



MANAGING LANDS AND RESOURCES

I believe maybe if there's one thing that unites our fractious, argumentative country across generations and parties and across time, it is the love we have for our land.

President Bill Clinton, January 11, 2000

When President Clinton recently gave thanks for the opportunity to follow in Theodore Roosevelt's early footsteps by taking "that long look ahead, to chart a new conservation vision for a new century," he described the agenda for the land management agencies at the Department of the Interior. With a vision that emphasizes conservation and restoration on a landscape scale, the Bureau of Land Management, Fish and Wildlife Service, and National Park Service have charted a 21st Century course in their 2001 budget requests.

The Department manages 379 parks, 521 refuges, 264 million acres of surface BLM lands, and 560 million subsurface acres. These lands are rich in the Nation's natural heritage, representing diverse and complex ecosystems, along with geologic, scenic, historic, recreational, and cultural values. The BLM, FWS, and NPS vision supports maintaining the health of these lands, waters, and resources; restoring and protecting diverse animal and plant species and their habitats; providing recreational opportunities; and providing for appropriate commercial use and development of resources in an environmentally sound manner.

PROTECTION AND RESTORATION OF THE PUBLIC LANDS

Over the last decade, BLM has transformed itself into a model of multiple use management, emphasizing conservation, while protecting the access rights of a diverse group of customers. With the guidance of 24 independent Resource Advisory Councils, BLM has begun to make substantive changes to livestock grazing practices and has applied new standards to management of western landscapes. Since 1994, BLM has helped make the President's Northwest Forest Plan an effective blueprint for timber production that protects sensitive species. Moreover, BLM has also helped fulfill the President's vision for preservation of the

Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument located in Utah and the Headwaters Forest Reserve in California.

President Clinton, recognizing BLM's unique ability to protect the health of the land while following a multiple use mandate, announced on January 11, 2000 that BLM would begin a new century of public land management with responsibility for three new national monuments: the Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument, a one-million-acre area on the northwest rim of the Grand Canyon containing the Shivwits Plateau and count-

less biological, archeological, and historical resources; the Agua Fria National Monument in Arizona that contains one of the most significant systems of late prehistoric sites in the American Southwest; and the California Coastal National Monument that includes all of the islands, rocks, exposed reefs, and pinnacles above the high water mark along the scenic and biologically diverse 840-mile California coast.

Protection of BLM Designated Areas

National monuments, national conservation areas, wild and scenic river corridors, and other places so significant that they merited special des-



ignation by an act of either the Congress or a president are a focus of BLM's 2001 budget. While such places contain unique resource values, they have frequently not received additional funding to accompany their protected status. With an additional \$16.0 million, BLM will focus on stabilizing and restoring existing resources at officially designated areas, and on enhancing recreational and educational opportunities. Funding for operations of the three new national monuments is included in this initiative.

Land Use Planning for Sustainable Resource Decisions

With an additional \$19.0 million for improvements in land use planning, BLM will begin a multi-year process to update its resource management plans. As a result of heightened demand for use of public lands, and relatively static or declining funding in BLM's planning program, more than half of BLM's 150 land use plans now require substantial revision or complete replacement. Updating these plans will address the changes in use and condition of the public lands, allow the BLM to be more responsive to use authorization requests, make better decisions on sustainable use, and allow resolution of land use disputes without costly and time consuming litigation.

Restoration of Threatened Watersheds

In 2001, BLM will focus on habitat restoration in three broad categories: control of wild horses, watershed health under the Clean Water Action Plan, and control of invasive plant species. With an additional \$9.0 million, BLM will tackle one of its most difficult management issues, the explosive growth of wild horse populations. Today's herds are nearly 75 percent above appropriate herd management levels and populations are increasing at up to 20 percent per year. To restore habitat and ensure sufficient forage for the horses, BLM will increase removals, training and adoptions, gelding, and, where necessary, long-term holding in a strategy to reach appropriate herd management levels by 2005.



BLM 2001 Goal - The BLM will improve herd management in 49 wild horse and burro herd management areas.

