



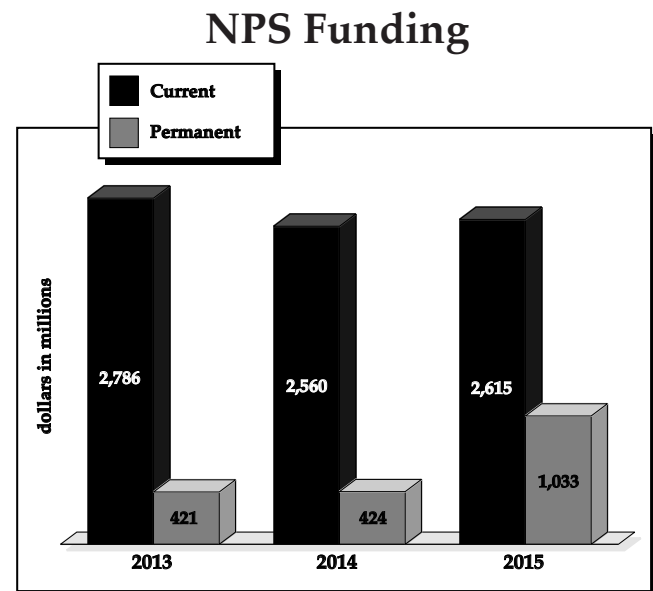
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Mission – As stated in the Organic Act of 1916, the National Park Service mission is to “preserve unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations.”

Budget Overview – The 2015 President’s budget current request for NPS of \$2.6 billion is \$55.1 million above the 2014 enacted level. The Park Service estimates total staffing will equal 21,798 full time equivalents in 2015, an increase of 244 FTE from 2014. The 2015 President’s budget request provides programmatic increases over 2014 totaling \$38.5 million to fund essential programs and emerging operational needs, plus \$16.6 million in fixed costs increases.

In 2015, as it prepares for its centennial year, NPS will continue to carry on its stewardship of cultural and natural treasures of national significance and provide enriching experiences and enjoyment for all visitors including the Nation’s youth. The NPS will maintain its commitment to protect and restore ecosystems, preserve and conserve cultural resources, provide visitors with venues for physical activity and natural experiences, and assist States and local communities to develop recreational sites and facilities and preserve historic assets. Additionally, NPS will conduct construction projects to address the highest priority health and safety projects, as well as landscape scale environmental restoration projects.

The President’s budget request provides targeted increases for the NPS Centennial initiative, programs funded through the Land and Water Conservation Fund, and line-item construction. A legislative proposal in support of the Centennial to fund partnership and deferred maintenance projects as permanent appropriations will provide an additional \$300.0 million a year for three years to NPS. A separate legislative proposal to fund a portion of NPS land acquisition and recreation grants from the LWCF as a permanent appropriation will provide an additional \$192.2 million. The Administration’s proposal for a government-wide Opportunity, Growth, and Security Initiative also will support NPS. This Initiative includes \$100.0 million to address the deferred maintenance



backlog, and \$6.0 million to support development of a nationwide inventory of historic properties to help expedite Federal permitting and get infrastructure projects off the ground.

Additionally, NPS has the opportunity to compete for funding through the proposed \$200.0 million Centennial Land Management Investment Fund, half of which is to be funded from a permanent account and half as part of the Opportunity, Growth, and Security Initiative. Funding will be managed by the Department and awarded competitively among land management agencies, including BLM, FWS, NPS, and the U.S. Forest Service to address deferred maintenance, land conservation, and provide youth employment opportunities.

Centennial Initiative – In 2015, the Nation stands at the doorstep of the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service—a defining moment that offers an opportunity to take strategic action to prepare for the next 100 years. The NPS seeks to recommit to the preservation of these special places, to invest wisely in the system’s most important assets, to use the parks to enhance informal learning, engage volunteers, provide training

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE FACTS

- In 1916 Congress created the National Park Service also known as “America’s Best Idea.”
- There are 401 park units, which encompass 84.5 million acres in all 50 States and four Territories.
- In 2013, 281 million people visited the Nation’s national parks.
- In 2013, nearly 24,000 individual full and part time employees and 246,000 volunteers worked to preserve, protect, and share the history of this land and its people.
- The NPS workforce is made up of archeologists, engineers, curators, biologists, hydrologists, historians, law enforcement officers, and many other disciplines.
- The NPS collaborates with Tribes, States, local governments, non-profits, and historic property owners who share in preserving the Nation’s shared heritage.

opportunities to youth, and to enhance the NPS’ ability to leverage partnerships to accomplish its mission.

