

An Integrated Curriculum For The Washington Post Newspaper In Education Program

## Monuments, Parks and Sanctuaries



- Student Activity: 3 Parks in 3 Days
- Post Editorial: “Why conservation matters”
- Post Reprint: “Obama designates the first-ever marine monument off the East Coast, in New England”
- Post Advertisement: “Thank you, President Obama”
- eReplica Activity: Hear All of It





# 3 Parks in 3 Days

## This is a challenge.

Make the best use of three days to visit, hike, bike, experience and enjoy three national parks.

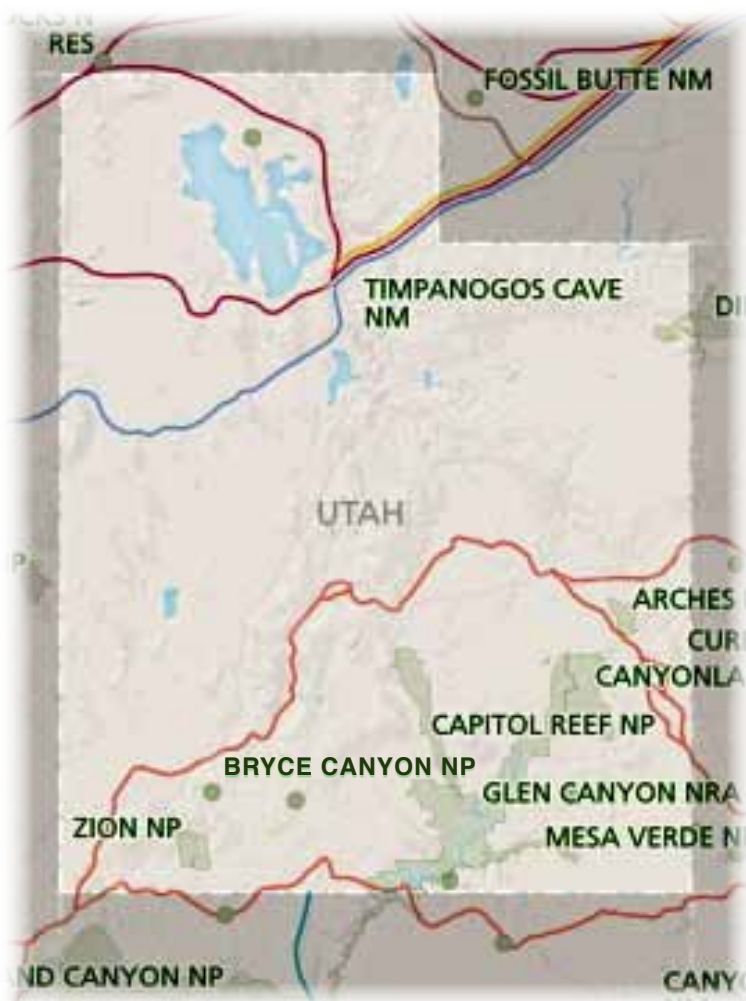
From Acadia, Everglades and Badlands to Yosemite and Zion, you decide which parks in one or more states you could visit in three days. You need to study the state maps, the parks' locations and miles between the parks. Keep in mind time of year and road conditions. You will also need to establish a starting and ending city and where you will stay each night.

Begin by selecting Find a Park on the National Park Service website. You can explore your possibilities by state. You will find a complete list of National Parks in each state. On the state map page, you will also see the nearby location of national parks in adjacent states.

You may add stops at national monuments, memorials, preserves and seashores. Or add visits to national recreational areas, scenic rivers and historic trails. These can count as bonus experiences if you can still organize a trip that will take you to three national parks.

## Need an example? Let's Go to Utah.

Find the map of Utah in *Find a Park*.



