

BEARS EARS NATIONAL MONUMENT

Bait-and-Switch Advisory

Some members of Congress are attempting to distract the American people from the gutting of protections for Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monuments in Utah by promoting the creation of a new national park at Grand Staircase. NPCA strongly opposes this for numerous reasons:

- The proposed legislation would protect just a small portion of Grand Staircase-Escalante while more than 40 percent of the existing monument would lose protections, consistent with President Trump's actions on December 4, 2017.
- Grazing would be among the primary purposes of the new national park, instead of protecting the landscape for all who visit it.

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SUING TO SAVE MORE THAN MONUMENTS

A Landmark Lawsuit

National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA) is engaged in a litigation battle to stop the Trump administration's attempt to dramatically shrink Bears Ears National Monument in Utah while erasing protections against resource exploitation and abuse. Along with other conservation partners in the lawsuit, NPCA is committed to preserving Bears Ears' stunning landscapes, priceless artifacts and diverse wildlife.

The White House has similarly targeted nearby Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument in Utah. There is more at stake, however, than the size and future — if any — of Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante. If President Trump's claim of authority to rescind protections for those national monuments is allowed to stand, all public lands would be vulnerable to the unilateral orders of any president. NPCA Vice

President and General Counsel Libby Fayad stresses, "national parks, by definition, are public lands. They belong to all of us. So if one monument is reduced or eliminated, we all need to ask which ones will be next. Devils Tower? The Statue of Liberty? It's sad to think about but all too possible."

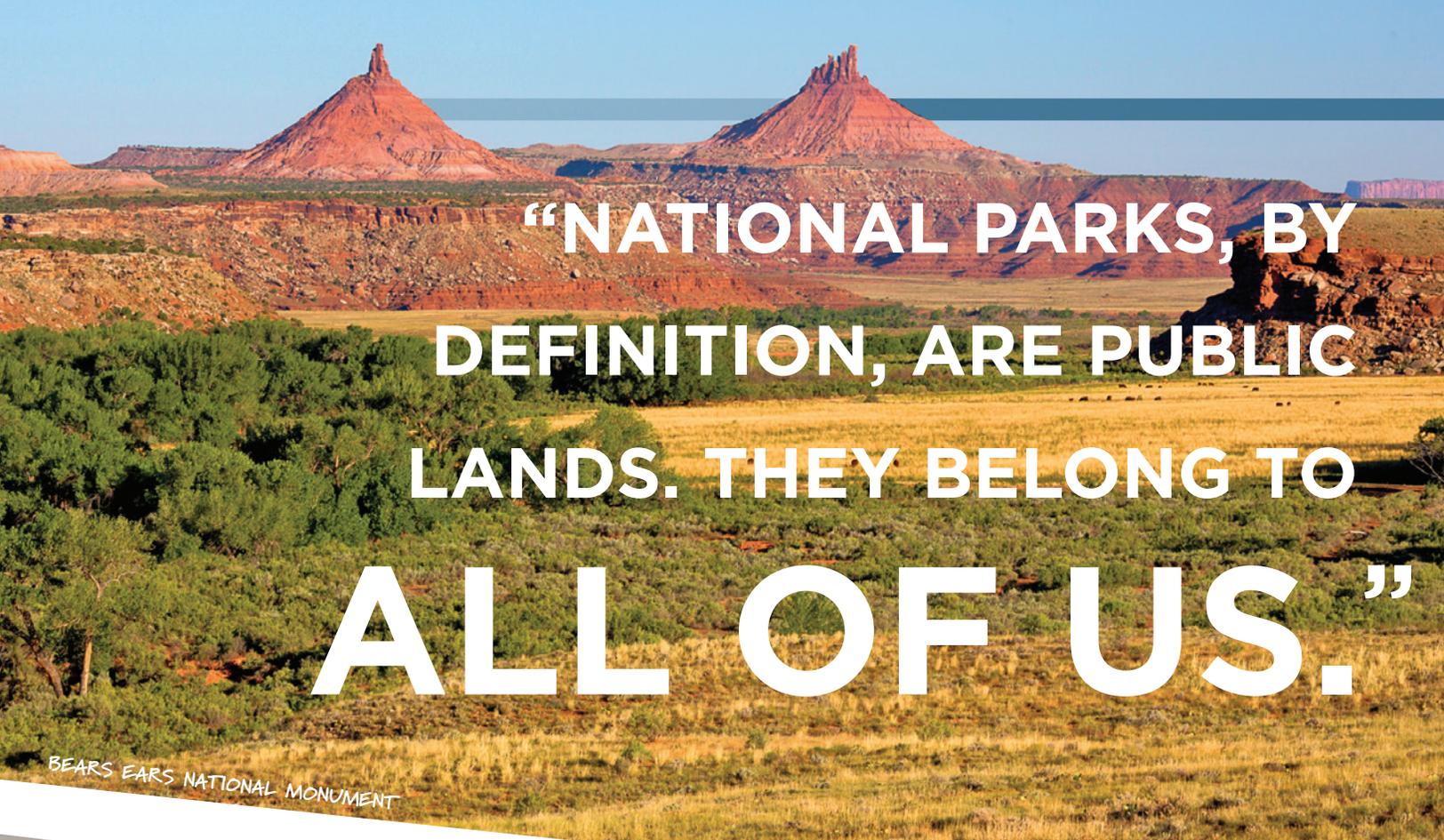
"Unlawful Proclamation"

