

# U.S.

# MAB

# BULLETIN

THE UNITED STATES NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE MAN AND THE BIOSPHERE PROGRAM

May 1995

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## From U.S. MAB Chair D. Dean Bibles

The Constable Commission Report was presented in draft and verbally to the Executive Committee and was well received. It is now finalized and will be a major discussion at the summer National Committee meeting. The report lauded U.S. MAB for its accomplishments in the areas of interdisciplinary research, its move to strengthen the Biosphere Reserves and linkages with International programs. The report emphasized the need to encourage cooperative programs between biosphere reserves and a broad range of stakeholders. We now need to be prepared to take action on their recommendations in order to move U.S. MAB into the 21st century.

I am grateful to the members of the commission and the staff that supported this intensive effort. All the Commission members have a great deal of responsibility and still gave unselfishly of their time and ideas.

The U.S. MAB representation at the International Conference on Biosphere Reserves in Seville was impressive. Ambassador Elinor Constable spoke on national programs and the Commission's report to U.S. MAB. Papers and demonstrations were well received on two of our directorate core projects. Several of our biosphere reserve managers attended and presented papers. The Sonoran Desert Alliance effort was truly cross-cultural and international with participation by managers from the U.S. and Mexico and the O'odham Nation.

The conference was worldwide. I personally worked on the drafting group for the "Statutes of the World Network of Biosphere Reserves" and others representing U.S. MAB worked on "The Sevilla Strategy." Some of the very issues important to the drafting group, such as electronic communication among biosphere reserves, generation of funding support from the private sector, common standards for collection and exchange of data, and methods of information exchange for biosphere reserve managers, are all issues that are addressed in the Constable Commission Report and that

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## EcoNetAmerica—A Developing Reality

The CYTED (Ciencias y Tecnologia para el Desarrollo/Science and Technology for Development) held a workshop in February, at the University for International Cooperation (UCI) in Heredia, Costa Rica to develop a network of biosphere reserves between IberoAmerica and Spain and Portugal. At this workshop, U.S. MAB presented the concept of also linking with the biosphere reserves of the United States and Canada to form an EcoNetAmerica. Agreement was reached that both goals should be pursued.

The U.S. MAB Executive Committee agreed to support the attendance of selected representatives from the biosphere reserves of IberoAmerica at the Smithsonian/MAB "Forest Monitoring Symposium" to be held in Washington May 23–25, 1995. The coordinator for the CYTED network program, Dr. Mario Rojas of the UCI in Costa Rica is on a committee with U.S. MAB and the Smithsonian to plan their participation. These representatives will attend a special pre-symposium session on application of the metadata of MABFlora and MABFauna to the data bases existing on their own national biosphere reserves. This will be the first hemisphere-wide meeting of biosphere reserve managers and scientists to discuss standardizing protocols for data collection, storage, and exchange. Currently, U.S. MAB supports the pilot MABFauna at the University of California Davis. Internet address: [ice.ucdavis.edu](http://ice.ucdavis.edu) or <http://ice.ucdavis.edu/>

Representatives of new networks in Europe, Russia, and Asia are also invited to the workshop and symposium in a step toward a worldwide network of biosphere reserves within a MABNet.

## In This Issue

- Projects Funded by Biosphere Reserve Directorate
- Seville Conference
- GIS Workshop Planned



## From the Executive Director

This issue will, I am sure, contain more than enough news about the International Conference on Biosphere Reserves in Seville. A major debt of gratitude goes to all of the staff members of the international MAB secretariat of UNESCO. Jane Robertson, Pierre Lasserre, Mireille Jardin, and NSF secondee James Edwards, deserve particular mention and praise. Similar recognition and gratitude for their long hours spent in organizing this event must go to Cristina Herrero and the staff of the Secretariat of the Spanish MAB Program for making this Convention a success. One can only hope that these International Congresses/Conventions on Biosphere Reserves will become a more frequent event (the last was held in Minsk, Belarus in 1983) so that more concrete and cooperative international actions can result from such gatherings.

Although many topics were discussed and numerous actions recommended as a result of Seville, the development and implementation of "MABNet" was seen as a positive role and function for the International Network of Biosphere Reserves. The concept of MABNet was endorsed and supported by the delegates at the Seville Conference. Providing electronic access to and among the informational data bases that exist on biosphere reserves offers a serious scientific contribution to the debate on the

pace and impact of global climate change and its effects on the biological diversity of the planet. Increased communication with the local residents, land managers, and scientists who are effectively dealing with biosphere reserves is one of the prime reasons for creating a MABNet.

