



NPS Investigative Services Branch HIGHLIGHTS OF 2015

The view from Storm Peak in Rocky Mountain National Park. NPS photo by C Brindle.

The Investigative Services Branch of the National Park Service provides critical investigative and other law enforcement support to a wide range of customers. Our core mission is the immediate and long-term protection of park resources, visitors, assets, employees, and residents.

We accomplish this through detection, investigation, apprehension, and successful prosecution of persons who violate laws of the United States of America while within, or while affecting, the National Park System.

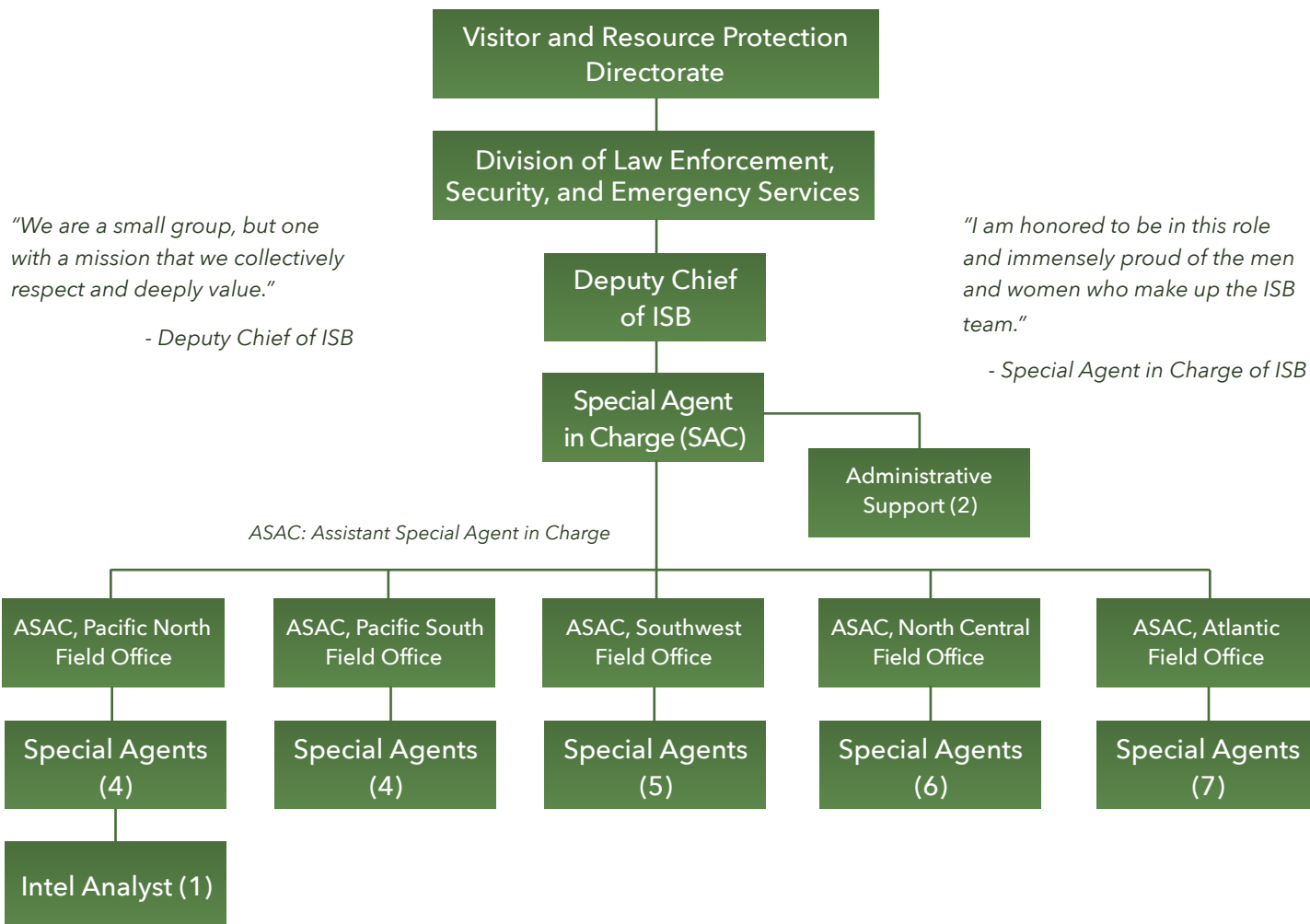
from the ISB Mission Statement

Map and Organizational Structure of ISB

The Investigative Services Branch (ISB) of the National Park Service is led by a Deputy Chief stationed in Washington, DC, and by a Special Agent in Charge (SAC). The SAC directly oversees ISB's five Assistant Special Agents in Charge (ASACs), and each ASAC leads a field office covering multiple states.

The Special Agents of the Investigative Services Branch are geographically distributed across the National Park System, pre-positioned to conduct investigations as efficiently as possible. Larger operations are often carried out by Special Agents from multiple field offices.

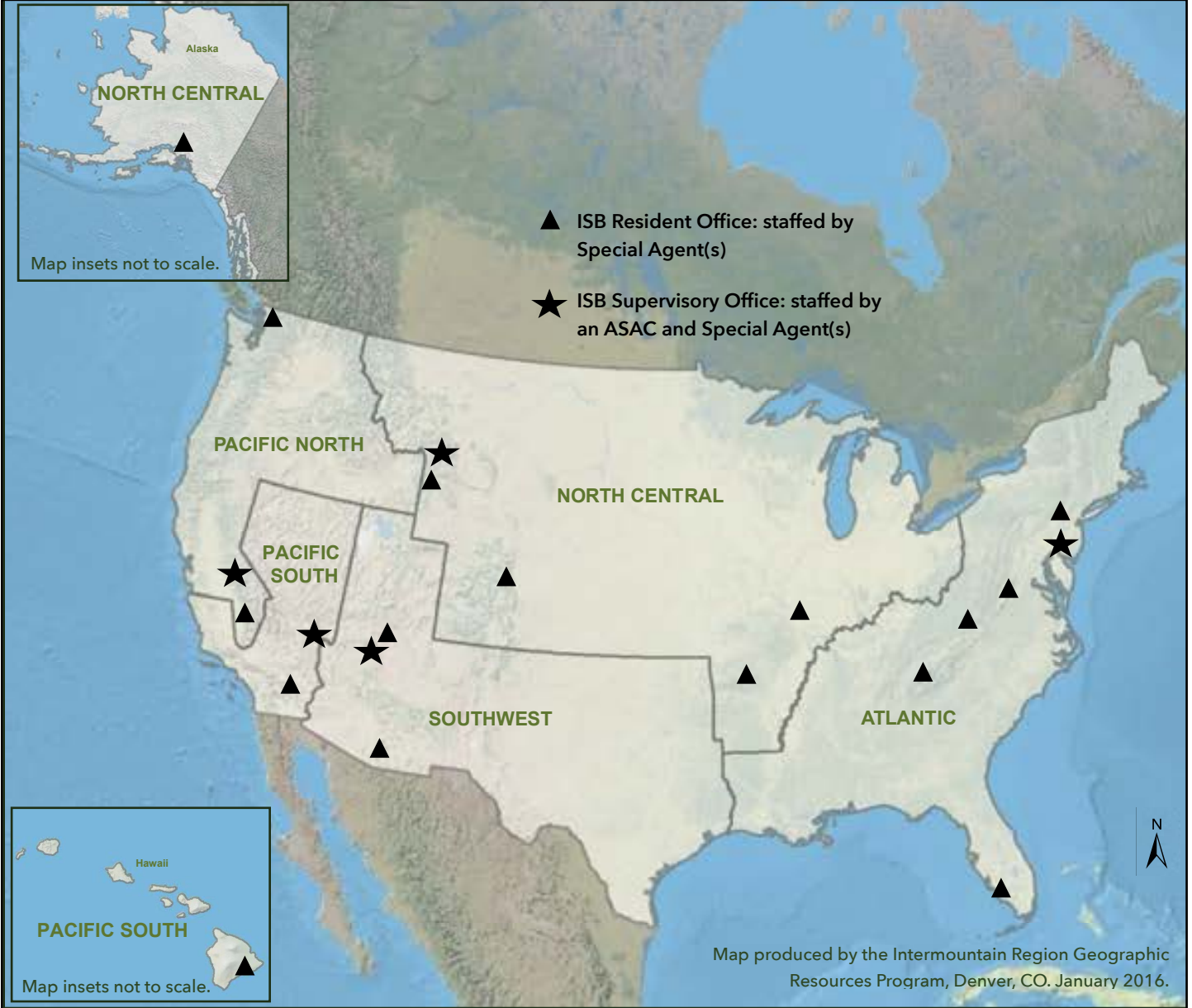
In its first full year with this single SAC organization structure, the team saw closer cooperation, coordination, and support.



