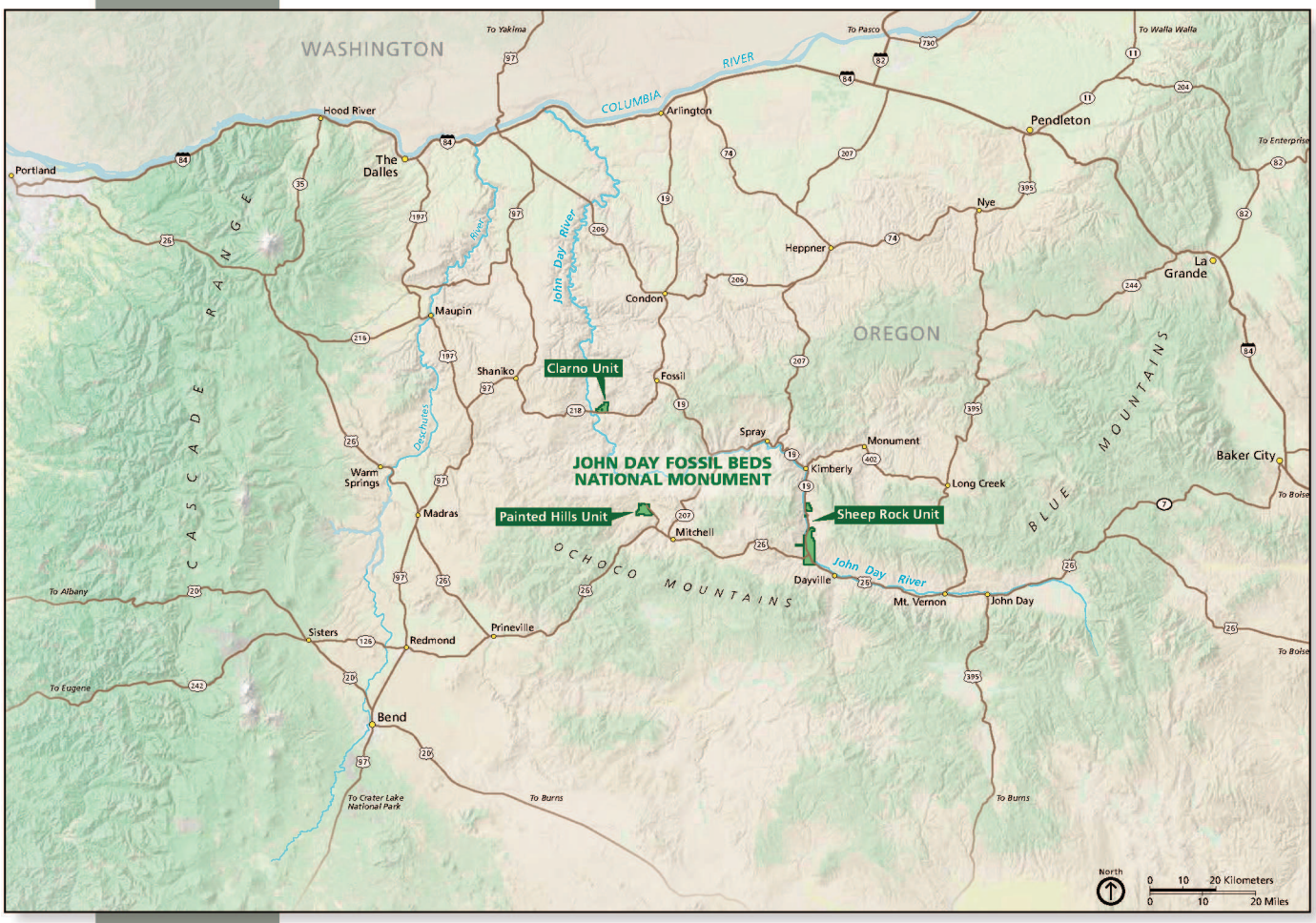
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE • U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Foundation Document

John Day Fossil Beds National Monument

Oregon

March 2017


WASHINGTON
OREGON
COLUMBIA RIVER
JOHN DAY FOSSIL BEDS
NATIONAL MONUMENT
Clarno Unit
Painted Hills Unit
Sheep Rock Unit
Hood River
The Dalles
Portland
Arlington
Pendleton
Nye
Heppner
La Grande
Condon
Maupin
Shaniko
Fossil
Spray
Monument
Kimberly
Long Creek
Baker City
Warm Springs
Madras
Mitchell
Dayville
Mt. Vernon
John Day
Prineville
Sisters
Redmond
Bend
CASCADE RANGE
BLUE MOUNTAINS
OCHOCO MOUNTAINS
John Day River
Deschutes River
To Yakima
To Pasco
To Walla Walla
To Enterprise
To Boise
To Albany
To Eugene
To Crater Lake National Park
To Burns
North
0 10 20 Kilometers
0 10 20 Miles


THOMAS CONDON
PALEONTOLOGY CENTER

Contents

Thomas Condon (1822-1907), first Oregon State Geologist and first professor of geology at the University of Oregon, collected fossils along the John Day River.

Mission of the National Park Service

The National Park Service (NPS) preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. The National Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.

The NPS core values are a framework in which the National Park Service accomplishes its mission. They express the manner in which, both individually and collectively, the National Park Service pursues its mission. The NPS core values are:

- **Shared stewardship:** We share a commitment to resource stewardship with the global preservation community.
- **Excellence:** We strive continually to learn and improve so that we may achieve the highest ideals of public service.
- **Integrity:** We deal honestly and fairly with the public and one another.
- **Tradition:** We are proud of it; we learn from it; we are not bound by it.
- **Respect:** We embrace each other's differences so that we may enrich the well-being of everyone.

The National Park Service is a bureau within the Department of the Interior. While numerous national park system units were created prior to 1916, it was not until August 25, 1916, that President Woodrow Wilson signed the National Park Service Organic Act formally establishing the National Park Service.

The national park system continues to grow and comprises more than 400 park units covering more than 84 million acres in every state, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. These units include, but are not limited to, national parks, monuments, battlefields, military parks, historical parks, historic sites, lakeshores, seashores, recreation areas, scenic rivers and trails, and the White House. The variety and diversity of park units throughout the nation require a strong commitment to resource stewardship and management to ensure both the protection and enjoyment of these resources for future generations.

The arrowhead was authorized as the official National Park Service emblem by the Secretary of the Interior on July 20, 1951. The sequoia tree and bison represent vegetation and wildlife, the mountains and water represent scenic and recreational values, and the arrowhead represents historical and archeological values.

Introduction

Every unit of the national park system will have a foundational document to provide basic guidance for planning and management decisions—a foundation for planning and management. The core components of a foundation document include a brief description of the park as well as the park's purpose, significance, fundamental resources and values, other important resources and values, and interpretive themes. The foundation document also includes special mandates and administrative commitments, an assessment of planning and data needs that identifies planning issues, planning products to be developed, and the associated studies and data required for park planning. Along with the core components, the assessment provides a focus for park planning activities and establishes a baseline from which planning documents are developed.

A primary benefit of developing a foundation document is the opportunity to integrate and coordinate all kinds and levels of planning from a single, shared understanding of what is most important about the park. The process of developing a foundation document begins with gathering and integrating information about the park. Next, this information is refined and focused to determine what the most important attributes of the park are. The process of preparing a foundation document aids park managers, staff, and the public in identifying and clearly stating in one document the essential information that is necessary for park management to consider when determining future planning efforts, outlining key planning issues, and protecting resources and values that are integral to park purpose and identity.

While not included in this document, a park atlas is also part of a foundation project. The atlas is a series of maps compiled from available geographic information system (GIS) data on natural and cultural resources, visitor use patterns, facilities, and other topics. It serves as a GIS-based support tool for planning and park operations. The atlas is published as a (hard copy) paper product and as geospatial data for use in a web mapping environment. The park atlas for John Day Fossil Beds National Monument can be accessed online at: http://insideparkatlas.nps.gov/.

