With all that happened in 2018, it’s no wonder it was our busiest year yet. The scope and scale of our work is always increasing. Year after year we’re breaking the record number of actions set the year before. For example, we took 59 actions in 2017. Going further back, we took 16 actions in 2014. As a result of the continuous threats to our public lands and confusion over policy and procedure that plagued this administration and Congress, we took a record 92 actions in 2018. The Coalition celebrated our fifteenth year and it’s very clear how important our voices are in the fight to protect our public lands.

Though we remain frustrated by the actions and inactions taken in Washington, there are reasons to be optimistic going in to 2019. Our membership numbers continue to grow. In the past three years, we’ve added over 500 members to our ranks. In 2019, we’re aiming to cross the 2,000 member mark. Additionally, we’ve added to our staff by hiring a Communications & Advocacy Coordinator, Emily Thompson, who is focused on increasing our presence in the media and on the Hill. With the start of the 116th Congress, there is hope that the progress made on legislation to reauthorize the Land and Water Conservation Fund and fund the maintenance backlog will continue and finally cross the finish line.

In the current political climate, we are pulled in every direction. Some people in power are pushing our parks and practices backwards. Others are trying to sidestep difficult conversations. Still more are just hoping to stand still and let the threats pass. But we are not standing by. We will continue to go forward. We will continue to argue, persuade, cultivate, and empower.

Each year, as our capacity and platform grows, we’re better placed to take necessary actions on the issues affecting our parks and workforce. As the Voices of Experience, no organization matches our deep expertise and unique perspective. We should be proud of the time and energy we’ve all committed to our national parks. But, if we don’t use that experience to make an impact on the issues, our collective power will be wasted.

No matter what direction we are pulled, I promise you that the Coalition leadership will remain focused on protecting and preserving our parks. We will continue to inform, to fight, to partner, to lead. While others are moving backwards or stand to the side, we’re headed onwards and upwards. Thank you for continuing to be part of our movement.

Photo of George Washington statue in U.S. Capitol rotunda by Matt H. Wade/CC-BY-SA-3.0
No Place for the Weary Kind

In December, the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit ruled against the U.S. Forest Service, who permitted the Atlantic Coast Pipeline to cross two national forests. The three-judge panel used a quote from The Lorax by Dr. Seuss, writing “we trust the United States Forest Service to speak for the trees, for the trees have no tongues.”

The Coalition to Protect America’s National Parks has been speaking not only for the trees but for all the cultural and natural resources “contained therein,” fighting to ensure that these precious resources are left unimpaired for the enjoyment of current visitors and future generations.

Thanks to the great work of our volunteer Executive Council, our staff—Amy Gilbert, Emily Thompson, Steve Pittleman—our outstanding attorney, Don Baur, our members, supporters, and numerous partners, we have been involved in 92 issues in 2018. This incredible figure surpasses last year’s record number of actions by 50%.

Unfortunately, there are more issues and challenges in front of us. While we celebrate our successes, we are ready to continue the fight. The political landscape is changing and 2019 promises to be another interesting year. As Ryan Bingham sings “…this ain’t no place for the weary kind.”

Thank you for your support. Without you, our “voices of experience” wouldn’t be heard. As you all know, there is a lot more that needs to be said in defense of our NPS employees and our national parks and public lands.

Happy New Year!

2018 Coalition Financial Summary

Revenue & Expenses Both Rise

Due to the generosity of its members, supporters and partners, the Coalition to Protect America’s National Parks (Coalition) successfully ended 2018 with a positive financial position. In 2018, total assets increased by 39.75% from 2017, allowing for an increase in the necessary and critical working capital to fund improved legislative affairs, legal affairs, advocacy and policy, media and communications, education and specific issue support.

In 2018, the Coalition was able to dedicate 72% of total expenses toward mission related programs.

While 2018 was financially successful, it was also the organization’s most active, productive and costly year as well. Going forward, the Coalition remains extremely reliant on the generosity of its members, supporters and partners and it is tremendously appreciative of—and thankful for—the grants and contributions it receives each year.