There are five National Parks in Utah:



Arches  
Moab, Utah



Bryce Canyon  
Bryce Canyon, Utah



Canyonlands  
Moab, Utah



Capitol Reef  
Torrey Reef, Utah



Zion  
Springdale, Utah





## Explore Utah's National Parks

1. Locate all five national parks on the National Park Service map.
2. When you have selected a park, click on the park's *map* to review the features, points of interest and roads within the park's boundaries. Some of the parks have more than one map to review. How many entry/exit gates are there to the particular park? What are standout features within the park?
3. You will also need a road map to help you plan daily schedules, the routes to take and the order in which to visit the parks. Will you begin a visit to the five national parks from the north or the south, from the east or west gates? Not all roads are superhighways. There are mountains and canyons, rivers and vast expanses that you will have to navigate.
4. Click on *Basic Information*.
  - In this area, you will find the physical address and additional directions. If you are considering travel in an "off-season," check out *Operating Hours and Seasons*: Is the park open 24 hours a day or only sunrise to sunset? Does this park close during winter months? Or are certain areas open year-round?
  - What weather conditions might you expect? You can also select *Current Conditions* for today's weather, shuttle and other services, trail and road conditions.
  - You should be considering your budget for this trip. Under *Fees & Passes*, you will learn about entrance and any other fees.
  - Does the park have an interpretive center, museum or other visitor services? Look under *Visitor Centers*. For example, Zion has two visitor centers and a Human History Museum. The Capitol Reef National Park Visitor Center is located at "the intersection of UT-24 and the Scenic Drive." Canyonlands informs you of which of the three visitor centers and ranger station have services. How will this type of information assist you in your enjoyment of the park?



[Alerts & Conditions »](#)

[Basic Information »](#)

[Calendar »](#)

[Maps »](#)

There are also national monuments and recreational areas in our example of Utah. The Golden Spike National Historic Site and sections of the California, Mormon Pioneer, Old Spanish and Pony Express historic trails can also be visited. If these might interest you, locate them on the map to see if they are within or near your planned itinerary.







## Guidelines: Prepare Your Itinerary

### WRITE AN INTRODUCTION

Write an introduction in which you relate why you have chosen this state (or states) and national parks. Tell your readers if you have historic, cultural, environmental, scientific, aesthetic and/or personal reasons for the travel plans you have made.

### IDENTIFY THE THREE NATIONAL PARKS

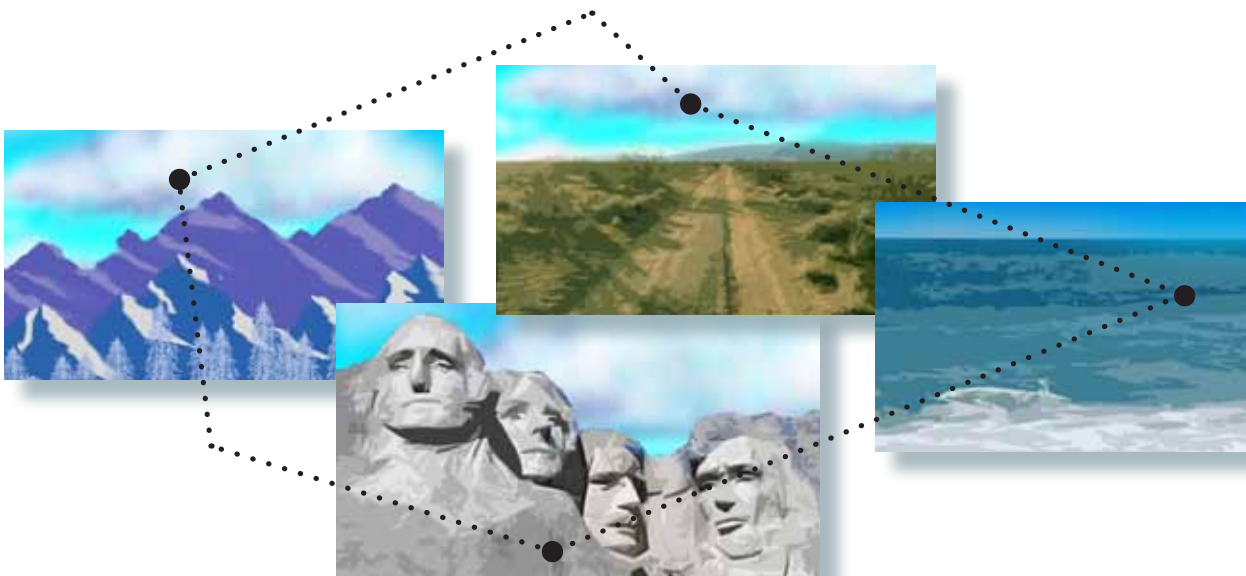
Provide the basic information: Your starting point and the three national parks you will visit in three days.

