

# Theodore Roosevelt Island

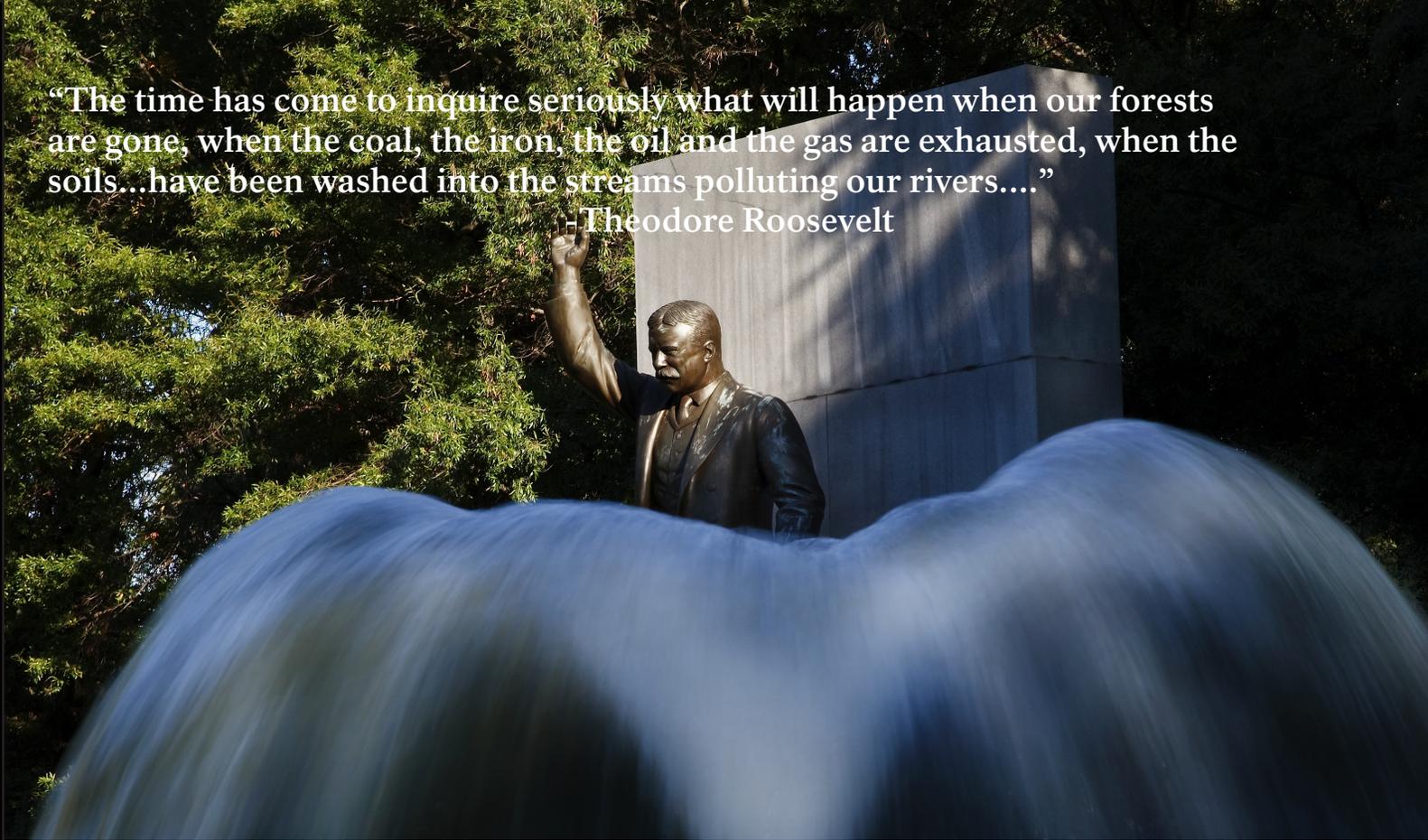
National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

George Washington Memorial Parkway  
District of Columbia/ Maryland/ Virginia



“The time has come to inquire seriously what will happen when our forests are gone, when the coal, the iron, the oil and the gas are exhausted, when the soils...have been washed into the streams polluting our rivers....”

-Theodore Roosevelt



## Here's how:

To receive your Junior Ranger badge, finish the booklet and mail it to:

National Park Service

700 George Washington Memorial Parkway

Turkey Run Park

McLean, VA 22101-1717

## Rules:

If you are 5 or 6 do three of the activities.

If you are 7 or 8 do five of the activities.