The President’s budget request takes an innovative, multi-pronged approach to prepare for the centennial by requesting funding through the NPS budget, as well as multi-agency and NPS permanent accounts, and the Opportunity, Growth, and Security Initiative.

The President’s request includes a current increase of \$40.0 million to prepare for and celebrate the centennial. This is comprised of \$30.0 million for operations, including \$16.0 million for repair and rehabilitation projects; \$8.0 million for a new program to hire youth and veterans at parks; \$4.0 million to engage youth in service and conservation projects; and \$2.0 million to support expanded volunteer opportunities at parks. Of these increases, \$8.0 million will support the Secretary’s youth priorities. In addition to operational funding, the request includes \$10.0 million for Centennial Challenge projects and partnerships. This matching program will leverage Federal funds with partner donations for signature projects and programs at national parks.

The legislative proposal to provide new, permanent NPS funding for the Centennial initiative includes \$100.0 million a year for Centennial Challenge projects for three years. This funding will support signature projects at many more park units during the centennial year and into the NPS’ second century. The permanent proposal also includes \$200.0 million a year, for three years, for Second Century Infrastructure Investment projects to make a meaningful and lasting impact on the NPS’ deferred maintenance backlog by restoring priority park assets to good condition.

The Administration’s proposal for the government-wide Opportunity, Growth, and Security Initiative also supports the Centennial initiative, with a request of an additional \$100.0 million to address the NPS deferred

maintenance backlog. Funding from all three proposals directed toward improving park assets will create thousands of new jobs and provide additional work and training opportunities for youth.

The Centennial initiative includes a competitive opportunity for public lands agencies to support conservation and maintenance projects. The Centennial Land Management Investment Fund consists of two components, \$100.0 million a year in permanent funding for three years and \$100.0 million through the Opportunity, Growth, and Security Initiative. These funds broaden the Centennial initiative to provide an opportunity for all of Interior’s public lands bureaus and the U.S. Forest Service to address deferred maintenance needs and land conservation, and provide youth employment opportunities.

Overall, the budget proposal—including permanent, current, and Opportunity, Growth, and Security Initiative resources—will allow NPS to ensure 1,700 or 20 percent of the highest priority park assets are restored to good condition. The effort creates thousands of jobs over three years, provides over 10,000 work and training opportunities to young people, and engages more than 265,000 volunteers in support of public lands.

America’s Great Outdoors—In 2015, a total of \$2.5 billion is proposed for NPS as part of the Administration’s initiative to reconnect Americans to the outdoors. This includes \$2.3 billion for park operations, a program increase of \$30.4 million over 2014. Of this amount, \$30.0 million is for the NPS Centennial initiative, \$8.0 million of which is directed toward programs that foster the engagement of youth in the great outdoors. This increase provides a total of \$21.5 million in NPS for youth engagement.

The 2015 budget also includes a total of \$104.0 million for current appropriations funded through the LWCF, a vital component of the America’s Great Outdoors initiative. The 2015 budget proposal includes \$55.9 million for

Federal land acquisition, a programmatic increase of \$5.8 million. This includes a total of \$29.0 million for Federal acquisition projects, an increase of \$6.9 million over 2014, and \$8.5 million in funding for American Battlefield Protection land acquisition grants for non-Federal entities, a reduction of \$470,000 compared to 2014. A total of \$48.1 million is requested for LWCF State Conservation grants, level with 2014.

Complementing the current budget request for LWCF is \$192.2 million in permanent LWCF funding including \$115.2 million for Federal land acquisition, with \$2.5 million for projects to specifically address recreational access and \$5.0 million for American Battlefield Protection Program land acquisition grants. The legislative LWCF proposal also provides \$52.0 million for LWCF State Conservation grants. An additional \$25.0 million is included for Urban Parks and Recreation Fund program, which assists economically distressed urban communities with the revitalization and improvement of recreation opportunities.