That description of President Trump's action appears repeatedly in NPCA's lawsuit, which will be heard in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. It is an assertion supported by provisions of the Antiquities Act of 1906 — the law that gave presidents the authority to designate national monuments, and that President Trump now asserts gives him the power to rescind or alter those national monuments.

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INSIDE:

- WEDDING GUESTS SAY "TAKE A HIKE"
- WILDLIFE SELFIES SERVE A SERIOUS PURPOSE
- VETERANS CALL ON CONGRESS TO FIX OUR PARKS



“NATIONAL PARKS, BY DEFINITION, ARE PUBLIC LANDS. THEY BELONG TO ALL OF US.”

BEARS EARS NATIONAL MONUMENT

President's Perspective



Bears Ears National Monument in southeastern Utah is breathtaking, with its two iconic buttes and impressive mountain peaks. I had the great privilege of flying over this landscape last year, and that scene will forever stay with me.

Beyond the natural resources, Bears Ears protects an area of great significance. It contains more than 100,000 cultural and archaeological sites, including cliff dwellings that date back 3,500 years. It's also an area of great spiritual significance for Native American communities.

We knew it was coming, but that did not soften the blow when the president signed a proclamation to slash the size of and revoke protections for this special area last December. This is nothing short of an attack on our public lands, and we are bracing ourselves for more to come.

Stopping these attacks is a major priority for NPCA, as you will read in this issue of the Trustees for the Parks newsletter.

Together we must work to protect our public lands. These places belong to all of us, and it is up to all of us to remain vigilant and fight back against these and other threats to the places both you and I cherish.



From rollbacks of clean water rules to the delay of air quality protections and proposed budget cuts that would make the National Park Service's maintenance backlog grow even more, we will take these fights from communities to the Capitol and the White House. And we know you'll be there with us.

Along with everyone here, I am grateful for your help and share your commitment to making this year a better one for our parks.

Sincerely,



Theresa Pierno
President & CEO

“The wording is very clear,” Fayad notes. “It specifically states the president is authorized to ‘declare’ national monuments. ‘Proper care and management’ and ‘permanent preservation’ are also mentioned. There isn’t one word about removing protections or reducing size.”

The Trump administration’s action also violates separation of powers under the Constitution. Because Congress has the authority over public lands, only Congress can delegate that authority to the president. Neither this Congress nor any previous one has delegated that authority, so NPCA is challenging President Trump’s abuse of power to avert disastrous consequences for national parks now and in the future.

The fact that new mining permits are already being fast tracked in the region, and reports of a uranium company lobbying Trump administration officials to shrink Bears Ears, indicate the elevation of resource extraction over conservation as a priority for the White House and Department of Interior.

