



A New Year is Here



Happy New Year! After a stellar 2021, TRNHA is poised for another great year. As we look forward to 2022, we are excited about the things we will see and the people we will meet. Without our members, customers, and many partners, TRNHA would not be able to give back to our park sites or help create lasting memories for visitors. Here are some dates to remember, appointments to keep, and great ways to celebrate the natural world around us.

Listed below is a look at TRNHA's preliminary calendar of events for 2022:

May 2022 - Painted Canyon Visitor Center Re-opens South Unit Theodore Roosevelt NP

June 5, 2022 - 68th Annual Birdwalk and Breakfast, South Unit Theodore Roosevelt NP

June 22, 2022 - Kid's Event, North Unit Theodore Roosevelt NP

July 2022 - Kid's Event, South Unit Theodore Roosevelt NP

September 2022 - Dakota Nights Astronomy Festival, South Unit Theodore Roosevelt NP

September 2022 - Lifeways Program - Knife River Indian Villages

We'll keep you posted as new events and details become available. We hope that you will join us as we continue to enjoy and serve North Dakota's public lands. Thank you all, we hope to see you soon!



Monthly Newsletter
January 2022
Theodore Roosevelt
Nature & History
Association

Meet the Board

TRNHA is governed by seven volunteer directors. Each director serves a three year term and is elected directly by our members. In this segment, we'd like to kick off the new year acquainting you with our/your board members. We begin with the winners of our most recent elections, Jodi Johnson and Chelsey Erdmann.

Meet Jodi Johnson...

Upon completion of my Bachelors of Accountancy degree from the University of North Dakota in 2004, I moved to Medora to work as an Accounting Assistant for the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation (TRMF). During my 10 year career with TRMF, I became active with the Medora Chamber of Commerce. I served first as their Secretary and then as their President from 2012 till the end of 2017. I participated in many community events while serving on the Chamber board, and have helped organize the annual Hunter's Feed and Medora's Old Fashioned Cowboy Christmas.



I am also active with the Medora Area Convention and Visitors Bureau and have served as their Secretary/Treasurer since 2015. Part of my work with this organization involves helping to organize events that bring guests to Medora to experience everything the area has to offer. In 2013 I took a job in Richardton, but have continued living in Medora and have stayed active on the Chamber and CVB boards.

I enjoy being a part of the community and being involved in the events that take place throughout the year. In my spare time I enjoy hiking, golfing and spending time with family and friends. It's a joy to bring family and friends to town for the first time and see their reaction to our area.

Meet Chelsey Erdmann...

I grew up on a farm by West Fargo, ND and went to college at Jamestown College (now the University of Jamestown). I live in Beach, ND where I have taught first grade for ten years. Before moving to Beach, I lived in Medora and worked for the Theodore Roosevelt Medora Foundation in Group Sales. In my spare time I enjoy hiking, traveling, reading and spending time with my friends and family. My favorite place in Theodore Roosevelt National Park is Buck Hill. I visit there to hike and take pictures as often as I can.



Medora is one of my favorite places! I enjoy visiting Theodore Roosevelt National Park and visit often. I believe in the mission TRNHA has and am passionate about the national parks. I believe that my passion for Theodore Roosevelt National Park along with my ability to work well with others and being open minded make me a great fit for the TRNHA board of directors.

Seasonal Employment Opportunities

While winter is still here and the cold is prolonged, at TRNHA it always seems like summer is just around the corner. As we gear up for another summer season in 2022. We are looking to fill up to 6 seasonal positions with TRNHA. Please see the positions below and our [website](#) for complete position descriptions. We hope to see you this summer.

Seasonal Retail Sales Assistant

Full Time (40 hr/wk)

(1 position available, starting wage \$16/hr, must be available April 18, 2022)

Seasonal Visitor Service Clerk

Part Time(25-30 hr/wk) or Full Time (40 hr/wk)

(5 positions available, starting wage \$15/hr, flexible start day in mid-May or early-June)



NPS Fee Free Days

In case you needed another reason to visit a National Park...on five days in 2022, all National Park Service sites that charge an entrance fee will offer free admission to everyone. These are entrance fee-free dates in 2022:

- January 17 - Birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr.
- April 16 - First day of National Park Week
- August 4 - Anniversary of the Great American Outdoors Act
- September 24 - National Public Lands Day
- November 11 - Veterans Day



New at TRNP - Carly Stein



Carly Stein began her journey with the NPS as a SCA intern at Chiricahua National Monument in 2019. She has been a seasonal at Lassen Volcanic NP, a VIP campground host at Joshua Tree NP, and most recently, an Interpretive Ranger at Nez Perce NHP in Spalding, Idaho.

Before joining the NPS, Carly graduated from Oberlin College with a degree in Environmental Studies and worked as an account manager at Aerofarms, a vertical farming company. Originally from New Jersey by way of Vermont, Carly loves being outdoors, exploring new places and learning new things. She is an amateur fly fisherman, birder, and long-distance hiker. When not outside, she loves trying new recipes in the kitchen and visiting historical places.

Carly is thrilled to join the staff at Theodore Roosevelt NP as the Admin Support Assistant, managing such programs as property, payroll, and travel.

Winter Winds

Winter is a difficult time for many creatures on the northern great plains, but can make for hours of excellent, silent, wildlife watching. One unique creature that you may encounter on a winter visit to Theodore Roosevelt National Park is the Pronghorn (*Antilocapra Americana*). Theodore Roosevelt explained how pronghorn deal with the cold and snow of winter in the northern great plains in *The Wilderness Hunter*.

...the prong-horn must also fear the elements, and especially the snows of winter. On the northern plains the cold weather is of polar severity, and turns the green, grassy prairies of mid-summer into ironbound wastes. The blizzards whirl and sweep across them with a shrieking fury which few living things may face. ...Accordingly, as the bright fall weather passes, and the dreary winter draws night,.. The antelope gather in bands and seek sheltered places, where they may abide though the winter-time of famine and cold and deep snow.



If you would like to read more, pick up your own copy of *Hunting Trips of A Ranchman & The Wilderness Hunter* by Theodore Roosevelt at our [online store](#).

January 2022 Online Coupon

January Online Only Coupon



25% Off

TRNP Dad Hat

Online Only through January 31, 2022

Use coupon code

“January2022” at checkout.

Shop online now at: www.shoptrnha.org

Not good with any other discounts.

Become a Member

Our members are passionate about our park partners and believe in helping us spread the word about the beauty that can be found in North Dakota. By joining Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History Association as a member you will be helping us:

- Support educational and interpretive programs
- Enhance the visitor centers in all our partner parks
- Support wildlife research in Theodore Roosevelt National Park
- Publish trail guides, books, and multi-media products to educate our visitors
- Host special events in our parks including Teddy Bear Picnics, Birdwalks, and photo contests
- Promote North Dakota's public lands
- Offer housing assistance for Volunteers and Interns
- Provide support staff in visitor centers

Learn more at:

www.trnha.org/membership.htm





Presidents' Day



It's February and this month begins with hopes for Spring on Groundhog Day, celebrations of love on Valentine's Day, hopes for resilience on Valentine's Day (for those familiar with the Roosevelt story), and celebrations for those who have lead the United States over the years on Presidents' Day.

Over the year's the National Park Service has become a keeper of presidential histories through the conservation of sites associated with former presidents—including Theodore Roosevelt National Park. The NPS has created a webpage that highlights and links to 28 National Park Sites dedicated to former presidents. This page demonstrates just how prominent the story of Theodore Roosevelt is in the story of modern America...the National Park Sites seem to chronical Roosevelt's life and career.

This includes:

- Theodore Roosevelt Birthplace National Historic Site (*the childhood of a renowned president*)
- Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural National Historic Site (*an unexpected inauguration*)
- Sagamore Hill National Historic Site (*TR's summer White House*) (*right*)
- Theodore Roosevelt National Park (*in honor of a president*)



And we would never forget to mention the White House and Mount Rushmore...learn more at [NPS Presidents Page](#) and enjoy every day of hope and celebration that February brings!

Monthly Newsletter

February 2022

Theodore Roosevelt
Nature & History
Association

Meet the Board, Part 2 of 3

TRNHA is governed by seven volunteer directors. Each director serves a 3 year term and is elected directly by our members. In this segment, we'd like to acquaint you with our/your board members. This month, we meet our longstanding members: Craig Whippo, Jim Bridger, and Douglas Bolken.

Meet Craig Whippo...

Craig graduated from Purdue University with a BS in Agriculture and from Indiana University with a PhD in Plant Sciences. He is an Assistant Professor of Biology at Dickinson State University where he teaches ecology, botany, plant physiology, and other courses. He is also involved in research to determine the habitat associations and species ranges of small mammals in western North Dakota.



In addition to the professional inclination to be part of this association, Craig's family enjoys the recreational and educational opportunities offered in Theodore Roosevelt National Park. They enjoy hiking in the park, taking part in park opportunities, such as interpretive and educational programming, including the Teddy Bear Picnic and camping. Craig enjoys helping the association achieve its mission by using his background as an educator and botanist.

Meet Jim Bridger...

Jim is a resident and business owner in Medora. His time is split between operating the AmericInn Hotel and the Little Missouri Restaurant & Saloon. He is very active in the community, including volunteering on the city zoning board, Emergency Services, and serving as Director on the Medora Convention and Visitor Bureau - promoting tourism in Billings County.



Before coming to Medora, Jim worked as the Director of Franchise Services for AmericInn International and as a Medical Examiner for two Counties in Minnesota. His experience in private enterprise has allowed him to gain critical knowledge of budgeting, marketing, and revenue management. Jim believes that every family in America should have the chance to witness the majestic beauty of Theodore Roosevelt National Park.

Meet Douglas Bolken...

Douglas was born and raised in Watford City. He left for a few years but returned home in 2008. He is currently the Tourism Director of McKenzie County and Visit Watford City. Over the years he has worked closely with staff at Theodore Roosevelt National Park to assist in promoting what he calls Watford City's "number one tourist destination."



Douglas has worked in tourism for over 30 years. He is also very active in the community of Watford City, serving on County and City planning and zoning boards and serving as a City Councilman. He has been working closely with city officials to promote the quality of life in Watford City and McKenzie County. Douglas brings the Watford City-Western North Dakota perspective to the park, a passion for tourism, and strong marketing background to the board.

Seasonal Employment Opportunities



We are
HIRING

**SUMMER VISITOR
SERVICE CLERKS**

TO WORK IN
THEODORE ROOSEVELT NATIONAL PARK



Learn more and Apply at:
www.trnha.org/employment.htm

We are looking for 5 to 6 individuals to assist in operating visitor centers at Painted Canyon and in Medora. Clerks provide park and area information, sell merchandise, stock shelves, and ensure that the visitor to Theodore Roosevelt National Park has the best experience possible.

