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Monument Project Guide



Resource Stewardship



National Parks protect invaluable resources, from wildlife like desert bighorn sheep to rich human history and geological features. Our dedicated natural resource team works tirelessly to ensure all projects carried out within the monument meet compliance requirements to safeguard these incredible resources. This work extends from preventing invasive plants from encroaching into the monument to preserving significant historic and pre-historic cultural sites. Your donation could support seasonal personnel, scientific research supplies, and various essential projects aimed at studying and protecting these extraordinary resources within the park.



Resiliency Ranger Program

This initiative addresses a crucial community need by connecting outdoor recreation to mental health. The Resiliency Ranger will lead hikes and other outdoor activities that foster engagement for identified at-risk veterans and youth. Collaborating with Colorado Mesa University's Outdoor Recreation Program, the ranger will coordinate guided visits to local public lands, enhancing participants' appreciation of nature, fostering community, and expanding their recreational opportunities. Securing funding is crucial for maintaining this career seasonal position to allow this important program to continue for years to come.

Amplifying Tribal Voices



Native Americans have deep ties to this land that predate the National Park Service. Fostering a strong relationship with our Traditionally Associated Tribes is crucial: emphasizing open communication and hearing their perspectives helps the monument make sound management decisions. Funding allocated to Colorado National Monument will facilitate travel expenses for these tribes to attend meetings and enable our staff to visit their communities. These annual gatherings offer a platform for open dialogue, addressing various topics, and seeking tribal input for upcoming park initiatives.



We Appreciate Your Support of this Premier Geological and Recreational Gem in Western Colorado



Trail Work & Historic Preservation



\$50,000

Each year, mason crews meticulously shape rocks and stabilize historic structures, which includes the stonework alongside Rim Rock Drive. The park's trail crews actively address natural erosion and human-induced damage to our treasured 43 miles of trails. As time passes and with growing visitor numbers at Colorado National Monument, the demand for their work intensifies. These funds will support essential needs such as preservation personnel and supplies. If you're passionate about hiking in the monument or preserving our heritage, we invite you to contribute to this fund.

Education in the Monument

Each year, the monument welcomes more than a thousand school children on educational field trips to experience the wonders of the Colorado Plateau. Park staff lead K-12 student field trips to help students discover their ties to this environment. To facilitate these visits, transportation, supplies, and additional personnel are vital to the success of these programs. In 2024, CNMA helped fund a seasonal Spanish-speaking educational technician, aiming to develop a full suite of Spanish language environmental education curricula. Your contributions can significantly enhance the educational programs at the monument, supporting initiatives such as field trips and the beloved Junior Ranger program.



General Need Fund



CNMA endeavors to assist Colorado National Monument in a variety of significant ways, such as supporting staff trainings, providing roadside and trailside signage, fostering a positive work environment, and helping to build capacity for new initiatives to further the mission of the National Park Service (NPS). Your contribution enables us to extend our efforts further! These funds will address critical needs that fall outside the NPS's funding scope, yet are essential for the park's success, its personnel's safety, and visitors' continued enjoyment.

Internship Fund



Internships prepare participants for careers in preservation, science, and public lands management. We recognize the positive impact of internships for both the National Park Service (NPS) and the interns who gain invaluable skills. Funding received for this program will support various paid internships, including Scientist-in-Parks, Latino Heritage, Next-Generation Tribal Youth, and others. For instance, a recent paleontology intern contributed significantly to NPS research by exploring areas and utilizing skills beyond our capacity, leading to the discovery of over 145 new fossil localities. With its epic vistas and unique high desert wildlife and plant life, Colorado National Monument marks the beginning of the red rock desert that stretches far into the Southwestern United States. Established in 1911, this remarkable landscape in western Colorado owes its preservation to years of local community support and perseverance, predating the establishment of the National Park Service in 1916.

Our History

In 1964, inspired by this spirit of dedication, the Colorado National Monument Association (CNMA) was founded. As the official nonprofit and philanthropic partner of Colorado National Monument, CNMA has continuously provided financial support through various community engagements and proceeds from the bookstore. This support fosters knowledge, passion, and dedication, enabling the stewardship and preservation of this spectacular landscape.

Within these pages, you will discover more about the priority projects within Colorado National Monument that require funding assistance. We invite you to become a part of the storied legacy of supporting this cherished place and join us in preserving one of the grand landscapes of the American West.

Join us in making a lasting impact on the future of Colorado National Monument!

