#### NATIONAL PARK SERVICE | US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR



# **DENVER SERVICE CENTER**

Annual Report Fiscal Year 2017

#### Front cover:

Century-old Many Glacier Hotel in Glacier National Park is situated on the shores of Swiftcurrent Lake. After 16 years of rehabilitation, the 102-year-old hotel has been restored to its original grandeur as the "Gem of the West" in Glacier National Park, MT.

#### Inside front cover:

The original helical staircase was removed from the Many Glacier Hotel in 1957 to make room for a gift shop expansion. The completion of the new helical staircase marked the end of the major rehabilitation efforts in the lodge.





### Letter from the Director

Dear Denver Service Center Colleagues and Friends,

Thank you for making 2017 yet another notable year for the Denver Service Center (DSC). With your dedication and talent, we can appreciate a job well done in strengthening our programs and services. The work we do is important and helps support the 417 National Park sites covering more than 84 million acres and serving more than 300 million visitors each year.

Our professionals make a substantial contribution to the development and operations of our national parks. Our office serves as an extension to park staff providing project management for a wide range of essential park needs, design and construction, transportation, planning, revegetation, information management, and contracting. Equally important, our staff take on the large-scale programs and emergency projects that are beyond the capacity of any one park, regional office, or other National Park Service support facility. We work with numerous partners at the federal, state, and local levels as well as private foundations to complete work such as the CityArchRiver project at Jefferson National Expansion Memorial. Projects like these preserve resources related to our national heritage and reach out to the next generation.

This past fiscal year, the Denver Service Center managed more than 281 design and construction projects in parks across the country with a value of more than \$1.72 billion. The projects we support not only benefit the park, they often provide an economic benefit that reaches beyond the park boundaries. For example, we awarded \$243 million in contracts in FY 2017, which generated close to 3,500 non-federal jobs and about \$643 million in economic output for the U.S. economy. I'm proud that our work not only helps support the NPS mission, it also helps support our country's economic activity.

Through our considerable work together, we're making great strides in our commitment to protect natural and cultural resources in a cost-effective manner, while striving to provide visitors with quality experiences. I would like to thank our employees for their ongoing commitment and dedication for developing a stronger agency for the next generation of Americans.

Best wishes to all of you,

Raymed K Toll

Ray Todd Director, Denver Service Center



#### Mission of the National Park Service

The National Park Service 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 Park Service cooperates with partners to extend the benefits of natural and cultural resource conservation and outdoor recreation throughout this country and the world.

Five hikers on one of the Joshua Tree National Park, CA, hiking trails that weave through the boulders of Hidden Valley.

Denver Service Center

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The primary mission of the Contracting Services Division is to deliver efficient, innovative acquisition solutions and sound business advice. We do that through optimizing resources, managing risk, and promoting project success.

The Contracting Services Division is a leader in strategic sourcing efforts with numerous indefinite delivery / indefinite quantity (ID/IQ) contracts. These contracts provide for an indefinite quantity of supplies or services during a fixed period of time, allowing agencies to use their funds more judiciously. In FY 2017, the Denver Service Center awarded \$243 million in construction and services from all funding sources, including new award and contract modifications. Table 1 shows the dollars awarded from all contract actions and all fund sources for FY 2014 through FY 2017.

Figure 1 illustrates the number of contract actions handled by the division from FY 2014 through FY 2017. Transactions included design and construction services as well as other supplies and services including simplified acquisition.

The Denver Service Center actively supports the socioeconomic program goals of the National Park Service and the US Department of the Interior. Small business is big business in the United States. It's a critical component of and major contributor to the strength of local economies. We recognize this and have a dedicated small business specialist who assists teams with identifying qualified small, disadvantaged, HUBZone, women-owned, and veteran-owned firms.

