

Alaska Region

Wildlife Biologist Carol McIntyre presented a paper, "Territory occupancy, productivity, and breeding success of golden eagles in Central Interior Alaska," at the Fourth World Conference on Birds of Prey and Owls in Berlin, Germany, May 10-17. She was invited by the conference organizers to give this paper on her research at Denali NP/P, which has the largest reported breeding population of golden eagles in northern North America. Carol then traveled to Scotland, at the invitation of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, to visit and provide advice for a study of golden eagles there.

* * *

Concerns surrounding potential overharvest of and range overuse by the little known and previously unstudied moose population in Noatak National Preserve prompted the NPS and the Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game to begin a cooperative research project this spring. Working with a helicopter from April 1-9, crews darted 83 moose, radio-collared 50, and ear-tagged all of them. One moose was killed. Moose are relative newcomers to the area and their immigration is seen as a possible indication of global warming.

* * *

The Alaska Region welcomes some new additions to our staff. Two resource management specialists, Hubert Chakuchin (Denali) and Mike Tetreau (Kenai Fjords) have been selected for the '92-'93 Natural Resource Trainee program. Aquatic Ecologist Lyman Thorsteinson was hired recently to coordinate inventory and monitoring activities in selected park watersheds. Formerly a fishery scientist with NOAA, Lyman has been studying offshore features of the biology and ecology of Arctic fishes through the Outer Continental Shelf Environmental Assessment program. Since joining the staff on February 24, he has been working with Denali staff to implement a pilot monitoring program in Rock Creek this summer.

The GIS Regional Technical Support Center has three new members. Nancy Nicholaisen, the new Systems Analyst, formerly was with NOAA's National Ocean Service in Anchorage. She is a regular contributor to Dr. Dobb's Journal. Brian Mattos, a graduate of the Resource Management Training program, is our GIS Cartographic Technician. Before coming to Alaska, he was a Supervisory Forestry Technician at Rocky Mountain NP. Joni Peirce is a GIS Cartographer and comes to the group from the Alaska State Dept. of Environmental Conservation's Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Response Center in Anchorage.