and capital improvement work.