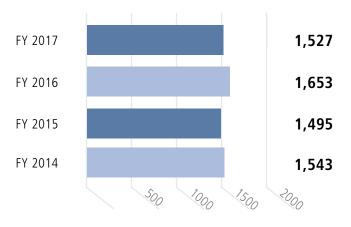
#### Table 1. Contract Dollars Awarded, from All Fund Sources, FY 2014–2017

	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017
A/E Services & Professional Services**	\$42.32	\$42.90	\$46.03	\$45.74
Construction	\$182.24	\$257.60	\$241.71	\$173.20
*Simplified Acquisition + Other	\$4.48	\$5.70	\$4.83	\$24.21
<b>Totals</b> (millions of dollars)	\$229.04	\$306.20	\$292.57	\$243.15

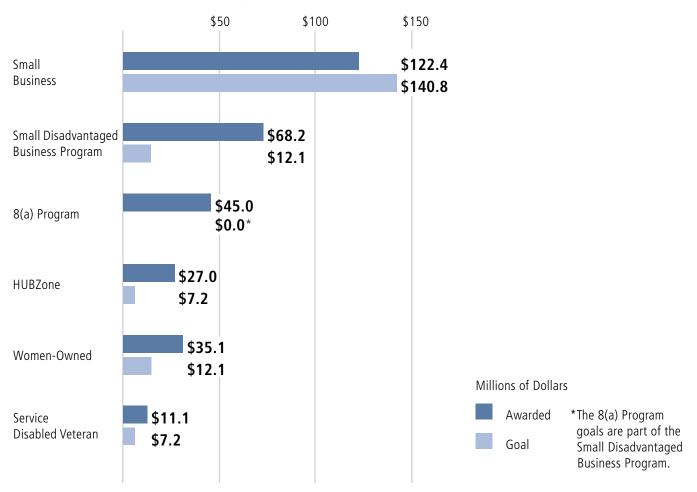
\*\*A/E Architectural / Engineering firms

\* Includes \$17M for JEFF exhibit fabricaton in FY 2017

#### Figure 1. Number of Transactions by Year, FY 2014–2017



#### Figure 2. Contract Actions by Dollar Amount, FY 2017 Small Business Contracting



Of the \$243 million the Denver Service Center awarded in FY 2017, \$122 million went to small business and socioeconomic programs. The division's small business goals and accomplishments for FY 2017 are shown in Figure 2. In many instances, a small business award is credited to more than one subcategory within the socioeconomic program.



This section of precast concrete vault was being set underground for a new wastewater lift station in Old El Portal for Yosemite National Park, CA. 深つ

### Design & Construction

Denver Service Center is rehabilitating the Historic Paradise Inn Annex and Connection Snowbridge at Mount Rainier National Park, WA. Construction of the \$23 million project started in August 2017 with a targeted completion in spring of 2019.

The Design and Construction Division is responsible for the management of large-scale projects identified within the NPS line-item construction (LIC) program, which are projects funded by Congress. The division also manages park-funded and partnership projects as an office of choice to the parks. The division provides project management of design, construction, and post-construction activities for a wide range of park asset types including new and existing facilities, historic structures, and a variety of infrastructure systems. The division has a technical staff of project managers and project specialists with expertise in engineering, architecture, and landscape architecture.

The Design and Construction Technical Branch consists of senior design professionals and compliance specialists who provide quality assurance reviews and compliance oversight. They also offer a wide range of design and construction consulting services to parks, regions, and program offices. The branch maintains the Denver Service Center Workflows website <u>www.nps.gov/dscw/index.htm</u> that provides guidance for architectural/engineering (A/E) and construction firms who use it to access clear and timely guidance for project completion.

In FY 2017, the division managed 281 projects worth more than \$1.72 billion of gross construction costs. This included more than 100 LIC projects as well as 118 park-funded and partnership projects. Reflected within those figures, the Denver Service Center continues to support Hurricane Sandy recovery projects, with over 40 projects being managed in varying stages of the project life cycle. Table 2 shows the overall program in both number of projects and gross dollars for FY 2014 through FY 2017. Figure 3 shows the division's obligation rates for FY 2014 through FY 2017 based on total dollars awarded.

The Design and Construction program changes from year to year and Figure 4 shows the value of awards for construction and constructionrelated activities annually from FY 2014 through FY 2017 in terms of dollars obligated.

As a project management office, the Denver Service Center works with private architect/engineering (A/E) firms to accomplish project design work. Figure 5 shows the value of A/E design task orders awarded for FY 2014 through FY 2017.

