

Dear Training Facilitator,

The Heartland Inventory and Monitoring Network is the NPS program that implements long-term monitoring of “Vital Signs” in 15 Midwestern parks. Your park is one of the 15. The network would like park staff to have an understanding of what the Heartland I&M Network does, why it visits your park, and what support it provides to park decision makers.

The Heartland Inventory and Monitoring Network Communication Work Group offers an updated seasonal training module for 2011. This module explains the need, purpose, and role of the HTLN in park management and interpretation. We invite you to use this slide show with its script to familiarize your new or returning employees with the HTLN.

You will find materials online that we hope you will use during employee training. Our website is organized to make materials easily accessible to various interest groups, such as teachers, citizen scientists, and interpreters. The materials include:

- A PowerPoint slide show at the Heartland I&M Network Internet site in the “Interpreters’ Center” tab at <http://science.nature.nps.gov/im/units/htln/edourch.cfm> with accompanying notes for a presenter to use. There are two versions of the presentation:
 - (1) detailed version (“Expanded” text in notes of slide show) appropriate for use with interpreters or resource management staff with an interest in details about the network activities and natural resource issues;
 - (2) summary version (“For All” version in notes) appropriate for use as a quick overview of the network that could be used with employees having little involvement with natural resource management issues.

The presenter or training facilitator can use a printed version of the slide show (.pdf file) as a script or as a handout.

- Additional Heartland I&M Network communication products, such as the Communication Plan, banners, etc., and lists of reports, resource briefs, Vital Signs monitored at each park, and other technical information under the “Interpreters’ Center” tab <http://science.nature.nps.gov/im/units/htln/edourch.cfm>
- Heartland I&M Network brochures, The Weather Vane newsletter, video and audio recordings under the “About” tab at <http://science.nature.nps.gov/im/units/htln/edourch.cfm>
- Vital Signs Monitoring brochures; also downloadable from http://science.nature.nps.gov/im/monitor/docs/Monitoring_Brochure.pdf
- Many of these same materials are available on the HTLN SharePoint site for access by members, including resource managers and a Point of Contact in each park’s interpretation staff, <http://inpmwroxshare.nps.doi.net:11122/interp/Shared%20Documents/Forms/AllItems.aspx>. Please take time to note the announcements and discussions.

The HTLN has a long record of good communication with its member parks. This seasonal training slide show and other support will help to make the entire park staff aware of the high quality science undertaken in the park. The HTLN also offers staff presentations or public programs at your park when they visit. Please contact the individual researchers visiting your park to arrange a program. Your resource management staff is aware of the sampling schedule.

We hope that you will find this information to be helpful to your training program. Thank you for taking the time to incorporate this into your training.

Park Acronym: _____

Evaluation of training materials

After using the training materials in this packet, please help us improve the packet by answering the following questions:

1. Which version of the slide show did you use? (circle one) Expanded For All
2. Were the enclosed materials effective in introducing new employees to the activities of the Heartland Network Inventory and Monitoring Program? Yes No
3. Was adding this to your training helpful to the employees? Yes No
4. Will you use the packet next year? Yes No

Why? (brief comment)

5. How could we improve the packet?

6. Additional comments:

Thank you for taking the time to use the packet and to evaluate its value to your training. We hope that we can collaborate with you in the future to provide materials that you need at the park.

Return to:

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