Accordingly, NPCA is stepping up efforts on the legislative and regulatory fronts to halt or blunt attacks on national monuments. A fight is also being waged in the court of public opinion, where misinformation — conveyed intentionally or otherwise — is obscuring the clear case against dismantling national monuments. Key facts NPCA is working to make more widely known include:

- National monuments allow extensive personal recreation while guarding against commercial exploitation. Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante both allowed hunting, fishing and grazing before being designated as national monuments and both still do. What was not permitted, until now, were new oil and gas leases, mines and logging operations.
- National monuments are good for the economy. Outdoor recreation in our public lands, like national monuments, generates \$887 billion in consumer spending and supports 7.6 million jobs annually.



This litigation battle is expected to be a protracted one. NPCA is anticipating significant legal expenses for years, not months, before a final ruling in the Bears Ears case. Given the constitutional issues involved, it could be a ruling issued by the Supreme Court.

Undone With A Signature

On December 4, 2017, with the stroke of a pen, President Trump ended federal protections for over 2 million acres of public lands originally designated as Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monuments. Provisions in the Wilderness Protection Act and the Migratory Bird Act could offer some safeguards, but the will to enforce such laws appears to be lacking at the moment.

- Public lands are owned by all Americans. President Trump’s assertion of “a small handful of very distant bureaucrats located in Washington,” controlling public lands is wrong. The people of Utah do own Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monuments, and they should have a voice in the land’s protection. And the same is true of people of every other state.
- National monuments can only be created from existing federal land. The Antiquities Act does not allow presidents to “grab” private, state or local lands — it only authorizes monument designations for existing federal lands.

For reasons that make fiscal sense and common sense, and are backed by the power of law, public lands must be protected for all and forever. That is NPCA’s goal with its Bears Ears lawsuit as well as every action taken to defend national parks.

 THE STORY CONTINUES ONLINE:
[NPCA.ORG/7FACTS](https://npca.org/7facts)

 TAKE ACTION AT
[NPCA.ORG/ANTIQUITIES](https://npca.org/antiquities)

LEFT PHOTO: GRAND STAIRCASE-ESCALANTE NATIONAL MONUMENT; RIGHT: BEARS EARS NATIONAL MONUMENT

Outdoor recreation in our public lands generates **\$887 billion** in consumer spending and supports **7.6 million jobs annually.**

WEDDING GUESTS SAY “TAKE A HIKE”

When friends asked national park enthusiasts Gina Miller and Deb Parise what sort of gifts they would like for their October 2016 wedding, the couple came to the happy conclusion that they didn't need anything. “We really are blessed,” Gina says, “so we couldn't come up with any gift ideas. Then we started thinking about our national parks honeymoon plans.”

Gina and Deb are avid hikers so they didn't need backpacks, boots or other gear for their trip. But they wanted to do something for the parks they were about to enjoy. So they asked friends who wanted to give a gift to make a donation to NPCA.

“We wanted to support a group that was really making a difference,” Gina says. “So I did my homework, and I knew from making a few contributions to NPCA that they're always fighting the good fight for our national parks. That's needed more than ever these days.”



NPCA's work received a \$3,200 boost courtesy of the couple's thoughtfulness and guests' generosity. Several guests sent notes along with their donations wishing Gina and Deb “Happy Trails” and telling them to “Go take a hike!”

Gina and Deb have been hiking through some of America's most magnificent landscapes together for nine years. That includes national parks in Utah, which are among Deb's favorites, and Oregon's Crater Lake National Park, into which Gina once plunged when the water was an invigorating 34°!

Hiking in every U.S. state at least once is a top item on the couple's bucket list. Their map of the country has 34 push pins in it so far. Gina proudly notes, “That's way past halfway, so I'm sure we'll get to all 50 together.”

We are proud to have been selected by Gina and Deb for this generous gift, and we join all of their friends in wishing them many happy trails.