### PRESENT YOUR ITINERARY

Here are some guidelines for planning your itinerary.

- Having reviewed road maps, types of roads and conditions, estimate your travel time from your beginning destination to the park. For example, did you drive at the end of the day to a half-way point (with a great view or trail to walk at sunset) or to a lodge within the next park?
- Some national parks have lodges and designated camping areas. Where will you spend your nights? Review *The Complete Guide to the National Park Lodges* (<http://www.nationalparkstraveler.com/review/2009/complete-guide-national-park-lodges>) for these options.
- After reviewing road maps and deciding on your end-of-day destination, determine the travel time to this destination and time you wish to arrive.
- You now have an idea of how many hours you will have to explore each national park — as well as when you should begin that day's drive.
- "Highlights during the visit" is the section where you will list the areas of the national park you will visit, trails you plan to hike, lodge or picnic area where you might have lunch and other meals.
- "Additional points of interest" includes the national monuments, memorials, recreational areas and historic sites you may include in addition to the park visits. This may also include other stops of interest to you.

Your main assignment is to decide on the three national parks you want to visit and to plan the itinerary that will make this possible. You may add more details to your itinerary if you wish. Have you read about restaurants, art or cultural centers, or unusual attractions (archeological digs, petting zoos, museums, festivals and regional events?)



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



Title \_\_\_\_\_

**Starting city for the three-day trip:**

**Day 1**

National Park:  
Travel time to the park:  
Highlights during the visit:  
Additional points of interest:  
Overnight destination:  
Estimated time of arrival:  
Travel time to lodging:

**Day 2**

National Park:  
Travel time to the park:  
Highlights during the visit:  
Additional points of interest:  
Overnight destination:  
Estimated time of arrival:  
Travel time to lodging:

**Day 3**

National Park:  
Travel time to the park:  
Highlights during the visit:  
Additional points of interest:  
Overnight destination:  
Estimated time of arrival:  
Travel time to lodging:

**Ending city for the three-day trip:**

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# The Washington Post

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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EDITORIALS

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## Why conservation matters

*Mr. Obama's protection of wilderness highlights biodiversity's importance to human safety.*

ON HIS way to East Asia this week, President Obama traveled to a secluded Hawaiian atoll far from his home town of Honolulu for a brief and deserved moment of celebration. The president announced last week that he is expanding the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument, making it the largest protected wilderness area in the world. This act follows several other moves the president has taken late in his presidency to preserve wild lands and waters, many of which, including the Papahānaumokuākea expansion, have been controversial.

Balancing human needs with the necessity of conservation is always going to be tricky. But as people consider the costs and benefits, it is important to keep in mind that promoting biodiversity is not important simply because it protects cute mammals or beautiful fish. A study published in *Science* this summer found that more than half of the planet's land has biodiversity levels so low they could endanger the human race.

The study relies on the concept of “planetary boundaries” — limits on the environmental changes Earth can experience before human safety is at risk. When an ecosystem loses 10 percent or more of its original species abundance, the authors say, it falls below a “safe” level for biodiversity. Fifty-eight percent of Earth's land surface passes — or fails — that test. That poses a global threat to plant and animal life, and it could also jeopardize human development.

Though protecting ecosystems and their flora and fauna is important for its own sake, doing so has utilitarian value as well. The functions unharmed ecosystems perform for humankind — such as detoxifying waste, regulating disease-carrying organisms and supporting medical research — are worth trillions of dollars in global human welfare. Though the study did not cover sea resources, they are also crucial for recreation, regulating global systems, the food supply and many other things.





