

Proposal Opposition

- **NJ Congressmen
Josh Gottheimer & Tom Kean**
- **Assemblywoman Dawn Fantasia**
- **Assemblyman Mike Inganamort**
- **NJ State Senator Parker Space**
- **NJ State Senator Steinhardt**
- **PA Congressman Cartwright**
- **PA State Senator Lisa Baker**
- **Former PA State Rep Joe Adams**
- **PA State Rep Tara Probst**
- **PA State Rep Maureen Madden**
- **PA Senator Rosemary Brown**
- **Turtle Clan of
Ramapough Lenape**
- **Lenape Nation of Pennsylvania**
- **Delaware Riverkeepers Network**
- **NJ Outdoor Alliance**
- **PA Federation of Sportsmen**
- **NJ Federation of Sportsmen**
- **Orange County Federation
of Sportsmen's Clubs**
- **Bergen County Federation
of Sportsmens Club**
- **Pike County
Planning Commission**

Proposal Opposition

- **Pennsylvania Farm Bureau**
- **Delaware River Shad
Fishermens Association**
- **Lehigh Valley Chapter of
Safari Club International**
- **Hercules Rod & Gun Club**
- **Backroads Motorcycle
Touring Magazine**

Questions That Need Answers

- What is the environmental impact on our communities?
- Development of access sites parking lots, bathrooms on the river, loss of habitat?
- How will the park be funded?
- Who will pay for maintenance and improvements on the entry roads, state, township and county highways leading into the park?
- What is fee structure for entry and where will fees collection stations be located?
- Are there plans to acquire private property?
- Are there plans to expand existing boundaries?
- What is the impact on local EMS and volunteer fire departments?

NJ Opposing Resolutions

- ♦ **Sussex & Warren County, NJ**
- ♦ **Montague Township, NJ**
- ♦ **Andover Borough, NJ**
- ♦ **Fredon Township, NJ**
- ♦ **Sandyston Township, NJ**
- ♦ **Hampton Township, NJ**
- ♦ **Lafayette Township, NJ**
- ♦ **Stillwater Township, NJ**
- ♦ **Frankford Township, NJ**
- ♦ **Franklin Borough, NJ**
- ♦ **Sussex Borough, NJ**
- ♦ **Green Township, NJ**
- ♦ **Sparta Township, NJ**
- ♦ **Byram Township, NJ**
- ♦ **Frelinghuysen Township, NJ**
- ♦ **Boards of Education—
Kittatinny, Hampton,
Montague, Sandyston Schools**

*Funding supports mailings, signs,
website hosting and
public information events.*

PA Opposing Resolutions

- **Monroe County, PA**
- **Shohola Township, PA**
- **Porter Township, PA**
- **Delaware Township, PA**
- **Lehman Township, PA**
- **Dingmans Township, PA**
- **Milford Township, PA**
- **Delaware Water Gap, PA**
- **Pocono Mount. Lake Est., PA**
- **Conashaugh Lake Assoc., PA**
- **Blooming Grove Township, PA**
- **Boro of Delaware Water Gap, PA**

**New Jersey Sierra Club
has dropped support for
the designation change**

Attend local meetings and let your concerns be heard. A list of local meetings in Pike, Monroe, Sussex & Warren Counties is on our website.
www.nonationalpark.org
For more information email
nonationalpark2030@gmail.com

Do You Know?

A Few Reasons for the National Park

“Prestige” to bring more funding

There is absolutely no guarantee of funding by virtue of a designation change. Funding for NPS units is based on a complicated rubric involving the size of the unit, the infrastructure demands of the unit, the personnel necessary to manage the unit, visitation numbers, and more.

A note on visitation numbers: The NPS, and the proposal, claim that DEWA receives 4.5 to 5 million visitors per year, as many as Yellowstone National Park. Evenly divided by 365 days, this equates to over 13,000 visits per day. If we take out three months of winter, visits jumps to 18,000 visitors per day. Where are all these visitors? How does the NPS arrive at this visitation number? In DEWA, daily commuters and anyone traveling 209 through the park are counted towards this visitation number. In fact, one car with one person in it will count for as many as 13 visits to the park.

“Equity”

The proposal states that “Creating the park and preserve...will fulfill the original intention of Congress to create equity in nature-based recreational opportunities for the now 60 million people living nearby. There are over 4,200 municipal, state and township parks and other recreation areas within New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and Pennsylvania where residents and visitors have the opportunity to recreate. DEWA is not the only destination for these activities.

“Honoring the First Nations People”

The NJ state recognized Ramapough-Lenape who currently reside in this area would not be honored with the creation of a Lenape Preserve, as they are not federally recognized. Mr. Donohue has only recently met with representatives from these tribes, and will say that he came away with “great insight”, yet fails to mention that they are adamantly opposed to a re-designation.

“...to turn this into a national park would be one of the most destructive things since colonization...”

Chief Mann, Ramapough Lenape

Recreation Areas are among the most DEIJ (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, & Justice) positive units in the National Park Service system.

DEWA hosts an incredibly diverse array of visitors and recreation activities including hiking, boating, kayaking, canoeing, horse-back riding, bicycle riding, etc.—most of which are entirely FREE of cost, making its activities extremely equitable—and includes as many recreational opportunities as possible. A change to a National Park means the variety of activities would be reduced, as there are more restrictions on activities permitted and barriers to access in a fee based National Park.

“Protection” (from what?)

DEWA, as a National Recreation Area, currently enjoys one of the highest levels of protection of any National Park Service unit.



Scan here for
nonationalpark.org

Be Careful

Use of Eminent Domain:

The proposal states that “The National Park and Preserve is authorized to accept or acquire additional lands from willing sellers and donors to enhance large landscape scale connectivity, to address climate adaptation, to create wildlife corridors, and watershed protection, and to provide recreational equity for the millions of Americans living in urban and suburban areas within a day’s travel.”

The proponents of this proposal have talked of expanding the park from 70,000 acres to 270,000 acres to possibly include Stokes State Forest, Worthington State Forest, High Point State Park, PA State Forests Lands, with connecting corridors between them, acquiring property from private land-owners—possible us of through eminent domain? Loss of tax dollars? Any loss of tax base in our communities puts an increased burden on those remaining.

Lack of Details

The proposal lacks detail as to changes in Park boundaries, permitted uses, fees, and visitation. There are no economic or environmental impact statements. No entities should be supporting any proposal without this detailed information.

Delaware Water Gap Defense Fund
3 Maple Lane
Layton, NJ 07851

Delaware Water Gap Defense Fund



NO NATIONAL PARK

Our Goal

To prevent the efforts of any group or organization to change the designation of the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area to that of a National Park.

To preserve, protect and promote responsible resource management and diversity of recreational opportunities within DWGNRA.

