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Happy New Year

2025 was the most destructive year for public lands in American history

Nailed to the Gates of Yellowstone: Ten Theses to Take Back Our Public Lands

Year of the Horse

Resolutions from various philosophies

Happy New Year

**MAY YOUR COMING YEAR
BE FILLED WITH MAGIC
AND DREAMS AND GOOD MADNESS.
I HOPE YOU READ SOME FINE BOOKS
AND KISS SOMEONE WHO THINKS YOU'RE WONDERFUL,
AND DON'T FORGET
TO MAKE SOME ART -- WRITE OR DRAW
OR BUILD OR SING OR LIVE AS ONLY YOU CAN.
AND I HOPE, SOMEWHERE IN THE NEXT YEAR,
YOU SURPRISE YOURSELF.**

— *Neil Gaiman* —

[Will Pattiz](#) [More Than Just Parks](#)

2025 was the most destructive year for public lands in American history.

Not because of a single law or vote, but because public land was treated as inventory instead of inheritance.

Across the year, protections were peeled back piece by piece. Agencies were weakened on purpose. Authority was shifted quietly. Land was framed as leverage, bargaining chip, and reward. The public trust was not debated. It was bypassed.

Systems built on good faith met an administration operating without it. Congress stalled. Courts lagged. Guardrails bent, then gave.

What followed was asset stripping at a national scale. A century of safeguards thinned in months while public wealth moved into private hands in plain sight.

This is the condition 2026 inherited.

Share this as a record, before anyone tries to soften what happened.

Not because of a few laws or a handful of deregulatory moves, but because of something far more dangerous: a sustained, coordinated campaign to strip the nation of its shared inheritance, executed in bad faith by an administration unbound by law, precedent, or shame.

What has happened over the past year has no modern parallel. Public lands were not merely mismanaged or deprioritized. They were treated as spoils. As inventory. As leverage. As collateral to be traded for political loyalty and donor profit. The idea that these places belong to the American people — equally, across generations — was not debated or challenged. It was simply ignored.

We've quickly discovered that our laws were never designed for this. They assumed good faith. They assumed a basic respect for the public trust. They assumed that no administration would attempt to hollow out institutions from the inside in a cynical attempt to liquidate the American estate for the exclusive benefit of wealthy donors and friends. They assumed Congress would act as a check. They assumed the courts would intervene when the law was brazenly violated.

Those assumptions have failed spectacularly.

What we are witnessing is asset stripping at a national scale — the deliberate dismantling of protections built over more than a century, paired with the transfer of public wealth into private

hands. Not quietly. Not subtly. In broad daylight. Americans are being robbed of their land, their natural heritage, and their future, while being told it's about "efficiency," "energy," or "freedom."

It's corruption in its purest form.

This administration has fused political power with personal enrichment and donor reward in a manner unmatched in American history. It has treated public land as a bargaining chip, federal agencies as sinister tools to be usurped, career public servants as enemies, and the law as something to be bent, bypassed, or ignored whenever it proves inconvenient. The treasury is being drained. The land is being plundered. The institutions meant to protect both are being dismantled almost as quickly as the East Wing of the White House.

An International Disgrace

It's easy to understand that this is a national disgrace with consequences that will echo for generations. But it's more than that.

It's an international one.

For generations, the United States was seen as a beacon, as something more than a prosperous nation. Far from perfect, but rooted in a serious idea: that government should be constrained by law, that leaders were accountable to the people, that institutions mattered more than individuals, and that the future deserved protection from the appetites of the present. We were a country that tried, imperfectly but earnestly, to govern itself with restraint, to tell the truth about power, and to light the way in a world often shrouded in the darkness of oppression. That aspiration gave the nation weight. It gave its laws meaning. It made failure something to correct rather than something to exploit.

That reputation is now in ruins.

We are watching the United States slide into something smaller, meaner, and far more dangerous. A country where might makes right, where laws are obstacles to be brushed aside, where truth is the enemy of the state, and where public institutions exist only to serve those already at the top.

What was built over centuries — independent institutions, professional civil service, environmental law, public trust, constitutional norms — is being looted in real time. Not because it failed, but because it stood in the way. This isn't the result of some error or misguided sense of leadership. It's the result of a governing philosophy rooted in domination, extraction, and impunity. And it's being carried out openly, brazenly, and with the confidence of people who no longer believe they will ever be held to account.

And it's only beginning.

Nailed to the Gates of Yellowstone: Ten Theses to Take Back Our Public Lands

A Citizen's Framework to Reclaim the American Commons

[Will Pattiz](#) and [More Than Just Parks](#)

May 06, 2025

They were never supposed to become profit centers.
Not the parks, not the forests, not the deserts, not the mountains.

Public lands were meant to be our inheritance – a common treasury of wildness and silence, solitude and scale.

A bulwark against the market. A chance, for once, to be citizens instead of consumers.

