

Introduction to National Heritage Areas



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National Heritage Areas are

Designated by
Congress based
on:

- 1) national
importance of
resources &
stories
- 2) support &
capacity of local
communities



Cane River NHA

National Heritage Areas (NHA's) expand on traditional approaches to resource stewardship by supporting large-scale, community centered initiatives that connect local citizens to the preservation and planning process.



Mississippi Hills NHA



Atchafalaya NHA

- NHAs range from **factory towns and city neighborhoods to farmland and battlefields**
- By embracing large landscapes, NHAs have the ability to **join together diverse practices** such as education, recreation, heritage tourism and historic preservation.



MS Gulf Coast

How is this different than a National Park?

- A NHA is a locally-managed designation that focuses heritage-centered interpretation, conservation and development projects over a complex matrix of public and private land.
 - It is not a unit of the NPS



Gullah Geechee NHC

NPS Role

- Cooperative Agreement
 - Financial Assistance
 - Technical Assistance
- NPS involvement is always **advisory** in nature; NPS neither makes nor carries out management decisions.
- While NHA **designation is permanent**, the NPS relationship with and commitments to a NHA **vary** over time



A photograph of a historic wooden house with a rusted metal roof and a porch, surrounded by people in a grassy field. The house has a prominent chimney and a porch with concrete steps. Several people are gathered around the house, some looking at the building and others talking. The scene is set in a natural, grassy area with trees in the background.

NHAs integrate multiple approaches to achieve local and regional goals

Arabia Mountain NHA



Recreation

Schuylkill River NHA (PA)

A photograph of a large, historic brick industrial building, likely a mill or factory, situated along a body of water. The building features a prominent, tall, tapered brick chimney on the left side. To the right, there are two multi-story brick towers with arched windows. An American flag flies on a tall pole in front of the building. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds. The foreground shows a grassy bank and the water of the canal.

Historic Preservation (and adaptive reuse)

Augusta Canal NHA

Resource Conservation

Yuma Crossing NHA



Lackawanna Heritage Valley





Education and Interpretation

Tourism and Economic Development



Augusta Canal Petersburg Boat Tours

Heritage Areas are also a Strategy...

- Built on partnerships between organizations
- Planned around a region's shared heritage and place-based resources



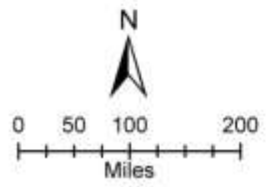
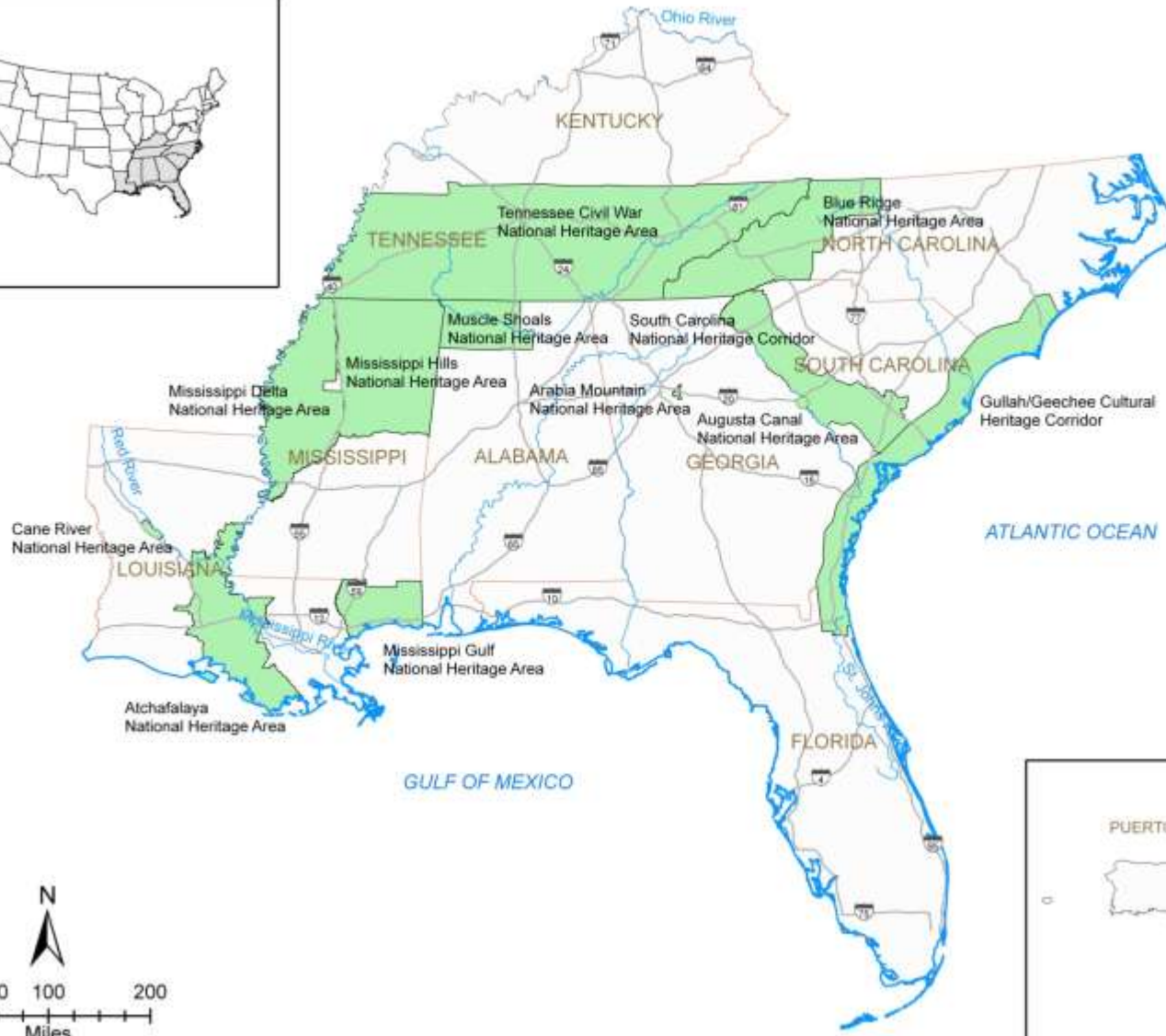
...which does not affect property rights