GINA MILLER (L) AND DEB PARISE ON A HONEYMOON HIKE AT GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK. THEY INCLUDED THIS PHOTO IN THANK YOU NOTES TO FRIENDS AND FAMILY WHO DONATED TO NPCA AS A WEDDING GIFT. PHOTO COURTESY GINA MILLER/DEB PARISE



GRAND STAIRCASE-ESCALANTE NATIONAL PARK

Bait-and-Switch continued from page 1

- A management council consisting only of Utah county officials would run the new national park without ensuring oversight or input from the National Park Service, which is responsible for managing and protecting all of America's national parks.
- The proposed legislation caters to special interests while rejecting the views of millions of Americans who want their public lands preserved in perpetuity.

NPCA Director of Legislation and Policy Ani Kame'enui cites those problems and others in advising the public not to be fooled by this disingenuous parks bill. “This is yet another attempt to dismantle protections for public lands that

belong to us all. It's been going on throughout this session of Congress and shows no sign of stopping. But that doesn't mean we have to accept it. It means we need to fight even harder. Everyone can help by contacting their members of Congress to find out where lawmakers stand on shrinking Grand Staircase-Escalante by nearly half and voice strong support for keeping existing protections in place.”

Speaking up for national parks is easy at NPCA.org/advocacy, or call the Capitol Hill switchboard at (202) 224-3121 and ask to be connected to your member of Congress.

Wildlife Selfies Serve a Serious Purpose

People from across the country and around the world travel to Great Smoky Mountains National Park to marvel at its majestic landscape and diverse wildlife. But unlike the millions of visitors who cross through the park gates, animals that live in the Smokies don't know when they are exiting the park and entering private lands or lands managed by the U.S. Forest Service.

So dozens of large animals — black bears, deer and elk included — wander from the park and across a busy interstate highway each year. I-40 is noisy and serves as something of a barrier between the park and wilderness in the adjacent Pigeon River Gorge. But many animals still try to cross the highway. Some make it. Others fail, with serious consequences for the animals and motorists alike.

Driven to mitigate this threat, NPCA Southeast Regional Program Manager, Jeffrey Hunter, is working with interns and partner organizations to better understand how wildlife in the Great Smoky Mountains has been traveling outside of the park. They are utilizing technology to “camera trap” animals with motion-sensitive photographic equipment.

The cameras are non-intrusive and weather-resistant so they can be left for months at a time. Each camera



alleviates the need for a biologist in the field hoping to record images of and data about wide-roaming animals. And the animals' movements trip the cameras' shutters — making the photos wildlife selfies of a sort.

Camera tracking is particularly helpful to

studying the habits of black bears and elk. The parks' populations of both species have grown significantly in recent decades — leading to wider ranges that extend outside the park.

NPCA staff and partners are using elk and black bear selfies to determine where animals are attempting to cross I-40 and identify mortality hot spots where the most wildlife-vehicle collisions occur. Their ultimate goal is to increase wildlife's ability to safely cross the road by improving existing wildlife crossing areas and pinpointing where new overpasses or underpasses specially designed for animal use are needed.

In the meantime, this determined team of wildlife watchers is collecting some fantastic photos of bears and elk along with bobcats, coyotes and white-tailed deer.

 THE STORY CONTINUES ONLINE:
NPCA.ORG/CAMERATRAPS

CAUGHT ON CAMERA - (BELOW) BLACK BEAR, (ABOVE) GRAY SQUIRREL, BOBCAT, COYOTE

EACH PHOTO CAPTURES DATA SUCH AS LOCATION, TEMPERATURE, MOON PHASE, DATE AND TIME OF DAY AS SEEN IN THE BLACK STRIP ACROSS THE BOTTOM OF THE PHOTOS.



27.76 inHg ↑ 44°F 11/08/2017 12:59PM CAMERA 3

STRENGTHEN NPCA AND SUPPORT THE NATIONAL PARKS

As a Trustee for the Parks, you are part of a special group of national park advocates that have stepped forward to make sure our parks are protected. With an annual gift of \$1,000 or more you can continue your membership in this dedicated community of park protectors.

