



For many parks, Labor Day weekend is the **busiest weekend** of the year. We hope you get a chance to recreate outdoors this holiday and if you do, we encourage you to recognize and thank the many hard-working stewards of our protected lands who make your experience possible.

## FEATURED PARK



Photos and facts of  
your favorite parks,  
one issue at a time

### Baxter State Park Maine

**FACT 1:** Despite being a "State Park", Baxter is not managed by Maine's Bureau of Parks and Lands. Over a 30-year period, the former Governor Percival P. Baxter purchased - and subsequently donated to the State of Maine - parcels of wilderness totaling over 200,000 acres. As a condition of park's deed and trust, most of the land is managed as a wildlife sanctuary.



**FACT 2:** The first parcel Baxter deeded to the state contained Katahdin (the Penobscot translation of *Greatest Mountain*). Katahdin is the state's highest peak and the northern terminus of the Appalachian Trail.

Nominate *your* favorite local, state, or national park [here](#) so our subscribers can learn about it.

# PARK PERKS

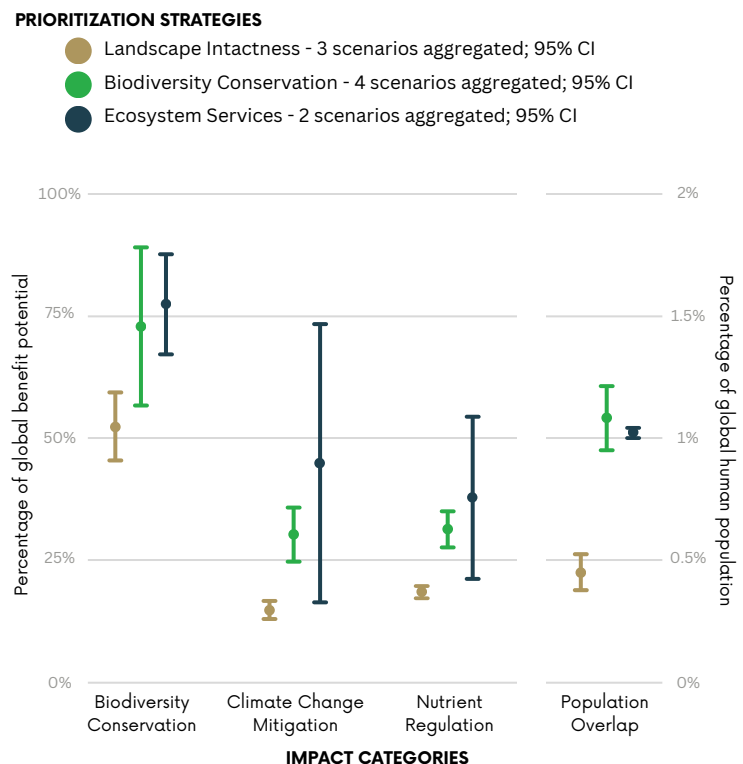


Visualizing key research to show why parks matter

Even among nations committed to 30% protection goals, ecosystem variation and the unequal distribution of protection benefits leads countries to use different approaches when determining which parcels of land should be conserved. In a [study](#) published last year in the journal *Science Advances*, a team of scholars from Princeton University and the National University of Singapore examined potential trade-offs between strategies with different conservation goals.

Using the World Database on Protected Areas, the authors calculated protected area growth needed to meet 30% coverage for each of the 193 countries or territories not yet meeting 30% protection goals. The team then modeled nine protected area scenarios, each prioritizing a different aspect of *landscape intactness*, *species conservation*, and *ecosystem services provisioning*. The model suggests that protecting areas with higher species richness and increased carbon storage will likely capture more of the overall climate benefit potential, but doing so would require displacing **huge populations** from their homes.

## Trade-offs in 30x30 Strategies



The authors admit that although a substantial number of people will be impacted under *any* land conservation scenario, strategies aiming to maximize biodiversity and ecosystem services will likely affect **more than twice** as many people (40-50 million *more*) than strategies that prioritize land continuity. This research highlights the importance of stakeholder governance and engagement when determining which areas are protected.

Which marine mammal is most capable of flying?

PLAY  GROUND

a pilot whale