

Southwest Region

Two papers were presented by Padre Island National Seashore personnel at the Minerals Management Service's annual information exchange meeting in New Orleans in October, 1985. Park Biologist Bob King presented one on the beach trash problem in general (his research results to date) and Chief Ranger Max Hancock presented a paper dealing with the 55-gallon drum problem (see article elsewhere). As a result of these presentations Great Ideas Productions, Inc. Lacombe, La., were contracted by Conoco, Inc., New Orleans, for the Offshore Operators Committee to produce an educational video tape entitled "All Washed Up" for employees involved in offshore oil and gas operations. Great Ideas theme is the experiences of an offshore employee's family vacationing on the national seashore beach. We don't want to spoil the punch line but expect something like "Hey, Dad, isn't this the hard hat you lost last week?"

Another film, entitled "Cleaning Up," provides an excellent overview of the hazardous waste problem in America. The film is available on loan or for purchase in 16mm, 1/2" and 3/4" VHF from: The Chemical Manufacturing Association, 2501 M Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037 (202) 887-1100.

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Oryx Update: An aerial reconnaissance of White Sands National Monument the weekend of Feb. 8 revealed at least 44 Oryx within the park boundary. Although efforts were made to herd them out of the

monument with a helicopter, these efforts were unsuccessful. Oryx, as you may remember, are the largest of the African antelope and may weigh up to 600 pounds. Strategies now being considered are the use of spring-loaded gates and the judicious use of electric fences.