



FIELDREPORT

Mid-Atlantic Region | Winter 2018-2019



Campaign Updates

Fight for Jamestown Continues

Our fight continues to protect Jamestown and the James River in Virginia from Dominion Energy's oversized electric transmission line. In May 2018, the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia ruled against us in our legal challenge to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' approval of a key permit. In early December, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit heard oral argument in our appeal of the lower court's ruling, and at press time we await the result. We are evaluating legal options against the Corps and the National Marine Fisheries Service for related Endangered Species Act violations.

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Above: NPCA continues to work to protect the historic character, natural resources, federally protected species and view shed of Jamestown and the James River, VA. ©Blackghost600 | Dreamstime

Celebrating NPCA's Centennial Preparing for our Next 100 Years!

May 19, 2019 marks NPCA's 100th birthday. We have ambitious plans to celebrate this remarkable milestone, from exciting events with partners to increasing our advocacy capacity to centennial-related messaging throughout the year. We're proud of our ten decades as the only independent, nonpartisan organization advocating on behalf of America's national parks! In addition, our centennial year provides an opportunity to take stock—to look back on where we've been and to chart a course for where we'd like to go, with the help of supporters like you.

As we reflect on some of the important park highlights from the last 100 years, a few of the critical park victories NPCA has helped secure in the Mid-Atlantic region include:

- **Securing funding to preserve key lands and protect clean water** throughout our region.
- **Protecting existing national parks from multiple incompatible proposed developments**, including at Gettysburg and Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania National Military Parks, at Harpers Ferry and Valley Forge National Historical

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Parks, at New River Gorge National River and at Petersburg National Battlefield.

- **Reducing harmful air pollution** at dozens of parks, including Shenandoah National Park, thereby benefiting the health of park visitors and nearby communities.
- **Establishing new national parks that help tell untold or under-told stories of America's collective journey towards a more perfect union.** Our efforts include the establishment of Fort Monroe National Monument, where slavery began—and began to end—in America; Belmont-Paul Women's Equality National Monument, which

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Top: As NPCA celebrates our centennial and looks ahead to our next 100 years of advocacy, climate change presents one of the National Park System's greatest challenges. Many parks including Assateague Island National Seashore in MD and VA already are seeing impacts. ©Appalachianviews | Dreamstime

FIELD REPORT

WINTER 2018-19

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Maryland, Pennsylvania,
Virginia, West Virginia

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News from the Scenic Wild Delaware River

In September, the Scenic Wild Delaware River Geotourism program hosted the “Protecting, Preserving and Promoting Our Natural, Historic and Cultural Assets” workshop in historic Blirstown, New Jersey. Experts in historic preservation, trail building, virtual trail mapping and public art shared principles and examples of promoting community sustainability and vitality. Participants represented geotouristic groups and businesses along the upper and middle Delaware River from Hancock, New York downstream to Easton, Pennsylvania and Phillipsburg,

New Jersey. To learn more, visit www.ScenicWildDelawareRiver.com.

In October, NPCA released “Making Connections: Roots of Prosperity in New York and Pennsylvania’s Upper Delaware Region,” a new report about the changing economy of this region anchored by the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River. To download the report, visit www.npca.org/upperdelaware.

Below: Kilgour Spur, Upper Delaware Scenic & Recreational River, NY ©David B. Soete



Campaign Updates

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Fight for Manassas Battlefield Marks Initial Success

In 2017, the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) announced plans to add traffic lanes to I-66 in an area next to Manassas National Battlefield. After the National Park Service agreed to the plans, VDOT changed them by adding two tolled elevated access ramps that would be visible from the battlefield.

NPCA has spearheaded a coalition that successfully persuaded VDOT to move one ramp away from the park’s viewshed and to reduce the harsh visual impacts of

the second ramp. We continue to advocate for VDOT to minimize the visual and auditory impacts the new traffic ramp would have on this historic battlefield.

Below: Manassas National Battlefield Park, VA
©Zrfphoto | Dreamstime



HAVE A PHOTO OR COMMENT TO SHARE?

We welcome photos from members enjoying national parks, particularly those in the Mid-Atlantic region. We also appreciate feedback on our Field Report. Share your digital photos, comments and ideas with us via **email at midatlantic@npca.org**

Upcoming NPCA Events in the Mid-Atlantic

Contact midatlantic@npca.org or check out <https://www.npcap.org/events> for more information on any of these events.

