



# THE COALITION TO PROTECT AMERICA'S NATIONAL PARKS

— VOICES OF EXPERIENCE —

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## CPANP In The News

President Trump redirected \$2.5 million in NPS funds to pay for his Salute to America celebration on July 4th. "The men and women of the National Park Service have been asked to do more with less for too long," said Coalition Chair Phil Francis. "Funds should be directed to the agency's highest needs such as operation of the parks and the maintenance backlog, and should not be directed to support political objectives." Read our statement on the event [here](#) and our statement on the use of NPS funds [here](#). You can watch Phil's

Land

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Reading and  
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interview on CNN below.

CPANP on CNN

## Lack of Rangers a Growing Concern

The Coalition weighed in on recent reports about the lack of law enforcement rangers in national parks across the country. Coalition Chair Phil Francis spoke with *USA Today* about the tough decisions NPS superintendents are having to make when it comes to filling jobs and inadequate funding. Click below to read the full article.

Interview with USA Today

## Coalition Issues Statement on Trump Administration's Environmental Record

The Trump administration has consistently supported policies and taken actions that are harmful to our national parks and public lands. Following President Trump's recent speech on his environmental record, the Coalition issued a statement, contradicting many of his claims. Read the full statement below.



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## Membership Update

The Coalition's membership currently stands at **1,751** members.

## Full Statement

### CPANP Letter on Potential E-Bike Policy

We have heard that the NPS has been working on a policy regarding the use of e-bikes in units of the National Park System. The increasing popularity of e-bikes is of concern to our membership and we submitted a letter to Acting Director Dan Smith about these concerns. Read the full letter by clicking the box below.

**E-Bike Letter**

### Alaska's Parks and Public Lands Deserve Protection

Former NPS Regional Director and Coalition member Marcia Blaszak wrote an op-ed for *The Artic Sounder* about the benefits LWCF funds have brought to Alaska. Read her full article below.

**LWCF Op-Ed**

### Vermont and LWCF

Coalition members Rolf Diamant and Abby

## Website Links

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Miller recently penned an op-ed for *The Rutland Herald*, urging their representatives to support mandatory, full-funding for LWCF. Read about the impacts of LWCF funds on Vermont in the full op-ed, linked below.

## LWCF and Vermont

### This Land is Our Land Updates

Freeman Tilden once wrote, “Through interpretation, understanding; through understanding, appreciation; through appreciation, protection.” Read more about the power of a great interpreter and storyteller in our blog post linked [here](#).

We have a new installment in our Focus on Friends series, this time highlighting a Friends Group out west. The Friends of Arches and Canyonlands Parks have some great stories and insights to share. And they recently purchased a house in Moab to help provide housing for NPS employees... at a price tag of over \$1 million! Click the box below to read more in our blog.

## Focus on Friends

## What We're Reading & Tracking This

## Month

July 20th marked the 50th anniversary of Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin's historic walk on the moon. Did you know that NASA sent astronauts to a national park to train for future trips to the moon? Check out this recent [post](#) from NPCA about the role that Craters of the Moon National Monument and Preserve played in space travel.

Speaking of space, take a look at [these](#) incredible photos of national parks, shot from space.

More good news on the Atlantic Coast Pipeline front. The 4th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals "vacated a permit that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service issued last year just 19 days after the same court blocked the agency's previous finding that the massive natural gas pipeline would not jeopardize the viability of four endangered or threatened species." The same court previously threw out a U.S. Forest Service permit to allow the pipeline to cross beneath the Appalachian Trail. Read more [here](#).

The Senate recently introduced a bill that includes a 21 percent increase in funding for national parks. *America's Transportation Infrastructure Act* would be used to repair and update roads, bridges, and transportation systems in national parks across the country. Read the [full statement](#) from NPCA.

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