Field Offices

Investigative Services Branch (ISB)

National Park Service
US Department of the Interior



ISB FIELD OFFICES

<p>Pacific North: WA, OR, ID, and Northern CA</p>	<p>North Central: AK, MT, WY, CO, ND, SD, NE, KS, MN, IA, MO, AR, WI, IL, IN, MI, OH</p>
<p>Pacific South: NV, HI, GU, AS, MP, and Southern CA</p> <p>Southwest: UT, AZ, NM, TX, OK</p>	<p>Atlantic: ME, NH, RI, VT, MA, CT, NY, PA, WV, VA, MD, DC, KY, DE, NJ, TN, NC, SC, GA, AL, MS, LA, FL, PR, VI</p>

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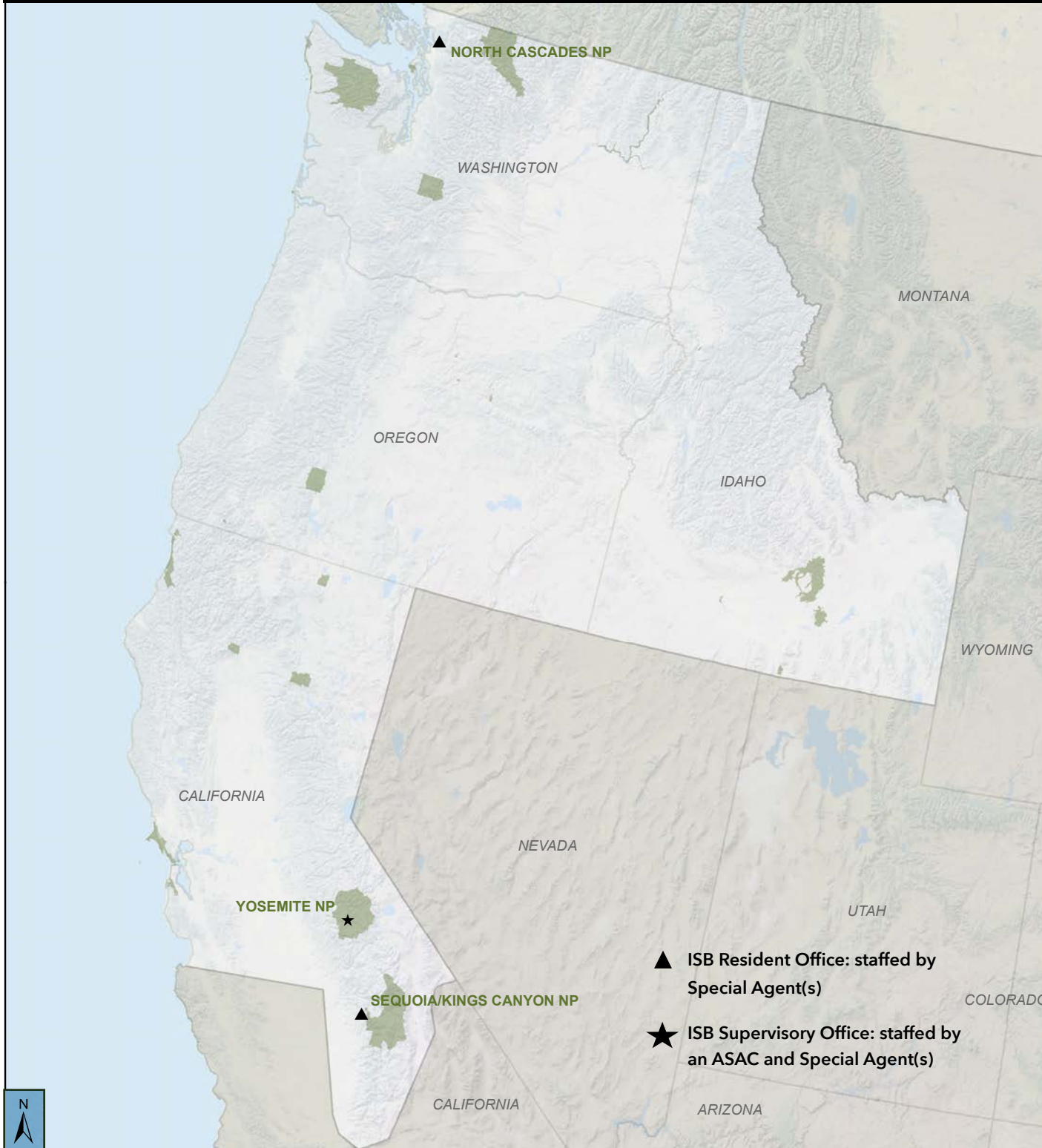
Cover: ISB Special Agents at work. *NPS image by the Investigative Services Branch.*

This page: An ISB Special Agent sets up a trail camera. *NPS photo by the Investigative Services Branch.*

Pacific North Field Office

Investigative Services Branch (ISB)

National Park Service
US Department of the Interior



Highlights from the Pacific North Field Office

The Pacific North Field Office of the Investigative Services Branch is anchored in Yosemite National Park in the Central Sierras in California. It serves the Northern portion of the Pacific West Region of the National Park Service (NPS).

This field office provides investigative services and law enforcement support to 43 NPS units. Those are broken down into 21 NPS units in Central and Northern California; 11 NPS units in the state of Washington; six NPS units in the state of Idaho; and five NPS units in the state of Oregon.

The Pacific North Field Office again operated on a lower staffing level than in past years, with a total of four special agents and a supervisory agent working the case load together. In 2015 the field office opened 123 new cases and was actively involved in a total of 166 investigations.

Additionally, ISB's Intelligence Analyst is assigned to this field office, stationed at the Central Valley High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) in Sacramento, California. That analyst assisted on 78 felony investigations in 2015 for the NPS alone, and assisted numerous other agencies with investigations and operations through HIDTA.

This year saw the transfer of a special agent from the Pacific North to the Atlantic Field Office at Great Smoky Mountains National Park, vacating the Sequoia and Kings Canyon Resident Office. Another special agent transferred from the Grand Canyon Field Office to the Seattle Area Resident Office. North Cascades National Park graciously agreed to house the ISB Resident Office at their park.

An alarming trend that became apparent for the field office in 2015 was an extreme increase in auto burglaries in particular and property crimes in general. Property crimes where ISB was requested to investigate increased 57.5% over 2014 (80 cases in 2015 versus 34 in 2014). The vast majority of these property crimes have a direct nexus to narcotics use and distribution in the areas that are affected.

The field office became actively involved in the investigation of auto burglaries in Redwoods and Mount Rainier national parks, and received reports of auto burglaries in Golden Gate and Whiskeytown national recreation areas.

Continued...



North Cascades National Park. NPS photo.