Under the Clean Water Action Plan's Unified Federal Policy, BLM will assess the function and condition of watersheds, incorporate watershed goals in its planning process, improve monitoring, and restore streambanks, riparian areas, and other contributors to watershed health. With an additional \$3.5 million, BLM will target the Great Basin area of Nevada and Utah, the Colorado River Basin, and riparian areas in the desert southwest, all areas with numerous special status species.

Invasive species such as purple loosestrife, yellow starthistle, leafy spurge, and, most ubiquitous of all, cheatgrass, have begun to permanently change the mix of vegetation on the public lands. The invasion of weeds has not only transformed much of the western landscape, it has begun to deprive wildlife and livestock of forage and groundcover, and significantly increased the danger of rangeland fire. With an additional \$1.5 million, BLM will increase efforts at integrated weed management, bringing the total 2001 program request to \$9.5 million. Without a concerted and growing program, invasive grasses, forbs, and shrubs may forever replace native plant species.

BLM 2001 Goal - BLM will treat 214,000 acres to prevent the spread of noxious weeds and undesirable plants and treat 325,000 acres with fire and mechanical fuels treatments to restore natural ecological processes.

RESTORING DAMAGED LANDS AND RESOURCES

Coal mining practices before the passage of regulatory laws in 1977 left the landscape scarred by abandoned mines and the water polluted from acid mine drainage. Interior administers land and water restoration programs in historical coal mining states under the Abandoned Mine Land Fund. An increase of \$15.3 million from the Fund will



allow the reclamation of 1,000 additional acres to productive use for surrounding communities, thus reducing threats to human health and safety.

Of this increase, \$2.0 million will be available for the Appalachian Clean Streams Initiative, for a total of \$10.0 million to address acid mine drainage problems in local communities. Acid mine drainage from abandoned coal mines continues to be a major source of water pollution and the leading cause of aquatic habitat destruction affecting species such as the Appalachian native brook trout. This increase will build on the successes of the Clean Streams program in bringing together local and Federal resources to restore stream habitat and water quality by reducing acid mine drainage. An estimated 46 new projects will be started in 2001 at the requested funding level.

There are hundreds of sites across our country where Interior lands and trust resources are threatened by oil spills and releases of toxic hazardous substances. These sites vary in size from small town landfills to the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill. The Department's Restoration Program operates on a "polluter pays" principle. Working as partners with States, Tribes, and other Federal trustee agencies, damage assessment activities are applied to identify and quantify injury to natural resources and to seek payment from responsible parties. A recent example is the Saginaw River settlement in Michigan, where responsible parties will provide for removal of contaminants and the restoration of nearly 1,700 acres. For 2001, the Restoration Program requests \$5.4 million, and anticipates recovering \$43.7 million in receipts, an increase of \$3.7 million over 2000. Since its inception, the Restoration Program has been involved in settlements totaling over \$300 million that are or will be used for restorative actions and livability enhancements.

Building Stronger Communities in Appalachia

The Appalachian region is home to some of the poorest communities in the Nation, many of which have not realized gains as part of the economic upturn of the past few years. The mountains and valleys of Appalachia have been scarred by the effects of years of mining without adequate planning for reclamation. Abandoned coal mines in Appalachia have had a tremendous negative impact on the region's lands and waters – resulting in more than \$6 billion of environmental damage. The Office of Surface Mining reconstructs these lands and builds stronger communities through Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation grants and the Appalachian Clean Streams Initiative that includes funding for watershed cooperative agreements.

In 2001, \$103.0 million in AML grants will be provided directly to States for reclamation activities. In addition to restoring land and waters to productive use and removing existing health, safety, and general welfare hazards, the funds will generate economic benefits to local communities in several ways. First, these grants provide jobs in areas that have not enjoyed the full benefits of the improving economy. Second, restoring the environment by eliminating health and safety hazards enhances local infrastructure so that investors are more likely to develop the community. Third, the restored land and waters create pride in community that is critical for future economic growth.

