



Grand Canyon National Park © NPCA

## FACT SHEET

### *National Parks in Arizona*

Canyon De Chelly National Monument • Casa Grande Ruins National Monument • Chiricahua National Monument • Coronado National Memorial • Fort Bowie National Historic Site • Glen Canyon National Recreation Area • Grand Canyon National Park • Hohokam Pima National Monument • Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Site • Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail • Lake Mead National Recreation Area • Montezuma Castle National Monument • Navajo National Monument • Old Spanish National Historic Trail • Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument • Parashant National Monument • Petrified Forest National Park • Pipe Spring National Monument • Saguaro National Park • Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument • Tonto National Monument • Tumacácori National Historical Park • Tuzigoot National Monument • Walnut Canyon National Monument • Wupatki National Monument

Arizona is home to some of the nation's most famous and spectacular national parks. The Grand Canyon draws visitors from across the country and around the world. But Arizona has much more to offer, from the cliff dwellings and trading posts of the Navajo to the colorful Petrified Forest and the unique plants of the Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument.

**Canyon De Chelly National Monument** - Authorized in 1931. Preserves Indian Ruins that were built here between 350 and 1300 AD. These ruins give visitors a chance to learn about the Southwestern Indian history.

**Casa Grande Ruins National Monument** - Authorized in 1889, making it the nation's first archaeological preserve. Within the boundaries of the park is the Casa Grande, or "Big House," which is one of the largest and most mysterious pre-historic structures ever built in North America.

**Chiricahua National Monument** - 27 million years ago a volcanic eruption of immense proportions shook the land around Chiricahua National Monument. 1,000 times greater than the 1980 eruption of Mount St. Helens, the Turkey Creek Caldera eruption eventually laid down 2,000 feet of highly silicious ash and pumice. This mixture fused into a rock called rhyolitic tuff and eventually eroded into the spires and unusual rock formations of today. At the intersection of the Chihuahuan and Sonoran Deserts, and the southern Rocky Mountains and northern Sierra Madre in Mexico, Chiricahua plants and animals represent one of the premier areas for biological diversity in the northern hemisphere.



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**Coronado National Memorial** – Established to commemorate permanently the explorations of Francisco Vásquez de Coronado and advance the relationship of the United States and Mexico upon a friendly basis of cultural understanding. The site was first designated “Coronado International Memorial” in 1941 in the hope that a comparable adjoining area would be established in Mexico. Despite interest by the government of Mexico, the Mexican memorial was never created; therefore, Coronado National Memorial was established by Harry S. Truman in 1952.

**Fort Bowie National Historic Site** - Commemorates in its 1,000 acres, the story of the bitter conflict between the Chiricahua Apaches and the United States military. For more than 30 years Fort Bowie and Apache Pass were the focal point of military operations eventually culminating in the surrender of Geronimo in 1886 and the banishment of the Chiricahuas to Florida and Alabama.

**Glen Canyon National Recreation Area** - First administered in 1958. This recreation area stretches for hundreds of miles from Lees Ferry in Arizona to the Orange Cliffs of southern Utah, encompassing scenic vistas, geologic wonders, and a panorama of human history. Additionally, the controversy surrounding the construction of Glen Canyon Dam and the creation of Lake Powell contributed to the birth of the modern day environmental movement.

**Grand Canyon National Park** - Proclaimed in 1865, redesignated as national park in 1919. The central focus of the park is the Grand Canyon of the Colorado River that encompasses 277 miles of river and adjacent uplands. One of the most spectacular examples of erosion in the world, the Grand Canyon illustrates vast periods of geological history.

**Hohokam Pima National Monument** - Authorized in 1972. Preserved here are the archaeological remains of the Hohokam culture. *Hohokam* is a Pima Indian word meaning “those who have gone.” This site is not open to the public.

**Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Site** - Authorized in 1965. Hubbell Trading Post is the oldest continuously operated trading post on the Navajo Reservation and offers visitors a chance to experience a piece of history.

**Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail** - The national trail commemorates the route followed by a Spanish commander, Juan Bautista de Anza, in 1775-76 when he led a contingent of 30 soldiers and their families to found a presidio

and mission near San Francisco Bay. Along the trail route, the visitor can experience the varied landscapes similar to those the expedition saw; learn the stories of the expedition, its members, and descendants; better understand the American Indian role in the expedition and the diversity of their cultures; and appreciate the extent of the effects of Spanish colonial settlement of Arizona and California.

**Lake Mead National Recreation Area** - Huge lakes cater to boaters, swimmers, sunbathers, and fishermen while the desert rewards hikers, wildlife photographers, and roadside sightseers. Three of America’s four desert ecosystems - the Mojave, the Great Basin, and the Sonoran Deserts - meet in Lake Mead NRA. As a result, this seemingly barren area contains a surprising variety of plants and animals, some of which may be found nowhere else in the world.