Highlights from the Pacific North Field Office

Investigations of interest that closed in 2015 included:

Olympic National Park (Sexual Assault, Child Pornography): Together with the Port Angeles Police Department and Olympic National Park, ISB investigated allegations of sexual assault. Investigators conducted numerous interviews, executed two search warrants, and coordinated with federal and state prosecutors. In 2014, John Whitman of Port Angeles, Washington, was charged with 18 felonies and 11 misdemeanors in state court. On December 7, 2015, Whitman pleaded guilty to three felonies in state court: Rape of a Child, Child Molestation, and Possession of Depiction of Minors Engaged in Sexually Explicit Conduct. In January of 2016, Whitman was sentenced to serve 146 months (more than 12 years) in prison, lifetime probation, and lifetime sex offender registration.

Yosemite National Park (Embezzlement): A two year investigation involved Jason Wilson, a former assistant manager of Yosemite Lodge, who embezzled over \$87,000 from Delaware North Corporation (an NPS concessionaire). Wilson was sentenced to two years in prison after he pleaded guilty to aggravated identity theft and defrauding the lodge and Delaware North of \$87,836 dollars. According to Wilson's plea agreement, he used the lodge's computer reservation system between October of 2011 and August of 2012 to reverse charges on multiple reservations made by unidentified third parties. He then credited the fraudulent refunds to his wife's personal account.



An ISB Special Agent removes marijuana from an NPS site.

NPS photo by the Investigative Services Branch.

Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks

(Narcotics Cultivation): In August of 2015, a multi-year investigation into the cultivation of marijuana within Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks concluded with the conviction and sentencing of Toribio Cruz-Galvan. Forensic evidence linked Cruz-Galvan to a cultivation that netted 1,016 marijuana plants and 51 pounds of processed marijuana. These had a combined sale value of over one million dollars. Cruz-Galvan will serve two years in prison for his part in cultivating marijuana within an NPS site.

Yosemite National Park (Embezzlement): After a five year investigation into the embezzlement of private and federal funds, a plea agreement was reached for Charity Brocchini, a former director of the Yosemite National Park Child Care Center. Brocchini entered a guilty plea to one felony for theft from a program receiving federal funds (18 USC 666). This includes restitution of over \$42,000. Sentencing is set for March 14, 2016.

Yosemite National Park (Theft): A roomskeeper at the historic Ahwahnee Hotel was indicted on 16 counts of burglary for entering hotel rooms and stealing cash from park visitors. Jennifer Downing was later convicted and sentenced to 3 years supervised probation and ordered to pay restitution to the victims of her crimes.

Want to report a crime in a national park?
Please call the ISB Tip Line at 888-653-0009

ISB is on the web at www.nps.gov/isb

Pacific South Field Office Investigative Services Branch (ISB)

National Park Service
US Department of the Interior



Highlights from the Pacific South Field Office

The Pacific South Field Office encompasses 19 very active parks in Nevada, Southern California, the Hawaiian Islands and the islands of the South Pacific.

2015 was the beginning of a transitional period for this field office. One special agent took on an acting Chief Ranger assignment at Sitka National Historical Park in Sitka, Alaska. To maintain continuity in the Pacific Islands Network, a special agent from the Southwest Field Office backfilled the vacated position, stationed at Hawaii Volcanoes National Park. Both assignments became permanent later in the year, resulting in those special agents relocating to their new posts.

Members of the Pacific South Field Office also focused on succession planning and the implementation of two key program areas. Special agents trained in conducting complex, long term investigations into the Archeological Resource Protection Act (ARPA), and in using covert techniques in ARPA and other investigations where that type of tool is needed.

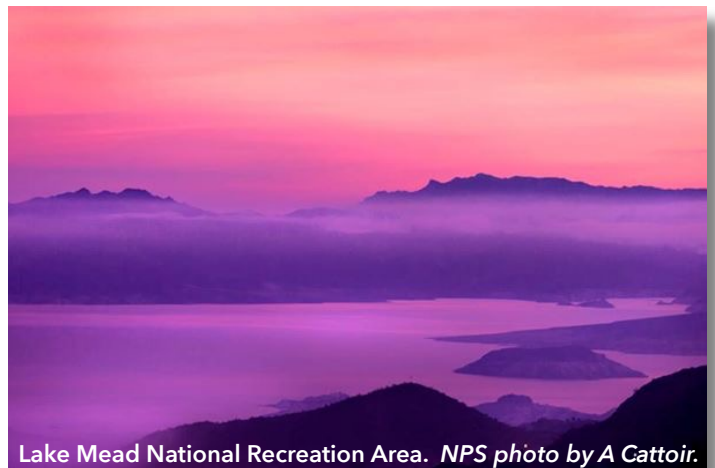
Special agents have attended training and operations to create additional subject matter experts in these two vital program areas. The result is assuring the same level of service that exists today will remain in those programs in the future.

Investigations of significance included:

Lake Mead National Recreation Area (Manslaughter):

This case began in 2013 as an investigation of a boat accident with injuries. The operator was under the influence of alcohol. His wife, who was injured in the accident, died during treatment in a hospital. The case is now a manslaughter investigation that will be presented to the US Attorney's Office in 2016. The ISB Special Agent has expended a significant amount of time conducting this investigation to bring closure to the family.

Continued...



Lake Mead National Recreation Area. NPS photo by A Cattoir.

The Archeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 (ARPA) was enacted to secure, for the present and future benefit of the American people, the protection of archeological resources and sites which are on public lands and Indian lands... Archeological resources are an irreplaceable part of America's heritage, increasingly endangered because of the escalating commercial value of a small portion of the contents of archeological sites.

Source: NPS Archeology Program

Highlights from the Pacific South Field Office

Western United States - "Operation Antiquity" (ARPA):

This investigation originated in December of 2001 as "Operation Indian Rocks." Two people were discovered searching the desert in Death Valley National Park for "Indian rocks," or artifacts, that they intended to loot. Search warrants were executed in their Nevada homes, and as investigators gained additional evidence indicating other criminal violations, more cases were generated.

One of those cases involved the discovery of artifacts that were being looted from Thailand. Jonathan and Cari Markell had operated the Silk Roads Gallery in Los Angeles, California for 10 years. They engaged in a tax evasion scheme in which the couple "packaged" and sold smuggled artifacts to give clients tax write-offs when the items were donated to local museums. A \$1,500 "package" typically included antiquities from Ban Chiang, Thailand, along with false sales invoices to reflect an earlier sales date, and a fraudulently inflated \$5,000 appraisal that contained a bogus expert's signature.

Starting in 2006, an ISB Special Agent went undercover as a businessman and art collector to meet with the Markells. One of the meetings took place in the boardroom of the Pacific Asia Museum in Pasadena, where the undercover agent discussed purchasing a "package," which would then be used as a museum donation in order to obtain a tax write-off.

The Markells were found guilty of making false declarations in customs documents in order to bring stolen archeological resources into the United States. On December 14, 2015 Jonathan Markell was sentenced to 18 months behind bars followed by a year of supervised release. His wife, Cari, was sentenced to probation. As a component of the defendants' plea agreement, the judge ordered the couple to pay \$25,000 to repatriate and return dozens of stolen antiquities seized in 2008 from their home and gallery to Thailand, Cambodia and other countries of origin.



Artifacts recovered during "Operation Antiquity."
NPS photos by the Investigative Services Branch.

Southwest Field Office Investigative Services Branch (ISB)

National Park Service
US Department of the Interior



Highlights from the Southwest Field Office

The Southwest Field Office serves National Park Service sites in Arizona, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, and Utah. This year brought several changes in personnel. Two experienced special agents transferred to other field offices. They had provided great service during their time here and continue to do so in their new offices.

We were able to hire two experienced US Park Rangers as special agents to fill these vacancies. They have hit the ground running and are proving to be excellent investigators. We have special agents

based out of Grand Canyon National Park, Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, and Tucson, Arizona.

Grand Canyon National Park and Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument continued to provide the greatest number of cases. Agents worked a variety of cases, with a marked increase in investigations related to assault on US Park Rangers. Overall the cases continue to be a mix of long-term and shorter investigations.

