

THE
**FUTURE
OF
AMERICA'S
NATIONAL
PARKS**

First Annual
Centennial Strategy for

Lassen Volcanic National Park

August 2007

CENTENNIAL INITIATIVE



Site: LAVO

Year: 2007

Vision Statement

We, as the stewards of Lassen Volcanic National Park, demonstrate exemplary standards and practices to sustain and interpret the unique features for which the park was established.

Through the Centennial Initiative, Lassen Volcanic National Park will increase stewardship and education capacity of the park's natural and cultural resources. The development of a new visitor center will provide the visiting public with exciting and inspiring state-of-the-art exhibits, reading materials and wayfinding. For the first time in the park's history, the visiting public will have a platform for enjoying and experiencing the park on a year round basis. Exciting new and improved partnership opportunities are within reach with the new visitor center.

Exciting new additions to the park's extensive trail system will improve wilderness stewardship opportunities and recreation possibilities for the visiting public.

Scheduled and proposed facility improvements will increase the park's capacity to live and showcase it's commitment to sustainability. Photovoltaic systems, progressive recycling/reuse/ and waste diversion, improved sustainable building designs, improved highway systems and campgrounds will augment the park staff's professional approach to park management. A particular demonstration of the park's leadership is it's commitment to obtain the highest LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification for the newly constructed visitor center. Proposed staffing increases will allow an outstanding quality of protection of park resources, care of park facilities, and increased capacity for visitor service.

The Centennial Initiative will provide a bounty of possibilities for Lassen Volcanic National Park to become among the most desirable and significant national parks in the world.

Park/ Superintendent/ Program Manager

Louise Johnson

Site: LAVO

STEWARDSHIP

☒ Provide inspiring, safe, and accessible places for people to enjoy - the standard to which all other park systems aspire.

☒ Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Lassen Volcanic National Park will inspire the visiting public by providing informative and educational services from a soon to be constructed visitor center. The new visitor center, the first and only such venue in the park will feature computerized and personal information and educational, a series of exhibits to interpret natural and cultural features in the park. Newly placed parkwide wayside exhibits, improved website and printed materials will enhance visitor understanding of the park significance. Improved park roadways, campground facilities, and trails will significantly improve the connection between the park visitor and the natural environment.

Visitor safety will improve with increased maintenance, interpretive and ranger staffing provided by additional funding from the Centennial Initiative.

An improved trail for Lassen Peak, and newly constructed trail connections from the north to south areas of the park will enhance visitor use and understanding of Lassen Peak and its surrounding wilderness. Backcountry travel safety will be improved.

☒ The work described currently is supported by OFS and/ or PMIS

Site: LAVO

STEWARDSHIP

☒ **Improve the condition of park resources and assets.**

☒ **Rehabilitate high-priority historic buildings to good condition, and help communities to preserve their history through programs like Preserve America.**

The park will restore 76 of the 98 historic structures, currently listed in the List of Classified Structures, to good condition. To ensure that highest priority assets receive attention, all historic structures will be prioritized using the Facility Management Software System (FMSS).

The park will strengthen agreements with cooperating fire protection agencies to improve structural fire protection of historic assets. Buildings will be retrofitted with fire attenuating sprinkler systems, where appropriate.

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☒ **Restore native habitats by controlling invasive species and reintroducing key plant and animal species.**

The parks plant management program efforts will result in treating 150 gross acres of infested park land by the year 2011. The park will incorporate burned area rehabilitation planning to all post burned area plans.

The park will monitor the status of bald eagles nesting in the park. Adjustments to maintain and manage bald eagle habitat when appropriate and necessary. Periodic surveys will be conducted to identify any previously unknown listed threatened and endangered species within the park

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☒ **Improve high-priority assets to acceptable condition, as measured by the Facility Condition Index.**

The parks main highway will be improved in cooperation with Federal Highways Administration.

The parks trail system will improve with improvements to the Lassen Peak Trail, and the addition of a north-south trail connection. Boardwalk trails at Sulphur Works and Bumpass Hell will be rehabilitated to an acceptable and useable condition.