**Montezuma Castle National Monument** - Proclaimed in 1906. The five-story, 20-room cliff dwelling is one of the best preserved cliff dwellings in North America. With heightened concern over vandalism of fragile southwestern prehistoric sites, Montezuma Castle became a major factor in the nation’s historic preservation movement with its proclamation as a national monument.

**Navajo National Monument** - Proclaimed in 1909. This monument preserves three of the most-intact cliff dwellings of the Anasazi.

**Old Spanish National Historic Trail** - Evolved in the early 1800s as a combination of the indigenous footpaths, early trade and exploration routes, and horse and mule routes used by traders between New Mexico and California.

**Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument** - Proclaimed in 1937. Sonoran Desert plants and animals found nowhere else in the United States are protected here, as are the traces of the Camino del Diablo historic trail.

**Parashant National Monument** – A vast land of open, undeveloped spaces and engaging scenery. Encompassing an incredible biological diversity, the area spans four ecoregions, ranging from the Mojave Desert at 1,500 feet above sea level, to old-growth ponderosa pine forests at over 8,000 feet. This impressive landscape also contains an array of scientific and historic resources.

**Petrified Forest National Park** - Proclaimed a national monument in 1906, and redesignated as a national park in 1962.



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Within the boundaries of this park are colorful concentrations of petrified wood, multi-hued badlands of the Chinle Formation known as the Painted Desert, historic structures, archaeological sites and the world's best record of Triassic fossils dating back 225 million years.

**Pipe Spring National Monument** - Proclaimed in 1923. The Ancestral Puebloan culture, the Paiute people and Mormon pioneers thrived here. Structures from the 1870s remain here.

**Saguaro National Park** - Proclaimed a national monument in 1933, redesignated a national park in 1944. Giant saguaro cacti, unique to the Sonoran Desert, cover the valley floor and rise into neighboring mountains. Five biotic life zones are represented here. There are also ancient petroglyphs.

**Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument** - Established in 1930. Sunset Crater Volcano is the home to a summit crater that was formed just before 1100.

**Tonto National Monument** - Proclaimed in 1907. The park is made up of well-preserved cliff dwellings that were occupied by the Salado culture during the 13th, 14th, and early 15th centuries.

**Tumacácori National Historical Park** - Proclaimed in 1908. Comprised of the abandoned ruins of three ancient Spanish colonial missions. The park is located on 45 acres in three separate units. San Jose de Tumacacori and Los Santos Angeles de Guevavi, established in 1691, are the oldest missions in Arizona. The third unit, San Cayetano de Calabazas, was established in 1756.

**Tuzigoot National Monument** - Proclaimed in 1939. Tuzigoot is an ancient village or pueblo built by a culture known as the Sinagua. The pueblo consisted of 110 rooms including second and third story structures. The first buildings were built around 1000 AD.

**Walnut Canyon National Monument** - Proclaimed in 1915. Preserves cliff dwellings that were built in shallow caves under ledges by Sinagua People about 800 years ago.

**Wupatki National Monument** - Proclaimed in 1924. Ruins of red sandstone pueblos built by farming Ancestral Puebloan People between 1120 and 1250 are preserved here.

## *Key Issues Facing National Parks in Arizona*

Taking care of America's national parks should be a national priority. With the 100th birthday of the National Park System approaching in 2016, it is more important than ever to address the ongoing problems that our parks are facing. The National Park Service is suffering from an operations funding shortfall now estimated at \$750 million annually. In addition, several billion dollars are needed to protect archaeological sites and historic buildings, and repair the extensive backlog of maintenance projects. Many park friends in Congress have spent years highlighting the fiscal crisis in America's national parks. The Administration and Congress responded in fiscal year 2008 with a \$122 million increase in the budget for park operations. This is a strong first step in our parks and improving the experiences of visitors. The FY 2008 budget also launched the National Park Centennial Challenge, which will help restore the parks for their 100th birthday and for generations to come. In addition to the operational shortfall, the National Park Service has a \$1.9 billion land acquisition backlog consisting of over 11,000 tracts of land and covering more than 1.8 million acres. In many instances, failure to acquire these lands makes operating the parks more complex and costly. Unfortunately, funding for national park federal land acquisition has declined dramatically in recent years, from \$130 million five years ago, to only \$21 million in the fiscal year 2009 request.

