

## **150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Yellowstone National Park**

Source: <https://www.yellowstone.org/>

Those urging Congress to officially protect Yellowstone believed it could be done at no expense to the government. This concept was quickly disproven when the first, unpaid, superintendent saw the consequences of having no funds to protect park wildlife and other resources. Poachers, vandals, and squatters ran rampant in the newly formed park.

Congress appropriated funds for protection in 1878, but efforts to safeguard the park were largely unsuccessful until the U.S. Army took charge in 1886. The National Park Service management of the park began in 1916.

Today, Yellowstone is one of the largest nearly intact temperate-zone ecosystems on Earth, and preserves over 10,000 hydrothermal features—more than the rest of the world combined. It is home to the largest concentration of wildlife in the lower 48 states, and is the only place in the U.S. where bison have lived continuously since prehistoric times.

The number one attraction at the park is Old Faithful. It is a cone geyser in Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming, United States. It was named in 1870 during the Washburn–Langford–Doane Expedition and was the first geyser in the park to be named. It is a highly predictable geothermal feature and erupts every 44 minutes to two hours.

If you have never seen Old Faithful erupt, visit this live webcam site:

<https://www.nps.gov/yell/learn/photosmultimedia/webcams.htm>



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