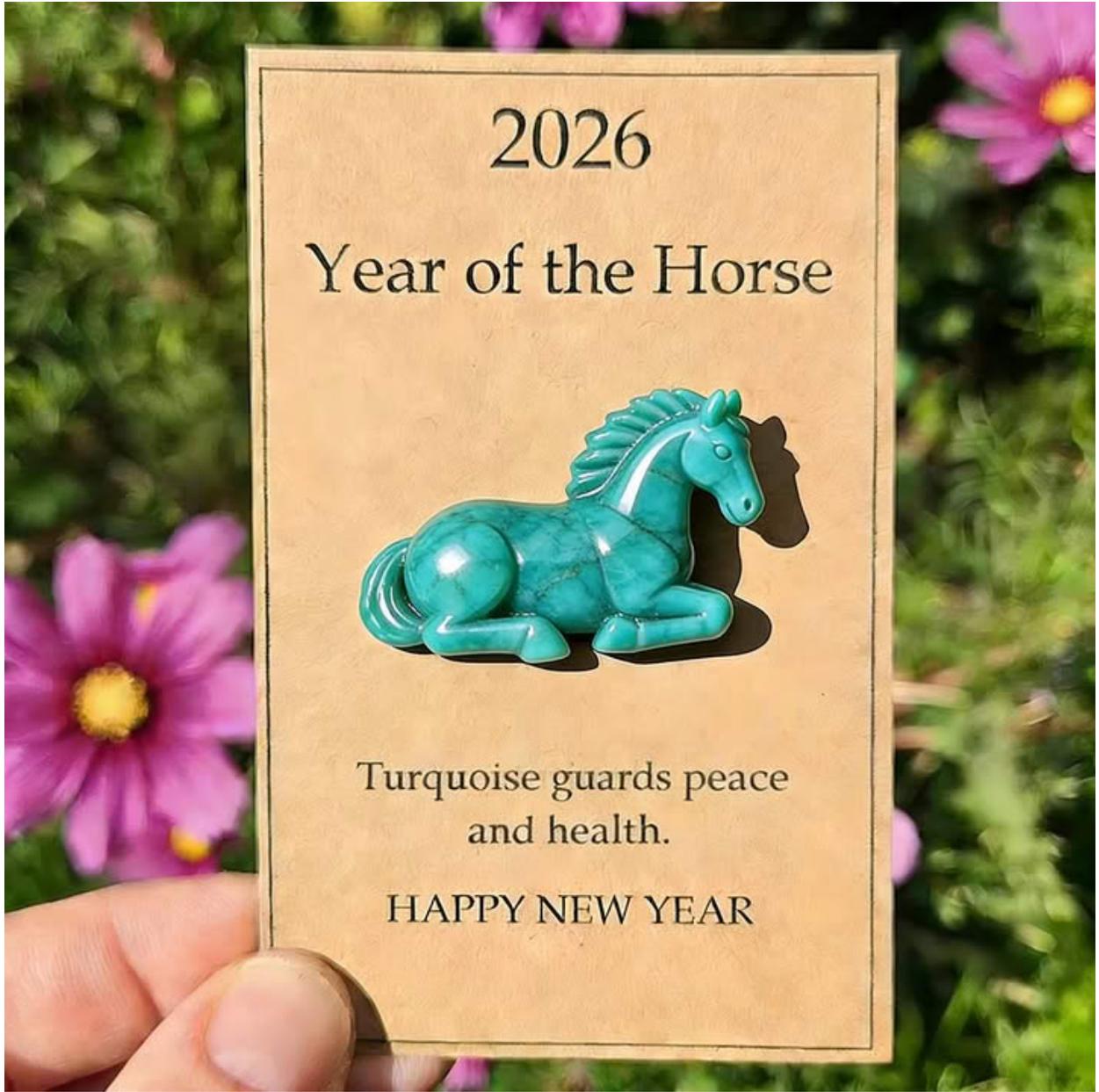
But they're being taken.

The rangers are few and getting fewer.
We're getting priced out of our lodges.
Our campgrounds are being privatized.
Our access is being gated, monetized, and funneled into third-party platforms we never asked for.

You can still find a ranger if you're willing to look.
But their numbers are dwindling, and their reach is stretched thin.
They're being replaced. Not by force, but by budget and policy.
Replaced by contractors in branded polos.
Where a ranger once answered your questions or carried your kid off the trail increasingly there's a QR code in their place.
This isn't progress. It's retreat.
A disgraceful abandonment of the promise that these places would be...

Edited

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- Washoe County School District posted a job opening for **Coach - Sports & Activities Assistant (Band)** in Reno. Apply [here](#).
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Attila A Nagy 7h



🎵 Miles Davis ... [Try it](#)

## The Golden Rule

### Buddhism

Do not hurt others with what brings pain to you.

### Christianity

Treat others the way you want them to treat you.

### Hinduism

Treat others as you would like to be treated yourself.

### Islam

Do for all people what you would wish done for you.

### Judaism

What you dislike for yourself, do not do to anyone.

### Native American

Live in balance, for we are all connected.

### Sacred Earth

Do what you wish, as long as it harms no one.

### The Wisdom Awakened

Spread Love ❤️



Send message...



