

Bratton Takes New Job



Susan P. Bratton, formerly research biologist at Uplands Field Research Laboratory, Great Smoky Mountains NP, recently transferred to the NPS Cooperative Research Unit at the Institute of Ecology, University of Georgia.

A native of Delaware, Susan earned her B.A. in biology at Barnard College, Columbia University and her Ph.D. in plant ecology at Cornell University. She began her career with the National Park Service as a biologist stationed at Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, North Carolina, in 1974. In 1975 she

moved to Great Smoky Mountains National Park, where she served as research coordinator of the Uplands Lab for four years. She remained at the Great Smokies until her reassignment to the University of Georgia last November.

Susan has conducted a wide range of research, including studies of exotic European wild boar rooting in Great Smoky Mountains National Park and a study on the control and eradication of exotic kudzu in several southeastern parks. She also has authored numerous papers on ecological monitoring in biosphere reserves, rare and endangered plants, and backcountry visitor use.

At the University of Georgia, Susan will undertake a study of boat impacts on grass beds at Canaveral National Seashore, a fire history and analysis of Cumberland Island and Canaveral National Seashores, an ecosystem study of Congaree Swamp National Monument, and vegetation surveys of Fort Frederica National Monument and Shiloh National Military Park.