

"Alternative Views of Reserve Design for Wildlife Managers" is the title of a paper by Charles Van Riper III and James F. Quinn in 1988 *Transactions of the Western Section of the Wildlife Society* 24:12-17. The question of how best to design wildlife reserves for the long-term maintenance of native biotas is explored through three case studies:

(1) Small-scale field experiments that the authors have been conducting at U/Cal Davis on species diversity in experimental reserves of different sizes in a California annual grassland;

(2) The present controversy over the ability of the National Park Service to maintain the System's terrestrial large mammal fauna; and

(3) A scenario of reserve design for an endangered Hawaiian land bird.

The authors conclude that individual situations must be evaluated individually. The case for "only bigger reserves" in all cases is rejected as "not always the best strategy." Rather, the need is for "an adequate resource base inventory of organisms in designated reserves prior to acquisition, so that wise decisions are made regarding reserve design."

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