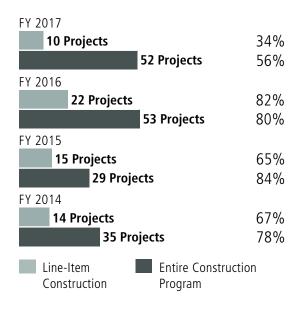
shown in Figure 6.

#### Table 2. Design and Construction Program, FY 2014–2017

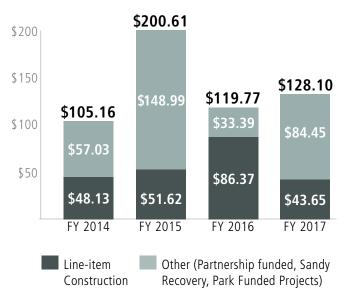
	FY 2	014	FY 2	015	FY 2	016	FY 2	2017
Project Phase	Projects	Gross Construction Dollars	Projects	Gross Construction Dollars	Projects	Gross Construction Dollars	Projects	Gross Construction Dollars
Design	115	\$831,274,242	138	\$535,636,110	150	\$800,180,713	134	\$1,039,578,505
Construction	24	\$95,447,673	45	\$353,981,558	27	\$264,608,881	47	\$266,756,698
Warranty	40	\$216,326,415	39	\$166,076,073	26	\$111,519,742	41	\$197,744,709
Miscellaneous	21	\$30,050,688	13	\$13,069,746	15	\$36,816,295	18	\$63,450,379
Hurricane Sandy Recovery	81	\$213,999,562	84	\$198,324,763	85	\$223,132,995	41	\$148,259,936
Total	281	\$1.40	319	\$1.27	303	\$1.43	281	\$1.72
Program		(billion)		(billion)		(billion)		(billion)

Construction administration and oversite is provided by private A/E and construction management firms who work in tandem with our project technical and contracting teams. The total contracted construction administration/management costs for FY 2014 through FY 2017 are

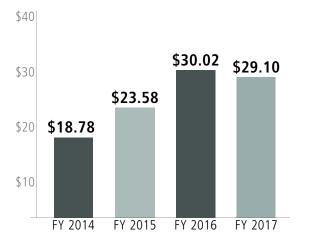
#### Figure 3. Construction Obligation Rates, FY 2014-2017



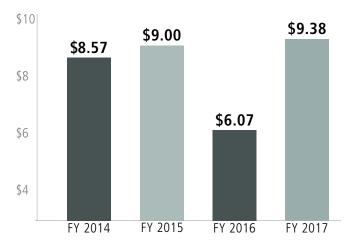
### Figure 4. Overall Construction Program Awards, FY 2014–2017 (in millions)



#### Figure 5. A/E Design Costs, FY 2014–2017 (in millions)



### Figure 6. DSC Construction Management Costs, FY 2014–2017 (in millions)



#### **SUSTAINABILITY**

The Denver Service Center is dedicated to the protection of natural and cultural resources across the vast National Park Service landscape. That can include structures such as visitor centers and historic buildings, across more than the 4 million acres of maintained landscapes (such as campgrounds and battlefields), 17,000 miles of trails, and more than 3,000 utility systems. We're designing new facilities and renovating existing buildings, with the overall goal to make all national park units more sustainable.

All DSC-managed new building construction and building renovations meet federal sustainability requirements and all new buildings larger than 5,000 square feet are designed and constructed to meet US Green Building Council Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design standards for certification. The Service Center plays a significant role in complying and exceeding federally mandated sustainability requirements.

#### ACCESSIBILITY

The Denver Service Center manages all projects to be universally designed and constructed for people of varying abilities. Providing physical, program, electronic and information technology access for persons with disabilities to our national parks is important. We strive to be a beacon of equality, where everyone is encouraged to share and enjoy park services, activities, and programs. Whether it's watching a colorful sunset at Grand Canyon National Park, or gaping in awe as Old Faithful erupts at Yellowstone National Park, or seeing the Vietnam Memorial at the National Mall for the first time, experiences like these must be accessible for all visitors and preserved for future generations.

