

## **The Restore Our Parks and Public Lands Act (H.R. 6510)**

House Natural Resources Committee Chairman Bishop (R-UT) and Ranking Member Raúl Grijalva (D-AZ), Representatives Simpson (R-ID) and Kilmer (D-WA) along with nearly 50 additional original cosponsors introduced the Restore Our Parks and Public Lands Act (H.R. 6510). This legislation would address the maintenance backlog of the National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, and Bureau of Indian Education by providing reliable and dedicated annual federal funding. The bipartisan bill, in part, brings together the best components of the previously introduced National Park Service Legacy Act and the National Park Restoration Act.

### **The Restore Our Parks Act would:**

- Establish a federal fund in the U.S. Treasury—named the “National Park Service and Public Lands Legacy Restoration Fund”—to draw down the national park, public lands, and Indian schools maintenance backlogs.
- Direct 50% of federal mineral revenues—such as royalties from on-shore and off-shore oil, gas, coal, and other mineral operations, as well as renewables—that are not already allocated by law to other programs, into the Fund.
- The Fund would be established for five years, from FY2019-FY2023, with annual revenue capped at \$1.3 billion with the following breakdown:
  - 80% to national parks maintenance backlog
    - 65% of the Fund would go toward the repair of non-transportation resources (historic structures, visitor facilities, trails, water utility systems, and assets that impact disability access, health and safety, access and recreation)
    - 35% would be used to restore transportation-related assets (roads, bridges, and tunnels)
  - 10% to United States Fish and Wildlife Service’s National Wildlife Refuges maintenance backlog
  - 5% to the Bureau of Land Management’s public access and recreation maintenance backlog
  - 5% to the Bureau of Indian Affairs’ Bureau of Indian Education’s school construction and maintenance backlog
- Allows money to remain in the Fund until expended; allows for funds to be invested in a public debt security with any interest accrued to be returned to the Fund.
- Prohibits funds from being used for land acquisition or from replacing discretionary funding for NPS facility operations and maintenance needs.
- Provides Appropriation Committees an opportunity to review the NPS’ deferred maintenance list.
- Encourages donations to be directed toward deferred maintenance projects.