

Making *Green* a Part of Business at the National Park Service

**Public Land Acquisition &
Management Partnership Conference**

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The National Park Service



Founded in 1916



Everglades National Park



The National Park Service

Over 390 Parks "units"



Biscayne National Park



The National Park Service

Support mission "...to promote and regulate the use of the ... national parks ... by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations." (NPS Organic Act, 16 U.S.C.1)



Fort Caroline National Memorial



Kingsley Plantation



The National Park Service

A 2.3 billion dollar budget (2006)



Big Cypress National Preserve



The National Park Service

All this, yet the NPS faces similar sustainability challenges as other facilities and organizations!

Challenges:

- ❑ Governmental spending methodology – allocations typically do not consider lifecycle
- ❑ Budgets are tight
- ❑ Information/technology is new
- ❑ Employees have little time

Make Greening a Part of Doing Business



- Regional Environmental Management System
- Regional Green Team
- Project Greening
- Climate Friendly Parks (National Program)

Regional Environmental Management System (REMS)



- Environmental Management System - “A set of processes and practices that enable an organization to reduce its environmental impacts and increase its operating efficiency.” (EPA)
- REMS Major Components
 - Environmental Commitment Statement, anchored by the Regional Director’s signature
 - Environmental and sustainable goals
 - Communication
 - Monitoring & Measurement



Southeast Regional Green Team

- ❑ Founded in April 2008
- ❑ Park and regional members
- ❑ General Purpose: To assist parks in being more environmentally conscious and sustainable
- ❑ Fosters:
 - Communication
 - Regional buy-in
 - Solutions to common park problems



Green Team Projects

- ❑ Regional Newsletter
- ❑ Green Purchasing
- ❑ Partnership with Auburn University
- ❑ Regional Recycling Solutions



Project Greening

- Cyclic Maintenance Program: *Funding for replacement of products that have reached their expected life duration*
- Projects compete for funding based on their compliance with the program rules
- “Greened” each cyclic project type
 - Broke each type into variables of potential sustainability
 - More points awarded for most sustainable proposal and implementation



Green Project Example

□ Roof Replacement

- Reflectivity and Emissivity of shingles (information developed by Cool Roof Rating Council)
- Increased insulation
- Installation of water capture system
- Recycle old roof



Climate Friendly Parks

The program has a three-pronged approach:

- 1) Measure park-based greenhouse gas and criteria air pollutant emissions,
- 2) Develop sustainable strategies to mitigate these emissions and adapt to climate change impacts; and,
- 3) Educate the public about these efforts.

<http://www.nps.gov/climatefriendlyparks/>

Climate Friendly Parks (Everglades National Park)



- ❑ Air emissions inventory for criteria air pollutants and greenhouse gases
- ❑ Right-sizing of vehicles with emphasis on use of hybrids
- ❑ Toyota just donated five vehicles (3 Priuses and 2 hybrid Highlanders) to Everglades



Climate Friendly Parks





Future Plans

- ❑ A region-wide energy & water audit using a consultant
- ❑ Meter installation
- ❑ Utility Energy Savings Contracts
- ❑ Super Energy Savings Performance Contracts

Questions