The process of creating a functional MABNet is being based on the emergence of carefully planned regional networks. Readers of this Bulletin are familiar with the work being done through the Biosphere Reserve Integrated Monitoring program (BRIM) being carried out by the North American and European MAB programs within the structure of EuroMAB. The MAB program of the IberoAmerican countries, along with Spain and Portugal, are developing a biosphere reserve network under the umbrella of Science and Technology for Development (CYTED) coordinated from the University for International Cooperation in Belem, Heredia, Costa Rica by Dr. Mario Rojas. Efforts are also underway to link the United States, Canada, and CYTED under the umbrella of EcoNetAmerica. A regional network is also emerging within East Asia coordinated by the Republic of Korea MAB Program. In sum, a number of regional efforts are being organized to provide a foundation for a global MABNet.

Although many good and solid steps have been taken, there is still a long task ahead before a truly global network of biosphere reserves will be constructed and one can go "surfing" on the MABNet. Seville was a good step forward in this process.

Roger E. Soles

### U.S. MAB U.S. MAB BULLETIN

The *U.S. MAB Bulletin* is published quarterly by the U.S. MAB Secretariat, OES/EGC/MAB, SA-44C, U.S. Department of State, Washington, DC 20522-4401.

"The mission of the United States Man and the Biosphere Program (U.S. MAB) is to foster harmonious relationships between humans and the biosphere through domestic and international cooperation in interdisciplinary research, education, biosphere reserves, and information exchange." Adopted by the U.S. Executive Committee for the Man and the Biosphere Program, November 3, 1994.

U.S. MAB is supported by the Agency for International Development, the Department of Agriculture-Forest Service, the Department of Commerce—National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Department of Energy, the Department of the Interior—Bureau of Land Management, the Department of the Interior—National Biological Service, the Department of the Interior—National Park Service, the Department of State, the Environmental Protection Agency, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, the Peace Corps, and the Smithsonian Institution.

The program is organized into six directorates: Biosphere Reserve, High Latitude Ecosystems, Human-Dominated Systems, Marine and Coastal Ecosystems, Temperate Ecosystems, and Tropical Ecosystems.

### Call for Papers

The Sixth International Symposium on Society and Resource Management will be held May 18–23, 1996, at Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania.

The 1996 symposium will focus on a better integration of social and natural resource sciences in addressing resource and environmental issues. A commitment to the role of social perspectives in policy development and managing natural resources is emphasized. This sixth symposium is being hosted by the Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology and The School of Forestry of the College of Agricultural Sciences and the Department of Hotel, Restaurant, and Recreation Management of the School of Health and Human Development at The Pennsylvania State University.

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## Biosphere Reserve Directorate Funds Seven Projects

The Biosphere Reserve Directorate of U.S. MAB has selected seven activities/workshops for funding in FY 1995. The proposals were in response to the Request for Proposals from the directorate issued in November 1994.

The successful proposals represent a diverse array of workshops and programs. Directorate Chair, Hubert Hinote expressed his satisfaction with the quality of proposals received. Mr. Hinote said that the directorate was very pleased that through this small grants program the directorate could fund almost half of the proposals received and make substantial progress in promoting cooperative regional ecosystem-based initiatives. The funded workshops and activities are:

*"Adirondack Northern Forest: a Common Stewardship,"* submitted by the Association for the Protection of the Adirondacks. U.S. MAB funds will be used to support forums in and about the Adirondack (New York) region on the themes of eco-tourism, forest-farm based economies, landscape ecology and conservation biology, and citizenship and governance.

*"Glacier Bay and Admiralty Island Biosphere Reserve Scientific Data Needs Assessment and Studies Planning Workshop,"* submitted by Glacier Bay Ecosystem Initiative, National Biological Service. The workshop would invite members of all segments of the biosphere community, federal, state, local inhabitants, hunters, etc., to identify information needs and plan multidisciplinary studies to address ecosystem management issues.

*"Aleut Traditional Knowledge Assessment,"* submitted by Rural Alaska Community Action Program. The project will collect information on the historic use by local residents of marine resources from the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge.