Some of the cases that were closed in 2015 include:

Glen Canyon NRA (Sexual Abuse/Conduct with a Minor): Sexual assaults of juveniles that took place years earlier were reported to law enforcement in 2010, sparking an extensive ISB investigation. Special agents determined that Blain Pannell sexually abused a juvenile family member and had illegal sexual contact with another juvenile family member while out on a boat at Lake Powell in the summer of 2002. The investigation also showed that Pannell sexually abused a juvenile family member for several years. In 2015, Pannell pleaded guilty to a felony count of sexual abuse. He was sentenced to 30 months incarceration plus one year probation, and must register as a sex offender upon release from prison. The court also ordered Pannell to attend counseling. US Attorney John Leonardo said this case's "outcome is a testament to the dedicated work of the National Park Service in diligently investigating a pattern of misconduct that had occurred many years earlier."



Glen Canyon National Recreation Area. NPS photo by B Moffitt.

Highlights from the Southwest Field Office

A winter storm at Grand Canyon National Park. NPS photo by C Hanson.



Grand Canyon National Park (Criminal Trespass):

A concession company employee went to sleep in her dorm room as usual one night in the summer of 2015. Shortly before 11 p.m., she awoke with a man, later identified through investigation as Jerel Keehongva, in her room. The man had unplugged her TV and a table light as it was the only light on in the room, and began to disrobe. The victim screamed and the man fled the room. Keehongva was interviewed and arrested on June 1st; he later pleaded guilty to a felony criminal trespass charge. Keehongva was sentenced to time served, restitution, and three years probation.

Grand Canyon National Park (Sexual Conduct with a Minor):

In 2014, ISB received an allegation of inappropriate conduct between a student and sixth grade teacher, Nina Bryan, from the Grand Canyon School District. The investigation led to Bryan being charged with 16 counts of sexual conduct with a minor. In 2015, Bryan pleaded guilty to two felony counts of sexual conduct with a minor. She was sentenced to six months in jail, lifetime sex offender registration, counseling, and three years of probation.

Continued...

Highlights from the Southwest Field Office

Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument (Narcotics Smuggling): ISB continues to work closely with the park to investigate narcotics smuggling cases for this border park. This teamwork resulted in 25 suspects from multiple cases being prosecuted in federal court. US Park Rangers recovered approximately 4,000 pounds of marijuana in 2015. An ISB Special Agent also served as acting Chief Ranger for the park for several months.

Glen Canyon National Recreation Area (Assault on a Park Ranger): On July 1, concerned visitors reported two individuals near the swift-moving Colorado River. US Park Rangers contacted the two - one of whom was intoxicated - warned them to be careful of the river, told them not to drive in their current condition, then moved back to the parking lot. Jackie Tsosie began yelling obscenities towards the rangers, and threw a piece of driftwood at them. During Tsosie's subsequent arrest, she assaulted one of the rangers. After pleading guilty to Class A misdemeanor Assaulting a Federal Officer, Tsosie was sentenced to 10 days in jail and a year of probation. She was also banned from both Glen Canyon NRA and Grand Canyon NP. Rangers were supportive of the plea agreement.

Grand Canyon National Park (Assault on a Park Ranger): On November 8, 2015, US Park Rangers responded to a domestic disturbance and possible intoxicated individuals. As rangers attempted to escort Tara Uqualla out of the residence, she struck one of them in the face. Uqualla was arrested on scene. Uqualla pleaded guilty to a Class A misdemeanor Assaulting a Federal Officer. She was sentenced to 60 days in jail and one year probation.



Marijuana seized by ISB Special Agents and US Park Rangers in Organ Pipe Cactus NM. NPS photo by the Investigative Services Branch.

Glen Canyon National Recreation Area (Assault on Park Rangers): During the summer of 2015, US Park Rangers responded to a report of two intoxicated swimmers in distress in deep water off Antelope Point. One of the swimmers, Ryann Shelly Holmes, responded to instructions to swim toward shore. The other swimmer, Mary Ann Gray, slipped below the water. A ranger jumped into the water from a patrol boat and brought Gray to the shore. Once on the shore, Gray assaulted the ranger and bit his finger. Holmes then assaulted the rangers arresting Gray. Gray pleaded guilty to a Class A misdemeanor for Assaulting a Federal Officer plus a misdemeanor Under the Influence of Alcohol charge. She was sentenced to 20 days incarceration plus one year probation, and is banned from park during that time. Holmes pleaded guilty to a Class A misdemeanor for Assaulting a Federal Officer. She was sentenced to ten days in jail and one year supervised probation,

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North Central Field Office

Investigative Services Branch (ISB)

National Park Service
US Department of the Interior



Highlights from the North Central Field Office

The North-Central Field Office includes the Midwest Region, Alaska Region and the northern parks within the Intermountain Region of the National Park Service (NPS). Seventeen states and 110 NPS sites fall under its umbrella.

Several changes for our field office occurred in 2015, including the retirement of one special agent after 37 years of government service, and bringing in another special agent from the Pacific North Field Office to Grand Teton National Park.

2015 has been our most successful year yet in closing multi-year high profile investigations including one of the largest Lacey Act violations in NPS history. As we move forward we will continue to focus our attention to resource investigations in the upcoming year.

Investigations of interest that closed in 2015 included:



Effigy Mounds National Monument (Embezzlement, NAGPRA/ARPA): Thomas A. Munson, former superintendent of Effigy Mounds National Monument, was convicted of stealing the human remains of prehistoric Native Americans from the park. During the investigation it was revealed Munson intentionally and knowingly removed the remains from the park's curatorial facility. He then transported them to his home where he concealed them for over twenty years. Munson must pay \$108,905 in restitution and will serve a year of home confinement, as well as 12 weekends of jail confinement. He must also make a public apology to the Affiliated Tribes and the National Park Service.

Marching Bear Mound Group in Effigy Mounds NM. *NPS photo.*



Rocky Mountain National Park (Homicide): At the conclusion of a two week trial in September of 2015, a jury found Harold Henthorn guilty of murdering his wife, Dr. Toni Henthorn, in the first degree. After three years of investigation examining the 2012 death of Dr. Henthorn, it revealed Harold Henthorn pushed his wife off of a cliff in Rocky Mountain National Park while the two were on a getaway to celebrate their 12th wedding anniversary. Harold Henthorn was sentenced to life in prison.

Continued...

Pack llamas in Rocky Mountain National Park carry evidence documentation equipment for ISB and FBI agents. *NPS photo.*

The 6.5 million acre Noatak National Preserve is an International Biosphere Reserve and protects the largest undisturbed watershed in North America. *NPS photo.*

Under the Lacey Act, it is unlawful to import, export, sell, acquire, or purchase fish, wildlife or plants that are taken, possessed, transported, or sold: 1) in violation of U.S. or Indian law, or 2) in interstate or foreign commerce involving any fish, wildlife, or plants taken possessed or sold in violation of State or foreign law.

The law covers all fish and wildlife and their parts or products, plants protected by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and those protected by State law. Commercial guiding and outfitting are considered to be a sale under the provisions of the Act.

In 2008, the Lacey Act was amended to include a wider variety of prohibited plants and plant products, including products made from illegally logged woods, for import.

When the Lacey Act was passed in 1900, it became the first federal law protecting wildlife. It enforces civil and criminal penalties for the illegal trade of animals and plants. Today it regulates the import of any species protected by international or domestic law and prevents the spread of invasive, or non-native, species.

Source: fws.gov

Highlights from the North Central Field Office

Noatak National Preserve (Lacey Act):

In collaboration with US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFW) agents, ISB conducted a three-year investigation that exposed an illegal outfitting ring. Clark Dixon, host of the cable hunting show *"The Syndicate,"* and nine others were convicted of violating the federal Lacey Act for running an illegal hunting outfitter operation in Noatak National Preserve. Dixon will serve 18 months in prison and pay a fine of \$75,000.

The participants illegally killed over 20 animals including brown bear, moose, caribou, and Dall sheep.

