

HERE is what we HEAR

PPS Feedback — Reaction was strong and generous following distribution of our first issue. We heard a couple of grumbles second and third hand, and took careful note, but you'll have to send them in writing or we can't print them. Here's what we did get:

"I am a NPS employee and recently read the first issue of *PPS* with great interest. I am wholeheartedly supportive of your efforts to stimulate an exchange of scientific information. My only regret is that your emphasis is regional rather than national. The Service is in desperate need of improved research and technology. I have enclosed a list of addresses of the USFS Forest and Range Experiment Stations and the USFS Equipment Development Centers. They all maintain mailing lists for bulletins of their recent publications and information on their work, all free. It might be worthwhile running a short item to this effect in your next issue. I honestly wonder how many NPS managers are aware of the existence of these research units, let alone the information they can provide." Signed Gordon Olson, Hagestown, MD.

(Editor's note: You bet it's worthwhile, and here is the list.)

Missoula Equipment Development Center, Ft. Missoula, MT 59801; San Dimas Equipment Development Center, 444 E. Monita Ave., San Dimas, CA 91773; Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment Station, 809 N.E. Sixth Ave., Portland, OR 97208; Pacific Southwest F&RES, 1960 Addison St., Berkeley, CA 94701; Intermountain F&RES, 507 25th St., Ogden, UT 84401; North Central F&RES, Folwell Ave., St. Paul, MN 55101; Northeastern F&RES, 6816 Market St., Upper Darby, PA 19082; Southern F&RES, Federal Bldg., 701 Loyola Ave., New Orleans, LA 70113; and Southeastern F&RES, Post Office Bldg., Asheville, NC 28802.

On Dinosaurs — Ted Fremd, paleontologist at Fossil Butte NM and Dan Chure, paleontologist at Dinosaur NM, write: "We read with interest your report of the first discovery of iguanodon dinosaurs from Germany (*Pacific Park Science* 1(1):12), but found the note potentially misleading. The impression given is that these dinosaurs are found in rocks of the Devon formation — over 300 million years old, the implication being that these creatures were alive 300 million years ago. Iguanodons are generally Wealdon (Cretaceous) in age (115-135 million years old), and thus the reported age of the German iguanodons would be surprisingly old. In fact, this would make these relatively advanced dinosaurs the oldest known dinosaurs by some 80+ million years. In addition, they would be the only dinosaurs

discovered from the Paleozoic Era, and this would be quite a scientific find.

While not directly familiar with the geology of the discoveries in Germany, we believe that an examination of another Iguanodon discovery can clear up some of the confusion concerning age. At Bernissart, Belgium, some 30+ individuals of Iguanodon were discovered in the late 1880s. The geology of this site shows that these beasts are preserved in a filled-in valley. This valley existed in the Cretaceous (Wealden), but was carved into rocks some 300 million years old. Thus the dinosaurs and the sediments that ultimately filled in this valley are about 120 million years old, NOT 300 million years old. The rock pocket reported in your note is probably a valley or fissure like the one mentioned above, and the iguanodonts are most likely Cretaceous in age and not the age of the Devon Formation. Claims of 300 million year old dinosaurs do not seem warranted at this time.*

"Just a short note to tell you how much I enjoyed the first issue of *Pacific Park Science* which just passed across my desk, and to be sure to get my name on the mailing list. It's very valuable for me in terms of 'catching up' on what is going on around the Region, and learning the availability of publications. The graphics and layout are particularly eye-catching, and the format utilized would seem to aid in effectively transferring scientific results." Signed Barbara Koth, Research Associate, University of Washington, Seattle.

"Vol. 1 No. 1 of PPS looked good to me, except that some of the bear drawings seemed a little cute. Also I don't like the thick black border around many of the drawings — reminded me of an obituary column. These are minor points, and on the whole I was quite pleased." Signed Doug Houston, Research Scientist, Olympics NP.

"I think that Volume 1 No. 1 of PPS was excellent. The job was outstanding and deserve commendation all around. I look forward to future issues." Signed Denny Fenn, Regional chief scientist, Western Region.

"I recently read the first issue of your magazine *Pacific Park Science* and enjoyed it very much. Please add my name to your mailing list." Signed Randall Fong, NPS, Denver Service Center.

"Super publication! Please add me to your list." Signed Charles A. Salkin, Delaware Division of Parks and Recreation, Dover.

"I have just received and am impressed by the Fall 1980 issue of *Pacific Park Science*. As a result I am very interested in receiving future copies of this publication. I am transferring from the Denver Service Center to Grand Canyon NP in January 1981 as Chief, Division of Resources Management. To insure I do not miss future issues, please add my name and the Grand Canyon address to your mailing list," Signed Larry A. May.

"I enjoyed receiving and reading the Fall issue of

PPS. I believe this will be a valuable publication and will serve a useful purpose."

Donald E. Gardner, Research Scientist, Acting Director, CPSU, University of Hawaii/Manoa.

"Please put us on your mailing list. We will be opening to the public for the first time this spring. Any catalogs, mailing lists, or other publications (on energy, ecology, natural history, etc.) which you feel would help us better serve and/or educate the public will be greatly appreciated. I am the first 'interpretive specialist' at an irrigation dam in Eastern New Mexico. Quite a change from the NPS! Any suggestions?"

John Slevin, Park Technician, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Albuquerque District, P.O. Box 345, Santa Rosa, NM 88435

(Editor's Note: How about answering this call for interpretive materials, everyone???)

"An NPS associate sent me a photocopy of several pages of your initial edition of *Pacific Park Science* and it appears to be an impressive entry. Keep up the good work and please add me to your distribution list."

Francis R. Russ, Managing Editor, Fire Management Notes, Forest Service, USDA, Washington, D.C.