*"Virgin Islands Biosphere Reserve Program Planning Workshop,"* submitted by the Virgin Islands Resource Management Cooperative. The workshop will focus on the sediment runoff effects on the Haulover Bay area of Virgin Islands National Park. Invited participants will include local researchers, community leaders, developers, and government officials.

*"Elevation of Isle Royale Biosphere Reserve to Fully Functional Status,"* submitted by the National Park Service. The project would develop a Lake Superior basin protected areas directory. This would be the first U.S. step toward designation of additional protected areas and community partnerships in the Lake Superior binational region.

*"Building Successful Community-Based Partnerships Along the U.S. - Mexico Border,"* submitted on behalf of the International Sonoran Desert Alliance. The project will

prepare a bilingual regional profile, complete a regional economic analysis, complete a feasibility study for creating an international interpretive center, and prepare educational outreach materials in conjunction with Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument Biosphere Reserve in the United States; and complete development of the management plan for El Pinacate y Gran Desierto de Altar and Alto Golfo Biosphere Reserves in Mexico.

*"Develop a Neighborhood Planning Handbook for the Borderlands of the Rocky Mountain National Park Biosphere Reserve,"* submitted by Rocky Mountain National Park and Colorado Rockies Regional Cooperative. The funds will be used to prepare and print a handbook on citizen/neighborhood planning of ecosystem management in the zone of cooperation of a biosphere reserve.

The funded projects geographically span the United States from the Virgin Islands to Alaska, and the Adirondacks to the Sonoran Desert.

## Earthwatch Call for Proposals

The Center for Field Research invites proposals for 1996 field grants awarded by its affiliate Earthwatch. Earthwatch is an international nonprofit organization dedicated to research and to public education in the sciences and humanities. Earthwatch field grants average \$20,000. These funds are derived from the contributions of Earthwatch members who pay for the opportunity to join scientists in the field and to assist with data collection and other research tasks. Earthwatch field grants cover the costs of maintaining volunteers and principal investigators in the field and may help with other field expenses. Preliminary proposals should be submitted at least 13 months in advance of anticipated field dates. Full proposals are invited upon review of preliminary proposals. For more information contact:

Dee Robbins, Life Sciences Program Director  
The Center for Field Research  
680 Mt. Auburn Street  
Watertown, MA 02172  
Tel: (617) 926-8200, Fax: (617) 926-8532  
E-mail drobbins@earthwatch.org or  
Sean Doolan, Scientific Development Officer  
Earthwatch Europe  
Belsyre Court  
57 Woodstock Road  
Oxford, OX2 6HU, UK  
Tel: (0865) 311 600, Fax: (0865) 311 383  
E-mail Doolan@vax.oxford.ac.uk



## The Seville International Conference on Biosphere Reserve

U.S. MAB was well represented at Seville, Spain March 21–25, at the International Conference on Biosphere Reserves.

Ambassador Elinor Constable, Assistant Secretary of State for Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, spoke to the assembly on opening day and gave a brief view of the Constable Commission recommendations to U.S. MAB. Ambassador Constable reported the Commission's recommendation to build a supporting constituency of public and private interests to support the research and management strategies of sustainability at the local and regional level.

U.S. MAB Chair, D. Dean Bibles worked for several days on the drafting committee for the *Statutes of the World Network of Biosphere Reserves*. Mr. Bibles also presented the *Strategic Plan for the U.S. Biosphere Reserve Program*.

U.S. MAB Executive Director Roger E. Soles presented an overview on the development of regional networks among biosphere reserves to the conference's Commission on Science and International Networks.

The Temperate Ecosystems Directorate was represented with a presentation of LUCAS, the computer-based knowledge system environment engineered by Richard Flamm and developed and managed by Michael Berry and his students. Penny Jennings Eckert presented, "Land use patterns in the Olympic and Southern Appalachian Biosphere Reserves: developing a knowledge system environment for impact evaluation."

Dr. William Walker, from the Human-Dominated Systems Directorate presented a paper on comparative studies of U.S. wetland areas of the New Jersey Pinelands and the south Florida/Everglades.