The Appalachian Clean Streams Initiative demonstrates the Administration's commitment to cleaning up acid mine drainage problems that pollute streams and destroy aquatic habitats. The Initiative provides funding for financing small projects that have big impacts on improving local water quality. Most of the funds are challenge grants that provide seed money to attract additional financial support from private and other public sources. In 2001, \$7.7 million will be granted to the Appalachian Clean Stream States.

Watershed cooperative agreements provide funds to a variety of local non-profit organizations, including small watershed organizations. OSM makes it possible for these groups to clean up and restore community waters. In 2001, the Administration will seek a significant increase – to \$2.8 million – for this program. OSM will continue to fund summer interns to assist these organizations with initiating local programs and will encourage students to enter careers that build their communities.

PROTECTING AND SUSTAINING THE NATURAL RESOURCE LEGACY OF PARKS

[W]e must do everything we can to preserve this glorious land of ours for generations yet to come. President Theodore Roosevelt once committed our Nation to leaving this land even a better land for our descendants than it is for us. Vice President Gore and I have tried hard to fulfill his vision. We protected the Yellowstone Park from the threat of mining, preserved the Red Rock Canyons of Utah, saved age-old redwoods in California's Headwaters Forest. We launched the most ambitious restoration effort ever in the magnificent Florida Everglades. And we're acting to restore healthy air and pristine skies to our national parks so that future generations can see and enjoy them, just as the first explorers did.

President Bill Clinton, August 21, 1999

The mission of the National Park Service is the same today as it was when the NPS was established in 1916 — to preserve this Nation's natural and cultural heritage, unimpaired for the enjoyment of this and future generations. Yet today, NPS faces challenges that could not have been imagined by the early managers of the park system. As visitation and new activities and uses of

the parks increase, so do the pressures on fragile park resources.

Urban development, habitat destruction, non-native species invasions, and air and water pollution have damaged ecosystems and impaired scenic vistas. Under the leadership of Donald J. Barry, the Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and



Parks, and Robert G. Stanton, Director of the National Park Service, NPS launched the Natural Resource Challenge in 2000, a five-year action plan for improving management of the natural resources in parks. Careful stewardship of park resources is essential to ensure that our country's natural heritage flourishes within the complexities of today's modern landscapes. The action plan includes measures for protecting native species and their habitats, providing leadership for a healthy environment, and connecting parks to protected areas, and parks to people. Current Natural Resource Challenge projects include a survey of fish at Congaree Swamp National Monument to characterize and define the health of the fish community using an index of biological integrity; documentation of the effects on biotic communities of water quality degradation at Buffalo National River, including a determination of the distribution of an exotic mussel; and protection activities for island fox subspecies faced with extinction at Channel Islands National Park.

The 2001 budget includes an increase of \$18.0 million for the second year of the NPS Natural Resource Challenge. Part of the increase will be dedicated to accelerating efforts to acquire basic data on natural resources, thereby increasing NPS's ability to make management decisions that are

scientifically informed. The funding increase for the Natural Resource Initiative will also include controlling exotic species in order to restore and maintain healthy functioning ecosystems; restoring the critical habitat of threatened and endangered species; and monitoring water quality. Examples of these on-the-ground improvements are identifying and characterizing water-dependent resources at Grand Canyon National Park, and completing a GIS vegetation map for Sequoia National Park to facilitate fire management and other resource management activities.

NPS 2001 Goal - By September 30, 2001, NPS will have 30 percent of basic natural resource inventories completed.

The 2001 budget requests \$30.0 million for the third year of the Save America's Treasures Initiative. This NPS program provides matching Historic Preservation Fund grants to address the Nation's most urgent preservation needs. The Initiative coincides with the celebration of the turn of the century in order to commemorate our rich history and to showcase the preservation of the icons of American history and culture. The program focuses on immediate preservation attention to documents, sites, structures, and objects of national scope and significance. A large number of States, localities, corporations, foundations, and individuals who value our shared heritage have already pledged to support projects through financial contributions, donations, and in-kind services. Projects funded in the past include: roof repair at the famous Frank Lloyd Wright building, Fallingwater, in Bear Run, Pennsylvania; completion of final restoration of the Star Spangled Banner; conservation of monumental sculptures at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C.; and stabilization of Honanki Cliff Dwellings, built between 1150-1300 AD, in Sedona, Arizona.

