

AID/NPS Bulletin Full of Readable Technical Briefs

An 8-page prototype report entitled "Natural Resource Technical Bulletin" was published in March by the National Park Service's international division for AID . . . one of the products of the AID/NPS project "Environment and Natural Resources: Expanded Information Base."

Aimed at helping AID missions, host country counterparts and other development organizations make efficient use of the vast existing knowledge available in this field, the bulletin will highlight significant new information on environmental aspects of development. The Park Service was selected for leadership in this effort because of its long experience in managing a wide variety of habitats, its ecosystem approach to management, its links with experts in environmental fields, and its record of striving to balance development with environmental protection.

Although its target is international, the prototype bulletin contains technical briefs and books reviews of interest to scientists and managers of parks in this country. Future issues will include articles on natural resources planning and management, with emphasis on field study based materials.

Hugh Bell Muller, manager of the AID/NPS Cooperative Program, described three contracts now underway – each involving a specific product. The contract with the National Academy of Sciences involves development in the humid tropics; a contract with the International Institute for Environment and Development is looking at ways developing countries are handling environmental issues, and a third contract, with the American Association for the Advancement of Science, is surveying methods for conducting resources inventories and baseline studies.

Information about this program and copies of the bulletin may be had by writing Muller, Office of International Park Affairs, NPS, DI, Washington, D.C. 20240 or calling on FTS 523 0150.