Part 1: Core Components

The core components of a foundation document include a brief description of the park, park purpose, significance statements, fundamental resources and values, other important resources and values, and interpretive themes. These components are core because they typically do not change over time. Core components are expected to be used in future planning and management efforts.

Brief Description of the Monument

John Day Fossil Beds National Monument, in east central Oregon in Grant and Wheeler Counties, was established in 1975. It encompasses 14,000 acres in the John Day River valley.

Eastern Oregon holds many unexpected elements: pine-forested mountains, glades that preserve tall native grasses and wildflowers, deep canyons, trout streams, and small coves of pinnacled badlands. Badlands are steep, barren (nonvegetated) lands that are dissected by many intermittent drainage channels. Intriguing, too, are the area's hidden landscapes—the fossil remains of the jungles, savannas, and woodlands that once flourished here. The 20 square miles of John Day Fossil Beds National Monument feature sedimentary rocks that hold a plant and animal fossil record spanning nearly 50 million years of the "Age of Mammals and Flowering Plants," from about 50 million to 5 million years ago.

Due to the rain shadow effect of the Cascade and Ochoco Mountains to the west, the area has a semi-arid climate. Elevations range between 2,000 and 4,500 feet above sea level. Average annual precipitation is approximately 14 inches, with much of that coming in the spring as rainfall. The area receives little snowfall at the lower elevations.

Numerous creeks in the area flow into the John Day River, which is a major tributary of the Columbia River and the longest undammed river that flows into the Columbia River today. The natural erosion processes associated with the area's waterways have created features that have exposed the monument's vast fossil record.

The monument is geographically dispersed over three widely separated units: the Clarno Unit, the Painted Hills Unit, and the Sheep Rock Unit. All three units provide a variety of opportunities for recreation and study.

The Clarno Unit is 18 miles southwest of the town of Fossil on Oregon Route 218. It contains 1,969 acres and includes trails and a picnic area. The most prominent natural feature is the towering Clarno Palisades, which are a series of sharp cliffs up to 150 feet high formed from a series of prehistoric volcanic mud flows. The Hancock Field Station, owned and operated by the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry, is on Bureau of Land Management-conveyed public lands within the Clarno Unit.

The Painted Hills Unit is 9 miles northwest of the town of Mitchell. It contains 3,129 acres and includes trails, a scenic overlook, a picnic area, and informational exhibits. The most prominent natural feature is a series of multicolored hills and ridges derived from exposed paleosols.

The Sheep Rock Unit contains three parcels of land (totaling 8,916 acres) situated along Oregon Route 19 northwest of Dayville. This unit contains the Thomas Condon Paleontology Center, the 200-acre James Cant Ranch Historic District, trails, picnic areas, scenic overlooks, and informational exhibits. Prominent natural features include Picture Gorge, Sheep Rock, Goose Rock, Blue Basin, and Cathedral Rock. The unit is bisected by the John Day River.

The monument contains a national natural landmark, designated in 1966 as the 39th national natural landmark nationwide. The John Day Fossil Beds national natural landmark significance statement states, "Sheep Rock is an icon of North American Tertiary vertebrate paleontology. Located within John Day Fossil Beds National Monument, the peak and surrounding badlands contains a remarkable sequence of very diverse fossils including early horses, rhinoceroses, canids, and over 30 other mammalian families entombed in reworked volcanic sediments."

Visitation to the monument has averaged about 119,000 visits per year, with a high of 196,277 in 2015 and a low of 74,800 in 1976. Visitation has been steadily increasing in recent years. Between 2012 and 2015, visitation increased by 33%.

Park Purpose

The purpose statement identifies the specific reason(s) for establishment of a particular park. The purpose statement for John Day Fossil Beds National Monument was drafted through a careful analysis of its enabling legislation and the legislative history that influenced its development. The monument was authorized when the enabling legislation adopted by Congress was signed into law on October 26, 1974 (see appendix A for enabling legislation and legislative acts). The purpose statement lays the foundation for understanding what is most important about the park.

The purpose of John Day Fossil Beds National Monument is to preserve, and provide for the scientific and public understanding of, the geological and paleontological resources of the John Day region.

Park Significance

Significance statements express why a park's resources and values are important enough to merit designation as a unit of the national park system. These statements are linked to the purpose of John Day Fossil Beds National Monument, and are supported by data, research, and consensus. Statements of significance describe the distinctive nature of the park and why an area is important within a global, national, regional, and systemwide context. They focus on the most important resources and values that will assist in park planning and management.

The following significance statements have been identified for John Day Fossil Beds National Monument. (Please note that the sequence of the statements does not reflect the level of significance.)

1. The John Day region contains one of the longest and most continuous Cenozoic records of evolutionary change and biotic relationships on earth; this outstanding fossil record heightens scientific and public understanding of Earth history. John Day Fossil Beds National Monument contains a concentration of localities that are a major part of that record.

2. The John Day region is one of the few areas on the planet with numerous well-preserved and ecologically diverse fossil biotas that are entombed in sedimentary layers and are found in close proximity to datable volcanic rocks; these biota span intervals of dramatic worldwide paleoclimatic change.

Fundamental Resources and Values

Fundamental resources and values (FRVs) are those features, systems, processes, experiences, stories, scenes, sounds, smells, or other attributes determined to warrant primary consideration during planning and management processes because they are essential to achieving the purpose of the park and maintaining its significance. Fundamental resources and values are closely related to a park's legislative purpose and are more specific than significance statements.

Fundamental resources and values help focus planning and management efforts on what is truly significant about the park. One of the most important responsibilities of NPS managers is to ensure the conservation and public enjoyment of those qualities that are essential (fundamental) to achieving the purpose of the park and maintaining its significance. If fundamental resources and values are allowed to deteriorate, the park purpose and/or significance could be jeopardized.

The following fundamental resources and values have been identified for John Day Fossil Beds National Monument:

- **Cenozoic Fossil Record.** The John Day Basin contains a detailed and well-dated sequence of rock layers (strata) that spans nearly 50 million years of time, representing most of the Cenozoic Period, the "Age of Mammals and Flowering Plants." These strata contain fossil-bearing sedimentary rocks that preserve vertebrate, invertebrate, plant, and trace fossils from hundreds of species. Numerous datable volcanic rock layers, including lava flows and ashes, are interspersed through the sedimentary layers, allowing the age of the fossils to be inferred. The nearly continuous record of rocks and fossils documents past climate and habitat changes, and the evolution of plant and animal species through time. This globally significant record is unique in North America and represents one of only a few places in the world with a similar geologic and fossil record.

- **Scientific Research.** The science of paleontology has roots in the John Day Fossil Beds sites, and globally significant research is still occurring there. The paleontology museum, archives, databases, and library collections at John Day Fossil Beds National Monument allow scientists to conduct important research on the history of life on Earth. This research improves understanding of the past, including the origin of modern ecosystems and the response of life to past climate and habitat changes. Paleontologists make new discoveries regularly, helping to provide a fuller picture of the region's past. Ongoing research is informative to global trends of change through time in the past, and is relevant to understanding of current events such as climate change and the fates of endangered species.

- **Public Understanding of Earth History.** The rich paleontological and geological records of the John Day Region make it one of the best places in the world to educate the public about Earth history. The combination of research and education at the monument help inform public understanding of the past, as well as contemporary issues such as climate change and the extinction of species. Visitors can learn about the animals and plants that once inhabited the area, and how ecosystems have changed through time. They can also see scientists at work in the monument laboratory and museum, and learn about how science is done.

Other Important Resources and Values

John Day Fossil Beds National Monument contains other resources and values that are not fundamental to the purpose of the park and may be unrelated to its significance, but are important to consider in planning processes. These are referred to as "other important resources and values" (OIRV). These resources and values have been selected because they are important in the operation and management of the park and warrant special consideration in park planning.