If you are 9 or 10 do seven of the activities.

If you are 11 or older complete the whole book.

## Safety:

Keep pets on leashes

Do not feed the animals

U.S. Park Police at 202-610-7500

Stay on the path

Do not pick the plants

Do not bike on the island

# Welcome to the Island

Theodore Roosevelt Island is a memorial, intended to preserve the memory of the 26th president of the United States. On the island, there is a monument to Theodore Roosevelt. This statue shows him giving one of his speeches, and the pillars behind the statue contain some of his best-known quotes.

If you could design a monument, what would it look like?



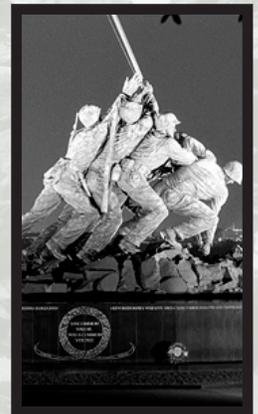
Washington Monument



Lincoln Memorial



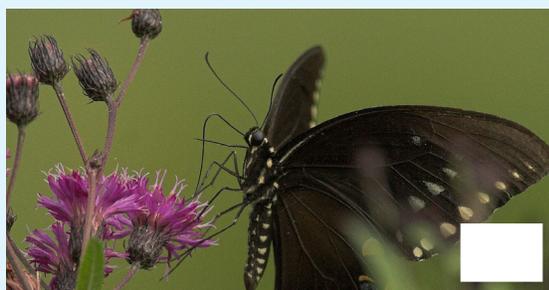
Statue of Liberty



U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial

# Open Your Eyes

There is a lot to see on Theodore Roosevelt Island. Keep your eyes open for these sites. If you see something that looks like one of the pictures, check it off. If you can't find them all, don't worry- the animals and sites change throughout the year!



# How the Island was Named

The island was first used as a seasonal hunting and fishing site by the Neocostin American Indians and called 'Analostan'. The island has had many other names through the years including "My Lord's Island" in 1632, "Barbados" in 1680, "Mason's Island" in 1717 and, finally its modern title of "Theodore Roosevelt Island" in 1933.

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## Take a Hike



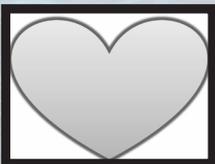
What do you hear?



What do you smell?



What do you see?



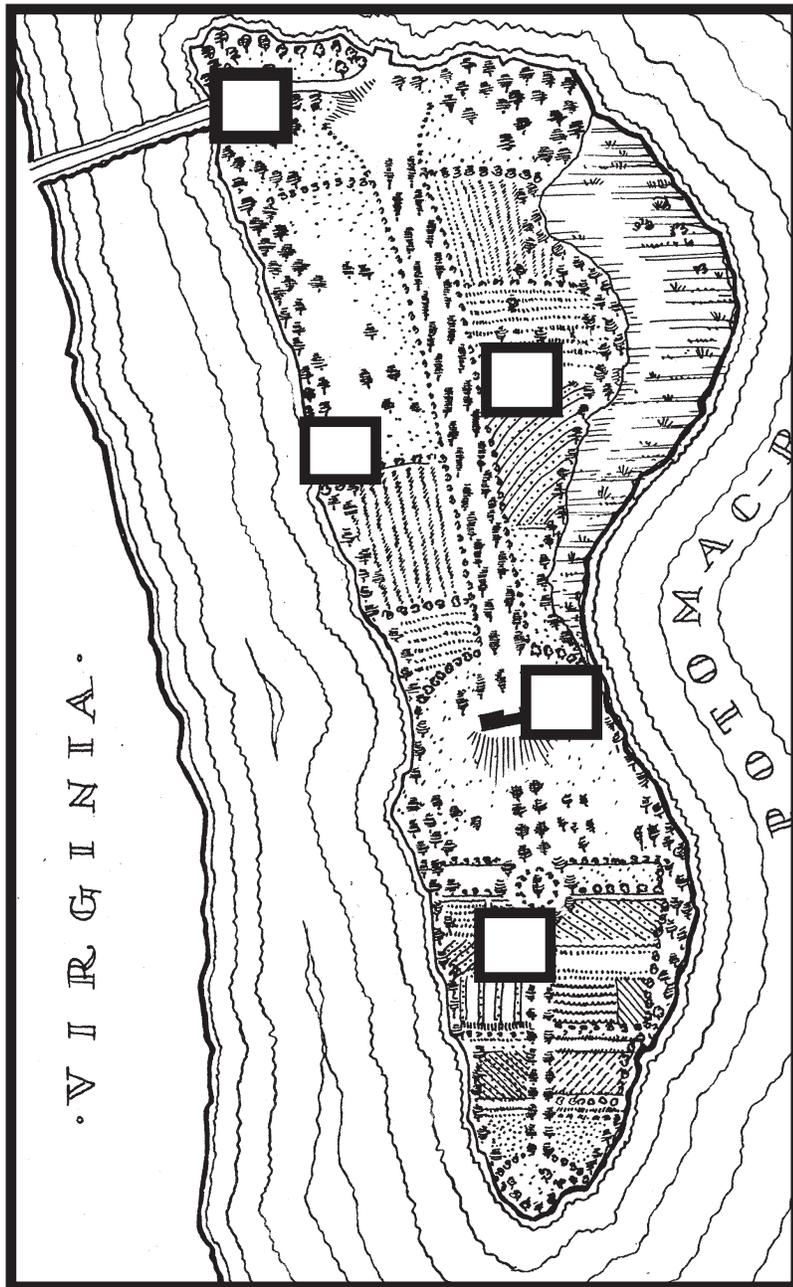
How does the place make you feel?