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LEARN MORE AND APPLY NOW

Winter Winds

It seems no matter where you are this winter, it's a good idea to be prepared for cold temperatures. If you are cold weather hiking, remember to dress in layers, wear a hat, add a liner to your sleeping bag. (The American Hiking Society even suggests using a foam sleeve/coozie to prevent your water bottle from freezing!) In case you were wondering how they dealt with these temperatures in TR's day—wonder no more. Roosevelt included a thorough description of his cold weather gear in *The Hunting Trips of a Ranchman*:

On very cold days, fur gloves and either a coonskin overcoat or a short riding-jacket of fisher's fur may be worn. In cold weather, if travelling light with only what can be packed behind the horse, I sleep in a big buffalo-robe, sewed up at the sides and one end into the form of a bag, and very warm. When, as is sometimes the case, the spirit in the thermometer sinks to — 60°-65° Fahrenheit, it is necessary to have more wraps and bedding, and we use beaver-robos and bearskins.



February 2022 Online Coupon

February Online Only Coupon



25% Off

TRNP Map Socks

Online Only through February 28, 2022

Use coupon code

"February2022" at checkout.

Shop online now at: www.shoptrnha.org

Not good with any other discounts.

Become a Member

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Learn more at:

www.trnha.org/membership.htm





Quiet on the Town



Although spring is scheduled to sneak up on us this month, there are probably a few cold winter days due for North Dakota. If you head out into Theodore Roosevelt National Park on one of those cold days, you may come upon a prairie dog town and wonder “Where did the prairie dogs go?” It’s a common question, often followed by the thought *Do prairie dogs hibernate?*

Before you run into the visitor center with this frequently asked question, we’ve done some investigating and here’s what we found:

Prairie dogs do not go into true hibernation, but periods of dormancy or "torpor" during the coldest periods of the winter. Their activity and appetite are decreased during winter. They may sleep for many days at a time, but the town is usually active during the milder days of winter.

- www.nps.org



Monthly Newsletter

March 2022

Theodore Roosevelt
Nature & History
Association

If you’re thinking about checking out the prairie dog towns and heading into Theodore Roosevelt National Park during Spring Break, please note:

Portions of the North and/or South Unit road may be closed due to winter conditions. Please see the park [website](#) for more details.

Meet the Board, Part 3 of 3

TRNHA is governed by seven volunteer directors. Each director serves a 3 year term and is elected directly by our members. In this segment, we'd like to acquaint you with our board members. This month, we meet two of Southwestern North Dakota Natives who represent our board: Jesse Kolar and Debbie Rodne.

Jesse Kolar

Jesse grew up and resides in Dickinson. He has been the proud owner of many annual passes to Theodore Roosevelt National Park. Jesse has worked on research projects studying pronghorn and mule deer in the area and is currently working as an upland game biologist for the North Dakota Game and Fish Department. He has a wildlife management background and is fairly fluent with the natural history in western North Dakota and the badlands.



He has volunteered for various group organizations including church organizations, Roughrider Archer's, Hunter's Education, Prairie's and Potholes Birding Festival, The Wildlife Society, Mule Deer Foundation, Peace Corps, and others. Jesse describes himself as an open-minded person who can work cooperatively with a wide range of people to help promote activities at TRNP. In addition, his roles working for state agencies have given him experience reviewing budgets and spreadsheets.

Jesse has previously been very active in TRNHA activities including the annual plant walk and helping as a bird guide at the annual bird walk. Jesse says, "I consider myself lucky to be able to visit the park regularly to watch and photograph wildlife and meet diverse folks from across the world who visit the park."



Debbie Rodne

I was raised on the family farm/ranch in Dodge, ND. My husband Dean and I moved to a ranch north of Medora in 1987. In 1999, we moved south of Medora where we currently live.

Along with farming and ranching I have worked for the United States Postal Service, Theodore Roosevelt National Park, and seasonal jobs in Medora. Most recently I was Office Manager for the oilfield businesses that Dean and I have owned and operated. I am actively

involved in the community, promoting and supporting events.

My best times are spent with our children, grandchildren, family and friends. My hobbies include reading, walking, horseback riding and spending time outdoors.

Work in North Dakota for the National Parks

Seasonal Maintenance Worker (WG 7)

The primary purpose of the position is to perform recurring building and/or utility maintenance and operation duties and to assist journeymen and other higher graded maintenance workers. Incumbent utilizes knowledge and skills in several trades and crafts. All of the duties described by this position may not exist in each location, but that should not preclude use of this position.

[Learn more about this job!](#)

Seasonal Maintenance Worker (WG 5)

Performs simple and routine work involved in the maintenance and repair of grounds, exterior structures, buildings and related utilities, requiring the use of a variety of trade practices associated with occupations such as carpentry, masonry, plumbing, electrical, cement work, painting, and other related trades.

[Learn more about this job!](#)

Seasonal Laborer (Motor Vehicle Operating) (WG 4)

The primary purpose of the position is to perform laboring duties that require moderately heavy physical effort requiring the use of common hand tools and power equipment involving any or all of the following duties. In order to accomplish the laborer duties the incumbent must on a regular and recurring basis also operate light duty motor vehicles weighing up to 10,000 pounds to transport personnel, material, or equipment to work sites located on the park.

[Learn more about this job!](#)

Seasonal Park Ranger (Interpretation) (GS 5-7)

Interpretive Rangers develop and present educational programs including guided walks and presentations, and working with audiences in a variety of park settings. [Learn more about this job!](#)



Seasonal Park Guide (GS 4-5)

Park Guides greet visitors to educate and inform them in our National Parks. Work can include providing information on natural, cultural, or historical resources. [Learn more about this job!](#)



Can't Get to the Park...

Let park staff bring the park to you — virtually! As you wait for the weather to warm up and plan your trip to the National Parks, you might find yourself on a dreary early spring day dream of adventure in a National Park and looking for things for the family to do at home. To get you through the “slump until spring,” we’ve put together a guide to some of the coolest National Park websites.

We highly recommend one of our favorites— the website of Knife River Indian Villages NHS. This website features a variety of videos including an Earthlodge Tour and all about Native Gardens.

[Check out the Knife River Videos Page](#)



Did you know that Theodore Roosevelt NP has Junior Ranger activities online? There are 4 series of Ranger activities, based on age. These activities include virtual tours, drawing activities, animal identification, And even a printable badge. If your Junior Rangers are Ready for a new challenge...

[Check out the TRNP web ranger page.](#)

Did you know that Theodore Roosevelt National Park has a webcam? The webcam captures images of the park near the Painted Canyon Visitor Center. Webcam images are part of the NPS air quality recording system, alongside images of parks across the country, live air quality data is recorded daily. Admire the view, check out the weather, or catch a glimpse of a passing bison

[Check out the view at Painted Canyon](#)



And, as always, stay tuned to [TRNHA's website](#) for upcoming activities at the parks. We hope to see you soon!

March 2022 Online Coupon

March Online Only Coupon



Royal Blue Vintage Bison T-shirt

25% Off

Online Only through March 31, 2022

Use coupon code

“March2022” at checkout.

Shop online now at: www.shoptrnha.org

Not good with any other discounts.

Become a Member

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Learn more at:

www.trnha.org/membership.htm





A Springtime Welcome



Spring brings many new faces to the National Park Service. Each year the warmer weather marks the return of seasonal employees and an increase in visitation. This year we would like to celebrate the arrival of spring at Theodore Roosevelt National Park with the arrival of yet another new face, please join us in welcoming Angie Richman.



Angie Richman, announced as superintendent of Theodore Roosevelt National Park

National Park Service (NPS) Regional Director Bert Frost announced the selection of Angie

Richman as superintendent of Theodore Roosevelt National Park, North Dakota. A 23-year veteran of the NPS, Richman has worked in a variety of national parks throughout the Western U.S. She currently serves as Director of Interpretation, Education, and Visitor Services for Arches and Canyonlands national parks in Utah. She will assume her new role on May 22, 2022.

Richman has served in leadership roles in multiple national parks, a regional office and in the NPS Natural Resource Stewardship and Science program headquartered in Fort Collins, CO. She has held the Master Interpreter title in the NPS and has lead communications for the NPS Climate Change Response Program. Her park experience spans ten parks from Sitka, Alaska to multiple parks in Utah, New Mexico and Colorado including Chaco Culture and Pecos national historical parks, Bryce Canyon National Park, Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park and Curecanti National Recreation Area.

Richman earned a bachelor's degree in astrophysics with a minor in archaeology from the University of New Mexico, with an emphasis on cultural astronomy, specifically the study of how past cultures used the celestial objects in the sky in their daily lives. She will relocate to the Medora, North Dakota area with her pets. She looks forward to exploring the park in all seasons, attending the Medora musical and enjoying the amazing dark night skies of southwest North Dakota.

Monthly Newsletter

April 2022

Theodore Roosevelt
Nature & History
Association

2022 Photo Contest

Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History Association (TRNHA) is once again hosting its annual *Picture Yourself in Theodore Roosevelt National Park* photo contest. Submissions for the contest will be received from April 1 – August 31, 2022. All photographs must have been taken between September 1, 2021 and August 31, 2022. Prizes will be awarded in the following categories: Landscape, Animals of Theodore Roosevelt National Park, Take a Hike, and Flowers and Plants.

We would also like to announce that beginning April 1, 2022 TRNHA is also hosting its first ever *Adventures in Theodore Roosevelt National Park* youth photo contest. Submissions are for eligible participants 18 years or younger.

Prizes will be awarded in three categories: participants up to 9 years old, participants 10-13 years old, and participants 14 to 18 years old.

Winners from each category are eligible for the grand prize: the selection of a grand prize winner will be featured on the 2023 Theodore Roosevelt National Park annual pass and the cover of the 2023 Theodore Roosevelt National Park calendar.

For a complete listing of entry please see the [TRNHA website](#). Good luck and happy photography.



Winner of the 2021 photo contest, Sunset at Boicourt Overlook by Roxanne Westman

National Park Week

Attention TR fans...

One of the featured NPS events is a *virtual* ranger-led tour of Theodore Roosevelt Birthplace National Historic Site...[check it out](#).

April showers bring...lots of reason to explore the National Park's this month. April 22, 2022 is Earth Day and the whole week of April 16-24 is National Park Week! This year the National Park Service encourage visitors to "sPark Connections" with park sites across the nation in-person or online and through social media. The week kicks off on April 16th , with a FEE FREE DAY!

