

THE
FUTURE
OF
AMERICA'S
NATIONAL
PARKS

First Annual
Centennial Strategy for

Obed Wild & Scenic River

August 2007

CENTENNIAL INITIATIVE



Site: OBRI

Year: 2007

Vision Statement

Established by the U.S. Congress in 1976, the Obed Wild and Scenic River is dedicated to preserving the free-flowing condition and water quality of the Obed River System, while protecting its cultural and natural resources for the benefit of present and future generations of Americans.

Together with our managing partner the Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency, we will work to meet this mandate through the development of management programs to preserve the river in a free-flowing condition, protect water quality, wildlife resources and the primitive character of the river. The Park's resource education and interpretive programs will be aimed at building partnerships among landowners, river users, local community leaders, volunteers, and environmental organizations to improve understanding of river values and processes as well as deepen awareness, acceptance and appreciation of river conservation.

Park/ Superintendent/ Program Manager

Philip Campbell

Site: OBRI

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)

Acquire a federal interest in the 829 acres remaining to be acquired within the authorized boundary of the Obed Wild and Scenic River. This will help to permanently protect the rugged beauty and wilderness setting of the park's river gorges.

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

Site: OBRI

STEWARDSHIP

Improve the condition of park resources and assets.

Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Protect the outstandingly remarkable values of the Obed Wild and Scenic River by rehabilitating the recently acquired sandstone quarry, located immediately upslope of Clear Creek, a major tributary to the Obed River and federally designated habitat for the spotfin chub. These remarkable scenic, recreational, geological and fish and wildlife values, as determined by the Obed River Task Force, qualify the park for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic River System.

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

Site: OBRI

ENVIRONMENT

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

Other Park/ Program performance goal(s)

Partner with local non-profit organizations to acquire, protect and restore lands or aquatic habitats that will further water quality goals within the park. Grant opportunities both within and outside the Service will be explored, focusing on land acquisitions that will increase federal ownership within the park's congressionally authorized boundary. Organizations such as the Tennessee Citizens for Wilderness Planning and local watershed protection organizations will be kept abreast of potential purchases, funding or restoration opportunities. Funding will be sought through the Service's project management information system and grant organizations such as the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.

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

Site: OBRI

PROFESSIONALISM

Use strategic planning to promote management excellence.

Establish a structured professional development curriculum to provide park managers with the skills to apply best business practices and superior leadership.

Provide opportunities for staff to participate in cross training opportunities with other state and federal river management agencies. Encourage staff to attend regional and national conferences dealing with river management issues such sponsored by such organizations as the River Management Society.

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