

Investigative Services Branch

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



# Highlights of 2014



*A Coastal Brown Bear in Lake Clark National Park & Preserve  
NPS photo by J. Sullivan*

## 2014 ISB Field Offices and National Park Service Sites



**Pacific North Field Office:** Yosemite National Park (CA)  
**Resident Offices:** Sequoia and Kings Canyon NP (CA), Seattle Area (WA). Intelligence Specialist stationed in Sacramento (CA)

**Pacific South Field Office:** Lake Mead National Rec. Area (NV/AZ)  
**Resident Offices:** Hawai'i Volcanoes NP (HI), Joshua Tree NP (CA)

**Southwest Field Office:** Grand Canyon National Park (AZ)  
**Resident Offices:** Glen Canyon NRA (AZ/UT), Saguaro NP (AZ)

**North Central Field Office:** Yellowstone National Park (MT/WY)  
**Resident Offices:** Anchorage (AK), St. Louis (MO), Buffalo NR (AR), Grand Teton NP (WY), Denver (CO)

**Atlantic Field Office:** Philadelphia (PA)  
**Resident Offices:** Shenandoah NP (VA); Delaware Water Gap NRA (NJ/PA), New River Gorge NR (WV), Virgin Islands NP (VI), Great Smoky Mountains NP (NC/TN), and South FL.

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## 2014 Highlights from the Atlantic Field Office of ISB

The Atlantic Field Office serves the ISB mission within the Northeast Region, National Capital Region, and Southeast Region of the National Park Service - essentially the states east of the Mississippi (including LA) with the exception of the Ohio River valley. This area is comprised of 23 states and 167 NPS park units. Almost half of the population of the US (about 140 million people) is within a four-hour drive to a park unit in this area.

Special agents of the Atlantic Field Office conducted complex investigations ranging from car burglaries to homicides in 2014. The field office also provided law enforcement support to a wide variety of customers in park units, regional offices, partner agencies at the federal and state levels, and other ISB Special Agents.

### Significant Investigations and Other Operations

**Eastern Tennessee, "Operation Historical Resurrection"** (*Investigation: ARPA*) - This investigation began in 2010 and was focused on violations of the Archeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) in Georgia, Alabama, and Tennessee. The operation is being jointly conducted by ISB and the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) into violations on TVA land and NPS units such as Chickamauga, Chattanooga, and Shiloh Battlefields. The investigation revealed a complex conspiracy of at least 21 individuals to loot artifacts from federal lands and traffic them in interstate commerce. The damage to the government is in excess of \$500,000. In 2014, the investigation resulted in grand jury indictments of the five main conspirators in three different federal districts for a total of 30 felony counts. All five defendants have entered into plea agreements.

**Natchez Trace Parkway** (*Investigation: Homicide*) - In July of 2014, park rangers responded to a report of a vehicle accident on the Natchez Trace and discovered a murder scene. The ISB Atlantic Field Office worked with the FBI as well as state and local agencies to identify the suspect and recover the murder weapon. The suspect confessed to the murder and is awaiting trial in state court. Federal charges are pending.



An aerial view of Fort McHenry. NPS photo.

**Fort McHenry NM and HS** (*Special Event: Defenders Day / 200th Anniversary of the Star Spangled Banner*) - The Atlantic Field Office supported this special event with two special agents serving as liaison and intelligence specialists. This complex event centered on Fort McHenry and featured a visit by the President and Vice President of the United States as well as other dignitaries. Special agents worked primarily with the City of Baltimore, US Secret Service, US Navy, US Coast Guard, and other federal, state, and local agencies during the event.

## 2014 Highlights from the Atlantic Field Office of ISB

**Flight 93 NM (Investigation: Arson)** – A suspicious fire consumed the Flight 93 National Memorial head-quarters complex on October 3, 2014. ISB and the Pennsylvania State Police conducted a joint criminal investigation. Ultimately, the investigation ruled out arson as the cause of the fire.