April 16: sPark Discovery National Park Week kicks off with a fee-free day to encourage everyone to find something new by visiting a national park, especially one that may be close to home, a park you haven't considered visiting, or one you never realized is a national park! What new national park will you discover?

To learn more about National Park Week and follow all the fun on social media, visit their [website](#).

Spring into Adventure

With the onset of April and springtime in North Dakota, many people are starting to gear up for their summer adventures. There is no better way to celebrate springtime than with an adventure into Theodore Roosevelt National Park (TRNP). Springs often means cooler temperature, less visitation, and some ideal wildlife viewing. Consider your next adventure into TRNP with a hike or a horseback ride into the South Unit's *Petrified Forest* area.



Fossilized wood along the *Petrified Forest Trail*, South Unit Theodore Roosevelt National Park

There are a number of access points for the petrified forest which lies within the Wilderness area of the park.

Depending on the access point and the route chosen, roundtrip trail distances can vary from 3 miles to 14 miles. This trail is completed by many as both a day hike or as an overnight in the backcountry.

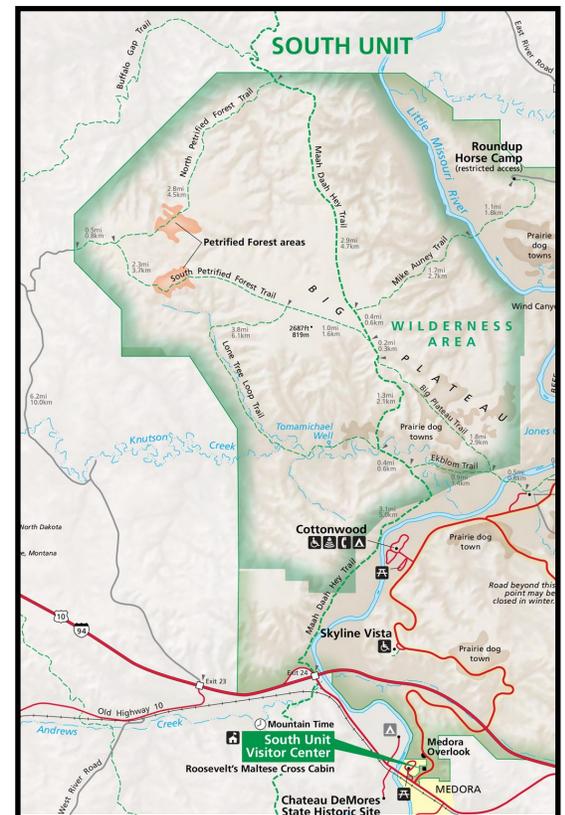
Any stay overnight in the park's backcountry requires a free permit issued by the South Unit Visitor Center.

While these are beautiful and scenic places, remember:

- Stop by or call (701-623-4466) the South Unit Visitor Center in Medora for current conditions.
- Dress for the weather
- Don't approach wildlife
- Bring plenty of drinking water
- If hiking alone, make sure someone else knows your plans
- Always have a map and understand how to use it

If you would like to know more about hiking and trail safety while visiting Theodore Roosevelt National Park please visit the park [website](#) for more details.

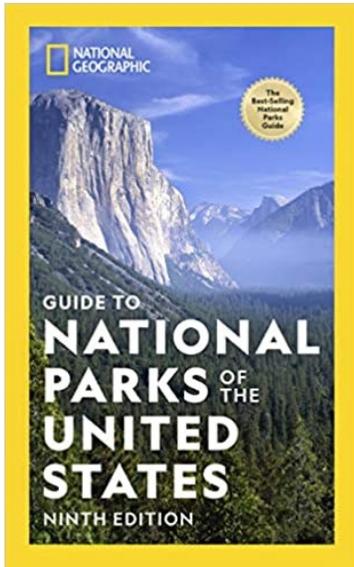
Detailed topographic maps of the trail system can be purchased at TRNHA stores both in-person or [online](#). Make sure you pick one up before your next adventure.



Petrified Forest area trails, review a topographic map before your trail adventure

April 2022 Online Coupon

April Online Only Coupon



25% Off

National Geographic Guide to National Parks

ISBN: 9781426221668

Online Only through April 30, 2022

Use coupon code

“April2022” at checkout.

Shop online now at: www.shoptrnha.org

Not good with any other discounts.

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TRNHA's 68th Annual Birdwalk



We are one month away from the TRNHA 68th Annual Birdwalk. This year's birdwalk will be held in the South Unit of Theodore Roosevelt National Park on Sunday, June 5. Participants should bring binoculars, field guides, and keen eyes to help record the day's sightings.

Each year 40-50 bird species are observed during this popular annual outing. Novice and experienced birders are invited to join this leisurely one-hour stroll beginning at 6:30 am MDT. Participants will meet at the Cottonwood Campground registration area.

Following the walk, at approximately 8:00 am, the Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History Association will provide breakfast to-go. Those interested in receiving breakfast are encouraged to RSVP (to ensure that there are enough breakfasts prepared for everyone).

After the birdwalk, Association staff will compile a full list of bird species sighted during this event. The list will be emailed out to registered participants. To reserve your breakfast and receive your bird list count via email, please sign up at online using this [link](#) or send your name, email address, and number of participants in your group to: info@trnha.org.



Monthly Newsletter

May 2022

Theodore Roosevelt
Nature & History
Association

TRNHA's 68th Annual Birdwalk is Sunday June 5th

TEAM 2022

The summer season is arriving quickly and the TRNHA team finds themselves busy unpacking merchandise for park stores and setting up for summer 2022. Painted Canyon Visitor Center opened on May 6th and seasonal employees are arriving daily at the parks. To welcome the new found season and the opening of Painted Canyon we would like to feature our two newest seasonal employees for our Summer Team 2022.

This is where we get to introduce our new and returning seasonal superstars. These team players are the friendly faces you can find greeting park visitors, staffing visitor center desks, stocking store shelves, and showing everyone how TRNHA is an integral part of the park experience. First up are our newest members of



Painted Canyon Visitor Center opens for the season on May 6, 2022

Welcome, Hailey.

Where are you from and what interests or experiences led you to Theodore Roosevelt National Park?

I am from Indianapolis, IN and worked in Medora in 2020. I came back because I enjoyed the park so much.

What are you most interested in learning about or doing this summer?

I'm interested in learning any kind of new information that I can pick up and getting outside as much as possible.

Welcome, Sheila.

Where are you from and what interests or experiences led you to Theodore Roosevelt National Park?

I am from Mandan, ND. I grew up in ND and love this part of the state!

What are you most interested in learning about or doing this summer?

Lots of hiking, wildflower hunting and Northern Lights chasing! There is always so much to learn about TR and the history of this area.

Spring Into Adventure

Consider your May hike into Theodore Roosevelt National Park - The Painted Canyon Trail. This popular out and back hike begins on the east side of the parking area at the Painted Canyon Visitor Center. Follow the footpath along the rim of the canyon before slowly descending the colorful buttes, and into the sagebrush flats. The Painted Canyon Trail ends at the intersection with the Upper Paddock Creek Trail, most hikers will stop their day hike here and return the path they followed back to the visitor center. Visitors along the trail can expect wonderful badlands vistas, greening vegetation, and possibly newly birthed bison babies.

Painted Canyon Trail

Distance: 2.1 Miles (One Way)

Difficulty: Moderate

Always remember when taking on any trail:

- Stop by or call (701-623-4466) the South Unit Visitor Center in Medora for current conditions
- Dress for the weather
- Don't approach wildlife
- Bring plenty of drinking water
- If hiking alone, make sure someone else knows your plans
- Always have a map and understand how to use it

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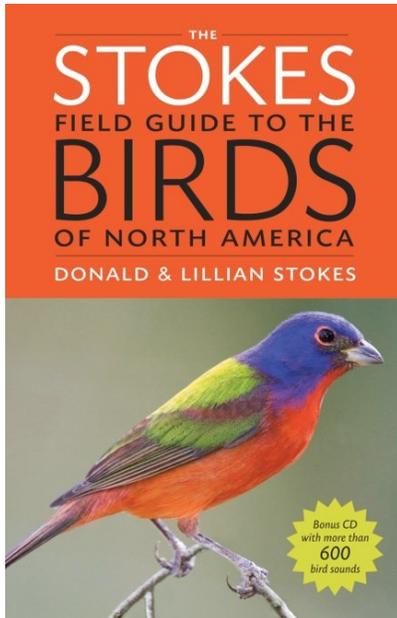
The Painted Canyon Trail: Featured Hike for May 2022

In the News

The end of April marked the 75th anniversary of the park's initial designation *Theodore Roosevelt National Memorial Park* in 1947. Coinciding with this anniversary, ND Tourism Division and More Than Just Parks released a new short film celebrating the park, scenery, and visitor experiences available in North Dakota. To get a peak of this new film check out the [ND state tourism website](#) and look for the video *Welcome to Theodore Roosevelt National Park*.

May 2022 Online Coupon

May Online Only Coupon



The Stokes Field Guide to the Birds of North America

20% off

By: Donald & Lillian Stokes

ISBN: 9780316010504

Online Only through May 31, 2022

Use coupon code

“May2022” at checkout.

Shop online now at: www.shoptrnha.org

Not good with any other discounts.

Become a Member

Our members are passionate about our park partners and believe in helping us spread the word about the beauty that can be found in North Dakota. By joining Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History Association as a member you will be helping us:

- Support educational and interpretive programs
- Enhance the visitor centers in all our partner parks
- Support wildlife research in Theodore Roosevelt National Park
- Publish trail guides, books, and multi-media products to educate our visitors
- Host special events in our parks including Teddy Bear Picnics, Birdwalks, and photo contests
- Promote North Dakota's public lands
- Offer housing assistance for Volunteers and Interns
- Provide support staff in visitor centers

Learn more at:

www.trnha.org/membership.htm





Spring into Adventure

Whether you take an annual adventure to Theodore Roosevelt National Park or someone you know is headed this way for the first time, there are a few things you should know as you visit our North Dakota sites this year.

Theodore Roosevelt National Park - South Unit & North Unit

Be prepared for temporary closures and pilot cars throughout the park for chip seal road improvements.

The scenic loop in the South Unit will remain closed to vehicle, bike, and foot traffic between miles 24-28 due to continuous erosion.

