

Midwest Region

Students in a UW-M graduate seminar on Ecology in National Parks conducted research on such topics as dynamics of toxic chemicals in food webs of boreal parks, reintroduction of wolves in Yellowstone, and exotic vertebrate invasions in South Florida parks. The spring semester course began with presentations by Walter Loope (Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore), Ron Hiebert (Chief Scientist for the NPS Midwest Region), and James Bennett (Great Lakes Cooperative Park Studies Unit).

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Researchers and Resource Management Branch personnel of Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore are using the park's GIS to determine the frequency of wildfires occurring in a given area of the lakeshore and to document areas subject to a large number of wildfires. The information from the analyses will be used to defend various aspects of the lakeshore's fire management plan, now being revised, and to better manage lakeshore resources through proper application of prescribed fire.

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Apostle Islands NL held its 12th annual research conference in Bayfield, WI on Oct. 24-25, 1990, providing an annual update on research at the Lakeshore. Presenters related their work to management issues posed by Lakeshore managers. Topics ranged from submerged cultural resources, sea kayakers, and spit geomorphology to black bears, eagles, and data management. Some 56 scientists, park managers, and interested public attended.