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# Obama designates the first-ever marine monument off the East Coast, in New England

BY JULIET EILPERIN

• Originally Published September 15, 2016

President Obama declared the first fully protected area in the U.S. Atlantic Ocean on Thursday, designating 4,913 square miles off the New England coastline as a new marine national monument.

Obama's previous marine conservation declarations have focused on some of the most remote waters under U.S. jurisdiction, including last month's expansion of a massive protected area in Hawaii. But the Northeast Canyons and Seamounts Marine National Monument is more accessible, lying 130 miles off the southeast coast of Cape Cod.

"There are fabulous places out in the Pacific. But they're also incredibly valuable and vulnerable places off the continental U.S.," said Sarah Chasis, who directs the Natural Resources Defense Council's oceans program.

Obama will formally announce the designation Thursday when he addresses the Our Ocean conference, a global gathering his administration initiated two years ago. A senior administration official, who asked for anonymity in advance of the announcement, said the goal was to

meet "the critical conservation needs that science establishes in this area while minimizing the impact on fisheries."

The area along the continental shelf is home to many species of deep-sea coral, sharks, sea turtles, seabirds and deep-diving marine mammals, such as beaked whales and sperm whales. It boasts massive undersea canyons, as well as seamounts, towering underwater peaks that are higher than any mountains east of the Rockies, rising as much as 7,700 feet from the ocean floor.

America controls more of the ocean than any other nation on earth: its exclusive economic zone,

or EEZ, accounts for 55 percent of total U.S. acreage if federal lands and waters are combined. Globally, only 2.3 percent of the sea is strongly protected, but Obama has increased the amount of federal waters under strong protection from 6 percent to 25.5 percent.

Several regional fishing associations lobbied against the creation of a new monument, on the grounds that the federal government could reconcile environmental protections and ongoing fishing operations by regulating activities there under an existing fisheries management law. Trawlers as well as offshore lobster and crab boat operators currently



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catch a range of species near the underwater canyons, including squid, mackerel, butterflyfish, lobster and Atlantic red crab. According to industry estimates, these fisheries are worth more than \$50 million in total.

In an effort to lessen the economic impact, the administration will give lobster and red crab operators seven years to exit the area. Recreational fishing can continue around the three deep-sea canyons and four seamounts that are now protected, but seabed mining and any other extractive activities are banned.

