

**LETTER OF INTENT BETWEEN THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE OF THE  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
AND THE MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
OF THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES ON COOPERATION TO ESTABLISH  
SISTER PARK PARTNERSHIPS**

The National Park Service of the Department of the Interior of the United States of America (NPS), and the Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources of the United Mexican States (SEMARNAT), through the National Commission of Natural Protected Areas (CONANP), hereinafter referred to as the "Participants";

**RECALLING** the "Joint Declaration of Sister Park Partnerships by the National Commission for Natural Protected Areas of the Secretariat of the Environment and Natural Resources of the United Mexican States and the National Park Service of the Department of the Interior of the United States of America" signed at Washington, March 23, 2006, hereinafter referred to as the "Declaration";

**CONSIDERING** the different instruments of cooperation signed between the Participants to strengthen the conservation and management of ecosystems of mutual interest;

**CONSIDERING** that the natural protected areas of both countries share migratory wildlife species, similar ecosystems, and other resources that may benefit through bilateral cooperation such the "Sister Park" initiative;

**TAKING INTO ACCOUNT** the public announcement of July 22, 2016, by President Barack Obama and President Enrique Peña Nieto that, in order to protect their shared natural and cultural heritage, including wildlife that moves regularly across park and international boundaries, the two governments proposed to add the following new partnerships to the existing "Sister Park" initiative: between the Channel Islands National Park off the coast of California and the Isla Guadalupe Biosphere Reserve and the Bahia Loreto National Park; between the Yosemite National Park in California and the Cumbres de Monterrey National Park; and between the Everglades National Park in Florida and the Los Petenes Biosphere Reserve;



The Participants hereby state their intent to add the following partnerships to the Sister Park Partnerships Initiative between National Park units of the United States of America and Natural Protected Areas of the United Mexican States:

<b>National Parks of United States of America</b>	<b>Natural Protected Areas of United Mexican States</b>
Channel Islands National Park	Bahía de Loreto National Park
Channel Islands National Park	Isla Guadalupe Biosphere Reserve
Everglades National Park	Los Petenes Biosphere Reserve
Yosemite National Park	Cumbres de Monterrey National Park

For the implementation actions of each “Sister Park”, the Participants expect to develop and execute Work Programs.


This letter of intent does not create any legal obligations between the Participants.

Signed in Honolulu, Hawaii, United States of America, on August 31, 2016, in Spanish and English.

**FOR THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE  
INTERIOR OF THE UNITED STATES OF  
AMERICA**

  
**Jonathan B. Jarvis  
Director  
National Park Service**

**FOR THE MINISTRY OF THE  
ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL  
RESOURCES OF THE UNITED  
MEXICAN STATES**

  
**Alejandro Del Mazo Maza  
National Commissioner  
For Natural Protected Areas**