**If you had an island, what would you name it?**

# The Mason Family: 1717-1833

John Mason, son of George Mason IV, the Revolutionary Patriot, turned the island into a functional plantation and rural estate with a mansion. The island was completely replanted with crops and rose gardens. There was a ferry house on the island as well, so that individuals could cross the Potomac with livestock and other goods.



## Matching Up!

By looking at this map of the Mason estate can you identify where today's landmarks are?

1. The Statue?
2. The Marsh?
3. The Bathrooms?
4. The Causeway Wayside?
5. The Foot Bridge?

Write the number of the item next to where you think it is on the map.

Image: "Mason's Island 1818"

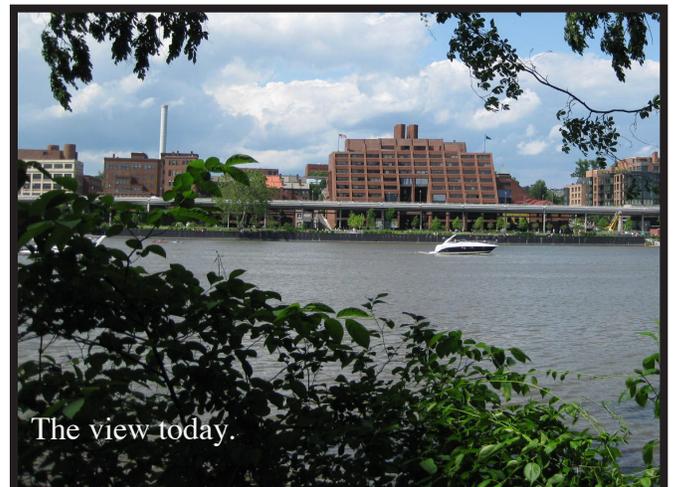
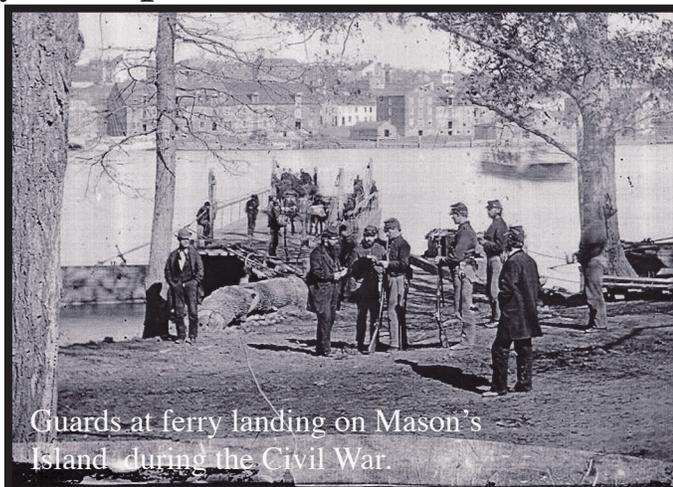
# The Civil War

During the Civil War (1861-1864), the island served as a training area for the Union Army, including the First U.S. Colored Troops, an African American regiment composed of free blacks, escaped slaves and white officers. The Union Army operated a ferry and pontoon bridge from the north end of the island to Georgetown. From May 1864- June 1865, a freedmen's refugee camp occupied much of the island, including the Mason mansion.