The budget also requests \$1.2 million for American Battlefield Protection assistance grants in the National Recreation and Preservation account and \$56.4 million for Historic Preservation Fund grants, both level with 2014. A total of \$10.0 million is requested for the Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program, level with 2014. These programs support NPS stewardship of important cultural resources and ecosystems, and assist States, local communities, and other groups in developing recreational sites and facilities to protect and conserve important, non-Federal cultural and historic assets.

Park Operations – The 2015 NPS budget request for operations is \$2.3 billion. This is an increase of \$47.1 million above the 2014 enacted level, consisting of \$30.4 million in program increases and \$15.7 million in fixed costs increases. Highlights of the 2015 budget include the \$30.0 million Centennial initiative increase described separately. Other increases are partially offset by a \$2.2 million programmatic reduction to refocus operations funding, and increases of \$2.0 million to support new responsibilities at park units, \$456,000 to address increased stormwater management charges from the District of Columbia, and \$123,000 for services provided by the Department's Office of Indirect Cost Services.

Centennial Challenge – The Centennial Challenge program, requested at \$10.0 million, will provide a Federal match to leverage partner donations for signature projects and programs at national parks in anticipation and support of the upcoming centennial. This program will be instrumental in garnering partner support to prepare park sites across the Country for the centennial and the second century of NPS. All Federal funds must be matched on

a 50:50 basis. This program is further bolstered by the Administration's proposal to fund an additional \$100.0 million a year for three years for this program as a permanent appropriation discussed separately.

National Recreation and Preservation – This appropriation supports local community efforts to preserve natural and cultural resources. The 2015 request includes \$52.0 million for these programs, a decrease of \$8.8 million compared to 2014, consisting of a program reduction of \$9.1 million to Heritage Partnership Programs and fixed costs increases of \$301,000.

In response to the strong public desire for additional technical assistance for public recreation and conservation projects during America's Great Outdoors listening sessions, the 2015 budget contains \$10.0 million for the Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program. This amount is level with 2014.

Historic Preservation – The Historic Preservation Fund supports Historic Preservation Offices in States, Territories, and tribal lands to preserve historically and culturally significant sites. The grants awarded by these offices are an important part of the America's Great Outdoors initiative. The 2015 budget request for the Historic Preservation Fund is \$56.4 million, level with 2014. Of this total, \$46.9 million is requested for grants-in-aid to States and Territories, \$9.0 million is requested for grants-in-aid to Tribes, and \$500,000 is for competitive grants targeted toward communities currently underrepresented on the National Register of Historic Places. These grants will be used to conduct the surveying, community engagement, and other pre-nomination activities to ensure the National Register of Historic Places is representative of the full spectrum of the Nation's cultural heritage.

The Administration's proposal for a government-wide Opportunity, Growth, and Security Initiative identifies an additional \$6.0 million for the Historic Preservation Fund to support the development of a nationwide inventory of historic properties to help expedite Federal permitting and get infrastructure projects off the ground.

Construction – The 2015 request includes \$138.3 million for the construction account, which funds construction projects, equipment replacement, management, planning, operations, and special projects. This is \$878,000 above the 2014 enacted level, including \$401,000 in fixed costs increases. The budget funds \$61.7 million for line-item construction projects, a \$1.1 million program increase compared to 2014. The budget provides funding for the highest priority construction projects critical to visitor and employee health and safety or ecosystem restoration and does not propose funding for new construction projects. The request includes \$6.7 million to reconstruct

the historic cave tour trails in Mammoth Cave National Park and \$3.9 million to stabilize and repair exterior walls of the historic Alcatraz prison cell house at Golden Gate National Recreational Area. The budget also includes a programmatic increase of \$380,000 for regional facility project support.

Complementary funding proposals to address deferred maintenance requirements are discussed separately as part of the Centennial initiative. Overall, the budget proposal—including permanent, current, and Opportunity, Growth, and Security Initiative resources—will allow NPS to ensure 1,700 or 20 percent of the highest priority park assets are restored to good condition.

Land Acquisition and State Assistance – The 2015 current request for this account is \$104.0 million, an increase of \$5.9 million, with \$5.8 million in program increases and \$123,000 in fixed costs increases. This includes \$55.9 million for NPS Federal land acquisition, a programmatic increase of \$5.8 million over the 2014 enacted level. The budget provides \$29.0 million for high priority line-item acquisition projects within park boundaries, a \$6.9 million increase over 2014. The 2015 Federal land acquisition projects were selected using a strategic, merit-based process with a focus on conserving critical ecosystems, leveraging non-Federal partners, and alignment with the conservation priorities of Interior Bureaus, Federal agencies, Tribes, States, and other stakeholders.

