

# PEOPLE & LAND & WATER

Dec 97/Jan 98

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## SCIENCE & STEWARDSHIP



**El Niño Winter:** USGS scientists gear up for weather event of the century, 18

**Deconstructing Dams:** Removing hydrodams opens a new conservation era for rivers, 7

**PCBs and Toxic Eagles:** Restoring the Hudson River's Natural Heritage, 22

**Brown Tree Snakes:** Fencing out a ravenous Pacific island predator, 30

**Dishing the Dirt on Mars:** USGS emeriti honored for their scientific work, 2

## WORKING WITH AMERICA



**Light Rail-Clean Burning:** Mass transit projects unveiled for National Parks, 14

**National Recreation Lakes System:** Public-private tourism partnerships eyed for federally-built lakes, 5

**Confronting Contradictions:** New BIA chief outlines embattled agency's goals and objectives, 26

**Building Community Support:** Winning ways to increase public involvement in Interior missions, 6, 13

**Curbing Public Pollution:** Breaking the storm drain dumping habit, 12

## WORKPLACE ISSUES

Employees protest discrimination, 4

Leaders pledge greater diversity, 4

Heightened security, 5

## VIEWPOINTS

The Storm Circling Babbitt, 32

Worm's Eye View of Hudson Casino Lobbying, 31

## THE INSIDE LINE

Interior People	2-3
Around the Department	4-5
Science & Stewardship	6-7
Tribute & Remembrance	8-11
Working With America	12-13
National Park Service	14-15
Year of the Ocean	16-17
U.S. Geological Survey	18-20
Office of Surface Mining	21
Fish and Wildlife Service	22-23
Minerals Management Service	24-25
Bureau of Indian Affairs	26-27
Bureau of Land Management	28-29
Office of Insular Affairs	30
Viewpoint	31-32

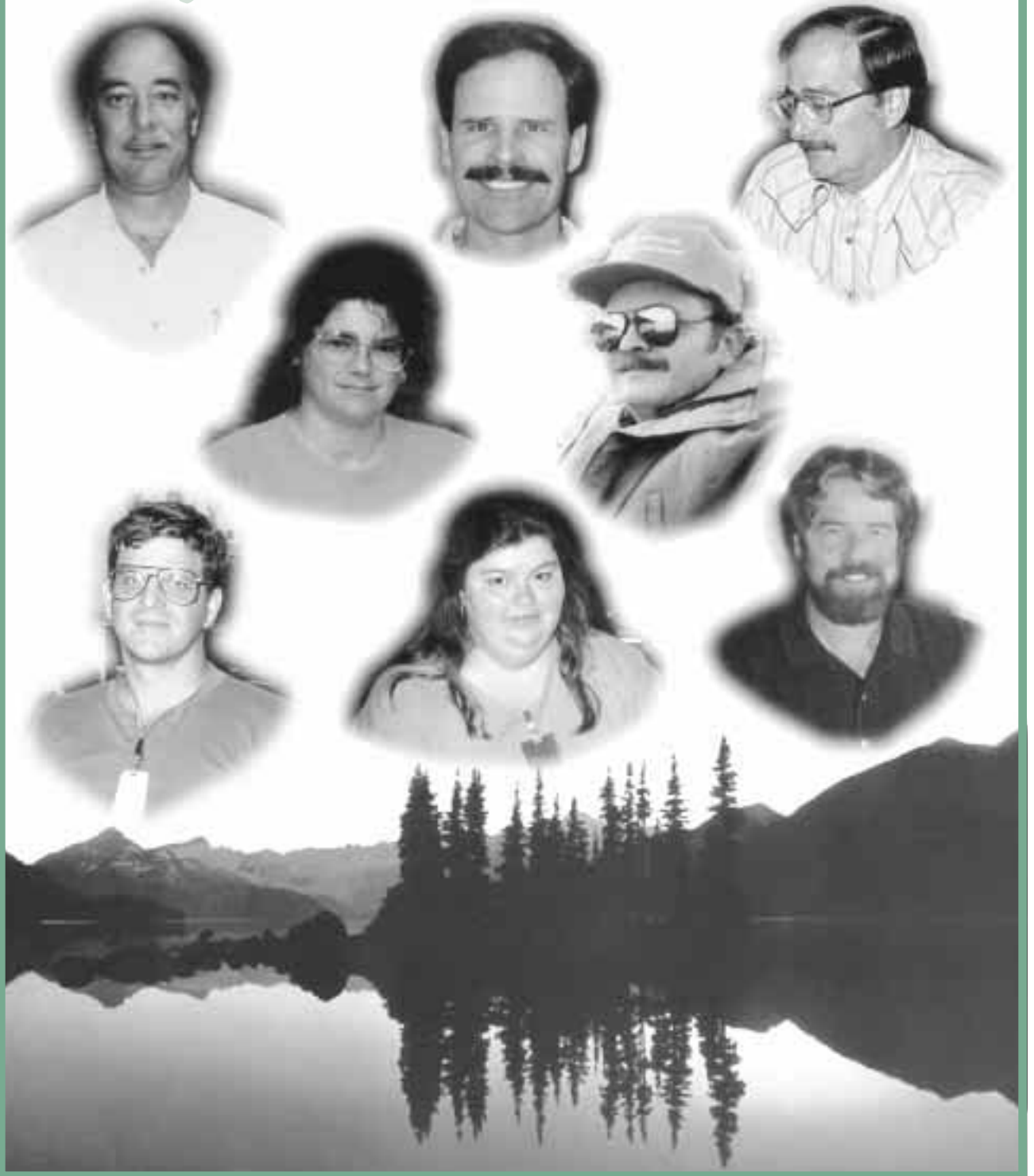
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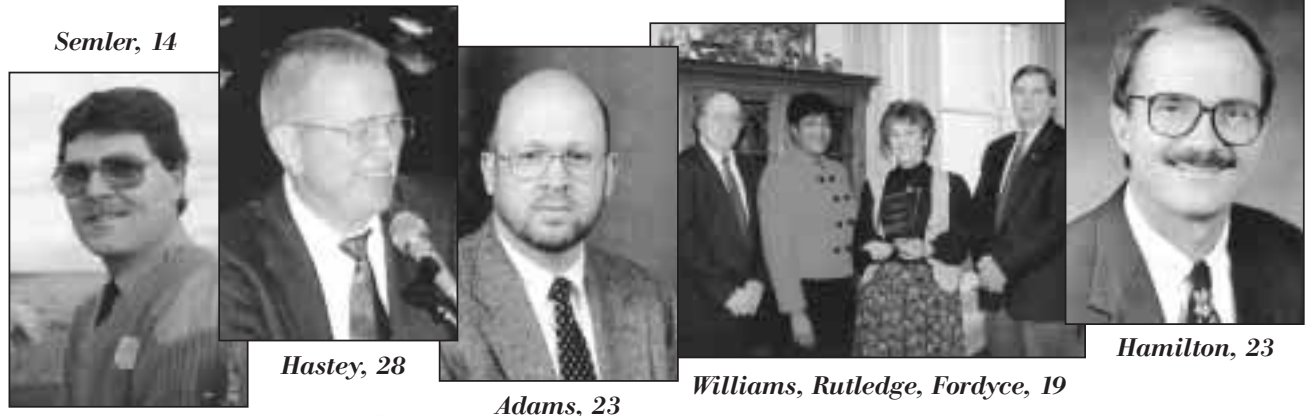
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# Upper Colorado Reflections



**REFLECTIONS OF THE UPPER COLORADO CORPS**—The Bureau of Reclamation employees tragically killed in a Colorado air crash on October 8, 1997 are remembered by family, friends, and co-workers and paid tribute by national leaders for their rich legacy of service and achievement. Pages 8-11.

## K U D O S



Semler, 14

Hastey, 28

Adams, 23

Williams, Rutledge, Fordyce, 19

Hamilton, 23





**Ah, Wilderness**—Rol Hesselbart, Steve Bair, and Kelly Hartsell developed an award-winning way to build public support for wilderness preservation. 14



**Centennial**—Is Kiowa language expert Parker McKenzie the senior Interior department retiree? 27



**Visit to a Fish Mine**—OSM's Towanna Thompson feeds hatchlings at Maryland mine site. 21



**Passing the Torch**—Former Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs Ada Deer, left, shares a reflective moment with her successor, new Assistant Secretary Kevin Gover. Why does Gover want one of the toughest jobs in the Federal Government? 26

Photo by Stephanie Hanna, Office of Communications.

**Keeper of the Reef**—MMS diver Ann Bull is part of a team that goes deep to monitor natural resources entrusted to the agency. 24



**Topography of Laughter**—USGS press operators Walter McDonald, left, and William Colbert share a laugh with Deborah Williams, special assistant to the Secretary for Alaska during her visit to the USGS map printing plant in Reston, Virginia, earlier this year.

## USGS Emeriti Dish the Dirt on Mars

Pat Jorgenson and Heidi Koehler

What the rover found on Mars and the effects of an asteroid impact in southern Nevada 370 million years ago were two of the news making stories presented by USGS scientists emeriti at the Geological Society of America annual meeting in Salt Lake City. More than 100 USGS scientists joined about 4,000 earth scientists from around the world at the October 19-23 meeting, whose theme this year was *Global Connections*.

“This is an example of the top-notch service that USGS scientists provide to the public through our emeritus program,” said Chief Geologist **P. Patrick Leahy**. “They comprise about 15 percent of the professional scientific staff of the Geologic Division, contribute to the mission, participate in program reviews, serve as mentors, and supply institutional knowledge. We are very grateful for their commitment to the USGS and continue to be amazed with their accomplishments,” Leahy said.

**Henry J. Moore**, a USGS scientist emeritus, is a member of the NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory team that has been receiving and interpreting data and images from the Pathfinder since it landed on Mars on July 4. When the rover Sojourner spun its wheels, Moore measured the torque, angle of friction, and the Martian soil. He determined that some of the soils were fine-grained clayey silts, much like the rover would have encountered in many dry washes in the western United States.

Moore also described one of the rocks the rover encountered—named ‘Shark’ by mission scientists—as strongly resembling the Wasatch conglomerate, a sedimentary rock common in northern Utah. The rounded stones of the conglomerate and silts found on Mars suggest that the Martian climate was once warmer and wetter, an environment that could have supported life.

**Charles A. Sandberg**, another USGS scientist emeritus, presented evidence that a meteorite at least one kilometer in diameter struck what is now southern Nevada about 370 million years ago. “The impact, named the Alamo Impact, after the town about 90

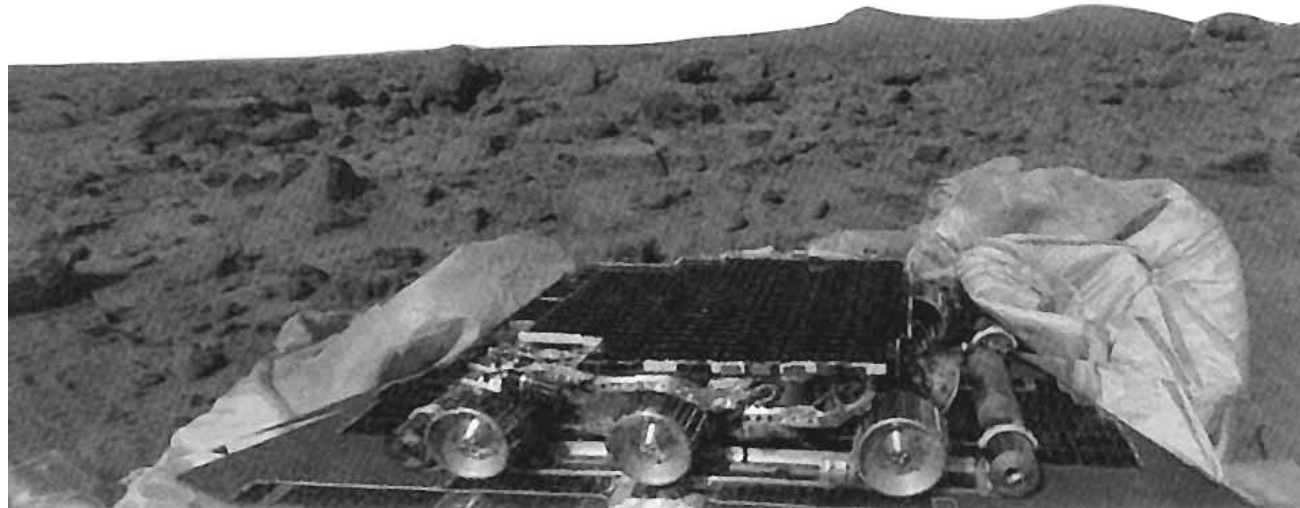
miles north of Las Vegas, occurred offshore from a carbonate platform, very much like the modern Australian Barrier Reef or the Bahamas Bank,” said Sandberg.

At the time of impact during the geologic period known as the Devonian, also called the age of sharks, an ocean covered most of Nevada. Shock waves from the impact and an ensuing 1,000-foot-high tsunami wave caused extensive damage to the carbonate platform and coastline in a semi-circular area 100 miles from north to south and 35 miles east to west.

Blocks hundreds to thousands of feet across were torn from the seabed, twisted, and transported seaward. As tsunamis of decreasing intensity reverberated back and forth across the ocean basin, broken pieces of rock and ejecta from the impact were deposited over the carbonate platform.

Three lines of evidence found in area mountain ranges suggest that a meteorite struck: shocked quartz grains, an iridium anomaly, and spherical carbonate ejecta. Shocked quartz grains are sand grains pervasively shattered by the force of an impact. Iridium is a platinum-like element that is rare on Earth but common in meteorites. Carbonate spherules are formed from limestone fragments that recrystallize within a superheated cloud.

All three features have been recorded at other impact sites on Earth, such as those that may have caused the extinction of the dinosaurs hundreds of millions of years later. The Alamo may have contributed to an earlier extinction, one of the five great mass extinctions recorded in Earth’s history.



## ... And Receive Top Awards

Mary Jo Baedeker

**John D. Bredehoeft**, retired USGS scientist, was awarded the Penrose Medal at the recent Geological Society of America annual meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah. The medal is awarded in recognition of eminent research in pure geology. Bredehoeft was recognized for his 32 years of work with the USGS on contaminant-transport modeling, ground-water management, earthquake prediction, and ground-water flow in deep sedimentary basins.

Also at the October 19-23 meeting, a special symposium was held in honor of **William Back**, USGS scientist emeritus, entitled *Recent Advances in*

*Chemical Hydrogeology: A Tribute to William Back’s 50-year Career*. Back was honored for pioneering investigations of geochemical processes in ground water, developing the concept of hydrochemical facies, describing hydrochemical evolution of ground water in coastal carbonate aquifers, and synthesizing information on human activities and the chemistry of ground water.

Also honored was **Leonard F. Konikow** who received the Geological Society of America’s 1997 O. E. Meinzer Award. The award is presented in recognition of

# Former Knick Works with Youth at Gateway National Recreation Area

During his undergraduate days at Clark Atlanta University, **Roman Turman** lettered in basketball, track, and football. On earning a bachelor's degree in social work in 1955, he chose a career in professional sports and joined the famed Harlem Globetrotters.

For several years, including 1958 when he was the team's most valuable player, he and his teammates traveled throughout the world entertaining audiences. "We played to packed houses in just about every city in America and throughout Europe and even helped introduce professional basketball to the former Soviet Union," he recalled with a smile. He later joined the National Basketball Association and played with the New York Knicks.

