

Natural Resource Management Guide Nears Completion

NPS-77, the Natural Resource Management Guideline, will be distributed in late fall of this year, says Anne Frondorf, coordinator of the project. Its purpose is to give guidance on applying the recently revised *NPS Management Policies* as they relate to natural resource management. Written by more than 45 NPS authors, the Guideline is organized into five chapters: an introduction, Natural Resource Management, Resource Uses, Planning, and Program Administration and Management. Sections within the chapters address such topics as vegetation management, fishing, the resource management plan, and research administration. The detail of each section varies, depending partly on the amount of published guidance already available.

The Guideline was undertaken because of considerable field interest over the past several years in consolidating and elaborating upon existing guidance. Gene Hester, Associate Director for Natural Resources, initiated the project around March of 1988. He set up an editorial board consisting of a representative from each region and three from the Washington Office. Both scientists and resource managers were included. The board developed an outline and identified prospective authors.

Copies of the first draft were distributed in May to every park, the regional offices, and Washington Office divisions. Comments from the field and revisions by the editorial board will be incorporated to make the final version.