

The Establishment of the National Park Service

On August 25, 1916, President Woodrow Wilson signed legislation creating a new federal bureau, the National Park Service, in the Department of the Interior.

*The Service thus established
shall promote and regulate
the use of the Federal areas ...
by such means and measures
as conform to the fundamental
purpose ...
(which) is to conserve the scenery
and the natural and historic objects
and the wildlife therein
and to provide
for the enjoyment of the same
in such manner and by such means
as will leave them unimpaired
for the enjoyment
of future generations.*

The Organic Act