Recreation Area, CA.

Fort Vancouver National Historic Site in Washington received one of three 2017 Valerie Sivinski Awards for Outstanding Historic Building Rehabilitation. In conjunction with the DSC project management support, the park received the award for work on the rehabilitation of Vancouver Barracks Building 987. This award is given annually by the Washington State Historic Preservation Office as a recognition of achievement in historic preservation through outstanding rehabilitations of historic buildings and structures.

A visitor and her service dog await one of the National Park Service shuttles at Golden Gate National





PLEASE WAIT FOR ASSISTANCE BEFORE BOARDING AND EXITING THE TRAM



#### WORKING WITH PARTNERS

The Denver Service Center is proud to use its professional and technical expertise to support the public-private partnership efforts of the National Park Service. The Denver Service Center works with partners ranging from friends groups and private donors to state and local governments and other federal agencies to support the projects of the national park system. These partnerships leverage federal dollars, contribute expertise, and connect parks and communities.

In partnership with the Families and Friends of Flight 93, the National Park Foundation, and Flight 93 National Memorial, the DSC team helped break ground (and sound) on a visual and audible reminder of the courageous actions of the 40 passengers and crew of United Flight 93. This feature marks the final phase of major construction of the memorial's original design and will be named the Tower of Voices. It will stand 93 feet tall and contain 40 wind chimes that will serve as an enduring memory of the voices of the passengers and crew. Construction of the tower started in September 2017 with anticipated completion and a dedication ceremony in September 2018.

After 16 years of rehabilitation, the 102-year-old Many Glacier Hotel was restored to its original grandeur as the "Gem of the West" in Glacier National Park. The multi-partner, multi-million-dollar effort reached its completion with a ribbon cutting on September 12, 2017, that included the unveiling of the helical staircase, the final major rehabilitation project. In 1996, Many Glacier Hotel was listed as one of America's "most endangered" historic places by the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Tower of Voices at Flight 93 National Memorial, PA, will serve as both a visual and audible reminder of the heroism of the 40 passengers and crew of United Flight 93. The structure will be complete in the fall of 2018. (Tower of Voices rendering, courtesy Paul Murdoch Architects)

# Planning

Sea turtle at Dry Tortugas National Park, FL.



In early FY 2017, the Planning Division received the 2016 NPS Accessibility Leadership Achievement Award. It was the result of the division providing program support and planning for 12 Accessibility Self-Evaluation and Transition Plans (SETPs) for the Pacific West Region. The division continues to expand the reach of accessibility planning services by working with three additional regions this year. The Planning Division also crafted an accessibility training in collaboration with the Access Board that's being duplicated in Midwest and Pacific West regions.

park system.

Three kayakers enjoying Yellowstone National Park, WY. The park spans three states: Wyoming, Montana, and Idaho.

#### **HIGHLIGHTS AND INITIATIVES**

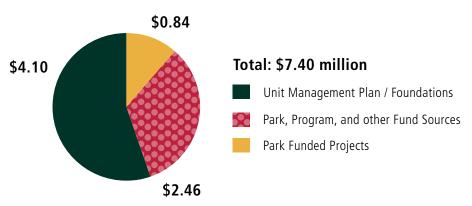
In FY 2017, Planning Services managed more than 190 projects across a portfolio of products. The division offers more than 50 types of products and services. You can find details on the DSC Planning website www.nps.gov/orgs/1804/dscplan.htm.

The Denver Service Center Planning Division continues to coordinate and support the Resource Stewardship National Working Group in developing and refining the new Resource Stewardship Strategy (RSS) framework and development process. RSS is a strategic plan intended to help park managers achieve and maintain desired resource conditions over time. Our team completed six RSS's and made substantial progress on 12 new RSS's initiated in early FY 2017. The RSS program has also been a catalyst for the development of a new NPS approach to cultural resource stewardship assessments, which have been instrumental in forming the development of parks' resource stewardship strategies across the national

This year we supported an NPS steering committee in the production of a national park system plan. The plan was finalized in January 2017 and is the first comprehensive plan for the entire agency in over 40 years.

