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In reply refer to:  
N 2623

Memo

To: Regional Director  
From: Superintendent, Bandelier  
Subject: Needs for Natural History Research

#25/54  
2 Jan, 1955

With reference to the final paragraph of Mr. Canfield's letter of January 12, the following list of useful natural history research projects is offered. Certain of the projects might be classified as technical-assistance work.

1. Eradication of Russian Thistle and substitution of other ground cover.  
(A serious problem in the ruins area of Frijoles Canyon.)
2. Stream Flow of Frijoles Creek  
(In view of the vital importance of this creek to the Park Service establishment here, and in view of successive drought years, <sup>Canfield</sup> a study to estimate future prospects for flow is advisable.)
3. Porcupine population cycles  
(In the winter of 1953-54, much porcupine damage to trees was evident near headquarters. During the following spring, and subsequently, virtually no porcupines (nor damage) have been noted.)
4. Progressive desiccation as affecting tree health  
(Perhaps as a result of drought years, many ponderosa and pinyon pines in certain areas are succumbing to insect infestations.)
5. Skunk Population: possible control measures  
(Garbage-scavenging skunks are becoming too numerous in Frijoles Canyon.)
6. Herpetology  
(There has never been a scientific effort towards the cataloging of reptiles and amphibians in Bandelier.)
7. Entomology  
(In particular, scientific collections of ants, spiders, and scorpions have not yet been made here.)
8. Geologic Section of Frijoles Canyon at the Upper Falls  
(This part of the canyon walls is spectacular and should have some sort of interpretive treatment for hikers and horseback riders.)

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... and other - ?  
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Form 10-21

PRIORITY LIST FOR NATURAL HISTORY RESEARCH

Date form submitted: January 25, 1954

Area: Bandelier National Monument

| <u>Priority</u> | <u>Project Title</u>        | <u>Investigator</u> | <u>Status Of Project</u>               |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------------|
| 1               | Archeological Survey        | Park Rangers        | In progress                            |
| 2               | Forest Insect Investigation | Regional Forester   | In progress                            |
| 3               | Herbarium                   | Park staff          | Proposed to add to existing herbarium  |
| 4               | Insect study collection     | Park staff          | Proposed                               |
| 5               | Bird skin study collection  | Park staff          | Proposed to add to existing collection |
| 6               | Wildlife check list         | Park staff          | Proposed                               |

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Superintendent