

Coalition Briefs
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The Coalition To Protect America's National Parks

Voices of Experience

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Congress Must Act to Reauthorize The LWCF

Congress' failure to reauthorize the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) will have long-reaching and devastating impacts for communities across the United States. The LWCF has been our nation's primary source for preserving nationally significant public lands and providing recreational opportunities in local communities throughout the country for over 50 years. The Coalition urges Congress to fully fund and permanently reauthorize the LWCF without delay. Click the button below to read the full text of our letter.

[Read the Letter Here](#)

Success Story: Good news for Grizzlies

In a ruling widely applauded by Native American tribes and conservation groups, a U.S. District Court judge in Montana has restored federal protections to about 700 grizzly bears living in and around

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Yellowstone National Park. Click [here](#) to read more.

Our Previous Actions on this Issue

Proposed Repeal of NPS Alaska Hunting Regulations

At the direction of the Interior Department, the National Park Service has issued a proposed rule that would open Alaska's national preserves to controversial and unsportsmanlike hunting practices such as: killing black bear cubs and sows with cubs at den sites; shooting brown bears at bait stations; and killing wolves with pups during the denning season. Click the button below to see the Coalition's comments on the proposed rule.

[Read the Coalition's Comments](#)

IBLA Appeal to Protect Joshua Tree NP

The Coalition, along with the National Parks Conservation Association, the Defenders of Wildlife, and the Sierra Club have submitted an appeal to the Interior Board of Land Appeals for the August 1, 2018 Decision issued by the California State Office, Bureau of Land Management which granted a right of way for a electrical transmission line and water pipeline - including amending the California Desert Conservation Area Plan - associated with the Eagle Crest Pumped Storage Project. These projects would affect federally owned public lands adjacent to Joshua Tree National Park that were once

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Membership Update

The Coalition's
membership
currently stands
at **1,592**
members.

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part of the park when it was originally designated as a national monument in 1936, and that the National Park Service still finds “suitable” for addition to the park. The Coalition firmly asserts that the BLM Decision would cause immediate harm to this part of the Mojave desert that has been proposed for conservation for more than three decades.

[View the Notice of Appeal and
Petition for Stay](#)

Climate Change Visible in National Parks

Many parks are already experiencing dramatic impacts from climate change. Yet the Environmental Protection Agency’s short-sighted move to rescind the Clean Power Plan rule will further exacerbate the impacts of harmful air emissions from U.S. power plants. Coalition Executive Council member Mike Murray shares a powerful and timely op-ed in *The Hill*. Click below to read the full article.

[The Hill: Visit a national park to see
the real impacts of climate change](#)

What We're Reading & Tracking This Month

Read Executive Council member, Dick Ring’s op-ed in the *Sun-Sentinel*, urging Florida legislators to reauthorize LWCF. Click [“Read More”](#) for the full article.

Coalition member Dick Martin wrote an op-ed in the *Bakersfield Californian* about the necessity of reauthorizing the LWCF. Click [“Read More”](#) to

read the article.

Coalition Chair, Phil Francis, writes "it is time for Congress to set aside politics and stand up for communities across the country who agree that saving the LWCF, in addition to addressing the NPS maintenance backlog, is essential to protecting access to the great outdoors and the unique outdoor heritage we hope to pass along to our children. Click [here](#) to read his op-ed in *The Hill*.

U.S. Senator Bill Nelson and Marco Rubio introduced legislation to rename the Hobe Sound National Wildlife Refuge in Martin County after one of the state's most renowned environmental champions, Nathaniel "Nat" Reed. Reed passed away in July at the age of 84. He was a well-known champion of restoring Florida's Everglades. As an environmentalist, he led conservation fights throughout the U.S.. Reed's legacy includes protecting Big Cypress Swamp and successfully guiding the Endangered Species Act of 1973 through Congress and into law. Senator Rubio said, "a well-known and widely respected conservationist who championed Everglades restoration, Nat Reed was instrumental in advocating for state and national environmental policy. It is a fitting tribute that the Hobe Sound National Wildlife Refuge, where his passion for nature was first inspired, be named in his honor." Read a copy of the bill [here](#).

The world's first national parks have historic and beautiful ecosystems that can teach us about our changing relationship with public conservation. Click [here](#) to read the article from *National Geographic*.

Check out [this trailer](#) for Free Solo, an unflinching

portrait of the free soloist climber Alex Honnold,
as he prepares to achieve his lifelong dream:
climbing the face of the world's most famous rock
... the 3,000ft El Capitan in Yosemite National
Park ... without a rope.

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