

Pacific Northwest Region

An article by Seth Tuler, Gary Machlis, and Roger Kasperon, "Mountain Goat Removal in Olympic NP: A Case Study of the Role of Organizational Culture in Individual Risk Decisions and Behavior," appeared in the Fall 1992 issue of *Risk: Issues in Health & Safety*. *Risk* is a refereed, interdisciplinary quarterly that explores basic policy issues related to public and private efforts to manage science and technology for net reduction in the probability, severity, and aversive quality of health and safety impacts on individuals and institutions. Reprints of the article are available from Dr. Machlis at the NPS/CPSU, Dept. of Forest Resources, University of Idaho, Moscow, ID 83843.

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A listing of recent publications relevant to natural resource issues in the Region is available at irregular intervals from the PNR Library. Kathy Joep, PNR Resource Management Specialist, compiles the list and contributes abstracts of many of the titles. Those interested in being on the mailing list for the Current Literature lists may contact Joep at (206) 553-5670.

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The Olympic Natural Resources Center on the Olympic Peninsula adjacent to Olympic NP is now issuing a quarterly bulletin, *Update*, started in Summer 1992 and edited by Kathym A. Kohm, Olympic Natural Resources Center, U/WA, AR-10, Seattle, (206)685-4802. The Center was created in 1989 by the Washington State legislature, which envisioned the Center as both a program and a facility. The 1991-3 state budget provided funds to build the research facility. Olympic NP Supt. Maureen Finnerty is a member of the Governor's Policy Board; Dr. Jerry Franklin is the Center's Director. For information on the facilities' plans, contact Gordon Smith, U/WA AR-10, Seattle, WA 98195; (206) 685-4802.

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Mount Rainier NP has given Carolyn Driedger Mastin of the USGS David A. Johnston Cascades Volcano Observatory a monetary award in recognition of the superior support she has provided the park for the past decade. Driedger Mastin has assisted in geologic, geomorphic, and glaciologic resource information since the mid-1980s, providing annual training to park interpretation and natural resource divisions. She continues to give technical advice in the park's

monitoring of the Nisqually glacier and has prepared an updated interpretive bulletin on the status of park glaciers.

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A draft science plan for the Mount Rainier Decade Volcano has been submitted to the National Academy of Science for initial review. No decisions have yet been made about future activities. The draft science plan contains a section on mitigation, including discussions on living safely in the shadow of Mount Rainier and the Washington State Growth Management Act. At least 8 of the 40 pages are devoted to studies related to social consequences of a Mount Rainier eruption. It is intended that a series of "spin-off" meetings devoted entirely to sociologic studies will occur after the completion of the final science plan, which should be published by April 1993.

Rocky Mountain Region

Dr. Stanley Ponce has been named A/D for Resources Management and Research in the Region. His focus is on issues related to both natural and cultural resource management and research, and he believes strongly in "programmatic" management. He feels that much of the NPS effort presently is "issue" based and lacks continuity from year to year. "A good program," Ponce said, "requires sound information about the condition of the resources, an understanding of the processes associated with these resources, the potential threats to these resources, and capable people who can interpret this information and manage the resources effectively."

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Three of the Region's new Global Climate Change research initiatives approved for FY 93 are for Colorado Rockies, Glacier, and Central Grasslands. All three complement existing projects and provide the means to merge RMR programs with other regions and agencies.

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In order better to address resource management and research needs, the Regional Office has reorganized as follows: The cultural and natural resource management and research functions have been combined into a new Directorate of Resource Management and Research, comprised of three divisions: Cultural Resource Management, Natural Resource Management, and Research. A Directorate Office of Resource Data Management

and GIS serves the needs of all three Divisions as well as RMR parks and other RMRO directorates.

The Directorate currently is developing a Strategic Plan, a basic philosophy of which is that parks are shareholders and customers of the Directorate, and that the Directorate will strive to provide them with outstanding, proactive, professional products and services. Recommendations from the Vail Conference report and the National Research Council's Science and the National Parks report are being used to develop the Plan and as guidelines for the new RMR Directorate.

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To improve park research as recommended by the National Research Council, the RMR is strengthening and expanding its CPSU program. CPSUs will be developed to meet the needs of groups of parks within the same ecosystems and/or as thematic research centers. The tri-regional CPSU at Northern AZ/U will retain its focus on Colorado Plateau parks. The CO/State/U CPSU will focus on sustainable ecosystem management issues at park units in the Central Rockies and Grasslands. The old (1974) U/WY NP Research Center will be reshaped as a "traditional" CPSU, with focus on the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. The unstaffed units at MT/State/U and U/MT will be staffed with unit leaders and former park research positions. The MT/State/U CPSU will cooperate with the U/WY in focusing on the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem while the U/MT will focus on the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem, primarily Glacier NP. Each CPSU in the Region will have a biogeographical focus as well as an issue-related theme.

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Researchers Ken Driese and Don Roth recently completed a baseline study of the vascular flora, mammal fauna, and human disturbance level on the tower summit at Devil's Tower NM. They identified and quantified coverage for 21 plant species. Total cover for the 9 grass species, 8 shrub species, and 4 forb species was 51 percent. Although summit vegetation was dominated by grasses, bare rock comprised the greatest cover class.