*Fire at Flight 93 National Memorial. NPS photo.*



**First State NHP (Law Enforcement Strategic Planning)** - One of NPS's newest parks was formed in 2014 and is located in Delaware and Pennsylvania. The Atlantic Field Office provided guidance and assistance to the Northeast Regional Office and superintendent of the park in reviewing jurisdictional and legal requirements with the US Attorney's Office, establishing relationships with partner law enforcement agencies for support, and forming strategies for the application of Code of Federal Regulations by uniformed park rangers within this proprietary jurisdiction.

**Great Smoky Mountains NP (Adjudication: Sexual Assault, Kidnapping, Attempted Murder)** - This 2012 case was adjudicated in 2014. The victim was hiking in the park in June of 2012 when she was sexually assaulted and stabbed multiple times. Special agents of the Atlantic Field Office identified the suspect through DNA analysis; he was incarcerated in Alabama for theft of a motor vehicle. The suspect was indicted, eventually pleaded guilty to attempted murder and two counts of first degree sexual assault, and was sentenced to 27 years in prison.



*Great Smoky Mountains National Park. NPS photo.*

**Delaware Water Gap NRA (Adjudication: Auto Burglary and Forgery)** – This investigation began in Delaware Water Gap NRA in 2013 as a car burglary and stolen credit cards. After prosecution of the identified suspect was declined by the US Attorney's Office for threshold reasons, the Atlantic Field Office partnered with the park and local and state law enforcement to continue the investigation. They ultimately secured prosecution of the suspect in Pennsylvania and New York state courts. The suspect pleaded guilty in Pennsylvania to felony forgery and received a \$500 fine and one to two years in prison. The subject also pleaded guilty in New York and, based on his prior criminal history, he received a ten year prison sentence.

## 2014 Highlights from the North Central Field Office of ISB

The North Central Field Office includes the Midwest Region, Alaska Region, and parts of the Inter-mountain Region. Seventeen states and 110 National Park Service sites fall under its umbrella.

Several high-profile homicide cases were among the many successes achieved by this field office in 2014. These cases will likely continue to attract national media attention as they progress through the justice system.

### Significant Investigations and Other Operations

**Glacier NP (Investigation: Homicide)** - Collaborating with the FBI and Kalispell Police Department, park rangers and ISB Special Agents conducted an investigation into the July, 2013 death of Cody Lee Johnson in Glacier National Park. On March 27, 2014, Jordan Graham was sentenced on a charge of second degree murder, receiving 30 years and 5 months incarceration and 5 years supervised release. She was also ordered to pay nearly \$17,000 in restitution to the National Park Service for the recovery costs of Johnson's body.

*People magazine cover, 9-30-2013*



**Rocky Mountain NP (Investigation: Homicide)** - ISB Special Agents conducted a joint investigation with the FBI into the September, 2012 death of a hiker in Rocky Mountain National Park. Toni Henthorn's fall from a park cliff was witnessed only by her husband, Harold Henthorn. The investigation led to Mr. Henthorn's arrest and indictment in November, 2014 for first degree murder. He awaits trial in the District of Colorado.

*People magazine cover, 12-15-2014*

**Yellowstone NP (Adjudication: drug charges)** - Park rangers in Yellowstone National Park contacted Daphne Watkins for camping illegally in her RV in May of 2014. During the contact, rangers smelled the odor of marijuana. When questioned by the rangers, Watkins informed them she had around 280 lbs of marijuana in the back of the RV and that she had trafficked drugs across several states. Following an investigation by special agents with ISB and the US Drug Enforcement Agency, Watkins was sentenced in November, 2014 for possession with intent to distribute marijuana and aiding and abetting. She is to serve 60 months imprisonment.

## 2014 Highlights from the North Central Field Office of ISB



**Yellowstone NP** (*Investigation: drug charges*) - Park rangers conducting a traffic stop found approximately four ounces of methamphetamine in the subject's vehicle. Following an investigation by an ISB Special Agent, Baldomer Guevarra was indicted by a federal grand jury in November of 2014 for possession with intent to distribute and conspiracy.

