

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

- Proclaimed by President Theodore Roosevelt as America's first national monument, Devils Tower exemplifies the challenges of managing and protecting public places and significant cultural properties used and valued by many people in numerous ways to provide the greatest benefit for all.
- The variety of stories regarding how the Tower came to be offer opportunities to learn and experience how affiliated cultures, scientists, and others understand and respect this special place.
- The Tower, a universally recognized landmark, entices us to explore and define our place in the natural and cultural world.
- The dramatic and alluring character of the Tower evokes a powerful sense of wonder, prompting many forms of personal expression that nourish our relationship with the land and universe.
- The Tower has always been recognized as a spiritual place by many Tribal Nations and their people - and respected in diverse ways that are socially and spiritually significant to their cultural ways, identity and responsibility.
- The ethereal height, solid rock and hundreds of long cracks of the Tower provide a safe environment for many people to learn and practice climbing skills while exploring physical limits and boundless spiritual realms.
- In the late 1800's, pioneers and ranchers settled the area surrounding the Tower. It continues to be at the center of the cultural, historical, economic, and social activities of the local communities.
- Since time immemorial, the Tower, and entire Black Hills region, is and continues to be a living cultural area for all Tribal Nations.
- Devils Tower, an ecologically unique and diverse area, protects flora, fauna, natural processes and other natural resources through a variety of management actions.