

JANUARY 2025

BISON BRIEF

Monthly Update



**THEODORE ROOSEVELT
NATURE AND HISTORY ASSOCIATION**

2025 Fee Free Days

Come experience the national parks! All National Park Service sites that charge an entrance fee will offer free admission to everyone (other fees, including timed entry or reservation fees, may apply). Mark your calendar for these entrance fee-free dates:

- **January 20:** Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- **April 19:** First day of National Park Week
- **June 19:** Juneteenth National Independence Day
- **August 4:** Anniversary of the Great American Outdoors Act
- **September 27:** National Public Lands Day
- **November 11:** Veterans Day



NPS Photo

Your Fee Dollars at Work

All the money from entrance fees remains in the National Park Service, and at least 80 percent stays in the park where it was collected. [Learn more about how entrance fees are used to improve the visitor experience.](#)

Moccasin Making Workshop

On Saturday, January 18th, join Park Ranger Darian Kath for a moccasin making workshop at Knife River Indian Villages NHS. This program will provide an overview of footwear styles with a focus on simple side-seam moccasins. Instruction will then be provided in making a foot pattern and constructing the moccasins.

It is **FREE** of charge and all supplies will be provided. Duration is approximately 3 hours. Call 701-745-3300 for reservations as the class will be limited to the first 15 participants.

The program begins at 12:30 pm CST and will be located in the park Visitor Center. Visit Knife River's [website](#) for complete details.



NPS Photo/Knife River Indian Villages NHS

Audubon Christmas Bird Count

It was Christmas Day of 1900, Frank Chapman, American ornithologist and member of the American Museum of Natural History, initiated a new holiday tradition—the Christmas Bird Census. The census was intended to replace a hunting tradition with a more conservation oriented activity. Over time, this became the annual “Audubon Christmas Bird Count.” Every year, between December 15 and January 5, people at parks and other organizations nation-wide head out to count and identify the wild bird species around them and report their findings to the Audubon Society. Recently, park and association staff conducted and reported the Christmas Bird Count. Here are the highlights of our Christmas Bird Count report,

In the North Unit of TRNP, a total of 16 species were identified. Of these species, the most abundant was the Ring-necked Pheasant; the number of pheasants seen was over 230.

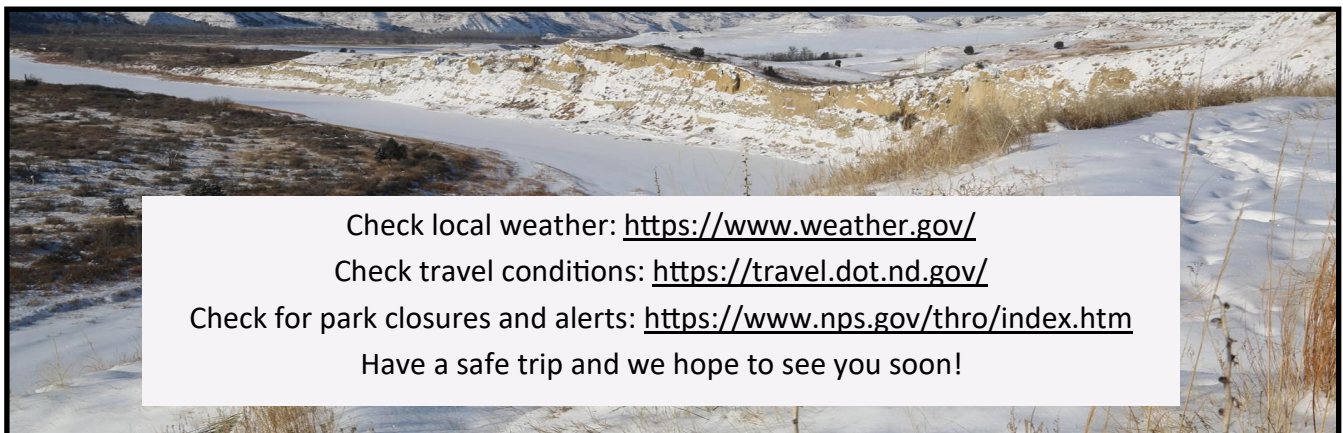
In the South Unit of TRNP, a total of 28 species were seen. Of these species, the most abundant was the American Robin; the number of robins seen was over 260.