REBUILDING WILDLIFE RESOURCES

The FWS administers the National Wildlife Refuge system to provide a national network of lands and waters for the conservation, management, and restoration of fish, wildlife, and plant resources and their habitats for the benefit of present and future generations of Americans. The National Wildlife Refuge system includes 521 ref-

Restoration of Landmark Buildings at Historically Black Colleges and Universities

Barely six months after the end of the Civil War, and just two years after the Emancipation Proclamation, three men—John Ogden, the Reverend Erastus Milo Cravath, and the Reverend Edward P. Smith—established the Fisk School in Nashville, named in honor of General Clinton B. Fisk of the Tennessee Freedmen's Bureau, who provided the new institution with facilities in former Union army barracks near the present site of Nashville's Union Station. In these facilities, Fisk convened its first classes for black students on January 9, 1866. The first students ranged in age from seven to seventy, and all shared an extraordinary thirst for learning. Since then, the tradition of excellence at Fisk has flourished. Fisk's world-famous Jubilee Singers originated as a group of traveling students who set out from Nashville in 1871, eventually raising the funds that preserved their University and permitted construction of Jubilee Hall, the South's first permanent structure built for the education of black students. As a designated National Historical Landmark, today Jubilee Hall remains the dramatic focal point of Fisk's campus.

The NPS, through the Historic Preservation Fund, supports capital renovations to historic buildings and facilities on the campuses of the Nation's Historically Black Colleges and Universities such as Fisk. The 1996 Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Act authorized a total of \$29.0 million for preservation projects at HBCUs. In 2001, a total of \$7.2 million is needed to reach the full authorized level for the program. Fisk University has received a total of \$4.7 million over the three-year period of fiscal years 1998-2000. Two historic buildings on the Fisk campus, Jubilee Hall and Cravath Hall, are being repaired with these funds. An additional \$250,000 will be awarded to Fisk University if Congress appropriates the funding requested for 2001.

uges, 38 wetland management districts with Waterfowl Production Areas, and 50 Coordination Areas encompassing almost 93 million acres. This reservoir of wildlife, fish, and plant resources allows 34 million visitors nationwide to enjoy wildlife watching, photography, hiking, and education programs. In addition, 290 refuges are open



for hunting and over 300 refuges are open for fishing. The refuges provide important breeding and feeding areas for migratory birds, in addition to providing important habitat for wildlife and fisheries.

To meet the challenge of increased visitation, this Administration has made a major investment in improving refuge facilities. The 2001 budget con-

tinues this investment with a \$19.9 million increase for the 521 units of the National Wildlife Refuge system to protect wildlife, improve habitats, and serve people by providing wildlife watching, hunting, and fishing opportunities for the public. Examples of projects include protecting wildlife at Oregon's Coastal Refuges, piping plovers at New Jersey's Cape May National Wildlife Refuge, and brown bears at Alaska's Kenai National Wildlife Refuge. Migratory bird management efforts will be increased by \$2.3 million to preserve priority habitat and initiate conservation projects for neo-tropical migrants.

DEPARTMENT-WIDE PROGRAMS TO FOSTER RESTORATION

Using Science for Good Stewardship

Department lands provide habitat for a diverse array of species and contain vital resources that must be managed for multiple purposes. Managing these resources, while preserving ecosystem health and sustainability, requires an integrated scientific approach to ensure that decisions are based on a sound understanding of ecosystems and the processes that occur within them.

To address these science needs the Department developed a collaborative process to prioritize science needs identified by the bureaus. The process has been very beneficial in fostering an ongo-



ing review of U.S. Geological Survey science projects and emerging bureau science needs. For 2001, the budget request includes an increase of \$15.0 million for DOI Science Priorities. Based on a Department-wide collaborative process to determine priorities, the budget request will fund research on ecosystem monitoring protocols, such as stream health assessment protocols and monitoring water quality and quantity; strategies for ecosystem restoration, such as restoration of abandoned mine lands; rangeland and riparian health, including evaluating the effects of rangeland water development on habitats for native wildlife species; declining species and species at risk; and impacts of invasive species.