First U.S. Colored Troops

**Then and Now:** Instead of differences, can you spot 4 things that are the same in these two photos taken over a hundred years apart?



# Little Known Facts:

1. During the War of 1812, when the White House burned, the Mason Ferry was used to evacuate people from Georgetown to Virginia. President Madison used Mason's Ferry to escape from the invading British.
2. Among the famous people to come to Theodore Roosevelt Island were the escaped slave Sojourner Truth and the poet Walt Whitman. Both visited the island during the Civil War.
3. In 1890, a new world record for the 100-yard dash was set on the island with a time of 9 and 4/5 seconds. The crouching start to races was also first used on the island.
4. In 1898, the island became an explosives test range for dynamite during the Spanish American war.



# Finish Roosevelt's Quotes

Directions: Go to the monument and find the nature tablet. Fill in the blanks with the words you see.



# Theodore Roosevelt

## The Early Years

Born on October 27th, 1858 in New York City, Theodore Roosevelt overcame the health challenges of asthma and poor eyesight and focused his attention on the outdoor world. He enjoyed collecting live animals and hunting “specimens” to study. As a youngster, he established his own natural history museum with items gathered from his neighborhood and family travels. By the time of his presidency, he was a well-known naturalist and outdoorsman. This background prepared him for many of the challenges of his administration.

### *Bird Search*

There are many native birds on the island. In honor of Theodore Roosevelt’s love of wildlife, try to find the bird names within this word search.

- Bald Eagle
- Blue Heron
- Turkey Vulture
- Osprey
- Ring-billed Gull
- Woodpecker
- Blue Jay
- Carolina Chickadee
- American Robin
- Northern Mockingbird
- Common Yellowthroat



# The “Teddy Bear”

One of the United States’ favorite toys is named for Theodore Roosevelt. The ‘Teddy’ Bear was named for Roosevelt after one of his many hunting trips. On the excursion, one of his helpers had caught and tied up a bear for him to shoot. Teddy, feeling that it was unsportsmanlike, refused to shoot the defenseless animal. This incident was popularized in newspapers and the idea of the “Teddy Bear” was born.

## *Color the Picture*



# Making Connections

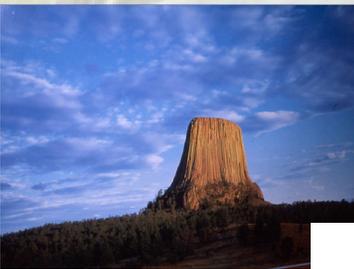
Theodore Roosevelt conserved millions of acres of public lands. Match the name of the park to the area he preserved.



1. Petrified Forest, Arizona



2. Devils Tower, Wyoming



3. Grand Canyon, Arizona



4. Yosemite, California



5. Montezuma Castle, Arizona

# Roosevelt's Presidency

Theodore Roosevelt came into the presidency after William McKinley died. He was re-elected at the end of his term and held the title of 26th president. Under Roosevelt's leadership the federal government expanded its role in conserving our nation's resources and changed the public's perception that America's natural resources were inexhaustible.

One of his most lasting legacies was his significant role in the creation of 150 National Forests, 5 National Parks, 51 Federal Bird Preserves and 18 National Monuments. In total, Roosevelt was instrumental in the conservation of approximately 230 million acres among various parks and other federal projects.



©1998 Theodore Roosevelt Collection  
Harvard College Library

## Think Big

Can you imagine a tree so big that adults would look small next to it? These trees still exist today because of Theodore Roosevelt's actions against logging companies. Thanks to his work, many natural wonders have been preserved. Here is Theodore Roosevelt with the naturalist John Muir in Yosemite in 1903.



