

NATIONAL PARKS NEED HELP

America's 401 national park sites are a top tourist attraction, drawing visitors who support more than a quarter-million jobs and \$30+ billion in annual spending. Recent budget cuts could cripple this economic support to local communities.



13%

reduction in funding to operate national parks over the last three years in today's dollars.

★ Loss of \$315 million total



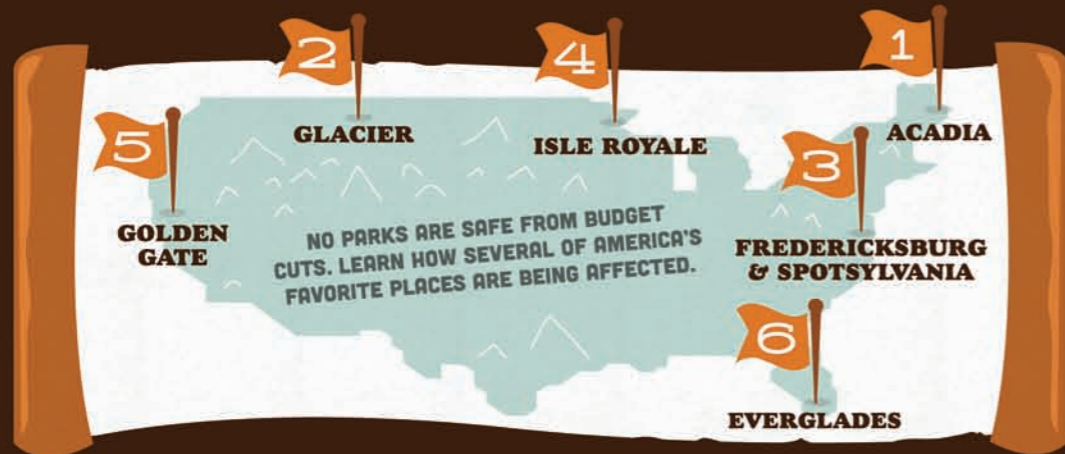
10%

reduction in park rangers and other staff since 2003.



69%

reduction in the park service construction account to address maintenance needs in today's dollars since 2003.



ACADIA

Major Staffing Shortages

Acadia has lost **12 seasonal positions**, reduced seasons for **31 other staff members**, and will not be filling **18** originally permanent but now **vacant positions**. The cuts involve everyone from maintenance crew to biologists, affecting park operations deeply.



ISLE ROYALE

Special Events Canceled

A **23% reduction** in staff forced the park to cancel spring programs, local library programs, shows, and special events. Estimates show that more than **10,000 students** and **20,000 visitors** were affected.



GLACIER

Closed Campgrounds

Visitor centers opened **2 weeks late**, and campgrounds **3 weeks late**, affecting visitor numbers and, as a result, park revenue.



GOLDEN GATE

Dirty Bathrooms and Languishing Trails

With only **3 maintenance staff members remaining of last year's 11**, trails and roads suffer from a lack of upkeep. Staff are collecting trash and cleaning restrooms less frequently, which hurts not only the visitor experience, but visitation itself.



FREDERICKSBURG & SPOTSYLVANIA

Fewer Interpretive Rangers

As a result of staffing shortages this year, **1,000 fewer kids** will participate in educational programs, **4,000 fewer visitors** will experience guided walking tours, and **20,000 fewer visitors** will have access to key historic sites like Chatham Manor on most days of the week.



EVERGLADES

Endangered species at risk

17 vacant positions are not being filled this year, making it difficult to monitor endangered species like the Florida panther and manage invasive species like the Burmese python, which is threatening the Everglades' fragile ecosystem.

National park staff, gateway communities, and families all across America are feeling the impacts of these cuts. Not only is the visitor experience being threatened—so are the hotels, restaurants, and other businesses that rely on those visitors to support local economies. Congress needs to invest in our national parks to ensure they are preserved and protected for the future.

Park advocates can help restore funding to the National Park Service budget by calling their Members of Congress at **202.224.3121** or visiting www.npca.org/parkfunding

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Sources:
National Parks Conservation Association Data
& National Park Service Data