Turmon remains close to many of his former Globetrotter teammates, including Wilt Chamberlain, Meadowlark Lemon, Leon Hilliard, Clarence Wilson, and John Cheney, who now coaches basketball at Temple University. Now that he is retired from active sports, Turmon is using his family-oriented skills, honed while traveling with the Globetrotters, to working with school children as a member of Gateway National Recreation Area's Community Outreach Division.

The soft-spoken native of Georgia says that he will never forget his Globetrotter experiences. "We had fun on the courts. Wilt Chamberlain's top salary was \$65,000 which was considered a lot of money in those days," he says. "We played for the love of the game and enjoyed the excitement of watching the smiles of the children and their parents as we went through our antics. Although we had to be good athletes, the Globetrotters taught us how to enjoy the game and we succeeded."



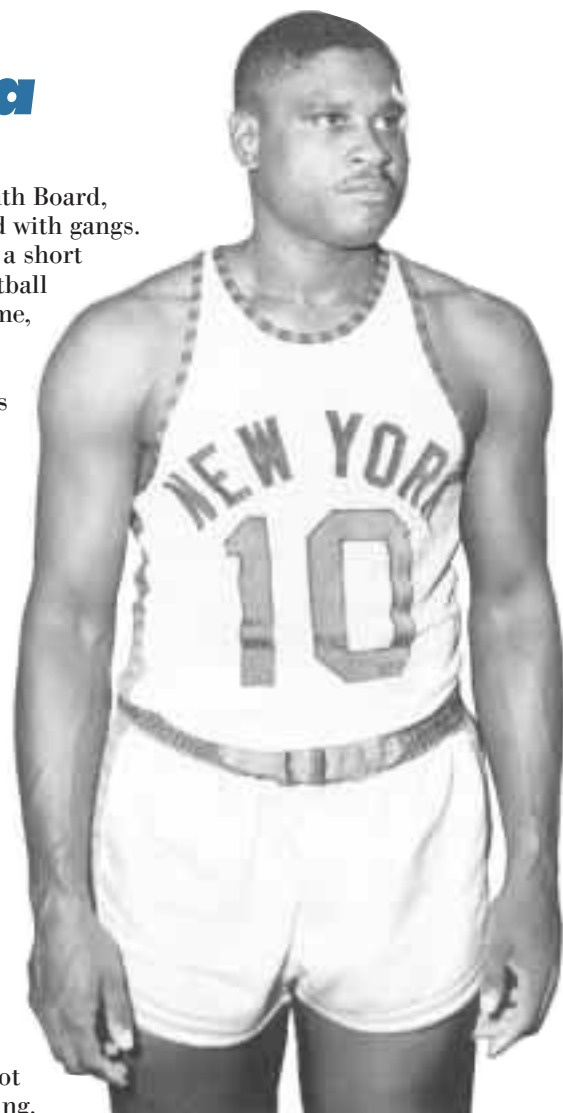
**Roman Turman**

Constant travel by plane, rail, and bus took its toll and after eight years, Turmon retired from professional basketball. The love of the sport still held an attraction, however, so he joined the Eastern Basketball League which gave him a chance to play the game on weekends while reducing his time away from home. It also gave him an opportunity to establish a new career and in 1964 he invested in a fast-food chicken franchise in Harlem. Within a few years he was the chain's most successful franchisee. When the parent company experienced financial difficulties, he left the business and used his academic training as a social worker.

Turmon joined the New York City Youth Board, working with troubled youngsters and with gangs. He returned to his native Georgia for a short time to coach his alma mater's basketball team but returned to his adopted home, New York, in the early 1980s to help start the South Bronx Job Corps Center. He joined Gateway's Job Corps Center in 1983 and the Gateway staff earlier this year.

Because he still has many friends in the game, Turmon is reluctant to comment on how professional basketball has changed. He admits, however, that players of his era were more concerned about the game then they are today. "Today it's the money and basketball is being priced out of the reach of many fans, especially the young people who are tomorrow's fans," he says.

"When I played ball, the Globetrotters played to packed houses everywhere. We played for a week in London and could have filled the arena had we stayed an additional week," he says. He credits the game with helping him develop not only as an athlete but as a human being. The Globetrotters taught him to appreciate family-oriented activities and he is able to relate this orientation to the many positive benefits of national park areas such as Gateway, he says. "I've traveled the world but it's good to be home," he adds.



*Roman Turman played for the New York Knicks professional basketball team as well as for the Harlem Globetrotters.*

## PMB Chief Targets Diversity, Quality of Life Issues

**M. John Berry** counts improving the diversity of Interior's workforce and the quality of life in the workplace among the top priorities of his new job. Berry, a Maryland native who has worked at state and federal levels in fiscal and policy management and been active in environmental restoration, was sworn in as Interior's new assistant secretary for Policy, Management, and Budget on November 10.

"John Berry brings a wealth of knowledge and a unique blend of federal and state fiscal experience that will be a tremendous asset to my staff and the Department," said **Secretary Babbitt**. "I am pleased that he has agreed to fill this challenging and very important post."

Berry is responsible for providing policy guidance, administrative direction, and fiscal oversight for overall management of the Department, as well as the divisions of personnel, policy, and budget. His nomination by **President Clinton** was unanimously approved by the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee on October 22 and confirmed by the full Senate on October 28.

At a November 19 briefing on a new security system for the Main Interior Building, Berry illustrated his quality of life priority by noting that in addition to enhancing the safety of employees, (see story on page 5), he is working to provide improved day care services, restore the health center, renovate the building's gymnasium, and install a roof-top garden for lunch time use. His remarks were greeted with warm applause by several hundred employees attending the briefing in the MIB auditorium.



**M. John Berry**

Since 1995, Berry has served as director of Government Relations and senior policy advisor for the Smithsonian Institution. Before that, he was the deputy assistant secretary for Enforcement (1994-95) at the Department of Treasury. From 1985 to 1994, he served as the legislative director and associate staff to the House Appropriations Committee for **Representative Steny H. Hoyer**. From 1984 to 1985, Berry was the staff director for the Senate Finance Committee of the Maryland General Assembly.

Along with his professional career, Berry coordinated development of several environmental projects, including restoration programs for the Chesapeake Bay; Potomac, Anacostia, and Patuxent Rivers and funding protection for the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin. Berry, 38, serves on the Board of Directors of the Accokeek Foundation (Prince George's County, Maryland) and is a member of numerous volunteer organizations, such as Food and Friends, and Leadership Washington.

Berry earned a master's degree in Public Administration from Syracuse University in 1981 as a Herbert H. Lehman Fellow at the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs. He graduated Summa Cum Laude from the University of Maryland in 1980 with a bachelor's degree. He is a native of Rockville, Maryland.

The Department's former assistant secretary for Policy, Management and Budget, **Bonnie Cohen**, is now the under secretary for Management at the Department of State. **Brooks Yeager**, the deputy assistant secretary for Policy, served as the acting assistant secretary during the transition.

## DAS for Human Resources Pledges Innovative Service



**Mari R. Barr**

**Mari R. Barr**, Interior's new deputy assistant secretary for Human Resources, wants to deliver innovative, efficient, and responsive customer service to the Department and its bureaus. "My goal is to provide the Department with a premiere human resources management organization," Barr said of her plans.

Human Resources Management organization accurately assesses and meets Interior's comprehensive human resources needs. "This Departmental framework will provide consistent direction where needed, it will assist Interior with its important diversity initiatives and it will assure strategic workforce planning for the agency's future," Barr said.

Barr was a top personnel policy advisor at the Department of Housing and Urban Development and director of HUD's Equal Employment Opportunity Office before assuming her position at Interior. Her White House appointment took effect on September 14. She is responsible for setting and implementing policy and providing department level guidance for all Personnel, Ethics and National Service/Educational Partnership programs at Interior.

Barr's federal experience in personnel matters includes policy initiatives involving employee friendly workforce, performance management, and training issues. She also has substantial experience with direct leadership efforts in labor/management, Equal Employment Opportunity, disaster relief, and Employee Assistance matters.

Barr was the special advisor to the Secretary of HUD for EEO and Labor/Management Relations and director of HUD's Office of Departmental EEO. She held those posts during the tenure of former Secretary **Henry Cisneros** and recently with his successor, Cabinet Secretary **Andrew Cuomo**. While at HUD, Barr played a lead role in managing the myriad human resources issues that resulted from the bombing of the Federal Building in Oklahoma City.

In one of her first actions, Barr asked new director of Personnel **Carolyn Cohen** to head a strategic thinking and action planning effort to assure that the

# Employees March Against Workplace Discrimination

The National Association for the Advancement of Black Federal Employees held a rally and march protesting discrimination against African Americans at the Interior Department.

“The Interior Department has won the dubious distinction of being, as one administration official said, ‘the whitest of all’ in a survey of several departments’ hiring practices,” the employee group noted in announcing the October 21 demonstration. Interior has the lowest percentage of African American employees—six percent— of all federal agencies, according to government surveys.

The group, which assembled around noon at Rawlins Park across from the E Street entrance to the Main Interior Building, heard several speakers relate their work experiences and call for an end to discrimination against African Americans in hiring and advancement at the Department. Signs protested that there were “only 13 Black SESs at Interior,” that “There is no EEO for African Americans at Interior,” that after “10 Years No Promotions,” and that “Our Struggle is Alive and Well, and We Will Prevail Against Racism.”

The group, which included children, then marched around the Main Interior Building, carrying signs, chanting their message, and calling for action. The demonstration lasted several hours. Representatives of the Association and Congressman **Albert Wynn** met with Secretary Babbitt to detail and reiterate the group’s message and protest.

“Today’s demonstration clearly focuses attention on a fundamental problem at the Department,” Secretary Babbitt said in an official announcement after his meeting with Rep. Wynn and Association officials. “I’ve met to assure them that, as Secretary, I fully recognize the seriousness of their grievances and that I am firmly committed to improving the department’s diversity profile and eliminating discrimination in the workplace, wherever it exists.

“Several initiatives are now underway that directly address the critical need to improve workforce diversity at all employment levels and bureaus within the department,” Babbitt explained. “With the assistance of a high level task force of senior managers and employees at each of the Department’s bureaus, we are implementing a strategic diversity initiative that is results oriented.

“The initiative has been endorsed by the directors of each bureau and will be monitored by Deputy Secretary **John Garamendi**, the newly appointed Deputy Assistant Secretary for Workforce Diversity **David Montoya**, and myself. In addition, I have issued a memorandum that calls for “zero tolerance” of any type of harassment based on race, color, national origin, sex, religion, disability, age, or sexual orientation,” the Secretary said. “The Interior Department manages and protects America’s extraordinary cultural and natural resources on behalf of all Americans. It is essential that our workforce reflects the abundant diversity of this nation, as well.”



Interior employees held a rally and march October 21 to protest discrimination against African American employees in hiring and promotion at Interior. Above, from left, are Lawrence Lucas, president of the Coalition of Minority Employees (Ariculture); Romelle Arnold, vice-president, NAABFE; Rep. Albert Wynn (Maryland); John Boyd, president of the Black Farmers Association (Ariculture); and Sandra McCarry, president of NAABFE. Photos by Robert Jones, Jr., ISC



## Department Pledges Greater Effort in Recruiting Minority Employees



Signing the strategic plan were, from right, Secretary Babbitt, Assistant Secretary of Water and Science Patricia Beneke, Reclamation Commissioner Eluid Martinez, and National Federation of Federal Employees member and Interior employee Leonard Stahl. The last three signed to represent all assistant secretaries, bureau directors, and employees, respectively. Photo by Tami Heilemann, ISC

Carrie Kemper, Assistant Editor, PLW

Holding managers accountable and zero tolerance for workplace discrimination are key elements of Interior’s strategic plan to improve diversity at all levels of the Department. **Secretary Babbitt** and Deputy Secretary **John Garamendi** announced Interior’s diversity campaign—dubbed *One America, One Interior, One Goal*—with a signing ceremony in the auditorium of Interior Headquarters on December 3. The plan outlines the Department’s mission to diversify the workforce to

reflect the diversity of America, while retaining quality employees and prohibiting discrimination.

The five components of the plan are: recruit a workforce that reflects America’s diversity, retain that workforce, ensure accountability at the Secretarial and Bureau levels for improved diversity, educate and train managers and employees on diversity issues, and allow zero tolerance for workplace discrimination. The plan calls for greater effort in recruiting and holding onto minorities and mandates periodic checks of discrimination complaints against managers. New procedures that monitor managers’ efforts to achieve these goals are a key part of the plan.

“Accountability of managers and supervisors strikes to the bone” of all the efforts, Secretary Babbitt told several hundred employees attending the ceremony. “This is the beginning of something good. Let’s now carry it out and make it happen.” Earlier he joked that lawyers had not ruined the strategic plan, which he called “an extraordinary piece of work.” Interior agencies had until January 3 to submit to the Department a bureau workforce diversity plan that responds to and implements the Interior diversity plan.

The ceremony took place during a week of diversity awareness-raising activities and training sessions. Interior Senior Executive Service managers attended an all-day diversity training session on December 2. At a *Dialogue on Race & Natural Resources*, held at the MIB auditorium on December 3, Deputy Secretary Garamendi and a panel explored the role that race plays in conserving America’s cultural and natural resources. Students from area high schools and universities participated in Interior mentoring and discovery programs on December 4.

Interior’s Diversity Week Activities, which began with a December 1 wreath laying ceremony in honor of World AIDS Day, were held in conjunction with the President’s *One America: Conversations that Bring Us Together* initiative on race. The goal is to move the country closer to a stronger, more just, and more unified America that offers opportunity and fairness for all citizens. The President held a national town hall on race in Akron, Ohio, on December 3.

## ATTENTION!



U. S. Department of the Interior  
Human Resources  
Management Conference  
Spring, 1998

### “Success Through Human Resources: From Strategy to Action”

Through conference sessions, exhibits, and demonstrations, this event promises to provide you current information and applicable strategies on a variety of topics aimed at promoting success at every level. The 1998 conference theme, *Success through Human Resources: From Strategy to Action* will provide the framework for managers to explore and meet head on human resources management opportunities and challenges. Conference format will allow all participants to examine what was valuable from the past while providing access to current policies and exemplary practices.

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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1849 C Street, NW, Mail Stop 5221, Washington, DC 20240  
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E-Mail: Dolores\_Chacon@doi.ios.gov

Look for conference updates on [www.doi.gov/hrm](http://www.doi.gov/hrm) and in future issues of this publication.

#### EXPECTED AUDIENCE

Department of the Interior Personnel and EEO Officers, Ethic Officers, Program Managers, Associate Directors for Administration Minority Institution Representatives, Goals 2000 Subcommittee, Solicitor Representatives and other interested DOI representatives.

# NATIONAL RECREATION STUDY TO BOOST TOURISM AT FEDERALLY-BUILT LAKES

Michelle Dawson, BLM National Recreation Group, and Bill Wood, USDA Forest Service, National Recreation Lakes Study

Water is a nationwide magnet for recreation and America's lakes—including 1,800 federally-built reservoirs—are a number one drawing card for millions of people. Americans take an estimated 1.8 billion trips a year to go fishing, boating, camping, and relaxing around water. More than 60 million Americans—a quarter of the population—fish and hunt.

This national trend provides challenges and opportunities for federal land and water managers—in meeting the need for more public recreation without adversely affecting power generation, irrigation, and wildlife protection.

Recognizing the increasing demand for water-based recreation across the United States, the Congress created the National Recreation Lakes Commission to review the current and anticipated demand for public recreation at federally-constructed lakes and reservoirs, and to develop alternatives for enhanced recreation use of those facilities. **PL 104-333, the Omnibus Parks and Public Land Management Act of 1996**, created a nine-member, Presidentially-appointed commission to conduct a National Recreation Lakes Study and consider the development of a National Recreation Lakes System.

