

Western Region

A study of the distribution, population size, and habitat response of the Palila (*Loxioides bailleui*) in the subalpine woodland on Mount Kea, island of Hawaii, appeared in the October 1984 issue of *The Auk*. Charles van Riper, III, leader of the NPS-CPRU at University of California, Davis, is one of the authors. The study indicated that the most effective management strategies would be removal of feral ungulates and certain noxious plants from Palila habitat and the extension of the woodland zone to areas now grazed intensively.

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Channel Islands National Park hosted a meeting of the Steering Committee of the National Science Foundation's Long Term Ecological Research (LTER) Sites Jan. 21 and 22, 1985. In addition to regular business, the meeting included a discussion, led by Gary E. Davis and David J. Parsons of NPS, of the long term research programs at Channel Islands and Sequoia-Kings Canyon NPs. The LTER managers were encouraged by and supportive of the two programs, and devoted a significant part of their discussion to means for developing a relationship with research programs outside the 11 official sites. There also was a good deal of positive feedback on their hearing of the Park Service's commitment to long term data bases and research. The meeting was organized by Jerry Franklin, USFS research scientist.

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A two-day meeting in January, jointly organized by Sequoia-Kings Canyon NPs and the California Air Resources Board, brought together approximately 60 scientists and technicians who are working in the parks or on related projects to discuss the parks' long term acid deposition integrated study (highlighted in the Winter 1985 issue of *Park Science*). The meeting featured presentations by the key principal investigators and group discussions on the project and related studies. According to NPS Research Scientist David J. Parsons, the meeting was "extremely successful in achieving its objectives of reviewing ongoing research and planning for future integration." Participants included representatives from USGS, USFS, five University of California campuses, Arizona State University, NASA, the Electric Power Research Institute, and the California Department of Fish and Game.

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A comprehensive treatment of the "10 Most-Wanted" management actions for terrestrial Hawaiian ecosystems survey – conducted following the June 1984 Symposium at Hawaii Volcanoes NP – appeared in *Elepaio*, Journal of the Hawaiian Audubon Society, under the joint by-line of Charles P. and Danielle B. Stone.

The article describes the response (47.9% of the 144 contacted people) and presents their recommendations in tabular and graph forms. As a contribution to understanding differences in the way people look at natural resource problems, the authors subdivided the respondents according to their affiliations and analyzed ratings of the 10 most-wanted management actions. These findings are followed by a discussion section that pinpoints "communication, cooperation, and prioritization" as pathways needing more "organized emphasis."

The article lists, in an Appendix, a letter from Ronald L. Walker, wildlife biology program manager for the Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of Forestry and Wildlife. Walker responds to each of the 10 suggestions, all of which he finds "reasonable to the extent that, if implemented, they would have direct benefit to the protection of Hawaiian ecosystems." However, he goes on, "from a practical standpoint we have reservations about their feasibility in view of socio-economic realities."

The Stones' article proposes a "goal-oriented 'blue ribbon' Advisory Committee . . . to deal with recommending and publicizing land use priorities, approaches and responsibilities . . . the committee to be "resurrected under the initial leadership of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.