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Coalition News

The Fiscal Year 2025 appropriations process is well underway. The Coalition has been working to educate decision makers on the devastating impacts of potential budget cuts and advocating for the restoration of funding. Over the past month, we have met with more than a dozen Congressional offices, submitted written **testimony** to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, participated in a *National* Parks Traveler podcast, through the National Parks Second Century Action Coalition signed a <u>letter</u> to Congress, and more. Appropriations will remain of top priority for the Coalition over the summer months. You can help by **contacting** your senators and representatives and encourage them to support our national parks and public lands.

Advocacy Actions

Below are highlights from the Coalition's work in May:

- The Coalition continues to advocate for increased protections for public lands. We issued a <u>statement</u> thanking Interior Secretary Deb Haaland for visiting Chuckwalla and expressed support for its designation as a national monument. Additionally, we issued a <u>press release</u> celebrating the expansion of the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument and Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument.
- The Coalition remains engaged in protecting our parks from the negative impacts of energy development on public lands. We joined in providing scoping comments on parcels for BLM's 4th quarter competitive oil and gas lease sale.
- The Coalition joined with more than 50 organizations in a <u>letter</u> to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric
 Administration expressing support for a phased approach for the proposed designation of the Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary.

These are a selection of our advocacy actions this month. Please visit our <u>website</u> for a complete summary of our actions.

On the Horizon

Here is a look at some of the work we'll be pursuing in June:

- Advocacy related to national monument designation, including a partnership with Vet Voice Foundation.
- Continued meetings with NPS leadership related to issues impacting the NPS workforce and employee morale.
- Continued advocacy related to reforms to the onshore federal oil and gas leasing system.

Member Count

The Coalition added 48 new members in May, for a total of 2,704. Membership is open to current and former NPS employees and volunteers. Know anyone interested in becoming a member? They can join here.

NPS News

The National Park Service's third <u>Free</u>
<u>Entrance</u> day will be offered in celebration of Juneteenth National Independence Day!
Be sure to check the calendars of the parks near you for special events in commemoration of our nation's newest holiday.

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