Under this proposal, some lakes would receive national designation and be managed through partnership agreements among federal, state, and local government agencies and the private sector. A final report to the President and the Congress will offer options and recommendations, including the possible creation of a National Recreation Lakes System and the criteria for such a designation.

Some commission recommendations could be carried out by the adoption of new policies, while others may require new legislation. A major challenge for the Administration in carrying out the commission's mandate is to ensure that the ethics of stewardship and the principles of sustainable communities and community-based problem solving are woven into the fabric of the National Recreation Lakes Study Commission.

The staff of the National Recreation Lakes Study Commission is under the leadership of Executive Director **Jana Prewitt**, assistant to the Secretary and director of External Affairs. BOR's **Bruce Brown** is deputy director. Staff members include **Jeanne Whittington** (BOR), **Dave Wahus** (Army Corps of Engineers), **Chris Dlugokenski** (FWS), **Jim Gasser** (NPS), **Bill Wood** (USDA), **John Kamler** (BLM), and **Kate Marx** (TVA).



Fishing and boating on American lakes have become a major economic pillar of many local communities, like those near Laurel River Lake, above, in Nashville, Tennessee.

Federally-built lakes and reservoirs dot U.S. public lands in 47 of the 50 states. They are managed by several federal agencies: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is responsible for 542; Bureau of Reclamation, 285; USDA Forest Service, 268; Bureau of Indian Affairs, 152; Fish and Wildlife Service, 138; National Park Service, 91; BLM, 2; Tennessee Valley Authority, 54; and the DOD, 244.

The commission will study how improvements in roads, utilities, buildings, and management of facilities at these sites could be accomplished through innovative partnerships with the private sector and evaluate the viability of private sector development of public attractions at the lakes, including marinas, lodgings, nature centers, golf courses, visitor centers, and other amenities. The commission is mandated to ensure that the conservation of watershed and ecosystem values is a primary objective of the process to plan for recreation uses and construction of facilities.

These lakes and reservoirs are a driving economic force and anchor of the travel and tourism industry in local communities. The economic benefits from these recreational areas exceed \$40 billion annually. The total employment associated with these sites is more than 600,000 jobs. In 1994, for example, the lakes operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers drew 380 million visitors who spent more than \$12 billion on recreation and generated about 200,000 jobs. More than 46 percent of all lake fishing across the nation occurs at federal sites. Visitation to federal lands and waters is expected to increase two percent annually over next 20 years.

Agencies on the lakes study commission include the Departments of the Interior, Agriculture, and Army, the Tennessee Valley Authority, the National Governor's

Association, and four persons from the private sector who are familiar with recreation, tourism, tribal issues, conservation, and the economics of financing recreation-related infrastructure. Some members have been identified. **Deputy Secretary John Garamendi** is the Interior representative and Undersecretary of Agriculture **Jim Lyons** is the representative from USDA. Other appointees are still to be named.

It is anticipated that the commissioners will be formally announced early next year. Under the review, a series of stakeholder and public meetings will identify the full range of issues and interests affecting the initiative. The commission also will identify senior advisors who could represent their individual group's position and provide comments and information. All interested parties are encouraged to participate in the process by submitting ideas, comments, and concerns. The commission's website address is [www.doi.gov/nrls/](http://www.doi.gov/nrls/)

## NEW SECURITY FOR D.C. INTERIOR

Carrie Kemper, Assistant Editor, PLW

A new security system that includes screening all incoming packages and bags, new employee ID badges that can be electronically scanned, and closed circuit building monitoring cameras will provide increased safety and protection for employees at Main and South Interior Buildings in Washington, D.C.

Interior officials explained the system, the schedule for phasing it in, and answered employee questions on the initiative at a November 19 meeting which filled the MIB auditorium. Information on the system also has been available for the past several months and was provided employees at the main and south buildings over the e-mail, in printed brochures and handouts, and through a call-in line at the Interior Service Center's Physical Security Office.

"We are working to bring Interior into compliance with a Presidential directive issued in the wake of the Oklahoma City bombing of the Alfred Murrah Federal Building," Chief of Staff **Anne Shields** told the employees. "Our goal is to ensure greater safety for our employees and visitors."

On December 22, the Interior Service Center officially began the 'wear-a-badge' policy using a new, automated identification system. Employees, who had been issued the new cards over the previous months, now swipe their ID badge through a card reader machine every time they enter the building. (Swipe-out readers will be installed later for use after normal business hours.) There are five types of badges, color-coded to identify different categories of employees (permanent, temporary, contract, retired, car pool member). The badge front has a photo, name of employee, date of expiration, and Interior logo, and the back, a coded magnetic strip. Employees must display the badge, either on a neck chain or pocket clip, while they are in the Main Interior Building.

The system will record the employee's name and the time, date, and place of entry into the building. However, the information will not be used to maintain time and attendance records, according to **John Berry**, the new assistant secretary for Policy, Management and Budget, who also spoke at the briefing session. Visitors to the Interior complex will need photo identification and will pass through magnetometer and x-ray machines and have their bags searched at the E and C Street entrances and at the tunnel to the GSA Building. They will be issued Visitor Badges, designating them as either business visitors or public access guests.



John Berry

Other security measures include the installation of 11 closed circuit television cameras around the perimeter of MIB and at some inside locations. The perimeter will be monitored 24 hours a day on screens at the C Street guard desk, the project managers office, and ISC Physical Security Office. Tapes will be kept for one month. Guard booths have been installed at the top of the ramps to underground parking areas and modifications have been made to gates and doors. Heightened but behind-the-scenes security measures, such as mail screenings, have been phased in over the last two years. Currently, these new safety measures will only affect the Main and South Interior Buildings. There are plans to eventually move toward standardized security procedures at all Interior sites. For more information, please call (202) 208-5111.

## FLAGSTAFF'S FESTIVAL OF SCIENCE

### Broadening Public Support for Scientific Research

USGS employees **Wes Ward, Ivo Lucchitta, John Sass, and Wendell Duffield** were having lunch with the publisher of Flagstaff's local newspaper when the idea began to take shape. They all realized that Flagstaff has a wealth of scientific talent and institutions and that public recognition and celebration of this valuable community resource was overdue. *Viola!* The Flagstaff Science Festival was born.

The USGS Flagstaff Field Center has participated in the non-profit public educational effort since its inception in 1990. Over the past eight years, the event has grown from a 3-day weekend to a 10-day event with 20 scientific institutions participating.

The festival is designed to promote science awareness and enthusiasm in northern Arizona, as well as enhance a science education alliance between local schools and local scientific institutions. It gives local scientists an opportunity to share with the community, schools, and visitors the excitement and adventure of careers in science. Activities include field trips, open houses, lectures, and an in-school speakers program.

This year's 8th Annual Flagstaff Festival of Science was held September 26-October 5 with a theme of *Science, The Ultimate Voyage*. The USGS participated in many festival events. **Sue Priest**, who is with the USGS Flagstaff Field Center, coordinated the Center's participation in the event. She also served as a member of the festival's volunteer Board of Directors and co-chaired the education committee.

Several USGS specialists presented after school and evening lectures. **James Dohm**, of the Geologic Division, discussed *Ancient Channel Development on Mars*; **Erika Nowak** revealed *The Truth About Rattlesnakes*; **Pat Chavez** talked about *Viewing the Earth from Afar, Using Remote Sensing*; and **Wendell Duffield** presented *On the Trail of an Elusive Volcano*. The festival also offered an array of in-school presentations, giving teachers the opportunity to bring science into their classroom without the expense of field trips. More than 100 in-school presentations were available to teachers of the Flagstaff Unified School District charter and private schools in the area.

USGS scientists visited 40 classrooms to present a wide variety of science to students using slides, activities, and discussion. **Mike Dai** spoke about surface water in northern Arizona, while **Margot Truini** gave interactive demonstrations on water quality sampling techniques. **Gordon Haxel** spoke to high schoolers on Geology and the chemical periodic table. **Pat Chavez** handed students a pair of 3-D glasses to view satellite images of the Earth from afar, including the seafloor. And **Erika Nowak's** slide presentation on rattlesnakes was followed by the guest appearance of a live gopher snake that students could handle.

In addition to her role as coordinator of USGS participation in the festival, **Sue Priest** passed out USGS 7.5 minute topographical maps to everyone and demonstrated how to read one. "It was a really rewarding experience to watch the children's enthusiasm grow as they began to figure out how to recognize features on the maps," said Priest. "They sure have fun finding schools, churches, and cemeteries!"



USGS vulcanologist **Wendell Duffield** taught children (and adults) how to use a compass on a five-station orienteering course at the Fair.



At top, visitors examine a full size model of the Mars rover *Sojourner* that **Bob Anderson**, of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, brought to the exhibit. In the background is a nine-foot long 3-D image of the Mars landing site. Above, **George Billingsley**, at the end of the table, kept the stereoscopes aligned over aerial photographs of Flagstaff so that viewers could see the 3-D images. At right, visitors learn about ground and surface water from USGS hydrologists.

Photos by Sue Priest

Since 1995, the festival also includes Science-in-the-Park activities. USGS specialists enjoyed interacting with the public, outside, on a Saturday, at a downtown park. Nearly 3,000 visitors stopped by USGS displays and hands-on activities. "This event is my favorite outreach activity of the year," said **Sue Beard**, geologist. "It's a great chance to interact with the public, especially the kids. The weather is always beautiful, the people are enthusiastic and we are exhausted after four hours."

Visitors to the USGS booths were thrilled with a full-scale static model of the Mars Pathfinder rover and a 9-foot long stereo image of the landing site—with descriptions and explanations by **Jeff Johnson, Wes Ward, Jeff Kargel, and Adrienne Wasserman** with help from **Bob Anderson** (Jet Propulsion Laboratory). In a nearby booth, **Sue Beard, Debra Block, Darlene Casebier, and Wes Ward** assisted children making paper models of either a strike-slip fault or a trilobite fossil. **Gordon Haxel** introduced fossils with plaster casts and the geologic time scale. "I liked the way USGS people actively engaged us in



sharing the joys of science," said visitor **Nancy Brian**. "We still have our paper trilobite model on the refrigerator."

**Wendy Calvin, Wendell Duffield, and Tony Rosanova** walked in circles all day teaching people how to use a compass to complete an orienteering course. **George Billingsley** helped folks see 3-D using air photos and stereoscopes while **Deborah Lee Soltesz** and **Stuart Sides** gave visitors red/blue glasses for a different 3-D experience. **Erika Nowak** brought a mother rattlesnake and her babies to the park. A ground water model and surface water sampling tools were demonstrated by **Marilyn Flynn, Margot Truini, Bob Hart, Greg Litton, Anita Rowlands, Frank Schaffner, and Kent Sherman**. **Bob Mark** displayed photos of some of the beautiful rock art within the new Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. **Claire Longpre, Debbie Moore, Tammy Becker, and Lynn Weller** ran the USGS information booth answering questions, distributing USGS educational material, raffling posters, and stamping hundreds of student passports.

## PROBING DRAKE'S BAY FOR A SPANISH GALLEON

An underwater archeological expedition is searching the waters of Drakes Bay at Point Reyes National Seashore for the wreckage of a 16th century Manila galleon—the earliest known shipwreck on the West Coast. A team of National Park scuba divers is using a specially built shark cage and net to explore the sandy bottom of Drakes Bay in an attempt to pinpoint the location of the *San Augustin*, which sank in 1595 in a squall. Its cargo was probably a load of silks and porcelains from the Orient.

This first phase of the project, begun in October, will include surveying and perhaps dating any finds in the Bay where several shipwrecks are known to be. The project will be completed in 1998. The galleon may have been built in Mexico, probably of oak or pine, or in the Philippines, which traditionally used teak and mahogany. Any wood found would effectively identify the country of origin.

The galleon left the Philippines in July of 1595, loaded with 130 tons of cargo and more than 70 men. It is believed to have been less than 80 feet long. The ship had exchanged gold and silver from the mines of New Spain for luxury goods of Asia. Portuguese Trader Sebastian Cermeño had been commissioned by the Spanish crown to explore and chart the coast of California. His ship was en route home to Acapulco from the Philippines. It set anchor in the bay after weathering a stormy voyage across the Pacific and a small number of the crew came ashore in an open launch. A squall drove the unprotected ship aground. The Captain and 70 crew took the launch and continued south for seven weeks to Navidad, Mexico.



A typical 16th century Spanish galleon.

Drakes Bay is named for Sir Francis Drake who sailed the *Golden Hinde* into this Bay for repairs in 1579. Drake and Captain Cermeño of the *San Augustin* would have been the first Europeans to encounter the Native Americans. Preliminary archeology was done by the NPS in 1982. The State Lands Commission, the National Marine Sanctuary, University of California, and the Drake Navigators Guild are cooperating on this new project. October is the calmest month for the sea in this area. El Niño, the weather phenomenon, is helping by making the normally cold sea warmer and less turbid. The project also is taking advantage of advanced technology by using magnetometers, computer programs, and the shark protectors. The public affairs contact is **Holly Bundock**, (415) 427-1320.

# DECONSTRUCTING DAMS

From a floating barge on North Carolina's Neuse River, Secretary Babbitt struck a first blow on December 17, officially beginning the demolition of the 55-year old Quaker Neck Dam. Removing the 260-foot long structure near Goldsboro is a voluntary watershed restoration project that will unlock 925 miles of freshwater spawning habitat for American shad and striped bass. A month earlier, Babbitt lauded the unprecedented order of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to remove the 160-year-old Edwards Dam in Augusta, Maine to help restore spawning habitat for nine migratory fish in the Kennebec River.

"This [Quaker Neck] dam removal is far more than a symbol of the shifting tide in American conservation," Babbitt said. "By unlocking current from headwaters to the Atlantic, we yield a real windfall for the state's sportfishing industry." The project, carried out by a public-private partnership among state and federal agencies, fisheries groups, and Carolina Power & Light, will improve fish habitat along 75 miles of the Neuse and replenish 925 miles of tributary spawning areas for migratory fish. It will significantly boost recreational fisheries on the river, pumping new revenues into rural communities that serve the state's one million anglers.

The landmark decision on the Edwards Dam—the first time in the commission's 77-year history that it has denied the relicensing of an operating hydroelectric dam and ordered its removal—will restore salmon, shad, and shortnose sturgeon to 17 miles of the Kennebec, which was first dammed at this site in 1837 to drive machinery in a cotton mill. It was later converted to generate hydro-electric power.

"The commission made a difficult but brave decision," Babbitt said, "that a river is more than the sum of its

kilowatt hours, that its potential energy goes far beyond any electricity it may generate. The Kennebec can once again stand as a model for the nation. Its true power will become self-evident in the many species of migratory fish that will soon swim and spawn there again, in the anglers who will seek them, and in the local sustainable sportfishing economy that will steadily grow up around those anglers and recreationists."

The commission oversees the operations of hydroelectric dams that are owned privately or by utilities or local governments. In 1986 Congress directed the commission to give as much consideration to environmental protection as it does to the availability and need for power. Most large hydro dams in the West are owned and operated by the Federal Government which is not subject to the commission's oversight and licensing authority.

Dams are the major cause of declining populations of salmon and other migratory fish species, many of which are now endangered. The structures prevent species that run to the sea from returning upstream to spawn. The Departments of the Interior and Commerce, and the State of Maine were joined by conservation groups including the Kennebec Coalition in support of Edward's removal. The dam's owner has a year to file a plan.