Within the total requested for land acquisition, \$13.2 million supports Collaborative Landscape Projects in the California Southwest Desert and areas within the National Trails System. These projects were selected collaboratively working with Interior's other land management bureaus and the U.S. Forest Service to target high-priority conservation values. The NPS request for Federal acquisition projects also includes \$6.3 million for a project at Redwood National Park to provide migration corridors for Roosevelt elk as well as connectivity of old-growth habitat for marbled murrelets and northern spotted owls. The request also includes \$8.5 million for matching grants for States and local entities to acquire Civil War battlefield sites outside the national park system, as well as \$3.9 million for emergencies and hardship land acquisitions, \$4.9 million to acquire inholdings and facilitate land donations and exchanges, and \$9.5 million for land acquisition administration.

The LWCF State Conservation Grants program provides funding to States for the purchase of lands for preservation and recreation purposes. The program is intended to create and maintain a nationwide legacy of high quality recreation areas and facilities and to stimulate non-Federal investments in the protection and maintenance of recreation resources across the United States. In 2015, the State Conservation Grants program will continue to provide matching grants to States, and through States to local governments, for the acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation areas and facilities. The budget proposes \$48.1 million for this program, level with 2014. This will provide \$42.0 million for formula grants, \$3.0 million for competitive grants, and \$3.1 million for grant administration.

The 2015 budget proposes legislation which would provide an additional \$192.2 million in permanent funds for NPS. Of this amount, \$115.2 million is for Federal land acquisition, including \$2.5 million for projects that specifically address recreational access and \$5.0 million for American Battlefield Protection Program land acquisition grants. An additional \$52.0 million will be directed to the LWCF State Conservation Grants program and \$25.0 million for the Urban Parks and Recreation Fund.

Recreation Fee Program – This permanent funding program operates under the authority of the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act. The Act authorizes NPS to collect recreation fees at selected parks and requires fee revenues be used to improve visitor services and enhance the visitor experience at those parks and throughout the national park system. The NPS estimates in 2015 it will collect \$178.7 million in revenues and obligate \$200.0 million in recreation fees for projects. In 2013, 37 percent of NPS recreation fee obligations addressed asset repair and maintenance projects, 19 percent addressed interpretation and visitor services, and seven percent addressed habitat restoration. The remaining 37 percent of recreation fee obligations were spent on operational activities such as law enforcement, cost of collecting fees, and visitor reservation services. The 2015 budget proposes to extend authorization for the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act through 2016, as a short-term alternative to proposed legislation for long-term reauthorization.

Fixed Costs – Fixed costs of \$16.6 million are fully funded.

SUMMARY OF BUREAU APPROPRIATIONS

(all dollar amounts in thousands)

Comparison of 2015 Request with 2014 Enacted

	2014 Enacted		2015 Request		Change	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
Current						
Operation of the National Park System	16,805	2,236,753	16,993	2,283,852	+188	+47,099
Centennial Challenge	0	0	13	10,000	+13	+10,000
National Recreation and Preservation	266	60,795	266	51,998	0	-8,797
Historic Preservation Fund.....	0	56,410	0	56,410	0	0
Construction	452	137,461	380	138,339	-72	+878
Land Acquisition and State Assistance	101	98,100	101	104,000	0	+5,900
LWCF Contract Authority (<i>cancellation</i>)	0	-30,000	0	-30,000	0	0
Subtotal, Current	17,624	2,559,519	17,753	2,614,599	+129	+55,080
Permanent						
Recreation Fee Permanent Appropriations	1,592	192,986	1,592	195,988	0	+3,002
Other Permanent Appropriations	436	169,813	436	173,709	0	+3,896
Miscellaneous Trust Funds	187	30,003	187	140,003	0	+110,000
Centennial Challenge	0	0	36	100,000	+36	+100,000
Construction	0	0	41	200,000	+41	+200,000
Urban Park and Recreation Fund	0	0	5	25,000	+5	+25,000
Land Acquisition and State Assistance	0	1,433	12	168,103	+12	+166,670
LWCF Contract Authority	0	30,000	0	30,000	0	0
Subtotal, Permanent.....	2,215	424,235	2,309	1,032,803	+94	+608,568
Allocation and Reimbursable						
Allocation	888	0	909	0	+21	0
Reimbursable	827	0	827	0	0	0
Subtotal, Allocation and Reimbursable	1,715	0	1,736	0	+21	0
TOTAL, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE	21,554	2,983,754	21,798	3,647,402	+244	+663,648

