

The US Government may shut down on November 17th. Until a federal budget is passed, we will reflect weekly on what shutdowns mean for national parks.

The National Park Service estimated that the 16-day government shutdown of 2013 led to over **\$500 million** in lost visitor spending nationwide.

Join the Institute's partner, NPCA, in urging Congress to prioritize our parks.

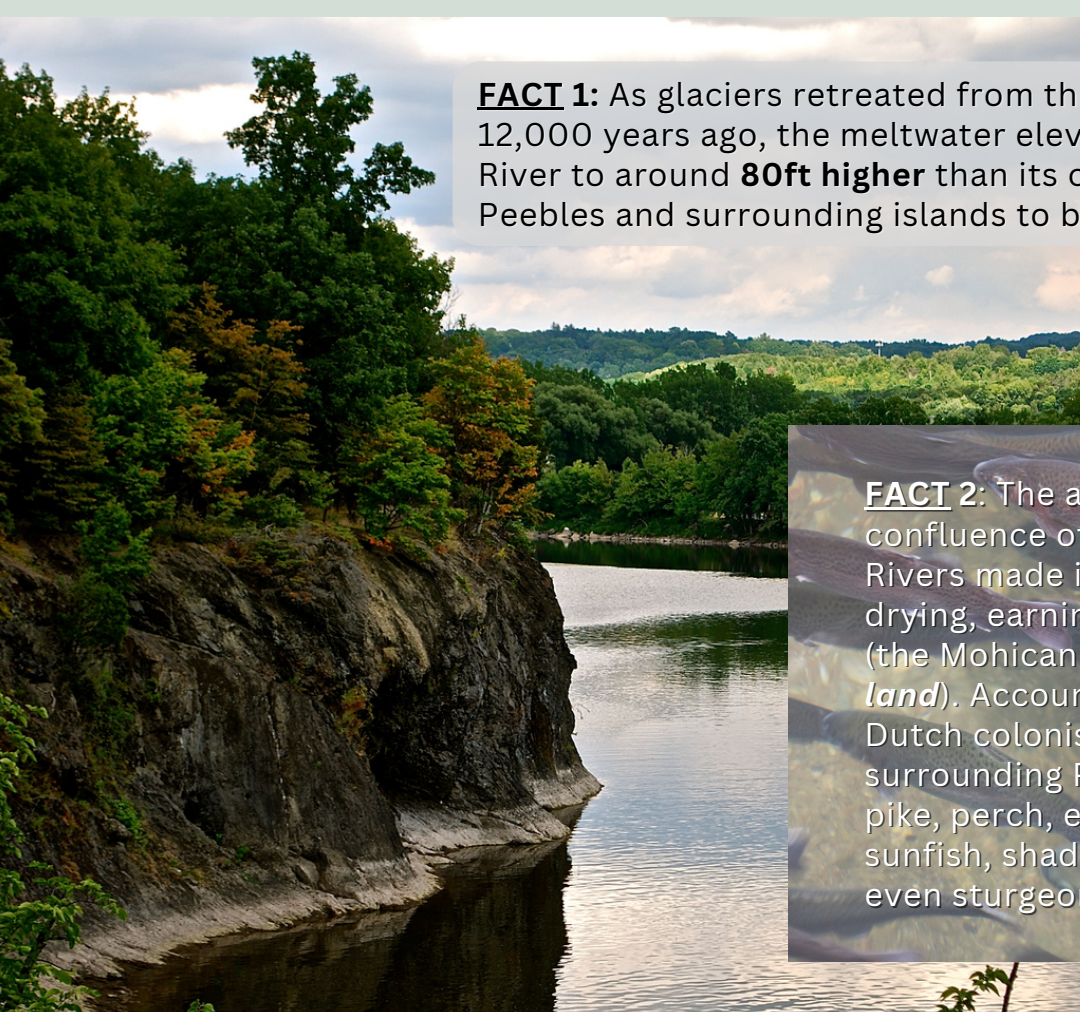
## FEATURED PARK



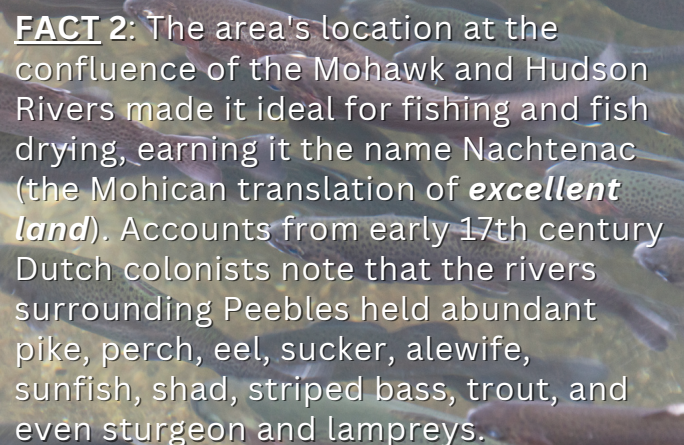
Photos and facts of  
your favorite parks,  
one issue at a time

### Peebles Island State Park

New York



**FACT 1:** As glaciers retreated from the Hudson River Valley 12,000 years ago, the meltwater elevated the Mohawk River to around **80ft higher** than its current level, stripping Peebles and surrounding islands to bare bedrock.