*Wintertime at Upper Geyser Basin. NPS photo.*

**Buffalo NR** (*Investigation: Attempted Homicide, Weapons violation*) - On September 8, 2014, the Midwest Region Ozark Communications Center (MROCC) received a call reporting a woman screaming and shots fired near a campsite at Buffalo Point Campground. Responding officers located John Prickett, Jr. with blood on his person. His wife was lying face up in their nearby tent with multiple gunshot wounds to her neck, torso, and extremities. The investigation by park rangers and ISB Special Agents indicated that Prickett had shot his wife prior to the arrival of officers. Prickett was indicted by a federal grand jury on two counts of assault with intent to commit murder and use of a firearm in commission of an assault. He is currently awaiting trial.



*An aerial view of Buffalo River. NPS photo.*



*The Grand as seen from North Cascade Canyon. NPS photo.*

**Grand Teton NP** (*Adjudication: drug and weapons violations*) - In January of 2014, park rangers in Grand Teton National Park arrested Stephen M. Granieri of Colorado for camping in an undesignated area and possession of marijuana. Granieri, a convicted felon with a history of domestic violence, was found to be in possession of a loaded firearm. An ISB Special Agent and a special agent from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives conducted the investigation. On August 12, 2014, Granieri was sentenced for being a felon in possession of a firearm. He is to serve 27 months in prison followed by three years of supervised probation.

## 2014 Highlights from the Southwest Field Office of ISB

The Southwest Field Office serves the southern section of the NPS Intermountain Region, with 63 park units in Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, and Utah. Special agents are stationed at Grand Canyon NP, Glen Canyon NRA, and Saguaro NP.

Throughout the year, special agents of this field office conducted investigations ranging from attempted homicide to sexual assault to narcotics smuggling. Crimes against persons and international narcotics smuggling continue to make up a large amount of the investigative work. Special agents also routinely assist and advise rangers on cases that are not ISB-led.

Special agents of the Southwest Field Office provided mentoring to several rangers at different parks. One of those rangers recently joined ISB as a special agent duty-stationed at Grand Canyon National Park. In 2015, we look forward to continuing both the ISB Intern Program and the ISB Detailer Program.

### Significant Investigations and Other Operations

**Chiricahua NM** (*Investigation: Assault*) - In 2013, multiple ISB Special Agents responded to an attack on an NPS maintenance employee. The special agents worked with park rangers as well as local and federal law enforcement officers throughout the investigation. The subject was charged in 2014 with the attempted murder of the NPS employee and is awaiting trial.

**Organ Pipe Cactus NM** (*Narcotics smuggling operations*) – ISB opened or managed 15 international narcotics smuggling cases involving over 3,400 pounds of smuggled marijuana. ISB Special Agents worked closely with park rangers and the US Border Patrol on these cases. ISB also worked with the park to develop standard operating procedures for the handling of subjects and evidence. In 2014, these protocols helped lead to the convictions of 41 defendants on charges related to narcotics smuggling. Others are awaiting trial.



*Lomaki Pueblo at Wupatki National Monument.  
NPS photo.*



*Organ Pipe Cactus NM - A smuggler's ATV was seized while transporting narcotics across the border. NPS photo.*



## 2014 Highlights from the Southwest Field Office of ISB

**Glen Canyon NRA** (*Investigation: Sexual Abuse of Minors*) – An ISB Special Agent led a long, complex multi-jurisdictional investigation, traveling to several different states to conduct interviews. The suspect was charged in 2014 with multiple felonies and is scheduled for trial in 2015.