The Edwards precedent is expected to bolster river restoration efforts across the United States as the commission evaluates the renewal of hundreds of licenses on privately-owned dams over the next 15 years. There are about 2,000 such hydroelectric dams in the United States. The Quaker Neck project sets an example for cooperative voluntary removal of nonessential hydroelectric dams. Other dams facing demolition include the Elwah Dam in Washington state. Removal of the Elwah, which blocks rich salmon runs, was approved by **Senator Slade Gorton** in July.

## Hydro Pacts Help Restore Species and Habitat

Earlier this year in a ceremony at the Pine River Hydro Dam, which will be removed to bring back free flowing waters, Secretary Babbitt endorsed an agreement between the Wisconsin Electric Power Company, state and federal officials, and conservation groups, to improve three watersheds, replenish 160 river miles, and protect more than 22,000 acres of pristine lands in the Menominee River Basin of Wisconsin and Michigan.

The 40-year, landmark settlement represents the first time in America that a utility, public officials, and environmentalists have negotiated a cooperative agreement prior to the start of the relicensing process. Wisconsin Electric, serving thousands of customers, will continue profitable, low-cost energy production. By improving the watershed for brook trout, lake sturgeon, smallmouth bass, and walleye, as well as for

hunting and rafting throughout the area, the agreement will boost and broaden the diverse, renewable recreation-driven economy.

In another initiative, the National Park Service's **Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program** helped to broker a landmark pact with New England power officials that will protect tens of thousands of acres along the region's rivers and lakes. The Settlement Agreement for the Connecticut River's Fifteen Mile Falls hydroelectric project—the largest in New England—was signed by the governors of Vermont and New Hampshire and New England Power just before the utility filed an application for a new 40-year license.

The agreement ensures the donation of permanent conservation easements affecting about 11,000 acres as



well as 50 miles of permanent protection of river and lake shorelines in Vermont and New Hampshire. It also ensures operational changes that will lead to improvements in fisheries and wildlife habitat. The pact will provide for: creation of a \$3 million start-up environmental enhancement fund for the upper Connecticut River and \$10.5 to \$13.5 million over the next 15 years; completion of environmental studies and management plans; and continued environmental stewardship for the term of the license. Many federal, state, and local government agencies and more than a dozen environmental organizations participated in the negotiations, which were completed in nine months, a record for this type of settlement, which was signed on September 2. The contact is **Kevin Mendik**, (617) 223-5299.

## Uncovering Fort Wadsworth

More than 60 park staff and volunteers joined hands at **Fort Wadsworth**, the newest National Park site in New York City, to help preserve some of the gun emplacements at the stronghold overlooking New York Harbor. The fort is part of **Gateway National Recreation Area**.

This year's Founder's Day cleanup event marked the Park Service's 81st birthday and was celebrated by participants with a huge cake, colorfully decorated with the Park Service arrowhead. The morning work project helped to preserve two of the fort's 12-gun batteries by removing years of encroaching vegetation and eroding soil. Most of the cleanup was performed on Battery Dix, an Endicott Battery built in 1902 which boasted two huge 12-inch disappearing guns. Cleaning was also accomplished on Battery Barbour, part of the South Cliff Battery, which defended New York Harbor in one form or another since the early 1800s.

*At left, staff and volunteers cleared away years of overgrown vegetation from Battery Weed, uncovering a 12-inch gun emplacement that once defended New York Harbor. The battery is at the Fort Wadsworth, New York City's newest National Park site. Below, everyone took a break for lunch and a piece of Park Service birthday cake. Decorated with the NPS arrowhead, the cake was enjoyed along with a short talk on the heritage of the Service at the August 25 get-together. Photos by Roger Scott*

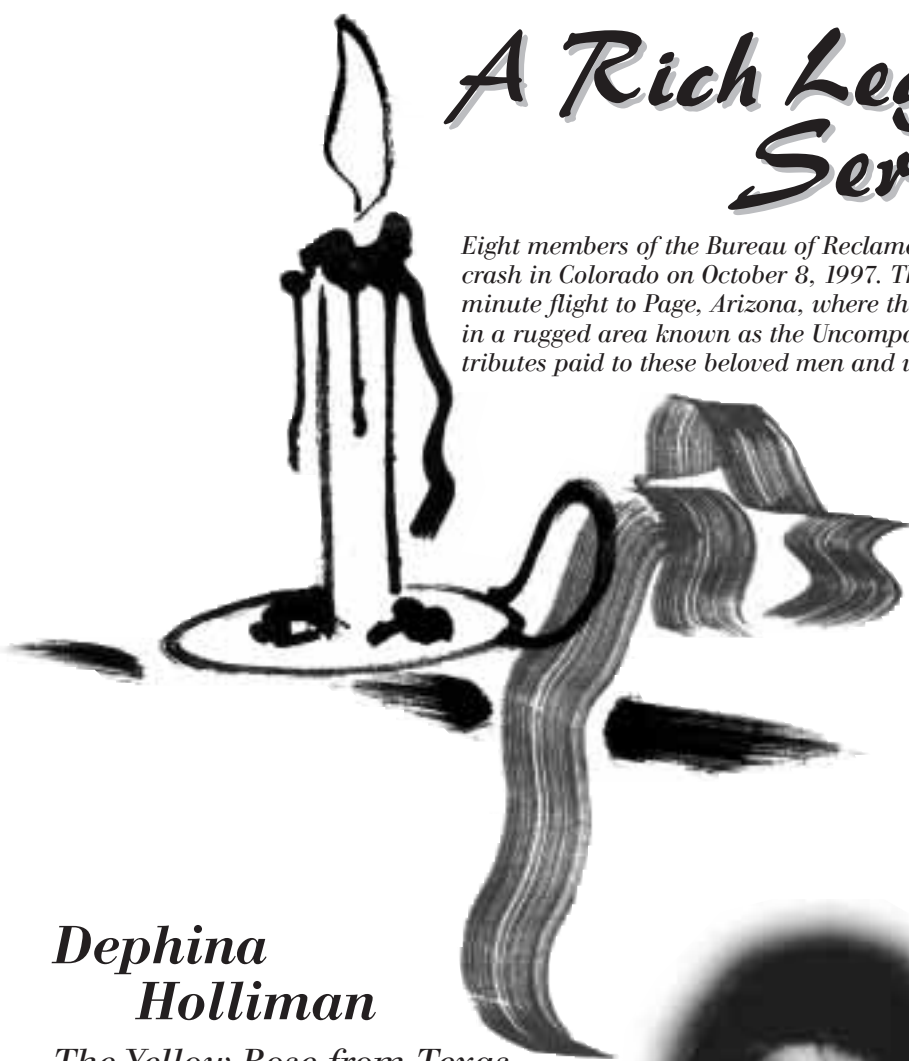
After several hours of fighting humidity and poison ivy, everyone adjourned to the picnic area where they were refreshed with grilled hot dogs, homemade salads, and soda. Superintendent **Mary Gibson Scott** gathered everyone for the cake cutting, taking time to voice her feelings about the Park Service and to thank those who turned out. Site Ranger **Marty O'Toole** gave a brief talk on Founder's Day, highlighting the history of the country's National Parks from its early days under other departments, including the Army, until the National Park Service was created by an act of Congress on August 25, 1916. He emphasized that over the last 81 years the mission of the NPS had not changed, but noted that today the service had more challenges and visitors to contend with it did when it was founded.

Volunteers for the work day included maintenance and administrative staff as well interpretive rangers and summer seasonal staff. A number of individuals from Eastern National's main office in Conshohocken, Pennsylvania, were also on hand wielding shovels and rakes. Several people came from park headquarters, as well as a crew of student interns from the Interpretation-Community Outreach Division. After the festivities concluded, participants were invited to tours of Fort Wadsworth's major sites and the newly dedicated Visitor Center and book store. Ranger **Kevin Hanley** conducted a tour of Battery Dix which described its history.



# A Rich Legacy of Service and Achievement

Eight members of the Bureau of Reclamation's Upper Colorado Region and the pilot of their chartered aircraft were tragically killed in a crash in Colorado on October 8, 1997. The single-engine airplane took off from the Montrose Regional Airport on what was to be a 90-minute flight to Page, Arizona, where the employees were to attend a general power office meeting. The aircraft was found on October 10 in a rugged area known as the Uncompahgre Plateau. There were no survivors. The following remembrances were compiled from the tributes paid to these beloved men and women at the Department's memorial service in Page, Arizona, on November 7.



## Dephina Holliman

*The Yellow Rose from Texas*

**Dephina D. Holliman**, known around Reclamation's Glen Canyon Dam office as the Yellow Rose from Texas, had a special ability to organize and a strong desire to learn anything new. She was a devoted wife, mother, and a hard-working, talented person.

Born in Frankfort, Germany, on July 24, 1960, Dee grew up in Texas. In January 1995, She traveled from her beloved Texas to Page, Arizona, with her husband, Lee, and their daughter, Vonne, so that Lee could accept a new position at Glen Canyon Dam.

After working in a couple of different jobs, Dee started her federal career in April 1996 working in Administration for Reclamation. The couple enjoyed working at Reclamation together.

She immediately took on the challenge of implementing the automated Travel Manager Program at Glen Canyon Dam with no formal training. Dee worked one year in Administration before being selected as a computer assistant in May 1997. Dee plunged into her work, learning everything she could. About a month before attending the meeting in Montrose, Dee shared her new skills with the Administrative staff.

Dee, who was 37, enjoyed life and deeply loved her families in Arizona and Texas. She also enjoyed country music and dancing. Dee will be remembered by her co-workers for her vivacious and inquisitive spirit.

## Jeff Waite

*"My Daddy Has a New Job Now"*

"**Jeff Waite** promoted safety, self worth, and teamwork. Many others, as well as myself, learned a great deal from Jeff," said Mike Heiman, a co-worker since 1983. "You could always call on Jeff, day or night, and he was always available and ready to help."

Jeffrey E. Waite started with the Bureau of Reclamation and came to Glen Canyon Dam in 1988 as a control center operator. Later, he made senior control operator and was recently selected as the powerplant operations manager.

Jeff, who was 41, had just begun his new position, but the effort and caring he put into his work had already begun to show. Jeff cared a great deal for his co-workers and for Glen Canyon Dam.

Jeff's work was second only to his family. Jeff was a devoted family man to his parents and siblings. He had a beloved wife of 19 years, Shelly, three daughters, Lashell, Stephanie, and Jaime, and a new granddaughter, Alyssa.

"Jeff will be missed at Glen Canyon, but his spirit will always be here and with his family," said Heiman. "And the reason I believe that is because his daughter Jaime said, 'my daddy has a new job; he is an angel now and will be watching over us.'"

## Al Inman

*He Made the Job Fun*

"It is difficult to describe with words the spirit of **Al Inman** that impacted those of us who were lucky enough to know him," said Steven Jarsky, a close friend and co-worker. "It is easy to express his work accomplishments, as they are real and tangible. The hard part is to describe his heart."

Allen E. Inman, Jr. started with Reclamation in 1980 and had been the manager of the Curecanti Field Division in Montrose, Colorado, since May 1997. He was a founding father of the Snake River Area Office in 1994. The area office effort succeeded in large part because of his enthusiastic support for joining two separate project offices into one cohesive entity.

Inman was a driving force behind the new powerplant at Minidoka Dam and the uprate at Palisades. Al was able to see the completion of the Minidoka plant through his enthusiastic support and presentation of data showing the program as an efficient and cost-effective use of resources. His championing of centralized control of the power facilities in southern Idaho will soon become a reality.

Al was a skilled manager. Always willing to listen and understand, he molded solutions that were best for his people and the organization. His unpretentious, proactive, and honest approach resulted in an efficiently run office with high morale. He focused on what made the best sense for the agency and was impatient with power plays and hidden agendas.

Al, who was 47, had an uncanny ability to combine work and friendship in ways that did not jeopardize either. His sincere interest in people, his unselfishness, his joy in living, his love of nature and the outdoors, and his smile and laughter are what his colleagues will miss the most.

"I was fortunate to spend ten years as Al's peer, in countless meetings and on numerous road trips," said Jarsky. "I will miss the jokes and the crazy hats. Man, he made the job fun!"

Al is survived by his wife, Marlene, and three children.

## Jim Bloomfield

*Always There for a Friend*

"Over the past several years I was fortunate to know **Jim Bloomfield** and be his friend and fellow worker," said Jeff Jones. "Jim was responsible for many of the successes I have enjoyed in my career. He helped me to understand some of the more complicated aspects of electrical engineering. He always offered to take the time to help when he could; whether on or off the job, helping a friend move or whatever, he was always there to lend a hand."

"Jim's life was short, but his impact will be long."

James L. Bloomfield was born March 25, 1954, in Glenwood Springs, Colorado, to Charles and Dorothy Bloomfield. Jim grew up in a very loving family with his older brother and sister, Ed and Ann, in Meeker, Colorado. Jim then attended Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Colorado, where he graduated with a degree in electrical engineering.

After graduation, Jim worked for a short time in the oil field services before being hired by Reclamation as a licensed electrical engineer in 1983. Among the Reclamation hydroelectric projects Jim worked on were the Grand Coulee Dam in Washington; the Twin Lakes Project in Buena Vista, Colorado; and the McPhee Dam Project near Dolores, Colorado. In 1994, Jim accepted a position as an electrical engineer at Glen Canyon Dam in Page, Arizona.

One of Jim's greatest joys was to spend time with his 13 year-old son, Tandy Lee Bloomfield. He visited Tandy, who lives with his mother in Dolores, Colorado, every weekend.

Like his father and grandfather, Jim was a Mason. Installed as Worshipful Master of the Page Masonic Lodge last January, he spent time with his fellow Masonic brothers on field trips, lodge excursions, and meetings. He was 43.





## Jon Nees Spreading Humor at the Office

Whenever there was a crisis at the office, Jon would say, "It's time to spread a little humor around the office," recalled John Wilkie, a friend and co-worker. "He always gave everyone the nudge they needed to keep headed in the right direction. Whatever job needed to be done, he would volunteer to help in the interest of reducing the burden of others."

"But above that, his ability to work with such a diverse group of individuals, regarding any situation, was what made him a unique person and an outstanding performer. He had excellent communication skills and the caring and concern to help those in need, job related or not. We have lost not only a co-worker," said Wilkie, "but also a special friend."

**Jon E. Nees** began his professional career while attending Northern Arizona University. After obtaining a B.S. in Recreational Land Management, he worked with the National Park Service as a forestry aid in northern Arizona. He was then hired by the Bureau of Reclamation in Phoenix, Arizona, where he worked on the Central Arizona Project from 1979 until March 1997, when he accepted a position in Montrose, Colorado, as a safety and occupational health manager. While at the Arizona Projects Office, Jon worked outdoors (his first love) as a materials engineering technician and construction inspector, and then moved into the safety aspect of construction.

At best, the job of a safety person on the construction site is most difficult. Whether he was initiating new safety programs, conducting safety training, or assisting others in their safety duties, Jon had the respect of those within and outside of Reclamation.

"I knew Jon while we worked together the last ten years at Stewart Mountain and Roosevelt Dams," said Wilkie. "Jon was a very special person and possessed those qualities you would like to have in yourself. He was very technically competent and regardless of the assigned task, day or night, Jon performed it with excellent results and without guidance."

Jon, who was 42, is survived by his wife, Kim, and stepson Clint.

## Catrina Marie Wall Her Family Meant Everything

"I don't remember ever hearing Katrina complain about anyone or anything," said Kay Cowan, a friend and fellow employee. "She was a quiet person, but when she said something, you'd better listen because it was bound to be pretty important. **Catrina Wall** enriched my life and I am a better person for knowing her."