April 3, 2019

38th Annual Salute to the Parks

NPCA's 38th Annual Salute to the Parks offers one of the largest and most influential gatherings of the conservation and historic preservation communities. Join us as we celebrate 100 years of park advocacy.

Washington, D.C.

July 13, 2019

Zane Grey Festival

Come celebrate the natural and cultural heritage of the Upper Delaware region!

Lackawaxen, PA

Spring 2019

Scenic Wild Delaware River workshop

These popular workshops bring together groups and individuals invested in promoting and sustaining the natural, cultural and recreational resources of the middle and upper Delaware River including its four national parks.

Balancing Nature and Commerce in the Brandywine Valley Spring Forum

Join partners across the Brandywine Valley region in northwestern Delaware and southeastern Pennsylvania in this two-day



Above Advocates speak up for clean water funding at the 2nd Annual Susquehanna River Rally in Harrisburg, PA. ©Shannon Confair Photography

action planning workshop to identify regional, community-driven projects that capitalize on and complement the new First State National Historical Park and other cultural, natural and historic assets in this beautiful region.

Summer 2019

Paddle the Potomac

Join NPCA and Potomac Conservancy at this ever-popular alternative happy hour. Participants will learn about the Potomac

River and ways to advocate for clean water in Washington D.C.'s national parks before getting to canoe, kayak or stand-up-paddleboard. **Washington, D.C.**

Upper Delaware BioBlitz

Join NPCA, the Upper Delaware Scenic & Recreational River and other partners to inventory biodiversity. Volunteers will work with experts to identify as many species of plants, animals, microbes, fungi and other organisms as possible.

Celebrating NPCA's Centennial

Preparing for our Next 100 Years!



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commemorates the successful campaign for women's suffrage and the continuing campaign for equal pay for equal work; First State National Historical Park, which offers opportunities to delve into European colonization and eastern Indian tribes; and Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Historical Park, one of a handful of parks dedicated to the story of a female American hero.

■ **Preserving additional historic lands at existing parks by expanding the park boundary** at parks like Gettysburg National Military Park, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, and Petersburg National Battlefield.

We look forward to our next 100 years of engaging and inspiring the next generation of park advocates, protecting and enjoying our most beautiful places, and embracing

and highlighting the diverse voices of our country and our history.

THANK YOU for supporting NPCA and for your leadership to help protect the many treasured natural and historic sites in our National Park System.

Above: Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Historical Park, Church Creek, MD
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Please Help Fix Our Parks!

The value of national parks as America's "common ground" is reflected in an extraordinary bipartisan effort to secure federal funding to address the highest

priority projects on the National Park Service's long list of overdue repairs.

At press time, NPCA and our partners in the Second Century Action Coalition are urging House and Senate leadership to approve bills to provide \$6.5 billion over five years for the Park Service to replace

roofs on historic buildings, rebuild trails, upgrade failing water and sewage systems, and tackle other high-priority projects.

S. 3172, introduced by Senators Rob Portman (R-Ohio), Mark Warner (D-Virginia) and Angus King (I-Maine), has 34 cosponsors. The companion bill H.R. 6510, introduced by Reps. Rob Bishop (R-Utah) and Raul Grijalva (D-Arizona), has 227 cosponsors. The effort also has the support of Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke and the Trump administration.

If Congress is still in session when you read this, please call the Congressional Switchboard at 202.224.3121 and ask to be connected to the offices of your two senators and your representative. Then, ask each of them to do everything possible to get this legislation over the finish line in the closing days of the 115th Congress. For more information, check out www.npca.org/fixourparks, or contact NPCA staff at 202.223.6722. Thank you!

Left: Sunrise at Bryce Canyon National Park, UT
©Coulterbc59 | Dreamstime



UTAH'S NATIONAL PARKS BRYCE, ZION & BEARS EARS SEPTEMBER 18-25, 2019

You are invited to join National Parks Conservation Association and Black Sheep Adventures on two incredible hiking journeys through the impressive national parks and monuments of Utah. Enjoy exclusive itineraries for NPCA Trustees for the Parks members for a behind-the-scenes look at how your support has made it possible for NPCA to defend these valuable places. **Contact Jared Dial to register or for more information at 202-454-3305 or jdial@npca.org**

