

"Great Basin National Park: The Nation's Newest" is the title of a recent (February 1989) issue of *Notes on People, Parks and Forests*, a limited circulation publication of the NPS/CPSU at the OSU College of Forestry. Kristin Martinson and Marty Lee are co-authors of the well-researched article, which includes a historic look, the present and future resources outlook, and a detailed study of visitors, present and potential. Martinson and Lee will prepare the material for *Park Science* readers in the Fall 1989 issue.

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A bound copy of the abstracts from the 8th International Bear Conference held Feb. 20-25, 1989 in Victoria, BC. came to *Park Science* from Kate Roney, NPS Resource Management Specialist at Kotzebue, AK, together with a copy of the paper she and fellow RM Specialist Lee Ann Ayres, and two Alaska Fish and Game Department scientists, presented at the conference. The paper is on "Applications of mark-recapture techniques and radiotelemetry for estimating grizzly bear density in relation to mining development and human exploitation in Northwest Alaska."

Proceedings of the 8th Conference will be published at a so-far undetermined date. Past *Proceedings* are available from Michael R. Pelton, Dept. of Forestry, Wildlife & Fisheries, U/Tenn., Knoxville, TN 37901. Costs for the 6th and 7th *Proceedings* are \$30 and \$35 respectively.

Roney was able to attend the conference because of a grant from the Horace Albright Employee Development Fund. She is preparing an article for the *Park Science* Fall issue based on the conference, where more than 200 people from 10 countries heard 765 papers.

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A 74-page *Directory of Research Grade Scientists and Research Grants-Grade Scientists* in the National Park Service is now available from NPS Natural Resources Publication Coordinator Donna O'Leary, c/o Air Quality Division, P.O. Box 25287, Denver, CO 80225. The personnel are listed alphabetically by name and Region; information includes titles, addresses and phone numbers, major academic fields, degrees obtained and universities and years when they were won, plus topics of current and recent research.

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Five reports of research on the Gorda Ridge are available now and can be ordered pre-paid from the Oregon Dept. of Geology and Mineral Industries, 910 State Office Building, 1400 S.W. Fifth Ave., Portland, OR 97201-5528.

The Gorda Ridge is an area of hydrothermal vents and sea-floor spreading off the southern Oregon and northern California coasts – a subject of intense interest because of nodules of mineral deposits and unusual life forms that appear to get energy from chemical processes rather than sunlight. The report titles are: *Sea Cliff diving and sediment studies* by R. Karlin, \$5; *Soft-sediment hydrothermal vent communities of Escanaba Trough* by J.F. Grassle and C.L. Van Dover, \$5; *Biological results from DSV Sea Cliff explorations of the northern Gorda Ridge* by G.L. Taghon, \$4; *Studies of hydrothermal effluents on the Gorda Ridge* by R.W. Collier, \$5; and *Submersible observa-*

tions and bottom-sample analyses of the Sea Cliff Hydrothermal Field by J.S. McClain and P. Schiffman, \$5.

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Tandem tracking of research and resource management projects in the National Park System is described and advocated by NPS/CPSU Leader Chuck Douglas at the University of Nevada/Las Vegas, in an article to appear soon in the George Wright Society FORUM. Douglas recommends the use of project tracking software, several commercial versions of which are available, and details the workings of Protacs (Applied MicroSystems, Inc., P.O. Box 832, Roswell, GA 30077, (404) 475-0832) – used by his Unit.

A useful feature of the program, Douglas says, is the production of Gantt charts – chronologically oriented, horizontal bar graphs depicting segments of a project. Scheduled dates and actual dates of completion are shown and changes can be made on the chart via the Activity Update screen. "Graphic presentation of project events and deadlines allows more rapid visualization of a project's status," writes Douglas. "In the Tandem Tracking scheme, a research project would be followed immediately by resource management action."

The Tandem Tracking scheme, he concludes, "could dramatically reduce the time lag between research and management action."

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"Fifty feet above houndsman Gale Culver, an 85-pound female cougar snoozed away a gray afternoon in the spreading limbs of a fir tree. A dozen yards down the bluff, a smaller mountain lion lay concealed in another tree."

Thus begins Dick Cackle's *Oregonian* newspaper account (March 13, 1989) of the hounds pursuit that is part of a three-year study in northeastern Oregon by the state's Fish and Wildlife Department. The goal is to capture and release every mountain lion in the 500-square-mile Catherine Creek Game Management Unit of the Willowa Mountains. Four hundred square miles is thought to be cougar habitat.

The study is believed to be the first serious attempt ever to capture and track every cougar in a specific habitat area. The best biologist guess till now has been that 1,800 to 2,000 cougars roam Oregon's mountains.