Catrina Marie Wall was born January 30, 1964, in Yuma, Arizona. She began her federal career, while still in high school, at the Bureau of Reclamation's Yuma Projects Office on November 2, 1981, as a clerk typist. She worked her way up the career ladder from clerk to civil engineering technician while still at the Yuma Office. In July 1989, Katrina transferred to the Lower Colorado Dams Project Office in Boulder City, Nevada, as an engineering technician, and in May 1991 she accepted a promotion to computer specialist. In March 1995, Katrina transferred to the Glen Canyon Office as a computer specialist.

Catrina, 33, was a hard worker, a wonderful mother, a great daughter, a giving sister, and a loyal friend. Katrina loved movies and saw most every movie that came to Page, joking that she missed the large movie selection of Las Vegas. Katrina loved her work and enjoyed helping people learn new computer skills. She was patient with everyone and guided them through the many computer system upgrades and changes.

One of Katrina's best friends was her mother, Carmen, on whom she relied for friendship and support. Katrina was concerned about business travel because she was a single parent with two children. But Carmen helped solve her problem by moving to Page and watching the children while Katrina traveled and worked. There were many times that Carmen would come to luncheons held at the dam. One day an invitation came from Katrina to a luncheon that she and her mother were preparing for all the employees at the dam. Carmen just wanted to say thanks.

## Walt Kaltmaier The Wonder-Uncle

In the early 1960s, when he was based at Fort Huachuca, Arizona with the U.S. Army, **Walter A. Kaltmaier** was thrilled to learn that in Arizona it can rain on one side of the street while the other side remained sunny. Though he was born in Philadelphia (February 24, 1935), Walt never again went back East.

His sense of wonder never left him, recalled Walt's nephew, Scott, who adored his uncle. When asked why his uncle was so special to him, Scott replied, "Because he is just like me, a kid, only bigger. Scott still calls Walt his Wonder-Uncle."

After completing his military service, Walt Kaltmaier worked in the San Diego area for a company called Univac. He married and started a family with children Tracey and Kurt. Being Walt, he would sometimes take his work out of the office to sit far out on Point Loma in San Diego, simultaneously working and watching the whales frolic. The 1970s brought a transfer to Denver, a third child, Kimberly, a divorce, and a discovery of boating at Lake Powell.

While on assignment for Univac in Sterling, Colorado, Walt met Trina in a computer room. As luck would have it, it started snowing, highways were closed in all directions, and the two were snowed in together for three days, cementing a relationship that would culminate years later in marriage.

To be closer to his beloved Lake Powell, Walt and Trina moved to Page in 1980. They married in 1981 on the old golf course in Page. Of course, they honeymooned on a house boat on Lake Powell. Walt joined Reclamation in 1988 and enjoyed working as a computer specialist. He was 62.

## Bill Duncan Secretly Running Glen Canyon Dam

To many friends, **William H. Duncan** was fondly known as 'Duncan,' a name his wife gave him because of his red hair and freckles—characteristic of his Scottish heritage. He also was known as a talented, energetic, and problem-solving engineer and manager.

"In my career of 37 years of fixing machinery, I've met a lot of mechanical engineers," said Hank Dhieux, mechanical supervisor at Glen Canyon Dam. "Bill was the best, absolutely unbelievable! When I had problems I'd call Bill—he's been secretly keeping Glen Canyon Dam running for a long time. Bill was a great manager."

"The emptiness we feel at Glen Canyon will never go away. Bill will always be missed," said Dhieux.

Employed by Reclamation for 20 years, Bill Duncan was considered a leading authority in the operation and maintenance of hydroelectric powerplants not only by Reclamation but also by utility companies here and abroad. Until his recent assignment as manager of the Glen Canyon Field Division, he was employed as a mechanical engineer in Reclamation's Denver office. He was a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and served on several of their technical committees.

Bill, who was 46, is survived by Mim, his wife of 24 years, his parents, and two sisters. Bill and Mim enjoyed traveling, skiing, rollerblading, camping, boating on Lake Powell, and their dog Mattie. He also was an avid diver and fisherman. Because Bill and Mim spent 23 years in Pennsylvania and 22 years in Denver, they considered both places home.

Bill was born in Pennsylvania and graduated from Bucknell University in 1973 with a B.S. in mechanical engineering. He was a member of Theta Chi Fraternity. To honor Bill's life in a special way, plant a tree in his memory or make a donation to the Humane Society in his name.

**Keep Ever Green Their Memory, 10**



# “Keep Ever Green the Memory of These Fine People”

*Jayne Kelleher, Upper Colorado Region  
Carrie Kemper, Commissioner’s Office*

Tribute, sorrow, legacy, and rededication. Emotions and memories engulfed family, friends, and co-workers as the nation honored the eight Bureau of Reclamation workers who tragically lost their lives in the October 8 crash of a commercial aircraft in the rugged mountains of Colorado.

The Department’s memorial service on November 7 at the Marriott Courtyard Hotel in Page, Arizona, opened with a Reclamation-wide moment of silence lead by Commissioner Eluid Martinez. After *America the Beautiful* was sung, individual tributes were presented by close friends and co-workers to honor each employee. Mike Woods, major of Page, Arizona, provided community comments.

Secretary Bruce Babbitt read a letter from President and Mrs. Clinton: “Hillary and I extend our heart-felt sympathy to the friends, families, and co-workers of the eight Bureau of Reclamation employees who lost their lives in the tragic plane crash.

“Jim Bloomfield, Bill Duncan, Dephina Holliman, Al Inman, Walt Kaltmaier, Jon Nees, Jeff Waite, and Catrina Wall represented public service at its finest. Through their contributions to the Colorado River Storage Project and other assignments during their careers with the Bureau of Reclamation, they dedicated their time, talents, and energy to make life better for their fellow Americans.

“They have left a rich legacy of achievement and service to our country that will continue to inspire all who knew and worked with them. Our hearts go out to each of you, as well as the people of Montrose, Colorado, and Page, Arizona, as you now strive to cope with this devastating loss. We are keeping all of you in our thoughts and praying for your strength and comfort.”

Secretary Babbitt spoke of how extraordinarily close the Reclamation family is “and how much you care about each other. The ties in the Reclamation family are so much stronger and nurturing than they are in most places. This agency called the Bureau of Reclamation, which is people, which is you, has made it possible for all of us to live out here in this part of America and to put together the conditions of life on this rugged landscape.”

Secretary Babbitt also recognized how extremely hard it is to keep families together while working for an agency that is always moving on to work on different projects to improve life in the West. He said the commemorative fountain that will be restored at the Glen Canyon Dam Carl B. Hayden Visitor Center, with the names of the deceased affixed to it, is an especially appropriate memorial.

*Reclamation has established a memorial fund for the families of the eight employees who died in the plane crash. Contributions may be sent through February 1, 1998, to: Reclamation Memorial Fund, Exchange Credit Union, P.O. Box 11364, Salt Lake City, Utah 84147-0364. The fund is being administered by employees on a volunteer basis. There are no federal resources associated with the fund or its administration. Thank you for sharing in our expression of remembrance for our employees and their families.*



*At top, Secretary Babbitt told Reclamation families, friends, and co-workers, “I have learned how extraordinarily close this Reclamation family is and how much you care about each other.” Above, Barry Wirth, the public affairs officer for the Upper Colorado Region, served as the presiding official for the memorial service, held at the Marriott Courtyard Hotel in Page, Arizona.*

*Below, the memorial reception was held at Glen Canyon Dam’s Carl B. Hayden Visitor Center. Photos by Larry Gordon, Upper Colorado Region*





Above, the view of majestic Lake Powell, taken from the office window of Al Inman. Photo by Larry Gordon, Upper Colorado Region. At left, the downstream face of the Glenn Canyon Dam and the Colorado River. Photo by F.S. Finch

“The fountain at the visitor center is really a fountain about the water running through the land and running through our memories, our lives, our hearts, and our associations,” the Secretary said. “I would hope that in the years to come, all of you, and especially the children, will have the opportunity to go down on the banks of the eternal Colorado River and stand by the fountain and read the names and remember that the water that flows in that river, in their memory, through the fountain, is sacramental water of healing, salvation, and renewal.”

“And I hope that in the years to come the children will remember that they can honor, and renew, and keep ever green the memory of these fine people by striving in their own lives to honor and follow the example that these splendid people have set.”

Upper Colorado Regional Director Charles Calhoun extended Reclamation’s deepest sympathies to the family, friends, and co-workers of Robert Armstrong, the pilot of the flight. “While I never met Robert, I have been as impressed with the words and memories expressed about his life as I am sure the people of Scenic Airlines are with the lives of our employees.” Armstrong, 63, a resident of Phoenix, Arizona, had been flying with Scenic Airlines for ten years.

The service concluded with the unveiling of two commemorative plaques and an artist’s rendering of what the memorial fountain will look like when it is completed this spring. The plaques were unveiled by the officers of the Glen Canyon Field Division Employees Association on behalf of all Reclamation employees. A reception was held at the visitor center at Glen Canyon Dam after the service.

A smaller, private memorial service was held in Montrose, Colorado, at the Rosemont Baptist Church on October 9 for the families and friends of Al Inman and Jon Nees. The service included a short liturgy by Reverend Tim Wade and personal recollections and dedications by friends. A reception in Montrose followed the service.

In a letter to employees, Arlo Allen, manager of the Upper Colorado Region’s Power Office, thanked Reclamation employees and others who expressed their concern, performed acts of kindness, and shared with us the loss of our friends and fellow employees. “The offers of help, expressions of concern, and acts of service have been overwhelming from across Reclamation, the Department, and the private sector.

“Among those many hours of service compassionately rendered is that service provided by the employees who remained at work to keep facilities operating or offices functioning so that others could minister relief.

“The loss of our friends and fellow employees means we have the challenge of filling in behind them—rebuilding organizations. As we undertake this effort together, I thank you for your individual and collective assistance, for your help to each other, and for your continued demonstration of the ‘can do’ spirit of Reclamation,” Allen wrote.

***“I would hope that in the years to come, all of you, and especially the children, will have the opportunity to go down on the banks of the eternal Colorado River and stand by the fountain and read the names and remember that the water that flows in that river, in their memory, through the fountain, is sacramental water of healing, salvation, and renewal.”***

Secretary Babbitt

## Memorial Service

Mammoth Courtyard  
600 Clubhouse Drive  
Arizona Ballroom  
Page, Arizona  
2:00 p.m.

<i>Service Opening</i>	Barry Wirth, Presiding Official																
<i>Moment of Silence</i>	Euid Martinez, Commissioner of Reclamation																
<i>Music Selection</i>	<i>America the Beautiful</i> Delinda Joseph and Dan Hunt																
<i>Employee Tributes</i>	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">William H. "Bill" Duncan</td> <td style="width: 50%;">by Hank Dhieux</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Allen E. "Al" Inman, Jr.</td> <td>by Steven Jarsky</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jeffrey E. "Jeff" Waite</td> <td>by Mike Heimann</td> </tr> <tr> <td>James L. "Jim" Bloomfield</td> <td>by Jeff Jones</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jon E. Nees</td> <td>by John Wilkie</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dephina D. "Dee" Holliman</td> <td>by Betty Lund</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Walter A. "Walt" Kaltmaier</td> <td>by Bob Luedtke</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Catrina M. Wall</td> <td>by Kay Cowan</td> </tr> </table>	William H. "Bill" Duncan	by Hank Dhieux	Allen E. "Al" Inman, Jr.	by Steven Jarsky	Jeffrey E. "Jeff" Waite	by Mike Heimann	James L. "Jim" Bloomfield	by Jeff Jones	Jon E. Nees	by John Wilkie	Dephina D. "Dee" Holliman	by Betty Lund	Walter A. "Walt" Kaltmaier	by Bob Luedtke	Catrina M. Wall	by Kay Cowan
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Catrina M. Wall	by Kay Cowan																
<i>Community Comments</i>	Honorable Mike Woods, Mayor of Page, AZ																
<i>Department of the Interior Comments</i>	Honorable Bruce Babbitt, Secretary of the Interior																
<i>Unveiling of Memorial Plaques</i>	Warren Blanchard, Acting Manager, Glen Canyon Field Division																
<i>Conclusion</i>	Charles Calhoun, Regional Director																
<p style="color: #4F81BD;"><i>Assisting in the plaque unveiling are the officers of the Glen Canyon Field Division Employees' Association</i></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Jeff Jones</td> <td style="width: 50%;">President</td> </tr> <tr> <td>David Corn</td> <td>Vice President</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Betty Lund</td> <td>Secretary</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Molly Hartwig</td> <td>Treasurer</td> </tr> </table>		Jeff Jones	President	David Corn	Vice President	Betty Lund	Secretary	Molly Hartwig	Treasurer								
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November 7, 1997

# Community and Commitment for Conservation



Although the Bureau of Land Management's **Mill Creek site in Moab, Utah**, is one of America's premier mountain biking areas, the visitors spent their day at the recreational area working—clearing 3.5 acres of Russian Thistle, removing almost a mile of barbed wire fences, rebuilding a short trail, terracing and re-seeding gullied tracks, and cleaning up an unauthorized campsite.

“You could feel that it was fun for the volunteers and energizing to the BLMers,” recalled **Kate Kitchell**, BLM's Moab district manager. “It was just really neat to be in a group doing something positive out on the public lands!”

On that same day, ambitious volunteers at **Prison Hill Recreation Area in Carson City, Nevada**, constructed more than 3,000 feet of trail, installed 200 feet of fence, relocated a trail head, installed 300 feet of erosion control materials, and finished off the day installing trail signs and a kiosk.

It was all in a day's work for the volunteers. But for BLM's **Arthur Callan**, who helped coordinate activities at the site, it was an opportunity to build community support for the bureau's role. “The volunteers gain an awareness and understanding of public lands and their inherent value, while establishing a sense of community pride and ownership for these lands,” said Callan.

Across America on September 27, more than 5,000 volunteers took work gloves and tools in hand and pitched in to protect the nation's greatest natural treasure—its public lands. Volunteers at 29 sites helped to construct trails, rehabilitate picnic areas and other public places, build visitor kiosks, erect bridges, and stabilize stream, lake, and bay side areas.

The fourth **National Public Lands Day** was hosted by a partnership of the BLM, National Park Service, Department of Agriculture's Forest Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and National Environmental Education and Training Foundation. The annual event encourages young adults, families, children, and seniors to join volunteer and educational activities linked to the public lands.

Since 1994, more than 13,000 volunteers have participated in the initiative. The idea was conceived by the BLM and *Times Mirror Magazines* to raise public awareness about the public lands and encourage volunteerism in support of these tracks. This year, the BLM hosted volunteer projects on 15 sites and the National Park Service on three. Here is a sampling of their efforts:

Taking a walk back through history, volunteers at **Paria Canyon in Kanab, Utah**, refurbished the historic buildings of an old movie set. Then, they tackled the Kanab City Rifle Range, fixing picnic tables, restoring fire arm rests, disposing of old bullets, clearing sagebrush, and repainting dumpsters. The BLM also hosted a Boy Scout Camporee with seven merit badge workshops at the site.

Scurrying to beat the first snowfall, volunteers at the **Campbell Tract in Anchorage, Alaska**, built an amphitheater for summertime environmental education programs, installed winter trail signs for dog mushing, completed trail usage surveys, and participated in environmental education programs, including **Leave No Trace**. At **Cache Creek in Clear Lake, California**, the day's mission was to protect wildlife and be a part of history. Volunteers constructed an ‘elk-friendly’ fence, removed a dilapidated fence, stabilized an archaeological site, and refurbished trails.