In addition to losing hunting privileges and forfeiting an airplane and trophy animals, the poachers must pay more than \$250,000 in fines and restitution.



Left: An airplane, forfeited to the US Government, that was used by the group to conduct illegal hunting outfitter operations in Noatak National Preserve.

NPS photo.



Top and Bottom Right: More than 3,500 pounds of equipment cached and used by the group to conduct illegal hunting outfitter operations in Noatak National Preserve were seized by ISB and USFW agents.

NPS photos.



Atlantic Field Office

Investigative Services Branch (ISB)

National Park Service
US Department of the Interior



Highlights from the Atlantic Field Office

The Atlantic Field Office serves the ISB mission within the Northeast Region, National Capital Region, and Southeast Region of the National Park Service (NPS). This area is comprised of 23 states and 167 NPS park units.

2015 was a year of transition for the Atlantic Field Office. While the Assistant Special Agent in Charge served in a detail position in the Northeast Regional office, special agents from the field office served as Acting Assistant Special Agent in Charge in rotating temporary promotions.

Additionally, a special agent retired at the close of 2015 after 27 years in law enforcement. A few other agents have moved within the field office or transferred to another: one changed duty stations

from the Virgin Islands to Shenandoah National Park; another went from the Pacific North Field Office to be duty stationed at Great Smoky Mountains National Park (GRSM). A new special agent joined the Atlantic Field Office from the US Park Ranger ranks after completing two details with ISB. This agent is now duty-stationed at GRSM.

During 2015 special agents from the Atlantic Field Office worked numerous investigations involving crimes against persons (homicide, sexual assault), property crimes (identity theft, auto burglaries), and violations of the Archeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA).

Continued...

Wintertime on the Appalachian National Scenic Trail. *NPS photo by B McGuirt.*



Highlights from the Atlantic Field Office



Significant Investigations and Other Operations

Great Smoky Mountains National Park (Homicide): An ISB Special Agent worked with the FBI to investigate a murder that took place in the Luftee (Oconaluftee) Baptist Church in March of 2015. Forrest Dakota Hill has been indicted for the murder of 25-year-old Tyler Gaddis; the trial is set for February of 2016.

Blue Ridge Parkway (Homicide): An ISB Special Agent collaborated with the FBI after an attempted murder on the parkway. Investigators quickly identified the suspect and the victim, both of whom were implicated in a homicide case. The FBI has taken the lead on this investigation.

Great Smoky Mountains National Park (Sexual Assault): An ISB Special Agent investigated the aggravated sexual assault of an 8 year old child in Cades Cove Campground. A 16 year old suspect has been charged in Blount County, Tennessee.

Great Smoky Mountains National Park (Sexual Assault): As an ISB Special Agent investigated one reported sexual assault, more incidents were discovered to have occurred outside of the park. ISB joined with the Anderson, South Carolina Police Department and the South Carolina Attorney General's Office as the investigation continued. Joseph Harold Patterson was arrested on a number of criminal offenses perpetrated in Anderson County, South Carolina.

Castillo de San Marcos National Monument (Embezzlement): A former park employee was indicted by a grand jury in August in this ISB investigation into stolen funds. The case is being prosecuted in the Middle District of Florida.

Continued...

Highlights from the Atlantic Field Office



A suspect is taken into custody during Operation Historical Resurrection. NPS photo by the Investigative Services Branch.

Eastern Tennessee, "Operation Historical Resurrection" (ARPA violations) – This investigation began in 2010 and was focused on ARPA violations 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 2015, two of the five defendants were sentenced to 30 months in prison and ordered to pay \$21,000 in fines. Two more were sentenced to pay fines of \$13,000 and another defendant has yet to be sentenced.

Great Smoky Mountains National Park (Second Degree Murder): This case began in October of 2014 as an investigation of a motor vehicle collision with a fatality of the front seat passenger. The operator was determined to be under the influence of alcohol and traveling at a high rate of speed when the collision occurred. In 2015 the operator agreed to waive indictment, pleaded guilty to an information charging him with second degree murder, and agreed to a recommended sentence of 15 years in prison. Sentencing is set for May of 2016 at which time the court will determine any fine amount, supervised release terms, and restitution.

Great Smoky Mountains National Park (Involuntary Manslaughter): This case began in October of 2014 as an investigation of a motor vehicle collision with a fatality of the rear seat passenger. Two other passengers in the vehicle were severely injured. The operator was determined to have alcohol in his system and traveling at a high rate of speed when the collision occurred. In 2015 the operator agreed to waive indictment and pleaded guilty to an information charging him with involuntary manslaughter. Sentencing is set for March of 2016, when the court will determine prison time, any fines and restitution, and supervised release terms.

Great Smoky Mountains National Park (Auto Burglary): In November of 2014, and again in February of 2015, two vehicles were broken into while parked within GRSM. Cash, credit cards and personal items were stolen out of the vehicles. The suspect and repeat offender, Dennis Jones, was indicted in 2015 and subsequently pleaded guilty to breaking into the vehicles. In January of 2016 Jones was sentenced to 24 months in prison for the auto-burglaries and probation violations. Jones was ordered to pay restitution to the victims.

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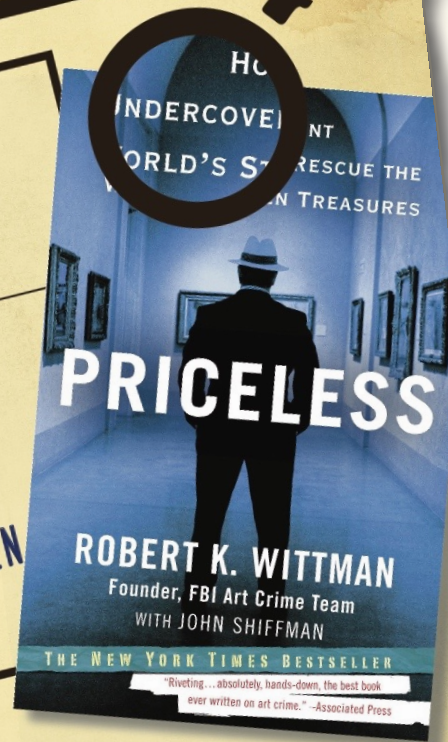
The 2015 ISB In-Service

U.S.A. V. ART THIEVES

TRUE TALES FROM THE FBI'S REAL INDIANA JONES

TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 2015
11 A.M.

ANHEUSER BUSCH HALL
(SCHOOL OF LAW)
ROOM 401: THE PEPPER MARTIN JENSEN
MAICHEL & HETLAGE CLASSROOM



WHAT THE TALK IS ABOUT:

ROBERT WITTMAN founded the FBI's National Art Crime Team and served for 20 years as the FBI's investigative expert in this field. After retiring from the FBI in 2008, he wrote *Priceless: How I Went Undercover to Rescue the World's Treasures*, which became a *New York Times* best seller.

The Wall Street Journal has called Robert Wittman "a living legend," and the *Times of London* said he was "the most famous art detective in the world." During his visit to Washington University, Robert Wittman will talk about his experiences recovering hundreds of millions of dollars in stolen art and cultural property from around the world.

Today Wittman is president of Robert Wittman Inc, an international art recovery, protection, and security firm that works with with museums and private collectors. See: <http://www.robertwittmaninc.com>

This event is supported by the National Park Service, hosted by the University Libraries, and co-sponsored by the Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts.

RSVP IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND. Contact Joy Lowery at 935-5418 or jlowery@wustl.edu. Leave your name and the number of persons in your party.

The 2015 ISB In-Service featured retired FBI Agent Robert Wittman, renowned expert on Cultural Resource Crimes.

Washington University of St. Louis Libraries image used with permission.

The 2015 ISB In-Service

The Investigative Services Branch annual In-Service is a law enforcement training session designed to advance the investigative capabilities of the branch and assist ISB Special Agents with meeting numerous annual training requirements.