*Glen Canyon National Recreation Area. NPS photo.*



### **Grand Canyon NP** (*various investigations*):

- Park management requested ISB Special Agents investigate allegations of embezzlement by a park employee. Special agents conducted numerous interviews, analyzed financial documents, and performed surveillance. Ultimately, the NPS employee was charged with and pleaded guilty to misappropriation of funds and providing false information.
- Park rangers and emergency medical personnel responded to a single vehicle rollover accident near the park's south entrance. Evidence at the scene prompted an ISB-led investigation that included conducting interviews and serving a search warrant. Virgil Jenkins was ultimately convicted of aggravated DUI and attempted child abuse. He was sentenced to 54 months imprisonment on both counts and ordered to pay \$10,000 in restitution.
- When park rangers responded to a large party in concessioner housing in March of 2014, one partygoer physically resisted them. ISB was requested to lead the investigation, resulting in charges against Damian Niemeyer for assaulting a federal officer. Niemeyer pleaded guilty and was sentenced to nine months incarceration.
- 2014 brought closure to the family of a man reported missing elsewhere in Arizona in 2010. A visitor on a rafting trip in 2013 found personal items near the Colorado River. The visitor turned over the items to park rangers, prompting searches of the area that resulted in locating possible human remains. The personal items were traced to the missing man, and ISB Special Agents obtained DNA samples from the missing person's family. The medical examiner used the DNA to positively identify the remains as the missing individual.
- ISB worked several investigations concerning sexual abuse of minors, including a multi-year case that led to seven felony charges. The subject, arrested and extradited from Florida, pleaded guilty to two felonies. He was sentenced to 15 years of incarceration, lifetime probation, and lifetime sex offender registration. Special agents also investigated allegations made in early 2014 of sexual misconduct with a minor. Evidence gleaned from interviews and search warrants led to the indictment of a subject on 16 felony counts in October. That subject is awaiting trial.

## 2014 Highlights from the Pacific South Field Office of ISB



*National Park of American Samoa. NPS photo.*

The Pacific South Field Office encompasses 19 very active parks in Nevada, Southern California, the Hawai’ian Islands, and the islands of the South Pacific. During a two month period in 2014 the Pacific South Field Office also provided supervisory support to the special agents in the Southwest Field Office as ISB transitioned to the new organizational and command structure.

Two members of the Pacific South Field Office are Team Leaders for the two ranger/special agent Special Event and Tactical Teams (SETT) for the Pacific West Region. In their roles with SETT they have established tight bonds with the region’s Chief Ranger's Office and the Regional Director.

Additionally, a Pacific South Special Agent continues to provide noteworthy leadership and direction in several key areas for the Investigative Services Branch. He was instrumental in putting together a covert operations training program that allows ISB to maintain undercover operations capacity. The special agent is an outstanding instructor in cultural property crimes on a local and international level.

### Significant Investigations and Other Operations

**Lake Mead NRA (Adjudication: Sexual Assault of juveniles)** - In November of 2011, ISB Special Agents stationed at Lake Mead investigated a complaint that James Killian had repeatedly sexually abused children and had posted explicit photographs of them on the internet. Killian, who had relocated from Lake Mead to Pennsylvania, was arrested in 2013 and sentenced in 2014. He is to serve 14 to 17 years in prison.



*Lake Mead National Recreation Area. NPS photo.*

**Lake Mead NRA (Investigation: Manslaughter)** -

An ISB-led Investigation revealed that a 2013 boat accident resulting in a fatality was caused by the boat operator being under the influence of alcohol. Manslaughter charges are pending.

## 2014 Highlights from the Pacific South Field Office of ISB

**Western United States and Thailand, “Operation Antiquity”** (*Investigation: ARPA violations*) - This investigation into violations of the Archeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) began out of complaints of the theft of artifacts from NPS lands in the west. ISB Special Agents discovered a larger network of dealers and museums trafficking and accepting artifacts illegally obtained from public lands, as well as smuggled into the US from South America, Thailand, and Cambodia. The investigation initially included 13 locations in southern California. Investigators executed search warrants for collectors, dealers, and museum sites, and ultimately issued felony indictments to two subjects in January of 2013. Additionally, the Bowers Museum in Santa Ana, CA shipped hundreds of looted antiquities in their possession back to Thailand in the fall of 2014 as part of a non-prosecution agreement. The museum also returned 71 looted Native American ladles to the NPS. Legal proceedings are ongoing, with at least one trial set for the spring of 2015.



