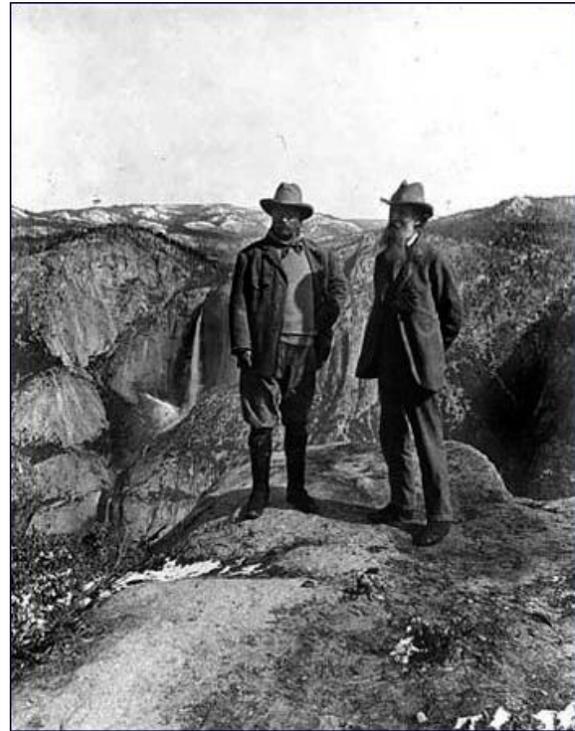


Protecting the Environment

America Pathways to the Present

TR also urged Congress to take further steps to protect the nation's natural resources. At the urging of explorers and nature writers such as John Wesley Powell and John Muir. Congress had established Yellowstone in Wyoming as the nation's first national park in 1872. Yosemite National Park in California has been created in 1890. Presidents Harrison and Cleveland had preserved some 35 million acres of forest land.

In 1905 Roosevelt named Gifford Pinchot, a forester, to head a new United States Forest Service. Pinchot sought to develop a policy for land and water use based on scientific data. At his recommendation TR set aside more than 200 million acres for national forests, mineral reserves, and water projects. The National Reclamation Act, passed in 1902, used money for the sale of public lands to build irrigation



Roosevelt and conservationist John Muir pose against the magnificent landscape of California's Yosemite National Park in this 1906 photograph.

PROGRESSIVE ERA LEGISLATION

Legislation	Purpose
Sherman Anti-Trust Act 1890	Outlawed monopolies and practices that restrained trade such as price fixing
National Reclamation Act 1902	Created to plan and develop irrigation projects
U.S. Forest Service 1905	Manage the nation's water and timber resources
Hepburn Act 1906	Authorized Interstate Commerce Commission to regulate railroad rates.
Pure Food and Drug Act 1906	Banned interstate shipping of impure food and deliberate mislabeling of food and drugs.
Meat Inspection Act 1906	Required Federal inspection of meat processing to ensure sanitary conditions..
Department of Labor 1913	Cabinet department created to promote the welfare and employment of working people.
16 th amendment	Income tax
17 th amendment	Direct election of senators
Federal Reserve Act 1913	Created the Federal Reserve System of government banks to supervise private banks and provide a flexible money supply
National Park Service 1916	Created to administer the nation's parks
18 th amendment 1919	Prohibited the manufacture and sale of liquor
19 th amendment 1920	Granted women full suffrage
Women's Bureau 1920	Created within the Department of Labor to improve the status of working women.