

Southeast Region

Stephen Nodvin, CPSU leader at U/Tenn, has organized a seminar, "Environmental Impacts to Forest Ecosystems," offered through the Department of Forestry, Wildlife and Fisheries. The course introduces students to current research initiatives in the environmental sciences. Presentations are made by scientists actively pursuing research in fields such as acidic deposition, air pollution, global climate change, and alien and endangered species. Students also survey and discuss current literature. The course seeks to foster interest in both the students and the presenters, in the environmental problems as they relate to National Park lands. A focus of the seminar is potential impacts of climate change.

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Research projects recently begun at the U/Tenn CPSU are: (1) A Georeferenced Ecosystem Database for the Southern Appalachians, funded through MAB; Hazard Prediction and Assessment of Gypsy Moth Infestations at Great Smoky Mountains NP and Blue Ridge Parkway, and Potential Impacts of Global Climate Change to Southeastern Region Units of the National Park System.

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John Peine, the research administrator of Great Smoky Mountains NP, spent January 1989 in New Zealand, touring the national parks and universities to study how research is conducted in the national park system there. This opportunity was created by the Horace Albright Employee Development Fund.

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From Oron (Sonny) Bass, Wildlife Biologist at Everglades NP, comes an update on their project Ecology and Population Dynamics of the Florida Panther in the Everglades, aimed at determining the status of the Florida panther (*Felis concolor coryi*) in the park. The study is part of a research program to evaluate the overall status and recovery needs of the Florida panther, in corporation with the ongoing Florida panther research program of the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission and USFWS.

In this, the third year of a 5-year project in Everglades NP, 9 individuals have been documented, of which 7 have been radio-collared. Reproduction by the females indicates that an adult male inhabits the park; however, he has not yet been captured.

Three new Technical Reports, published out of the South Florida Research Center, are:

SFRC-87/01: Abundance and Distribution of Ichthyoplankton in Florida Bay and Adjacent Waters, by Allyn B. Powell, Donald E. Hoss, William F. Hettler, David S. Peters, Larry Simoneaux, and Stephanie Wagner. NOAA Southeast Fisheries Center Beaufort Laboratory. Beaufort. NC.

SFRC-87/02: Distribution and Abundance of Fish Communities Among Selected Estuarine and Marine Habitats in Everglades NP, by Gordon W. Thayer, William F. Hettler, Jr., Alexander J. Chester, David R. Colby, and Patti J. McElhaney. NOAA Southeast Fisheries Beaufort Laboratory. Beaufort, NC.

SFRC-88/01: Hydrologic Effects of the 1984 through 1986 L-31 Canal Drawdowns on the Northern Taylor Slough Basin of Everglades NP. Robert A. Johnson, Joel I. Wagner, Deborah J. Grigsby, and Virginia A. Stern. South Florida Research Center, Everglades NP, Homestead. FL.