As a valued Trustee for the Parks you will be invited to:

- Join NPCA program staff at events across the country, including our popular Speaker Series and specially planned park tours
- Participate in briefing calls with NPCA strategists on park-related policy and legislative issues

You will also receive:

- A subscription to *National Parks*, NPCA's award-winning magazine
- This quarterly Trustees for the Parks newsletter created especially for you
- Discounted ticket offers for select NPCA events
- Important and timely news about how we are putting your contribution to work for our parks
- Recognition in NPCA's annual report

WAYS TO GIVE:

- **Send your gift** using the envelope included in this issue.
- **Give online** at www.npca.org/TFPJOIN.
- **Stock gifts** — Donate stock assets to help us preserve and protect the parks.
- **Monthly installments** — Make your gift in multiple payments by visiting www.npca.org/TFPMONTHLY.

For more information contact Erin Mezgar, Associate Director, Trustees for the Parks at 202.454.3370 or emezgar@npca.org.

CONSIDER A PLANNED GIFT

With numerous ways to make and fund a planned gift, you can increase your current income, diversify your holdings, reduce your taxes, and avoid probate costs. Please contact Vonda Harrison, toll-free at 877.468.5775 or vharrison@npca.org.

TRAVEL WITH US

Check off a few more national parks from your list! Join one of NPCA's small group tours in partnership with select travel partners Off the Beaten Path for land-based journeys and UnCruise Adventures for boat-based journeys. Many tours are limited to 16 participants, with two guides. Please contact Mary Murtala at 202.454.3305, travel@npca.org, or visit www.npca.org/travel.

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PHOTO BY KEITH JEWELL/NPCA

VETERANS TO CONGRESS:

FIX OUR PARKS

NPCA and Pew Charitable Trusts brought a group of 14 veterans to Washington, DC in November to mark Veterans Day and call on members of Congress to provide the robust funding required to address the National Park Service's \$11.3 billion repair backlog.

Since many national park sites, including battlefields and memorials, tell America's military history, veterans have a special motivation to ensure those sites are properly cared for. The veterans spoke eloquently about national parks representing American heritage and embodying our nation's values — independence, freedom, democracy and equality. Retired Air Force veteran Dick Shuptrine who served during Vietnam noted,

"That's particularly what I fought for, to protect these values. I think that's important to pass along the proper legacy for friends, family, everybody. I'll continue to work for that as long as I can."

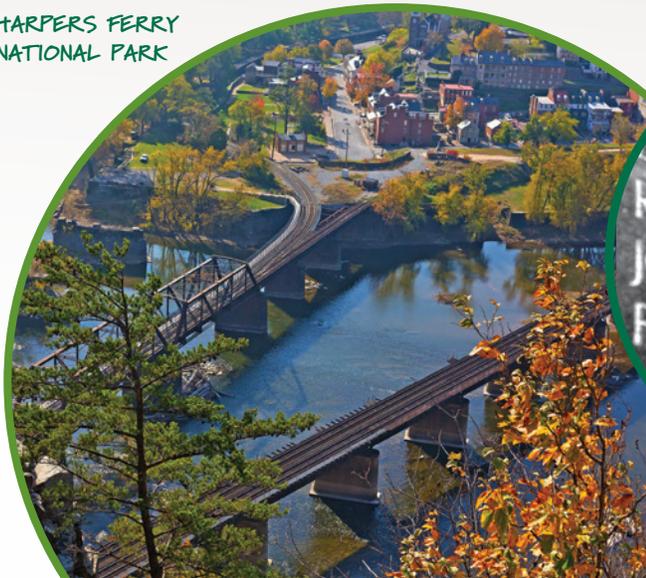
In addition to meeting with 26 members of Congress, the veterans visited Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke to make sure he understands that neglecting our country's most significant places is simply unacceptable.

Add your voice to those of veterans who are fighting for the repairs national parks so badly need.



TAKE ACTION AT:
NPCA.ORG/PARKFUNDING

HARPERS FERRY NATIONAL PARK



VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL

©dreamstime



OUR PARKS BADLY NEED REPAIRS

Our national parks, from the Grand Canyon to Gettysburg, need billions of dollars in repairs. Congress and the president must work together to fix our parks and help the local and national economies they support.