The following other important resources and values have been identified for John Day Fossil Beds National Monument:

- **Scenic Geologic Landscape.** The colorful and diverse landscape presents scenic vistas and educational opportunities. Examples of these scenic resources are found in Painted Hills, Sheep Rock, Blue Basin, Foree, Cathedral Rock, Picture Gorge, and the Clarno Palisades.
- **Modern Ecosystem.** The monument is dominated by sagebrush/bunchgrass steppe habitats and riparian areas along the John Day River and its tributaries. The ecosystem of the monument contains examples of protected, regionally representative, native plant and animal species.
- **John Day River System.** The John Day River and its tributaries are valued resources for their position and integrity within the Columbia River system; free-flowing water; water quality and quantity; habitat for aquatic and riparian species, including critical habitat for threatened anadromous fish; important hydrological resources within arid ecosystems; tribal interest in traditional use; and recreational opportunities.
- **Human History.** The area is important to American Indian tribes for a variety of reasons, including the presence of culturally significant resources such as archeological sites and plant species used for traditional practices. European American settlement of the region began in the 1800s and was characterized by ranching and agricultural use. The James Cant Ranch Historic District, listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1984, is one of the most intact examples of ranching history in the region.

Interpretive Themes

Interpretive themes are often described as the key stories or concepts that visitors should understand after visiting a park—they define the most important ideas or concepts communicated to visitors about a park unit. Themes are derived from, and should reflect, park purpose, significance, resources, and values. The set of interpretive themes is complete when it provides the structure necessary for park staff to develop opportunities for visitors to explore and relate to all park significance statements and fundamental and other important resources and values.

Interpretive themes are an organizational tool that reveal and clarify meaning, concepts, contexts, and values represented by park resources. Sound themes are accurate and reflect current scholarship and science. They encourage exploration of the context in which events or natural processes occurred and the effects of those events and processes. Interpretive themes go beyond a mere description of the event or process to foster multiple opportunities to experience and consider the park and its resources. These themes help explain why a park story is relevant to people who may otherwise be unaware of connections they have to an event, time, or place associated with the park.

The following interpretive themes have been identified for John Day Fossil Beds National Monument:

- **Fossil Record.** Within the beauty of the colorful rock layers at John Day Fossil Beds National Monument lie world-class fossils that allow visitors to peer into the distant past, to explore worlds of plants and animals that no longer exist, and to observe the effects of major climate and habitat changes on species and ecosystems.
- **Linking Past, Present, and Future.** Research at John Day Fossil Beds National Monument, begun in the 1860s, continues to inform both scientists and the general public as they seek to learn how the world they see today came to be, and to look to the future with greater wisdom.
- **Current Science / Living Laboratory.** Visitors to John Day Fossil Beds National Monument are in the midst of a living laboratory, where they can discover the excitement of science in action.
- **A Rare Glimpse that Spans Pre-History.** Under complex and rare circumstances spanning more than 50 million years, large numbers of plants and animals were preserved in sedimentary rock between many datable volcanic layers, and exposed by erosion for us to wonder at and learn from.

Part 2: Dynamic Components

The dynamic components of a foundation document include special mandates and administrative commitments and an assessment of planning and data needs. These components are dynamic because they will change over time. New special mandates can be established and new administrative commitments made. As conditions and trends of fundamental and other important resources and values change over time, the analysis of planning and data needs will need to be revisited and revised, along with key issues. Therefore, this part of the foundation document will be updated accordingly.

Special Mandates and Administrative Commitments

Many management decisions for a park unit are directed or influenced by special mandates and administrative commitments with other federal agencies, state and local governments, utility companies, partnering organizations, and other entities. Special mandates are requirements specific to a park that must be fulfilled. Mandates can be expressed in enabling legislation, in separate legislation following the establishment of the park, or through a judicial process. They may expand on park purpose or introduce elements unrelated to the purpose of the park. Administrative commitments are, in general, agreements that have been reached through formal, documented processes, often through memorandums of agreement. Examples include easements, rights-of-way, arrangements for emergency service responses, etc. Special mandates and administrative commitments can support, in many cases, a network of partnerships that help fulfill the objectives of the park and facilitate working relationships with other organizations. They are an essential component of managing and planning for John Day Fossil Beds National Monument.

For more information about the existing special mandates and administrative commitments for John Day Fossil Beds National Monument, please see appendix B.

Assessment of Planning and Data Needs

Once the core components of part 1 of the foundation document have been identified, it is important to gather and evaluate existing information about the park's fundamental and other important resources and values, and develop a full assessment of the park's planning and data needs. The assessment of planning and data needs section presents planning issues, the planning projects that will address these issues, and the associated information requirements for planning, such as resource inventories and data collection, including GIS data.

There are three sections in the assessment of planning and data needs:

1. analysis of fundamental and other important resources and values
2. identification of key issues and associated planning and data needs
3. identification of planning and data needs (including spatial mapping activities or GIS maps)

The analysis of fundamental and other important resources and values and identification of key issues leads up to and supports the identification of planning and data collection needs.

Analysis of Fundamental Resources and Values

The fundamental resource or value analysis table includes current conditions, potential threats and opportunities, planning and data needs, and selected laws and NPS policies related to management of the identified resource or value. In-depth descriptions and analysis of John Day Fossil Bed National Monument's fundamental and other important resources and values are included in the affected environment chapter of the monument's 2009 general management plan and environmental assessment and the state of the parks report completed in 2013.

Identification of Key Issues and Associated Planning and Data Needs

This section considers key issues to be addressed in planning and management and therefore takes a broader view over the primary focus of part 1. A key issue focuses on a question that is important for a park. Key issues often raise questions regarding park purpose and significance and fundamental and other important resources and values. For example, a key issue may pertain to the potential for a fundamental or other important resource or value in a park to be detrimentally affected by discretionary management decisions. A key issue may also address crucial questions that are not directly related to purpose and significance, but that still affect them indirectly. Usually, a key issue is one that a future planning effort or data collection needs to address and requires a decision by NPS managers.

Key park issues are identified and described in the *John Day Fossil Beds National Monument General Management Plan / Environmental Assessment* (2009) and the monument's state of the parks report (2013). In the general management plan, input on park issues was gathered from NPS staff, stakeholders, and the general public. Key issue topics include the Hancock Mammal Quarry, visitor opportunities and facilities, user capacity, the James Cant Ranch Historic District, the John Day River corridor, invasive nonnative species, monument operations, partnerships, monument boundaries, and climate change. In the more recent state of the parks report, broader categories of planning issues were identified, including strategic sustainability, lands issues, community/partnerships, paleontology, vegetation management, cultural resources, and visitor opportunities and relevancy. This assessment of planning and data needs prioritizes the list of plans, studies, and data needs included in the general management plan as well as new planning and data needs identified by monument staff.

Planning and Data Needs

To maintain connection to the core elements of the foundation and the importance of these core foundation elements, the planning and data needs listed here are directly related to protecting fundamental resources and values, park significance, and park purpose, as well as addressing key issues. To successfully undertake a planning effort, information from sources such as inventories, studies, research activities, and analyses may be required to provide adequate knowledge of park resources and visitor information. Such information sources have been identified as data needs. Geospatial mapping tasks and products are included in data needs.

Items considered of the utmost importance were identified as high priority, and other items identified, but not rising to the level of high priority, were listed as either medium- or low-priority needs. These priorities inform park management efforts to secure funding and support for planning projects.

Criteria and Considerations for Prioritization. The following criteria were used to evaluate the priority of each planning or data need:

- Greatest utility to unit management
- Ability to address multiple issues
- Emergency/urgency of the issue
- Prevention of resource degradation
- Consider protection of the FRVs or address important monument issues
- Result in a significant benefit for visitors
- Feasibility of completing the plan or study
- Opportunities, including interagency partnership or assistance

High Priority Planning Needs

Cant Ranch Agricultural Land Management Plan.

