

Western Region

An 88-page report (Technical Report No. 28) on *The Small Mammal Community at Pinnacles National Monument*, by Gary M. Fellers and Brian W. Arnold was produced in January 1988 by the Cooperative National Park Resources Studies Unit, U/Cal, Davis. Of the 15 species in nine genera trapped on seven occasions

between November 1984 and May 1986, 14 were rodents and one was a shrew. The one non-native (*Mus musculus* or house mouse) was of low density and limited distribution, suggesting it is unlikely to impact on the native mammals.

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Thomas J. Stohlgren (CPSU, Davis) recently co-authored a paper with Sherman Lambert (UCLA) titled: "Giant Sequoia Mortality in Burned and Unburned Stands: Does prescribed burning significantly affect mortality rates?" in the *Journal of Forestry* (February 1988, pages 44-46). They found similar, low levels of giant sequoia mortality in burned *and* unburned stands and no evidence that previous fire scarring has any relationship to tree mortality. The prescribed fire techniques currently being used appear to be a conservative approach to reintroducing the natural role of fire into giant sequoia forests.

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"The Effects of Rock Climbers on the Environment at Pinnacles National Monument, Monterey and San Benito Counties, California," is the title of Technical Report No. 27, available from the NPS Cooperative Resources Studies Unit at U/Cal, Davis. Authors are Catherine M. Genetti and Patricia G. Zenone.