Support
Total revenue: $274,229

Program Expenses
Total program expenses: $150,923

Administrative, Fundraising, and Operational Expenses
Total administration and operational expenses: $42,766

Membership
Coalition membership continued to increase throughout 2018 with an annual growth of approximately 14%
2018 Issues Committee Report: A Year of Action

As reported a year ago, the Coalition took action on almost 60 issues during 2017, a then-record year of productivity for the Issues Committee and the many Coalition members who contributed to this important work. Not surprisingly, 2018 held an even more demanding issues workload with over 90 actions taken. Our 2018 efforts focused mainly on “defense of public lands” work — responding to the Administration’s many bad management decisions and proposed rule changes that would open up public lands to increased commercial exploitation or dramatically weaken essential protections. The Coalition also proactively advocated for adequate funding for the National Park Service and pushed for reauthorization of the Land and Water Conservation Fund. This high level of productivity in defense of our national parks has truly been a team effort, with not only Issues Committee members stepping up to handle the increased workload, but also numerous Coalition members contributing to the collective effort. Here is a listing of 2018 Coalition actions by category:

**Conserving Plants and Wildlife**

- The Coalition commented to U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service regarding a court ruling that raised legal questions about the delisting of Yellowstone grizzly bears; submitted 2018/01/04; goo.gl/qZMJDg
- The Coalition commented on the Wyoming Game and Fish Department’s proposal to institute sport hunting of recently delisted Yellowstone grizzly bears near Yellowstone and Grand Teton national parks; submitted 2018/04/24; goo.gl/YLoqqi
- 165 Coalition members signed a letter to Wyoming Governor Matt Mead opposing the State’s planned Yellowstone grizzly bear hunt; submitted 2018/04/26; goo.gl/sjQtSa
- The Coalition commented on the Wyoming Game and Fish Department’s proposed revisions to its gray wolf hunting regulations near Yellowstone and Grand Teton national parks; submitted 2018/05/09; goo.gl/6UuN8k
- The Coalition wrote the NPS Alaska Regional Director regarding the agency’s failure to release in a timely manner an environmental assessment (EA) for a controversial proposed repeal of certain hunting and trapping regulations in Alaska national preserves; submitted 2018/09/05; goo.gl/TQqVij
- The Coalition commented on continued on page 4
Conserving Plants and Wildlife continued from page 3

NPS’s proposed rule that would open Alaska’s national preserves to controversial hunting practices that target predator species; submitted 2018/09/24; goo.gl/wkGCna


The Coalition commented to NPS on the proposed gathering of sochan (a native plant) at Great Smoky Mountains National Park; submitted 2018/12/13; protectnps.org/coalition-comments-on-sochan-gathering-in-grsm

The Coalition commented on a flawed NPS environmental assessment of potential impacts for the proposed rule that would open Alaska’s national preserves to controversial hunting practices that target predator species; submitted 2018/11/06; goo.gl/pNWzAX

Protection of our National Monuments

The Coalition and NPCA jointly submitted scoping comments on the BLM’s proposed Monument Management Plan for the drastically downsized Bears Ears National Monument in Utah; submitted 2018/04/11; goo.gl/f5zZAd

The Coalition and NPCA jointly submitted scoping comments on BLM’s proposed Monument Management Plan for the significantly downsized Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument in Utah; submitted 2018/04/13; goo.gl/8pcSN4

The Coalition and NPCA commented on BLM’s proposed “multiple use” Monument Management Plan for the downsized Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument; submitted 2018/11/16; goo.gl/LqYT5j


Clean Air & Climate

The Coalition commented on the Council on Environmental Quality’s (CEQ) proposed changes to its National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) implementing regulations; submitted 2018/07/30; goo.gl/1Nrxgq

The Coalition joined 79 other groups in a joint letter opposing the EPA’s proposed repeal of the 2015 Clean Power Plan rule, which provided robust air emission standards for existing coal-fired power plants; submitted 2018/11/05; goo.gl/hvKff8

The Coalition joined NPCA and the Appalachian Mountain Club in commenting on the EPA’s proposed Affordable Clean Energy Rule, which would allow increased greenhouse gas emissions from U.S. power plants; submitted 2018/11/12; protectnps.org/epas-proposed-affordable-clean-energy-rule-would-be-bad-for-parks

The Coalition partnered with NPCA and the Appalachian Mountain Club to comment on the EPA’s proposed repeal of the Clean Power Plan (CPP) rule; submitted 2018/04/26; goo.gl/mr795D