Volunteers did more than hit the trails at **Log Chutes Trail in Durango, Colorado**. They refurbished them, restored corrals, and assisted with the Share the Trails Triathlon, a competitive 10-mile event consisting of horse back riding, mountain biking, and hiking. The BLM and the Forest Service jointly managed this site. While enjoying the sounds of seagulls and waves crashing against the beach at the **Jupiter Tract in Jupiter, Florida**, volunteers helped to restore habitat by removing exotic plants, reintroducing native plant species, and performing a tract clean-up.

From eyesore to paradise! Volunteers beautified the **Altman Confluence Tract in Laurel, Montana**, by developing both scenic and recreational opportunities such as cleaning up old farm equipment and other accumulated debris. Thanks to the volunteer work, the tract, a recent BLM acquisition, will now be enjoyed the way nature meant it to be. By back-filling behind anchored railroad ties, constructing walking trails and terraces, and closing undesirable trails, volunteers turned this once obstacle burdened **Blackfoot River Thibodeau Site in Garnet, Montana**, into a natural playground for walkers and hikers.

Volunteers have returned to **Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area in Las Vegas, Nevada**, every year since 1994. This year they constructed a half mile of a hiking trail, cleaned a desert cave, added a surface to the interpretive desert tortoise trail, and repaired the storm-damaged Moenkopi interpretive trail. As the work progressed, whispers could be heard that it was a day for enjoying the great outdoors. Of course, the magnificent red



Learning about leadership and volunteering, Boy Scouts under the supervision of an Eagle Scout candidate construct an amphitheater in front of BLM's Campbell Creek Science Center in Anchorage, Alaska.

Far left, to enhance Prince William Forest Park's lake shore—in Northern Virginia not far from the nation's Capitol—volunteers remove a rotted boat dock. At left, making the connection, volunteers complete a 140-foot bridge linking a trail between Rocky Mountain National Park and the Arapaho National Forest in Colorado. Below left, working side by side at Cache Creek in California, volunteers and BLM staff remove barbed wire, which is dangerous to local roaming elk, to prepare for the installation of an ‘elk friendly’ fence. Below, volunteers in Florida help to clean up BLM's Jupiter Tract, one of the few BLM land holdings in the east.

rocks glistening in the backdrop didn't have anything to do with the volunteers' fondness for the outdoors! At **Ward Mountain Winter Sports Area in Ely, Nevada**, volunteers installed signs along 20 miles of trail, built and installed a warming hut and trailhead



kiosk, and upgraded directional signing. And there's still more work to be done as the local BLM and Forest Service offices hope improvements will lure a national team to set up its pre-2002 Olympic training program in the Ward Mountain Sports Area.

Preventing erosion; installing parking barricades and signs; stabilizing an interpretive frame; staining barricades, shelters, and interpretive display stands; and improving parking lot and sidewalk accessibility for wheelchairs were all in the day's work at **Musket Shot Springs in Vernal, Utah**. The community of Glenwood can thank the volunteers for its improved access to the **Pauite Trail site in Richfield, Utah**. Participants spent the day improving the accessibility of a two-mile stretch of the Rock Canyon segment of the Pauite All-Terrain-Trail.

On the banks of the **Pohick Bay Regional Park in Lorton, Virginia**, volunteers built a 170-foot boardwalk to permanently raise a portion of trail vulnerable to continuous flooding, stabilized 150 feet of stream bank, and built and installed 50 bird boxes. A father was heard to say that his family had visited the **Five Springs Campground in Big Horn County, Wyoming**, many times but that National Public Lands Day was its first time the family was able to give something back.



The volunteers graveled trails and campsites, cleaned out grills and fire rings, picked up litter, dismantled extra fire rings, repaired a fence, and built water bars.

At **Rock Mountain National Park/Arapaho National Forest in Grand Lake, Colorado**, volunteers completed the construction of a 140-foot bridge over the Colorado River, allowing for better fishing and hiking access. Participants also constructed new trails and restored a historic barn—to be used as an environmental education center. To help protect five native plant nurseries that make up an important ecological preserve at **Golden Gate National Recreation Area in San Francisco, California**, volunteers removed invasive weeds, constructed and repaired nursery structures, created demonstration gardens for educational programs, and planted seedlings. Volunteers at **Prince William Forest Park in Prince William, Virginia**, removed vegetation along lake shorelines to provide a safe access for park visitors who use the cabin camps and hiking trails. The volunteers also removed Chinese wisteria at Taylor Farm site, a historic homesite in the park, to allow hikers easier access to the site.

# Stormdrain Graffiti Targets the Citizen Polluter—That's Us Folks!

Lynn Holt, Public Affairs Specialist, Denver, Colorado

You may have seen these words, or something similar, stenciled near storm drains in your city. Six short words; yet, they say much more. Most people don't realize that enormous amounts of pollution come from the accumulated actions of individual citizens. Stormwater pollution, for example, is a major contributor to degraded water quality. This source includes road runoff—which carries oil, antifreeze, and other pollutants—as well as residential runoff such as household and garden chemicals.

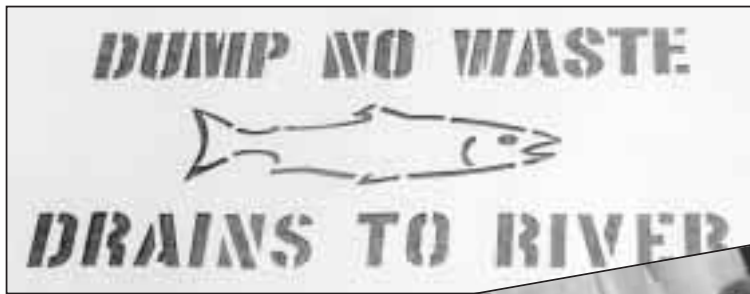
This pollution—often referred to as nonpoint source pollution—runs through storm drains directly into rivers and, in some instances, into the oceans. And many people—unaware that storm sewers do not pass through water-treatment plants—consciously pour oil, paint, and other household chemicals down these drains. (Even waste treatment plants are not usually designed to handle these chemicals.) Pollution from stormdrains often exceed pollution from industrial sources (usually referred to as point-source pollution). But, unlike the more serious pollution from commercial farms, industrial plants, and construction sites, stormwater pollution is a problem that citizens—you and I—can correct.

So, what's the answer? Prevention by education. Disposing properly of household chemicals. Bringing used motor oil to a recycling center. Washing the car somewhere that doesn't drain soap into a storm sewer. Keeping soil out of the street after planting a garden. All of these safeguards can be accomplished by the average citizen, adding up to less pollution in our water supplies. But changing the habits of millions of people is far more difficult than cracking down on a dirty factory. "It's a different beast we are fighting now," said **Joe Wallace**, regional storm-water coordinator in the Environmental Protection Agency's Seattle office. "We used to think we were after this evil polluter. Now we're finding that polluter is us."

The Storm Drain Stenciling Program is one of the many projects managed by the Bureau of Reclamation's Environmental Education Program in Denver. **Kathie Marsh**, Reclamation's environmental education coordinator, launched this program in the spring of 1996 with a pilot project at Samuel Elementary School in southeast Denver. So far, the program has helped 12 elementary and middle schools in the Denver metro area. Several of Reclamation's area offices also are participating.

A typical project begins with coordination between Marsh and a classroom teacher. The teacher prepares the students by helping them to study about storm water runoff before the actual event. On stenciling day, the students listen to a 20-minute presentation and, then, armed with stenciling gear that is provided by Reclamation, they stencil the curbs of storm drains located near their schools.

The students also are given large plastic bags to collect trash and debris along the receiving stream or river. By working with the storm drains and the receiving water, the students more readily understand the importance of source controls as a method of protecting the stream from pollution. "It's amazing how much these children already know and care about the environment," says Marsh. "Storm drain stenciling is fun, and the kids love doing it. They are eager to help their environment, and this is something they can do right in their own neighborhood."



Legal graffiti with environmental messages such as this one are becoming more popular in major U.S. cities. Above, student council members at Molholm Elementary in Lakewood, Colorado, clear off the area for a smooth stenciling surface. At left, students have fun stenciling environmental messages.

"The reason we did this project with the Student Council was to establish in them a sense of community and responsibility," said **Stacy Scarborough**, a Student Council representative for Molholm Elementary in Lakewood, Colorado. "The stenciling created an awareness of the drains and the effects of careless actions."

Other projects include a Boy Scout who attained the rank of Eagle Scout by stenciling drains as a community service project; a troop of Cub Scouts who stenciled drains in Bismarck, North Dakota; and projects sponsored by the North Dakota State Department of Health. And a statewide Storm Drain Stenciling Steering Committee was recently formed to broaden the program throughout Colorado.

## NPS GRANTS FOR AMERICA

The National Park Service has awarded \$187,075 for the preservation and protection of significant battlefields. **American Battlefield Protection Grants** fund planning, education, cultural resource survey work, and interpretation. The 1997 recipients are: Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism; Cheyenne Cultural Center, Inc.; City of Franklin, Tennessee; Friends of Manassas National Battlefield Park; Friends of Moccasin Bend National Park, Inc., Tennessee; Friends of the Texas Historical Commission, Inc.; Friends of Wilderness Battlefield; Illinois Historic Preservation Agency; Jumonville Preservation Association, Pennsylvania; Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority; New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Preservation; Reflection Riding, Tennessee.

NPS has awarded \$100,000 in **historic preservation grants to the States of Minnesota and North Dakota**. The \$35,000 awarded to the Minnesota Historical Society and the \$65,000 awarded to the State Historical Society of North Dakota will provide technical assistance and advice to owners of historic properties located in communities inundated by the recent severe flooding along the Red River.

**The City of Staunton, Virginia**, received part of the former Naval Reserve Center through the **NPS' Federal Lands to Parks Program**, for a new community recreation center. NPS alerted city officials about the opportunity to acquire the property at no cost when the Reserve Center was included on the 1993 list of military base closings.

## WOMEN'S RIGHTS NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK



The staff at Women's Rights National Historical Park made a special effort to host 200 hearing-impaired women this past summer. And both the visitors and the park's interpretive program were richly rewarded. The visitors were attending the 1997 Deaf Women United National Conference in nearby Rochester, New York, and made a day-long trip to the park, which is located in Seneca Falls.

Two American Sign Language interpreters were hired for the day with donation money collected at the park. With the interpreters along, NPS rangers provided guided tours, which included the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel that was the site of the 1848 Women's Rights Convention—America's first national assembly to address the social, cultural, educational, and political equality of women. The guests also visited the Suffrage Press Printshop that commemorates the historic role of Amelia Bloomer's feminist press in Seneca Falls and provides an overview of how newspapers were printed in early 19th century America.

Several of the visitors remarked on the emotional quality of the Waterwall, an outdoor structure that bears the inscribed text of the 1848 Declaration of Sentiments, a document approved at the historic convention that proclaimed to the world that "all men and women are created equal." A continuous flow of water cascades over the words. In the

Women's Rights Visitor Center, the guests admired 20 statues of the 1848 Women's Rights Convention organizers and key supporters. The figures were sculpted by **Lloyd Lillie** and each has a specially crafted interpretive biography.

Staff members also showed films during the day. The open-captioned *Dreams of Equality* is a 25-minute documentary that details events surrounding the 1848 convention. Another 20-minute video, interpreted with American Sign Language, describes the historic Elizabeth Cady Stanton House—the home of a prominent convention organizer and leader of the Women's Rights Movement. Park rangers issued 165 Golden Access Passports to many of the guests who had not previously acquired them. The complimentary passes are good for the holder's lifetime and admit them and immediate family members free to any federal land agency that normally charges admission fees.

The special features used for the visit will be retained at the park, said **MaryEllen Snyder**, chief of Interpretation and Visitor Services. "We have decided to leave most of the extra things in place so that we will be more accessible all the time, not only to hearing-impaired visitors, but also to people who are learning English and for children who are learning how to read," she said.

# National Park Service



Robert G. Stanton, Bureau Director  
Ricardo Lewis, Bureau Editor

CC:Mail to Rick Lewis at NP-WASO



## 1997 Wilderness Awards



**Roger Semler**, the wilderness manager at Glacier National Park, and the Wilderness Education Team at Shenandoah National Park received the Director's Wilderness Management and Stewardship Awards for 1997 in recognition of their outstanding contributions to the preservation of the Service's wilderness resources. Semler received the Wilderness Star Award for his national and international contributions to wilderness management, included his role in coordinating the Glacier National Park wilderness program and the development of the park's *Backcountry Ranger Handbook* and *Wilderness Implementation Schedule*. He also was recognized for his work on the park's outstanding *State of*

*the Wilderness* annual report and his coordination of the Service's Leave No Trace Program. Conducted in cooperation with the National Outdoor Leadership School, the program has had nationwide influence on the Service's wilderness initiatives.

Shenandoah's Wilderness Education Team—**Rol Hesselbart**, **Steve Bair**, and **Kelly Hartsell**—received the Education and Interpretive Program for a Group/Organization Award for developing an innovative *Wilderness Education Plan* that details strategies for integrating federal agencies, private organizations, Boy Scout group leaders, park and concession staff, and park neighbors into a comprehensive program that educates the users of the wilderness areas. The team also developed one of the most comprehensive Leave No Trace training programs for Boy Scout group leaders and managers of interagency recreation programs.



From left, Rol Hesselbart, Kelly Hartsell, and Steve Bair.

## Sierra Club Honors Don Reeser



**Donald Reeser**, superintendent of Haleakala National Park (Hawaii), has received the Sierra Club's 1997 Distinguished Service Award, which honors individuals in public service who have shown a strong commitment to conservation. "Don Reeser is a dedicated public servant whose commitment to environmental protection has been inspirational," said **Adam Werbach**, president of the Sierra Club—the largest grassroots environmental organization in the United States. Reeser has been superintendent of Haleakala since 1988. Under his leadership, the park has expanded its

resources management and research programs to preserve imperiled native Hawaiian plants and animals. He has directed the protection of park ecosystems from the increasing threats of non-natives such as goats, pigs, alien insects and plants, and educated visitors about these problems. As park superintendent and a state Natural Reserve System Commissioner, Reeser has worked to protect pristine resources of east Maui watershed lands. He has been a persistent voice in warning about the serious environmental ramifications of the proposed internationalization of Maui's airport. Reeser also helped to develop a long-needed Friends of Haleakala National Park support group and a cooperative agreement with Kipahulu Ohana, an Hawaiian group whose mission is to restore cultural resources and preserve the traditional landscape of the park's remote coastal district.

## ON THE MOVE

**Marti Leicester**, superintendent of Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania, to associate regional director for Operations, Pacific West Region; **Tracy Brown**, from Park Facility Management Division-WASO to Science Application International Corporation, Washington D.C.; **Timothy (TJ) Donovan**, supervisory ranger at Boston NHP, to special agent, Naval Criminal Investigative Service, Everett, WA; **Mary (Jeff) Karraker**, superintendent at Capulin Volcano, to Denver as environmental protection specialist; **Dennis Vasques**, natural resources training manager at Albright, to superintendent at White Sands; **Ken Garvin**, chief ranger at Chattahoochee River, is joining the Southeast Region staff as fire management officer, succeeding **Steve Smith**, who retired; **Rick Black**, a park ranger at Kennesaw, has been named as the NPS representative at the Coordination Center located at Peachtree-Dekalb Airport in Atlanta; **Mary T. Jones**, fire program assistant in the Southeast Region, to administrative technician at Blue Ridge Parkway, Laurel Springs district; **Rick Frost**, deputy director for information and public affairs at Consumer Product Safety Commission, to public affairs officer for the Intermountain Region.

