



Tree lines march up and down mountain sides to the beat of changing climate regimes.

Global Change Mitigation and Adaptation Research

The CEES is coordinating applied research relating to global change response strategies through the recently established Working Group on Mitigation and Adaptation Research Strategies (MARS). In July, the NPS forwarded concepts for 8 research initiatives to the Department for consideration in planning the inter-agency MARS program:

(1) Adaptive Resource Management in the NPS, a series of workshops and symposia to provide the scientific basis for developing management responses to the effects of global change on NPS natural and cultural resources;

(2) Vulnerability of Natural Ecosystems and Species, to develop information syntheses and methodologies for assessing potential risks to sensitive NPS ecological resources from hypothesized effects of global change.

(3) Biogeographic Cooperatives, to assess existing and potential cooperative mechanisms for addressing global change issues relating in particular biogeographical areas.

(4) Fire As an Adaptive Ecosystem Management Tool, to synthesize information on the relationship between pre- and post-fire climatological conditions and the course of ecological succession in selected biogeographical regions. The program would support adaptive management of vegetation under potential climate change scenarios.

(5) Risk Management on Coastal Systems, a long-term research and modeling program to support adaptive management of NPS coastal barriers under potential changes in sea level, and the magnitude and intensity and tracks of coastal storms.

(6) Adaptive Management of Public Recreation, to assess relationships between past short-term climatic changes and public recreational uses of National Parks to support contingency planning

(7) Adaptation of Small-Scale Societies, to utilize applied anthropology to assess adaptations of native

and other small-scale societies to the potential effects of climate change

(8) Cultural Resource Preservation Research, to develop a strategy for adapting national preservation policy to respond to the environmental effects associated with global change.

The interagency MARS research program is still in the early planning stage. During the next year, emphasis is expected to be on interagency planning in preparation for implementing substantial research beginning in FY 1993.

Meet Pete Comanor

Peter L. Comanor, our new WASO Global Change Program Coordinator, took the reins of the Global Change Program from Bill Gregg on August 27. Pete, who comes from the Bureau of Land Management where he headed their Office of Budget and Management Support, has had a long and varied career, with positions ranging from twelve years at the University of Nevada at Reno to a Smithsonian assignment in Ceylon. Pete received his B.S. in Geology and his M.S. in Botany from Florida, and his Ph.D. in Ecology from Rutgers.

When Pete is not on the job, he enjoys visiting historic and natural areas, listening to music, and chores (*perhaps he could clean John Dennis's office!*) We look forward to having Pete on board. If you'd like to get a hold of him, he can be reached at (202) 343-8126 (FTS 343-8126).

For more information...

For more information, the following publications are recommended. A limited number of copies are available from David Figlio, WASO Wildlife and Vegetation Division, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127, (202) 343-8133.

Committee on Earth and Environmental Sciences, ***Our Changing Planet: the FY 1991 Global Change Research Program***, 1990, currently in draft, executive summary available.

Environmental Protection Agency, ***EPA Journal***, Jan./Feb. 1989.

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, May 2, 1990 draft report.

National Science Foundation ***Mosaic***, Fall/Winter 1988.



Recreationists at Assateague Island National Seashore, along with NPS park-users everywhere, may find themselves having to make adjustments in their use patterns in response to management necessitated by climate changes.