**Western United States** (*Investigation: ARPA violations*) - This long-term investigation began at Lake Mead in 2002, where subjects were involved in the theft and trafficking of artifacts from NPS lands throughout the west. In May of 2011, two subjects were each charged with one felony ARPA count in Los Angeles, CA. Both subjects entered into plea agreements in 2014 and are cooperating with the government.

## 2014 Highlights from the Pacific North Field Office of ISB

The Pacific North Field Office provides investigative services and law enforcement support to 43 National Park Service units. These are broken down into 21 NPS units in central and northern California, 11 in Washington, 6 in Idaho, and 5 in Oregon.

This field office faced staffing issues during 2014, starting out the year with four of its seven special agents out on medical light duty. The year closed with four special agents operating out of the Pacific North Field Office after two transferred to other areas and one retired. This meant the field office was at full strength for only two months of the year.

Despite these challenges, special agents conducted excellent investigative work throughout 2014.

### Significant Investigations and Other Operations

**Whiskeytown NRA** (*various investigations*) - Special agents with the Investigative Services Branch conducted a three-year investigation related to a complaint of marijuana cultivation by a Mexican National Drug Trafficking Organization (DTO) on this NPS unit. The investigation resulted in the indictment of 6 individuals on 32 separate felony counts; all are currently awaiting trial.



*"Punji Pit" trap found in a marijuana cultivation site in Whiskeytown National Recreation Area. NPS photo.*

Other 2014 ISB investigations at Whiskeytown included major property crimes. One stemmed from a burglary of a fire station during the government shutdown in the fall of 2013.

Another investigation probed the theft of copper telephone lines in the headquarters area. Both investigations were tied to methamphetamine trafficking in the Redding, California area where Whiskeytown is located. As investigators prepared to make arrests in these cases, the suspects died in unrelated events; one was murdered and the other was killed in a motor vehicle accident.

**Redwood NP & SP** (*Adjudication: Theft of Natural Resources*) - ISB special agents worked with Redwood National and State Parks law enforcement staff to investigate a complaint of theft of natural resources. Redwood burls were being cut from trees within the park then sold and trafficked throughout the United States. The subject of that investigation was convicted and sentenced to four years of probation and ordered to pay \$14,000 in restitution. He was also banned from Redwood National and State Parks for the term of probation.

## 2014 Highlights from the Pacific North Field Office of ISB



*Wintertime in Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks. NPS photo.*

**Sequoia and Kings Canyon NP** (*Marijuana Cultivation and Vehicular Homicide cases*) - Through investigation and forensic work ISB Special Agents identified a subject on a cold DTO marijuana cultivation case out of Sequoia and Kings Canyon NP. Forensic evidence produced a fingerprint match to an undocumented Mexican national. The subject was arrested while trying to reenter the United States and has since been indicted; he is awaiting trial.

ISB Special Agents also concluded a two-year vehicular homicide investigation that stemmed from a drug- and alcohol-related motor vehicle accident fatality in Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks. The subject was convicted and received a sentence of 52 months in prison.