Rationale — The monument has leased out the Cant Ranch agricultural fields for cultivation until 2016. The lease essentially required the National Park Service to conduct all management of the fields except for harvest with little return on the significant investment of budget and staffing. This practice has required a great deal of staff time and financial investment for a feature that is not related to the primary monument significance or its fundamental resources and values. The term of the current lease expired in 2016 and the monument is currently exploring options for managing the fields in a more cost-effective and resource-efficient way that will continue to address the needs of the cultural landscape.

Scope — The Cant Ranch agricultural land management plan would examine ways to manage the agricultural lands in the future. The plan would consider management alternatives that retain appropriate cultural landscape character. It would examine alternative business models and their potential impacts on cultural landscape preservation, the visitor experience, and operational efficiency, in the context of climate change. Emphasis would be on adopting land management practices that are both environmentally and financially sustainable while still meeting cultural resource objectives. In conjunction with the potential change in land management, the water rights appurtenant may need to be changed as well. Such a change may present opportunities to enhance stream flows, provide additional water to other consumptive uses, or reestablish native vegetation.

Strategic Plan.

Rationale — NPS budgets are flat, and expected to continue flat in the foreseeable future. Increasing complexities of NPS management systems and costs of operation are effectively decreasing monument budgetary and staffing capacity. New and increasing technologies require increased technical support. Threats to monument resources from outside the boundaries are changing, resulting in new or increased needs for law enforcement and other critical functions. Visitation is rapidly increasing leading to increased maintenance and interpretation/education needs. With three separate units that are geographically distant from one another, it is difficult for the monument to meet all of its management needs under the current budget, staffing, and operational constraints. In addition, a number of staff are nearing retirement age and are the only holders of certain valuable institutional knowledge and expertise. The monument needs a strategic approach to focus scarce resources on highest priority functions and plan for effective operations into the future, including any boundary adjustments and greater resource and land protections.

Scope — The primary emphasis for this strategic plan would be budget and staffing efficiencies to ensure that human and fiscal resources are focused on the highest priorities. The plan would establish clear priorities for programs and operations and identify options for efficiencies. In addition to considering the number and type of staff positions needed, the plan would examine how to allocate staff time across programs, functions, and units. It would also outline a succession planning strategy to ensure that institutional knowledge is not lost through staff turnover. The strategic plan would also provide recommendations for addressing major operational, organizational, administrative, and resource issues. It would establish goals, priorities, actions, and a framework for reviewing progress.

Comprehensive Safety, Health, and Wellness Strategy.

Rationale — The monument would benefit from safety, health, and wellness planning on multiple fronts. A number of safety management plans have been identified as priorities at the monument, but have not been completed. A respiratory protection plan was called for in the 2014 strategic plan and a communications plan was called for in the 2014 strategic plan and the 2013 state of the parks report. A formal physical security assessment of visitor and administrative facilities is also warranted. In addition, the monument has numerous issues associated with its communications systems and operations. These would best be addressed through a multifaceted approach that considers each of the monument's safety-related concerns and articulates management actions to enhance the safety of employees, visitors, facilities, resources, and collections.

Scope — A comprehensive safety, health, and wellness strategy would incorporate elements of a physical security plan, safety plan, and risk analysis and planning. It would finalize the emergency management systems plan called for in the 2014 strategic plan. This plan would address the safety needs of employees, visitors, facilities, resources, and collections and would build on the result of the new National Safety, Health and Wellness e-tool assessment.

Resource Stewardship Strategy.

Rationale — The monument's three units preserve a broad range of geological, paleontological, archeological, historic, and ecological resources that are of significant scientific and heritage value. The monument preserves a globally significant series of Cenozoic Era fossils. Archeological resources found within the monument preserve a record of more than 10,000 years of human activity in the region. Large numbers of dwellings, stone tool quarries and processing sites, and other artifacts indicate that this area was important throughout the Holocene Epoch. Heritage resources in the monument include buildings and sites related to 19th- and early-20th century sheep ranching. Ecologically, the monument is one of the few protected areas of bunchgrass steppe in the Columbia Plateau, and remains an important place for preserving remnant native steppe communities.

Although many of the monument's natural and cultural resources have been inventoried and studied, the monument would benefit from a long-range planning document that clearly articulates desired future conditions and a strategically prioritizes stewardship activities. There are important cross-cutting themes that can help integrate natural and cultural resource management and interpretation. For example, the region's bunchgrass steppe ecosystem supported prehistoric and historic human settlements. Vegetation management in the monument should be informed by clearly articulated desired future conditions. In addition, addressing challenges such as fire and invasive species will be necessary to preserve the integrity of the bunchgrass steppe ecosystem.

Scope — The resource stewardship strategy would establish desired resource conditions based on relevant laws and NPS policies. It would examine the current condition of monument resources and projections of future climate and determine the strategies and actions needed to achieve the desired conditions. Emphasis would be placed on evaluating the monument's fundamental and other important resources and values. Specific needs to address through the resource stewardship strategy development process include:

- Integrated vegetation management
- Cant Ranch agricultural district management (including hay fields)
- Cant Ranch historic district preservation and use
- Hancock mammal quarry research and interpretation
- Wildlife population management (including sensitive, threatened, and endangered species)
- Pictograph management
- Management for preserving the monument's night skies and soundscape

A resource stewardship strategy would establish methods and measurable targets for effectively protecting each of these resource types, and would provide a comprehensive strategy for achieving and maintaining those targets over time.

Interpretive Media Plan.

Rationale — As the interpretive expectations of visitors change over time, the monument would benefit from a better understanding of where and how to best share its story. The demand for digital interpretation options, both online and at the monument, continues to increase. In addition, the monument's waysides are aging and falling into disrepair. The 2014 interpretation management assistance team report prepared by NPS Pacific West regional interpreters for the monument made the case for improving and replacing a number of interpretive waysides. Visitors who do not visit all three units of the monument may miss out on key learning opportunities that could be shared more widely if the appropriate media were in place.

Scope — The interpretive media plan would provide visitors with additional ways to learn about the natural and cultural resources of the area. It would include all three units of the monument, and would provide monumentwide and site-specific recommendations for updating the monument's brochures, exhibits, signs, murals, and website. It would examine the potential for use of interpretive media platforms not currently being used at the monument. Recommendations would also be provided for ways to enhance exhibit interactivity, especially at the Thomas Condon Paleontology Center. A comprehensive wayside proposal would be a key component of the plan. This component would identify potential new exhibit sites and determine exhibit purposes and content based on site-specific features, events, and the monument's primary interpretive themes. It would also propose a strategy for all existing waysides, laying out replacement guidelines and timeframes, including an assessment of content and materials. The plan would also consider the potential for permanent removal of some existing waysides.

High Priority Data Needs

Land Protection Study.

Rationale — Monument management works with owners of a number of private lands within and adjacent to each of the John Day Fossil Beds units. Many items in the monument's original land protection plan are still unaddressed and new issues have been identified. In addition, numerous existing facilities within the monument boundaries lack right-of-way permitting.

Scope — The land protection study would identify and evaluate lands and boundary issues for addressing management challenges or carrying out the purpose of John Day Fossil Beds National Monument. It would also identify potential locations for establishing easements and rights-of-way, and areas for potential boundary expansion or for enhanced acquisition of land interests, especially in and around the Sheep Rock and Painted Hills Units. The monument would work with the NPS Columbia Cascades Land Resources Program Center to identify and prioritize issues and strategies.

Interpretive Asset Inventory.

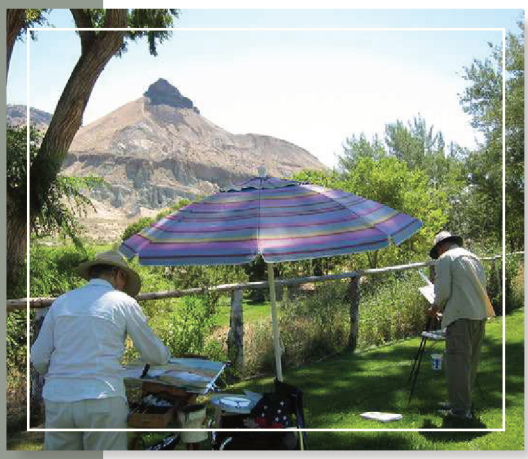
Rationale — The monument has never conducted an official inventory of interpretive media and assets. Without this information, it is difficult to prioritize interpretive media projects and needs. The interpretive asset inventory's results need to be entered into the Facility Management Software System database in order to tie the monument's interpretive media needs to funding in the Project Management Information System. The inventory would also support the development of the interpretive media plan.