Hubert Hinote, Executive Director of Southern Appalachian Man and the Biosphere Foundation, and William P. Gregg, Director of International Programs for the National Biological Service, presented, "Toward a U.S. Modality of Biosphere Reserves: the Southern Appalachian Biosphere Reserve (SAMAB)." Mr. Hinote reports that a lot of interest was shown in the organization of SAMAB and how it effectively works with the various sectors of the local communities.

Dr. Gregg also substituted for Dr. Michael Ruggiero in presenting an overview of EuroMAB's Biosphere Reserve Integrated Monitoring Program (BRIM). He shared the results of a pilot project involving biosphere reserves from 10 countries to test software and guidelines for databases on vertebrate fauna records and Internet access of the records.

Representing the International Sonoran Desert Alliance were Floyd Flores and Fernando Valentin from the

O'Odham Nation, Maria Elena Barajas and Enriqueta Velarde from Mexico, Harold Smith, Superintendent of Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, and Carlos Nagel from the Friends of Pronatura. Mr. Nagel was pleased with the reception of the group presentation. Howard Ness reported that he received numerous comments on the quality of this panel presentation that was considered inspirational and a good example of cooperation between nations and diverse cultural groups.

Raymond C. Shearer, Manager, Coram Experimental Forest presented a poster on the nearly 50 years of research at Coram and its importance to studies on the ecology and silviculture of the area.

Several U.S. representatives worked on the Seville Action Plan, which places high priority on promoting electronic linkages and urges biosphere reserves to adopt standardized protocols to facilitate information exchanges and access to existing data.

Bill Gregg noted that there seemed to be less divergent views on the basic concept of biosphere reserves than at the First International Congress. He was pleased that more than 20 countries without presently designated biosphere reserves attended the meeting.

All participants interviewed were pleased with the quality of the program and with the opportunities to meet other biosphere reserve managers and researchers. As Mr. Shearer noted, "We gained a greater appreciation of the world-wide need for cooperation among scientists and managers of these valuable properties."

*Penny Eckert, Bill Gregg, Hubert Hinote, Carlos Nagel, Howard Ness, and Raymond Shearer contributed to this article.*

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The first EcoNetAmerica meeting will take place at the Smithsonian Institution on May 21–22 and will be followed by the SI/MAB "Forest Monitoring Symposium: The International Network of Biodiversity Monitoring Plots" from May 23–25. The objectives of the symposium are:

- assess the current state of plot-based forest biodiversity research worldwide;
- address the feasibility of using plots as a framework for monitoring multilayers of taxa;
- discuss the importance and application of plot-based research results to management and conservation;
- determine the socioeconomic applications of plot-based results;
- promote an international network of sites in which comparable methodologies are used;
- promote the international network of sites with ongoing biodiversity monitoring as active centers for multi-disciplinary research and training.



## Draft Statutes Prepared at Sevilla

A revised draft of the *Statutes of the World Network of Biosphere Reserves* was written at the International Conference on Biosphere Reserves at Sevilla. This new draft will be submitted to the MAB International Co-ordinating Council (ICC) in Paris, June 12–16, 1995. After consideration and possible changes by the ICC, the statutes will be submitted to the General Conference of UNESCO at its session in November 1995.

The draft statutes stress the three functions of biosphere reserves as: conserving landscapes, species, and genetic variation; fostering economic and human development, which is socioculturally and ecologically sustainable; and supporting education, training, and research related to issues of conservation and sustainable development.

The criteria for an area to be qualified for designation as a biosphere reserve includes: significance for biological diversity conservation; representative of a biogeographic region and include gradation of human interventions; appropriate size; provide for demonstration of approaches to sustainable development on a regional scale; provide for participation by public authorities, local communities, and private interests; provide for management of human use and activities in the buffer zone; facilitate programs for research, monitoring, education, and training; and a management policy for the area as a biosphere reserve and designated authority to implement the policy.

The status of each biosphere reserve shall be subject to a periodic review on selection criteria every 10 years. A report of this review, prepared by the state or other authority concerned, will be sent to the MAB Secretariat. The Secretariat will have a qualified independent organization evaluate the report, send it to the Advisory Committee for Biosphere Reserves, and then to the ICC. If the ICC is not satisfied that the biosphere reserve still meets the criteria, the state concerned will be asked to take measures for improvement. If the ICC finds that no improvement has been made, the Director-General of UNESCO will notify the state concerned that the area is no longer a biosphere reserve.

