

Mid-Atlantic

A number of Natural Resource Management and Science personnel recently attended and/or participated in the NPS Science Conference in Fort Collins, CO. Among the posters presented was one by Regional Chief Scientist John Karish titled "A Research Plan to Study Appropriate River Recreation Use" describing a major multidisciplinary research effort currently underway on three rivers in the region. Karish also participated in the Social Science and Regional Chief Scientist's panel discussions. Regional Scientist Jeff Marion served as Coordinator for a session titled "Recreation Impact Assessment and Monitoring" and presented two posters – "Recreational Impact Assessment and Monitoring: Past, Present and Future" and "The Development and Application of Campsite Impact Assessment and Monitoring Systems."

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Jeff Marion reports the availability of several new publications. "Recreational Resource Impacts: Visitor Perceptions and Management Responses" by Marion and Dave Lime, discusses why visitors typically have limited perceptions of most resource impacts, why managers should nevertheless be concerned, and how impact assessment/monitoring systems and management strategies can aid reducing future impacts. "Campsite Impact Assessment Systems: Application, Evaluation, and Development" by Marion, describes and evaluates campsite impact assessment systems and outlines procedures for developing area-specific systems for use in impact monitoring. "Exotic Vegetation in Wilderness Areas" by Marion, Dave Cole and Susan Bratton, describes how exotic plants have been introduced into most wilderness environments, implications for managers, and potential methods for control. "Wilderness Campsite Impacts: Changes Over Time" by Dave Cole and Marion, evaluates long-term changes on wilderness campsites and suggests appropriate management actions for minimizing long-term campsite deterioration. Copies are available from Jeff Marion, Star Route 38, Milford, PA 18337.