Climate Change

Driven by the Trump Administration’s constant waffles on the existence of climate change and its cause, the Coalition continues to comment, publish, and highlight the devastating impacts climate change has had on our national parks. We have shared numerous stories from across the nation in our weekly updates. Coalition Executive Council Member Richard Ring’s letter to the editor in the Florida Sun-Sentinel expressed concern over Everglades National Park and the 10 other units of the National Park System in Florida that are in grave jeopardy due to the ongoing impacts of climate change. Mike Murray, also a member of the Coalition’s Executive Council, encouraged readers to “visit a national park to see the real impacts of climate change,” in an op-ed published in The Hill. We use every opportunity to share stories on our website and social media. Climate change is an ongoing threat that will continue to hold a prominent focus for our organization.
The Coalition commented on the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement’s (BSEE) proposal to weaken the 2016 offshore Oil and Gas Production Safety Systems Rule; submitted 2018/01/29; goo.gl/LSuGup
• The Coalition commented to the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) regarding its proposal to open 98% of the Outer Continental Shelf to oil and gas exploration and development; submitted 2018/02/12; goo.gl/pkqfb
• The Coalition requested an extension of an unreasonably brief (15-day) public comment period on BLM’s proposed oil and gas leasing near Great Sand Dunes National Park & Preserve; published on website 2018/04/03; goo.gl/oFc2Sa
• The Coalition commented on BLM’s proposed oil and gas lease sale near Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve; submitted 2018/04/05; goo.gl/MSnAMW
• The Coalition commented on BSEE’s proposal to weaken the 2016 Blowout Preventer and Well Control Rule; submitted 2018/06/22; goo.gl/Ko1CsT
• The Coalition commented on BLM’s proposed oil and gas lease sale near Carlsbad Caverns National Park; submitted 2018/07/30; goo.gl/1fMKog
• The Coalition joined over 50 groups in submitting a joint letter to the BSEE opposing changes that would weaken the existing Well Control Rule; submitted 2018/08/08; goo.gl/o61KQs
• The Coalition wrote NPS Acting Director Dan Smith voicing concern about the Atlantic Coast Pipeline and a permit granted by NPS to allow the natural gas pipeline to be constructed across the Appalachian Trail and the Blue Ridge Parkway; submitted 2018/11/12; goo.gl/9d3HGE

Preserving Wilderness
• The Coalition commented to the National Park Service (NPS) regarding the proposed construction of “Ambler Road” in Gates of the Arctic National Park; submitted 2018/01/29; goo.gl/pG646
• The Coalition commented to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) regarding its Notice of Intent to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed Ambler Road project; submitted January 31, 2018; protectnps.org/coalition-submits-scoping-comments-to-blm-on-ambler-road-project
• The Coalition commented to the NPS on it proposed rule for off-highway vehicle (OHV) use at Glen Canyon National Recreation Area; submitted 2018/04/12; goo.gl/1kG9Z9
• Over 200 members of the Coalition signed a letter to NPS Intermountain Regional Director Sue Masica urging her to reconsider portions of a proposed rule for Glen Canyon National Recreation Area that would open over 200 miles of park roads to non-street legal OHV use; submitted 2018/04/26; goo.gl/sY2Rpx

Supporting NPS Employees and Organizational Culture
• The Coalition wrote Interior Secretary Zinke voicing our concerns about the proposed reorganization of the Department of the Interior; submitted 2018/08/17; goo.gl/KNz3ca
• The Coalition wrote NPS Acting Director Dan Smith encouraging NPS to improve its training and ethics guidance for superintendents and other agency officials who interact with fundraising partner organizations and donors; submitted 2018/11/28; goo.gl/RZPRFy
The resignation of Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke was welcome news for many of us. The Coalition has consistently objected to the policies and procedures proposed by Zinke that weakened the protections for our national parks and public lands. The Executive Council composed and sent a letter to the Secretary in protest of his proposed DOI reorganization and released a statement on Zinke’s troubling “Made in America” Advisory Committee. We authored several statements and press releases about Zinke’s resignation, effective at the end of 2018. Chair Phil Francis was quoted in several national publications, asking the “current administration to seize this opportunity to appoint a leader who will listen to the needs of those on the ground, work in partnership with the stewards of our public lands, and passionately advocate for the protection of our national parks.”