Scope — The interpretive asset inventory would include a comprehensive listing of physical, material, and digital interpretive assets across all three units managed by the monument. Assets identified would include waysides, exhibits, brochures, and digital resources.

Visitor Use Study.

Rationale — Visitation at John Day Fossil Beds National Monument is growing rapidly. A recent Oregon tourism campaign, the "Seven Wonders of Oregon," has drawn particular attention to the Painted Hills Unit. In addition, astronomy aficionados have discovered the monument's exceptional night skies and it has become a popular destination for viewing astronomical events. The monument's last visitor use survey, conducted in 2004, did not account for these emerging visitor interests. In general, the nature of visitation to the monument may be changing, including group size, demographics, and visitor expectations, and more information is needed to fully understand the changes.

The three distinct units of John Day Fossil Beds National Monument are separated by many miles. Not all units are consistently staffed, so the amount and type of visitation at each unit is not consistently observed or tracked. The monument would benefit from more information about how visitors learn about, access, and use the monument's three units. There are few data about when and where people access the monument, or whether they tend to target a specific destination for a brief visit or build a flexible itinerary that allows them to visit all three units or take part in monument programs or events. In addition, the monument lacks information about visitation patterns among monument sites, such as the order in which people visit the sites and the preferred origination points or travel routes.



Scope — The study would examine visitor travel routes, length of visit, how people use the sites, and its relevance to U.S. and international visitors of all backgrounds. It would also assess how people learn about and research the monument before they visit. Visitor expectations and desires for their visit, as well as post-visit impressions and information needs, would be included. Information would be gathered through interviews and surveys at multiple locations in all three units of the monument, and across more than one visitation season, if possible. Furthermore, visitors would be asked about how they respond to and interact with the monument's interpretive media and messaging, and what additional interpretive media and methods would best meet their needs and interests.

The visitor use study would support the development of the visitor use management plan. This information would also be used to help guide the development of the monument's interpretive media to better meet visitor desires and expectations as well as monument goals. Visitor use information could also be used to increase outreach efforts to under-represented groups.

Risk and Physical Security Assessment.

Rationale — The safety and protection of personnel, visitors, facilities, and resources are a top priority for the monument. A risk and physical security assessment was called for in the 2014 strategic plan. Monument staff does not have a complete understanding of the physical security needs at some of their key facilities. However, some security issues have been identified and further action may be warranted. Vandalism and resource damage are concerns, including at the monument's highly visible and accessible facilities such as the Thomas Condon Visitor Center and Cant Ranch house. Emergency response times at each of the three units of the monument vary widely because of their dispersed geography. The monument relies on local emergency responders and one shared law enforcement position to cover all three units.

Scope — The risk and physical security assessment would identify structural and procedural changes to improve the overall security of monument facilities. The assessment would help identify weaknesses in the construction, design, or operation of facilities. Recent recommendations from the regional visitor and resource protection specialist would be incorporated into the analysis. All information gathered would be used to develop recommendations and work plans that address safety and security deficiencies at specifically identified facilities monumentwide. Potential security strategies could include changes to employee practices; strategic exterior lighting; increased security and new materials for interior and exterior doors and entry points; controlled access to parking lots, roads, and facilities; appropriate options for storage of valuable objects; and protocols for responding to or replacing vandalized or stolen property. The assessment would support the monument's high-priority comprehensive safety, health, and wellness strategy.

Housing Needs Assessment.

Rationale — A new employee housing plan (2014) is now in place, but it does not fully address the housing need at the monument. There is insufficient housing on site and nearby to support current and future staffing, including permanent and seasonal employees and volunteers. Homes for purchase in the area and rental units within a reasonable driving distance (less than one hour) are scarce and expensive. In addition to the lack of housing for sale and low vacancy rate, the condition of available housing stock nearby is often not suitable for monument employees and is unaffordable by staff. Driving greater distances to find acceptable housing is not only inconvenient, but also presents financial and safety concerns for some staff and volunteers. It is difficult to recruit volunteers because no affordable housing is available. The challenge of providing adequate housing has become a critical issue for management and operations, as it impacts the monument's ability to recruit and retain staff, and therefore the NPS ability to protect monument resources and provide visitor services.

Scope — The housing needs assessment would evaluate what housing opportunities exist for the monument in local communities, as well as what on-site housing could be made available within the monument. It would provide managers with data on the cost, vacancy rates, and types of available housing in the surrounding area, including John Day, Mitchell, Fossil, Dayville, and other local communities. The plan would also explore opportunities for the monument to increase the availability of housing for monument staff and volunteers.

Fire Effects Synthesis.

Rationale — The effect of natural ignition and prescribed fire on native bunchgrass steppe and juniper communities, and nonnative annual grass invasion in the monument are highly relevant management concerns. Emerging scientific information on the steppe ecosystem type's resilience to fire and resistance to invasive weeds suggests that the upland vegetation in the monument has low resilience and resistance relative to more productive steppe in higher, cooler sites. The variation in patterns of resilience and resistance within the monument may provide a stronger basis for identifying strategic vegetation management priorities. In recent decades the monument has experimented with using fire as a tool to curtail western juniper and sagebrush encroachment into bunchgrass steppe communities, and the monument has also experienced multiple wildfires. From these events, a considerable body of knowledge has been developed in scientific publications and unpublished reports about the impacts of fire events on the monument's vegetation. A comprehensive synthesis and summary of this information in a format accessible for monument managers would be a critical step in preparing the forthcoming resource stewardship strategy, wildland fire management plan, and comprehensive vegetation management plan.

Scope — Existing reports and data would be compiled and integrated into a peer-reviewed fire effects synthesis document that look at the effects of fire on monument habitats. This work could be carried out by either the NPS inventory and monitoring network or monument staff. The monument has reviewed fire data from plots associated with its prescribed burns. These data would be synthesized with fire information from outside the monument boundaries to provide a more comprehensive understanding of fire effects in these habitats. The synthesis would also look at the relationship between fire and the shift in vegetation communities relative to climate change, including impacts on juniper encroachment.

Archeological Survey Spatial Gap Analysis.

Rationale — Without an archeologist or professional cultural resource specialist, the monument experiences repeated problems in completing the archeological compliance obligations required for a variety of projects. The first need is for conversion of available archeological data into spatial format to make it accessible for compliance needs and gap analysis. Then, an archeological gap analysis is needed focusing first on trails, roadsides, building sites, and other areas where projects or other ground-disturbing activities may reasonably be anticipated, and secondly evaluating data for nondeveloped areas that may be impacted by wildfire, nonnative plants, etc. The results of this analysis would be a comprehensive assessment of current data with prioritized areas for future archeological survey efforts as funding becomes available. These activities would greatly enhance the protection and understanding of the monument's cultural resources, facilitate timely project completion, and help meet the monument's compliance obligations.

Scope — The archeological survey spatial gap analysis would focus on digitizing existing survey data and prioritizing remaining areas for future survey. The long-term goal would be complete archeological data for all three units.

Long-term Erosion Study.

Rationale — Most of the monument's landscapes are erosive rather than depositional in character. It is this erosive character that has allowed such a rich diversity of paleontological resources to be discovered. However, the erosive nature of the geologic landscape can leave paleontological resources exposed and vulnerable to damage. In addition, many of the monument's archeological sites are exposed on the surface and easily disrupted. Careful assessment of the effects of erosion on paleontological and archeological resources is essential to maintaining their integrity. A greater understanding of the erosive trends of the monument's geologic landscape to date, as well as potential future projections for erosion would be extremely useful for the management of paleontological and archeological resources. It would also help to improve understanding of the impact of climate change on the monument's geological resources.

