

Fresno Bee project on Yosemite's 150 years wins McClatchy honor

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Matt and Cheryl Phillips of Chester, New Hampshire, soak up the beauty and tranquility as they walk a meadow trail in Yosemite Valley, on their first trip to the national park for their 25th wedding anniversary.

JOHN WALKER — The Fresno Bee

“Yosemite at 150,” The Bee’s monthlong, multimedia look at Yosemite National Park as it celebrated its sesquicentennial last June, has been awarded a McClatchy President’s Award.

The McClatchy Company’s 29 daily newspapers combined to nominate 70 entries for the annual President’s Awards, the company’s highest honor. Twelve winners were selected for 2014. Judging is done by an outside panel.

Of “Yosemite at 150,” one judge remarked: “Anniversary stories are difficult to pull off, but The Fresno Bee employed superb writing, videos, photos, historical research and true imagination to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the nation’s most popular national park.”

The stories appeared in print and online over the course of June, including a centerpiece each Sunday during the month. Reporter Mark Grossi took the lead on the project, and several other reporters, photographers, artists and editors made major contributions.

See the full series including stunning photos and an interactive timeline at www.fresnobee.com/yosemite150.

Also winning a President's Award was "[Contract to Cheat](#)," a yearlong McClatchy investigation that uncovered massive fraud in the 2009 federal stimulus project intended to rebuild America and jump-start the economy. The Bee's real estate reporter, BoNhia Lee, and assistant metro editor Doug Beeman contributed reporting and research to the project.

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