

Wildlife and Vegetation Division

Monthly Report

IPM

The Delegation of Authority for approval of certain pesticides has been signed by the Director and is now being distributed. Previously, all pesticide uses were approved by WASO. Under the new procedure, many less dangerous pesticides may be approved at the regional level. We hope this will shorten processing time and improve service to the parks.

The U.S. Forest Service has approved eight forest pest management projects for 1993, providing \$175,000 in new money. We expect more approvals and money within the next few months.

Fisheries

The NPS and the American Fisheries Society signed a cooperative agreement on November 30, 1992, to renew a relationship established between the two parties in 1991. The agreement allows the NPS and the AFS to work together towards achieving common goals for fisheries management, research, and public awareness. Under last year's agreement, the Park Service provided support for the AFS publication of Dr. Robert Behnke's monograph on the "Native Trout of Western North America." This monograph provides a comprehensive survey of indigenous western trout and integrates biology and ecology with taxonomy and biogeography. The monograph is available for \$41 (\$33 for members) from AFS National Headquarters (301-897-8616).

Frank Panek participated in a meeting of the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Working Group on December 7-8, 1992. Attendees discussed and reviewed RMRO's workplan for fisheries studies in the Upper Colorado River Drainage within Canyonlands NP, Capitol Reef NP, Glen Canyon NRA, Curecanti NRA, and Dinosaur NM. Regional Fishery Biologist Ed Wick put together a package of projects to fill the research and management voids in the existing Recovery Implementation Program (RIP). Several projects totalling about \$225,000 of NRPP funds were identified for FY93. Many of these projects will require multiple years of funding.

Inventory and Monitoring

Sue Glenn participated in the I&M Technical Committee meeting, convened to make recommendations regarding the allocation of FY93 Program funding. Priorities included implementing new work in vegetation mapping, natural resource bibliographies, digital cartographic mapping, protocol development, pilot monitoring programs, and training.

The Wildlife and Vegetation and GIS divisions are in the process of developing Servicewide vegetation mapping protocols. Suggestions should be directed to Sue Glenn (202-343-8104).

Sue Glenn served on a National Science Foundation panel to review Conservation and Restoration Biology proposals and co-authored a proposal on the effects of global change on Great Plains fauna that was submitted to the Global Environmental Change Great Plains Regional Research Center.

Servicewide Research Inventory

The updated version (v. 2.06) of the Investigator's Annual Report (IAR) software was sent out to the regions on December 23. Data on 1992 research activities in the parks is due to WASO by May 1, 1993. This year, the IAR software includes a new reporting section for those investigators working in the Servicewide Global Change Research and Inventory and Monitoring programs. Questions on the installation and use of the software may be referred to Tim Goddard (202-343-8136).

Global Change

The NPS Global Change Research Program Information Bulletin has been printed and distributed. It is the first quarterly issue and contains articles about activities and features of the Program. Contact Alicia Lizarraga (202-343-1300) for copies.

Division representatives met with personnel from the Office of Technology Assessment (OTA) to discuss the OTA analysis of resources that potentially are at risk due to global change. The OTA premise is that

regularly renewed agricultural and built environments may be at less risk than natural resources that have much longer turnover periods. The OTA study is being conducted in response to requests from both the Senate and House and is due to be completed by September 1993.

National Natural Landmarks

The 1992 Section 8 Report on damaged and threatened NNLs has been sent up for NPS and Department review and approval. Thanks to the regional NNL coordinators for input and assistance in preparing this year's report. Questions on the Section 8 Report should go to Craig Shafer (202-343-8127).

Steve Gibbons, NNL coordinator for the Pacific Northwest Region, will be in Washington on January 19-22 to begin the alternative management control review of the NNL Program, scheduled for completion this year.

Man and the Biosphere

Bill Gregg participated in the Santa Fe World Heritage meeting as a member of the U.S. delegation. Discussions included the need for better monitoring and the recognition that some World Heritage properties may need to be placed on an endangered list.

The essence of these discussions was to use World Heritage designation as a tool to help protect parks and other recognized land management units. Two new sites in the U.S. have been added to the World Heritage list: Glacier Bay National Park in Alaska, as an addition to the existing Wrangell-St. Elias-Kluane World Heritage Site, and Taos Pueblo in New Mexico.

Strategic Research

John Dennis participated in meetings with the other land management agencies to discuss a U.S. Forest Service proposed Wilderness Research Institute. Although the Forest Service is taking a lead role, they expressed a desire for the other bureaus to participate in the development of the Institute.

Team 7 of the Natural Resources Strategic Plan Implementation Program met to discuss strategic research needs. The team, chaired by Ruggiero, developed a list of needs and a draft outline that will be fleshed out before the end of March 1993.

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