

222 Million People in 100 Years?!?

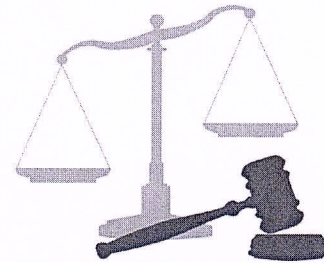
On August 25, 2016 the National Park Service (NPS) marked its 100th anniversary, celebrating a “century of stewardship of America’s national parks and engaging communities through recreation, conservation, and historic preservation programs.” NPG applauds this important land preservation program – and we were curious to see how the U.S. population has shifted over the same period of time.

According to the Census Bureau, on July 1, 1916 our nation’s population was estimated at 101,961,000. On July 1, 2016, the U.S. population was approaching 323,890,000. That’s an increase of nearly 222 million people – an average of more than 4 people every minute for an entire century!

When it was created, NPS was charged with protecting just 35 national parks. Today NPS oversees 413 official units, including 59 national parks. Clearly, enacting a national policy – and outlining procedures to enforce that policy – has been an effective strategy for land preservation. This is why NPG advocates the adoption of an official U.S. Population Policy – it could help stop the projected 175 million people our country is expected to add by 2100!

Special Matching Opportunity!

Now through February 28th, your contribution to NPG – up to \$10,000 – will be **MATCHED** by generous benefactors. Your gift will go **TWICE** as far during this **LIMITED TIME** opportunity, so don’t delay! Fill out the enclosed contribution form and return it with your most generous gift **by February 28th** – before this special **MATCHING** opportunity is gone!



Immigration Courts Straining Under Burden

According to a recent article in *The New York Times*, U.S. immigration courts are facing a current backlog of more than 520,000 cases. “In Arlington, [Virginia], by reputation one of the nation’s best-run courts, eight judges have more than 30,000 cases, with some scheduling hearings in 2022.”

The article highlights the fact that “Unlike other federal courts, which are part of the judiciary, immigration courts are run by the Justice Department, making them subject to shifting political priorities in Washington.”

Echoing NPG, the article notes that the worst of the backlog “was created by the Obama administration after families from Central America surged across the southwest border... In late 2014, justice officials ordered the courts to rush asylum claims... pushing other cases back.”

“Judge Paul W. Schmidt observed the effect of this edict from his bench... ‘It’s total chaos... The court as a whole loses credibility.’”

NPG advocates the strict enforcement of immigration laws – not the current policy of *enforce... unless your political agenda says otherwise*. For these unlawful immigrants – who are allowed to stay in the U.S. for years until their case is heard – only add to our nation’s population size and growth. We must reduce U.S. population, and the rapid adjudication of this backlog will aid in that endeavor.

NPG MEMBERSHIP CORNER

It's that time of year again! To keep administrative costs to a minimum, NPG bases our annual memberships on the calendar year... so it's time to renew and make sure you stay up-to-date for 2017!

NPG is celebrating our 45th Anniversary this year, so we've got a jam-packed agenda. We need your support more than ever to make sure we get our materials into the hands of our nation's new President and the 115th Congress as they begin their terms of office. Can we count on YOU to stand beside us as we advocate policies which work to slow, halt, and eventually reverse U.S. population growth?

Fill out the enclosed contribution form TODAY, and return it to us with a generous gift to renew your membership for 2017 – or to make an additional contribution and help NPG be on strong financial footing for the months ahead! *Remember – we receive no government funds, we're relying on YOU!*

Did You Know...?

The U.S. grows by an average of
1 person every 17 seconds.

– Source: U.S. Census Bureau

The Wake of Climate Change

A recent story in *The New York Times* highlighted the plight of a small island town facing the consequences of global climate change. As our world warms more and more as a result of greenhouse gas emissions, polar ice is melting and sea levels are rising. This tiny hamlet is facing a dire future – the entirety of its habitable land may very well be swallowed by the sea. There's just one thing that made this story unique: this town was in the U.S. It's Shaktoolik, Alaska, to be exact – and the same fate is shared by its western coast neighbors, the villages of Shishmaref and Kivalina, AK.

As NPG continues its work to reduce U.S. population to a much smaller, truly sustainable size in an effort to preserve our nation's environment – we bear in mind how truly “close to home” the impact of overpopulation is. As we have warned for decades – this is not some far-away, limited or remote problem. Greenhouse gas emissions are a direct contributor of climate change, and population size and growth have a direct impact on our nation's emission levels.

Focus On... California

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, California's population is the largest in the nation. Resident counts were estimated at over 39 million in 2015. If it were an independent country, California would have the 35th largest population in the world – and with a growth rate of 5.08% between 2010 and 2015, the state grew nearly 24% faster than the U.S. as a whole over the same period. California now has nearly 4 times the number of citizens it had in 1950. *(For more articles on California – or your own state, visit the In Your State section of our website www.NPG.org/!)*