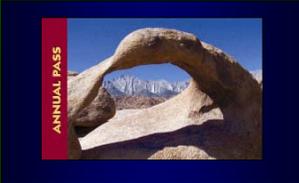


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# America the Beautiful

The  
National Parks  
& Federal  
Recreational  
Lands Pass  
Program



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## Today's Goals

- Provide updates and clarification on the pass program and pending legislation that could affect the program
- Provide general information to ensure there is consistency in pass issuance and acceptance among the agencies
- Answer your questions

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## What a First Year!

- Congratulations to all sites for making a smooth transition to the new program
  - 4 new passes
  - 5 Bureaus
  - Over 2000 field sites
- To date almost 2 million Interagency passes have been shipped to field sites
- Over \$25 million in pass sales revenue

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### Program Improvements

- Mid-season we changed the pass thickness
- We have changed the hangtags to a synthetic material
- Wording on the back of the Access and Senior passes was changed to reduce confusion.
- Online ordering available to field sites

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### Interagency Pass Program – Updates

- SOP has been updated
  - Marketing Policy
  - FAQs
  - Statement of Disability now expires Feb 2011
- NPS Upgrades

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### Motorcycles

- The number of signature lines determines how many motorcycles may enter per pass.
  - Annual = 2 motorcycles, both drivers must have signed the pass
  - Senior, Access and Volunteer = One motorcycle

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### All passes...

- Cover entrance to FWS and NPS sites that charge an Entrance Fee
- Cover use of BLM, Reclamation, and FS sites that charge a Standard Amenity Fee
- Admits a single non-commercial vehicle (cars) at sites that charge per vehicle
- Admits the pass holder and 3 additional adults at sites that charge per person

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### Interagency Annual Pass



- Available to anyone - \$80
- Should be available at all sites that charge an entrance or standard amenity fee
- Validate the pass by punching the current month at the time of sale
- Any two people can sign a pass, the second signature may be added at anytime
- Pass valid 12 months from month of issue

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### Interagency Senior Pass



- Must be purchased in person - \$10
- Must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident age 62 or older.
- Must show proof of age
- May only have one signature
- 50% discount on some expanded amenity fees
  - visitors should always be encouraged to check locally for discount information

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### Interagency Access Pass



- A Lifetime pass - free to US Citizens or permanent residents regardless of age
- A medical determination and documentation of blindness or permanent disability is required
- May only have one signature
- 50% discount on some expanded amenity fees
  - visitors should always be encouraged to check locally for discount information

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### Interagency Access Pass

- Applicant must show proof of permanent disability and residency OR Be offered the opportunity to read and sign the Statement of Disability
- There is no specific percentage of disability that qualifies a person
- If a person is unable to sign a card a parent or guardian may sign the card

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### Interagency Volunteer Pass



- A free pass for to volunteers who contribute 500 hours
- Only one signature
- Pass should be punched at the time of issue
- Volunteer coordinators/supervisors are responsible for tracking volunteer hours.
- Volunteer coordinators should work with whomever orders passes for the recreation site to obtain passes

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### Understanding the 500 hour requirement

- 500 hours contributed after January 1, 2007
- After a pass is awarded a volunteer must give an additional 500 hours to be awarded another pass
- A volunteer may only be awarded one pass per 12 month period
- Volunteer hours earned reset to zero once a pass is issued

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### Brooke's Volunteer Hours

2008 2009 2010  
J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D

500 Hours  
1,075 Hours (Nov to Oct – 12 mnths)  
400 Hours (Nov to Oct – 12 mnths)

Brooke is recognized with a pass and her hours are reset to zero.  
Brooke is recognized with a pass and her hours reset to zero.  
Brooke needs to volunteer an additional 100 hours to be recognized with another pass

★ = Awarded Volunteer Pass  
✂ = not awarded Volunteer Pass

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### Interagency Volunteer Pass

- DOI and USDA are creating databases to assist sites in tracking a volunteers hours – More information will be forthcoming from the Interagency Volunteer Managers

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### Hangtags and Decals

- Decals
  - Two per Annual, One per Volunteer pass
  - Due to logistical issues Senior and Access decals are not available
- Hangtags
  - If possible should be issued with every pass issued

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### Determining the Correct Pass

- As time allows, ask questions
- The NPS is the only agency offering upgrades
- Helping visitors to make the right decision is very important



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### Old Golden and National Parks Passes

- Golden Passports and National Parks Passes should no longer be issued for any reason
- All old stock should be destroyed



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### Old Passes Continued

- Paper Golden Age and Access passes remain valid
- Paper pass holders may exchange their card for the new plastic, but are not required
- If a paper pass holder exchanges his pass for a plastic, the old paper card must be collected

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### Section One Concludes

- Question and Answer Period

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### Photo Contest

- This is a chance for your agency and your site to shine for a year
- Are there publications at your site that could include information on the contest?
- Contest generally runs Memorial day to Dec. 31
- More information can be found at:  
<http://www.sharetheexperience.org>



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### Internet Pass Sales

- USGS remains the Official Internet Sales Provider
- Field sites may not enter into agreements for Annual Pass internet sales
- Third Parties may enter into an agreement with the National Pass Program office for internet sales
- Sites should work with their regional or national office for guidance on site specific pass internet sales

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### Why Internet sales are important

- Revenue from Internet/Central sales is used to pay for overhead and production costs for the program
- Previously under the National Parks Pass program NPS sites were assessed 15% of each sale to cover overhead
- Now field sites only have to pay shipping

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### Pass Revenue

- Overall the new program has had a positive impact on revenue
  - Pass sales for FS totaled \$2.1M last year, a 23% increase over Golden sales in 2006
  - The number of Annual Passes sold by NPS was down, but all other revenue types were up

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### The Army Corps of Engineers

- The USACE was not included in REA but they have decided to continue to offer camping discounts
- We have started to develop a list of the sites that sell the different types of passes
- We need your help

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### Legislation Update

- The “Fee Repeal and Expanded Access Act” has been introduced in Congress
- The bill repeals most of REA
- Provides a new authority for NPS to collect and retain user fees
- Reinstates LWCF for BLM and FS
- Reinstates EWRA for FWS

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### Legislation Update

- The “Veterans Eagle Park Pass Act” has been introduced into the Senate
- Would make a \$10 Interagency Annual Pass available to discharged military personnel
- If the bill is passed it will likely be amended to include active duty service members

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### The Pass and Concessionaires

- Concessionaires honor the passes under terms and conditions of their contract
- FS concessionaires are not required to honor the passes at day use areas.
- Most FS campground concessionaires will honor the Senior and Access passes for a discount at campgrounds
- NPS campground concessionaires vary

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### Discounts and Pass Acceptance by Concessionaires

- When issuing a pass or informing a pass holder about potential discounts, remind visitors that they should check with the site they plan to visit to determine if their pass will be accepted and what discounts are offered

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### Collecting Information & Reporting

- Every 3 years REA requires a report to Congress on the fee program
- Sites will be asked to provide information on revenue, pass sales and projects
- DOI Office of the Inspector General will be auditing the department fee program

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### On-line Course Evaluation

Complete the evaluation at

- [www.nps.gov/training/tel](http://www.nps.gov/training/tel)
- Click on the DOI Learn tab
- Go to the link under Class Evaluations for *Updates on the Interagency Pass Program*

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### On-line Course Evaluation

- Complete the evaluation within 2 weeks of the course, by May 8
- Sign the Attendance Roster

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