

Editorial: Prescription to heal national parks is a poison pill

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Looking at one part of President Trump's budget, you might think his administration is riding to the rescue of the National Park Service.

But a broader view of the overall budget reveals something very different. The administration's plans for our national parks threaten to tear them to pieces.

While Trump recommends spending \$18.7 billion to fix a massive maintenance backlog, which would seem like a good idea, the problem is that all but \$257 million of that funding would come from private industries that would be given access to the parks to use for commercial purposes – mainly oil and gas companies. More specifically, the funding would be derived from the government collecting a percentage of energy leasing receipts.

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