Scope — The long-term erosion study would review erosion rates in the monument within a broad historical context, and would also consider future erosion projections. The variation in erosion rates across different geologic formations and strata would be analyzed. The study would also take into account the ways climate changes may impact precipitation and temperature in the John Day region, and consider how these potential changes might affect future erosion rates. Effects on a diversity of known paleontological and archeological resources in the monument would be assessed.

Summary of High Priority Planning and Data Needs
Plan name
Cant Ranch agricultural land management plan
Strategic plan
Comprehensive safety, health, and wellness strategy
Resource stewardship strategy
Interpretive media plan
Data need
Land protection study
Interpretive asset inventory
Visitor use study
Risk and physical security assessment
Housing needs assessment
Fire effects synthesis
Archeological survey spatial gap analysis
Long-term erosion study

Summary of Other Planning and Data Needs		
Planning or Data Needs	**Priority (H, M, L)**	**Notes**
Natural Resources		
Plans		
Comprehensive vegetation management plan	M	The plan would address vegetation management needs, including invasive weed management, fire management, and grassland management. The resource stewardship strategy would help determine the scope of this plan.
Climate change response/adaptation strategy	M	The climate change response strategy would provide resource management recommendations for adapting to projected future climate impacts in the monument, such as wildfire, drought, and erosion.
Wildland fire management plan	M	The most recent fire management plan is from 2004. Fire science and operational considerations have changed significantly since then. The monument is currently working with the NPS Pacific West Region fire management program staff to update the plan in 2016/2017.
Water rights assessment	M	An assessment of water rights held by John Day Fossil Beds National Monument, including an inventory of rights and uses, an evaluation of value and risk, and recommendations to enhance the use of water rights in support of the monument mission.
Cooperative fishery management plan	L	The plan would address the conservation of native fish. Nonnative fish are a potential risk to native fish and native aquatic biodiversity. Ideally, fishery management planning would be conducted in cooperation with the State of Oregon.
Acoustic resources plan	L	The plan would develop acoustic goals, indicators, and standards for the monument.
Dark night sky management plan	L	The plan would develop dark night sky/lighting management goals, indicators, and standards for the monument. It would include recommendations for retrofitting light sources to reduce glare, reduce overall light output, direct lights downward, install warmer color lamps, etc. It would identify neighbors and partners to work with to reduce artificial light pollution that could negatively impact monument resources and values.
Data Needs and Studies		
Invertebrate fossil inventory	M	There are a large number of invertebrate fossils in the monument's collections. No study of these has been done since 1919.
Wet nitrogen deposition monitoring	L	Wet nitrogen deposition warrants moderate concern at John Day Fossil Beds National Monument. No trend information is available because there is not sufficient onsite or nearby deposition monitoring data.

Summary of Other Planning and Data Needs		
Planning or Data Needs	**Priority (H, M, L)**	**Notes**
Natural Resources		
Data Needs and Studies (continued)		
Cave and karst inventories	L	This was identified as a management priority in the monument's geologic resources inventory (2013). No maps or inventory of caves have been done. There are also sink holes and other pseudokarst features in the monument that have not been inventoried.
Night sky monitoring	L	Baseline monitoring has been done by the NPS Night Skies Program. Additional monitoring would be regular, routine, long-term monitoring to assess trends.
Acoustic monitoring	L	Baseline monitoring has been done by the NPS Natural Sounds Program. Additional monitoring would be regular, routine, long-term monitoring to assess trends.
Interpretation and Education		
Plans		
Long-range interpretive plan	M	This plan would incorporate the newest interpretive themes and updated approaches to interpretation/ education in the context of evolving technologies. It would support greater use of distance learning and make recommendations for trailside interpretive signage. Findings and recommendations of the interpretive media plan and the interpretive asset inventory would be incorporated into this plan.
Distance learning plan	L	This plan would provide recommendations for implementing a distance learning program, including equipment needed, staff training, on-site or off-site location recommendations, and potential partners.
Hancock Mammal Quarry research and interpretation plan	L	The plan would guide research and interpretation of fossils from the Hancock Mammal Quarry. Prior planning and consideration would be necessary for museum collections, appropriate and safe access to the site, and methods for protecting the fossils due to the large size of the Hancock Mammal Quarry fossil specimens and current collections treatment backlog.
Community outreach and communications plan	L	The plan would examine opportunities to improve the monument's relationship with local communities and tribes. It would explore partnerships with other agencies, communications companies, nonprofits, and other entities for collaboration across many themes including resource protection, education, the cultural resource historic district, climate, and environmentally friendly infrastructure.

Summary of Other Planning and Data Needs		
Planning or Data Needs	**Priority (H, M, L)**	**Notes**
Cultural Resources		
Plans		
Cant Ranch historic preservation and use plan (for the barn and outbuildings)	L	This plan is called for in the general management plan (2009). The plan would provide preservation and use recommendations for the barn and outbuildings, supplementing the existing cultural landscape inventory, cultural landscape report, and park asset management plan.
Collections management planning (storage)	L	This plan is called for in the state of the parks report (2013) and the monument's strategic plan (2014). The plan would address the expansion of collections storage to accommodate growing collections, both paleontological and archeological. This would include collections from within the monument and collections that the monument manages for others, such as the Bureau of Land Management.
Pictograph management plan	L	This plan is called for in the state of the parks report (2013) and the monument's strategic plan (2014). Development of this plan is strongly supported by local tribes. The known pictographs are not currently interpreted or actively managed.
Data Needs and Studies		
Archeological overview and assessment (update)	M	The monument has a substantial archeological record in all units, much of which: 1) is significant in accordance with National Register of Historic Places criteria, and 2) constitutes a critical resource for understanding the long-term human use of the monument and central Oregon's Blue Mountain region. The existing archeological overview and research document is now almost 18 years old and needs to be updated.
Cultural resource condition assessment	M	Baseline data are needed on cultural resource conditions at the monument.
Oregon Museum of Science and Industry archeological collections assessment	M	The monument needs to identify how it can be involved in managing collections from in and near the Clarno Unit that are currently housed at the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry. There are concerns with how and where the items were collected, how they are being maintained, and who has legal ownership of the collections.
Assess National Register of Historic Places eligibility for archeological and historical sites	L	A number of sites within the monument are important for conveying the history of the science of paleontology. Some of these sites could be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Paleontological sites for evaluation could include Leaf Hill and the Dalles Military Road. Other sites (not related to paleontology) that could be eligible include the Oil Well Site, and one house currently used as employee housing.

Summary of Other Planning and Data Needs		
Planning or Data Needs	**Priority (H, M, L)**	**Notes**
Administration and Operations		
Plans		
IT and telephone infrastructure plan	L	This plan would address the monument's need for improved technology and infrastructure for 21st century operations (distance learning, etc.). Phone service to all three units is currently unreliable, so options for replacement/improvement are needed.
Facilities		
Plans		
Site planning	M	Site planning is needed at the ranger stations and visitor contact areas at the Painted Hills and Clarno Units, as well as the Overlook Area at Painted Hills. The site planning would address circulation, parking, and interpretive opportunities to better suit visitor needs.
Trails management plan	L	This plan is mentioned in the general management plan (2009) and the state of the parks report (2013). The plan would direct the development and maintenance of official trails and restore areas with unofficial trails. It would focus on formalizing the two trails called out in the general management plan, but would not provide recommendations for additional new trails.
Asset management plan (update)	L	The existing park asset management plan is from 2008, but still contains thorough and well-documented information for management. An update of the document would look at current facility conditions and prioritize improvements.
Data Needs and Studies		
Accessibility study	L	This study was called for in the general management plan (2009). The monument is trying to proactively address existing facility accessibility issues on an ad-hoc basis. It would identify access barriers to facilities and programs, and develop strategies to improve accessibility for people with a diversity of disabilities.
Visitor Experience		
Plans		
Visitor use management plan	M	This plan would be informed by the results of the visitor use study. The monument is experiencing rapidly increasing visitation, especially at the Painted Hills unit. The plan would provide guidance for addressing increased visitor use demands.
River recreation management plan	L	This plan is called for in the general management plan (2009). It would examine and provide recommendations for the management of river recreation at the monument. The priority for this plan is low because currently there is little recreational river use within the monument.

