

Natural Resource Trainee Program FY 1984-85

By Susan P. Bratton and Carol Bickley

The new Natural Resource Specialist Trainee Program began Dec. 3, 1984, at Clemson University, with orientation and a course in situational leadership followed by a week-long introduction to microcomputers. Each of the 23 trainees will receive a Televideo microcomputer for use during the 22-month training program. The trainees will participate in a coordinated series of courses taught mostly by NPS staff and/or university faculty. These courses will not only emphasize key areas of resource management such as wildlife population ecology and aquatic systems, but also will encourage "hands-on" learning of resource skills, including microcomputer use. Many of the courses will include field trips to park areas and laboratory exercises that investigate actual park problems.

Unlike the previous natural resource training program, the new program will be more academically structured with common courses and activities for all of the trainees as a group. Dr. Richard Briceland, Associate Director for Natural Resources, and his staff will oversee the academic elements of the program. The program also will involve the use of training park or regional offices where supervisors are available who already are skilled resource managers, and the selection of "on-site" counselors to advise the trainees and to act as mentors. These counselors will help the trainees construct Individual Development Plans and will supervise on-the-job training activities. The counselors also will consult with the superintendents or other resource staff of the destination park or region to try to identify the needs of the destination site that should be included in the training program.

Among the courses the trainees will be taking are: microcomputer skills, air quality, pest management, geographic information systems, techniques of wildlife management, wildlife population ecology, mining and minerals, water resources, fisheries and aquatic systems, coastal processes, vegetation management, natural resource law, cultural resources, fire ecology, recreation sociology, situational leadership, planning and budgeting, conflict resolution, and professional ethics.

Among the sites where the courses will be offered are the Denver Service Center, the EROS Center in Sioux Falls, Oregon State University, Colorado State University, Colorado School of Mines, Rutgers University, Clemson University and University of California at Davis.

Each trainee will be expected to carry out an individual project at the training site, and must complete all necessary planning tasks for this project, as well as field execution and a final report. Upon finishing the program in September 1986, each trainee will have had a wide variety of experiences in resource management, will have gained broad knowledge, and will have developed the professional skills necessary to accomplish resource management project goals.

Bratton is a Research Scientist for NPS at the University of Georgia Institute of Ecology; Bickley is Program Coordinator, Office of Natural Resources, WASO.

NATURAL RESOURCE TRAINING PROGRAM Training and Destination Locations

No. of Positions	Region	Training Location	Destination Location
2	Alaska	Alaska Regional Office Alaska Regional Office	Bering Land Bridge Nat'l Pres. Katmai NP Aniakchak NM
3	Mid-Atlantic	Gettysburg Nat'l Mil. Park Delaware Water Gap NRA Shenandoah NP	Fredericksburg Nat'l Mil. Park Upper Delaware Scenic & Rec. River Valley Forge NP
3	Midwest	Indiana Dunes Nat'l Lakeshore Isle Royale NP Ozark Nat'l Scenic Riverways	Scotts Bluff NM Apostle Island Nat'l Lakeshore St. Croix Nat'l Scenic Riverway
2	North Atlantic	North Atlantic Reg. Office Fire Island NS	Saratoga NHP St. Gaudens NHS Ft. Stanwix NM Roosevelt-Vanderbilt Martin Van Buren NHS
2	National Capital	Nat'l Capital Parks - East Rock Creek Park	Manassas Nat'l Battlefield Park Nat'l Capital Parks - East
3	Pacific Northwest	Pac. Northwest Reg. Office Mt. Rainier NP Mt. Rainier NP	Crater Lake NP Olympic NP Pac. Northwest Reg. Office
2	Rocky Mountain	Yellowstone NP Dinosaur NM	Badlands NP Grant Teton NP
2	Southeast	Everglades NP Everglades NP	Southeast Regional Office Cumberland Islands NS
2	Southwest	Southwest Regional Office Southwest Regional Office	Carlsbad Caverns Guadalupe Mtns. NP Chickasaw NRA
2	Western	Hawaii Volcanoes NP Sequoia Kings Canyon NP	Haleakala NP Lake Mead NRA

NATURAL RESOURCE SPECIALIST TRAINEES

Trainee (Current Duty-Station)	Training Location	Destination Location
Richard Harris (Padre Island NS)	Alaska RO	Bering Land Bridge NP
David Manski (NCR)	Alaska RO	Katmai NM Aniakchak NM & P
Douglas Wallner (Sequoia Kings Canyon NP)	Gettysburg NMP	Fred. and Spotsylvania County Battlefield Memorial NMP
Margaret Weesner (Joshua Tree NM)	Delaware Water Gap NRA	Upper Dela. Scenic & Rec. R.
Brian Lambert (Delaware Water Gap NRA)	Shenandoah NP	Valley Forge NHP
George Oviatt (GW Carver NM)	Indiana Dunes Nat'l Lakeshore	Scotts Bluff NM
Janis Meldrum (Isle Royale NP)	Isle Royale NP	Apostle Islands NL
Victoria Mendiola (Whiskeytown NRA)	Ozark National Scenic Riverways	St. Croix National Riverway
Robert Cook (Gateway NRA)	North Atlantic RO	Saratoga NHP
Patrick Lynch (George Wash. MP)	Fire Island NS	Roosevelt-Vanderbilt Martin Van Buren NHS
Jenness Hall (Prince William Forest Park)	National Capital Parks - East	Manassas National Battlefield Park
Stephen Syphax (NCR)	Rock Creek Park	National Capital Parks - E.
James Milestone (Golden Gate NRA)	Pacific NW RO	Crater Lake NP
Catherine Hawkins (Mt. Rainier NP)	Mt. Rainier NP	Olympic NP
Janet Edwards (Santa Monica Mountains NRA)	Mt. Rainier NP	Pacific NW RO
Susan Consolo (Yellowstone NP)	Yellowstone NP	Badlands NP
Mark Schroeder (Redwood NP)	Dinosaur NM	Grand Teton NP
George Gregory (Mammoth Cave NP)	Everglades NP	Southeast RO
Russell Galipeau (Canaveral NS)	Everglades NP	Cumberland Islands NS
Vidal Davila (Big Bend NP)	Southwest RO	Carlsbad Caverns Guadalupe Mountains NP
Jennifer Bjork (Biscayne NP)	Southwest RO	Chickasaw NRA
William Brock (Great Smoky Mtns. NP)	Hawaii Volcanoes NP	Haleakala NP
Michael Coffe (Sequoia Kings Canyon NP)	Sequoia Kings Canyon NP	Lake Mead NRA