Letters About Congressional Actions

- The Coalition joined 40 other organizations in writing the Wisconsin congressional delegation advocating storm damage funding for Apostle Islands National Lakeshore; submitted 2018/03/01; goo.gl/oa20oi
- The Coalition wrote to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees to thank them for passage of the 2018 Consolidated Appropriations Act; submitted 2018/04/06; goo.gl/koFqaz
- Coalition member Richard Ring testified before the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources during a hearing to examine NPS deferred maintenance and operational needs; 2018/04/17; goo.gl/pjKeLu
- 345 Coalition members signed a joint letter urging Interior Secretary Zinke to support legislation to reauthorize the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF); submitted 2018/05/09; goo.gl/3jRw29
- The Coalition joined NPCA, New Mexico Wild, and The Wilderness Society in writing to New Mexico’s U.S. Senators asking them to support a 30-day public comment period on BLM’s proposed oil and gas leasing near Carlsbad Caverns National Park; submitted 2018/05/04; goo.gl/NTPeDv
- The Coalition joined 150 other organizations in writing Congressional leaders to oppose S. 2877 and H.R. 1349, bills that would amend the Wilderness Act to allow the use of mountain bikes in designated Wilderness; submitted 2018/06/06; goo.gl/tKbGzs
- The Coalition sent a letter to Senator Lisa Murkowski, Chair of the U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, urging for passage of S. 3172, the Restore Our Parks Act, which would establish a fund to address the NPS deferred maintenance backlog; submitted 2018/07/16; goo.gl/mdPvhs
- The Coalition wrote Congressional leaders urging them to fully fund and permanently reauthorize the LWCF without further delay; submitted 2018/10/01; goo.gl/rmk8c8
- The Coalition joined 45 other organizations in writing U.S. Senator Kamala Harris to oppose the Cadiz Groundwater Mining Project, which would drain 16 billion gallons of California desert groundwater annually, adversely impacting Mojave Trails National Monument and adjacent Joshua Tree National Park and Mojave National Preserve; submitted 2018/11/14; protectnps.org/cadiz-project-is-most-immediate-threat-facing-californias-desert-parks
- The Coalition wrote Senators Murkowski and Cantwell to urge suspension of further action on H.R. 6687, a bill that would circumvent existing planning processes and mandate that the NPS issue long-term leases to continue commercial cattle ranching operations in Point Reyes National Seashore; submitted 2018/11/20; goo.gl/uNjpMC
- The Coalition joined the National Association of Forest Service Retirees, the Public Lands Foundation (BLM retiree group), and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Retirees Association in writing Congressional leaders to urge them to reauthorize and fund the LWCF; 2018/11/26; goo.gl/8GH45m

Zinke rides into the sunset. Photo by Scott G. Winterton/Deseret News

The Coalition on Zinke’s Departure

The resignation of Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke was welcome news for many of us. The Coalition has consistently objected to the policies and procedures proposed by Zinke that weakened the protections for our national parks and public lands. The Executive Council composed and sent a letter to the Secretary in protest of his proposed DOI reorganization and released a statement on Zinke’s troubling “Made in America” Advisory Committee.
The Coalition issued a statement opposing pending legislation in Congress that would specifically authorize the NPS to permit construction of the Atlantic Coast Pipeline beneath the Appalachian Trail and the Blue Ridge Parkway; published 2018/12/06; protectnps.org/coalition-strongly-opposes-potential-change-in-law-to-allow-pipeline-construction-in-national-park

The Coalition and other 90 groups signed a joint letter to members of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on National Parks opposing H.R. 6687, which would endanger the native Tule elk of Point Reyes National Seashore; submitted 2018/12/11; protectnps.org/coalition-joins-over-90-organizations-in-opposition-to-h-r-6687

In a case involving the rehabilitation of a historic backcountry cabin at Olympic National Park, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit affirmed a lower court decision in favor of NPS that it is not contrary to the Wilderness Act to repair historic structures in wilderness areas. The Court cited the Coalition’s amicus brief and granted our motion to file it; 2018/08/18; goo.gl/iMtBUH