Knife River Indian Village NHS

Though the village sites remains accessible to hikers, the river bank portion of trail near Sakakawea Village remains closed due to erosion.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation while the parks undergo continuous maintenance, here are a few tips to help you and your friends plan a great summer adventure -

- ◆ Stop by the Visitor Center for current road, weather, and trail conditions and, where available, view the park film.
- ◆ If you're planning to camp, check out [recreation.gov](https://www.recreation.gov) and make your reservations well in advance (sites are filling up fast!)
- ◆ Plan your trip around one of the awesome events happening at a site near you (check out our Calendar of Events) and our Visitor Center, Museum, and Shop extended summer hours...



Monthly Newsletter

June 2022

Theodore Roosevelt
Nature & History
Association

Upcoming Events

Knife River Indian Village National Historic Site

Upcoming Events



ALL EVENTS ARE FREE!

June 4th– Cops and Kids Fishing Derby

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. (Ages 0-12). Harmony Lake, (6 mi North, 1 mi West of Hazen) Join us for fishing food and fun. The Mercer County Peace Officers Assc. will be giving out fishing poles while supplies last. We will have a tent with crafts for kids!

June 25th– Hands on History: Pottery

10 a.m.—2p.m. (All ages) Join us outside at the park pavilion for a ranger-led experience on how to make traditional coiled pottery.

August 9th– Kids Camp

9 a.m.—Noon. (Ages 5 to 12) Explore, create and learn something new! Join park rangers on a day filled with adventure with games, crafts, and exploring the park. Please reserve your space in advance by calling 701-745-3300.

August 27th– Language Summit

1-4 p.m. (All ages) What would you see and hear at the Villages? Join Native linguists as they speak Mandan, Hidatsa, Arikara, and Plains Indian Sign Language. Each segment will cover the origins, formations/pronunciations, and common words.

August 28th– Sacagawea and Women’s roles of the Villages

1-3 p.m. (All ages) Join us for two featured presentations: “Our Story of Eagle Woman, Sacagawea, They Got it Wrong,” book signing/presentation by Gerard Baker and coauthors, and Women’s roles of the Villages by Ruth Plenty Sweetgrass– She Kills. Books will be available for purchase, and to be signed.

Knife River Indian Villages NHS

564 County Rd 37
Stanton, ND 58571
701-745-3300
www.nps.gov/knri

Follow us on Social Media!

@Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site on Facebook

@kniferiverindnavillagesnps on Instagram



Hands on History-Pottery

Saturday, June 25, 2022 at

10:00 am-2:00 pm CT

Knife River Indian Villages NHS

This ranger-led experience will teach how to make traditional coiled pottery.

The program is from 10:00 am -2:00 pm CST at the park outdoor pavilion, and it will take between 20-30 minutes to make a pot. Event is for all ages, and it is free of charge and all supplies will be provided. No reservations are required.



Visitor Center Operating Hours

South Unit Visitor Center

8:00 am —5:00 pm MDT, daily throughout the summer

Painted Canyon Visitor Center

9:00 am — 4:30 pm MDT through June 11th

8:20 am—5:00 pm MDT beginning June 12th

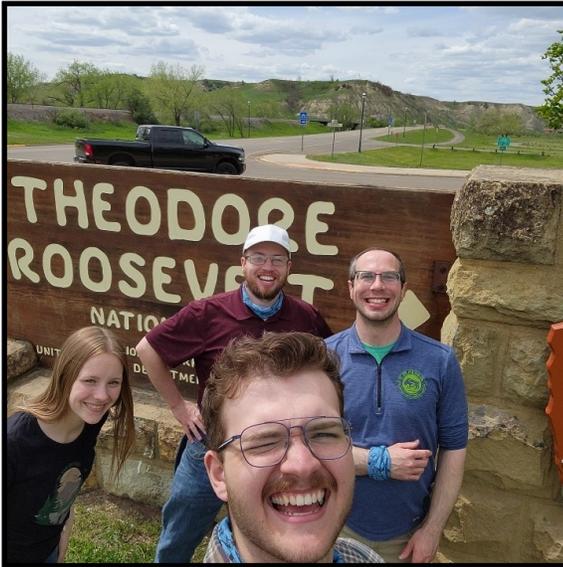
North Unit Visitor Center - TBA

Knife River Indian Villages NHS Visitor Center

9:00 am —5:00 pm CDT, daily throughout the summer

TEAM 2022

The summer season is arriving quickly and the TRNHA team finds themselves busy unpacking merchandise for park stores and setting up for summer 2022. This is where we get to introduce our new and returning seasonal superstars. These team players are the friendly faces you can find greeting park visitors, staffing visitor center desks, stocking store shelves, and showing everyone how TRNHA is an integral part of the park experience. Welcome our newest members of Team 2022... Adam, Josie, Nolan, and Mikaela



Summer Seasonal Birds - Western Wood Pewee

The Western Wood Pewee is a summer resident in North America. While it is predominately a resident of woodlands, it may be found in cottonwood and willow groves like those found in Theodore Roosevelt National Park. Pewees can be found in TRNP as part of its annual passing through western North Dakota to breeding grounds across the western United States.

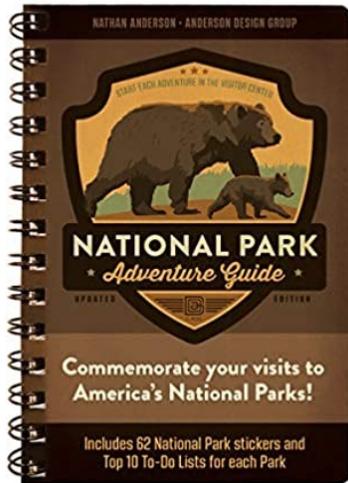
To learn more about birds found in Western North Dakota, check out one of the many great bird books for sale in the [TRNHA store](#).



Image: Thompson, Audubon.org

June 2022 Online Coupon

June Online Only Coupon



National Park Adventure Guide

ISBN: 97817357278520

Online Only through June 30, 2022

Use coupon code

“June2022” at checkout.

Shop online now at: www.shoptrnha.org

Not good with any other discounts.

Become a Member

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TRNHA Out and About



The summer is heating up and Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History Association has been doing some cool stuff with our members, supporters, and local communities. We kicked off the summer with the TRNHA Annual Bird Walk (details below).

Last week our staff headed up to the Juniper Campground in the North Unit of Theodore Roosevelt National Park to host a prairie exploration with a local summer camp group. The weather was perfect for outdoor activities like an animal guessing game and a photo scavenger hunt. If

it's summer time, TRNHA will be out and about (maintaining a proper distance when necessary!) We will be hosting children's activities in the South Unit in late July. Stay tuned and follow us on social media for all of the details!



Bird Walk 2022

Our 68th Annual TRNHA Bird Walk was held on Sunday, June 5. It was an overcast, early morning and the start to a rainy day, but we still had over 35 loyal birders come out to celebrate with us. We split into two groups to scout the Cottonwood Campground and the banks of the Little Missouri River and reported sighting over 30 species of birds. After the walk, breakfast was served and TRNHA friends had their chance to reconnect with their fellow birders, friends, and nature.

Thank you to everyone who took part in this special event. If you were unable to join us, consider planning next year's vacation around the 69th Annual TRNHA Bird Walk - next year.

Monthly Newsletter

July 2022

Theodore Roosevelt
Nature & History
Association

A Special Thank You!

Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History Association had a special delivery in mid-June. Schwinn Bikes partnered with public figure and national park lover, Mikah Meyer to pay a visit to Theodore Roosevelt National Park. While at the park Mikah and friend Tiffany tested out two of Schwinn's ebikes and blogged about their visit to what Mikah says: "this place is so high on my Top National Parks list."

When their North Dakota adventure was complete Executive Director, Tracy Sexton had the honor of accepting the bikes as a donation to our organization. At this time we aren't quite sure how they will be utilized, but for now you may see them getting tested out by staff around Medora. Thank you to Mikah, Tiffany, and Schwinn Bikes.



2022 Photo Contest

Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History Association began sponsoring an Annual Photo Contest in 2012. The winner of the photo contest had the honor of their photo being featured on the Theodore Roosevelt National Park Annual Pass the following year. After 2022 years of a very successful contest we have decided to expand our contest encouraging youth participation.

All category winning photos from both contests will be entered the judging for our GRAND PRIZE WINNER! The grand prize winner's photograph will be the featured photograph on the 2023 Theodore Roosevelt National Park annual pass. Additionally, the winner will have their photo on the cover of the 2023 Theodore Roosevelt National Park Calendar and will receive additional prizes.

Categories in the *Picture Yourself in TRNP All Age Photo Contest* include:

- Landscape
- Animals of TRNP
- Take a Hike
- Flowers and Plants

Categories in the *Adventures in TRNP Youth Photo Contest* include:

- Up to 9 years old
- 10 to 13 years old
- 14 to 18 years old



Visit our website for contest details and the submission process: [Click here for TRNHA Photo Contest Details](#)

Summer Birds: American Goldfinch

American Goldfinches can be found all across the United States. However, the goldfinch's breeding grounds span the top of the United States and into Canada, including North Dakota. The males are hard to miss because of their brilliant yellow plumage. They can often be found out in the open or in shrub-like areas heavy in thistle. Although they may eat insects on occasion, American Goldfinches eat mostly seeds. Their diet is almost entirely vegetarian— thriving on seeds of plants like sunflower.

Throughout June the thickets and groves about the ranch house are loud with bird music from before dawn till long after sunrise.

*-Theodore Roosevelt
Ranch Life and the Hunting Trail*



Kushner, Audubon.org

Independence Day

There's lots going on and something for everyone this Fourth of July...

If you are a National Park lover and can't break away for the long weekend, the National Park Service hosts a website dedicated to celebrating the Fourth of July on the National Mall. This website features photo galleries, information, and all kinds of Independence Day celebrations, including links to the PBS streaming of the lawn concert and fireworks ([click here for the NPS website](#)).

If you are planning on being around Theodore Roosevelt National Park, here's what to look for in Medora.

July 3rd 10:30pm

Fireworks are shot from the west side of the Little Missouri River, near the Medora Campground. The best viewing area for guests is at Medora's Chimney Park. Spectators can set up lawn chairs, blankets, etc. in the park on the East side of the river.

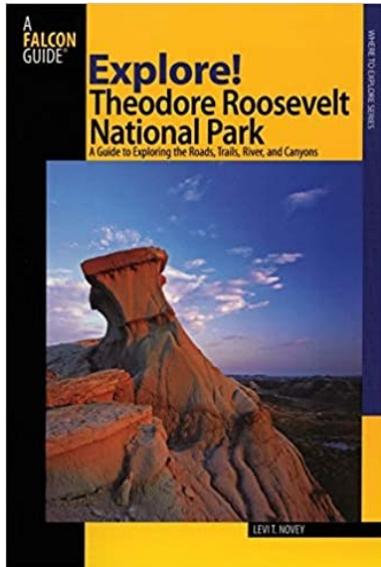
July 4th 3:00pm

Medora's independence day parade loops through town. This year, the parade will be headlined by the National Park Service and, as always, TRNHA will feature an awesome float. Come out and wave hello - we look forward to seeing you!



