

The Feb. 1, 1994 briefing paper from NPS Director Kennedy on Strengthening and Streamlining the National Park Service contains news of special interest to the field:

“...the NPS will be delegating considerably more responsibility and authority to the parks and field-level programs, reducing layers of

management and review, and consolidating the remaining support functions in a smaller number of central offices. The goals of this reorganization are to allocate people and money toward park and project management, to the extent possible, in order to facilitate decisive, timely action to protect the natural and cultural resources that define our character as a nation and to make that heritage accessible to as many people as possible."

Together with downsizing and upgrading efforts, the Director described "an intensive effort to recruit, retrain, and retain a highly professional and diverse cadre of people capable of understanding the complexities of managing America's heritage resources as parts of whole systems and skilled in working with others, both inside and outside government." The intention, he stated, "is to strengthen the Service and protect the Parks."