- The Park Service can only maintain the Grand Canyon's extensive trail system, including some trails that are 100 years old, as problems arrive. They do not have the ability to do preventative trail maintenance. The Park Service's ability to clean restrooms and perform other maintenance needs in the park is also limited. Limited funds prohibit better monitoring of archeological sites.
- Expansive border patrol activities are degrading the rich and varied diversity of Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument and increasingly, more resources are directed towards law enforcement requirements than resource protection and monitoring.
- The public exhibits in the Rincon Mountain District Visitor Center in Saguaro National Park date from the construction of the building in the 1960s. These interpretive exhibits desperately need to be replaced in order to help educate the public about the natural history of the Saguaro and the value of the Sonoran Desert ecosystem.



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## Park Visitation in Arizona

In 2006, the national parks in Arizona welcomed 10.5 million visitors.

## Budget Information

In fiscal year 2008, the operations funding for the national parks in Arizona is \$75.5 million. For fiscal year 2009, the Administration is proposing a 6 percent increase, which would bring operations funding to \$80.3 million.

## Contact Information

For more information on the national parks in Arizona, please contact NPCA Regional Director David Nimkin at 801-521-0785 or NPCA Legislative Director Blake Selzer at 202-223-6722, ext. 250.

| NPS Unit  | FY03<br>Enacted | FY04<br>Enacted | FY05<br>Enacted | FY06<br>Enacted | FY07<br>Enacted | FY08<br>Enacted | FY 09<br>Requested | % Change<br>FY07-08 | % Change<br>FY08-09 |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Canyon de Chelly NM   | \$1,352         | \$1,343         | \$1,509         | \$1,680         | \$1,712         | \$1,927         | \$1,984            | 13                  | 3                   |
| Casa Grande Ruins NM & Hohokam Pima NM                                | \$656           | \$653           | \$773           | \$789           | \$805           | \$824           | \$841              | 2                   | 2                   |
| Chiricahua NM & Ft Bowie NHS  | \$1,336         | \$1,334         | \$1,464         | \$1,506         | \$1,549         | \$1,709         | \$1,742            | 10                  | 2                   |
| Coronado NMem   | \$962           | \$937           | \$961           | \$974           | \$991           | \$1,005         | \$1,771            | 1                   | 76                  |
| Flagstaff Area Parks - Sunset Crater NM, Walnut Canyon NM, Wupatki NM | \$2,615         | \$2,674         | \$2,798         | \$2,776         | \$2,850         | \$3,346         | \$3,599            | 17                  | 8                   |
| Glen Canyon National Recreation Area                                  | \$9,438         | \$9,256         | \$9,848         | \$10,151        | \$10,368        | \$10,972        | \$11,196           | 6                   | 2                   |
| Grand Canyon NP   | \$18,916        | \$18,567        | \$18,921        | \$19,529        | \$20,141        | \$21,494        | \$21,962           | 7                   | 2                   |
| Hubbell Trading Post NHS  | \$684           | \$683           | \$719           | \$737           | \$758           | \$812           | \$880              | 7                   | 8                   |
| Lake Mead NRA   | \$14,232        | \$14,085        | \$14,432        | \$14,664        | \$15,276        | \$16,817        | \$17,240           | 10                  | 3                   |
| Montezuma Castle NM & Tuzigoot NM                                     | \$1,122         | \$1,118         | \$1,148         | \$1,181         | \$1,219         | \$1,410         | \$1,460            | 16                  | 4                   |
| Navajo NM   | \$762           | \$758           | \$858           | \$872           | \$889           | \$1,024         | \$1,078            | 15                  | 5                   |
| Organ Pipe Cactus NM  | \$3,019         | \$3,070         | \$3,267         | \$3,319         | \$3,372         | \$3,553         | \$4,489            | 5                   | 26                  |
| Parashant NM  | -               | -               | -               | -               | \$841           | \$927           | \$1,664            | 10                  | 80                  |
| Petrified Forest NP   | \$2,545         | \$2,534         | \$2,768         | \$2,836         | \$2,912         | \$3,392         | \$3,543            | 16                  | 4                   |
| Pipe Spring NM  | \$659           | \$656           | \$676           | \$694           | \$712           | \$786           | \$1,087            | 10                  | 38                  |
| Saguaro NP  | \$2,825         | \$2,821         | \$3,094         | \$3,183         | \$3,269         | \$3,502         | \$3,576            | 7                   | 2                   |
| Tonto NM  | \$727           | \$726           | \$768           | \$787           | \$805           | \$852           | \$875              | 6                   | 3                   |
| Tumacacori NHP  | \$748           | \$745           | \$915           | \$1,034         | \$1,055         | \$1,215         | \$1,283            | 15                  | 6                   |
| <b>All Arizona parks</b>  |                 |                 |                 |                 | <b>\$69,524</b> | <b>\$75,567</b> | <b>\$80,270</b>    | <b>9%</b>           | <b>6%</b>           |

All dollar amounts in thousands

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