July 2022 Online Coupon

July Online Only Coupon



Explore! Theodore Roosevelt National Park

A Guide to Exploring the Roads, Trails,
River, and Canyons

Online Only through July 31, 2022

Use coupon code

“July2022” at checkout.

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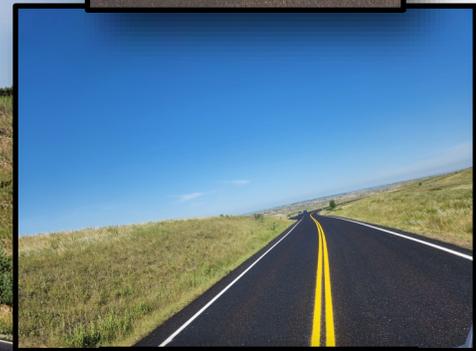


Pavement Preservation Project



In May a pavement preservation project began in the North and South Unit of Theodore Roosevelt National Park. If you visited Theodore Roosevelt National Park this summer you may have been greeted by a big sign stating “Road Work, Expect Delays.” While no one likes road construction, we can promise it was worth the wait!

The project included patching asphalt, crack-sealing, chip and fog sealing the park’s paved roads. The project was meant to extend the service life of park roads. This week construction crews are putting on the finishing touches and cleaning up any mess left behind. Visitors venturing into the park in coming weeks will be treated to well-marked and smooth roads.



Monthly Newsletter

August 2022

Theodore Roosevelt
Nature & History
Association

Facility Revitalization Plan Public Meeting

Theodore Roosevelt National Park is in a comprehensive planning process to establish a foundation for long-term capital improvements that will reduce deferred maintenance burden and benefit visitors through updated facilities and enhanced visitor services. The plan will define uses and functions for the Medora entrance campus, Peaceful Valley Ranch historic site, Painted Canyon Visitor Center area, Elkhorn Ranch Unit, and North Unit entrance area campus. The plan will coordinate interrelationships among uses, site resources, and facilities to establish a consistent, unified character for development and to establish a decision-making framework for capital improvements, preservation, and development.



August 23 - Virtual Meeting

**August 24 - Public Meeting at the
Watford City Civic Center**

More information coming soon!

Be sure to follow us on Facebook and we will share more details as we have them available!

Photo Contest

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Up to 9 years old, 10 to 13 years old, 14 to 18 years old

Visit our website for contest details and the submission process:
Click here for [TRNHA Photo Contest Details](#)



FINAL DATE FOR SUBMISSIONS: AUGUST 31, 2022!!!

Stopping to Smell the Wildflowers

by Nolan W. Reynolds

As we say “see you later” to some of our summer seasonal employees, we are pleased to feature the unique experience and writing talent of our invaluable summer visitor service clerk, Nolan. We wish him the best in his next journey and hope his experience may inspire you to create your own memories on our team next season!

Whenever I travel, I sometimes have a difficult time going off the beaten path. I am a planner by heart, just ask my parents. I once spent the better part of a summer planning a trip to Disney World only to fail in the final pitch to my mother and her partner at the time. As I have gotten older, I have tried harder and harder to break this mindset; instead of planning trips to completion, I have instead begun the practice of going where the wind takes me, especially when exploring new areas. Granted, I am *always* going to check ahead of time to make sure I don't miss any historical sites and things of that nature. But, no longer feeling as though I need to know what I am going to eat every day, or what I am going to partake in activity wise, has helped me explore more in the long run. After being plagued for so long by the idea that I would miss out if I did *not* plan ahead of time, I have realized that the real adventures have come from the lack of forethought.



Exploring the trails of Theodore Roosevelt National Park

That being said, I have been blessed with the opportunity to spend this summer in Medora, North Dakota. This town of about 142 people serves as the gateway to Theodore Roosevelt National Park (THRO). So, while the permanent residences may be few, the hotel rooms and campsites are often crawling with weekend warriors, nomads, and full-on-families. Outside of working for the Theodore Roosevelt Nature & History Association (TRNHA), I have had ample time to explore the park and the wonders of the small town. Pretty soon into my time in Medora this summer, I got enthralled by the sheer amount of history here.

From my own studies, I knew that Theodore Roosevelt hunted and ranched in the area, but I was not fully aware of all the other rich stories that flood the region. Take for example, the Marquis de Mores, an entrepreneurial Frenchman and key player in the North Dakota badlands in the 1880s. His claim to fame was the founding of a meatpacking industry in the Northern Great Plains that sent freshly slaughtered beef to the East Coast for sale. He also founded Medora in the spring of 1883, the same year Theodore Roosevelt made his way to the badlands for a hunting trip. The two men, who both had extraordinarily large personalities, occasionally clashed. This eventually led to the Marquis challenging Roosevelt to a duel. Roosevelt responded coolly, by saying, “Most emphatically I am not your enemy; if I were you would know it, for I would be an open one, and would not have asked you to my house nor gone to yours.” This only leads you to think where we might be as a society today if we were to respond to challenges in the same way—head on and brief and nature.

Continued on page 4

Stopping to Smell the Wildflowers *continued...*



A young "Theodore Roosevelt"

I currently study history at Waldorf University in Forest City, Iowa. My own particular interests are in environmental/conservation history, so moving to "the Cradle of Conservation" (as historian Lowell E. Baier would put it) for the summer was not a hard choice to make. Even though he did not found the National Park Service, or even establish the first national park, Theodore Roosevelt still goes down in history as the great conservationist president who set aside over 230 million acres of public lands during his presidency. He also created the United States Forest Service and established the first Federal Bird Reserve, making him popular amongst modern-day tree-huggers and birders alike.

But, alongside all the history comes potentially my favorite part of the summer. With a background in acting and history, I was overjoyed to be given the opportunity to break the rust off my acting chops and hit the stage this summer. Before you ask, I was *not* the newest addition to the Burning Hills Singers, or any other members of the Medora Musical. Instead, was Theodore Roosevelt himself. Thanks to the great people here in Medora, I was able to not only walk around town as that "Cowboy Dude" and "Cyclone Assemblyman" – as he was known in his younger days – but also to hit the stage and perform for the annual Badlands Chautauqua: Gathering of the Theodore Roosevelts. This involved a mix of telling stories in the first-person, getting younger folks excited about history, and rubbing elbows with some of the best Theodore Roosevelt reprisers known. All-in-all, it was a great time, and a fantastic way to show off all the history I had learned out here in the Badlands of North Dakota.

At the beginning of the summer, the notion of leaving Iowa to head for western North Dakota was a bit frightening to me. As mentioned earlier, I tried my best to not over plan for the summer excursion. I knew that thanks to the wonderful people at the Theodore Roosevelt & History Association, I would have a reliable job and bed to sleep on. The rest I was

leaving to fall into place. Doing it this way gave me the opportunity to meet all the amazing people I did this summer, and allowed me to do fun things like dress up as a young Theodore Roosevelt and have impromptu trips with my fellow coworkers. The lack of an absolute plan gave me enough free time to wander and find my own path, much like Theodore Roosevelts and others did when making their way out to Medora. But, most of all, it allowed me to build lasting relationships that I know I will cherish for many years to come.

There really might be some magic in these burning hills. Allow yourself enough time to stop and smell the wildflowers, and you just might find it yourself.



Performing at the annual "Badlands Chautauqua"

The National Park Service at 106 Years Old!

Happy Birthday National Park Service! On August 25, 1916, President Woodrow Wilson signed the Organic Act, creating the National Park Service. Founders Day is celebrated each year on August 25 in all of America's national parks to honor the creation of the agency.

- Today there are 423 units within the National Park System.
- 63 are designated as *National Parks*.
- Yellowstone National Park (WY) was the first national park established in 1872.
- New River Gorge (WV) is the most recent national park, designated as such in 2020.
- There are six national park sites that tell the story of Theodore Roosevelt, the “conservation president.”
- Today there are three National Park Service sites in North Dakota: Theodore Roosevelt National Park, Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site, and Fort Union National Historic Site.



Follow us on [Facebook](#) to learn more and celebrate as the month goes on!

Calendar of Events

As you plan the busy days that end the summer season, please mark your calendar or schedule a reminder for the following dates and events:

August 2022

August 7 Painted Canyon Visitor Center Hours Change 9-4:30 MT

August 9 [Kids Camp](#)— Knife River Indian Villages NHS

August 11-12 Peak viewing of the Perseid Meteor Shower

August 23 Virtual Facility Revitalization Plan Meeting—TRNP

August 24 Facility Revitalization Plan Public Meeting at the Watford City Civic Center

August 25, NPS Founders' Day - National Park Service's 106th Birthday!

August 27 [Language Summit](#)— Knife River Indian Villages NHS

August 28 [Sacagawea and Women's Roles of the Villages](#)— Knife River Indian Villages NHS

August 31 Deadline for the Annual TRNHA Photo Contests

September 2022

September 16-18 Dakota Nights Astronomy Festival

September 24 Fee Free Day in observation of National Public Lands Day!



August 2022 Online Coupon

August Online Only Coupon



25% Off

12" Bison Plush

By Petting Zoo

Online Only through August 31, 2022

Use coupon code

"August2022" at checkout.

Shop online now at: www.shoptrnha.org

Not good with any other discounts.

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- Provide support staff in visitor centers

[JOIN TODAY!](#)





Astronomy Festival

Join us on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, September 16 through 18 for the annual Dakota Nights Astronomy Festival. Events are scheduled during the day and night, around Medora and throughout the South Unit of Theodore Roosevelt National Park. This year's special features include presentations by Doug Lively, Dakota Goodhouse, and Andy Smithkin. And, of course, telescope night sky viewings at Peaceful Valley Ranch.

For a detailed schedule of events, see the park website at www.nps.gov/thro



Calendar of Events

As you plan the busy days that end the summer season, please mark your calendar or schedule a reminder for the following dates and events:

September 2022

September 1 South Unit Visitor Center & Painted Canyon Visitor Center operating hours 9 am - 4:30 pm MT

September 5 Labor Day

September 9 National Teddy Bear Day

September 9 Full Moon (Harvest Moon)

September 16-18 Dakota Nights Astronomy Festival

September 24 Fee Free Day in observation of National Public Lands Day!

