

Southwest Region

"A massive compilation of data that will be recognized as the definitive work on mountain lions of the Southwest," is the way Southwest Regional Chief Scientist Milford Fletcher describes the three-year study. "Ecology of Mountain Lions at Carlsbad Caverns/Guadalupe Mountains National Parks," available after December 1985 from the NPS Southwest Regional Office, Old Santa Fe Trail, P.O. Box 728, Santa Fe, NM 87501.

Tom Smith was the principal investigator for Harvey and Stanley, Inc., of San Jose, Calif., with whom the NPS contracted for the study. Smith lived on the site, studied and tracked the lion for three years. The report contains management recommendations.

By Jan. 1, 1986, Fletcher said he would have a computerized home range program that covers all known mountain lions, their ranges and overlaps, ready for running on an IBM PC XT. The program will be available to anyone interested.

The hitherto unknown life story of the Atlantic Ridley turtle was pieced together during an exciting weeklong conference in October 1985 at Texas Tech in Galveston, sponsored by the National Marine Fisheries Service and others, according to SW Regional Chief Scientist Milford Fletcher. An article describing the conference findings, including turtle egg incubation temperatures and their effect on the sex of the young turtles and the overall chances of species survival will be carried in a forthcoming issue of *Park Science*.