## MASS TRANSIT FOR PARKS

Future visitors to three of the nation's most popular parks will spend their time enjoying the exquisite scenic beauty and wildlife of these natural wonders, rather than sitting in traffic jams looking for a place to park. Making visitor experiences more pleasant and enriching is a major goal of recently unveiled mass-transit plans for these parks. **Secretary Babbitt** and Transportation Secretary **Rodney Slater**, who signed a Memorandum of Understanding that addresses the transportation needs of the parks, discussed the pilot projects at a Nov. 25 news conference.

"The problem in our National Parks is not too many people—it's too many cars," Secretary Babbitt said in announcing plans that will get visitors to Grand Canyon, Yosemite, and Zion National Parks out of their cars and onto trains and shuttle buses to bring them to these popular but increasingly crowded wonderlands. Babbitt and Slater signed the agreement for their departments to cooperate in the development of public transportation systems for the parks at a ceremony at the National Gallery of Art, near an exhibit of 19th and early 20th century paintings of the Grand Canyon and Yellowstone by Thomas Moran.

"Thomas Moran would not have imagined that a bear-sighting in Yellowstone would create a mile-long traffic jam," said Slater. "It is time for us to build a transit system for the 21st century that allows us to spend more time sighting bears than looking for a parking spot." Transportation department resources and expertise will help to design the regional transit systems as the Park Service works in coordination with towns and counties adjoining the parks—the gateway communities—on planning and building the systems.

Grand Canyon's plan calls for a light rail train system, estimated to cost about \$67 million, that would take guests from Tusayan Gateway parking area into the park's Mather Point Transit Center near the South Rim and to other trail-heads, viewing areas, and facilities. The line could carry up to 4,000 riders an hour and operate 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The construction and operation of the system would be accomplished through a concession contract and funded through a portion of visitor entrance fees earmarked for transit. From the new \$14 million transit center, the tourists would continue their tour by taking buses powered by electricity or natural gas or by hiking or biking along an expanded trail system. Funding would come from a combination of federal, concessionaire, Recreation Fee Demonstration Program, and other sources. The target date for completion is 2000. **Robert Arnberger**, superintendent of Grand Canyon, said the park's natural resources are being damaged by the 6,100 vehicles that enter the park daily. About five million tourists visit the park each year.

In Zion National Park (in southwestern Utah), cars would no longer be permitted by the year 2001. The park, which currently receives about 2.5 million visitors annually, would provide a shuttle-bus system from hotels and campgrounds in the nearby community of Springdale to carry guests to the park's visitor center. From there other buses would transport visitors to drop-off points along the only paved road through narrow Zion Canyon. The project requires about \$17 million for new construction and rehabilitation of existing facilities, including the visitor center, shuttle stops, and campgrounds. A combination of federal transportation programs, demonstration fees, state and private grants would fund the project. A service contract will provide for the system's operation and maintenance. Annual operating costs would be about \$2 million.

Yosemite (California) also will begin using an in-valley shuttle system with a regional transportation system established by the gateway communities in 2001. "We're going to take this park into the future by taking it back to the past, so that our children will be able to enjoy Yosemite the way it was meant to be enjoyed," Babbitt said. Most of Yosemite's 4.2 million annual visitors arrive by car—about 7,000 vehicles daily on average. At peak visiting seasons, the congestion has caused traffic gridlock. The Yosemite Area Regional Transportation Strategy—called YARTS—will provide energy-efficient and clean-burning busses into the valley from four staging areas, and shuttle busses throughout the park. The east end of Yosemite Valley will be significantly restored to its natural condition, removing unnecessary roadways and buildings and reducing traffic congestion. The initiative would remove 2,300 parking spaces, replace some of Yosemite's roads with bike trails, and restore about 147 acres of the valley to their natural state.

Visitors who plan to stay overnight at hotels and lodges in the three parks will be able to drive their vehicles to their accommodations, but then must use the shuttles to tour the parks. The new transportation systems will be funded from existing federal resources and will not require an increase in admission fees, Babbitt emphasized. The new systems will serve as blueprints for other parks where similar mass transit systems would be introduced.

# Celebrating an American Masterpiece

One of the great monuments in American art—the Shaw Memorial sculpted by Augustus Saint-Gaudens—is now on display in the nation’s capital, thanks to an historic collaboration between the National Park Service and the National Gallery of Art.

NPS Director **Robert Stanton**, actor **Matthew Broderick**, and retired general **Colin Powell** participated in the dedication ceremony, as the plaster cast of a unique version of the monument—Saint-Gaudens’ last creative effort on the memorial—was unveiled at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. The event marked the centennial of the unveiling of the original monument in Boston.

Considered by many to be America’s finest public monument, the Shaw Memorial is one of Saint-Gaudens’ greatest masterpieces. The work commemorates **Colonel Robert Gould Shaw** and the **Massachusetts 54th Regiment**, the first African American regiment raised in the North during the Civil War. The compelling story of this regiment, and its brave attack on Fort Wagner, South Carolina, on July 18, 1863, was told in the film *Glory*. Broderick portrayed Shaw in the film.

Shaw and many of his men died in the battle, but their heroic conduct paved the way for acceptance of black troops in the military. By the war’s end more than 175,000 African Americans had enlisted in the Union army, comprising ten percent of the total forces. President Lincoln remarked that these black troops were instrumental in achieving victory for the Union forces.

The agreement to display Saint-Gaudens’ work of art in Washington—the first collaboration between the National Park Service and the National Gallery of Art—provides that the National Gallery will offer educational programming about the monument, including guest lectures and scholarly symposiums, as well as ongoing presentations at the gallery for visitors and students. The terms of the ten-year agreement provide for renewing the loan.

When Augustus Saint-Gaudens (1848-1907) began work on the commission in 1883, he was already nationally known. His monument to **Admiral David Glasgow Farragut**, unveiled in New York’s Madison Square Park in 1881, had met with great acclaim. The Shaw Memorial took on deep significance for Saint-Gaudens, who incorporated great detail and emotion into the design. Soldiers’ faces were individualized, sculpted from live models. In a labor of love, Saint-Gaudens worked on the relief for 14 years before it was unveiled on Boston Common in 1897.

Even then, however, the sculptor was not satisfied with the work and he continued to refine elements of the relief for the following three years. This refined version, which was completed in 1900, is the cast now on display at the National Gallery of Art. It was earlier exhibited at the Paris World Exposition in 1900, and at the Pan American Exposition in Buffalo, New York, the following year. It was shown at the Albright Knox Art Gallery in Buffalo for 15 years. This cast was later acquired by the Saint-Gaudens Memorial and displayed at the artist’s home and studio in Cornish, New Hampshire, from 1959-1996. The site became part of the National Park Service in 1965. The Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site features not only his studios, but also a large collection of fine art.



Above, NPS director Robert Stanton, actor Matthew Broderick, retired general Colin Powell, and other dignitaries stand before the restored plaster cast of the Shaw Memorial which is on loan to the National Gallery of Art. Photo by David Barna. At left, Director Stanton receives a copy of the Shaw Memorial catalogue from Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site superintendent John Dryfhout. Photo by Ricardo Lewis



Because of its fragile nature, however, the refined plaster cast was gradually deteriorating. It was decided to complete a bronze cast of the plaster while preserving it. The Saint-Gaudens Memorial foundation, in partnership with the Park Service, raised \$250,000 to produce the new bronze. The NPS North East Region/Cultural Resource Center/Collections Conservation branch at Lowell, Massachusetts, coordinated much of the effort. **Brigid Sullivan**, chief conservator, with **Carol Warner**, conservator, went beyond expectations in overseeing the project.

Following its dismantling in August 1996, the plaster cast underwent a conservation process and molds were made from which a bronze memorial was cast in the spring of 1997. Measuring fourteen-feet high and sixteen-feet wide, the bronze was unveiled on July 13 in the gardens at Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site, in the same location where the plaster relief was exhibited for almost forty years before being loaned to the National Gallery of Art.

## AROUND THE PARKS



Best known for its virgin stand of towering coastal redwoods, **Muir Woods National Monument** also is gaining notoriety as an important overwintering site for Monarch butterflies and for spearheading efforts to preserve that species’ habitat in Northern California. For ten years, Muir Woods park ranger **Mia Monroe** has worked with the California-based Monarch Program and local volunteers at the park site and other areas in Northern California.

Mia heads up tagging and monitoring efforts to determine the butterflies’ arrival and dispersal times, and their clustering habits, use and impact on the site, and loss due to parasites and predators. Mia’s program provides educational materials to local landowners such as a booklet she co-authored entitled *Habitat Management for Monarchs in California*, which was published by the Xerces Society. She also coordinates a corps of volunteers who work in local schools to develop butterfly gardens and introduce butterfly biology into school curriculums. Mia accompanied a group to Mexico last year to discuss Monarch habitat management, development of educational materials, and training of young people to serve as habitat interpreters and researchers. Mia returned to Mexico in November to participate in an International Conference on Monarch Butterflies. **Mia Monroe** can be reached at (415) 388-2596.

*Thousand-Mile Front: Civil War in the Lower Mississippi Valley*, a tourism development tool released by the **River, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program’s Louisiana Field Office**, describes the role the Mississippi River played in Civil War events covering seven states. To develop this brochure, program staff worked with the seven states, the Lower Mississippi Valley Civil War Task Force, and six national parks—Fort Donelson National Battlefield, Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve, Pea Ridge National Military Park, Shiloh National Military Park, Vicksburg National Military Park, and Wilson’s Creek National Battlefield. The brochure is available at various state sites. **Robert Vernon** is the program contact, (504) 388-1446.

Walk through the doors of history and become a part of Maryland’s signer to the Declaration of Independence at **Habre de Venture**—the home of Thomas Stone. The mansion, built in 1771 and restored this year, was opened to the public during a Grand Opening and Festival on November 1-2. The park is open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Festivities will include tours of the mansion, colonial arts and crafts, and music. Thomas Stone became a well respected lawyer and a prominent political figure important in the development of Maryland and the United States. The public affairs contact is **Edie Shean-Hammond**, (617) 223-5199.

**Hawaii Volcanoes National Park’s Nene** (Hawaiian Goose) monitoring and recovery program is underway. The Nene is listed as endangered by the state of Hawaii and the federal government. Hawaii Volcanoes has about 200 of the birds in its population. Volunteers, trained by park staff, will monitor the Nene for the entire breeding season, beginning in early October and lasting through mid-March. Because most of the birds are already banded, monitoring relies heavily on repeated band resightings. To assess reproductive success, volunteers will also look for nests and broods. Recovery actions will include various measures to enhance recruitment of wild birds into the park’s population.

The methods include predator control in key nesting and brooding areas, maintenance of a predator-resistant open-topped pen in which some free-flying Nene nest, and the provision of supplemental feed to wild goslings in one or two locations. Volunteers also will radiotrack goslings to help determine why young Nene suffer high mortality in one brooding area in the park. The data collected will be used to calculate the season’s recruitment (the number of goslings surviving to fledge) and reproductive success, and to estimate population size and growth rate. Collectively, these figures are important indicators of the population’s health, which allow the park to assess the success of its current recovery work and to tailor future management efforts where the need is most critical. The park contact is **Darcy Hu**, (808) 985-6092.

# The Year of the OCEAN

## MMS Joins National Ocean Education Campaign

Walter Bonora

Oceans are vital to life on earth. From providing food, minerals, and other natural resources to enabling global trade, communications, and recreational opportunities, oceans play a major role in our lives. They affect us every day and our activities constantly affect them. And though oceans may be limitless frontiers of exploration and discovery, their resources are finite.

In recognition of the importance of the marine environment and its life-giving resources, the United Nations has declared 1998 as the International Year of the Ocean (YOTO). The occasion will be marked with scientific symposia, special environmental events, and other educational activities to focus the attention of the public, governments, and decision-makers on the importance of the oceans and the marine environment as resources for sustainable development.

To enhance public awareness of the U.S. government's role in monitoring, researching, and sustaining our ocean resources, federal agencies have joined with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in a partnership with private industry, environmental organizations, states, and academia to launch a national educational campaign. The U.S. initiative will promote public awareness and understanding of the value of the oceans and marine resources to the national welfare and the need for exploration, sustainable use, and conservation of ocean resources for future generations.

The Minerals Management Service is playing a major role in the Year of the Ocean campaign as part of the bureau's ongoing effort to effectively balance offshore resource development with environmental protection. In recognition of MMS's role in ocean research and resource management, NOAA's Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere, **James Baker**, has asked MMS Director **Cynthia Quarterman** to serve as one of four federal representatives on the U.S. Steering Committee for the campaign. The committee will provide oversight and guidance for U.S. Year of the Ocean activities, including a possible White House Conference on the Oceans in 1998.

"As we enter the Year of the Ocean," says MMS Director Quarterman, "we will highlight the campaign's objectives and goals in our education and outreach efforts. Working with NOAA is natural since it manages the living resources of the ocean and we manage the mineral resources."

The U.S. educational campaign will focus on several ocean themes and cross-cutting issues. The themes include National Security, Maritime Transportation, Environmental Quality, Ocean Resources (living and mineral), Recreation and Tourism, and Weather, Climate, and Natural Hazards. The major issues include Science and Technology, Legal Framework, and Management of Ocean Areas, Uses, and Resources.

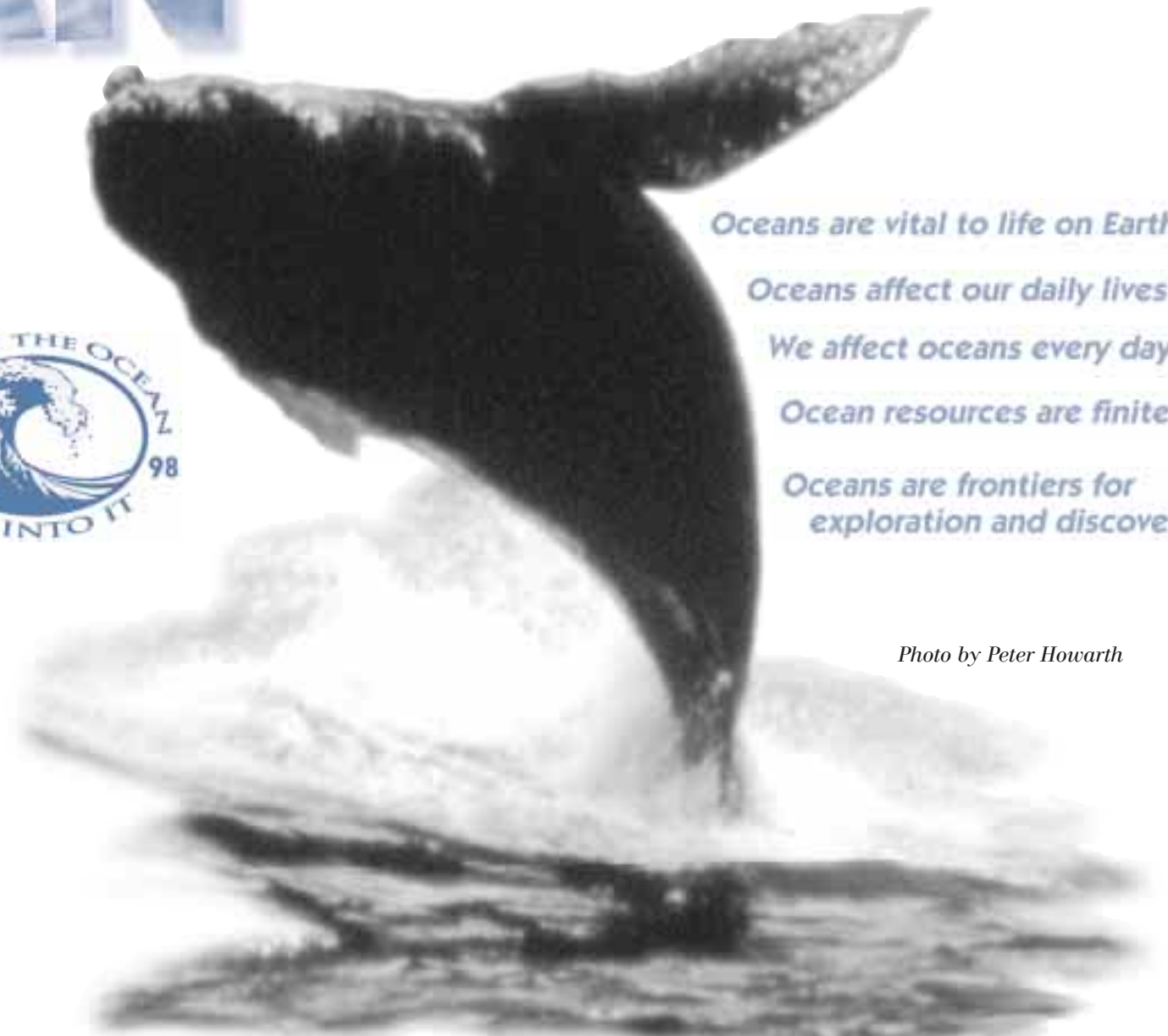
"We want people to fully understand our contribution to the Year of the Ocean campaign," adds **Ken Turgeon**, chief scientist for MMS. "For example, a common misconception is that one of the chief causes of ocean pollution is offshore oil spills, when in actuality, these spills contribute only a small percentage to the environmental problems facing oceans."