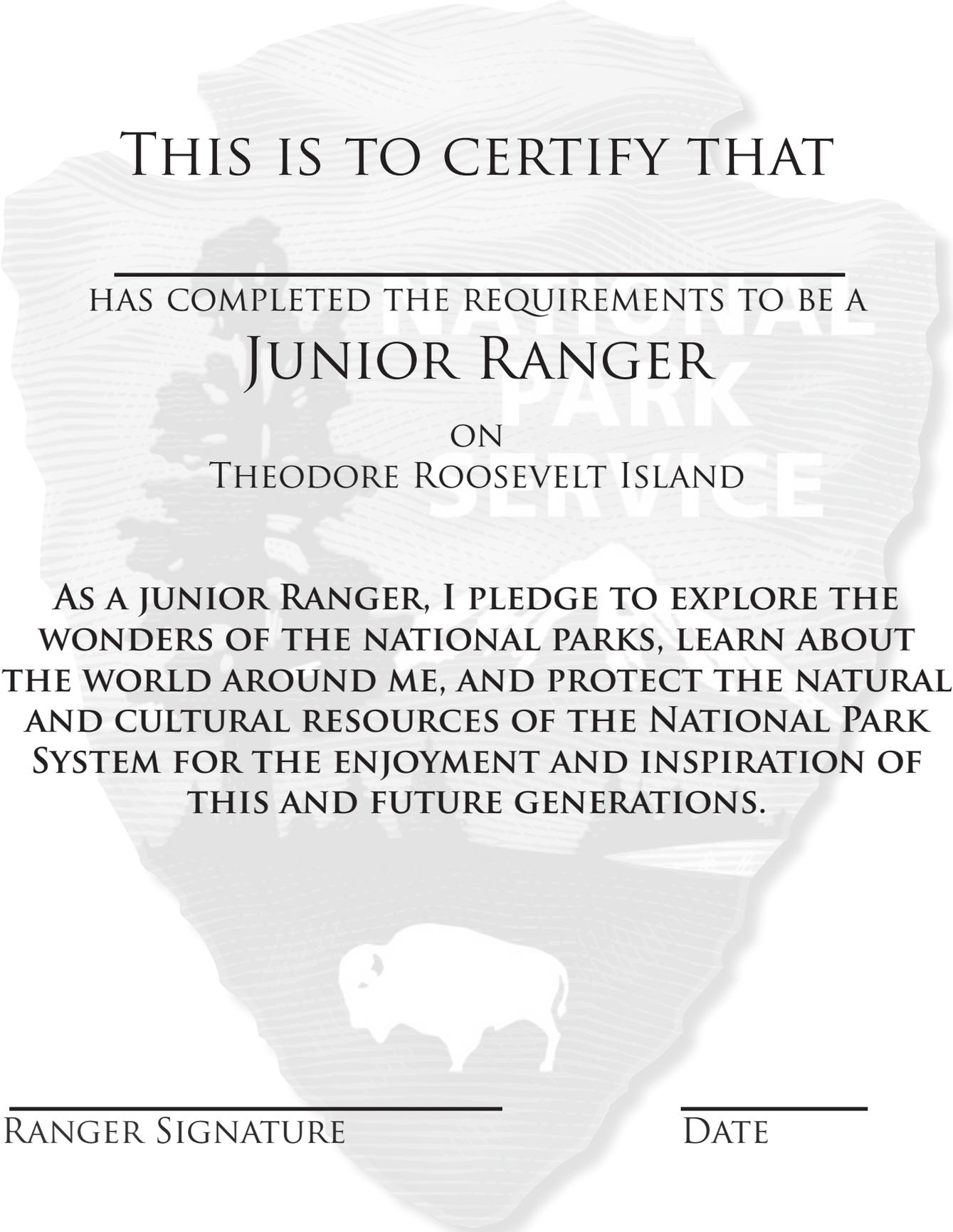
Theodore Roosevelt and John Muir. 1903, Yosemite, CA.

The National Park Foundation supports the Junior Ranger program as part of their nationwide effort to connect children to America's heritage and ensure the future of our national parks.

Become a webranger at:  
[www.nps.gov/webrangers](http://www.nps.gov/webrangers)



Images: All images are from the photographer Peritore or from the public domain.



THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT

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HAS COMPLETED THE REQUIREMENTS TO BE A

JUNIOR RANGER

ON

THEODORE ROOSEVELT ISLAND

AS A JUNIOR RANGER, I PLEDGE TO EXPLORE THE  
WONDERS OF THE NATIONAL PARKS, LEARN ABOUT  
THE WORLD AROUND ME, AND PROTECT THE NATURAL  
AND CULTURAL RESOURCES OF THE NATIONAL PARK  
SYSTEM FOR THE ENJOYMENT AND INSPIRATION OF  
THIS AND FUTURE GENERATIONS.

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RANGER SIGNATURE

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DATE



# Theodore Roosevelt Island Trail System

**Legend**

**Theodore Roosevelt Island Trails**

- Swamp Trail (1.3 miles)
- Woods Trail (0.4 miles)
- Upland Trail (0.7 miles)

Other GWMNP trails

- Swamp bridge
- Historic bridge
- Swamp Overlook

