

Western Region

Exciting research findings are issuing from a University of California-Berkeley Museum of Paleontology study in Petrified Forest NP. This study, now in its third season, has uncovered more than 20 new species of late Triassic thecodonts and early Jurassic dinosaurs. Dr. Kevin Padian is the principal investigator of this independently funded project. One new species, *Anamanasuchus rectori*, has been named after Supt. Roger Rector, who has been very supportive of the UC-Berkeley project. Dr. Padian is preparing a large NSF grant proposal in an attempt to expand the study into a major research effort over the next three years.

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Dr. Chuck Stone, Research Scientist at Hawaii Volcanoes NP and Dr. Michael Scott, Team Leader of the USFWS Hawaiian Forest Bird Survey Team, have announced a symposium on Protection and Management of Terrestrial Hawaiian Ecosystems, to be held at Hawaii Volcanoes National Park June 12-13, 1984.

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Dr. Reginald R. Barrett, Wildlife Professor in the University of California, Berkeley Department of Forestry and Resource Management recently completed a seven month sabbatical in Hawaii Volcanoes National Park working with the park staff on the feral pig problem.

Dr. William Halvorson, Dr. Christine Schonewald-Cox and Jonathan Bayless officially transferred from WASO to the Western Region Natural Science Program rolls on July 31, 1983. Dr. Halvorson will be duty stationed at Channel Islands NP and will move soon to California. Dr. Schonewald-Cox and Bayless will be duty stationed at the University of California, Davis CPSU and will move to California in May, 1984.

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Reprints now are available for three articles by Charles van Riper III that have appeared within the past year in *Condor*, the *Wilson Bulletin*, and *The Auk*. From *Condor* (84:117-119) comes "Within-Territory Division of Foraging Space by Male and Female Amakihi (*Loxops virens*)," by Alan C. Kamil and van Riper; from the *Wilson Bulletin* (94:4, 463-467) comes "Censuses and Breeding Observations of the Birds on Kohala Mountain, Hawaii," by van Riper; and from *The Auk* (99:667-674) comes "Temperature Regulation in Two Endangered Hawaiian Honeycreepers: The Palila (*Psittirostra bailliei*) and the Laysan Finch (*Psittirostra cantans*)," by Wesley W. Weathers and van Riper.

Van Riper is leader of the NPS/CPSU at Wickson Hall, University of California, Davis, CA 95616.

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Four Western Region natural scientists, Denny Fenn, Gary Fellers, Charles van Riper and Gary Davis, recently joined with Denver Service Center, Western Archeological and Conservation Center and Channel Islands NP staff in a special Interdisciplinary Science Team pulse on Santa Rosa and Santa Cruz Islands to gather data in support of the planning effort at Channel Islands. Doug Cornell, DSC planning team leader for Channel Islands, coordinated the pulse effort.

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David J. Parsons, research scientist at Sequoia/Kings Canyon NPS, is either the sole or the contributing author of four papers published recently on park-related subjects. Significant inaccuracies in the reporting of backcountry use permit data and their effect on management decisions are discussed in "Wilderness Permit Accuracy: Differences between Reported and Actual Use." The article appeared in *Environmental Management*, Vol. 6, No. 4, and was co-authored by Thomas J. Stohlgren, also of NPS, and James M. Kraushaar of the University of Vermont School of Business.

The Proceedings of *Symposium on Dynamics and Management of Mediterranean-Type Ecosystems*, published as General Technical Report PSW-58 by the SW Forest and Range Experiment Station, USFS, contains the following papers: "Fire Management and Vegetation Effects in Mediterranean-Type Ecosystems: A Summary and Synthesis," by Parsons; "Post-fire Recovery of Chamise Chaparral in Sequoia NP," by Gail A. Baker, Philip W. Rundel, and Parsons; and "Using Stem Basal Area to Determine Biomass and Stand Structure in Chamise Chaparral," by T.J. Stohlgren, N.L. Stephenson, Parsons, and P.W. Rundel.

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Technical Report No. 13, *Levels of Selected Micronutrients in Soils and Vegetation and Dietary Implications for Tule Elk at Point Reyes National Seashore*, is available now from the University of California, Davis, CPSU 95616, according to Charles van Riper III, Unit Leader (916) 752-7119. Authors are M. Akeson, Research Assistant; L.D. Whittig, soil morphologist; R.G. Burau, soil chemist; V.V. Rendig, soil chemist, and R.D. Meyer, specialist.

The investigation was conducted to provide further insight into the suspected dietary nutrient imbalance

affecting the tule elk at Tomales Point, Point Reyes NS. Most importantly, copper levels in plant species and in soils were found to be low. Dietary imbalance for tule elk and other ungulates may be closely related to stress associated with grazing animal density, it was concluded. Five management recommendations are included in the report.