Knowing what bird populations are healthy and where they are wintering helps us all understand how birds are thriving and where they are facing threats. The Christmas Bird Count provides information about bird populations across the U.S. going back over 100 years.

Sources: www.audubon.org

Resources for Planning your Trip

If you are among the bold visitors who make their way to Western North Dakota during the winter months, please keep in mind that the weather, road, and hiking conditions can change in the blink of an eye. Before planning a drive or hike around any National Park, it is important to remember to check the weather forecast and ask for updated conditions and reports at the visitor center. If you are planning your TRNP adventure, there are a couple of links that you will find useful for checking travel conditions.



Follow the Adventure...



Follow the Adventures...#ClinkerthePrairieDog

Theodore Roosevelt National Park's [Facebook](#) page has recently been featuring the adventures of Clinker the Prairie Dog in and around Theodore Roosevelt National Park. Clinker has gained quite a fan base as Clinker checks out the park and hangs out with park staff.

You can also buy your very own plush prairie dog just like Clinker from our park store. Check out the park store in person or [online](#).

But what about the real-lives of the Black-tailed Prairie Dogs?

Prairie Dog Fast Facts

- ◇ There are 5 species of prairie dog in the United States
- ◇ Black-tailed prairie dogs live in Theodore Roosevelt National Park
- ◇ Prairie dogs live in social groups called coterie
- ◇ Members of a close group acknowledge each other with an identifying kiss or sniff
- ◇ A community with close burrows is called a "town"
- ◇ A prairie dog burrow may lead to a network of tunnels with several entrances
- ◇ They feed on forbs and grasses



Apply Now

Join our team and spend your summer in
Theodore Roosevelt National Park!

WE ARE HIRING!

SEASONAL PARK GUIDE

Requirements:

Commit to a minimum of 12 consecutive weeks between 4/27/2025 & 9/30/2025

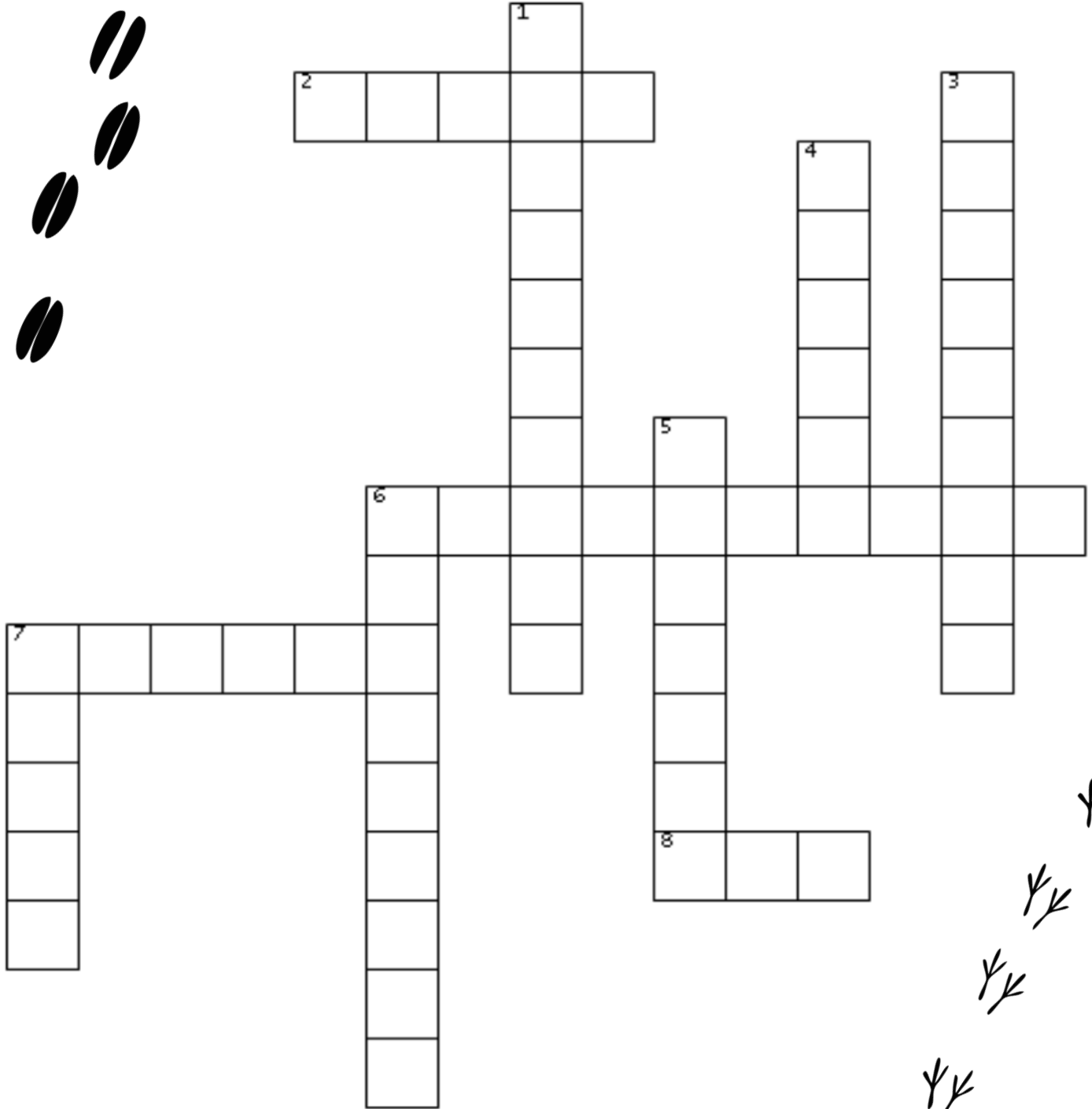
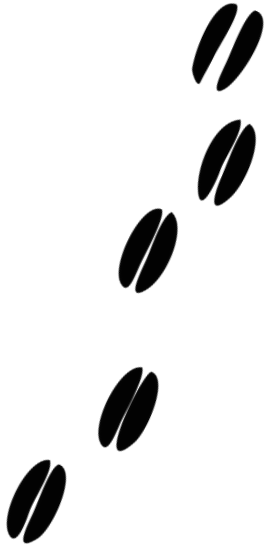
Must be available to work weekends

Must possess a valid drivers license and reliable transportation.

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



Animals of TRNP



Across

- 2. Salamander species found in the park
- 6. Bark-like call with a black tipped tail
- 7. Burrowing predator often found in prairie dog towns
- 8. Large ungulate

Down

- 1. North Dakota State Bird
- 3. Fastest land mammal in North America
- 4. Commonly spotted predator
- 5. Rattlesnake species found in the park
- 6. Often found in the canopy of trees eating twigs
- 7. Largest mammal in North America

January 2025 Online Coupon

January Online Special



Bison Sketch
Crewneck Sweatshirt
15% OFF

Online Only through January 31, 2025
Use coupon code
"January2025" at checkout.
Shop online now at: www.shoptrnha.org
Not good with any other discounts.

New Products for 2025



2024 Postcard Packet



Bison Tote Bag



TRNP Challenge Coin

Buy in person or order online at www.shoptrnha.org

Can You Guess In 7 Hints?

A theme and seven questions are found below. Each question relates to a single answer associated with Theodore Roosevelt National Park, Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site, or the life of Theodore Roosevelt. How many questions will you need to determine the answer? Let's find out!

Last Month's Answer: The River of Doubt

Formerly called the Rio da Dúvida (River of Doubt), today, the tributary to the Aripuanã River, running a length of 760 km (470 mi), is named Rio Teodoro (Roosevelt River) after Theodore Roosevelt. It was mapped during the Roosevelt-Rondon Expedition in 1914-1915, after Theodore's failed bid for a third term Presidency. Theodore Roosevelt recounts the trip in the book he authored: *Into the Brazilian Wilderness* (www.nps.gov/thrb).