Using Science for Hazard Warnings

The USGS budget request includes an increase of \$7.1 million for real time hazards warnings to

USGS 2001 Goal - The USGS will develop 13 risk assessments to help mitigate loss in particularly vulnerable areas of natural disaster, and will increase to 900 the cumulative number of real time earthquake sensors to minimize the loss of life and property.

build upon the 2000 initiative to accelerate the pace of modernizing USGS's hazards monitoring networks. Funding will be used to upgrade or expand the number of modern streamgages, earthquake and volcano sensors, and to add to telemetry capabilities.

Youth Conservation Corps

Every year hundreds of young people benefit by gainful employment in the healthful atmosphere of national parks and refuges. The work of the Youth Conservation Corps contributes to sound resource management, and in return gain an understanding and appreciation of the Nation's environment and heritage. In voicing his support for this unique program, Senator Jeff Bingaman recognized that "these programs offer youths something valuable and constructive to do with their time." Typical projects accomplished by YCC nationwide include plant revegetation, educational exhibit installation, campsite and trail construction and maintenance, and data compilation and entry. In 2001, NPS and FWS will each utilize \$2.0 million of their operations funding on high priority projects carried out by the YCC, and BLM will utilize \$1.6 million. The program will expand to include \$500,000 for the Bureau of Reclamation.



Recreational Fee Demonstration Program

In 1996, following the leadership of House Appropriations Subcommittee Chairman Ralph Regula, the Congress authorized NPS, BLM, and FWS to participate in the Recreational Fee Demonstration Program. The program allows each agency to retain all of the revenues collected at 100 demonstration sites, with 80 percent returned to the collecting site.

The successes of the program are evident in the response from the visitors who report that entrance fees are appropriate, as well as from the results of thousands of on-the-ground projects that are funded annually with fees. Over \$653 million are anticipated to be collected by Interior bureaus during the five-year period of this program, 1997 through 2001. Of that amount, over \$600 million will be collected by NPS. Agencies are using the fees for visitor services, resource protection, and health and safety maintenance projects. Appendix F includes details for each Interior bureau. Typical projects using demonstration fees include: trail repair at Canyonlands National Park in Utah; native plant restoration at Glacier National Park in Montana; and reconstruction of visitor center boardwalks at St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge in Florida.

The Program is currently authorized through 2001. During 2000, the Administration will work with Congress to enact permanent legislative authority for this program.

PARTNERSHIPS WORK TO RESTORE ECOSYSTEMS

California Bay-Delta

A Federal/State partnership has been working with stakeholders since 1995 to develop a comprehensive, long-term solution to problems in California's Bay-Delta. This region provides water for two-thirds of all homes and businesses in the State and for more than seven million acres of farmland while also providing habitat for 750 plant and animal species. In April 2000, CALFED, a consortium of Federal and State agencies with management and regulatory responsibilities in the Bay-Delta, plans to issue the final programmatic EIS/Environmental Impact Review on alternatives to restore and protect the Bay-Delta ecosystem while strengthening the State's long-term economic health. Approval of a CALFED program plan by State and Federal governments is expected soon thereafter.

The 2001 budget includes \$60.0 million for the California Bay-Delta Restoration Program, the same as 2000. The request includes \$36.0 million to continue implementation of the ecosystem restoration program initiated in 1998, and \$24.0 million for the Federal costs of other activities, including projects to improve water use efficiency and

water supply reliability. While these funds are requested in the BOR budget, funds for specific projects or programs will be transferred to participating Federal agencies based on plans developed by CALFED.

In addition to this request, funding for other ongoing activities that support the long-term goals of the CALFED Program is included in the budgets of other Federal agencies. For example, the Environmental Protection Agency anticipates that a portion of the funds provided to California in grants under the Clean Water and Safe Drinking Water Acts could be used for the water quality portion of the program. Once the final plan is approved, the Administration intends to seek authorizing legislation necessary for implementation, and to request funds for the implementation of specific programs or projects in the budgets of the appropriate Federal agencies.