Part of our services are through our Visitor Use Management (VUM) team. VUM is a way for parks to proactively manage for high quality visitor experiences, protection of resources, and to encourage access. The team had 17 visitor use-related plans underway in FY 2017 (including visitor use management plans, trails plans, comprehensive area plans, and transportation/corridor management plans). The team also continued to provide leadership and technical support to the Interagency Visitor Use Management Council. The team also contributed to briefings and related initiatives with regional and national leadership in an effort to further advance visitor use management in the agency.

#### Figure 7. DSC Planning Funding by Fund Source, FY 2017 (in millions)



The park infrastructure planning team had 10 facility management plans and initiatives underway in FY 2017 including regional and national longrange transportation plans (LRTP), strategic facility plans, transportation plans, and trail management plans. The team also developed draft guidebooks for trail planning and LRTPs, which will be shared for future agency review. The team continued development of templates for trail and facility management planning and utilized these templates in ongoing projects. Templates include reference materials for trail system design workshops, cost estimating tools, and participant guides for scoping, alternative development, and preferred alternative workshops. The Planning Division continued to support the National Planning Program's commitment to complete a foundation document for each unit of the national park system. The division, along with efforts from the publications team, completed 133 foundation documents. This brings the total number of foundations signed by superintendents and regional directors to 363. Fifty-three will be completed in FY 2018.

A stormy sunset over The Watchman Spire in Zion National Park, UT.



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# Transportation

A view of the reconstruction of Balanced Rock parking area, part of the recently completed \$14.5 million entrance road rehabilitation project at Arches National Park, UT.

#### **TRANSPORTATION CAPABILITY**

The Transportation Division provides project management, landscape architecture, engineering, and natural and cultural resource expertise for transportation-related projects across the National Park Service. The division's primary role is to work directly with regions and parks in support of their transportation-related needs. In collaboration and strong partnership, the Transportation Division works with the Federal Highway Administration to deliver projects, providing added capacity

for contracting support, transportation planning, design development, and revegetation planning and implementation. The division houses an experienced cadre of facilitators who lead workshops, and a variety of planning and design charrettes to assist park managers in solving their transportation challenges. The division is working closely with partners to develop and deliver a range of low-cost congestion management strategies.

Crews applying intermediate asphalt on Rock Creek Park's rehabilitated Beach Drive near the Washington, DC National Zoo.

### **TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM**

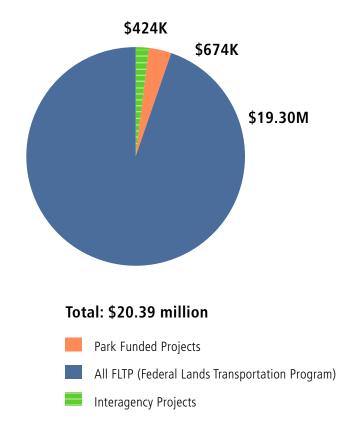
Through collaborative efforts between NPS and the US Army Corps of Engineers, infrastructure improvements started in 2009 to restore flow through the Everglades by raising sections of the Tamiami Trail roadway that cuts through the Everglades. With partnership funds, the next phase of the trail reconstruction started in July 2016 and is targeted for completion in 2019. The new trail will raise a two-and-a-half mile section of US Highway 41.

#### **SUPPORT SERVICES**

The National Park Service relies on the Transportation Division's revegetation expertise to assist in meeting its goals by reestablishing native plant communities in areas of parks disturbed by construction activity. This year the team reproduced or installed more than 28,000 native plants. The division also offers compliance expertise for issues related to natural and cultural resource compliance on projects within the national park system to ensure that NPS commitments and the NPS mission are properly considered when transportation improvements are proposed.