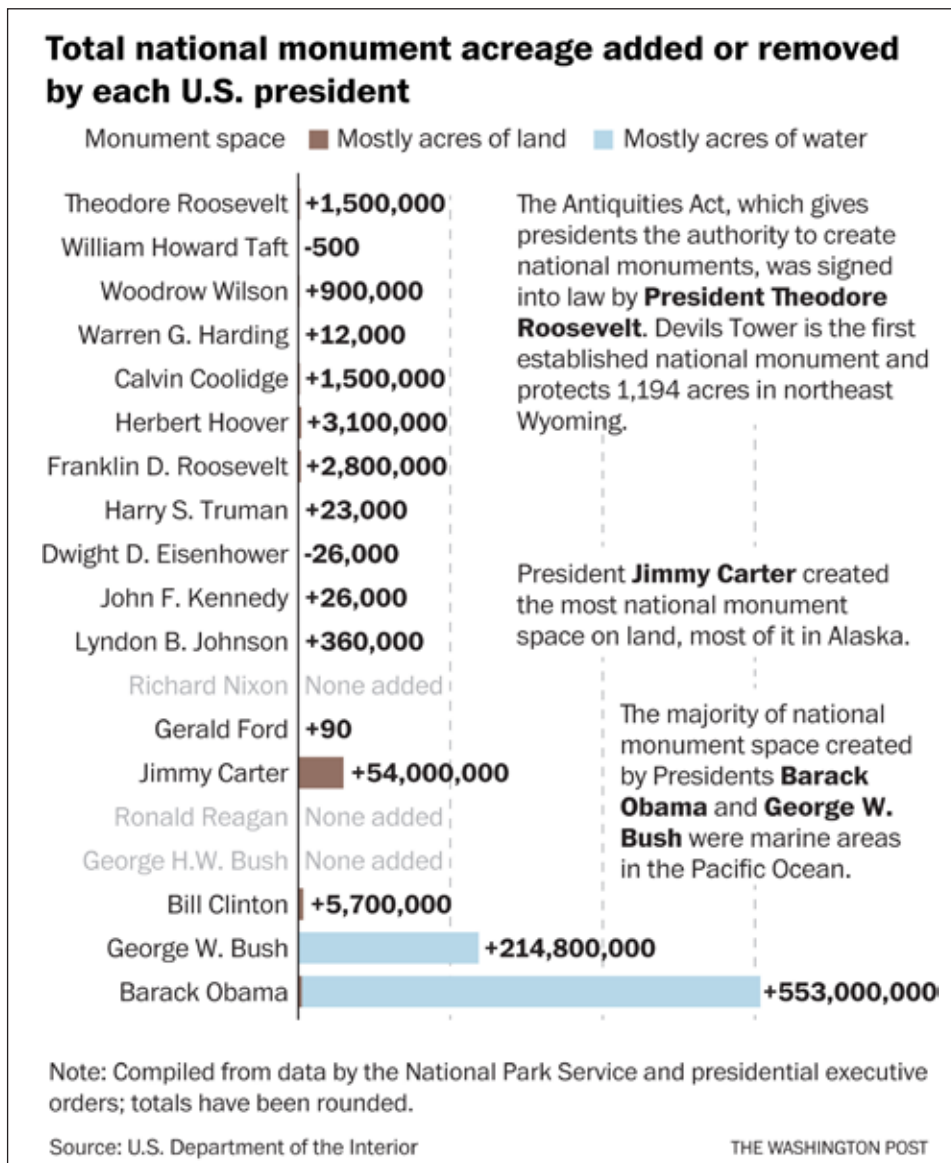
Administration officials estimated there were six lobster boats operating in the area that will be protected, along with 20 other fishing vessels that move in and out of the area.

“The only user group that’s going to be negatively affected by this proposal is the fishing industry, period,” said David Borden, executive director of the Atlantic Offshore Lobstermen’s Association, noting that the new protections will not affect oil tankers moving through the area or telecommunications cables lying on the seabed.

Borden noted that one of the most affected sectors, the red crab fishery, has been certified as sustainably managed by the independent Marine Stewardship Council.

“The environmentalists consistently claim these are pristine areas, despite that there’s been fishing there for 40 years,” he said, adding that industry officials had told the White House repeatedly they are open to new restrictions.

“Just set the boundaries deep



enough so the fishing can continue.” Eric Reid, general manager at a fish processing plant in Point Judith, R.I., said the monument’s proponents failed to recognize it would have “localized economic damage” in areas such as Montauk, N.Y., southern Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