CALFED released a draft programmatic EIS/EIR for the Bay-Delta program in June 1999, accompanied by a revised Phase II report. The report describes a preferred program alternative that consists of a through-Delta conveyance approach, coupled with ecosystem restoration, water quality improvements, levee system improvements, and a water management strategy that includes an integrated storage investigation. The report also includes: a draft implementation plan, which describes proposed actions for the first seven years; a regulatory compliance strategy; and a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation program to determine whether modifications or additional actions are needed. Since June 1999, CALFED has been refining and evaluating the preferred program alternative and other aspects of program implementation such as the long-term governance of the program. Public hearings were held throughout California during the summer of 1999.

CALFED 2001 Goal - The CALFED program plan will contain specific, measurable performance goals for levee protection, ecosystem restoration, and water conservation, storage, and conveyance. In 2001, as part of implementing that plan, participating agencies expect to make up to 200,000 acre-feet of water available to Federal water project contractors that would not otherwise have been available.

SAFE VISITS TO PUBLIC LANDS

Interior manages an extensive infrastructure to meet the needs of over 380 million visitors who visit and enjoy national parks, national wildlife refuges, and other public lands and facilities on an annual basis. Some of the structures that Interior manages are over 100 years old and are important landmarks. Others were built by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930s, and still others were erected as part of the "Mission 66" program, a revitalization program for national parks in the 1950s and 1960s.



With the encouragement of Chairman Regula, the Department instituted an aggressive Safe Visits to Public Lands Initiative to improve management and accountability for the Department's infrastructure and focus maintenance and construction funding on the highest priority health and safety and resource protection needs. The Safe Visits Initiative is directing the Department's efforts to manage rehabilitation and repair needs at parks, refuges, and public lands that are faced with increasing visitation, an aging infrastructure, and threats to natural and cultural resources. The 2001 budget presents the Department's priorities for the second year of the Five-Year Maintenance and Construction Plan. Projects on the list are ranked the highest priority for health and safety and resource protection needs. Each of the land management bureaus, USGS, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs has formulated and will present an updated plan that lays out the most critical construction and maintenance needs to be accomplished over the next five years. In total, the Department requests \$1.2 billion for Safe Visits.

SAFE VISITS TO PUBLIC LANDS (dollars in millions)

Maintenance	
BLM.....	52.9
USGS	3.0
FWS	64.7
NPS	<u>449.7</u>
Subtotal.....	570.3
Construction	
BLM.....	11.2
FWS	44.2
NPS	180.0
BIA Education	300.1
BIA Other	<u>65.8</u>
Subtotal.....	601.3
Total	<u>1,171.6</u>

Maintenance and Construction Funding Needs

Of the \$1.2 billion Interior proposes to invest for safe visits in 2001, \$570.3 million is for maintenance and \$601.3 is for construction. This is an increase of \$134.6 million, or 13 percent, over 2000.

Construction requests, excluding those of BOR, total \$601.3 million, reflecting a net increase of \$113.1 million over 2000. BIA education receives an increase of \$167.3 million. The BIA increases will allow accelerated major and minor repairs at 185 existing schools and the replacement of six schools: Tuba City Boarding and Second Mesa Day Schools in Arizona; Zia Day School, Baca Consolidated Community School, and Wingate Elementary School in New Mexico; and Lummi



Tribal School in Washington. Appendix D provides information on the construction program.

Bureau requests for construction in the land managing bureaus total \$235.4 million composed of \$11.2 million in BLM; \$44.2 million in FWS; and \$180.0 million in NPS. Among the 70 line item requests are construction projects for:

- Repairing the unreliable electrical system at the Mammoth Cave National Park in Kentucky;
- Replacing an unsafe BLM bridge at Susie Creek, Nevada;
- Replacing a failing Yellowstone National Park water and waste-water system in Wyoming;
- Implementing seismic safety rehabilitation in six FWS buildings at Alchesay /Williams Creek National Fish Hatchery in Arizona, Jackson National Fish Hatchery in Wyoming, and Coleman National Fish Hatchery in California;
- Installing a fire suppression system in park structures at Gettysburg National Military Park in Pennsylvania; and
- Establishing an interpretive center at the Manzanar National Historic Site in California, the site of one of the relocation centers for Japanese-Americans during World War II.

