

20 Years Ago in Park Science

National Academy of Sciences to study NPS science programs

THE NPS SIGNED A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) to conduct a study on “Improving the Environmental Science and Technology Programs of the National Park Service.” Congress asked for the study because it believed the science program “gives the appearance of being developed in a haphazard fashion in response to specific problems and absent any general framework.”

The project, to last 18 months, will be carried out by the Board on Environmental Studies and Toxicology (BEST) of the Commission on Physical Sciences, Mathematics, and Resources of the Natural Resource Council. . . .

The study will address “historical development and evolution of (science and technology) programs within the NPS; the range and scope of environmental problems of concern to the NPS; the scope and organization of the current NPS science and technology programs; the extent of coordination of these programs with other NPS programs and missions; the need for monitoring, inventories and related studies to determine the status of the parks and the effects of internal and external stresses; budget and financial programming aspects of NPS science and technology programs; systems for quality control and quality assurance of research activities; NPS outreach efforts and collaboration with the external scientific community; and options for enhancing productivity, efficiency, quality, and management relevance of the NPS science programs.”

Reference

Shelton, N. 1990. National Academy of Sciences to study NPS science programs. *Park Science* 10(1):17.

