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Contact: Karl Kroeber, The Yosemite Fund
415-434-1782

Yosemite Fund President to Depart at End of 2008
*Bob Hansen's devotion to Yosemite led to major park improvements
and created a foundation for future success*

San Francisco, Calif., March 4, 2008 – After nearly two decades of leading The Yosemite Fund from its infancy to becoming a major contributor to the well being of Yosemite National Park, Bob Hansen will leave the organization at the end of 2008, it was announced today by the nonprofit's Board of Trustees.

“Bob has embodied the mission of the Fund in every possible way and his enthusiasm and wisdom have been a major force behind our remarkable growth and continuing success,” said Hal Cranston, chairman of The Yosemite Fund.

The Yosemite Fund is the primary fundraising arm for projects that support trails, wilderness, wildlife, cultural preservation and education in Yosemite National Park. In the last 19 years under Mr. Hansen's guidance, the organization has blossomed to 26,000 donors, who have generously contributed more than \$40 million for over 200 park improvement projects.

“It has been a great honor and pleasure for me to be associated with the effort to bring the power of philanthropy back to Yosemite to provide a margin of excellence to benefit the Park and its visitors,” said Mr. Hansen. “Visitors from around the world enjoy this natural wonder today in a condition far and away superior to its recent past.”

Mr. Cranston said the Fund has assembled a Transition Committee and will retain an executive search firm. “Our goal is to find a highly qualified candidate who not only understands our mission and culture but who will also embrace them in every way. Our new President will not only be able to manage the job at hand, but grow and lead us in the years to come,” he said.

Working in partnership with the National Park Service, donor contributions to the Fund have transformed countless areas of Yosemite National Park since its inception in 1987. In just the last three years, The Yosemite Fund has completed a \$13.5 million restoration of the approach to Yosemite Falls, and a \$1.5 million restoration of Olmsted Point. It is nearing completion of a \$13.5 million campaign to improve Yosemite's 800 mile trail system. Last October, The Tunnel View Restoration Project was announced as a flagship project of the National Park Centennial Challenge. The \$3 million project will revitalize the deteriorating view site and create new educational and hiking opportunities for visitors at the popular Yosemite Valley overlook.

“The Yosemite Fund will be making this change in leadership from a position of tremendous strength. I have been fortunate to be associated with many of the park's sung and unsung heroes and to hold the trust of individuals who care so deeply for this place that they would provide their personal gifts in its favor,” said Hansen. “The passion of these people and those at The Fund for Yosemite will continue to achieve what John Muir exhorted us all to do: “make the mountains glad.”

For more information about The Yosemite Fund, see www.yosemitfund.org or call 1-800-4MYPARK.

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