The Coalition joined NPCA, the Defenders of Wildlife and the Sierra Club in submitting an administrative appeal to the Interior Board of Land Appeals challenging BLM’s decision to grant a right-of-way for the Eagle Crest Pumped Storage Project near Joshua Tree National Park; filed 2018/11/28; protectnps.org/groups-file-reply-brief-in-appeal-of-blms-eagle-crest-decision

The Coalition and NPCA jointly filed a Reply Brief with the Interior Department Board of Land Appeals as part of their challenge to BLM’s decision to grant a right-of-way for the Eagle Crest Pumped Storage Project near Joshua Tree National Park; filed 2018/11/28; protectnps.org/groups-file-reply-brief-in-appeal-of-blms-eagle-crest-decision

The Coalition, NPCA, Defenders of Wildlife and the Sierra Club jointly filed a Reply Brief with the Interior Department Board of Land Appeals as part of their challenge to BLM’s decision to grant a right-of-way for an electrical transmission line for the Eagle Crest Pumped Storage Project near Joshua Tree National Park; published 2018/09/03; goo.gl/H95QtK

No $70 Entrance Fees This Year

In 2018, the U.S. Interior Department proposed a dramatic increase to entrance fees at 17 of the most popular national parks. The proposal was vigorously opposed by gateway communities, park visitors, and park advocacy groups such as the Coalition. In April, the NPS announced a much more reasonable plan for modest entrance fee increases at all 117 fee-charging parks. The new fee structure is expected to increase system-wide entrance fee revenue by about $60 million annually. The revenue will remain within the National Park System with at least 80 percent of the money staying in the park where it is collected. The NPS press release announcing the new fee plan acknowledged that the “modified fee structure addresses feedback from [the] public on original fee proposal.” This decision demonstrates the power of advocacy—the outcry from many individuals and organizations, such as the Coalition, persuaded the Department of the Interior to drop its initial plan and modify the fees in a much more reasonable manner.
Opinion Pieces by Coalition Members

- **CNN.com Op-ed**: In “Grand Canyon is a national treasure, not a place for uranium mining,” Coalition members Steve Martin and Rob Arnberger voice their opposition to a proposed uranium mine near the popular national park; published 2018/01/10; goo.gl/SYBTU3

- **Casper Star Tribune Op-ed**: In “Wyoming Should Halt Its Plans for a Grizzly Bear Hunt,” Coalition member Joan Anzelmo opposes the state’s proposed hunt near Yellowstone National Park; published 2018/02/12; goo.gl/yFnGsu

- **Portland (ME) Press Herald Op-ed**: In “Trump’s proposed budget cuts threaten national parks,” Coalition member Sheridan Steele advocates for adequate funding for the National Park System; published 2018/02/27; goo.gl/unudMs8

- **The Hill Op-ed**: In “Secretary Zinke, stand up once again for land, water conservation fund,” Coalition member Tom Ross urges Zinke to support reauthorization of The Land and Water Conservation Fund; published 2018/03/11; goo.gl/emuSdy

- **NPCA Blog Post**: In “What We Stand to Lose at Glacier National Park,” Coalition member Jack Potter describes the ongoing effects of climate change at the park where he had worked for 41 years; published 2018/04/23; goo.gl/kXpAMc

- **Sun-Sentinel (FL) Letter-to-the-Editor**: In “Protect vital Land and Water Conservation Fund,” Coalition member Dick Martin advocates for reauthorization of the Land and Water Conservation Fund; published 2018/09/19; goo.gl/dzHdyf

- **Bakersfield Californian Op-ed**: In “Protect vital Land and Water Conservation Fund,” Coalition member Phil Francis discusses the urgency of LWCF reauthorization before it expires on September 30, 2018; published 2018/09/19; goo.gl/8aX1ck

- **National Parks Traveler Op-ed**: In “Coalition… Urges Improved Training on Ethics Standards,” we call for the NPS to reform the system it uses to educate its employees on how to work with fundraising partner organizations; published 2018/12/19; nationalparkstraveler.org/2018/12/op-ed-coalition-protect-americas-national-parks-urges-improved-training-ethics-standards
Grizzlies Out of the Crosshairs

