

Coalition Briefs
February 2016

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The Coalition To Protect America's National Parks

Voices of Experience

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James River Transmission Line

The Coalition has joined the fight in opposing Dominion Virginia Power's proposed new high-voltage transmission line across the James River near historic Jamestown. The proposal includes 17 huge transmission towers, as tall as the Statue of Liberty and topped with flashing red lights, that would cross the river within view of various historic properties.

To read our letter urging the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to deny the power company's permit request, please click below.



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NPS
Centennial
Biographies



Marcia Blaszak
Read her story [here](#).

Read Our Letter to the U.S. Army
Corps of Engineers



Tennessee Lands Unsuitable for Mining

The State of Tennessee has petitioned the U.S. Office of Surface Mining Regulation and Enforcement (OSMRE) to designate as “unsuitable for mining” over 67,000 acres of state-designated conservation lands in northeastern Tennessee. The proposal would provide a variety of conservation benefits, including improved water quality and protection of riparian habitats in two NPS-managed parks that lie downstream of the petition area. The Coalition strongly



Russell "Russ" V.
Keune
Read his story [here](#).



Russell "Russ" E.
Dickenson
Read his story [here](#).



Laura Soulliere Gates
Read her story [here](#).

supports the State's petition.

Read Our Letter to OSMRE

Say "No" to Pipelines-Through-Parks Legislation

Current law requires specific Congressional approval before an oil or gas pipeline can be built through any unit of the National Park System. However, a proposed amendment to an energy bill being considered in the U.S. Senate would eliminate this requirement and promote the construction of natural gas pipelines through parks. The Coalition and other conservation groups strongly oppose the pipelines-through-parks amendment.

Read Our Joint Letter to Members of the U.S. Senate

Centennial Biography Series

In honor of the Centennial of the National Park Service, we are highlighting some employees who have made significant contributions to the Service in any number of ways.



Fred J. Fagergren
Read his story [here](#).



John M. Kauffmann
Read his story [here](#).

Read More
NPS
Centennial
Biographies

We encourage members to **suggest more employee names** to be highlighted throughout the coming year.

This month we feature the following employees: [Marcia Blaszak](#), [Russell "Russ" V. Keune](#), [Russell "Russ" E. Dickenson](#), [Fred J. Fagergren](#), [John M. Kauffmann](#), and [Laura Soulliere Gates](#).

Make a Suggestion for the Centennial Biography Series



Membership Update

The Coalition welcomes nine new members in January, adding to our total of 1,128 members!

Learn More about Membership



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Donations Report

Thank you to our members who gave during our end of year fundraising drive. This was our best fundraising year to date and we're eager to build on the success in 2016. With hundreds of our members chipping in, we saw a 48% increase in donations from 2014 to 2015. These donations will support our advocacy & communications work in 2016.

Make a Donation Today!



From The Muir Project, a short film documenting a campfire discussion on improving the diversity of both the visitation and the employment within our parks and wild spaces. It was a gathering of extraordinary people from non profit agencies, land management bureaus and other people involved in the movement to encourage more people of color to visit and seek careers in the outdoors. Please [share this with others](#), as it really is one of the most important issues facing the conservation movement and outdoor recreation.

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