2015 marked the first year ISB decided to implement a theme to In-Service sessions. This year's theme was Cultural Resource Crimes. In keeping with the theme, ISB arranged for FBI Agent (Retired) Robert Wittman to serve as the primary guest speaker. Wittman is the most successful federal agent in history at recovering stolen cultural resources, including world-renowned fine art treasures. He discussed the creation, implementation, and development of the FBI Art Theft Program.

The Washington University of St. Louis Libraries, the Sam Fox School of Art and the Washington University of St. Louis School of Law hosted the 2015 ISB In-Service. University Librarian Jeffrey Trzeciak was a gracious host, recognizing a mutual interest of protecting cultural resources shared by his university and the National Park Service. He also authorized the use of the university facilities and the aid of his administrative staff free of charge.

As the only opportunity for our nation-wide field offices to come together, the annual ISB In-Service is highly valued by ISB managers and many agents.



2015 ISB In-Service

March 16-20

St. Louis, Missouri

Washington University of St. Louis - Danforth Campus

Theme:

Cultural Resource Crimes

Primary Speaker:

FBI Agent (Retired) Robert Wittman

Presenters:

U.S. Attorney's Office

U.S. Secret Service

Tennessee Valley Authority

National White Collar Crime Center

DOI Firefighter and Law Enforcement Retirement Team

Washington University of St. Louis Library Collections

NPS Archeologist Dr. Caven Clark

NPS Chief of Law Enforcement, Security, and Emergency Services

NPS Deputy Chief of Policy

ISB ASAC of the Atlantic Field Office

ISB Special Agents

ISB Intelligence Analyst

Chief Ranger of Jefferson National Expansion Memorial

Computer Forensics

"Computer forensic science was created to address the specific and articulated needs of law enforcement to make the most of this new form of electronic evidence. Computer forensic science is the science of acquiring, preserving, retrieving, and presenting data that has been processed electronically and stored on computer media. As a forensic discipline, nothing since DNA technology has had such a large potential effect on specific types of investigations and prosecutions as computer forensic science.

Computer forensic science is, at its core, different from most traditional forensic disciplines. The computer material that is examined and the techniques available to the examiner are products of a market-driven private sector. Furthermore, in contrast to traditional forensic analyses, there commonly is a requirement to perform computer examinations at virtually any physical location, not only in a controlled laboratory setting.

Rather than producing interpretative conclusions, as in many forensic disciplines, computer forensic science produces direct information and data that may have significance in a case. This type of direct data collection has wide-ranging implications for both the relationship between the investigator and the forensic scientist and the work product of the forensic computer examination."

Source: www.fbi.gov



2015 was a very busy time for the NPS Computer Crime Investigation Unit (CCIU). Two ISB Special Agents serve on the unit, which provides expert consultation, management guidance and assistance to parks, US Park Rangers and other ISB Special Agents on digital forensics, case law, and the writing of and participating in search warrants.

The increase in use of social media was reflected in the cases that unit investigators either worked or provided guidance on. More Facebook and Instagram search warrants were served this year than ever before. One of these search warrants led to a defendant pleading guilty to child rape, child molestation, and possession of child pornography.

2015 also brought challenges in the form of default encryption of most major brands of cell phones. Additionally, very large drives became mainstream, requiring extended time for analysis. Investigators seized and analyzed over 40 terabytes of data this year alone.

Digital forensics and computer crimes investigators played key roles in several adjudicated cases in 2015. An ISB Special Agent and Computer Crimes Investigator testified as an expert witness in a federal homicide trial this year, presenting evidence from four computers and two cell phones during the trial. The jury found the accused guilty of murder in the first degree; he was subsequently sentenced to life in prison.

In another case, an investigator was integral in getting a guilty plea for an arson case at Gettysburg National Military Park. A man burned park property then used his phone to send threatening text messages to another person. The investigator recovered the messages from the seized phone, and the man is now spending 33 months in prison. He was also ordered to pay \$28,000 in restitution.

An investigator also analyzed more than 8 terabytes of data seized during a complex investigation that spanned several states. In this multi-year, multi-agency investigation, 10 people and two companies were charged with felony violations of the Lacey Act (see page 18). This federal law protects wildlife, fish and plants, enforcing civil and criminal penalties for their illegal trade. It also extends international protection to imperiled species, and helps in preventing the spread of invasive and/or non-native species.

Continued...

Computer Forensics

Computer Crime Investigators carried out digital forensic analyses for five Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR) cases, seven natural or cultural resource crime cases, and 14 crimes against persons cases. These included conducting computer forensics on 12 cell phones and four tablets.

The CCIU used its forensic capabilities on several electronic discovery (e-discovery) issues throughout the year, including a significant civil case for the Washington Office. The DOI Office of the Solicitor and the plaintiff's attorneys requested the CCIU's specialized help with the case.

Analysis of digital media helped investigators make determinations between homicide and suicide in several fatality cases as well.

In yet another type of case, video footage from a damaged cell phone helped an investigator piece together the events leading up to a fatal accident in Yosemite National Park. The phone belonged to a well-known rock climber and wingsuit flyer; the investigator was able to make sufficient repairs to recover footage shot before the accident.

The CCIU predicts that requests for their help will be on the rise in 2016 and the coming years. Fortunately, as dependence on digital media grows, so does the breadth of the unit's capabilities.

Examples of computer forensics equipment used and evidence items seized by Computer Crime Investigators.

NPS photos by the Investigative Services Branch.



"Electronic discovery (or e-discovery) refers to discovery in litigation or government investigations which deals with the exchange of information in electronic format (often referred to as electronically stored information or ESI).[1] These data are subject to local rules and agreed-upon processes, and are often reviewed for privilege and relevance before being turned over to opposing counsel.

Data are identified as potentially relevant by attorneys and placed on legal hold. Evidence is then extracted and analyzed using digital forensic procedures, and is reviewed using a document review platform.

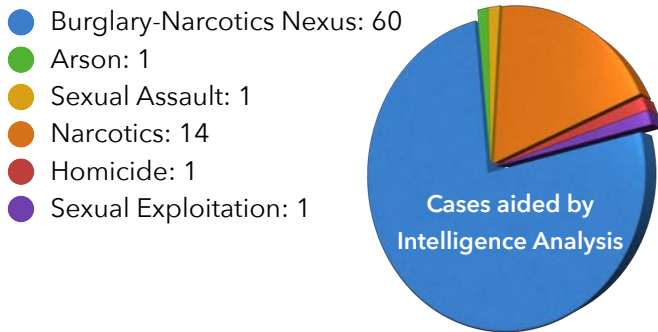
Electronic information is considered different from paper information because of its intangible form, volume, transience and persistence. Electronic information is usually accompanied by metadata that is not found in paper documents and that can play an important part as evidence (for example the date and time a document was written could be useful in a copyright case)."

Source: wikipedia.com

Intelligence Analysis

The intelligence analyst assigned to ISB assisted in 78 investigations during 2015 - a dramatic increase from the 16 investigations assisted in 2014.

The majority of this year's investigations focused on auto burglaries with a narcotics nexus but other investigations included arson, narcotics, homicide, vandalism, sexual assault, and sexual exploitation.



Intelligence analysts were officially added to the NPS organizational structure in 2009 after the agency identified a need for an intelligence component in its investigations. The NPS then hired an analyst and forged an agreement with the Central Valley California High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (CVC HIDTA) to station the analyst at the CVC HIDTA's Investigative Support Center in Sacramento, CA.

The center assists 14 task forces throughout the California central valley. The NPS analyst is the senior analyst for the CVC HIDTA, with responsibilities that include assisting the Intelligence Manager with training, hiring, and other administrative duties.

Originally, the NPS analyst was focused on marijuana cultivation on public lands. With over 10 years of experience on this topic, the analyst is frequently called upon to assist with projects that have a marijuana nexus. In late 2015, the analyst was invited to participate in a working group that is studying the impacts of marijuana legalization.

