NPS Mission and Park Significance
How many National Parks are there?
NPS Arrowhead
Test your knowledge

What was the first national park?
Yellowstone National Park

Created in 1872 as “a public park or pleasing ground for the benefit and enjoyment of the people.”
When was the National Park Service created?
Why do we have national parks?
The National Park Service Mission
the Organic Act of 1916

“...To conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein, and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.”
417 National Parks, 24 Designations, 1 System
Other Public Lands

- National Forests
- State Parks
- Town Parks
- US Army Corps Sites
- County Parks
Who owns the national parks?

We ALL do!
Test your knowledge

Name ALL the national park units in West Virginia!
Some clues...
New River
Bluestone River
Gauley River
Test your knowledge!

How old is the gorge?
Mixed Mesophytic Forest
Water Quality
Recreational Opportunities... the FUN stuff!
Test your knowledge!
Name this invasive pest!
The Bridge
Test your knowledge!

How high is the bridge?
Wildlife

- 65 known species
- Most common:
  - Groundhog
  - Raccoon
  - Opossum
  - Squirrel
  - Chipmunk
  - White tailed deer
Species at Risk

- Allegheny Woodrat
- Virginia big eared bat
- Indiana bat
- Eastern small footed myotis
Test your Knowledge:

Name this species of concern successfully reintroduced to the gorge!
Cultural Resources
Test your knowledge!

In the late 1800s railroads and lumber companies came to the gorge to harvest timber.

Industrial pollution drained directly into the Gauley giving it what nickname?
Climate Change
Climate Change
How YOU can get involved...

Become a Friend!

Visit www.friendsofnrgrgnr.org
Questions? Just ask!

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