John Muir was one of the most influential conservationist of his day, and his beliefs and influences still remain today. Muir grew to a position that allowed him to have a say in the conservation of nature and make decisions that important figures trusted him to make. He started out as a young school boy who loved to climb, to a man with an adventurous spirit. And finally became an old man who fought for the forests and landmarks he loved so much. During his life, he took on leadership roles that he didn’t particularly want but accepted because of his influence on other conversationalists and because others believed in what he said and trusted in his opinions and decisions. Muir is remembered for the way his writing about nature was able touch the hearts of so many people.

His books and essays tell about the spiritual beauty of nature that inspired its readers to help in the conservation. One of his most important allies, President Theodore Roosevelt, was touched by Muir’s reading and helped him in the conservation of nature greatly. Roosevelt went on a four day hike with Muir to talk about the conservation of Yosemite Park. By the end of their hike they had agreed that the federal government should become a part of the protection of the park (Worster 366-368). The government aid that Muir sought, possibly saved Yosemite because without proper protection it could have been taken over by civilians and destroyed. In 1892, Muir received a letter from William Armes was asking to form a hiking club. Muir wrote him back that it would be more than that, it would have the goal of defending and preserving the Sierra (Worster 328-329). Muir became the president of the Sierra Club soon after it started and throughout its rein, many parks were created and preserved to this day.
Muir is remembered for his guardianship, that he put upon himself, of the forests and all that he did to protect them. But people now a days can remember him through his books and essays on all of his grand adventures. Muir was the man who climbed a giant sequoia in the middle of a windy thunder storm just for the experience of what trees go through (Muir). He was adventurous, carefree, and somewhat arrogant when he was young and all he really needed was nature. In his writings, he wrote about all of his great adventures that would bring him to deaths edge but that didn’t scare him because nature’s beauty and melodic hymn would bring him right back.

Muir was also known for the way he wrote and all of his beliefs about nature. “Suddenly he was lifted up, thrilled to the point of tears by it unexpected beauty, ‘So perfectly spiritual, it seemed pure enough for the throne of its Creator’,” (Worster 94). Muir’s writings about the way he felt about trees and valleys and everything he loved about this world showed his passion and greatest attribute. To Muir, nature was spiritual and Holy. He traded out God for nature because nature was God’s gift to the world that Muir couldn’t be without.

John Muir was very influential during his life time and has become even more throughout his death. He had a connection with nature that may never be possible again and used it to inspire countless others. Without him, many parks and landmarks may not have been saved or preserved so that future generations will be able to see the beauty of this world like Muir did. His legacy still plays a role in many conservation acts because of the committees and clubs he was in that he played a major part in. For example, the Sierra Club currently has 1.3 million members that still help preserve the worlds national parks ("Sierra Club"). He has been an animate figure in the conservation of nature and will continue to be for a long time.
Bibliography


Muir's article on Yosemite appeared in the 10th edition of the Encyclopedia Britannica, Inc. Get exclusive access to content from our 1768 First Edition with your subscription. Subscribe today. Early in 1897, U.S. President Grover Cleveland designated 13 national forests to be preserved from commercial exploitation. His conviction that wilderness areas should be federally protected as national parks has given generations of U.S. citizens an opportunity to appreciate America's landscapes as they exist naturally, in the absence of human industrial influence. Muir's writings continue to serve as sources of inspiration for naturalists and conservationists in the United States and worldwide.

John Muir (1838-1914) was one of the most influential conservationists and nature writers in American history. He was instrumental in the creation and passage of the National Parks Act, and founder of the Sierra Club, acting as its president until his death. Muir was a spirit so free that all he did to prepare for an expedition was to "throw some tea and bread into an old sack and jump the back fence." The name of John Muir as one of the earliest conservationists, naturalists, and natural philosophers is forever entwined with California - he is the man behind the creation of the Yosemite National Park and the namesake of the John Muir Trail in Sierra Nevada - but Muir was 30 years old before ever set foot in the state. Given its natural wonders, it should come as no surprise that the area attracted some of the 19th century's most famous conservationists, including Muir and his good friend Theodore Roosevelt. Muir in particular was instrumental in having Yosemite declared a national park, and he would wax eloquently about the area and the fight to preserve it.

John Muir (mjuər/ MEWR; April 21, 1838 – December 24, 1914) also known as "John of the Mountains" and "Father of the National Parks", was an influential Scottish-American naturalist, author, environmental philosopher, botanist, zoologist, glaciologist, and early advocate for the preservation of wilderness in the United States of America. His letters, essays, and books describing his adventures in nature, especially in the Sierra Nevada, have been read by millions. His activism helped to preserve...