Part 3: Contributors

John Day Fossil Beds National Monument

Shelley Hall, Superintendent

Jeremie Johnston, Acting Chief of Facility Management

Michelle Ordway, Park Ranger (Interpretation)

Joshua Samuels, PhD, Museum Curator / Chief of Paleontology

Valerie Steffen, Administrative Officer

Megan Wilkins, Park Ranger (Interpretation)

NPS Pacific West Region

Amanda Schramm, Outdoor Recreation Planner

Jared Bowman, Outdoor Recreation Planner

Other NPS Staff

Greg Burtchard, Cultural Resource Specialist, Mount Rainier National Park

Wyndeth Davis, Associate Manager (former), Interpretive Planning, Harper's Ferry Design Center

Tom Rodhouse, PhD, Upper Columbia Basin Network

Vincent Santucci, Senior Paleontologist, Natural Resource Stewardship and Science

Ted Stout, Chief of Interpretation, Craters of the Moon National Monument

Ken Bingenheimer, Editor, Denver Service Center – Planning Division

Pam Holtman, Quality Assurance Coordinator, WASO Park Planning and Special Studies

Nancy Shock, Foundation Coordinator, Denver Service Center – Planning Division

John Paul Jones, Visual Information Specialist, Denver Service Center – Planning Division

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Appendixes

Appendix A: Enabling Legislation and Legislative Acts for John Day Fossil Beds National Monument

Public Law 93-486
93rd Congress, H. R. 13157
October 26, 1974

An Act

To provide for the establishment of the Clara Barton National Historic Site, Maryland; John Day Fossil Beds National Monument, Oregon; Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site, North Dakota; Springfield Armory National Historic Site, Massachusetts; Tuskegee Institute National Historic Site, Alabama; Martin Van Buren National Historic Site, New York; and Sewall-Belmont House National Historic Site, Washington, District of Columbia; and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

TITLE I

Sec. 101. (a) Unless otherwise provided hereafter, the Secretary of the Interior (hereinafter referred to as the "Secretary") is authorized to acquire by purchase with donated or appropriated funds, donation, exchange, or by transfer from another Federal agency such lands and interests in lands as hereafter provided for establishment as units of the national park system as follows:

(1) for establishment as the Clara Barton National Historic Site, Maryland, those lands depicted on the map entitled "Boundary Map, Clara Barton National Historic Site, Maryland", numbered NHSCLBA 90,001 and dated February 1974, which shall include the land and improvements occupied by Clara Barton, founder of the American Red Cross located at 5801 Oxford Road, Glen Echo, Maryland: *Provided*, That the above-mentioned land and improvements may be acquired only by donation: *And provided further*, That the donation of any privately owned lands within the historic site may not be accepted unless and until the property is vacant;

(2) for establishment as the John Day Fossil Beds National Monument, Oregon, those lands depicted on the map entitled "Boundary Map, John Day Fossil Beds National Monument", numbered NM-JDFB-20,014-A and dated June 1971: *Provided*, That the national monument shall not be established unless and until the State of Oregon donates or agrees to donate the Thomas Condon-John Day Fossil Beds, Clarno, and Painted Hills State Parks: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall not acquire a fee title interest to more than one thousand acres of privately owned lands except by donation or exchange: *Provided further,* That the Secretary shall designate the principal visitor center as the "Thomas Condon Visitor Center";

(3) for establishment as the Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site, North Dakota, those lands depicted on the map entitled "Boundary Map, Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site, North Dakota", numbered 468-20,012 and dated July 1970;

(4) for establishment as the Springfield Armory National Historic Site, Massachusetts, those lands depicted on the map entitled "Boundary Map, Springfield Armory National Historic Site, Massachusetts", numbered NHS-SPAR-91,003 and dated January 1974, the oldest manufacturing arsenal in the United States: *Provided*, That the historic site shall not be established unless an agreement is executed which will assure the historical integrity of the site and until such lands as are needed for the historic site are donated for this purpose;

(5) for establishment as the Tuskegee Institute National Historic Site, Alabama, those lands depicted on the map entitled "Boundary Map, Tuskegee Institute National Historic Site, Alabama", numbered NHSTI 20,000-C and dated September 1973, which shall include the home of Booker T. Washington, the Carver Museum, and an antebellum property adjacent to the campus of Tuskegee Institute, known as Grey Columns; and

(6) for establishment as the Martin Van Buren National Historic Site, New York, those lands depicted on the map entitled "Boundary Map, Martin Van Buren National Historic Site, New York", numbered NHS-MAVA-91,001 and dated January 1974, which shall include the home of Martin Van Buren, eighth President of the United States.

(b) The Secretary may also acquire personal property associated with the areas referred to in subsection (a) of this section. Lands and interests therein owned by a State or any political subdivision thereof which are acquired for the purposes of subsection (a) of this section may be acquired only by donation.

Sec. 102. (a) When the Secretary determines that an adequate interest in lands has been acquired to constitute an administrable unit for each of the areas described in section 1 of this Act, he may, after notifying the Committees on Interior and Insular Affairs of the United States Congress of his intention to do so at least fourteen days in advance, declare the establishment of such unit by publication of a notice to that effect in the Federal Register. Such notice shall contain a map or other description of the boundaries of the unit, together with an explanation of the interests acquired and the costs incident thereto. The Secretary may refrain from acquiring property for establishment of any unit authorized by this Act where, in his judgment, satisfactory agreements or donations with respect to properties which are needed for the protection and administration of a particular unit have not been consummated with the owners of such properties.

(b) Pending the establishment of each unit and, thereafter, the Secretary shall administer the property acquired pursuant to this Act in accordance with the provisions of the Act of August 25, 1916 (39 Stat. 535), as amended and supplemented, and, to the extent applicable, the provisions of the Act of August 21, 1935 (49 Stat. 666), as amended.

Sec. 103. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary is authorized to construct roads on real property in non-Federal ownership within the boundaries of the Tuskegee Institute National Historic Site. Any roads so constructed shall be controlled and maintained by the owners of the real property.

Sec. 104. There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act, not to exceed, however, the following:

(a) Clara Barton National Historic Site, $812,000 for acquisition of lands and interests in lands and for development;

(b) John Day Fossil Beds National Monument, $400,000 for the acquisition of lands and interests in lands and $4,435,200 for development;

(c) Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site, $600,000 for the acquisition of hands and interests in lands and $2,268,000 for development;

(d) Springfield Armory National Historic Site, $5,300,000 for development;

(e) Tuskegee Institute National Historic Site, $185,000 for the acquisition of lands and interests in lands and $2,722,000 for development; and

(f) Martin Van Buren National Historic Site, $213,000 for acquisition of lands and interests in lands and $2,737,000 for development.

TITLE II

Sec. 201. In order to preserve for the benefit and inspiration of the people of the United States as a national historic site, the Sewall-Belmont House within the District of Columbia, the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to enter into a cooperative agreement to assist in the preservation and interpretation of such house.

Sec. 202. The property subject to cooperative agreement pursuant to section 101 of this Act is hereby designated as the "Sewall-Belmont House National Historic Site".

Sec. 203. The cooperative agreement shall contain, but shall not be limited to, provisions that the Secretary, through the National Park Service, shall have right of access at all reasonable times to all public portions of the property covered by such agreement for the purpose of conducting visitors through such property and interpreting it to the public, that no changes or alterations shall be made in such property except by mutual agreement between the Secretary and the other parties to such agreement. The agreement may contain specific provisions which outline in detail the extent of the participation by the Secretary in the restoration, preservation, and maintenance of the historic site.

Sec. 204. There are hereby authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act, but not to exceed $500,000.