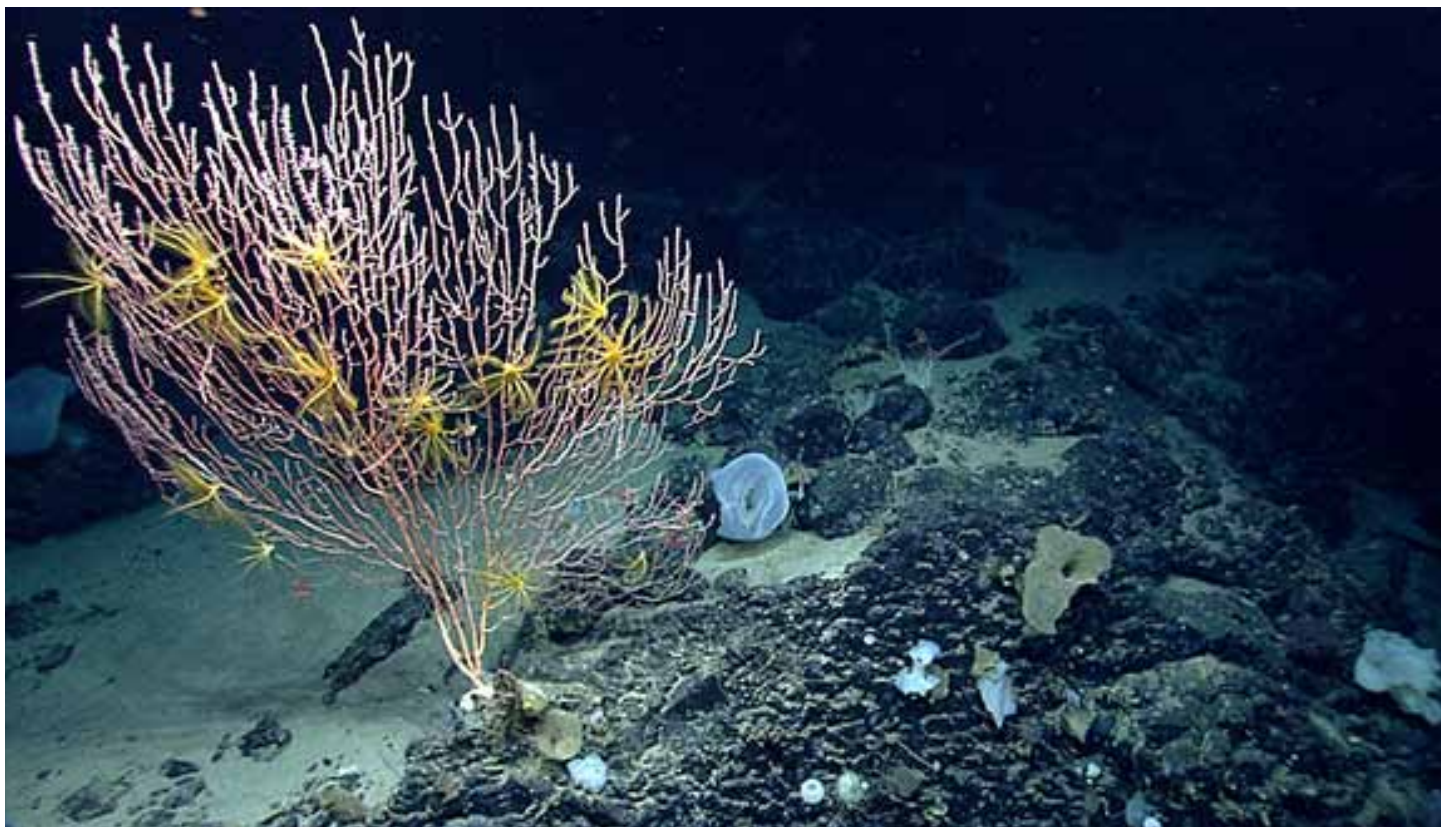
But several scientists said recent research indicates the kinds of sea life living at these depths are so

vulnerable — both because of their reproductive cycle and the fact that they need large, hard structures on the sea floor in order to thrive — it is essential to guard against the unintentional consequences of large-scale fishing and other possible extraction activities such as seabed mining.

“Traps, trawls and dredges impact — knock down, remove, kill —



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NOAA

**Accessible 130 miles off the southeast coast of Cape Cod, Northeast Canyons and Seamounts Marine National Monument is home to many species.**

structure forming animals, and these provide habitat for a diversity of animals,” said Peter Auster, a senior research scientist at Connecticut’s Mystic Aquarium. “We no longer allow hunting for wolves or grizzly bears in parks because of their ecological role, and a similar construct applies here. We are looking at one place, protected in perpetuity, where we can find all of the rich suite of ecological interactions playing out in the ocean, unimpeded by direct human interventions.”

Auster, who has helped conduct research expeditions in the area, said the coral canyons and seamounts provide habitat for species that scientists are just beginning to document.

“We can still go to this place, right outside our back door, and

still find things that don’t have names,” he said, adding that the protected area represents roughly two percent of federal waters off the East Coast. “That leaves 98 percent to be exploited by somebody else.”

Protests by fishing groups derailed the campaign to establish another marine national monument in New England, Cashes Ledge, which would have spanned 532 square miles. The White House announced earlier this year the president would no longer consider using his executive authority after local officials as well as some congressional Democrats, including Sen. Edward J. Markey (Mass.), raised questions about it.