In a ruling widely heralded by conservation groups and Native American tribes, a U.S. District Court judge in Montana restored federal protections to approximately 700 grizzly bears living in and around Yellowstone National Park. The court decision also effectively canceled the pending grizzly bear hunts in Wyoming and Idaho. These hunts were planned to proceed under state management of the species after the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service removed the Yellowstone grizzly distinct population segment from federal protection as a “threatened” species under the Endangered Species Act. The decision is a success for the Coalition and the multiple conservation and tribal organizations who sued the Fish and Wildlife Service after it delisted Yellowstone grizzlies in 2017. The Coalition submitted comments in defense of the grizzlies and joined our partner organizations in raising our voices against the scheduled hunts.

Coalition Chair Phil Francis spoke to Salon about Zinke’s proposed restructuring of the Department of the Interior, which would affect the National Park System and “weaken the oversight of the national parks.”
CPANP Awards

1872 Award
The 1872 award is given to an individual for outstanding service and support for the mission of the Coalition. This year, we have selected Bill Halainen as the winner. Known as “Mr. Communication,” Bill worked for the NPS for over 40 years. Though he retired from the NPS in 2007, he continued to edit both The Morning Report and Inside NPS as a contractor until 2015. Today, Bill devotes countless hours to compiling The Weekly Report for Coalition members, a roundup of news and events happening throughout the National Park System. Bill received the George Hartzog Award in 2014. We are now proud to recognize Bill with the 1872 Award in honor of his continued dedication to ensuring that past and current NPS employees remain connected to the news from parks across the country.

Hartzog Award
The George Hartzog Award is given to an individual who demonstrates outstanding support for the mission of the National Park Service or National Park System. This year, the Coalition has selected Dan Wenk as the winner of this award. In his long career with the NPS, Dan has worked in numerous parks and capacities. He retired in 2018 as the Superintendent of Yellowstone National Park. Dan has been considered the epitome of an effective modern park manager and has been an excellent role model for park managers to emulate. For more than 40 years, Dan Wenk has demonstrated outstanding leadership, integrity, and class in his support of the mission of the NPS. For these reasons, the Coalition is proud to award Dan with the 2018 George Hartzog Award.

Land & Water Conservation Fund
The Coalition has been a strong advocate for the reauthorization and full-funding of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). In partnership with other environmental groups and advocates for the protection of public lands, we have submitted letters, comments, and statements urging Congress to reauthorize and fully fund LWCF, which has enjoyed bipartisan support from communities and political leaders across the country. Our Op-eds and letters to the editors have appeared in national publications. The Coalition has joined phone calls and social media campaigns, asking our supporters to become advocates for LWCF. We even launched our Advocacy Toolkit, using sample scripts focused on the LWCF. Although our collective efforts did not achieve reauthorization and full funding, we will now be focusing our attention on the new Congress. Hopefully 2019 will be the year the LWCF receives the long overdue permanent reauthorization and full funding that may still be within reach.

Press Releases/Statements/Telepressers
Coalition Press Release on Advisory Board Resignations; issued 2018/01/17; goo.gl/EYkRBY
Coalition Statement on the Administration’s proposed FY2019 Budget and Infrastructure Plan; issued 2018/02/12; goo.gl/hCwGn1
Coalition Statement on Secretary Zinke’s New Advisory Committee; published 2018/03/28; goo.gl/EZwXzs
Coalition Statement on Cadiz Water Project; 2018/04/21; goo.gl/9Gm85J
Coalition Statement on proposed repeal of NPS regulations in Alaska national preserves, issued 2018/05/22; goo.gl/C4FxAh
Coalition Statement on Yellowstone Superintendent Dan Wenk’s retirement; issued 2018/06/11; goo.gl/LW2xmS
Coalition Press Release issued 2018/12/06; protectnps.org/coalition-urges-improved-training-on-ethics-standards
Coalition Statement on the resignation of Interior Secretary Zinke; issued 2018/12/15; protectnps.org/coalitions-statement-on-secretary-zinkes-resignation
Coalition Statement on government shutdown; issued 2018/12/18; protectnps.org/coalition-statement-on-potential-government-shutdown
Telepresser (telephonic press conference) ramifications of shutdown; 2018/12/21; protectnps.org/5549-2
Coalition Statement on government shutdown; issued 2018/12/22; protectnps.org/coalition-statement-on-the-partial-government-shutdown
Communciations Report

