Celebrating the National Park Service Centennial with 10 Fun Geology Facts

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On August 25, 1916, President Woodrow Wilson established the National Park Service (NPS) to oversee and manage our nation’s national parks and monuments. Since 1916, the NPS mission has evolved to include the management and protection of over 400 park units that now also includes national historical and military parks, military cemeteries, national recreation areas, national scenic rivers, lakeshores, seashores, and trails. This year marks the 100th year anniversary of the establishment of the National Park Service. To celebrate, the National Park Service has established several fun and exciting programs, including the “Find Your Park” campaign. Park-specific events will be occurring throughout the year. Information about centennial programs and events can be found at:

To commemorate the 100th anniversary of the National Park Service, the Geologic Resources Inventory (GRI) Program Map Team has selected ten park units with significant and often spectacular geology. For each, we offer a brief history of the park, a snapshot of our digital geologic-GIS product for the park, and a “geology fact”, complete with photographs and figures about each park's geology.

Additional information concerning the importance of geology in our national parks, as well as information about the NPS Geologic Resources Inventory (GRI) Program and our products is also present on the poster.