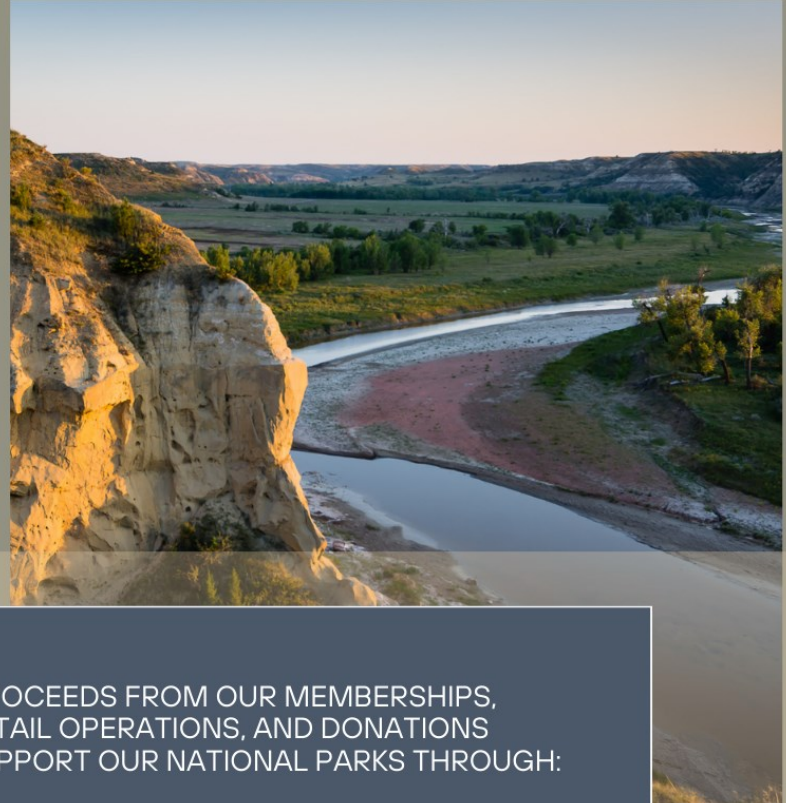
Image: Theodore Roosevelt and Cândido Mariano da Silva Rondon. 1958 Theodore Roosevelt Centennial Symposium. Dickinson State University. <https://www.theodorerooseveltcenter.org/Research/Digital-Library/Record?libID=o274861>. Theodore Roosevelt Digital Library. Dickinson State University.



Theme: Paleontology

1. This species lived in present day North Dakota during the Paleocene Epoch.
2. Similar fossils have been found in Montana and Canada.
3. Fossil remains were excavated in Theodore Roosevelt National Park in the 1990's.
4. This creature was approximately 10 feet long.
5. It fed on fish, mollusks, and turtles.
6. A specimen is on display in the South Unit Visitor Center.
7. This fossilized creature's name means "crocodile lizard."

TRNHA MEMBERSHIP



WHY JOIN OUR MEMBERSHIP?

TRNHA IS THE NON-PROFIT PARTNER OF THEODORE ROOSEVELT NATIONAL PARK & KNIFE RIVER INDIAN VILLAGES NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE.

PROCEEDS FROM OUR MEMBERSHIPS, RETAIL OPERATIONS, AND DONATIONS SUPPORT OUR NATIONAL PARKS THROUGH:

- EDUCATIONAL AND INTERPRETIVE PROGRAMS
- SUPPORTING WILDLIFE RESEARCH
- STAFFING PARK VISITOR CENTERS
- PLUS MUCH MORE

MEMBER BENEFITS:

- 15% OFF PURCHASES ONLINE & IN-STORE
- AT LEAST 10% OFF OTHER PARTICIPATING NATIONAL PARK STORES NATIONWIDE

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

AS LOW AS **\$20**

SUPPORTING NORTH DAKOTA
PUBLIC LANDS SINCE 1951



[Click Here to Join](#)

FEBRUARY 2025

BISON BRIEF

Monthly Update



**THEODORE ROOSEVELT
NATURE AND HISTORY ASSOCIATION**

TRNHA: A Legacy of Support

Theodore Roosevelt Nature and History Association (TRNHA) was founded in 1951 by a group of park enthusiasts committed to supporting and promoting the historical, scientific, and educational activities of Theodore Roosevelt National Park. Over the years, TRNHA's dedication has expanded to include supporting the Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site.