During the three June through September monitoring periods, the percent of disturbed vegetation was 9, 13, and 16 percent. Three small mammal species were identified. Populations were estimated at 45 deer mice (*Peromyscus maniculatus*) and 12 bushy-

tailed woodrats (*Neotoma cenera*). Only three yellow-pine chipmunks (*Eutamias amoenus*) were trapped, too few to estimate the population.

Southeast Region

South Florida will be served by two new CPSUs, each operating within its particular academic specialty areas. Florida International University (FIU) and the University of Miami (UM) have been designated as unit locations. FIU will act as lead unit, with Mike Soukup as director, supervising and coordinating activities at both university units.

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Bob Warren, Director of the U/GA CPSU, gave a presentation in Washington DC to the International Assn. of Fish and Wildlife Agencies' subcommittee on Wildlife Contraception. This group's task is to advise state and federal wildlife agencies on regulatory concerns and the practicality of applying contraceptives to free ranging wildlife populations. Dr. Warren was added as a subcommittee member.

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John Peine of the U/TN CPSU has received a certificate for 20 years of continuous service as an NPS Research Ecologist.

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Recently published reports include:

Bythell, J.C., E. Gladfelter, and M. Bythell. 1992. Ecological Studies of Buck Island Reef National Monument, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands: A Quantitative Assessment of Selected Components of the Coral Reef Ecosystem and Establishment of Long-Term Monitoring Sites, Part 2. USDI, NPS, Island Resources Fdn., St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands, and West Indies Lab. St. Croix.

DeVries, D. and R.F. Doren. 1992. Melaleuca Annual Report. S/FL Research Center, Everglades NP.

Lauritsen, D.C. 1993. Assessment of the Hard Clam, *Mercenaria*, in Cumberland Sound, GA. Kings Bay Environmental Monitoring Program Report, U.S. Dept. of the Navy, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Washington DC, KBEMP-91-03. U/GA CPSU, USDI, NPS.

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Articles published recently are:

Bratton, S.P. Alternative Models of Ecosystem Restoration. Published in Ecosystem Health: New Goals for Environmental Management, edited by Robert Constanza, Bryan G. Norton, and Benjamin D. Haskell. Island Press, Washington DC; Covelo, CA.

Miler, S.G., S. Bratton and John Hadidian. 1992. Impacts of White-tailed Deer on Endangered and Threatened Vascular Plants. Natural Areas Journal, Vol. 12(2).

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The following reports were received:

Johnson, B.R. 1992. Mitigation of Visitor Impacts on High Montane Rare Plant Habitat: Habitat Protection Through an Integrated Strategy of Design, Interpretation and Restoration, Craggy Gardens, Blue Ridge Parkway, NC. U/GA.

Sargent, R.A. 1992. Movement Ecology of Adult Male White-tailed Deer in Hunted and Non-hunted Populations in the Wet Prairie of the Everglades. U/FL.

Boulay, M.C. 1992. Mortality and Recruitment of White-tailed Deer Fawns in the Wet Prairie/Tree Island Habitat of the Everglades. U/FL.

Western Region

From Malinee Crapsey, editor of *Sequoia Bark*, an intermittent publication of Sequoia and Kings Canyon NPS, come three recent issues highlighting research on Emerald Lake (aimed at determining if acid rain is a threat to Sierran lakes), tree rings research (to determine whether, in the light of a 1000-year record of temperature and precipitation in the Sierra Nevada, the current conditions constitute a drought or whether the current drought constitutes the norm), and "techno-mapping" (a look at both the dark and bright sides to Geographic Information Systems and particularly at the "adolescent" stage of Sequoia and Kings Canyon NPS' version of GIS.) Dave Graber, NPS Research Scientist who authored the latter article, describes the state-of-the-(GIS)-art at the parks and how additional information from many different investigators will revolutionize monitoring, caring for, and understanding "the incredible landscape preserved here."

To be put on the mailing list for *Sequoia Bark*, write Malinee Crapsey, Editor; Sequoia and Kings Canyon, Ash Mountain Box 10, Three Rivers, CA 93271.

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Alaska Region

Dave Stevens has been assigned Branch Chief of Research in the Regional Office. He came to the Region from Rocky Mountain NP, where he led the research program from 1968. He will supervise the 3 scientists assigned to the Regional Office, administer the natural science program, technically advise park-based scientists and coordinate research in all the Alaska NPs.

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Bruce Dale has been selected to fill the Region's new permanent Wildlife Biologist position. Dale has worked as a temporary for many years, assisting with much of the wolf and caribou research in the Region. He recently completed a study of winter wolf predation in Gates of the Arctic NP. In addition to continued involvement with Regional research programs, Dale will be primary contact for such wildlife management issues as the state of Alaska's wolf management planning effort.

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Brad Shults, who has worked for the Region as a temporary Wildlife Biologist since 1987, accepted a permanent position with Northwest Alaska Areas in Kotzebue. Shults has assisted with much of the wolf and caribou research and recently has been conducting a study of marten demography in Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve as part of a Master's degree program at U/AK-Fairbanks. He will continue to oversee marten research to completion in 1994, while taking on new duties as the Wildlife Biologist for the 4 northwest Alaska NPS areas managed out of the Kotzebue office.

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The Regional Office welcomes Mark Schroeder, formerly Chief of Resource Management at Glacier Bay NP and Preserve, to the Natural Resources and Science Division. Schroeder will coordinate a variety of field projects throughout the Region, focusing primarily on neotropical migrants, coastal resource/marine mammal, and external threats issues.