Note: The 2015 FTE estimate reflected in this table for the Operation of the National Park System account is updated from the estimate included in the Appendix, Budget of the United States Government, Fiscal Year 2015.

HIGHLIGHTS OF BUDGET CHANGES

By Appropriation Activity/Subactivity

APPROPRIATION: Operation of the National Park System

	2013 Actual	2014 Enacted	2015 Request	Change
Park Management				
Resource Stewardship	308,380	329,683	331,858	+2,175
Visitor Services	226,239	237,763	248,192	+10,429
Park Protection	340,258	356,665	361,708	+5,043
Facility Operations and Maintenance ..	625,661	679,904	702,676	+22,772
Park Support	429,322	454,938	459,414	+4,476
Subtotal, Park Management	1,929,860	2,058,953	2,103,848	+44,895
External Administrative Costs	167,401	177,800	180,004	+2,204
TOTAL APPROPRIATION <i>(w/o transfers)</i>	2,097,261	2,236,753	2,283,852	+47,099
Transfers	208	0	0	0
TOTAL APPROPRIATION <i>(w/ transfers)</i>	2,097,469	2,236,753	2,283,852	+47,099

Detail of Budget Changes

	2015 Change from 2014 Enacted		2015 Change from 2014 Enacted
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	+47,099		
Park Management	+44,895	Facility Operations and Maintenance	+22,772
Resource Stewardship	+2,175	Centennial Initiative	
Fixed Costs	+2,175	Increase Support for Repair and Rehab	+16,000
Visitor Services	+10,429	Enhance Visitor Experience	+1,971
Centennial Initiative		Address New Responsibilities at Parks	+932
Increase Youth Opportunities	+4,000	Support D.C. Water and Sewer Billing	+456
Enhance Visitor Experience	+3,793	Fixed Costs	+3,413
Support Expanded Volunteer Capacity	+2,000	Park Support	+4,476
Address New Responsibilities at Parks	+913	Support Office of Indirect Cost Services	+123
Eliminate Support for National		Transfer from Construction Account	+1,018
Capital Area Performing Arts	-2,227	Fixed Costs	+3,335
Fixed Costs	+1,950	External Administrative Costs	+2,204
Park Protection	+5,043	Fixed Costs	+2,204
Centennial Initiative		Subtotals for Changes Across Multiple Subactivities	
Enhance Visitor Experience	+2,236	Centennial Initiative	[+30,000]
Address New Responsibilities at Parks	+155	Address New Responsibilities at Parks	[+2,000]
Fixed Costs	+2,652	Fixed Costs	[+15,729]

APPROPRIATION: Centennial Challenge

	2013 Actual	2014 Enacted	2015 Request	Change
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	0	0	10,000	+10,000

Detail of Budget Changes

2015 Change from
2014 Enacted

TOTAL APPROPRIATION +10,000

Centennial Challenge +10,000

APPROPRIATION: National Recreation and Preservation

	2013 Actual	2014 Enacted	2015 Request	Change
Recreation Programs.....	554	584	589	+5
Natural Programs.....	12,752	13,456	13,560	+104
Cultural Programs.....	23,371	24,662	24,562	-100
Environmental Compliance and Review.	407	430	433	+3
Grants Administration	1,648	1,738	2,004	+266
International Park Affairs	1,551	1,636	1,648	+12
Heritage Partnership Programs				
Commissions and Grants.....	15,533	17,689	8,220	-9,469
Administrative Support	931	600	982	+382
Subtotal, Heritage Partnerships	16,464	18,289	9,202	-9,087
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	56,747	60,795	51,998	-8,797