TRNHA's Mission and Achievements

Today, TRNHA operates four park stores located in Theodore Roosevelt National Park and Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site. The association's mission is to provide support, services, and educational merchandise to enhance visitor experiences and enjoyment through historical, scientific, and educational activities. Since its inception, TRNHA has contributed over \$1.9 million in aid to their park partners, underscoring their significant impact.

Investing in Education and Outreach through Partnerships

Each month, our newsletter will highlight the various ways the association works to achieve its mission. This month, the focus is on our remarkable partnerships. Collaborations with park partners and generous donors play a crucial role in helping TRNHA achieve its goals.

Collaborative Efforts and Contributions

TRNHA values partnerships and is fortunate to have outstanding park partners dedicated to protecting public lands. Additionally, external partners, like Wild Tribute, support their mission by contributing 4% of their proceeds to support America's historic and wild places. These partnerships help TRNHA extend its reach and impact.



Upcoming Initiatives: Fiscal Year 2025

In fiscal year 2025, TRNHA plans to invest approximately \$20,000 to hire Ranger Sydney as a Seasonal Media and Education Ranger. This new position will work alongside District Rangers in the south unit of Theodore Roosevelt National Park to redesign the park's newspaper, informational brochures, and webpage. The goal is to improve the availability of information for visitors planning their park experiences. Ranger Sydney's role will also enable the implementation of more spring programs, social media updates, and community outreach.

TRNHA's continued efforts in promoting Theodore Roosevelt National Park demonstrate their commitment to enriching visitor experiences and preserving the legacy of America's natural and historical treasures.

TRNHA SUMMER 2025

PROGRAM OF ACTIVITIES

REGISTRATION AND MORE DETAILS
WILL BE AVAILABLE APRIL 2025



JUNE 1

71ST ANNUAL BIRDWALK

JUNE 11

YOUTH FOSSIL PROGRAM - SOUTH UNIT

JUNE 14

GUIDED HIKE

JUNE 18

YOUTH FOSSIL PROGRAM - NORTH UNIT

JULY 9

YOUTH TEDDY BEAR TIME - SOUTH UNIT

JULY 16

YOUTH TEDDY BEAR TIME - NORTH UNIT

JULY 19

GUIDED HIKE

AUGUST 6

YOUTH MAPS & ORIENTEERING - SOUTH UNIT

AUGUST 9

GUIDED HIKE

AUGUST 13

YOUTH MAPS & ORIENTEERING - NORTH UNIT



President's Day

Excerpts from "President's Day: The Truth Behind the Holiday" from MountVernon.org

Today the nation typically combines Washington's Birthday with Presidents' Day, celebrating both days on the third Monday in February. However, Presidents' Day is not the official name of the holiday. While the name "Presidents' Day" was proposed for this Monday holiday in 1951, the U.S. government never officially changed the name. In the 1980s, thanks to advertising campaigns for holiday sales, the term became popularized and largely accepted.



The idea behind the name was to create a holiday that did not recognize a specific president, but rather celebrated the office of the presidency. This joint recognition would also celebrate President Lincoln's February 12 birthday within the same period...

Read more at:

www.mountvernon.org

The National Bird

The bald eagle has been an iconic symbol of the United States for over 200 years, but recently the bald eagle received official recognition for its stately status. On December 23, 2024 President Joe Biden signed into law a legislation sent by Congress to designate the bald eagle as the national bird of the United States.

