

National Parks Service Cleans Up Their Strategic Prioritization and Resourcing Utilizing Decision Lens



THE ORGANIZATION

The National Park Service (NPS). NPS was created to ensure that the lands, cultural and historical resources, and values of America's exceptional places would be left unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations. The agency cares for the more than 400 national parks in the United States. The NPS Contaminants Cleanup Branch spearheads the agency's efforts to clean up all contaminated sites that exist in our many National Parks.



THE PROBLEM

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT. Many national parks were deemed of "strategic importance to the agency" by Congress after the land was already in use for things like mining and other activities. Those portions of the land often created contamination issues that needed remediation and cleanup. These sites include former military bases, abandoned industrial areas, former landfills and several sites contaminated by leaking petroleum tanks.



THE SOLUTION

PRIORITIZATION. NPS Contaminants Cleanup Branch used Decision Lens to help prioritize and invest in remediating these contaminated sites. Prior to Decision Lens, the sites were not clearly prioritized or aligned with agency goals. Most sites were allocated a little bit of money, but problems were not clearly addressed and very few sites were seeing the resources needed to complete their cleanup mission.



THE RESULTS

EXECUTE. Decision Lens was used to drive the strategic prioritization and resourcing of the cleanup of these sites nationally. The process around prioritization and allocation that Decision Lens brought to their efforts helped put in place a compliance memorandum that all portfolios that have contaminated sites must use a "strategic prioritization" process. NPS Contaminants Branch spearheaded the use of Decision Lens into other parts of the National Park Service, including the facilities and construction area, with a broader eye towards applying this to many other portfolios and processes in the agency.