The monument Obama will declare is based on a map drafted by Connecticut Sen. Richard Blumenthal (D), but it is 20 percent

smaller. Connecticut has a more modest fishing fleet than other neighboring states.

Jane Lubchenco, who headed the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration during Obama’s first term, said in an interview the president deserves credit for dramatically expanding protections for federal waters. But she emphasized that it was important to make sure those safeguards applied to a range of environments.

“There are many different kinds of species and many different kinds of habitats that deserve protection, need protection,” Lubchenco said. “It used to be most of the ocean was a marine reserve, because we couldn’t access it. But with technology, we have eliminated that natural protection.”

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# THANK YOU, PRESIDENT OBAMA

## FOR PROTECTING MORE OCEAN THAN ANY PRESIDENT IN U.S. HISTORY

Your bold actions to create the Northeast Canyons and Seamounts Marine National Monument and expand the existing Papahānaumokuākea and Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monuments will help assure resiliency to climate change and the health of ocean ecosystems globally. Your ocean legacy will protect valuable marine wildlife as well as native cultures in over 850,000 square miles of our ocean. Future generations will benefit from your vision and historic action to protect the planet.





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### Inside e-Replica

## Hear All of It | Use e-Replica Listen Feature

Does your classwork involve reading the newspaper? You can read articles in the print edition and online. And you have another option. You can use the e-Replica feature that allows you to listen to the article.



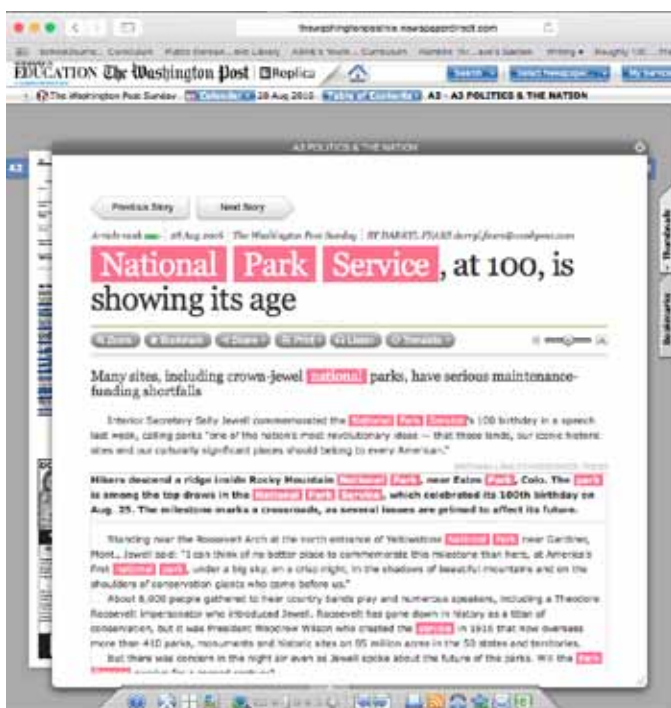
Go to *The Washington Post* Newspaper In Education e-Replica website: [thewashingtonpostnie.newspaperdirect.com](http://thewashingtonpostnie.newspaperdirect.com).

After you open your account, follow these steps. It is as easy as 1, 2, 3.

### 1 Select the Article

You can read a recent article or one in the archives. Let's do a search for "National Park Service" and use "Anytime" as our date range.

From the possible articles that are located, we will select "National Park Service, at 100, is showing its age," an August 28, 2016, article by *Post* reporter Darryl Fears.



### 2 Find the Headphone Icon

Look to the bottom of the page where you will find a row of icons.

Select the headphone icon.



Here is the part that may be more challenging. You will need a default media player program. Check with your teacher or parents if you are having any difficult hearing the article.

### 3 Listen to the Selected Article — and More

This feature allows you to listen to one article, two articles or an entire issue.

As you listen to the article, you can take notes and record questions you have. You can reverse to hear a section again. You can pause to talk with classmates about what has been written or to discuss a quotation.