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Site: LAVO

STEWARDSHIP

☒ **Improve the condition of park resources and assets.**

☒ **Improve the natural resources in parks, as measured by the vital signs developed under the Natural Resource Challenge.**

Along with other parks in the Klamath Network of the Pacific West Region, Lassen Volcanic NP will be a full partner in the network-wide inventorying and monitoring program.

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☒ **Complete all cultural resource inventories for designated priority resources.**

Evaluate and improve the parks cult'ral resources.

The park's cultural landscapes are in good condition.
The park's archeological sites are in good condition.

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Site: LAVO

STEWARDSHIP

☒ **Assure that no compelling chapter in the American heritage experience remains untold and that strategically important landscapes are acquired, as authorized by Congress.**

☒ **Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)**

The park is an active partner with all local native american rancherias and governments that have interests in and around the park. The park is a willing cooperator for native american events and gatherings within the park when the park landscape and environment contributes to the native american culture.

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Site: LAVO

STEWARDSHIP

☒ **Encourage children to be future conservationists.**

☒ **Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)**

The parks soon to be constructed visitor center will allow year-round educational opportunities for school aged childrens groups. The park will maintain a focus on environmental educational programs through specialized and highly trained interpretive staff. Educational education venues will be on and off-site, and through printed and electronic medias.

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Site: LAVO

ENVIRONMENT

☒ **Reduce environmental impacts of park operations.**

☒ **Reduce the environmental impacts of park operations on air and water quality.**

Seek the highest LEED certification for the soon to be constructed visitor center.

Improve on current program to install photovoltaic systems throughout the park to reduce the electrical demands from commercial sources. Link photovoltaic systems into commercial grid to provide additional power to commercial needs, thereby offsetting park commercial electrical consumption.

Existing operations will be evaluated and energy efficiencies identified with the goal of significantly reducing park's the overall energy consumption. As energy efficient products become available, such as energy efficient light bulbs and fixtures, heating/cooling systems, etc, they will be incorporated into the park's facilities. The park will maintain and improve on it's recycling/reduction and diversion of waste programs.

Become a leader in air and water quality management as a component of natural resource management program, taking into account Class I airshed status, fire use, and prescribed fire.

Enhance the current sustainable efforts of the park, through the multi--discipline park environmental management system (EMS).

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Site: LAVO

ENVIRONMENT

☒ **Inspire an environmental conscience in Americans.**

☒ **Establish programs to showcase exemplary environmental practices and increase visitor awareness of how the practices apply to their daily lives, as measured by surveys.**

Demonstrate and model sustainable design and environmental practices through its efforts to incorporate LEED environmental design elements in the soon to be constructed visitor center.

The park's recycling/waste reduction, and diversion of waste stream program will serve as a model program for the four counties in which the park is situated.

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☒ **Demonstrate environmental excellence through increased use of alternative energy and fuels at every park.**

Improve on current program to install photovoltaic systems throughout the park to reduce the electrical demands from commercial sources. Link photovoltaic systems into commercial grid to provide additional power to commercial needs, further offsetting park commercial electrical consumption.

When available in the geographic area, the park will participate in alternative fuel use for vehicles.

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☒ **Serve as a model for energy efficiency, under Executive Order 13423, by ensuring Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards.**

The park will demonstrate and model sustainable design and environmental practices through its efforts to incorporate LEED environmental design elements in the soon to be constructed visitor center.

The park will incorporate LEED environmental design elements in all newly constructed and designed facilities.

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Site: LAVO

ENVIRONMENT

☒ **Engage partners, communities, and visitors in shared environmental stewardship.**

☒ **Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)**

The park will inspire partners and the local community to share in our environmental stewardship interests by demonstrating and modeling sustainable design and environmental practices. The park will highlight its efforts to incorporate LEED environmental design elements in the soon to be constructed visitor center.

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Site: LAVO

RECREATION

☒ **Encourage collaboration among and assist park and recreation systems at every level—federal, regional, state, local—to help build an outdoor recreation network accessible to all Americans.**

☒ **Rehabilitate over 2,000 miles of trails within or connected to national parks, including trails accessible to those with disabilities.**

The park will maintain the current inventory of trails in good condition. The park will seek and incorporate sustainable materials and designs for the popular, but damage prone boardwalks for Sulphur Works and Bumpass Hell Trails. Newly constructed trails connecting north to south sections of the park will enhance visitor backcountry travel. A rehabilitated or newly constructed trail to the summit of Lassen Peak will be constructed for better visitor travel and natural resource protection.

