



THE COALITION TO PROTECT AMERICA'S NATIONAL PARKS

— VOICES OF EXPERIENCE —

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December Brief

Good morning Coalition members! There is still plenty of time to contribute to our Annual Giving campaign. It has been a busy year and we rely on your support to help us keep up the work to protect our parks. And just another reminder, if you're using Amazon for your holiday shopping, you can support the Coalition via [Amazon Smile](#).

Advocacy Actions

Here are a few of the actions we took in November:

- The NPS has a Senate-confirmed Director! Read our [statement](#) on Mr. Sams following his confirmation vote.
- Lots happening regarding federal oil and gas leasing programs. We [celebrated](#) a proposal to protect Chaco Culture NHP and signed on to [letters](#) and [comments](#) regarding the need for broader reform and greater protections for our parks and public lands.
- The Coalition continues to submit [comments](#) on Air Tour Management Plans and support the need to improve [air quality](#) near national parks.
- We submitted extensive [comments](#) on the Council on Environmental Quality's proposed National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Implementing Regulations Revisions.
- Finally, we commented on several issues near parks across the country, from the [transmission line project](#) over the James River to the need for [wildlife overpasses](#) in California.

Visit our [website](#) to learn more and take a look at our other advocacy efforts.

Last Call for Hartzog Award Nominations

Each year, the Coalition accepts nominations for the George Hartzog Award, which is given to the individual(s) who demonstrated outstanding support for the mission of the National Park System and/or the National Park Service. Recipients can be active NPS employees, NPS retirees, or members of the general public who have demonstrated remarkable support for the National Park System. We have extended the deadline and nominations can be submitted [here](#) until **Monday, November 6th, 2021**.

News from the Park System

The National Park Service - Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program (NPS-RTCA) is a [unique federal program](#) that supports community-led projects by leveraging resources through diverse partnerships. NPS-RTCA works with hundreds of partners across the United States to turn their conservation and outdoor recreation visions into a reality. Past projects have focused on areas such as [building climate resiliency](#), [increasing accessibility](#) to recreational opportunities, and [reclaiming sacred space](#). Take a look at their [website](#) or join their [mailing list](#) to learn more about NPS-RTCA. The website also includes a link to apply for technical assistance on locally-led conservation or outdoor recreation projects.

On the Horizon

Here is a look at some of the work we'll be tackling in December

- Follow up on DOI Oil and Gas Leasing Program Report
- Support for the new NPS Director
- Funding and NDAA Advocacy
- 2021 Annual Report
- Planning for 2022
- Welcoming new Coalition Executive Council members

Member Count

The Coalition added 26 new members in November, bringing the total to 2,087. Know anyone interested in becoming a member? They can join [here](#).

Reading Rec

Do you have a home near a national park? If so, you may want to check this out! A recent study compared the values of homes near U.S. national parks to find the greatest premiums and discounts compared with the averages in those states. Take a look at the link [here](#).

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