



THE COALITION TO PROTECT AMERICA'S NATIONAL PARKS

— VOICES OF EXPERIENCE —

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Testimony on FY20 Appropriations

The Coalition submitted testimony on FY20 Interior Appropriations, urging our representatives to ensure sufficient resources are available for our national parks to fulfill the mandate enacted by Congress to protect the resources of the parks unimpaired for future generations, while also making them available for the public to enjoy. Read the full statement by clicking the box below.

[Full Statement](#)

More on FY20 Appropriations

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The Coalition issued a statement following the release of the House Appropriations Committee's draft fiscal year 2020 Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies funding bill. While we are pleased to see some increases, we urge lawmakers to remember that LWCF must be fully funded. Click the box below to read more.

Full Statement

Coalition Backs Wallace

The Coalition recently submitted a letter to the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, expressing our support for the nomination of Rob Wallace for the position of Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish and Wildlife and Parks. Mr. Wallace would bring a blend of experience that would serve the country well as he understands how both the public and private sectors work, having served in the National Park Service, on Capitol Hill, and in the private sector. Read the full letter below.

CPANP Letter of Support

CPANP Supports World Heritage Program Engagement

In partnership with numerous other preservation and conservation organizations, the Coalition signed on to a letter urging Congress to keep the U.S. engaged in the World Heritage Program and provide funds to

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Membership Update

The Coalition's membership currently stands at **1,723** members.

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both support nominations of American sites to the World Heritage List, and to demonstrate engagement in the important work of ensuring global peace through the mutual respect of heritage sites worldwide. The full letter is linked below.

[World Heritage Program Letter](#)

Nevada Pipeline Proposal is Bad News

Coalition members, former NPS Superintendents, and current Nevada residents Mark Butler and Alan O'Neill submitted the following Op-Ed to the *Reno Gazette-Journal* about potential threats to Nevada national park lands. A bill currently before the Nevada State Senate enables a pipeline proposal that would irreparably damage Great Basin National Park's water dependent ecosystems where Pronghorn, Bighorn sheep, Mule deer, Desert tortoises and countless other creatures call home.

Read the op-ed below.

[Pipeline Op-Ed](#)

CO Senator Should Support CORE Act

Executive Council member Sarah Bransom submitted this letter to the editor to the *Steamboat Pilot & Today* in Northwest Colorado. She urges Senator Tipton to support the Colorado Outdoor Recreation and Economy Act, which would protect more land

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for outdoor recreation and help the economy. Read the full letter below.

CORE Act LTE

Keep Colorado's Public Lands Safe

Coalition member Scot McElveen submitted this Op-Ed to *The Daily Sentinel*, calling for Senator Gardner to provide real oversight of the Interior Department so that Secretary David Bernhardt's former clients and special interests are not put ahead of protecting our nation's public lands. Read the full Op-Ed below.

Protect Colorado Op-Ed

LWCF Must Be Fully Funded

The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) has a huge impact in communities and states across the country. Coalition Executive Council Member and Maine resident Mike Murray recently spoke to the importance of securing full funding for this critical fund. Read his interview with the Public News Service [here](#) and his Op-Ed in *The Portland Press Herald* below.

LWCF Op-Ed

What We're Reading & Tracking This Month

We have a few new blog posts out for your reading pleasure. Looking for a summer national park trip? We have some ideas. Click [here](#) for our thoughts. Have you heard about Mikah Meyers epic journey to visit all 419 units of the National Park System? Click [here](#) to read more. And click [here](#) to read our take on the importance of LWCF funding.

Know anyone interested in becoming a park ranger? *Outside Online* offers their tips on becoming an NPS employee. Read all about it [here](#).

Author and naturalist Doug Peacock says Yellowstone National Park was a "refuge" for him and the park's grizzlies were his companions after spending years alone, observing the bears. He was a park ranger and the inspiration behind Edward Abbey's character, George Hayduke. Now he's an advocate for the grizzlies and their habitat. Watch [this](#) fascinating short film.

National Parks contribute billions of dollars to the nation's economy. But the parks continue to struggle with the growing backlog of deferred maintenance (currently at \$11.9 billion). Gateway National Recreation Area alone has a backlog of \$774.3 million, with needed repairs for paved roads totaled \$443.4 million. [Read more](#) details in the latest from *National Parks Traveler*.

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