With regional populations growing, bald eagles can be a fairly common site at Theodore Roosevelt National Park and Knife River Indian Villages NHS.

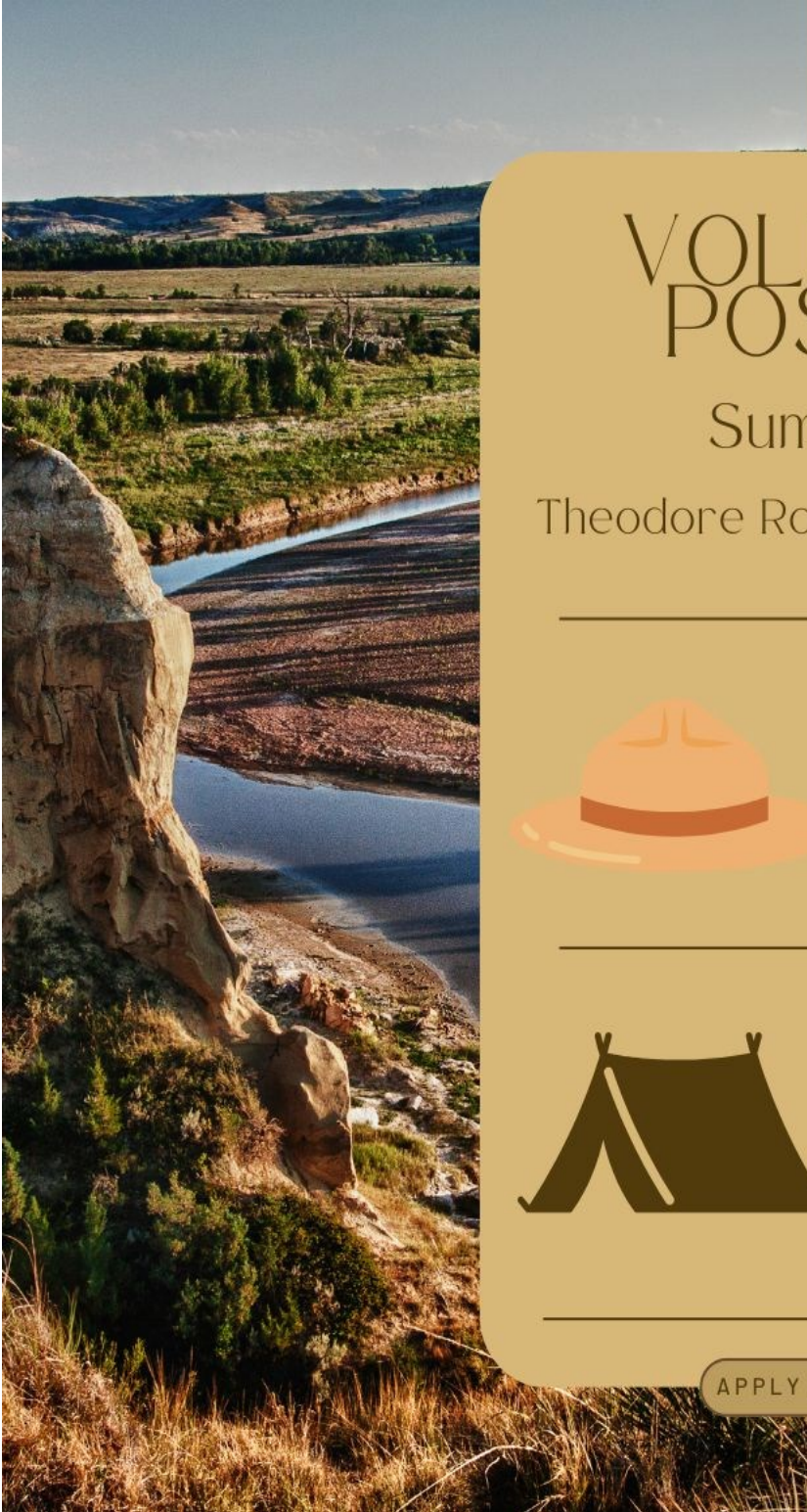
Read the official designation bill at:

www.congress.gov



Volunteer Opportunities


Summer 2025 is fast approaching and Theodore Roosevelt National Park is looking to fill several volunteer positions for the upcoming summer season. Check out these positions and complete the applications at volunteer.gov.