In FY 2017, division staff worked on 237 projects that are in various stages of development, valued at more than \$220 million, the majority funded through the NPS Federal Lands Transportation Program. Of that total, approximately \$20.39 million was delivered directly by the Denver Service Center, as Figure 8 shows. The rest of the work was accomplished in partnership with the Federal Lands Highway Division of the Federal Highway Administration. In addition, the transportation division also supported \$25 million in Hurricane Sandy recovery projects funded through the Emergency Relief for Federally Owned Roads Program (ERFO). The remaining recovery projects are anticipated to be complete in FY 2018. The transportation program has increased funding from the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act for the next four years to support transportation assets of the National Park Service including roads, bridges, and transportation systems. In FY 2017, the program was funded at \$276 million.

#### Figure 8. Transportation Division Contract Obligations by Funding Type, FY 2017 (in millions)



#### **PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS**

The Denver Service Center Transportation Division provides full support for critical transportation projects, including the Arlington Memorial Bridge rehabilitation project. The project will restore the structural integrity of the Arlington Memorial Bridge while protecting and preserving its historic character and significant design elements. This rehabilitation project is one of the largest transportation projects in NPS history. For the past seven years, the NPS has made emergency temporary repairs to the bridge while planning a full long-term rehabilitation. In February 2016, the Federal Highway Administration determined that despite these emergency repairs, without a complete rehabilitation the continued and accelerated deterioration of the concrete deck would require a full bridge closure in 2021. At the recommendation of the Federal Highway Administration, the 10-ton load limit on Arlington Memorial Bridge will remain in effect until the full rehabilitation is complete. The DSC Transportation Division worked with the National Capital Region (NCR) and George Washington Memorial Parkway on the inaugural FASTLANE Grant Program application in April 2016. The Park Service was awarded a Department of Transportation \$90 million FASTLANE Grant for this rehabilitation project.

The DSC Transportation Division worked with NCR and FHWA on the funding and programming to solicit proposals for the Arlington Memorial Bridge Rehabilitation estimated at \$250 million. The Denver Service Center participated on the technical evaluation to review qualified proposals and recommended an award. The project was awarded in November 2017 using the \$90 million FASTLANE Grant.

In FY 2017, the Transportation Division supported the multi-year partnership project between the National Park Foundation, NPS, and BMW of North America to install up to 100 electric vehicle charging stations around America's national parks. A 2017 BMW i3 electric vehicle and 1914 Detroit Electric Model 47 owned by Thomas Edison and their charging stations inside Thomas Edison's Glenmont garage at Thomas Edison National Historical Park, NJ. (Photo credit: David Rose for BMW of North America.)

## Information Management

Mule deer in Zion National Park, UT.

TOP OF FINIAL

33'-10" TOP OF ROOF

The Information Management Division supports Denver Service Center projects and servicewide initiatives in project management control, document and records management, web design and maintenance, digital printing, information systems, employee development, and distance learning.

#### **TECHNICAL INFORMATION CENTER**

The Technical Information Center (TIC) is the central servicewide information management system for all NPS-generated planning, design and construction drawings and documents, and technical reports. It is the oldest and largest information system in the National Park Service. The center provides research, discovery, and archiving assistance to parks and regions. The integrated documents and records management system provides access to and retrieval of items within the collection. eTIC contains more than two million images, technical reports, and drawings available to NPS employees through etic.nps.gov.

During 2017, TIC staff worked with Glen Canyon National Recreation Area to collect and process drawings and documents. At year's end, over 45% of the materials had been scanned and entered into eTIC for access. TIC assisted Guadalupe Mountains National Park by cataloging and scanning hundreds of archeological files and reports. A venture with Coronado National Memorial resulted in historical aerial photographs becoming electronically available to provide critical understanding of the landscape dynamics and for identifying erosion and vegetation changes over time.

#### **INFORMATION SERVICES**

The branch continues to improve reporting and data visualization capabilities for the Denver Service Center by deploying new technology, upgrading existing reports, and implementing a self-service reporting model. New technology will allow DSC information to be presented and explored using any browser on any government device. The goal is to make the great wealth of DSC information more available and understandable. The anticipated outcome is better and more proactive decision making.

