



# United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
National Mall and Memorial Parks  
900 Ohio Drive, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20024



## Record of Determination for a Partial and Temporary Closure of a Portion of the National Mall for Turf Renovation

The National Mall and Memorial Parks is closing certain parkland on the National Mall for turf and soil renovation. Specifically, beginning at 12:01 a.m., March 1, 2017 through 8:00 a.m., April 1, 2018, the Northeast Corner of the Washington Monument Grounds will be closed for turf and soil rehabilitation. Operations will be aimed to improve the soil conditions and introduce new seed.

The park closure is necessary for the protection of environmental and scenic values and natural and cultural resources. Less restrictive measures will not suffice due to the necessity for the turf to properly be protected from a high impact event in the adjacent area. This temporary and partial closure is not of a nature, magnitude and duration that will result in a "significant alteration in the public use pattern". Indeed, other nearby park areas will remain open to the public. The closure will not adversely affect the park's natural, aesthetic or cultural values; nor require significant modification to the resource management objections; nor is it of a highly controversial nature. Accordingly, the National Park Service determines publication as rulemaking in the Federal Register is unwarranted Under 36 C.F.R. § 1.5(c). This is consistent with hundreds of earlier partial and temporary park closures, the legal opinion of the Office of the Solicitor, and judicial adjudications. Picciotto v. United States, No. 99-2113 (D.D.C.); Picciotto v. United States, No. 94-1935 (D.D.C.); Picciotto v. Lulan, No. 90-1261 (D.D.C.); Picciotto v. Hodel, No. 87-3290 (D.D.C.); Spiegel v. Babbitt, 855 F.Supp. 402 (D.D.C. 1994), affld in part w/o op. 56 F.3d 1531 (D.C. Cir. 1995).

Pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 1.7, notice of this temporary and partial closure will be made through fencing and posting of signs at conspicuous locations in the affected park area. Finally, pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 1.5(c), this determination is available to the public upon request.

Karen L. Cucurullo

Acting Superintendent, National Mall and Memorial Parks

6/23/2015  
Date