Monthly Newsletter

September 2022

Theodore Roosevelt
Nature & History
Association



Dakota Nights

ASTRONOMY FESTIVAL

September 16-18, 2022



Sponsored by Theodore Roosevelt Nature & History Association

Fun in the Sun Activities in Medora

Saturday & Sunday

Solar System Hike

1:30, 2:30, and 3:30 pm

Hike the distance between the Sun and Neptune (sorry, Pluto!) with a ranger.

Chateau De Mores

Solar Scopes

1:00 to 4:00 pm

Safely view the sun through solar scopes with our amazing Astronomy Volunteers-In-Parks!

Chateau De Mores

Hand-on Activities

1:00 to 4:00 pm

Hands-on activities to inspire curiosity about the day and night sky.

Chateau De Mores

Keynote Presentations

7:00 to 8:00 pm

Cottonwood Campground Amphitheater

Fermi Paradox: Why E.T. Can't Phone Home

Friday

with Doug Lively

The search for life in the universe and why we're having a difficult time finding it.

Fallen Star: A Story in the Sky and Earth

Saturday

with Dakota Goodhouse (Tahansi/Sic'esi/Leksi)

Explore the story of ascension of the traditional Lakota folk hero Fallen Star, his last camp on the vast open prairie, and his last journey to the stars.

Finding the Constellations

Sunday

with Andy Smithkin

Discover how rangers view the night sky and how they unlock the secrets to finding the constellations.

Daytime Talks

Saturday & Sunday

South Unit Visitor Center

Intro to E.E.A.

Saturday

with Doug Lively

3:30 pm

Electronically Assisted Astrophotography tips – how to get started and achieve success.

JWST Revisited

Saturday

with Lynn Powers

4:30 pm

Check out the amazing photos the James Webb Space Telescope has been taking!

Fallen Star: A Story in the Sky & Earth

Sunday

with Dakota Goodhouse

3:30 pm

Explore the story of ascension of the traditional Lakota folk hero Fallen Star, his last camp on the vast open prairie, and his last journey to the stars.

Telescopes & Stargazing

Friday, Saturday, & Sunday

Peaceful Valley Ranch

8:30 to 11:00 pm

Join amateur astronomers and rangers under the stars. Rove from telescope to telescope, each trained on a unique space object, while you listen to stories of night sky science and mythology. (Telescope field consists of gravel lot.)

Wanted: Volunteer Board Members

It is once again time to begin thinking about our Board of Directors Election. Each year we search for candidates who are passionate about our park partners and mission. And in October our membership votes for the candidates they feel will best help us achieve our mission.

Board members must meet the following criteria:

- Attend a minimum of 3 meetings a year. Meetings are held quarterly with one in March, June, September, and November.
- Stay informed about TRNHA matters, prepare themselves for meetings, and review all minutes and reports.
- Get to know fellow board members, park staff, and TRNHA staff. It is important that you build a solid working relationship and work together to achieve our goals.
- Actively interpret the organization's work and values to the community, represent the organizations, and act as a spokesperson.



Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they have the heart.

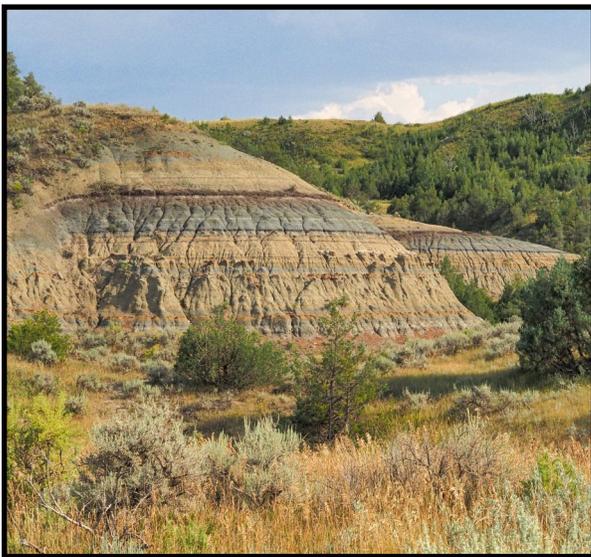
Elanboth Andress

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATION FOR
TRNHA BOARD MEMBERS

Interested individuals should complete an application at: <http://www.trnha.org/boardapplication.htm>

For more information please contact Tracy Sexton - tracy_sexton@trnha.org or 701-623-4884.

Our Picks for Autumn Pics



Our first pick for Autumn pics is the Coal Vein Nature Trail located in the South Unit of Theodore Roosevelt National Park. This .6 to .8 mile loop highlights some of the best geological features of the park as well as the flora and fauna that make fall fantastic in the badlands. Although the trail is alive during the spring and summer, in the fall it becomes a place to explore between juniper-treed slopes. Keep an eye out for the occasional bright orange aspen.

On the ground, this time of year highlights the late summer and autumn flowering plants including sunflowers and rubber rabbit brush. If your adventures take you out at dawn or dusk, listen for the bugle of elk in rut. Elk frequent the wooded areas of the park and become more active during this time of year. Check out the Coal Vein Nature Trail guide before you hit the trail at <https://www.nps.gov/thro/planyourvisit/upload/Coal-Vein-508.pdf>.

September 2022 Online Coupon

September Online Only Coupon



TRNP Sticker

Theodore Roosevelt
National Park

FREE With Every Purchase

Be sure to add it to your cart and then enter
the coupon code below at check out!

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- Provide support staff in visitor centers

Learn more at:

www.trnha.org/membership.htm





What We're All About

This past month, TRNHA has been a proud supporter of some huge events hosted by our partner sites. We want to take a minute to celebrate these successes, specifically the Dakota Nights Astronomy Festival at Theodore Roosevelt National Park and the “Lifeways” cultural event at Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site.

The Dakota Nights Astronomy Festival featured activities, guest speakers, and night sky viewings. Our Keynote speakers brought in nearly 250 visitors who packed our campground amphitheater and our telescope viewing stations attracted over 350 night sky viewers.



For the first time since 2019, the “Lifeways” event hosted hundreds of fourth graders at Knife River Indian Villages NHS. Students learned about trading, Native American winter counts, sign language, and the Hidatsa ways of life including earth lodges and historic hunting.



Operating Hours

Monthly Newsletter

October 2022

Theodore Roosevelt
Nature & History
Association

South Unit VC, TRNP - 9:00-4:30 PM MT, Daily

Painted Canyon VC, TRNP - 9:00-4:30 PM MT, Daily (until October 30)

North Unit VC, TRNP - 9:00-4:30 PM CT, Daily

Knife River Indian Villages NHS - 8:00-4:30 PM CT, Daily

Board Member Elections

It is once again time to begin thinking about our Board of Directors Election. At the present, the Board consists of seven directors, serving staggered 3 year terms. Each year directors terms expire and we look to replace them with people who are passionate about our park partner sites. This year we have three directorships to fill. As the terms of Jim Bridger, Jesse Kolar, and Douglas Bolken are expiring.

Each interested board candidate was asked to submit a bio introducing themselves, and sharing why they think they would be a good addition to our Board of Directors. Our membership is a voting membership and therefore our election is held through a mail ballot. If you are a member please keep your eyes on the mail for this year's ballot which will include biographies for each candidate.

What commitment is required to be a member of TRNHA's Board?

TRNHA shall have a Board of Directors who will serve without compensation. The board we decide all matters of policy and direct the Association through the Executive Director.

- Attend 4 board meeting a year. Board meetings occur once quarterly in March, June, September, and November.
- Board members should recognize the legal and ethical responsibility they hold to ensure the organization does the best work possible in pursuit of its mission.
- Make a serious commitment to participate in association and park activities.
- Commits to staying informed about TRNHA matters, preparing for meetings, and reviewing and commenting on reports.
- Gets to know fellow board members, park partners, and TRNHA staff in order to build a solid working relationship to achieve our goals.
- Actively interpret the association's work and values to the community and act as a spokesperson representing the organization.
- Be a member of TRNHA!
- Support and share our mission: Providing support, services, and educational merchandise to enhance visitor experience and enjoyment through historical, scientific, and educational activities in Theodore Roosevelt National Park and Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site.



Why should you consider running for our board in the future?

Volunteering for Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History Association is an opportunity to show your support for and to assist us in meeting our mission of supporting Theodore Roosevelt National Park and Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site.

Continued on page 3

Board Member Elections

While all of our volunteers are important to us, our Board Members may be our favorite! TRNHA is governed by a group of volunteers who are passionate about North Dakota's Public Lands and our mission. They dedicate time to help us achieve our mission and to spread word about the parks we serve. When becoming a board member you commit to three years of supporting our organization and park partners.

Who is on the Ballot this year?

Douglas Bolken - Watford City, ND

Grant Geis - Medora, ND

Jesse Kolar - Dickinson, ND

Joshua Nollmeyer - Watford City, ND

Ross Reinhiller - Williston, ND

Carol Werner - Bismarck, ND

Jeremy Witte - Dickinson, ND

CURRENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President - Craig Whippo, Dickinson, ND

Vice President - Jim Bridger, Medora, ND
(term expiring, limit reached)

Secretary/Treasurer - Douglas Bolken, Watford City, ND
(term expiring, running for re-election)

Debbie Rodne, Medora, ND

Jodi Johnson, Medora, ND

Chelsey Erdmann, Beach, ND

Jesse Kolar, Dickinson, ND
(term expiring, running for re-election)

Our Picks for Autumn Pics

Our October pick is the stunning North Prairie Overlook along the northernmost part of the North Trail at Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site.

This overlook features the Missouri River and forest with a high prairie plateau.

It is the most scenic place at the park, however it is about a 2 1/2 mile trek from the North Forest trailhead. This means it is the quietest and most secluded area. A nice place for calm reflection.

Check out the many exciting things to do and beautiful places to see around Knife River Indian Villages. Visit <https://www.nps.gov/knri/index.htm> for more.

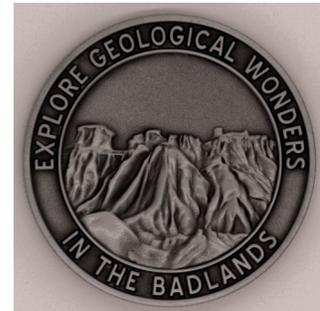


October 2022 Online Coupon

October Online Only Coupon



25% Off
TRNP Bison Coin



Online Only through October 31, 2022
Use coupon code
"October2022" at checkout.
Shop online now at: www.shoptrnha.org
not good with any other discounts.

