



Cassius M. Cash
Yosemite Conservancy President & CEO

Cassius M. Cash became President/CEO of Yosemite Conservancy in 2025 after more than 30 years of service with the U.S. Forest Service and the National Park Service. Cash most recently served as superintendent of Great Smoky Mountains National Park for nearly a decade.

At Yosemite Conservancy, Cash will lead the organization into its second century of service — spearheading projects and programs that enhance the visitor experience and inspire donor support to protect and preserve Yosemite National Park for future generations.

Cash began his federal career in 1991 as a wildlife biologist at the Gifford Pinchot National Forest in Washington State, and moved into leadership positions at wilderness and historical sites throughout the country before joining the National Park Service in 2010.

With the National Park Service, Cash served as superintendent at National Historic Park and Boston African American National Historical Park, before being named superintendent of the Smokies in early 2015.

Among his many accomplishments, Cash used his leadership platform as former Smokies superintendent to do notable community work, including embracing the natural world as a place of healing and to serve as the platform in creating the next generation of stewards.

In 2021, Cash received the national Stephen Mather Award for creating Smokies Hikes for Healing, which provided a space to have crucial conversations about race and diversity while hiking in one of the most diverse ecosystems in the National Park Service system.

Cash earned a bachelor's degree in biology from the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff and later studied wildlife management at Oregon State University. Cash and his wife, Vonda, recently moved to San Francisco from his home state of Tennessee. They have two adult children in California and Tennessee.

About Yosemite Conservancy

For more than 100 years, Yosemite Conservancy has been supporting the conservation of Yosemite's natural resources and helping people develop deep ties to the park. Thanks to generous donors, in recent years, we have provided more than \$172 million in grants to Yosemite for more than 850 projects. In 2025, we are providing more than \$18 million in total support and funding around 60 new grants to the National Park Service for projects in the park. The Conservancy's guided adventures and art classes, donor events, volunteer opportunities, wilderness services, and bookstores help people from across the country and world connect with Yosemite. Learn more at yosemite.org.