UNESCO shall seek financial support from bilateral and multilateral sources to reinforce individual biosphere reserves and the functioning of the biosphere reserve network.

A full text copy of the draft statutes is available from the U.S. MAB Secretariat upon request.

## Computers for Biosphere Reserves

Intel, Conservation International and UNESCO, announced a joint project to equip 25 biosphere reserves with computer equipment and access to the Internet global information network. The announcement was made March 21, at the International Conference on Biosphere Reserves at Sevilla.

Under the agreement, Intel will provide \$270,000 to pay for costs of hardware and software, as well as for technical support and training. Conservation International, which has projects in several biosphere reserves, will provide software for its Geographic Information System, and both Conservation International and UNESCO will provide training through a series of regional workshops.

Conservation International's Geographic Information System (CISIG) is the first-ever multilingual geographic information software available, currently operating in English, Spanish, and Portuguese versions, with French to be available soon. CISIG integrates geographical, biological, and ecological data with social and economic factors, displaying them as visual images. Among its applications are assessing the environmental impact of development projects and evaluating trends of deforestation and human disturbances.

## Tropical Ecosystem Directorate Planning GIS Workshop

The U.S. MAB Tropical Ecosystem Directorate (TED) and U.S. A.I.D. Mayan Forests (MAYAFOR) program met in Tikal, Guatemala, February 22–24. The directorate members reviewed the progress of their core project to date, made an onsite visit of the TIKAL project, and planned a Maya Tropical Forest Geographic Information System (GIS) Workshop for August 1995.

In preparation for the GIS workshop, five expert panels were created focused on topics of critical concern to the future of the region: biological resources, landscape processes, cultural-economic resources, corridors, and conservation law.

Panel leaders will collect data on these topics from a broad range of sources from Mexico, Guatemala, and Belize and apply the data gathered to base maps of the Selva Maya.

The panel leaders and a projected 25 participants will meet in August to combine their data into a GIS-focused data base. It is expected that a report, maps, and data base will be distributed to all participants, interested NGOs, and the conservation community in November 1995. For further information contact Jim Nations for administrative matters and Chris Rodstrom for technical matters at: Conservation International, 1015 18th Street, N.W., Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20036, Tel: (202) 429-5660, Fax: (202) 887-5188.



# Biosphere Reserves: the Vision From Seville for the 21st Century

This vision statement and 10 key directions for biosphere reserves were approved by the Seville Conference.

## The Vision

What future does the world face as we move toward the 21st century: Current trends in population growth and distribution, globalisation of the economy and the effects of trade patterns on rural areas, erosion of cultural distinctiveness, increased demand for energy and resources, centralization of access to information, and uneven spread of technological innovations—all these paint a sobering picture of environment and development prospects in the near future.

The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) began working toward sustainable development, incorporating care of the environment and greater social equity, including respect for rural communities and their accumulated wisdom. Agenda 21, the Conventions on Biodiversity, Climate Change, Desertification, and others, show the way forward at the international level.

The global community needs working examples that encapsulate the ideas of UNCED for promoting both conservation and sustainable development. These examples can only work if they express all the social, cultural, spiritual and economic needs of society, and they are based on sound science.

Biosphere reserves offer such a model. Rather than becoming islands in an increasingly impoverished and chaotic world, they can become theatres for reconciling people and nature; they can bring knowledge of the past to the needs of the future; they can demonstrate how to overcome the problems of the sectoral nature of our institutions.

Thus, biosphere reserves will not only be a means for the people who live and work within and around them to retain a balanced relationship with the natural world, they will also contribute to the needs of society as a whole by showing us a way to a more sustainable future. This is at the heart of our vision for biosphere reserves in the 21st century.

## The Seville Conference

The Seville Conference adopted a two-pronged approach:

to examine past experience in implementing the innovative concept of the biosphere reserve;

to look to the future to identify what emphases should now be given to the three functions of conservation, development and logistical support.

The Seville Conference concluded that, in spite of the problems and limitations encountered with biosphere reserves, the program as a whole had been innovative and had had many successes. In particular, the three functions would be as valid as ever in the coming years. In light of the analysis undertaken, 10 key directions were identified by the Conference and are the foundations of the new Seville Strategy:

1. strengthen the contribution that biosphere reserves make to the implementation of international agreements promoting conservation and sustainable development, and especially to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

2. develop biosphere reserves in a wide variety of environmental, economic, and cultural situations, from largely undisturbed regions to the peripheries of great cities. There is a particular potential, and need, to apply the biosphere reserve concept in the coastal and marine environment.