Become a Member

Our members are passionate about our park partners and believe in helping us spread the word about the beauty that can be found in North Dakota. By joining Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History Association as a member you will be helping us:

- Support educational and interpretive programs
- Enhance the visitor centers in all our partner parks
- Support wildlife research in Theodore Roosevelt National Park
- Publish trail guides, books, and multi-media products to educate our visitors
- Host special events in our parks including Teddy Bear Picnics, Birdwalks, and photo contests
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Get Out & Vote

No matter when Election Day is - November is the time to cast your votes for the “Fan Favorite” winners of the 2022 Picture Yourself in TRNP Photo Contest and the 2022 Adventures in TRNP Youth Photo Contest!

This year, we received more than 200 entries for the annual Picture Yourself in TRNP Photo Contest and 16 outstanding entries for the very first Adventures in TRNP Youth Photo Contest. While judges will be choosing the contest winner, we want to give you a chance to choose your favorite. The photo that receives the most likes on our Facebook page as of 11:59 pm MT on November 30, 2022 will be awarded “Fan Favorite.” Here’s how it works:

- ◆ Head over to the TRNHA official Facebook page and check out the entries to both photo contests
- ◆ Click “like” on your favorite photo or photos (as many as you want)
- ◆ Invite your friends to choose their favorite
- ◆ Wait until December 1 to find out who wins “Fan Favorite”



Photo: 2021 Fan Favorite “little Little Missouri River,” Russell Hons

Operating Hours

Monthly Newsletter

November 2022

Theodore Roosevelt
Nature & History
Association

South Unit VC, TRNP - 9:00-4:30 PM MT, Daily

Painted Canyon VC, TRNP - Closed for the Season

North Unit VC, TRNP - 9:00-4:30 PM CT, Thursday-Sunday

Knife River Indian Villages NHS - 8:00-4:30 PM CT, Daily

Trick-or-Treat



TRNHA celebrated Halloween with the kids of Billings County at the South Unit Visitor Center of Theodore Roosevelt National Park. Yogi Bear joined us for this community outreach, where students were able to stop by the visitor center, say hello, and pick up their special treats. As always, there was a fun time and lots of smiles!

Our Picks for Autumn Pics

Our November pick is one of many beautiful places in the North Unit of Theodore Roosevelt National Park—a view from the South Achenbach Trail.

A dry fall day is the perfect weather for a drive along the scenic road or getting out and about on a park trail. Hikers can wander among the cottonwoods in the Juniper Campground, explore the Caprock Coulee, or get off the beaten path on the South Achenbach Trail (pictured). The South Achenbach Trail features an abundance of trees that hit just right with fall colors while highlighting the river, hills, and nearby buttes.



Photo: South Achenbach Trail, Robert Hartwig

Elk in Theodore Roosevelt National Park

History of Elk in North Dakota - Elk (*cervus elaphus*) once thrived across the plains and mountains of North America. Common in the Dakota Badlands, elk were a staple game food for early civilizations. When Theodore Roosevelt arrived to the Badlands in the 1880s, few elk were left in this area of the country.

Although Roosevelt named his Elkhorn Ranch after the interlocking antlers found at the site, living animals were hard to find. "This stately and splendid deer, the lordliest of its kind... is now fast vanishing," he wrote in the 1880s. By the end of the century, elk were no longer found in the Badlands.

In an effort to reestablish the native ecology, Theodore Roosevelt National Park reintroduced elk to the South Unit in 1985. The original animals were transferred from Wind Cave National Park in South Dakota. Since that time, the park has monitored and managed the elk population within the park boundary.

Elk Management Program - Without natural predators in the ecosystem, it was expected that elk would overpopulate the park. A management program was designed with the following goals:

- Research elk movement and distribution
- Manage population dynamics
- Monitor consumption rates



Park staff work in teams to tranquilize and collar elk.

Elk Movement and Distribution - The park uses Global Position Systems (GPS) mounted on wildlife collars to track elk. Generally, female elk are targeted for collaring. Measurements are taken throughout the day and night to provide a distributive sampling. The park's elk population moves in and out of the park boundary. Studies provide data on the movement of elk around the region. Collared elk are also used to assist with location of herds. These devices help wildlife biologists not only research elk movement, but manage their population dynamics as well.

Elk Population Dynamics - After the 1985 reintroduction, the park set an optimal population of 100-400 animals. Within a few years, that number had been exceeded.

To reduce the increasing elk population within the park, roundups of live elk were conducted in 1993 and 2000. Helicopters were used to direct animals to a handling facility within the park. Elk were transferred to American Indian tribes and sites for elk reintroduction programs

After 2000, outbreaks of chronic wasting disease restricted the



Pack horses were used to transport elk meat to a park facility. In addition to the donations, volunteers in the reduction were allowed to take home the meat from one animal.

Continued on page 4

Elk in Theodore Roosevelt National Park

transportation of elk. Within ten years, the park's elk population exploded to over 1000 animals. In 2010, the park implemented a direct reduction of the elk herd.

Park staff, with assistance from local volunteers, target elk for removal based on age and sex. Meat from reductions is given to Native American tribes in North Dakota, as well as the organization Sportsmen Against Hunger. Elk reductions occur based on current population dynamics. A primary goal of managing the elk population is to maintain adequate forage for the several large herbivore populations in the park.

Elk Consumption Studies - Several large herbivorous species thrive in the South Unit of the park, including elk, bison, mule deer and feral horses. Wildlife managers developed a model of forage resources for these species in 1993. A second study was completed in 2003. By identifying the overlap in consumption rates between animals, the park can maintain a healthy ecosystem. Proper forage and vegetative cover are necessary for the health of all wildlife.

Future of Elk Management - The national park works with North Dakota Game & Fish Department to manage the elk population in southwestern North Dakota. Annual elk reductions within the park have proven successful at maintaining the park's optimum population of 100-400 animals. This management is necessary to ensure a healthy ecosystem.

As a part of the natural ecosystem, elk belong in North Dakota. Due to the absence of natural predators within that ecosystem, agencies like the National Park Service have a responsibility to manage these animals. Reintroduction of elk to Theodore Roosevelt National Park has helped the park achieve the goals of conserving wildlife and providing recreation for visitors and residents of North Dakota.

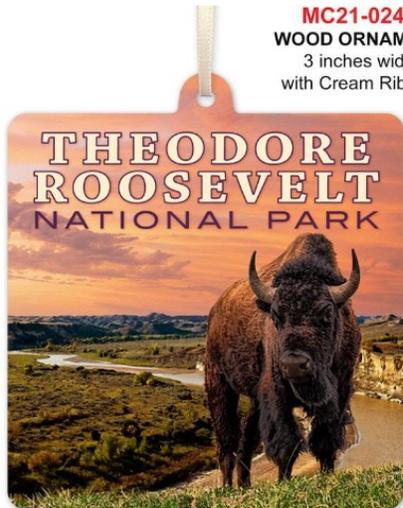
This article take from <https://www.nps.gov/thro/learn/nature/elk-management.htm>

Spotting Elk - Visitors to the South Unit have an opportunity to see elk; although they have been sighted in the North Unit, elk are rare in that region. The animals can be challenging to spot, and the key factor is not *where* but *when*. Like most grazers, elk are commonly seen in or near [prairie dog towns](#). The best time to look for them is at dawn and dusk as they usually remain hidden in wooded areas during much of the day.



November 2022 Online Coupon

November Online Only Coupon



MC21-0243
WOOD ORNAMENT
3 inches wide
with Cream Ribbon

25% Off

TRNP Wood Ornament

Online Only through November 30, 2022

Use coupon code

"November2022" at checkout.

Shop online now at: www.shoptrnha.org

not good with any other discounts.

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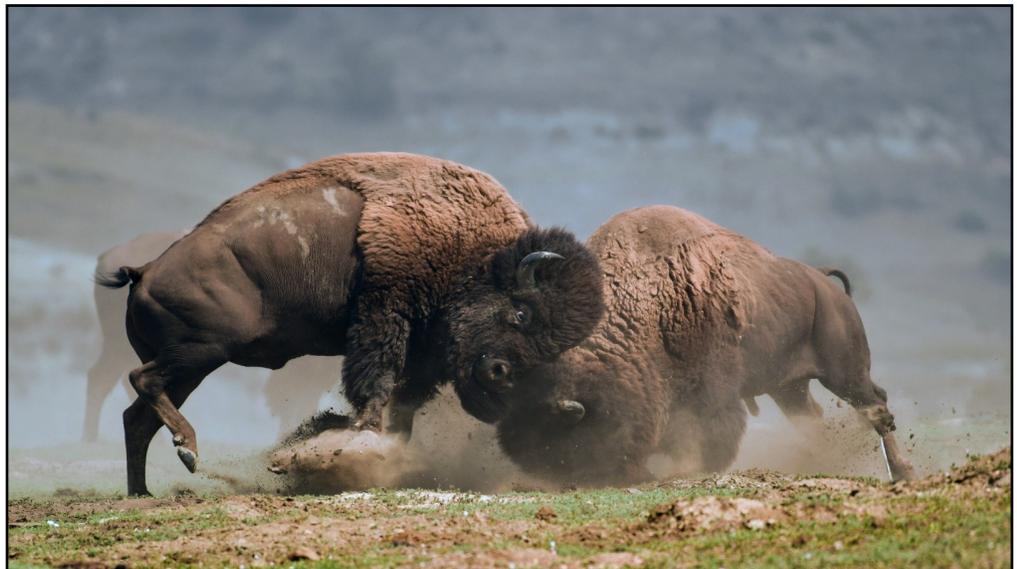
Annual Photo Contest

Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History Association began sponsoring an Annual Photo Contest in 2012. The winner of the photo contest had the honor of their photo being featured on the Theodore Roosevelt National Park Annual Pass the following year.

As we celebrate our tenth year of this contest, our Grand Prize winning photo will be featured on the TRNP Annual Pass for 2023. However, this year we've introduced a couple of small (and awesome) changes.

1. All of our winning photos will be featured in a color postcard collection that will soon be available for sale at our TRNHA store locations and online.
2. This year's photo contest has branched out to feature our first ever Youth Photo Contest.

The results are in for the TRNHA Picture Yourself in Theodore Roosevelt National Park Annual Photo Contest. Each year hundreds of wonderful photos are submitted to our contest, photos that capture the excitement, beauty, peace, and people that make TRNP a truly unique place. Before we take a look at our winners, thank you to everyone who submitted a photo, voted for the "Fan Favorite," and congrats to the winners!