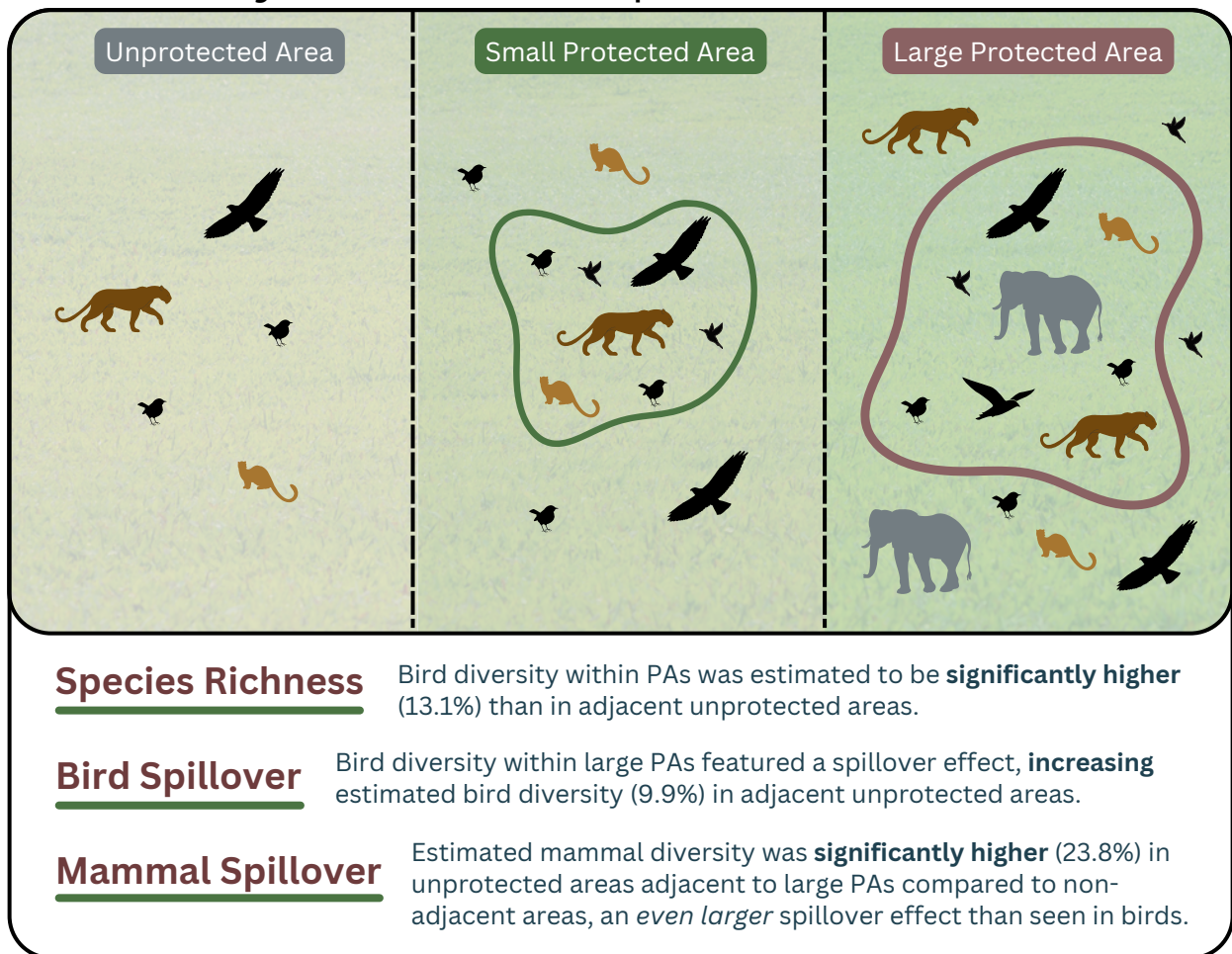
**FACT 2:** The area's location at the confluence of the Mohawk and Hudson Rivers made it ideal for fishing and fish drying, earning it the name Nachtenac (the Mohican translation of **excellent land**). Accounts from early 17th century Dutch colonists note that the rivers surrounding Peebles held abundant pike, perch, eel, sucker, alewife, sunfish, shad, striped bass, trout, and even sturgeon and lampreys.

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



This week's [article](#), published in the journal *Nature* this August, investigates the influence of protected area (PA) presence and spatial extent on tropical biodiversity in Southeast Asia. Dividing PAs into small ( $\leq 500 \text{ km}^2$ ) and large ( $> 500 \text{ km}^2$ ) groups, the authors collected mammal diversity data from 1,365 camera stations across 65 sites, while bird diversity was assessed using 1,079 sampling locations from the online eBird database.

## Biodiversity Benefits of Tropical Protected Areas



In addition to finding that PAs positively impact tropical biodiversity, the study suggests that *large PAs in particular* help to foster vertebrate biodiversity **beyond their borders**.

### How did the young horses hurt themselves?

PLAY  GROUND

not sure, but I suspect foal play