

CPSU Hosts 2nd Biennial Conference on Colorado Plateau Research

The Second Biennial Conference on Colorado Plateau Research was hosted by the Cooperative Park Studies Unit at Northern Arizona University (NAU), Flagstaff, Oct. 25-28, 1993. Patsy B. Reed, Interim President of NAU, introduced by Unit Leader Charles van Riper III, expressed pleasure at the university's opportunity to participate with the National Biological Survey (NBS) in gathering and disseminating biological research information.

Bruce Kilgore, NPS Western Region Chief Scientist, presented the NPS Director's Natural Resources Award to Henry O. Hooper, NAU's Vice-president for Academic Affairs, for his support of NPS resource protection issues and CPSU operations on the NAU campus.

Ray Stendell, Director of the National Ecology Research Laboratory (NERC) in Fort Collins, CO, shared information on the organizational structure and function of the new NBS and indicated that the CPSU, serving as a Research Station under NERC supervision, will continue to focus on research for the Colorado Plateau ecosystem.

Formal sessions opened with a workshop on the Endangered Species Act, followed by a session discussing the prototype I&M program developed for Montezuma Castle National Monument. The 167 registrants sampled 68 presentations in 8 paper sessions and two poster sessions. Papers covered topics in the fields of endangered and declining species, physical resources, animal and plant ecology, and cultural resources. A workshop on Global Positioning Systems (GPS) closed the conference. The conference program abstracts and author identification encouraged future information exchange among researchers.

Representatives from 7 agencies, 13 universities and colleges, and half a dozen other organizations took part in this truly interactive conference. Proceedings of the first such conference had just been published and were available to attendees. A proceedings from the second conference is due from the printer shortly.

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