

Western Region

From Charles Douglas, unit leader of the CPSU at U/NV-Las Vegas, comes word of five technical reports now available:

Leary, P.J. 1988. *Plant succession after fire, Hunter Mountain, Death Valley National Monument II*. CPSU/UNLV No. 034/06, 20 pp.

Longshore, K.M. and C.L. Douglas. 1988. *Vegetational recovery following burro removal in Death Valley National Monument*. CPSU/UNLV No. 035/04, 36 pp.

Leary, P.J. 1987. *Survey of endangered plants, Joshua Tree National Monument*. CPSU/UNLV 037/01, 26 pp.

Douglas, C.L. and H.D. Hiatt. 1987. *Food habits of burros in Death Valley*. CPSU/UNLV 006/46, 25 pp. *Annual Report*. 1987.

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Clifford Smith, Director of the U/Hawaii CPSU, reports publication by the CPSU of *Freshwater Birds* by Winston E. Banko. The History of Endemic Hawaiian Birds, published as Report #12, is in four parts: 12A. Hawaiian Gallinule 'Alae-'ula. 138 pp.; 12B. Koloa-maoli. 165 pp.; 12C. Hawaiian Coot 'Alae-'ke'oke'o. 206 pp.; and 12D. Hawaiian Stilt Ae'o - Bibliography. 421 pp.

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Donald Gardner, research scientist at the NPS/CPSU, Univ. of Hawaii, spent April-August 1988 on temporary duty at the Dept. of Plant Pathology at NC State Univ., Raleigh, NC. Gardner is a plant pathologist working on biocontrol of alien plants in Hawaiian parks.

The noxious bramble species most widespread in Hawaii was introduced from the southeastern U.S., where it is attacked by a rust fungus disease. Gardner took cuttings from the Hawaiian population, as well as those of two endemic Hawaiian *Rubus* species, to North Carolina, where he evaluated the ability of the disease to attack this material. Potential biocontrol agents for fayatree, originally from the Azores and Madeira and a close relative of wax myrtle in the Southeast, and broomsedge, a bunchgrass also native to North America, are being sought. Both fayatree and broomsedge are aggressive weeds in Hawaiian parks.

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Interpretive Specialist Marty Lane and Research Scientist Chuck Stone (Hawaii Volcanoes NP) presented sessions on the park at NPS Critical Natural Resources Issues course at Mather Training Center in May. They had taught the course in 1987 also, but this time they assisted course director Dave Dahlen with course logistics as well. The course placed special emphasis on biodiversity, with discussions and case histories of other resource issues. Stone and Lane are presenting sessions on Island Biology at the NPS Interpretive Conference in San Diego in October.

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