Detail of Budget Changes

2015 Change from
2014 Enacted

2015 Change from
2014 Enacted

TOTAL APPROPRIATION -8,797

Recreation Programs..... +5
 Fixed Costs +5

International Park Affairs +12
 Fixed Costs +12

Natural Programs..... +104
 Fixed Costs +104

Heritage Partnership Programs -9,087
 Restore Heritage Partnerships

Cultural Programs..... -100
 Transfer -250
 Fixed Costs +150

 Program Administration +376
 Reduce Heritage Area Funding..... -9,474
 Fixed Costs +11

Environmental Compliance and Review..... +3
 Fixed Costs +3

Subtotals for Changes Across Multiple Subactivities

 Fixed Costs [+301]

Grants Administration +266
 Transfer +250
 Fixed Costs +16

APPROPRIATION: Historic Preservation Fund

	2013 Actual	2014 Enacted	2015 Request	Change
Grants-in-Aid				
Grants-in-Aid to States and Territories	44,479	46,925	46,925	0
Grants-in-Aid to Indian Tribes	8,518	8,985	8,985	0
Competitive Survey Grants	0	500	500	0
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	52,997	56,410	56,410	0
Supplemental	47,489	0	0	0
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	100,486	56,410	56,410	0

APPROPRIATION: Construction

	2013 Actual	2014 Enacted	2015 Request	Change
Line Item Construction and Maint	49,581	60,563	61,678	+1,115
Special Programs	19,677	20,803	20,803	0
Construction Planning	6,866	7,265	7,266	+1
Construction Program Mgmt and Ops	35,043	37,082	36,771	-311
Management Planning	12,903	11,748	11,821	+73
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	124,070	137,461	138,339	+878
Wildland Fire - Transfer	11,500	0	0	0
Supplemental	329,815	0	0	0
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	465,385	137,461	138,339	+878

See Appendix E for proposed 2015 construction projects.

Detail of Budget Changes

	2015 Change from <u>2014 Enacted</u>
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	+878
Line Item Construction	+1,115
Construction Planning	+1
Fixed Costs	+1
Construction Program Mgmt. and Operations	-311
Enhance Regional Facility Project Support	+380
Transfer to ONPS Account	-1,018
Fixed Costs	+327
Management Planning	+73
Fixed Costs	+73
Subtotals for Changes Across Multiple Subactivities	
Fixed Costs	[+401]

APPROPRIATION: Land Acquisition

	2013 Actual	2014 Enacted	2015 Request	Change
Federal Land Acquisition				
Federal Land Acquisition Admin	8,989	9,500	9,526	+26
Emergency, Hardship, and Relocation.	2,838	3,093	3,928	+835
Inholdings, Donations, and Exchanges	4,731	6,364	4,928	-1,436
American Battlefield Protection				
Program Acquisition Grants.....	8,516	8,986	8,516	-470
Land Acquisition Projects	28,915	22,067	28,985	+6,918
Subtotal, Federal Land Acquisition	53,989	50,010	55,883	+5,873
State Assistance				
State Conservation Grants Admin.....	2,644	3,090	3,117	+27
State Conservation Grants	39,934	42,000	42,000	0
Competitive State Conser. Grants.....	0	3,000	3,000	0
Subtotal, State Assistance.....	42,578	48,090	48,117	+27
TOTAL APPROPRIATION <i>(w/o transfers)</i>	96,567	98,100	104,000	+5,900
Wildland Fire - Transfer	-1,150	0	0	0
TOTAL APPROPRIATION <i>(w/ transfers)</i>	95,417	98,100	104,000	+5,900

See Appendix C for proposed 2015 land acquisition projects.

Detail of Budget Changes

	2015 Change from <u>2014 Enacted</u>
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	+5,900
Federal Land Acquisition.....	+5,873
Federal Land Acquisition Projects	+6,918
Emergency, Hardship, and Relocation Program...	+835
Land Acquisition Administration	-70
American Battlefield Protection Grants	-470
Inholdings, Donations, and Exchanges.....	-1,436
Fixed Costs	+96
State Assistance	+27
Fixed Costs	+27
Subtotals for Changes Across Multiple Subactivities	
Fixed Costs	[+123]

APPROPRIATION: Land and Water Conservation Fund Contract Authority

	2013 Actual	2014 Enacted	2015 Request	Change
TOTAL APPROPRIATION <i>(cancellation)</i> .	-30,000	-30,000	-30,000	0