

Western Region

Research scientists, resource managers, planners, and landscape architects from throughout the Western Region, Washington Office, and Denver Service Center participated in a revegetation workshop in San Francisco April 11-15. The workshop included a review of

Golden Gate NRA's and Joshua Tree NM's nursery facilities and revegetation program and culminated in Regional comments on the recent draft NPS Management Policies regarding revegetation, genetic integrity, and landscaping; identification of issues not covered in the draft Policies; and development of guidelines for implementing the proposed Policies.

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A multi-disciplinary team of NPS scientists, resource managers and planners met with university scientists at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Jan. 19-21 to scope out needs of a strong research and resource management program for Great Basin NP. A "step-down" planning process, which has been successfully applied to similar efforts for Organ Pipe Cactus NM and Channel Islands NP, was the vehicle for identifying and prioritizing needs and developing a new natural resources management plan for the park.

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Several staff changes have occurred at two CPSUs in the Western Region. In October, Steven Veirs moved from Redwood NP to become Unit Leader at the U/Cal/Davis CPSU. Thomas Stohlgren, an Ecologist at Sequoia and Kings Canyon NPs, was transferred to Davis to assist Steve in that role. These moves allowed former Unit Leader Charles van Riper III to devote full-time to high priority research for Yosemite NP, Channel Islands NP, and Pinnacles NM. More recently - March 27 - Dennis Fenn returned to the Western Region to assume the Unit Leader position at the CPSU/U/AZ, Tucson. The transfer will allow R. Roy Johnson to devote more attention to high priority research for Arizona units of the NPS.

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"Giant Sequoia Mortality in Burned and Unburned Stands," in the **Journal of Forestry** (86(2):44-46), by U/Cal Research Asst. Sherman Lambert and NPS Ecologist Thomas J. Stohlgren, finds that recently burned and long unburned giant sequoia stands have detectably different tree mortality rates, but the effect is almost entirely restricted to trees smaller than one foot in diameter.

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A number of members of the new NPCA Commission on Science and Resource Management Policy will be participating in the Aug. 14-18 Ecological Society meetings at U/Cal/Davis. NPS Research Scientist Dave Parsons writes that the meetings point to dawning recognition on the part of leading professional societies of the value of the National Parks and notes that a number of the symposia and special sessions are of direct relevance to the NPS.

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"Discovery of *Atoxoplasma* in Hawaii" is the title of a paper by Charles van Riper III and Sandra van Riper of the NPS/CPSU at A/Cal Davis, that appeared in the **Journal of Parasitology**, 73(5), 1987, pp. 1071-1073. This parasite, previously unreported from the Hawaiian Islands, was found in the nutmeg mannikin, house finch, Japanese white-eye, and house sparrow.