### **Yosemite NP** (*various investigations*):

- ISB Special Agents concluded a two-year investigation of a subject who embezzled \$87,000 from the Delaware North Company, the prime concessionaire at Yosemite National Park. That subject was indicted on six felony counts and is awaiting trial.
- A four-year investigation into the theft and embezzlement of funds allotted to the Yosemite Park Child Care Center concluded in August of 2014 with the indictment of one subject. The child care center's former director has been charged with wire fraud and the embezzlement of more than \$42,000. She is currently awaiting trial.
- ISB Special Agents in the Pacific North Field Office worked jointly with special agents from the Atlantic Field Office to investigate the depredation of natural resources in Yosemite National Park. A subject who had defaced rock formations within the park was located in the eastern US. The subject was convicted and sentenced to serve 160 hours of community service, 3 years probation, and ordered to pay \$5,000 in fines and \$800 in restitution.
- A participant in the ISB Detailer Program at Yosemite National Park worked with Pacific North Field Office Special Agents to investigate the sexual assault of a visitor to the park. The subject of the investigation has been indicted on multiple felony counts including aggravated sexual abuse and is awaiting trial.
- Another participant in the ISB Detailer Program (also stationed at Yosemite National Park) worked with Pacific North Field Office Special Agents to investigate a series of burglaries at the park's Ahwahnee Hotel. The subject of that investigation was indicted on 32 felony counts for burglary and theft of property. That subject is also awaiting trial.

## Awards and Recognitions in 2014

### **NPS Associate Director Citation Awards:**

An ISB Special Agent with the North Central Field Office showed exemplary leadership during the multi-agency investigation into the murder of a hiker in Glacier National Park. The team persevered in evaluating evidence to show that the suspect planned to push the victim from a cliff. The special agent was truly dedicated to the case; his commitment to service represented the NPS and ISB well.

An ISB Special Agent with the Atlantic Field Office conducted an outstanding investigation into the egregious looting of cultural resources from the NPS Southeast Region. This three-year investigation is exemplary of the complex, long-duration, and joint-agency nature of the cases investigated by ISB.

Another ISB Special Agent with the Atlantic Field Office showed relentless dedication to the pursuit of justice in the investigation of the kidnap and rape of a hiker in Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The guilty party was extradited from out of state and ultimately pleaded guilty to the crimes.

An ISB Special Agent with the Pacific South Field Office put forward considerable effort in the long-term investigation of sexual abuse of juveniles. The victims, of the same family, had been abused by a family friend over the course of several years. The special agent worked tirelessly to locate the suspect, coordinating between two judicial districts to obtain search and arrest warrants, and to extradite the suspect back to Nevada.

An ISB Special Agent with the Pacific North Field Office spent an enormous amount of time streamlining data systems for use by ISB. In addition to program modifications and case file data entry, the special agent recommended improvements to the agency board overseeing the systems. The special agent designed and completed a handbook, now in its third edition, that is being used by several parks and all of ISB that is a step by step guide for using the reporting system.



## Awards and Recognitions in 2014

### Time in Service Awards:

One member of the Investigative Services Branch achieved the milestone of 10 years of US government service, two reached 15 years of US government service, and another two marked 30 years of US government service.



*Lassen Volcanic National Park. NPS photo.*

### Recognitions:

NPS Director Jon Jarvis recognized a retiring ISB Special Agent for 29 years of US government service in December of 2014. The special agent worked with the Peace Corps in South America before joining the National Park Service. His many NPS roles included interpretive ranger, law enforcement ranger, district ranger, and chief ranger at various locations throughout the NPS system. He retired as an ISB Special Agent at the end of the year and will be greatly missed.

Another ISB Special Agent received recognition from HIDTA (High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas program) for serving on their award-winning task force, which conducted more successful investigations and prosecutions than any other such task force on Indian lands.

An ISB Special Agent also received an Excellence Award from the US Attorney's Office in Montana for the homicide investigation in Glacier National Park.



*'Ae ferns grown in a lava field in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. NPS photo.*

## ISB Detailer and Internship Programs

When the Investigative Services Branch officially formalized its Special Agent Detailer Program in July of 2009, it established a clear path for US Park Rangers interested in working with ISB Special Agents to gain advanced criminal investigation skills.

Detailers experience firsthand what work as a criminal investigator entails. The program can help them determine whether or not they want to pursue a career as a special agent.

The program provides an overview of the involved policies and procedures, and also provides detailers with clear program expectations. Each detailer's training and experience is captured as they progress through the program.

