Tule Springs Fossil Beds National Monument was established as the 405th unit of the National Park Service Dec. 19, 2014. Scientific investigations of the area began in the early 1900s, culminating in the 1962-63 Tule Springs expedition. A long scientific hiatus ended with exhaustive paleontological excavations in the 2000s. These scientific excavations and findings have shown that the park contains the single largest and most diverse open-site assemblage of vertebrate fossils from the end of the Pleistocene epoch found in the Mojave Desert and the southern Great Basin. While there are no facilities or marked trails at the park, at this time, there are opportunities to explore more of the story and see some of the fossils. The National Park Service has an exhibit on display at the Nevada State Museum in Las Vegas.

Park Purpose
The purpose of Tule Springs Fossil Beds National Monument is to conserve, protect, interpret, and enhance for the benefit of present and future generations the unique and nationally important paleontological, scientific, educational, and recreational resources and values of the land.

Next Steps
The park’s advisory council has been appointed by the Secretary of Interior. This council provides guidance for the management of the monument, including advisement on the preparation and implementation of a park management plan. The park has one permanent employee, the park superintendent. Additional support is provided by two rangers hired under special term appointments and Lake Mead National Recreation Area staff.

Interested Agencies & Organizations

Congressional District
Senators: Dean Heller (R-NV), Catherine Cortez Masto (D-NV)
Representatives: Dina Titus (D-NV), Jacky Rosen (D-NV), Ruben Kihuen (D-NV)