Centennial Initiative funding will provide for increased protection of wilderness with additional ranger and trail crew staffing.

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Site: LAVO

RECREATION

☒ **Expand partnerships with schools and boys and girls associations to show how national park experiences can improve children's lives.**

☒ **Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)**

Centennial Initiative funding and future base funding increases will allow the park to improve on its existing environmental education programs. The park will connect with boys and girls associations through outreach programs, and through the parks soon to be constructed visitor center.

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Site: LAVO

RECREATION

☒ Focus national, regional, and local tourism efforts to reach diverse audiences and young people and to attract visitors to lesser-known parks.

☒ Increase visitation by 25 percent at lesser-known parks through a national tourism effort aimed at helping people to discover the breadth of parks and experiences.

Improved facilities will provide better service to the visiting public. These facilities will include a soon to be constructed visitor center, entrance station, interpretive amphitheater, improved roadway and overnight lodging. The park's newly approved commercial service plan outlines several improved visitor services.

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☒ Increase the number of visitors that attend ranger-facilitated programs such as campfire talks, hikes, and school programs.

Centennial Initiative funding, and other base funding increases will allow staffing to provide more ranger-facilitated programs. The park's environmental education program will be improved through increased interpretive staffing.

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Site: LAVO

EDUCATION

☒ Cooperate with educators to provide curriculum materials, high-quality programs, and park-based and online learning.

☒ Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Centennial Initiative funding, augmented with increased base funding will enhance the park's environmental education programs that conduct on-site and outreach educational opportunities. Website improvements will be made with increased staffing and expertise.

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Site: LAVO

EDUCATION

☒ **Introduce young people and their families to national parks by using exciting media and technology.**

☒ **Increase the number of web hits through the introduction of advanced, interactive features that attract young people to national parks.**

Increased attention to the park's website, will allow for better timeliness and relevance of information. The park's website will continue to inspire and engage families to understand and appreciate the significance of the park. Park staff that manages the parks websites and technological systems will receive training to maintain current on the changing needs.

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Site: LAVO

EDUCATION

☒ **Promote life-long learning to connect generations through park experiences.**

☒ **Enroll an additional two million children in the Junior Ranger program.**

Through and improved (with increased staffing) environmental education program, that includes in park and outreach programs, the park will increase interpretive programs for children. The Junior Ranger Program will reach out to more children with the parks improved abilities.

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Site: LAVO

EDUCATION

☒ **Impart to every American a sense of their citizen ownership of their national parks.**

☒ **Increase visitors' satisfaction, understanding, and appreciation of the parks they visit.**

With the soon to be constructed visitor center, the park will increase the visitor's satisfaction and appreciation of the park. visitors will be better served with enhanced commercial visitor services through implementation of the newly approved commercial services plan.

Through increased Centennial Challenge Initiative and increased base funding, the park will provide increased park educational and outreach programs to the public.

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Site: LAVO

PROFESSIONALISM

☒ **Be one of the top 10 places to work in America.**

☒ **Meet 100 percent of diversity recruitment goals by employing people who reflect the face of America.**

The park will be an active participant in diversity recruiting programs to increase and retain a diversity workforce. Increase human resource staffing, along with enhancing a Klamath Network-wide human resource program will provide the basis for a diversity outreach program.

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Site: LAVO

PROFESSIONALISM

☒ **Promote a safety and health culture for all employees and visitors.**

☒ **Reduce the number of employee lost-time incidents and serious visitor injuries by 20 percent.**

With increased funding for staffing from Centennial Challenge Initiative and base funding, the park will reduce lost time injuries and reduce the seriousness and frequency of injury to park visitors.

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Site: LAVO

PROFESSIONALISM

☒ **Make national parks the first choice in philanthropic giving among those concerned about environmental, cultural, and recreational values.**

☒ **Improve communications and marketing capacity to increase public understanding of our mission, opportunities, and benefits.**

Inspire public trust by properly managing park assets, people, and resources. Foster community participation in resource stewardship through education and action

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