

Jeff Selleck Succeeds Jean Matthews as *Park Science* Editor

The Natural Resources Publication Office of the NPS Associate Director for Natural Resources has selected Big Bend NP Interpretive Supervisory Park Ranger Jeff Selleck to succeed Jean Matthews as editor of *Park Science*. Matthews, the publication's founder and editor throughout its 14 year history, plans to retire later this year in Washington state and will turn over editorial responsibility to Selleck this summer when the fall issue goes into production in Denver. The specter of Matthews' departure, a matter of concern to all associated with the publication, led to Selleck's appointment to the post last December.

Selleck is shifting careers in coming to *Park Science*. As an interpreter and supervisor at Yellowstone, Everglades, and Big Bend NPs during the past 10 years, Selleck specialized in guiding walks and giving evening programs that primarily interpreted birds, volcanic geology, and ecosystem threats. In 1989, he won the Freeman Tilden Award for the Southwest Region in recognition of his abilities as an outstanding interpreter. In recent years, his skills and experience expanded to include writing exhibits and site bulletins, and editing and laying out the award-winning *Big Bend Paisano* newspaper.

He brings to *Park Science* communication skills, experience in layout and design, a link with the field, and a commitment to the mission of the National Park Service. "Every time I visit a national park, I become more interested and excited about the diversity of wonderful resources that we protect and present to the public," Selleck commented. "I also become concerned about the many complex resource management issues that face us. I love our parks and I want my association with this bulletin to help further science-based resource management programs, decisions, and solutions."

Park Science currently is undergoing a nine-month transition from Matthews to Selleck. During this time, the publication will be moved from the Pacific Northwest Region to Denver, where Selleck has an office in the Denver Service Center building. The editor-in-training presently is working out details of the changeover; collecting articles and developing contacts at conferences and meetings; preparing for desktop publishing production of the quarterly; generating ideas for future articles; visiting with resource managers and scientists in the field; tracking progress with natural resource programs, such as R-MAP and NRPP; and redesigning the distribution list database. He will begin editing articles and doing the



layout for the fall issue, in which he will new procedures for submitting material to *Park Science*.

Selleck inherits a publication that has grown both in distribution and importance. When it began in 1980, *Pacific Park Science* was circulated only within the Pacific Northwest Region, but it soon included the entire National Park System. Acting on feedback from the field, Matthews refined the publication's niche in the overall NPS mission effort into a way of communicating

findings and science-based resource management, with emphasis on their implications for park managers. The approach has appealed to an ever broader audience in the natural resource field—inside and outside of government at all levels, and especially in the academic community, where it is widely used as course material.

Selleck plans to build on the established foundation of publishing good field science and resource management. However, sweeping changes with the science program during the past year will require careful attention from the new editor. "*Park Science* will certainly become an important link between the evolving National Biological Survey and the NPS as we begin to understand how to make use of the new agency's services," Selleck said recently. "While I hope to publish park-relevant research from the NBS, more importantly I hope to encourage and develop additional authors within our own ranks as we continue to professionalize the resource management field."

Also of interest will be exploring the idea of ecosystem management for the National Park System and looking beyond park boundaries for solutions to resource management problems.

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