Communication is one of the most important tools we have to achieve success. In order to be an effective leader or organization, there must be solid, consistent, and unrelenting communication. The Coalition has so much going on that it can be difficult to keep up with all the actions and updates. And on that note, allow me to introduce myself. I’m Emily, your new Communications and Advocacy Coordinator. I’m a former park ranger who also has experience in the world of non-profits. I joined the Coalition in September and hopefully you’ve already seen an increase in our publications, communications, and our social media presence. We’ve accomplished a lot already and I look forward to continuing to work with our incredible Executive Council to bring you even more action items, updates, news, and advocacy opportunities.

2018 has been a remarkable year for the Coalition and we have several big accomplishments we’d like to share in this newsletter.

First and foremost, you may have noticed a new look in our digital and print publications. Our Executive Council asked for a new spin on our logo, so we decided to give crowdsourcing a try. Thanks to an incredible website called DesignHill, we received over 150 submissions from designers around the world. After an extensive review process, we were happy to select the winning logo design. We feel it stays true to our origins but gives us a fresh look… and we hope you like it too!

The timing of our logo contest also coincided with another big push on the communications front. Thanks to the hard work of our incredible website administrator and dedicated Executive Council members, we are pleased to announce the launch of the new Coalition website. You’ll find the Coalition at the same address (protectnps.org) but with a clean, new design that looks great on desktop or mobile devices. You’ll be able to easily access recent Coalition actions or delve into pressing issues we’re working on. Give it a look and let us know what you think. We’re always happy to hear feedback so feel free to send your thoughts to editor@protectnps.org

Our new website also provides a great home for one of our biggest communication initiatives, our Advocacy Toolkit. Every year, Congress makes decisions that impact our parks and public lands. And these decisions impact you. The Coalition will always fight for our parks, but Congress needs to hear from constituents as well. Becoming an advocate is one of the best ways you can help protect our national parks and advocacy is easy. So head to our newly designed website and click on the Advocacy Toolkit to get started.

In addition to the Advocacy Toolkit, our website also highlights our blog, This Land is Our Land, a new feature we launched this fall. Topics range from current legislative issues to interviews with members and our Executive Council. It’s the ideal place to catch up on current events and share some thoughts about our national parks and public lands.

We hope you’ll also follow the Coalition on our numerous social media channels. We have a growing presence on Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn. Head to the website to connect with us and follow us on social media. It’s a great way to stay in the loop on the latest headlines and action items.

With your engagement and help, we at the Coalition will continue to do our best to be a visible, strong force in the fight to defend our national parks and public lands. We are a trusted source in the media, an organization with a unique voice that speaks from experience. We know there are scores of troubling topics in the world right now, but we hope you’ll continue to tune into the Coalition. Thank you, as always, for your support. We promise to keep using our most important tool, communication, to keep you updated.

Words, once they are printed, have a life of their own.
~ Carol Burnett
Thank You!

We extend a special THANK YOU to the following Coalition members who helped with this important work:

Judy Alderson, Joan Anzelmo, Rob Arnberger, Brenda Barrett, Maria Burks, Sarah Bransom, Mark Butler, Judy Caminer, Richard Curry, Walt Dabney, Peggy Dolinich, Dominic Dottavio, Maureen Finnerty, Mary Foley, Phil Francis, Deny Galvin, Amy Gilbert, Chuck Gilbert, Barbara Goodman, David Graber, Bill Halainen, Rebecca Harriett, Don Hellman, Al Hendricks, Cyndy Holda, Dick Martin, Mary Martin, Steve Martin, Bob Mackreth, Doug Morris, Duncan Morrow, Mike Murray, Don Neubacher, Jim Northup, Jim Pepper, Steve Pittleman, Jack Potter, Sandy Rabinowitch, Bud Rice, Richard Ring, Molly Ross, Tom Ross, Cordell Roy, Bill Sanders, Bob Seibert, Chris Shaver, Dave Shaver, Rick Smith, Mike Soukup, Bob Stanton, Sheridan Steele, Kate Stevenson, Emily Thompson, Bill Wade.

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