Origins of National Park Service

- NPS paradox:
  - “to conserve the scenery & the natural & historic objects & the wildlife therein & to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner & by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.”

Artists Role in Promoting Parks & Protected Areas

Lesson 6

George Catlin

George Catlin

George Catlin

George Catlin
Historical Developments

George Catlin

Thomas Cole
- Study of Mountain Craggs
  "Father" of the Hudson River School of painters

Thomas Cole
- View of Schroon Mountain, Essex County, New York, After a Storm

Thomas Cole
- Distant Views of Niagara Falls (1830)

Thomas Cole
- Distant View of Niagara Falls, 1830
Thomas Cole
Home in the Woods

Thomas Cole
The Fountain of Vaucluse, 1841

Albert Bierstadt
The Cliffs

Albert Bierstadt
Valley of the Yosemite 1864

Albert Bierstadt
Oregon Trail
Albert Bierstadt
Giant Redwood Trees of California

Albert Bierstadt
Yellowstone Falls

Albert Bierstadt
Cathedral Rocks, Yosemite Valley, California

Thomas Moran
Liberty Cap

Thomas Moran
Castle Geyser, Upper Geyser Basin

William Henry Jackson
Liberty Cap, Mammoth Hot Springs, 1871
Contributions of American Writers Was Significant

- Henry David Thoreau
- Ralph Waldo Emerson
- John James Audubon
- James Fenimore Cooper
- Washington Irving
- Samuel H. Hammond
- William Cullen Bryant
- Horace Greeley

Extolled the virtues of wild nature & decried the loss of wild nature.

1906 Antiquities Act

- Originally to protect SW prehistoric Indian sites.
- Authorized the President to set aside “National Monuments” to protect “cultural artifacts and objects of scientific importance.”
- By 1910, 23 national monuments established, many were later converted to National Parks.
- Act has been used as a “holding action” to bring immediate protection to millions of acres.

Criteria to become a National Park

Proposed areas must contain resources of national significance and meet all 4 standards:
1. An outstanding example of a particular type of resource;
2. Exceptional value or quality in illustrating or interpreting the natural or cultural themes of our nations heritage;
3. Offers superlative opportunities for recreation, public use & enjoyment, or for scientific study;
4. Retains a high degree of integrity as a true, accurate, & relatively unspoiled example of the resource.

Concepts affecting National Parks

Key concepts:
- Each park requires an act of Congress.
- No commodity extraction--some resources really were locked up.
- No $$ in lieu of taxes to local governments. Depended upon tourist dollars & support...
**Forest Reservation Act & Forest Management Act**

- 1891 *Forest Reservation Act*
- President could reserve public land from private entry.
  - By 1905 Harrison, Cleveland & Roosevelt had reserved +100 million acres.
- No provision made for management or funding!

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**Transfer Act of 1905**

- Transferred the control of the Forest Reserves to the Dept. of Agriculture & Gifford Pinchot.
- Dedicated to most productive use for the permanent good of the whole people.
- Conserved & wisely used for the greatest good for the greatest number in the long run.
- Recreational use wasn’t even considered.
- Pinchot was fired by 1910 (Taft & Ballinger’s Alaska coal reserves.)

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**Recreation policy in the National Forests**

- Recreational use had always been important.
- “Sage-brushers” and Summer Cabin Lease sites.
- By 1920 F.S. Chief said recreation ranked 3rd behind timber & stream flow regulation.
- First $s for recreation:
  - $10,000 for campgrounds in 1922.

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**Recreation policy in the National Forests Today**

- Integrate recreation with Multiple Use Sustained Yield Act of 1960
- Maintain attractive natural forest environment for recreation.
- Emphasize service for general public rather than special groups.
- Participant rather than spectator activities favored.
- Minimum restrictions favored.
- Encourage cooperation with other agencies.