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National Park Service News Release

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National Parks Offer Good Old Fashioned Fun for Visitors

Washington, D.C. – The National Park Service (NPS) is pleased to kick-off the upcoming travel season with many new and exciting adventures awaiting park visitors, as well as traditional programs that families come back time and again to enjoy. From the shores of Maine and Alaska to the Rocky Mountains of Colorado to the warm beaches of California and the Virgin Islands, national parks offer something for everyone.

NPS Director Mary Bomar said, “The national parks are gearing up for our 100th Anniversary in 2016 – the Centennial of the National Parks, and more and more family programs are available for our visitors to enjoy. Your national parks pay homage to our ancestors and inspire our children to become better stewards of the parks for tomorrow. National parks provide incredible opportunities to experience the marvelous natural and cultural heritage of our country. I welcome you to come out and enjoy your national parks this year and every year.”

The National Park Service has developed and made available a web site to help inform visitors about what’s new in national parks this year. Learn about the many park events, activities, and new facilities that have been planned or are available for the upcoming travel season. Visit the “National Parks: The Place to be for Family Fun” website at: http://www.nps.gov/pub_aff/parks2008/index.htm to learn more about what’s happening in national parks across the country.

The National Park Service always recommends stopping by the park’s visitor center to get the latest, most up-to-date park information. In addition, NPS reminds visitors that safety is critical, and hikers should stay on marked trails and let family members and/or friends know their whereabouts. Remember to dress appropriately for the elements and activities you are going to engage in, and it’s always best to have plenty of water on hand. Parks Rangers are easily recognizable in their distinctive green and gray uniforms. Ask questions...that’s what they are there for!

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