3. strengthen regional and thematic networks of biosphere reserves as components within the World Network of Biosphere Reserves.

4. reinforce scientific research, monitoring and training in biosphere reserves since conservation and sustainable use in these areas require a sound base in the natural and social sciences. This need is particularly acute in countries where biosphere reserves lack human and financial resources.

5. ensure that all zones of biosphere reserves support conservation, sustainable development, and scientific knowledge.

6. extend the transition area to embrace large areas suitable for ecosystem management and use the biosphere reserve to explore and demonstrate approaches to sustainable development at the regional scale. In short, this view of a biosphere reserve is wider than that of a protected area.

7. reflect more fully the human dimensions of biosphere reserves. Connections should be made between cultural and biological diversity. Traditional knowledge and genetic resources should be conserved, and their role in sustainable development should be recognized and encouraged.

8. promote the management of each biosphere reserve essentially as a "pact" between the local community and society as a whole. Management should be open, evolving and adaptive. Such an approach will help ensure that reserves—and their local communities—are better placed to respond to external political, economic, and social pressures.

9. bring together all interest groups in a partnership approach to biosphere reserves both at site and network levels. Information should flow freely among all concerned.

10. invest in the future. Biosphere reserves should be used to further our understanding of humanity's relationship with the natural world, through programs of public awareness, information and education, based on a long-term, inter-generational perspective.



## New Members on the High Latitude Ecosystem Directorate

The High Latitude Ecosystems Directorate attracted new members in response to a search for candidates to complement Phase 2 of its core project. The U.S. MAB Executive Committee complimented the directorate on such well-qualified nominations.

Ernest (Tiger) Burch has 35 years experience in Arctic research in sociocultural anthropology. Dr. Burch is well known in his field and is a member of the Polar Research Board of the National Academy of Sciences' National Research Council. His research has ranged from sociological studies of traditional native life to ecological investigations of contemporary native life.

Rachel Charline Craig is Public Relations/Information and Inupiat Iitqusiak Coordinator for the Northwest Arctic Borough and is an Inupiaq speaker and native Alaskan. Ms. Craig has 22 years of experience in public relations and cultural affairs. She has special interests in cultural preservation, elder and youth programs, and quality of the food chain. Ms. Craig has worked extensively on village issues.

Don Russell is Manager of Northern Conservation Division, Canadian Wildlife Service. Mr. Russell has had 21 years of experience in research on Arctic caribou populations. He managed development of an ecosystem modeling effort that can explore implications of development or climate change on the caribou population and its ecosystem.

Anthony M. Starfield is Professor, Department of Ecology, Evolution and Behavior, University of Minnesota. Dr. Starfield has a national reputation in complex modeling and is interested in integrating natural and social science models. His current research interests include genetic drift in small, wild populations, qualitative ecosystem modeling, and risk and decision analysis.

Reappointed to the directorate is Thomas Andrew Hanley, team leader "Wildlife Ecology: Land/Water Interactions Research Program," for U.S.D.A.-Forest Service. He is actively involved in the Northern Sciences Network. Dr. Hanley's 19 years of research have been oriented toward physiological relations between animals and their habitat, and how human modifications of habitat translate to physiological and demographic responses by animals.

Moving from acting chair to chair of the directorate is Dr. Jack Kruse, Director of the Institute of Social and Economic Research, and Professor of Public Policy at University of Alaska, Anchorage. Continuing as members of the directorate are Dr. Marilyn Walker, University of Colorado; Dr. David Klein, University of Alaska, Fairbanks; Dr. Dale Taylor, National Park Service; and Dr.

Elizabeth Andrews, Program Manager, Subsistence Regional Research, Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

*(Continued from page 2—Call)*

Those interested in presenting a paper or poster or organizing a roundtable discussion for the symposium are encouraged to submit an abstract of no longer than two double-spaced, typewritten pages by November 1, 1995, to: A.E. Luloff, Program Co-Chair, Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology, 111 Armsby Building, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA 16802.

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we in U.S. MAB have addressed in our directorates and our participation in BRIM and EcoNetAmerica.