WHAT'S IN THE BACKLOG?

The National Park Service's repair backlog includes crumbling roads and bridges, run-down trails, rotting historic buildings and outdated utility systems.

\$11.3 BILLION

IN OVERDUE REPAIRS

DEATH VALLEY

The park needs more than \$110 million in road repairs, including Artist's Drive, Daylight Pass and Emigrant Canyon Road.

Backlog in 2016: \$140 million



GRAND CANYON

The park's Trans-Canyon Pipeline, a 50-year-old pipe that carries water miles across the canyon to supply the South Rim and most of its visitors, suffers from multiple breaks and leaks every year and needs replacing.

Backlog in 2016: \$353 million



ARLINGTON MEMORIAL BRIDGE

The bridge crossing the Potomac River between the Lincoln Memorial and Arlington National Cemetery, symbolically linking the North and the South, is in a severely degraded state and needs to be completely upgraded.

Backlog in 2016: \$250 million



GETTYSBURG

The battlefield has millions of dollars in overdue repairs for buildings, most of them historic, and monuments and memorials. These needs threaten the long-term protection of this hallowed ground and its landmarks that tell our American story.

Backlog in 2016: \$51 million



ECONOMIC BENEFIT VS. UNDERINVESTMENT BY CONGRESS



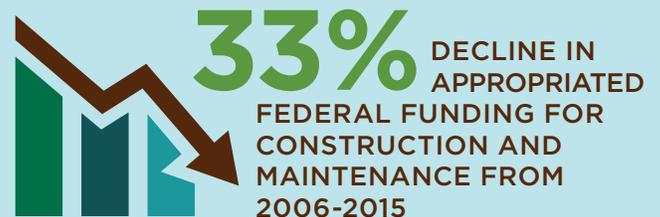
\$18.4 BILLION

PARK VISITOR SPENDING IN NEARBY COMMUNITIES IN 2016



318,000

JOBS SUPPORTED BY PARKS NATIONALLY



NPS REPAIR AND REHABILITATION, CYCLIC MAINTENANCE, AND LINE-ITEM CONSTRUCTION ACCOUNTS. CONGRESS INCREASED THIS FUNDING IN FY16 AND FY17 BUT IT REMAINS INSUFFICIENT.

“ An investment in national park infrastructure is an investment in jobs and communities. ”

RICK HOWE
Vice President, Jackson Hole Chamber of Commerce, Wyoming

SEEING IS BELIEVING

GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK

The difference you make as an NPCA Trustee for the Parks is wonderful to behold. From the connections people form with nature and with each other when visiting national parks, to thriving wildlife and clear waters, you help make it all possible.

Reading about the results of your leadership support is one thing we hope you enjoy doing. Seeing the extraordinary places you are protecting is even better.

You may be particularly delighted by the brief video “The Difference We’re Making” available at npca.org/thedifference. It shows the impact of your support and can be easily shared to get more people excited about and involved in protecting national parks.

 THE STORY CONTINUES ONLINE:
NPCA.ORG/THEDIFFERENCE



777 6th Street, NW | Suite 700
Washington, DC 20001-3723

P 202.223.6722 | F 202.872.0960 | npca.org/trustees

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UPCOMING EVENTS — SAVE THE DATES!

STEP BACK IN TIME, WAY BACK:

Puebloan Mystery Tour
Saturday October 13-Sunday October 21

This adventure, offered exclusively to NPCA Trustees for the Parks, will thrill and amaze you as you explore ancient civilizations’ mysteries preserved within national parks of the Four Corners region of Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico, and Utah.

Your nine days of discovery will include hiking among ancient ruins, enjoying delicious campfire meals, and marveling at countless glittering stars against some of the world’s darkest skies... all in the company of expert guides, including our own New Mexico Director, Ernie Atencio.

Only a few spots remain. Contact Erin Mezgar at 202.454.3370 or emezgar@npca.org for details.



CHACO CULTURE NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

NPCA ANNUAL DINNER

37th Annual Salute to the Parks
Wednesday, April 11
Washington, DC

RSVP npca.org/salutetotheparks

