

Question from Rep. Blake Moore for Congressman Joe Neguse: The Central Utah Relocation Center, also known as Topaz, was a similarly sized camp that held over 9,000 internees during the war. Today, these sites are important opportunities for us to teach. What would you say are the best ways to drive visitation to these important sites and to educate visitors?

Answer: One impactful way to drive visitation to these important sites is formal designation as a NPS site. In the case of Amache, designation as a National Historic Site will help ensure that sufficient resources, staffing, and maintenance are provided to ensure that visitors have educational, insightful visits and that the stories of Amache survivors and descendants are taught with historical context, detail, and accuracy. An important aspect is also bringing together the local communities, towns, and county commissioners to ensure that the community surrounding these sites is incorporated in their conservation. By building these partnerships, we can ensure that a wide variety of audiences have access to and are aware of these important historical sites.