- Resources remain in existing ownership
- No known property rights violations
- Legislation prohibits land purchases using NPS funding



North Carolina NHA

National Heritage Areas in Southeast Region



 12 NHAs in the Southeast Region

Different Sizes, Resources, **Stories**



Tennessee Civil War NHA



Yuma Crossing (AZ)

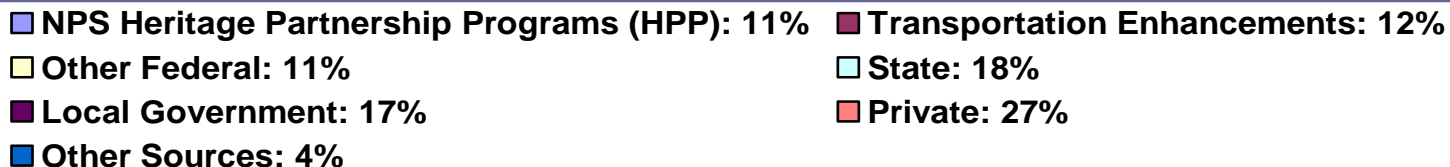
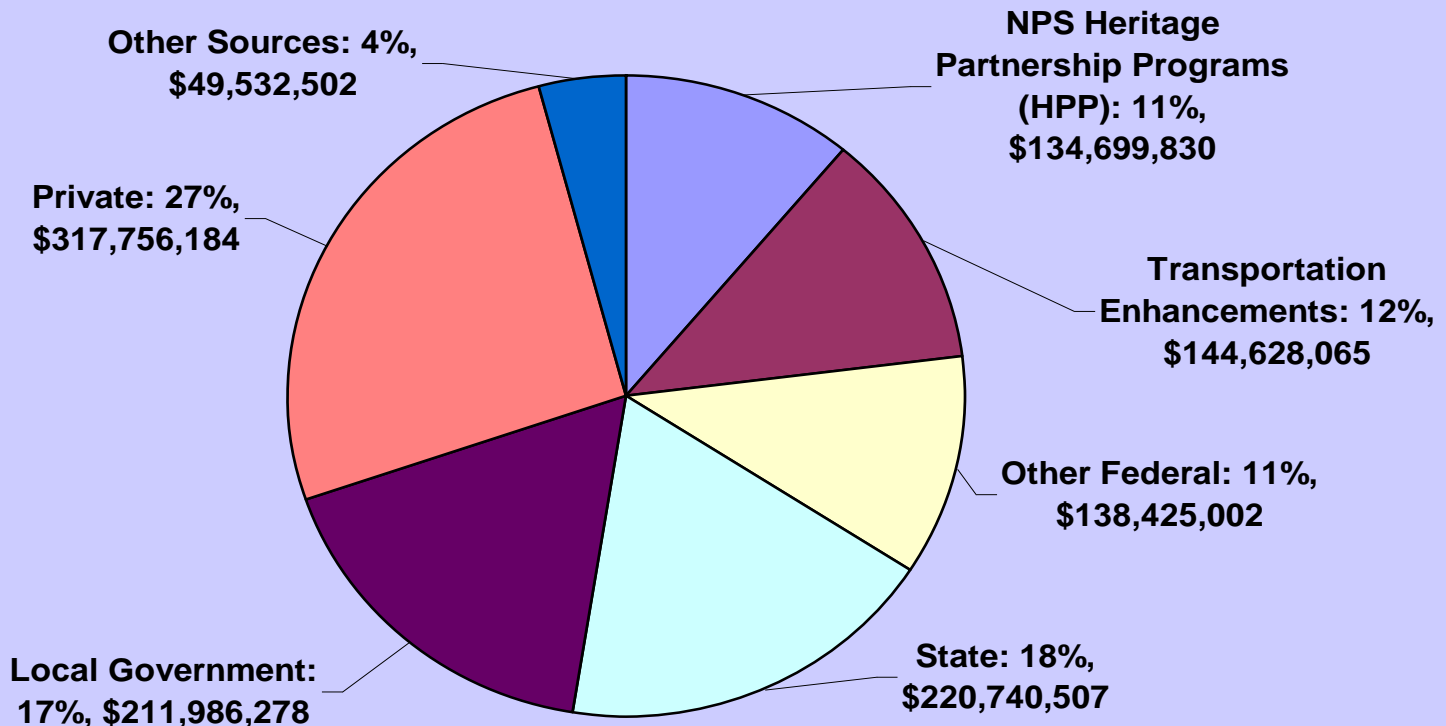


Arabia Mountain NHA

Leveraging Federal \$

Leveraging of NPS Heritage Partnership Programs Funding to Heritage Areas: 1:8

(Since NPS funding began)



Southeast Region

National Heritage Areas Program

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National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

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