

Wildlife & Vegetation Division

Projects to be funded under the FY91 Director's Special Initiatives portion of the Natural Resources Preservation Program (NRPP) were to be selected March 22. Issues emphasized this year are Effects of Urbanization and/or Boundary Development on Park Environments, Management of Animal Populations, and Managing Human-Natural Resource Conflicts and Issues. Of the 66 pre-proposals received, 15 were selected for full proposals.

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Park biological inventories are a major focus of the I&M program this year and next. First, the gaps in park flora and fauna lists will be assessed. Then a strategy for filling gaps (such as mammals first Systemwide or basic data sets park-by-park) will be devised and implemented. The goal – Phase I of the I&M program – is basic data sets Systemwide within 10 years. The monitoring side of the I&M program is stressing development of pilot park programs. Denny Fenn, Deputy Associate Director, Natural Resources, is overseeing the total I&M program; the Wildlife and Vegetation Division is handling the biological component.

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Pete Comanor, NPS Global Change Coordinator, chaired a meeting of the NPS Global Change Committee in Reno, NV Jan. 29-Feb. 1. (See Global Change Update, this issue).

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The Division is producing various print and audiovisual materials this year. Vol. 27, No. 4 of **Trends**, guest edited by Mike Ruggiero, came out in January. Titled Preserving Natural Resources, it contains articles by NPS people in natural resource work as well as by Laurie Wayburn of the Point Reyes Bird Observatory.

NPS-77, the Natural Resources Management Guideline, appears headed for spring printing. This has been a huge collective effort of several hundred people, shepherded by Anne Frondorf.

A report on the NPS Recreational Fisheries program, coordinated by Mike Coffey, should be out this summer. A 4-color folder for the public, Endangered Species in the National Parks, was due from the printer in February. Copies were shipped to all regional offices and WASO for further distribution.

The Division also has on the 1991 docket folders on research opportunities in the national parks and the Watchable Wildlife program, as well as an IPM training videotape on rodent management, and workbooks to accompany 5 existing IPM videotapes. The Division also will produce and distribute the 1990 Servicewide Research Inventory this summer and a Servicewide summary of the FY91 RMP update information.

Mike Coffey changed hats on February 11 when he moved into the Science Branch of the WVD as Wildlife Biologist. Part of his former work will be done by a Consumptive Uses Specialist, a position advertised in January.