Detailers who become self-sufficient in a short period of time assist special agents by working their own cases. This helps reduce caseload and increases ISB's overall efficiency and effectiveness.

Costs associated with rangers working as detailers are shared in most cases between ISB and the ranger's home park. Typically, base pay is funded by the park and Law Enforcement Availability Pay (LEAP) is funded by ISB. The ranger is usually converted to the 1811 series for the duration of the detail.

ISB hosted one detailer in the Atlantic Field Office and two in the Pacific North Field Office in 2014. Most ISB Special Agents hired in the past five years have been graduates of the ISB Special Agent Detailer Program.

In addition to the Detailer Program, Internships with ISB provide strong opportunities for potential special agent candidates. ISB continued to have interns work alongside special agents in select field offices in 2014. Interns have generally been those with some NPS seasonal law enforcement experience or criminal justice majors from a nearby university. A determining factor as to whether or not ISB has the ability to host interns can be the availability of housing.

Interns, who are considered volunteers and not necessarily subject to intensive background checks, may be limited or restricted as to how they can assist special agents with their criminal cases.

Participants have nonetheless provided valuable case support, undertaken special projects, and carried out the kinds of administrative tasks that keep daily operations strong. In 2014, interns contributed over 2,600 hours of much-appreciated service to ISB, all at minimal cost to the program.

Outside of these programs, many special agents take the initiative to mentor rangers who show clear interest in criminal investigations. ISB Special Agents frequently work with rangers in the field, and both work groups prosper from this sharing of training and experience.





## Vision for 2015 (and Beyond)

The programs of the NPS Visitor and Resource Protection (VRP) directorate share a common purpose and mission in protecting people and parks. They follow the vision and goals built from this purpose and mission; as outlined by its associate director, VRP has four overarching focus areas that assist in strategic planning, communications, and setting priorities:

- Organizational Excellence – People, Processes, and Performance;
- Life Protection – Safety, Health and Wellness of Employees and Visitors;
- Resource Protection – Protection of NPS Resources and Values;
- Centennial – Leading VRP Programs into the next 100 years, and Supporting the NPS Centennial Goal of “Connecting with, and creating, the next generation of park visitors, supporters, and advocates.”

As part of VRP, the Investigative Services Branch can particularly support the directorate’s overall goals and objectives through Organizational Excellence, Life Protection, and Resource Protection.

ISB continually monitors and evaluates itself to ensure it provides high-quality services and investigations to requesting park units. Its efforts and interactions help maintain the most robust and responsive staff of field personnel possible given fiscal and logistical realities.

Every day, the Investigative Services Branch strives to fulfill its mission: the immediate and long-term protection of park resources, visitors, assets, employees, and residents. This is accomplished through detection, investigation, apprehension, and successful prosecution of persons who violate the laws of the United States of America while within, or while affecting, the National Park System.

As the National Park Service approaches its 100th anniversary, the dedicated professionals of the Investigative Services Branch are committed to ensuring that our national parks endure as some of the most treasured legacies of the United States.



*A bald eagle at New River Gorge National River. NPS photo.*

*Acadia National Park. NPS photo.*

**Services provided by ISB:**

**Criminal Investigations**

- Crime scene management and processing**
- Computer forensics support and investigation**
- Technical surveillance support and equipment**
- Covert and undercover operations**
- Confidential Informant management**
- Operation planning and support**
- Warrant planning, support and execution**
- Intelligence analysis and support**
- Interviews and interrogations**
- Outside agency liaison**
- Preparation of cases for prosecution**
- Training and mentoring**
- Law Enforcement skills instruction**

**NPS Personnel may reach the ISB Duty Agent through the  
NPS Emergency Incident Coordination Center at 888-246-4335**

**[www.nps.gov/isb](http://www.nps.gov/isb)**

**Email: [nps\\_isb@nps.gov](mailto:nps_isb@nps.gov)**

**Tip Line: 888-653-0009**