Approved October 26, 1974.

Excerpted from
Public Law 95-625
November 10, 1978

(11) John Day Fossil Beds National Monument, Oregon: To add approximately one thousand four hundred and eleven acres, and to delete approximately one thousand six hundred and twenty acres as generally depicted on the map entitled "Boundary Map, John Day Fossil Beds National Monument, Oregon", numbered 177-30,000-B, and dated May 1978: $3,500,000. The Act of October 26, 1974 (88 Stat. 1461), which designates the John Day Fossil Beds National Monument is amended by deleting the second proviso of section l01(a) (2). Furthermore, not withstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the Secretary may, if he determines that to do so will not have a substantial adverse effect on the preservation of the fossil and other resources within the remainder of the monument, convey approximately sixty acres acquired by the United States for purposes of the monument in exchange for non-Federal lands within the boundaries of the monument, and, effective upon such conveyance, the boundaries of the monument are hereby revised to exclude the lands conveyed.

Appendix B: Inventory of Special Mandates and Administrative Commitments

Special Mandates

- **Cant Ranch.** The deed for Cant Ranch includes the following reservation of use clause: Vendor also reserves a limited easement and right of access to and from State Highway 19 over and across said property west of said State Highway 19 to and from the Cant Ranch property lying westerly of State Highway 19 in Wheeler County, Oregon, all for the purpose of driving or transporting livestock, ranch hands, horses and/or ranch equipment over and across said property and for the purpose of gaining access to the extent necessary or desirable over and across said property to and from said State Highway 19 and to and from the Cant Ranch property west of said State Highway 19, including lands leased from the Bureau of Land Management, for the purpose of carrying out ranching operations.

- **Visitor Center.** PL 93-486 contained a requirement that "the principal visitor center shall be designated as the 'Thomas Condon Visitor Center.'" The visitor center was completed in 2004 and was named the Thomas Condon Paleontology Center.

- **Access Easement.** According to the final judgment issued by Circuit Judge J. A. Campbell in Case No. 2250, an easement must be reserved for the purposes of transporting cattle and equipment across monument lands in the Painted Hills Unit. The reservation applies to the west half of Section 36, T10S, R20E (except the SW quarter of the SW portion of said Section) and along County Road No. 538 for a distance of 60 feet on each side of the road centerline.

- **Tribal Relations.**

  - The Burns Paiute Tribe has an interest in the three units of the monument because the units are within the aboriginal territory of the Northern Paiute people of which the tribe is a part (Zucker, Hummel, and Hogfoss 1987).

  - *Treaty with the Wallawalla, Cayuse, etc., 1855* established the Umatilla Indian reservation and delineated certain ceded lands. The monument is not located within the ceded lands of the present-day Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla; however, they do have interests in central Oregon as these lands were where ancestors of certain constituent groups traveled from time to time (Mark 1996; Zucker, Hummel, and Hogfoss 1987).

  - *Treaty with the Tribes of Middle Oregon, 1855* established the Warm Springs Reservation and delineated certain ceded lands. The three units of the monument are located within those ceded lands of the present-day Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs (Mark 1996; Zucker, Hummel, and Hogfoss 1987).

- **Research Natural Area.** The monument contains one research natural area in the Sheep Rock unit made up of two separate parcels: Waterspout Gulch and Rock Creek. These two sites protect high-quality examples of plant communities representative of High Lava Plains in Oregon, primarily sagebrush steppe. The sites protect four terrestrial ecosystems (western juniper / big sagebrush / bluebunch wheatgrass; western juniper / bluebunch wheatgrass; big sagebrush / bluebunch wheatgrass; and big sagebrush / Idaho fescue) and one aquatic ecosystem along Rock Creek (NPS 1996). The research natural area was designated by the Deputy Regional Field Director on October 11, 1996.

Administrative Commitments

Agreement Name	Type of Agreement	Start/End Date	Stakeholder	Purpose
Central Oregon Fire Management service agreement	Under Master Cooperative Wildland Fire Management and Stafford Act Response Agreement (with local annual delegations)	April 2014 through April 2019	Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and U.S. Forest Service (USFS)	Wildfire.
Bureau of Land Management law enforcement agreement	Interagency agreement	Current agreement signed 4/25/2014; valid until 2018	Bureau of Land Management – Prineville District	Shared law enforcement position.
General agreement between the National Park Service, John Day Fossil Beds National Monument, and the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry	General agreement	5/21/12 until 5/21//17	Oregon Museum of Science and Industry	Provide for the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry operations within John Day Fossil Beds National Monument; provide reimbursement for NPS-provided drinking water.
General agreement documenting fire-fighting assistance relationship	General agreement	7/2015 until terminated by either party	Fossil Volunteer Fire Department	Prevention and suppression of vehicle and structural fires.
General agreement documenting fire-fighting assistance relationship	General agreement	7/2015 until terminated by either party	Mitchell Volunteer Fire Department	Prevention and suppression of vehicle and structural fires.
Oregon Museum of Science and Industry right-of-way permit for water line	Right-of-way permit	Issued 6/12/91; renewed 6/12/12; expires 6/12/22	Oregon Museum of Science and Industry	Permit of right-of-way to maintain water lines across monument lands.
Telecommunications right-of-way (Trans-Cascade) for the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry	Right-of-way	8/8/2013 through 8/7/2023	Trans-Cascade and Oregon Museum of Science and Industry	Telecommunications line to Camp Hancock.
Cooperating association agreement between National Park Service and Discover Your Northwest	Cooperating association agreement	Renewed in 2016; current end date is 2/1/2021	Discover Your Northwest	To provide support and assistance to interpretation, education, and research activities. Also, to provide interpretive and educational materials for visitors.

Agreement Name	Type of Agreement	Start/End Date	Stakeholder	Purpose
Seed bank memorandum of understanding	Memorandum of understanding	Original 2006; renewed in 2011 and 2016; terminates 12/31/2020	Deschutes Basin Native Seed Bank	Develop native plant seed supplies.
Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit ethnohistory study	Pacific Northwest Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit task agreement	9/1/14 through 9/1/19	Portland State University	Ethnohistory and traditional land use study for John Day Fossil Beds National Monument.
Great Basin Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit radiometric dating	Great Basin Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit task agreement	9/1/2011 through 9/1/2016, 2016 renewal will extend to 2021	Boise State University	Radiometric dating of volcanic rocks in the John Day Basin.
Federal interagency agreement and memorandum of understanding – Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service	Interagency agreement with BLM, memorandum of understanding with USFS	1/12/2017 through 1/12/2022		Provides for cooperative management of paleontological resources in the John Day Basin. Serves as a repository agreement for NPS curation of paleontological specimens belonging to the other agencies. Separate collection permits from other agencies are in place for NPS paleontologist to make collections on other federal lands for the purpose of collaborative resource management. Also allows for specialists from BLM/USFS to assist John Day Fossil Beds National Monument in management of archeological and other resources, as well as maintenance.
Easements				The National Park Service owns scenic easements and easements for access to paleontological resources on various private parcels within the legislative boundary of all three units.
Water rights	Water rights	Various dates from 1899 through 1983		John Day Fossil Beds National Monument owns more than a dozen water rights certificates in all three units. Water rights are detailed in the 2006 water rights assessment.

Pacific West Region Foundation Document Recommendation
John Day Fossil Beds National Monument

March 2017

This Foundation Document has been prepared as a collaborative effort between park and regional staff and is recommended for approval by the Pacific West Regional Director.

Shelley Hall 3/17/2017

RECOMMENDED
Shelley Hall, Superintendent, John Day Fossil Beds National Monument **Date**

Laura E. Joss 3/30/17

APPROVED
Laura E. Joss, Regional Director, Pacific West Region **Date**

As the nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering sound use of our land and water resources; protecting our fish, wildlife, and biological diversity; preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historic places; and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to ensure that their development is in the best interests of all our people by encouraging stewardship and citizen participation in their care. The department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in island territories under U.S. administration.

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