

POLLUTION IN PARKS



Natural Resources Programs
National Park Service

POLLUTION IN PARKS

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A report on National Park Service activities to maintain environmental quality in the National Park System

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Editor: Napier Shelton

Cover: Larry Morrison

About This Report

Air and water pollution are among the most serious, widespread, and complex problems facing our national parks, even the most remote. Air pollution, from sources near and far, has been detected in virtually every park unit, natural or cultural, where monitors have been placed. In many areas it has caused degradation of scenic views or injury to vegetation. Water pollution due to activities within or upstream from parks is an actual or potential concern in more than 160 units of the System. To address these problems we are using a myriad of available tools: legal, scientific, administrative, managerial, and communicative. Many units and individuals in the National Park Service are involved.

This report, *Pollution in Parks*, has been prepared by the Office of Natural Resources to provide an overview of the problems and what is being done about them, an update on current activities, and sources of further information. We hope such a review will be useful to everyone concerned with environmental quality in our national parks.

My sincere thanks go to all those individuals who contributed to this report.

Richard Briceland
Associate Director, Natural Resources