U.S. MAB was well represented at a recent conference on, "Societal Dimensions of Biosphere Reserves-Biosphere Reserves for People," co-sponsored by the German MAB National Committee, the German National Commission for UNESCO, the MAB-ICC Secretariat of UNESCO and UNESCO-ROSTE, near Bonn, Germany. I continue to be impressed with the quality of interdisciplinary research that U.S. MAB has completed and continues as well as the ability of our folks to explain these complex studies in very understandable ways. We were able to learn a great deal from the exchange of information at this conference.

While in Germany, I took the opportunity to accept a kind invitation from the German MAB to visit The Rhon Biosphere Reserve. This is an excellent model of mixed ownerships and communities attempting to achieve long-term societal and resource sustainability while finding means of making the economic adjustments to the rapid changes occurring in Europe and the world.

My visit to Austria MAB was quite productive, and I believe that some of the studies conducted by Austrian MAB in the mountain regions with heavy winter and summer use could be instructive in our mountainous areas.

The trip concluded with an opportunity to visit French and UK MAB folks, UNESCO, and the World Conservation Monitoring Center (WCMC). These have proven beneficial in preparation for the Sevilla Conference and EuroMAB objectives.

The Central California Coastal Biosphere Reserve symposium on Biological Diversity of the Central California Coast was recently held in the Historic Presidio. I found it particularly interesting to hear the challenging discussions on Coastal-Marine ecosystems and sanctuaries and biological diversity. The discussions in which I was fortunate enough to participate were well done, and the Board of the Association for the Central California Coast Biosphere Reserve, who put so much effort into organizing the symposium, certainly deserve our thanks.



## Publications

To order publications from the U.S. MAB Secretariat, OES/EGC/MAB, SA-44C, Department of State, Washington, DC 20522-4401, please include self-addressed mailing labels.

### NEW PUBLICATIONS

#### from U.S. MAB:

*La Selva Maya: Temas Claves y Recomendaciones de Accion. Informe de un Taller, Flores, Guatemala 8-9 de Febrero, 1993. 1995 (19pp.)*

*Plan Estrategico para el Programa de las Reservas de la Biosfera de los Estados Unidos, Directorio de las Reservas de la Biosfera. 1995 (28pp.)*

*The United States Man and the Biosphere Program, a revised pamphlet of introduction to the U.S. MAB Program. 1995 (26pp.)*

### STILL AVAILABLE

#### from Others:

*Action Plan 1994-1996*, developed by The Southern Appalachian Man and the Biosphere Program (SAMAB) 1994. (17pp.) available from SAMAB Executive Director, 1314 Cherokee Orchard Road, Gatlinburg, TN 37738, Tel: (615) 436-1701, Fax: (615) 436-5598.

*International Society for Ecological Economics (ISEE) Newsletter. Volume 6, No. 1, January 1995* contains a report from the San Jose, October 1994 ISEE Third Biennial Conference, a profile on the Center for Energy and Environmental Studies at Boston University, meeting, publication, and job announcements, etc. Available from ISEE, P.O. Box 1589, Solomons, MD 20688. USA

### 2nd U.S. Biosphere Reserve Managers' Workshop

The Biosphere Reserve Directorate is seeking a U.S. biosphere reserve interested in planning and hosting the second biosphere reserve managers' meeting for fall 1995. The purpose of the workshop will be to share ideas on all aspects of biosphere reserve management. The expenses of the meeting will be met by the directorate. If interested in this opportunity please contact Hubert Hinote, SAMAB, 1314 Cherokee Orchard Lane, Gatlinburg, TN 37738, Tel: (615) 436-1701, Fax: (615) 436-5598.

## Smithsonian/MAB Forest Monitoring Symposium

The Smithsonian/MAB Biodiversity Program (SI/MAB) has been fostering an international network of permanent, long-term biodiversity monitoring plots of different sizes and scales. These forest plots are located in a wide range of biosphere reserves and other protected areas. The SI/MAB Biodiversity Monitoring Database (BioMon) will link the monitoring plots, while the Biosphere Reserve Information Management System (BRIM) links the biosphere reserve sites. Using BRIM and BioMon, we hope to have most of the forested biosphere reserves in the Americas connected through EcoNetAmerica by the year 2000.

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U.S. Man and the Biosphere Program OES/EGC/MAB

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