Working with the CVC HIDTA allows the NPS analyst to collaborate with agents and analysts from other agencies, including the Drug Enforcement Administration, Homeland Security, and a myriad of state and local agencies. This interaction provides numerous resources that would not otherwise be available.

Services provided include link charts, cell phone mapping, financial analysis, organizational charts, telephone toll analysis, timelines, and social media monitoring.

Examples of cases bolstered by Intelligence Analysis:

Mount Rainier National Park (Auto Burglaries):

As ISB Special Agents conducted surveillance on a group of burglarized vehicles parked at trailheads, the intelligence analyst ran background checks on newly identified subjects. The analyst provided driver's license photos, criminal history, and other pertinent information as agents worked in the field. Through social media, the analyst identified other co-conspirators and provided agents with additional investigative leads. This investigation is ongoing.

Various parks (Malicious Mischief): Social media brought national attention to a female graffiti artist



who vandalized several parks. After investigators identified the perpetrator, the intelligence analyst obtained all pictures that showed activity in parks and created a graphic timeline for the US Attorney's Office.

An example of the vandalism inflicted on several NPS sites. Photo recovered from suspect's cell phone by ISB.

Supporting Those Who Answer the Call for Help

If you are involved in a work-related traumatic incident, you have rights. Taking prompt and effective action often reduces the adverse impacts these incidents have on you and your family.

Responder 911

The goal of this program is to provide help and support for every employee involved in an on-the-job traumatic incident, and to be there to support their families. The NPS provides direct incident support, post-event education, and professional counseling.

NPS responders
may call anytime:
888-918-3332



Employee Assistance Program (EAP)

The EAP helps employees deal with all kinds of work/life issues. Counselors are available 24 hours a day, every day of the year.

800-869-0276
www.eapconsultants.com

Badge of Life

This group of active and retired law enforcement officers, medical professionals, and surviving families of suicides takes a new approach to suicide prevention called the "Emotional Self-Care Program." Rather than waiting until an officer is in crisis to act, they teach them how to stay out of emotional trouble. More at:

www.badgeoflife.com

The men and women who make up ISB have been called to this profession out of a passion for justice and helping those in need. With this passion can come some significant costs in the form of mental and physical trauma. The nature of the work of emergency responders' puts them at increased risk to experience traumatic events.

This can be especially true of our law enforcement officers who often see the worst side of human behavior. Despite our relatively small size, ISB has not been immune to the epidemic of law enforcement officer suicide and in 2015 the NPS community lost two officers to this tragic end.

Since 2014, ISB has made a concerted effort to increase the awareness of the mental and physical toll which can be imposed upon law enforcement officers. We have taken a number of steps to keep this important topic in our collective thoughts through in person discussions at our annual in-service, consistent messaging, and providing the book "Emotional Survival for Law Enforcement Officers."

Additionally, ISB is actively engaged in trying to bring awareness and resources to all DOI law enforcement officers. ISB is on a DOI working group whose mission is to "Use the collective knowledge of the the group to ensure programs and resources are in place to support LEOs with the stressors they encounter as part of their job."

If you are a law enforcement officer having difficulty processing the traumatic events you have been exposed to – YOU ARE COMPLETELY NORMAL. Seeking help when experiencing stress, depression, anxiety or suicidal thoughts is a sign of courage, not one of weakness. Seeking help for a colleague is an act of compassion and strength, not an act of disloyalty.

If you need help, confidential resources are available to NPS officers at no charge (see inset).

ISB Inclusion and Diversity Initiative

In 2015, the Deputy Chief of the Investigative Services Branch (ISB) began developing a program that would meet objectives set forth in President Obama's Executive Order 13583 (Establishing a Coordinated Government-Wide Initiative to Promote Diversity and Inclusion in the Federal Workforce), the Department of Interior Diversity and Inclusion Strategic Plan, and the Director's Call to Action 36 (Value Diversity).

Action 36, Value Diversity, falls under the umbrella of enhancing professional and organizational excellence and, in part, directs programs to:

"Develop a workforce that values diversity and an inclusive work environment so that we can recruit and retain diverse employees and respond to the needs of the American public."

The ISB Inclusion and Diversity Initiative strives to provide coordinated outreach and recruitment strategies to maximize ISB's ability to recruit from a diverse and broad spectrum of potential applicants. It also helps enable managers to draw from all segments of the workforce.

ISB is applying this initiative by providing advanced training opportunities to diversity candidates. These opportunities are in addition to our already-established ISB Detailer Program. The target audience includes law enforcement officers of the US Park Ranger ranks and the United States Park Police. The program may include training activities such as formal mentorship, extended training assignments, and establishing other partnerships aimed at providing opportunities to diverse candidates.

The Deputy Chief launched the first ISB Inclusion and Diversity Initiative opportunity in the Atlantic Field Office. In early 2016, a diverse candidate joined the ISB team for an advanced training assignment expected to last several months.

A diverse workforce helps raise awareness of cultural worldview and attitudes towards cultural differences. It also improves knowledge and understanding of different cultural practices and perspectives, and builds cross-cultural skills that help strengthen the Investigative Services Branch.



Rangers at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC. NPS photo.

ISB Detailer and Intern Programs

ISB Detailer Program

Since 2009, the Special Agent Detailer Program of the Investigative Services Branch has established a path for US Park Rangers/US Park Police Officers to work with ISB Special Agents and gain advanced criminal investigation skills. The program can help them determine whether or not they want to pursue a career as a special agent. Most ISB Special Agents hired in the past five years have been graduates of this detailer program.

ISB hosted one detailer in the Atlantic Field Office and one in the Pacific North Field Office in 2015. Detailers experience firsthand what work as a special agent entails. Both detailers led investigations, executed search warrants, issued subpoenas and court orders, made arrests, and achieved convictions.

A major tool of the program is the Special Agent Detailer Training and Evaluation Handbook. It provides an overview of the policies and procedures administered during the ISB Detailer Program. It also provides detailers with clear program expectations and documents their training and experience.

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 the detailer program are shared in most cases between ISB and the detailer's home park. Typically, base pay is funded by the park and Law Enforcement Availability Pay (LEAP) is funded by ISB. The detailer is usually converted to the 1811 series for the duration.

As ISB Special Agents frequently work with US Park Rangers in the field, many agents take the initiative to mentor those who show clear interest in criminal investigations. Both work groups prosper from this sharing of training and experience.

ISB Internship Program

Internships also provide strong opportunities for ISB and potential special agent candidates. Interns continued to work alongside ISB Special Agents in select field offices in 2015.

Interns have generally been those with some NPS seasonal law enforcement experience or criminal justice majors from a nearby university. Availability of housing is often a determining factor whether ISB has the ability to host interns.

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.

They have nonetheless provided valuable case support, undertaken special projects, and carried out the kinds of administrative tasks that keep daily operations strong. In 2015, interns contributed approximately 1,000 hours of much appreciated service to ISB, all at minimal cost to the program.



Detailers, Interns and US Park Rangers work closely with ISB Special Agents to advance NPS criminal investigation skills.
NPS photo by the Investigative Services Branch.

Battle Buddy Program

The career of a criminal investigator can be challenging. Cases take a toll on special agents and, by extension, their families. The Battle Buddy program initiated by ISB in 2015 is another tool to help our agents be successful in life and on the job.

This initiative provides peer support and advice from within ISB ranks. It links each ISB Special Agent with another from a different field office. Battle Buddies are encouraged to talk frequently, to get a different perspective on cases and life. Talking through difficult situations helps both agents.

The Battle Buddy initiative is especially important for our newer agents. By pairing them up with a special agent from a different area, they receive valuable insight and perspectives from an additional source with years of experience.

For those in single agent offices, the program is another way to help them feel connected with the rest of ISB. It also allows the more experienced agents to pass on their knowledge to those who are in an earlier stage of their careers as criminal investigators.



Through the Battle Buddy program, ISB Special Agents are better equipped to help each other accomplish their common mission.