#### FY 2017 PROJECT MANAGEMENT SUPPORT STATISTICS

Total projects tracked in Microsoft (MS) Project Server:	1,404
Design & Construction projects tracked in MS Project Server:	442
Number of users accessing DSC Sharepoint (monthly):	3,300

#### FY 2017 TIC Statistics

Park units/offices assisted by TIC:	475
Registered users in eTIC:	4,480
eTIC views and downloads:	48,115
Searches in eTIC:	62,845
New record files loaded into eTIC:	67,004
Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests	
with more than 26,000 responsive records released:	16

#### **Employee Development**

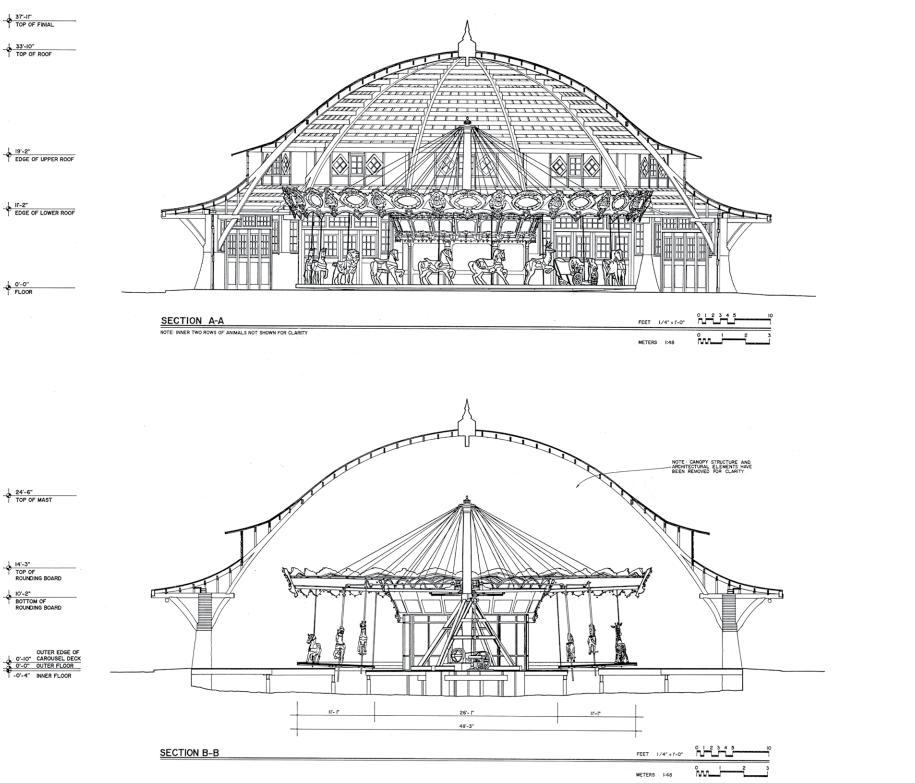
Contracting Officer Representatives (FAC-COR):	133
Certified Program and Project Managers (FAC-P/PM):	33
Project Management Professionals (PMP):	53
Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design	
(LEED) Accreditations:	29

As the employee development figures highlight, the Service Center has a robust employee development program facilitating on-site and web courses to meet certification requirements and keep staff compliant with current and changing requirements in their field.

> Our online repository houses thousands of drawings and files for the National Park Service including this 1921 drawing of the Dentzel Carousel at Glen Echo Park in Glen Echo, MD.

EDGE OF LOWER ROOF



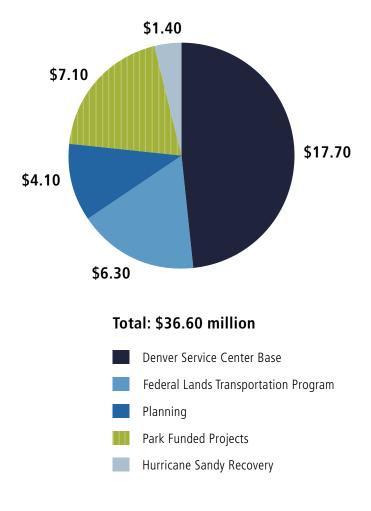


Painted Hills at John Day Fossil Beds National Monument, OR.