For both construction and maintenance programs in 2001, the Department continued use of standard definitions of facilities terms and data, uniform

criteria for priority ranking of the most critical health and safety and resource protection projects, and consistent and credible descriptions of projects. The five-year plan will continue to be updated annually to reflect changes as projects shift in priority and new needs are identified.

Long-term improvement of the condition of the Department's facilities requires better data on current conditions. To this end, in December 1999, Interior issued formal requirements for conducting facility condition assessment surveys across all the bureaus. These surveys will provide a continuous, systematic review program through which the bureaus can identify repair, rehabilitation, and replacement needs. These condition assessment surveys are a more thorough and comprehensive examination of facilities, and therefore are likely to uncover additional needs. It is anticipated that a cycle of condition assessments will be completed every five years and that will give Interior, for the first time, an accurate assessment of the total backlog of maintenance needs. The budget contains \$9.2 million for condition assessments, an increase of \$5.8 million.

The Department has instituted a facilities management systems partnership to provide a forum to coordinate the development and use of facilities management systems Department-wide. NPS began a pilot implementation of a robust, comprehensive maintenance management system in September 1999. The goal is to establish a uniform maintenance management system that can provide consistent, reliable maintenance information to managers and Congress. Accurate information is critical to ensure future accountability. The 2001 budget includes \$4.3 million that will allow the bureaus to continue development and implementation of maintenance management systems.

Our Nation's Capital

The NPS has a unique and important role in the District of Columbia and is responsible for a number of facilities in the Nation's Capital. These include the highly visible memorials and monuments along the National Mall and a number of smaller sites within the region. The total land area of the more than 300 national park locations in Washington, D.C. comprises 20 percent of the City of Washington, and visitation by residents and tourists exceeds all other urban parks in this country.

Beyond the Mall, many monuments celebrate the cultural diversity and history of the Nation and provide outdoor recreation opportunities for hundreds of thousands of residents and visitors to the area. These parks include Civil War forts, community parks, and Pierce Mill, a working flour mill in Rock Creek Park. However, these less visible parks receive little Federal support despite the fact that they are Federal responsibilities. These federally-owned assets are in sad states of disrepair. In many cases deterioration threatens public safety and prevents full public use of these once great spaces. The 2001 request includes funds for repair of the Jefferson Memorial on the Mall, and begins to meet the Federal responsibility "off the Mall" by requesting \$4.8 million to restore Carter Baron Amphitheater and Meridian Hill Park.

Facilities Maintained by the Department of the Interior

The physical inventory of the 379 unit National Park system includes 7,580 administrative and public use buildings, 5,771 historic buildings, 4,389 housing units (including approximately 1,000 historic housing units), 8,000 miles of roads, 763 miles of paved trails, 12,250 miles of unpaved trails, 1,861 bridges and tunnels, about 1,500 water and wastewater systems, 8,505 monuments, 250 radio systems, over 400 dams, and more than 200 solid waste operations.

The 521 units of the National Wildlife Refuge system include an infrastructure to support public use and wildlife management programs with over 4,000 buildings, 7,000 miles of roads, 3,000 miles of dikes, thousands of miles of fencing, and thousands of water control structures.

The BLM maintains approximately 2,500 buildings, 600 administrative sites, 1,600 recreation sites, 61,000 miles of roads, 280 bridges, and 11,000 miles of trails to support the visiting public.

The BIA has 7,421 buildings containing 28.7 million square feet of space, including 2,390 education and associated buildings at 185 schools serving over 50,000 students. The BIA also maintains over 24,000 miles of roads.

The USGS owns 35 installations with 1.1 million square feet of space in 200 buildings, maintains and operates an earthquake monitoring network comprised of a global seismographic network of 117 stations located worldwide and national and regional networks located throughout 35 States and territories, 13 geomagnetic observatories, one landslides network, one volcano hazards network to monitor 42 U.S. volcanoes, and 1,000 cableways.