

GIS notes

Four Park Service people presented papers on "Applications of GIS in National Parks" at the International Geographic Information Systems Symposium, March 1989, in Baltimore, MD. Sharon Shin, GIS Division (Denver) described using GIS technology to help assess the impacts of current and proposed mining activities in Wrangells-St. Elias and Yukon-Charley Rivers NP and Preserves. Dave Buker, Everglades NP, discussed using GIS technology to aid research on endangered and exotic species, water quality and quantity, and wading bird populations. Jeri Hall, George Washington Memorial Parkway, described the anticipated contribution of GIS technology in managing submerged aquatic vegetation, exotic plant species, maintenance, cultural resources, and landscape appearance. Alison Teetor, Shenandoah NP, discussed applying GIS technology to evaluate the effects of forest defoliation by gypsy moths at Shenandoah.

GRASS GIS Users Conference

The Fifth Annual GRASS GIS Users Conference was held Nov. 6-9, 1989, in Alexandria, VA. Over 200, including 18 from the NPS, attended. Four NPS people presented papers. Maury Nyquist reported on the status of the NPS GIS program, in particular, the installation of GRASS software. Susan Stitt described tech-

niques for processing USGS digital elevation data. Bruce Powell explained enhancements to the software he has recently made. I described major improvements we intend to make to GRASS's graphics capabilities, particularly in the vector and interactive environments.

RT 90

Many of you have by now seen an announcement I distributed about RT 90 (Resource Technology '90), a conference in November 1990 in Washington, DC, on contemporary and advanced technology for resources management. I am beginning to receive calls about the special interest area I am arranging on using up-to-date information technology to help manage parks and protected areas. As I said in my distribution memo, the conference "should prove to be an excellent and rare opportunity to meet and share ideas with international colleagues about a very contemporary and useful subject." To facilitate NPS attendance I am looking into having the conference offered as an NPS training opportunity, like the NPS GIS workshop in Luray, VA, in October 1988. More on this later.

Harvey Fleet, Chief
Digital Typography Branch
NPS GIS Division
Denver, CO