VOLUNTEER POSITIONS

Summer 2025


Theodore Roosevelt National Park



Interpretive
Interh

Apply by February 7, 2025

[Apply Here](#)



Campground
Host

[Cottonwood Campground](#)

[Juniper Campground](#)

APPLY AT VOLUNTEER.GOV

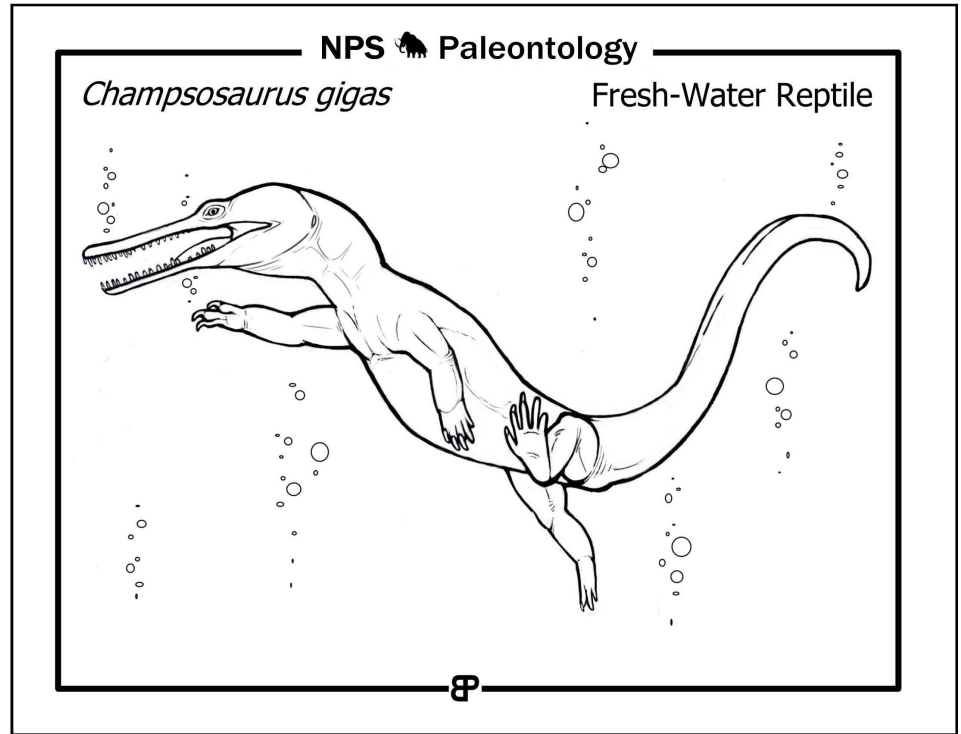
Can You Guess In 7 Hints?

Last Month's Answer:

Champsosaurus gigas

"Champsosaurus gigas" is a crocodile like reptile that lived during the Paleocene. Fossils of "Champsosaurus" have been found at Theodore Roosevelt National Park, North Dakota.

Click on the image to follow the link for the this full size printable coloring page from the National Park Service's Geological Resources Division!



Mystery Photo

Test your knowledge of the resources at Theodore Roosevelt National Park and Knife River Indian Villages.



Hint:
This image is found near a
park visitor center.

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February 2025 Online Coupon

February Online Special



TRNP Wildflower Hat

Floral Cream Only

15% OFF

Online Only through February 28, 2025
Use coupon code
"February2025" at checkout.
Shop online now at: www.shoptrnha.org
Not good with any other discounts.

Featured Products of the Month



Bison Sketch Tote Bag \$24..99



Bison Sketch T-Shirt \$28..99



Bison Sketch Wood Magnet \$6.99

Buy in person or order online at www.shoptrnha.org

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