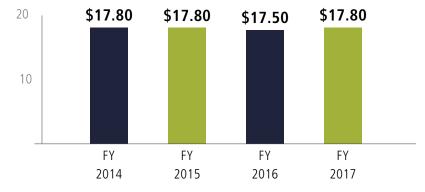
## Budget & Financial Performance

Bicyclists enjoying a nice day on one of the bike paths at Assateague Island National Seashore, MD.

#### Figure 9. Total DSC Operational Expenditures, FY 2017 (in millions)



#### Figure 10. Appropriated DSC Base Funding, FY 2014–2017 (in millions)



The Denver Service Center operations are funded through a variety of sources. In FY 2017, DSC operational budgets totaled approximately \$36.6 million (Figure 9).

In FY 2017, DSC's operational expenditures were funded from 1) Appropriated base funding (\$17.7 million), funds that support line-item construction, large-scale partnership project execution, and the National Park Service Technical Information Center; 2) Park Planning and Special Studies (\$4.1 million) to accomplish Unit Management Planning and Special Resources studies; 3) Federal Lands Transportation Program (\$6.3 million) to support transportation initiatives servicewide; 4) Sandy (\$1.4 million) for recovery efforts after Superstorm Sandy; and 5) Park Funded Projects work (\$7.1 million) that supports a wide array of project work with various fund sources including a sizable amount from Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act, and Reimbursable projects (Figure 9). The appropriated base funding in FY 2017 was \$17.8 million. Figure 10 shows the appropriated base funding for the Denver Service Center for FY 2014 through FY 2017.

# 2018 and Beyond

Brown bear nearly catching its lunch on the lip of Brooks Falls at Katmai National Park and Preserve, AK.

DSC's Transportation Division is helping rehabilitate Arlington Memorial Bridge, a historic and critical transportation link in the nation's capital. Spanning the Potomac River and connecting Virginia with Washington, DC, the bridge symbolically links North and South in its alignment between the Lincoln Memorial and Arlington House, The Robert E. Lee Memorial, while carrying 68,000 vehicles daily. This bridge is part of the George Washington Memorial Parkway (DC, MD, VA).

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Our work continues to support NPS investments to address the deferred maintenance backlog. That means we must continue to meet the needs and expectations of park visitors by modernizing our infrastructure for our next century of service. We also need to focus on rehabilitating and preserving historic sites and structures to tell the story of our country, enabling visitors to enjoy their national parks by enhancing access and recreational opportunities. We will continue focusing on investing in the places where we work and live to build a strong workforce for continued success.

For example, a \$3.2 million project at Big Bend National Park in Texas will replace the Panther Junction sewage treatment plant. This project will provide a modern, safe, and fully functional facility for NPS, concession operations, and more than 380,000 visitors each year. Denver Service Center is also supporting Mammoth Cave National Park with a \$9.6 million investment to reconstruct 15.5 miles of unstable trails along the Grand Avenue Tour. As a result, the Service Center will help deliver on our mission to preserve unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations. Another priority that supports these investment goals is Visitor Use Management (VUM). Every year, more and more people seek out public lands and waters to pursue a growing variety of recreational experiences. To ensure that we all can continue to benefit from expanding recreational uses, visitors, managers, and citizens need effective ways to sustainably manage those uses so these special places and the benefits they generate persist for this and future generations. Visitor use management efforts meet this pressing need and help the National Park Service maximize benefits for visitors while supporting the park purpose, significance, and fundamental resources and values. We also play a key leadership role in the six-agency Interagency Visitor Use Management Council, whose mission is to increase awareness of and commitment to proactive, professional, and science-based visitor use management on federally managed lands and waters.

We are committed to continue ensuring a bright future for America's favorite places. Our work helps protect the natural, historical and cultural sites that together share the American story. We are proud of the work we accomplish for the American public and the parks we serve. We remain honored to support the National Park Service and thank you for your commitment to carry out its mission.

Turks Cap Lily wildflower at Shenandoah National Park, VA



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 US administration.

DSC 900/141438 - March 2018

Back Cover: Swiftcurrent Lake inside Glacier National Park, MT.

#### EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

To view an interactive version of the 2017 DSC Annual Report, go to: http://go.nps.gov/2017DSCAnnualReport

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