NPS photo by the Investigative Services Branch.

LESES Employee Viewpoint Work Group

Two ISB Special Agents were selected by the Chief of Law Enforcement, Security, and Emergency Services (LESES) to be members of the Employee Viewpoint Work Group.

This team met regularly to discuss a plan of action, ultimately using a Google site survey to elicit voluntary, candid, and confidential responses from employees of the various branches of LESES.

Responses helped the team to identify specific areas where the division excels, as well as areas needing improvement. From there, the team's goals were to create actionable items designed to identify possible solutions and improvements.

The team presented their findings in September of 2015 to the LESES Leadership Team. Findings were shared shortly thereafter with all LESES employees.



Awards and Recognitions

Time in Service Awards:

One member of the Investigative Services Branch achieved the milestone of 5 years of US government services, one reached 15 years, one reached 20 years, one reached 25 years, and one marked 30 years of US government service.

Retirements:

Four ISB Special Agents completed their assignments, served the National Park Service well, and retired in 2015. We thank them for their investigative efforts and dedication to ISB and the NPS.



A pika in Denali National Park.
NPS photo by J Frank.



Mountain goats in Kenai Fjords National Park.
NPS photo.

Recognitions:

An ISB Special Agent with the Pacific North Field Office was recognized for her outstanding support of victims of crimes. She devoted considerable time and effort to ensure victims and their families received the attention they needed during what was very difficult times for them. From answering questions about their cases to providing guidance for emotional and physical well-being, the special agent exemplified the highest standards of government service to the public.

Another ISB Special Agent's outstanding support of victims of criminal activity was acknowledged by the National Park Service Office of Employee and Victim Assistance. This special agent is duty stationed in the Southwest Field Office. Her work on a complex sexual assault of juveniles case was specifically cited. The crime was not reported until years later and involved extensive work with the juvenile victims. In 2015, the investigation led to a guilty plea and prison sentence for the offender.

ISB Website and Outreach

Wherever signal exists, anyone the world over can now connect with the Investigative Services Branch via the nps.gov family of websites. Our site went live early in 2015 and has been helping people keep up with our case activity, find out about job opportunities, and understand who we are and what we do. It also provides ways to contact us, whether to ask for more information about a case or to report a crime.

www.nps.gov/isb

The toll-free Tip Line was also activated in 2015. Always available, it allows people to let us know when they see something suspicious in a National Park Service site. Callers have already provided key information about many of our cases. And remember - you don't have to tell us who you are, but please tell us what you know.

Tip Line: 888-653-0009

Our survey respondents help guide ISB as we strive to fulfill our Mission by letting us know how we're doing and what they'd like to see from us. We're thankful for the time they take to participate in the surveys.

If you're a law enforcement manager and want more information about the Investigative Services Branch, please let us know - we'd be happy to send you our brochure and speak with you about what we can do for your program.



Investigative Services
Former Yosemite Child Care Center director pleads guilty to embezzlement



When allegations were made of financial impropriety at two child care centers in Yosemite National Park, ISB and the US Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General launched a multi-year investigation. Read more...

Investigative Services
Update - couple pleads guilty to trafficking looted artifacts



After several museum raids and an undercover operation by an ISB Special Agent that began in 2006, California couple Jonathan and Cari Markell have pleaded guilty to antiquities and tax crimes, and have been sentenced in federal court. Read more...

Investigative Services
Life in prison for man who murdered his wife in the Rockies

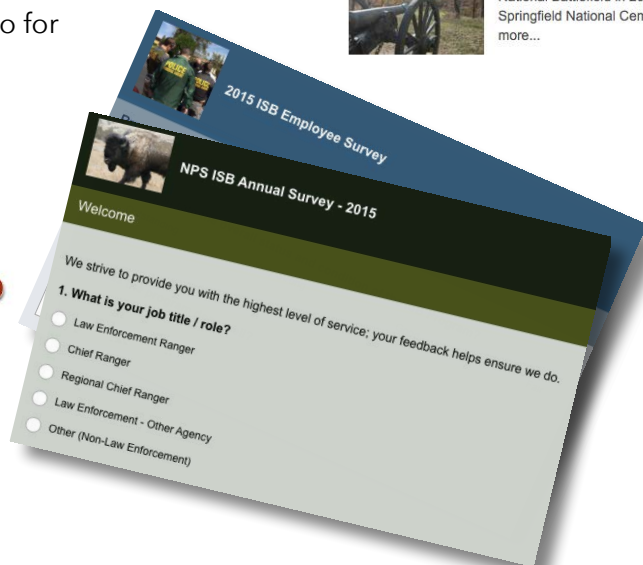


The dedicated work of an ISB Special Agent, Rocky Mountain National Park Rangers, and agents with the FBI led to the arrest, first-degree murder conviction, and lifetime prison sentence of Harold Henthorn. Read more...

Investigative Services
An ISB Special Agent helps honor a fallen Civil War soldier



The remains of an unidentified Civil War soldier that were illegally removed from Wilson's Creek National Battlefield in 2011 were reinterred in Springfield National Cemetery this month. Read more...



NPS Victim-Witness Assistance

Federal Crime Victims Rights

The right to be reasonably protected from the accused

The right to reasonable, accurate and timely notice of any public court proceeding or any parole proceeding involving the crime, or of any release or escape of the accused

The right to attend public court proceedings unless the court, after receiving clear and convincing evidence, determines that the victim's testimony would be materially altered if the victim heard other testimony in the case

The right to be reasonably heard at any public proceeding in the district court involving release, plea, sentencing, or any parole proceeding

The reasonable right to confer with the attorney for the Government in the case

The right to full and timely restitution as provided by law

The right to proceedings free from unreasonable delay

The right to be treated with fairness and respect of the victim's dignity and privacy

The right to be informed in a timely manner of any plea bargain or deferred prosecution agreement

The right to be informed of the rights under the Crime Victim's Rights Act and the services described in the Victims' Rights and Restitution Act, and provided contact information from the Office of Victims' Rights Ombudsman of the Department of Justice



The NPS Investigative Services Branch (ISB) is dedicated to supporting victims and witnesses of all ages. We understand that being a victim of a crime can be devastating.

Victims experience physical, financial, social, and emotional distress associated with the crime. Our goal is to ensure that every victim of or witness to a crime that occurs within our national park community is treated with dignity and respect. Our responsibility is to inform victims of their legal rights and to provide them the necessary support and services they are entitled to throughout the continuum of care.

Federal criminal investigations are often complex and lengthy. We regularly work with other agencies at local, state, and national levels. The NPS coordinates with those agencies to provide victims and witnesses the resources, support, and information they need.

As federal law enforcement professionals, we are concerned about the reactions victims and witnesses experience after a crime. We stand ready to help, and we comply with the Attorney General's Guidelines for Victim and Witness Assistance.

"Our core mission is to pursue justice for criminal acts, and that pursuit includes justice for the victims of and witnesses to crime. Every day, [law enforcement] personnel encounter individuals harmed by crime or who witnessed others being harmed by crime. How we treat those individuals has a huge impact on their confidence in the criminal justice system and their ability to heal and recover from crime. When [law enforcement] is successful in identifying and convicting offenders, our victim assistance efforts help victims navigate an unfamiliar system, foster accountability, and find affirmation for their suffering. In situations where [we are] unable to identify a perpetrator or bring a perpetrator to justice, our outreach and assistance can help victims access the services they need to recover and help them understand the criminal justice response."

-Attorney General (former) Eric Holder

Please visit www.ovc.gov for more information.



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

Case Preparation for Prosecution

Training and Mentoring

Law Enforcement Skills Instruction

www.nps.gov/isb

www.facebook.com/InvestigativeServicesNPS

Email: nps_isb@nps.gov

Phone: (202) 379-4761

Tip Line: 888-653-0009

**To reach the ISB Duty Agent, NPS personnel may call
the Emergency Incident Coordination Center (EICC) at 888-246-4335**