



NATIONAL PARKS (1981, R1991, R2000, R2001, R2007, R2016)

Policy Statement

The American Society of Landscape Architects believes that National Parks are critical ecological reserves of biological diversity and serve as touchstones of our cultural and historical heritage. As scenic landscape, National Parks provide for restoration of mind and body, uniquely serve as models of environmental quality, and preserve a significant natural and cultural heritage. These sites provide environmental baselines and serve as indicators and laboratories for scientific inquiry, in addition to providing serve as environmental barometers and laboratories for scientific inquiry, in addition to providing educational opportunities that contribute to an environmentally literate population. The National Park System¹ is a source of national pride and identity. Management of the National Park System and its expansion are critical to the well-being of the nation.

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¹ The National Park System is constituted of numerous sites that have designations as National Parks, National Monuments, National Preserves, National Historic Sites, National Historical Parks, National Memorials, National Battlefields, National Cemeteries, National Recreation Areas, National Seashores, National Lakeshores, National Rivers, National Parkways, National Trails, and other affiliated areas.