

Alliance  
of National  
Heritage  
Areas

NATIONAL HERITAGE AREAS:

# Celebrating America and Catalyzing Local Economic Development

National Heritage Areas (NHAs) play a vital economic development role in the communities and regions that they serve. Through their collaborative approach, NHAs are able to coordinate the interests and goals of community members, and amplify local efforts into larger goals that benefit the entire region. Working together and combining resources, NHAs and stakeholders work toward sustainable outcomes in preservation, conservation, and growth of local economies.

*Data presented here is from reports submitted by 58 of the 62 NHAs for 2023 (the most recent year for which this data is available). In 2024, NHAs continued to serve communities and support their partners with a renewed collective purpose.*

In 2023, our National Heritage Areas

**LEVERAGED  
\$48 MILLION**

in cash & in-kind support to carry out heritage projects and programs,



**GREATLY  
INCREASING  
the IMPACT**

of the \$28.1 million  
in federal Heritage  
Partnership  
Program funding

**ATTRACTED**

**2.4  
MILLION  
PEOPLE**

**TO HERITAGE  
AREA EVENTS**

*(races, celebrations,  
ceremonies, etc.)*



Provided local partner  
organizations with

**12,718  
GRANTS**  
totaling  
**\$4.9  
MILLION**

in direct assistance  
to communities.

ENGAGED  
**7,335 PARTNERS**  
IN HERITAGE AREA ACTIVITIES.



**26,465  
VOLUNTEERS**

CONTRIBUTED  
MORE THAN

**325,000  
HOURS**

FOR HERITAGE  
AREA PROJECTS

**A \$10M  
VALUE**



# Preserving Our Heritage

Across the country, National Heritage Areas and their partners are reviving historic downtowns, preserving large landscapes and cultural practices, and sharing our nation's history.



**91**  
COLLECTIONS  
PROJECTS  
WERE UNDERTAKEN  
including the  
conservation of artifacts  
and creation  
of oral histories



**166**  
HISTORIC SITES &  
**9,167**  
ACRES OF CULTURAL  
LANDSCAPES  
were preserved &  
maintained, including  
battlefields



**102** HISTORIC PRESERVATION GRANTS AWARDED = **\$1.5M**



# Recreation & Conservation

Through recreational projects such as access to land and water trails, National Heritage Areas are improving connectivity and accessibility, creating more vibrant and healthy communities.



**1,284 MILES**  
of trails maintained &  
**38 MILES**  
of new trails developed

**181** RECREATION  
PROJECTS  
UNDERTAKEN

**65** RECREATION  
GRANTS AWARDED  
TOTALING **\$3.2M**

# Educating Current & Future Leaders

Through a variety of educational programs, National Heritage Areas and their partners are providing meaningful and inspirational connections to our nation's heritage via educators and the (outdoor) classroom.

**325**  
grants to  
support  
educational  
programs  
awarded  
totaling  
**\$1.3M**

**740,000**  
people  
engaged in  
heritage area  
educational  
programs

**980**  
ORGANIZATIONS  
CAPACITY-  
BUILDING  
ASSISTANCE  
PROVIDED TO

**2,064** EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM  
OFFERINGS DEVELOPED

Through collaborative conservation activities, National Heritage Area entities and their partners are improving air and water quality and supporting healthy ecosystems.

**12,336 ACRES  
OF LAND  
RESTORED  
& MAINTAINED**



VIA INVASIVE SPECIES REMOVAL,  
REPLANTING, AND TOXIC SITE CLEAN-UPS.

**49** CONSERVATION GRANTS  
AWARDED TOTALING **\$675,556**