Grand Prize Winner
Animals of TRNP Category Winner

Duane Hons, Laurel, MT

Monthly Newsletter

December 2022

Theodore Roosevelt
Nature & History
Association

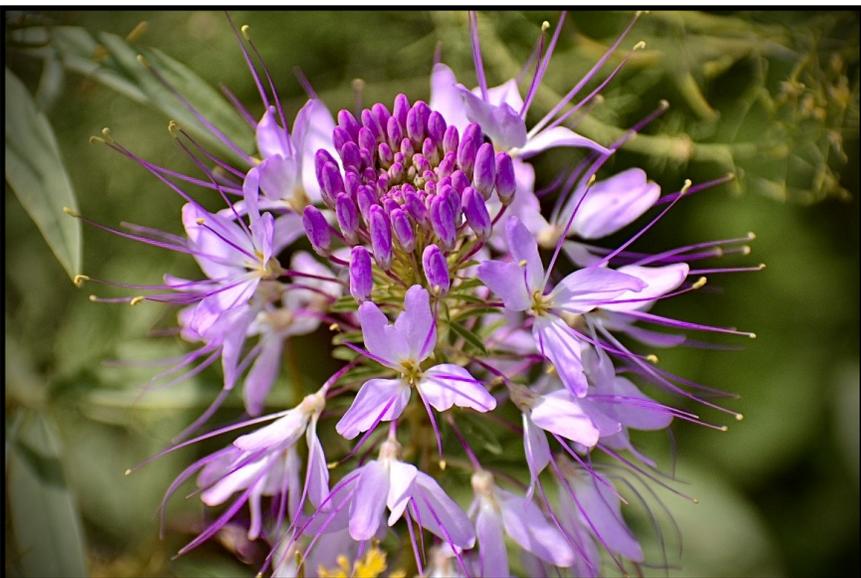
Annual Photo Contest, cont'd



Landscape Category Winner
Ashley Wynn, Watford City, ND

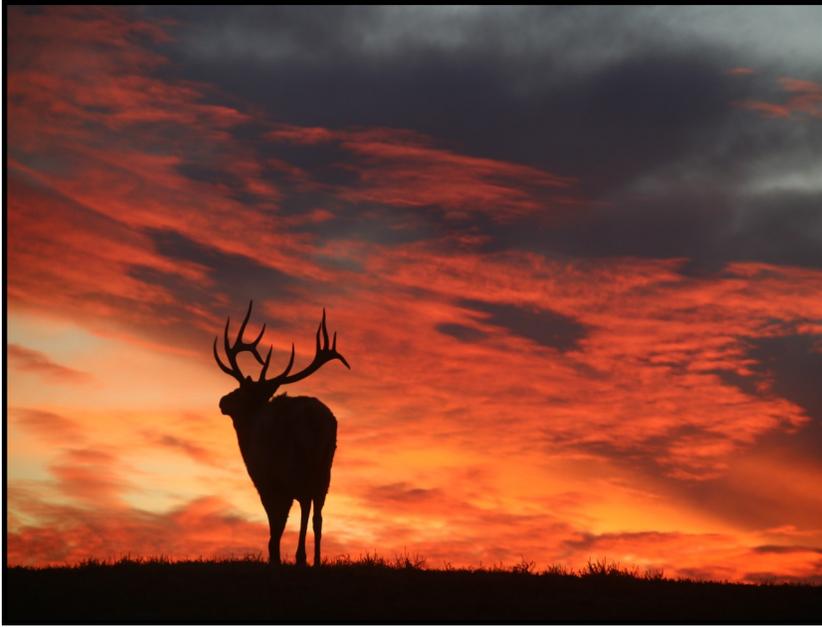


Take a Hike Category Winner
Hannah Acheson, Cheney, WA



Flowers & Plants Category Winner
Alexandra Egle, Ponchatoula, LA

Annual Photo Contest, cont'd



Honorable Mention: Animals of TRNP

Dean Rummel, Dickinson, ND

Youth Category: 14 to 18 Years

Matthew Thompson, Rosemount, MN



Youth Category: 10 to 13 Years

Gram Miller, St. Louis, MO



TRNHA Board of Directors

TRNHA is governed by a Board of Directors, these are community members who volunteer their time to helping our organization run. We are governed by seven directors with each director serving a staggered three year term, which prompts us to hold an election each October.

In October we mailed out a ballot featuring seven awesome candidates to fill three vacant positions. It is with great pleasure that we announce our newly elected Directors. Congratulations is to Joshua Nollmeyer, Grant Geis, and Jesse Kolar for your appointment to our board. You can learn more about these directors from their biographies below.

Meet Joshua Nollmeyer

Being raised on a farm in Montana instilled in me an appreciation and joy for the outdoors. I also found myself doing all things sports and recreation; this involved into a passion of mine. This propelled me to pursue an education in Exercise Science and Recreation and a Master in Sports Management.

Professionally I have held jobs in several states all within the Parks and Recreation field. A job with the Watford City Park District brought me to Watford City in 2019 and I now hold the title as the Events and Recreation Director for the Rough Rider Center and Watford City Park District. Throughout my career, I have dedicated myself to providing ways for people to be active and find their passion in recreation; from sports, the sciences, the outdoors, and so much more. Nothing is off limits as we find ways to live a full life.



I continue my passion for sports and recreation outside of work; this includes making my way to National Parks across the country and taking advantage of Theodore Roosevelt National Park on a regular basis. Whether it is hiking, mountain biking, or snowboarding; I feel at home in the outdoors. I think it's important to invest in your community and area; I'm involved with my local church, am a board member for the Watford City Chamber, and find volunteer opportunities to get involved with.

I would provide the TRNHA with a dedicated professional that excels at finding ways to provide programs, events, and activities in a public setting. My experience in developing and executing programs would be an asset in executing the TRNHA mission. I'm passionate about the outdoors and the way it can impact a person; it would be a pleasure to serve the TRNHA and help others fall in love with this amazing park.

From the Executive Director - One of the things we have always struggled with is our office location being in Medora but the North Unit of the park being near Watford City. The past few years we have been making an effort to reach out to the Watford City community and to provide opportunities in Theodore Roosevelt National Park for those living in the area. It is always a goal to have at least one Watford City leader on our director team. Having Joshua join our board with his passion for the park and connection to the city is sure to point us in the right direction. Welcome Joshua, we are excited to have you on the team!

Meet Grant Geis

Starting as a seasonal ranger in the summer of 1998, Grant fell in love with western North Dakota, where he spent most of his career. He retired as Chief Park Ranger from Theodore Roosevelt National Park in the fall of 2020. During his time with the federal government, Grant has worked in the North and South Unit of Theodore Roosevelt National Park with the National Park Service and the Dakota Prairie Grasslands with the USDA Forest Service. He continues to have a strong passion for our public lands and what they offer.

TRNHA Board of Directors

Over the years, Grant has worked closely with the Theodore Roosevelt Nature History Association (TRNHA), seeing firsthand what it can bring to the National Park experience for thousands of visitors. He believes in learning about the past to help mold the future. His experience with the National Park Service and the association would be an asset to TRNHA. Grant would be honored to continue serving the parks in a new way and would be an asset for his relationships with the National Parks and the communities they serve.

Grant continues to live outside Medora with his wife, children, and three dogs. He enjoys his daily hikes and runs in and around the park.

From the Executive Director - I personally had the opportunity to work alongside Grant when he served as a Law Enforcement Ranger for Theodore Roosevelt National Park. His passion for the park is evident in everything he did, making him an excellent addition to TRNHA. His vast knowledge of government operation and policies will be a welcome addition to TRNHA. Welcome Grant, we are excited to have you join our team and to offer you the opportunity to continue being a steward for Theodore Roosevelt National Park!

Meet Jesse Kolar

Jesse grew up and resides in Dickinson. He has been the proud owner of many annual passes to Theodore Roosevelt National Park. Jesse has worked on research projects studying pronghorn and mule deer in the area and is currently working as an upland game biologist for the North Dakota Game and Fish Department. He has a wildlife management background and is fairly fluent with the natural history in western North Dakota and the badlands.



He has volunteered for various group organizations including church organizations, Roughrider Archer's, Hunter's Education, Prairie's and Potholes Birding Festival, The Wildlife Society, Mule Deer Foundation, Peace Corps, and others. Jesse describes himself as an open-minded person who can work cooperatively with a wide range of people to help promote activities at TRNP. In addition, his roles working for state agencies have given him experience reviewing budgets and spreadsheets.

Jesse has previously been very active in TRNHA activities including the annual plant walk and helping as a bird guide at the annual bird walk. Jesse says, "I consider myself lucky to be able to visit the park regularly to watch and photograph wildlife and meet diverse folks from across the world who visit the park."

From the Executive Director - Our connection with Jesse began several year's ago when he stepped up to help us out with our Annual Birdwalk and three years ago I reached out asking him to join our board. Jesse will now begin his second term as a director and we are excited to continue the relationship. His vast knowledge of nature and his passion for North Dakota have been an asset the past three years, and we are happy to have him serve the next year as our Vice President. Thank you Jesse for the past three years of stewardship and for committing to continue supporting TRNHA and Theodore Roosevelt National Park.

FY2023 TRNHA Board of Directors

President – Craig Whippo, Bismarck, ND

Board Member – Debbie Rodne, Medora, ND

Vice President – Jesse Kolar, Dickinson, ND

Board Member – Chelsea Erdmann, Beach, ND

Secretary/Treasurer – Jodi Johnson, Medora, ND

Board Member – Joshua Nollmeyer, Watford City, ND

Board Member – Grant Geis, Medora, ND

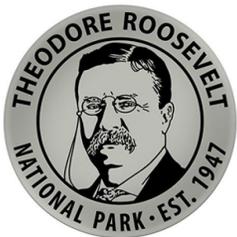
Last Minute Gift Guide



12 Color Postcard Package. Images featured in our Annual Photo Contest Winners Postcard Package (each image printed with front caption, back caption and winner's name).



Newly designed collector's tokens. Our well-known collector's tokens have been redesigned and newly released for Theodore Roosevelt National Park and Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site. Pick up a few for the National Park collector on your holiday gift list!



Have you *herd*? A whole group of bison and a town of prairie dogs have arrived— in plush! Both critters are made of eco-friendly recycled materials by Petting Zoo. The 8" prairie dog and 12" bison are just big enough to fit in the arms of any stuffed animal lover.



These are the newest additions to our sales collections. But don't forget all of the classics from park apparel to mugs, maps, and books that you can browse and shop for anytime at [Theodore Roosevelt Nature & History Association \(shoptrnha.org\)](http://TheodoreRooseveltNature&HistoryAssociation.org).

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December Online Only Coupon



25% Off

TRNP Bison Socks

Teal

Online Only through December 31, 2022

Use coupon code

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Shop online now at: www.shoptrnha.org

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