

mab notes

Southern Appalachian Agreement Signed. On August 10 the interagency agreement for establishing and operating a Southern Appalachian Man and the Biosphere Cooperative (SAMAB) was signed at Asheville, NC. The signatories were: National Park Service, Forest Service Southeast Regional Office, Forest Service Southeastern Forest Experiment Station, Fish and Wildlife Service, Tennessee Valley Authority, and Economic Development Administration. The Department of Energy is expected to sign soon. SAMAB's first research project will be a regionwide classification of ecosystems and a geographic information system, in preparation for developing a Southern Appalachian conservation database. NPS is providing partial funding.

FY 1988 Research Grants Awarded. At its June meeting, the U.S. MAB National Committee awarded grants totaling \$437,600 to eight research projects. One of these was: *Ecological Restoration of Degraded Caribbean Dry Forest*. Funded at \$50,000, sited at Virgin Islands National Park and Biosphere Reserve, and directed by Dr. Becky J. Brown, University of Wisconsin, the research will test the ability of degraded dry forests to regenerate spontaneously and will explore ways to accelerate the recovery process.

Other projects were: *Diversity of Tropical Forest Canopy Species and an Integrated Conservation Strategy*, \$76,375, Dr. Ilar Muul, Smithsonian Institution; *Ecology, Use and Management of Minor Forest Products in West Kalimantan, Indonesia*, \$50,000, Dr. Christine Padoch and Dr. Charles Peters, The New York Botanical Garden; *Site-Specific Research and Training in Beni Biosphere Reserve Tropical Forest in Bolivia*, \$49,916, Dr. Francisco Gomez-Dallmeier, Smithsonian Institution; *A Regional Comparison of the Functional Characteristics of Wetland Ecosystems*, \$50,000, Dr. Charles R. Goldman, University of California, Davis, Dr. Robert J. Livingstone, Florida State University, and Dr. Robert J. Naiman, University of Minnesota; *Project to Examine Capacities and Strategies for Coping with Effects of Severe Sustained Drought in Portions of the Southwestern United States*, \$54,500, Prof. Frank Gregg, University of Arizona, and Prof. David H. Getches, University of Colorado; *Modeling Urban Ecosystem Research and Application: A Mexico City Case Study*, \$56,831, Merrill K. Ridd, University of Utah; and *Impacts of High-Intensity Prescribed Fires on Forest Ecosystems in the Southern Appalachian Mountains of Western North Carolina*, \$49,985, Dr. Jack B. Waide, USDA Forest Service.

MAB has also funded feasibility studies for proposed biosphere reserves in southern Florida, southern Arizona, and Acadia-Maine archipelago region.

New Bibliography on Biosphere Reserves. At press time a draft revision of the 1985 bibliography on biosphere reserves was out for review. Titled *Bibliography on the International Network of Biosphere Reserves: MAB Project 8*, it lists publications on the biosphere reserve concept and its application, and on major research or education programs that demonstrate biosphere reserve objectives, anywhere in the world. It does not include publications on specific research projects. Copies may be obtained from: Dr. William P. Gregg, MAB Coordinator, National Park Service (490), Department of the Interior, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, D.C. 20013-7127.

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