

**Devils Tower National Monument  
Long Range Interpretive Plan  
Primary Significance Statements  
February, 2010**

- The Tower is a monolith of uncommon igneous rock (phonolite). It has many visually stunning, symmetrical, columnar joints, which are the tallest (some more than 600 feet) and the widest (10-20 feet in diameter) in the world.
- The Tower with its lofty height and well grounded base, inspires reverence and awe, commands attention and remains a dominant landmark in the Northern Great Plains.
- Devils Tower National Monument was the first national monument established. In choosing the Tower as the first place to be protected by the 1906 Antiquities Act President Theodore Roosevelt broadened the intended use of the Act by including both its scientific and cultural significance.
- The Tower serves as a powerful setting, prompting many types of experiences and forms of personal expression and education.
- The Tower has a unique history of management which strives to balance recreational, cultural needs and natural resource preservation.
- The Tower has long been a spiritual place to many peoples. It continues to be prominent in the traditional cultural beliefs and lifeways of Tribal Nations, Pioneers, Ranchers, Climbers and modern cultures.
- Generations of local community members have formed attachments to the Tower, which has become an important part of their lifeways.
- The Tower is a unique climbing destination with an interesting climbing history.
- Devils Tower National Monument protects mountain and Northern Plains species which meet in a unique ecological mix distinctive to the Black Hills.
- The Tower and surrounding Black Hills area has been the domain of the Tribal Nations for unknown generations and generations to come. The Tribal Nations history is rich with oral stories, astronomical and ecological knowledge.