

regional highlights

Western Region

Christine Schonewald-Cox, research scientist with the NPS/CPSU at U/Cal Davis, has the following articles in press: "Cross-boundary Management Between National Parks and Surrounding Lands: A Review and Discussion," (with Marybeth Buechner and Raymond Sauvajot of the U/Cal/Davis Institute of Ecology and Bruce Wilcox of the Institute for Sustainable Development, 3000 Sandhill Rd., Bldg. 1, Suite 102, Menlo Park, CA 94025) in ***Environmental Management***; "Scale, Variable Density, and Conservation Planning for Mammalian Carnivores," (with Rahman Azari of the U/Cal/Davis Division of Statistics and Stephanie Blume of the NPS/CPSU at U/Cal Davis) in ***Conservation Biology***; and "Park Protection and Public Roads," with Buechner in ***Conservation Biology: The Theory and Practice of Nature Conservation, Preservation and Management***, 1991, Chapman Hall, NY, NY; editors Peggy Fiedler and S.K. Jain.

Recent publications already in print, and her co-authors, include "The role of interagency cooperation in managing for viable populations," with Hal Salwasser of the USDA Forest Service, and Richard Baker of the U/Cal/Davis Dept. of Environmental Studies, in ***Viable Populations for Conservation***, 1989, Cambridge Univ. Press, edited by Michael Soule; "Biological Diversity and Global Change: Habitat Fragmentation and Extinction," with Thomas J. Stohlgren of the NPS/CPSU at U/Cal/Davis, in ***Proceedings of the Second US-USSR Symposium on Air Pollution Effects on Vegetation Including Forest Ecosystems***, USDA Forest Service, Northeastern Forest Experiment Station, Broomall, PA, 1990; "Wilderness and the Protection of Genetic Diversity," with Thomas Stohlgren of the NPS/CPSU at U/Cal/Davis, in ***Wilderness Benchmark 1988: Proceedings of the National Wilderness Colloquium***; USDA Forest Service Southeastern Forest Experiment Station Gen. Tech. Report, SE-51, Asheville, NC, 1989; and "Boundaries in the Protection of Nature Reserves," in ***BioScience***, Vol. 38 No. 7, pp 480-486.

Elena Fraire, a Biological Technician at CPSU/NAU spent nine weeks in 12 of the 20 NPs and Monuments in Arizona. She gathered information on the natural resource databases in Casa Grande Ruins NM, Coronado N Mem., Fort Bowie NHS, Grand Canyon NP, Montezuma Castle NM, Organ Pipe Cactus NM, Petrified Forest NP, Saguaro NM, Tonto NM, Tuzigoot NM, and Walnut Canyon NM – all as part of Phase I of the Western Region Inventory and Monitoring Project headed by Tom Stohlgren, ecologist with the CPSU at U/CA/Davis.

She met with Superintendents and worked with Resource Management staff at each NPS unit. As anticipated, many of the parks lack baseline data for mammals, plants, reptiles and amphibians. In smaller parks, only checklists are available, many of which have not been updated since the early 1970s.

The CPSU/NAU will respond to the CPSU UC/Davis findings by focusing baseline projects in the Colorado Plateau parks. The CPSU/NAU will enter data for a computerized bird list for the Grand Canyon NP based on the data structure set-up by the CPSU at UC/Davis. The CPSU/NAU will produce a computerized plant list for Montezuma Castle NM and Tuzigoot NM based on past studies. Ultimately, all these databases will be tied to a GIS that will be housed at the CPSU/NAU.

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The CPSU/NAU is hosting the First Biennial Conference on Research in Colorado Plateau National Parks July 22-25 on the NAU campus in Flagstaff. Topics will cover but are not limited to air and water resources, grazing impacts, endangered species, introduced or alien species biology and control, inventory and monitoring, single species ecology, GIS, human impacts, climate and climate change, archeology, and riparian resources. Portions of the proceedings may be published.

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