

Coalition Briefs  
January 2017

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# The Coalition To Protect America's National Parks

*Voices of Experience*

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## CPANP Approves Strategic Plan for 2018-2020

The Executive Council has approved a new organizational strategic plan for 2018-2020. To read the final version, follow the link below.

### [Read the Strategic Plan](#)

## 2017 Hartzog and 1872 Award Recipients

Each year, the Coalition selects recipients of the George Hartzog and 1872 awards.

The Hartzog Award is given annually by the Coalition to an individual who has made significant contributions to the National Park System and Service. This year we have selected Kurt Repanshek. Kurt is founder and CEO of the National Parks Traveler that has 1.6 million readers annually. Kurt has been a strong supporter of and advocate for the National Park system and has raised important issues and concerns about the management of the parks. His efforts have raised awareness of challenges facing our

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parks and have been an important component of the ongoing dialogue about preserving parks for future generations.

The 1872 award is given annually by the Coalition to an individual for their outstanding service and support for the mission of the Coalition. This year, we have selected outgoing Executive Council Chair, Maureen Finnerty. Maureen has served on the Executive Council for the past twelve years, six of which she served as Chair. Maureen has led a wide variety of advocacy for parks and the National Park System has remained a central focus of the Coalition. Efforts to influence decision-making that protect park values have included input to the courts of law, the court of public opinion, Congress, and other land management agencies.

## Learn More About Recipients

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### Coalition Participates in Telepresser on the 2008 “Utah 77” Oil and Gas Leases

On December 20, 2017, Coalition member and former NPS Utah State Coordinator Cordell Roy participated in a telephonic press conference (telepresser) with members of the news media press to commemorate the anniversary of the controversial “Utah 77” oil and gas leases that were issued in 2008 in the Moab (UT) area. Hear the full audio of the telepresser at the link below.

## Listen to the Telepresser

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## Success Story: BLM Defers Leasing Oil and Gas Parcel Near Theodore Roosevelt NP

### Membership Update

The Coalition's membership currently stands at **1,430** members.

The Bureau of Land Management, citing the need to further consider concerns voiced in public comments, has decided to defer leasing an oil and gas parcel near the boundary of the North Unit of Theodore Roosevelt National Park. Click “Learn More” for additional information about BLM’s decision.

[Learn More about Decision](#)

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## Testimony Before the House Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, Committee on Natural Resources

Deny Galvin, Advisor to the Coalition to Protect America’s National Parks, provided testimony during a hearing regarding the proposed reorganization of the Department of the Interior. There have been limited details of the proposal released to the public, including the goals of the reorganization, the cost to the department, or its effect on the department and the various bureaus within. Read the testimony at the link below.

[Read the Testimony](#)

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## What We’re Reading & Tracking This Month

The Coalition has actively been expressing concern with the growing number of federal efforts to undermine the protection of new and

existing national monuments. Trump's move to eliminate national monument protection at Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante leaves the lands in federal hands -- but how they would be managed is very different. The move has gotten a lot of attention across media and new audiences are learning what these changes actually mean. Teen Vogue recently wrote an [article](#) describing the changes.

Betty Reid Soskin, a political and community activist was recognized by President Obama and awarded the silver service medallion by the National WWII Museum. She also happens to be America's oldest active national park ranger. *Travel and Leisure* recently featured a [story](#) on her.

Looking for some inspiration to spur on a national park adventure this winter? National Park Foundation has got you covered. [Read](#) about winter sports in 10 national parks.

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