The U.S. Outer Continental Shelf produces about one million barrels of oil a day, and over the last 20 years, less than two percent of the amount produced offshore was spilled, Turgeon points out. The MMS is dedicated to helping industry maintain clean and safe offshore operations.

In a recent meeting of the U.S. Steering Committee, **Stan Wilson**, the deputy chief scientist for NOAA, stressed that "the oceans are increasingly threatened by human activity. The United States will use the Year of the Ocean to promote public awareness and understanding of the value of the sea and its resources to the national welfare."

Throughout 1998, MMS will continue to foster cooperative efforts at home and abroad to protect the human, marine, and coastal environments. The agency regards the safety of people and marine life a top priority and continually seeks operational improvements that reduce the risks to offshore personnel and the environment.

The oceans are a fragile environment. Increasing stress places them at risk. It is the mission and responsibility of agencies like MMS working with partners in industry to ensure the safe stewardship of our oceans so that future generations can enjoy their benefits while ensuring their survival.



Oceans are vital to life on Earth  
Oceans affect our daily lives  
We affect oceans every day  
Ocean resources are finite  
Oceans are frontiers for exploration and discovery

Photo by Peter Howarth



Photo by Gerry Ellis



MMS divers collect rocks and biotic specimens in the Gulf of Mexico. To assure that offshore oil development is carried out in an environmentally sound manner, MMS places a high priority on baseline research and assessments carried out by scientists who conduct extensive underwater observation and data gathering.

## Look Who's Swimming in the Gulf

Would you be surprised to learn that 28 of the 79 species of whales and dolphins are doing laps in the Gulf of Mexico? Would it surprise you that cows and pigs are the whale's closest terrestrial relatives? But enough about pigs. Back to whales.

Sperm whales, once thought a rare visitor to the gulf, have been found in increasing numbers. Fraser's dolphins and melon-headed whales, both previously unknown in the gulf, now swim its warm waters. In the deep waters of the gulf, pantropical spotted dolphins are seen in large schools, and though once elusive, pygmy and dwarf sperm whales are now quite common.

MMS-funded and supported studies help to unlock the mystery of whale and dolphin abundance in the gulf. These studies continue to establish the migratory patterns of those gentle giants—and pygmies—of the sea.

## Continuing Environmental Studies

### Gulf Whales

The Gulf of Mexico Outer Continental Shelf Region is conducting a study on the at-sea distribution, relative abundance, behavior, and movements of whales in the Gulf, with particular emphasis on the eastern Gulf of Mexico planning area. The research also will relate marine mammal distribution to oceanic features such as upwellings. The purpose of the study is to ensure that offshore exploration does not jeopardize protected species.



Gulf of Mexico Region Staff Photo

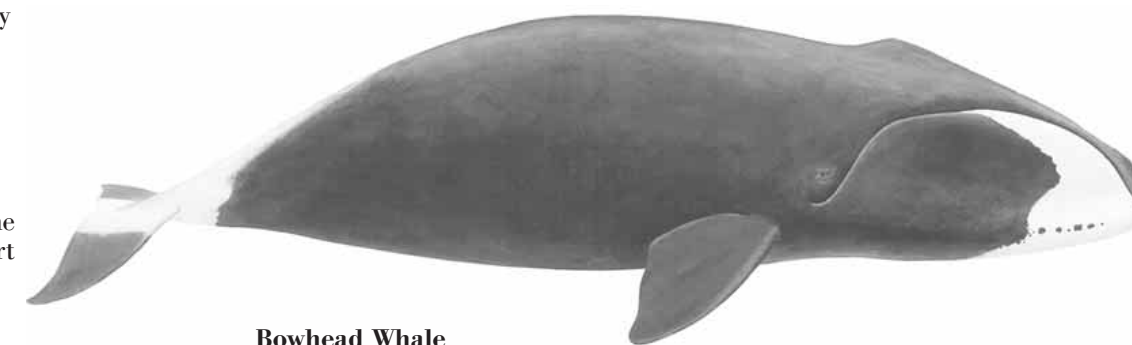


Dwarf Sperm Whale

### Bowhead Whales

Their diminished numbers and icy habitat make the study of bowhead whales difficult. Since 1978, MMS has been conducting aerial surveys that identify whale distribution and potential offshore development effects on them. Offshore activity is permitted but under restricted conditions depending on the presence of the endangered bowhead.

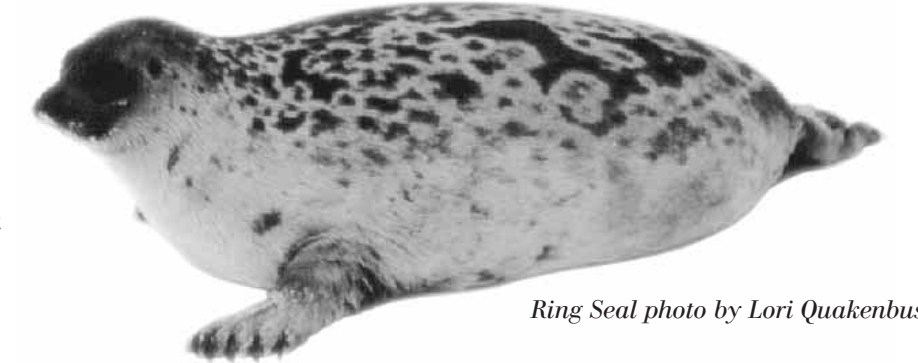
MMS recently awarded a four-year \$2.4 million contract to LGL Limited Environmental Research Associates to provide information about bowhead whale feeding in the eastern Alaskan Beaufort Sea. Data from this study will help the agency and local communities assess whether future oil and gas exploration in the area would have any adverse effects on bowhead whale feeding. Bowheads are part of the baleen family which includes the largest of all living animals—the blue whale. Some baleen whales travel over entire ocean basins in just a matter of months.



Bowhead Whale

### Ring Seal Survey

The Monitoring Key Marine Mammal Study is designed to develop and implement a protocol for monitoring the distribution and abundance of ringed seals off the coast of northern Alaska. Ring seals have been identified as a keystone species in the Arctic marine environment. They are being studied as indicators of the marine environment in terms of pollution. For example, if contaminants are found in plankton, which fish eat, the contaminants can find their way into the seal's system. The study is a cooperative effort with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, the MMS Alaska Outer Continental Shelf Region, the National Marine Fisheries Service, the University of Alaska at Fairbanks, and the North Slope Borough. Ring seals are a top-level predator in the food chain, an abundant species found in Arctic waters.



Ring Seal photo by Lori Quakenbush

### Seabird Surveys

Long term studies of coastal birds along the Pacific coast where oil production exists continue. The goal of the in-house research program of MMS's Pacific Outer Continental Shelf Region is to provide the agency with up-to-date information on those species of birds which might be affected by offshore oil development. Because seabirds—like grebes, pelicans, and gulls—are so vulnerable to contact with oil, the effect of an accidental oil spill on bird populations is a major concern. In order to gain a greater understanding of the numbers, distribution, and seasonal patterns of the seabirds that occur in waters off southern California, the Pacific Region is conducting a series of semi-monthly aerial surveys in the Santa Barbara Channel and Santa Maria Basin. These studies identify important habitats of marine birds known to be sensitive to oil spill impacts and the information gained will be compared with earlier data to detect long-term changes in the numbers and distribution of key species.

Lee Benner, Mark Pierson, and Caryl Fagot contributed to this article.





Dr. Mark Shaefer, Acting Director  
Diane Noserale and Rebecca Phipps,  
Bureau Editors

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## Scientists Gear Up for El Niño

Diane Noserale

From the West Coast to South Florida, USGS is gearing up as part of the scientific front line in studying and reducing the impact of El Niño—the dramatic change in regional weather patterns induced by a shift in the water and weather circulations of the tropical Pacific.

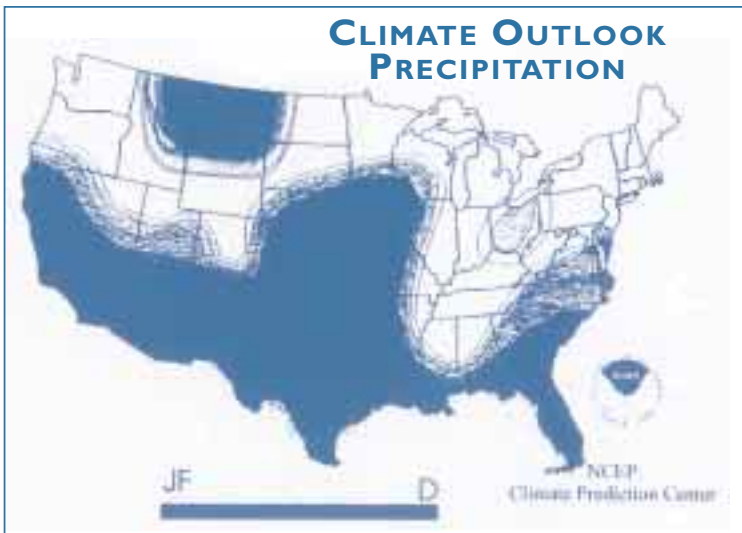
“El Niño is a reminder of the importance of keeping our science guard up against real-time hazards,” said USGS Acting Director **Mark Schaefer** during October 31 testimony before the U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on Water and Power. “As earth and biological scientists, we are concerned that El Niño may increase the number and intensity of storms, triggering floods, landslides, coastal erosion, and damage to fragile ecosystems. These changes may occur as early as October in an El Niño year, but typically are strongest in winter and early spring.

“We can’t forecast exactly what El Niño will do, but I’ve asked USGS scientists to be ready,” Schaefer explained. “As just part of our front line, the USGS is working to ensure that stream gauges in the West and across the country will be fully operational during extreme conditions should they develop.

“We now monitor streams for flooding at nearly 7,000 stations across the country,” said **Dr. Robert Hirsch**, USGS chief hydrologist. “Half of our stations are equipped to transmit information in real time to emergency management and warning agencies such as the National Weather Service and the Army Corps of Engineers. The data are also available to the public via the World Wide Web. Our purpose is to provide data so that the public has the earliest possible warning of an impending flood.

“As vital as the automated equipment is, we have learned from past floods that our technicians in the field remain the critical link to ensure that the best possible

information is available for making decisions that will affect lives and property,” Hirsch said.



### THE EL NIÑO FORECAST

The National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration forecasts that the El Niño of 1997-98 will equal or exceed the strongest on record. El Niño’s anticipated effects on the continental United States, according to the National Weather Service’s Climate Prediction Center, include: Increased winter storm activity along the California coast; Wetter than normal winter weather and above normal temperatures in the Southwest; Increased winter rainfall and likely flooding in the states along the Gulf of Mexico; Warmer and drier winters in the Northwest, Northern Rockies, Northern Plains, and Ohio Valley; and a warmer pre-winter than normal for the East Coast. These anomalies begin to appear as early as October but their overall effects are most pronounced in the winter and early spring.

The current El Niño pattern already has caused severe drought in Southeast Asia, which contributed to a record wildfire season in the region, and depressed hurricane activity in the Atlantic Ocean. As the phenomenon hits its mid-winter peak, northern South America and southern Africa could see drought.

The months-long global shift in weather conditions is caused when warm surface sea water shifts from near Indonesia to the eastern equatorial Pacific and west coast of South and Central America. (Peruvian fishermen named the phenomenon after the Christ child because the warm waters appeared off the coast around Christmas time.) This shift is accompanied by a weakening or the collapse of the usual easterly trade winds. The result is heavier, more frequent pulses of precipitation.



Severe rain storms, flooding, landslides, and heavy erosion are possible effects of El Niño-induced weather on coastal areas of the United States.



Efforts to monitor and reduce El Niño’s impact include:

Making USGS real-time data on stream flow available via the World Wide Web at:  
<http://water.usgs.gov/public/realtime.html>

Communicating historical information on streamflows during past El Niños to water managers in the West. Historical data provides the earliest clue on where flooding may occur.

Identifying areas with an increased potential for landsliding by combining the national landslide susceptibility map with climate outlook maps produced by the National Weather Service. Maps for fall and spring are on the World Wide Web at:  
[http://geohazards.cr.usgs.gov/html\\_files/landslides/usgsnoaa/index.html](http://geohazards.cr.usgs.gov/html_files/landslides/usgsnoaa/index.html).

The San Francisco Bay, Los Angeles, Seattle, Denver, northern New Mexico, Sacramento, and the Central Appalachians will be monitored. About 600 miles of the Pacific coast between Point Grenville, Washington, and San Diego, California, will be surveyed to monitor coastal erosion that may threaten lives and property.

USGS will document El Niño’s effects in the Everglades and South Florida. El Niño may bring heavy rains to South Florida during what is normally a dry period, inundating the Everglades and possibly disrupting biological life cycles. When heavy rains cause large amounts of freshwater to flow into Florida Bay and other South Florida estuaries, the salinity changes abruptly, which may harm the estuaries’ aquatic life. Also, special response teams are on call 24 hours a day to ensure that topographic and special maps are in the hands of state and federal emergency coordinators within hours of a flood or landslide.

*In PLW’s next issue:* The Bureau of Reclamation readies for control and storage for El Niño’s expected record runoff.

### Natural Hazards Info: Just in Time

Bill Miller

To help meet the ever-increasing need for hazards information, the USGS has developed a National Hazards Information Center. Known informally as the ‘situation room,’ the center is a laboratory that uses real-time data from instrument networks, derived products from classified sources, public satellite data, and standard USGS information products.

It uses these sources to create integrated analyses of hazards information for ‘just in time’ delivery to decision makers and the public on natural hazards such as wildfires, earthquakes, floods, landslides, volcanoes, and wildlife disease outbreaks. The facility will also operate as a laboratory for data integration, analysis, modeling, and technology research and will support on-going development of USGS hazard data processing and delivery systems.

*The Natural Hazards Information Center aims to bring a broad range of integrated disaster information to the people who need it, just in time.*



### New Clearinghouse For Biological Data

Anne Frondorf

The USGS Biological Resources Division has initiated a new Internet-based clearinghouse that can be searched to locate biological information from many sources. “We are very pleased to offer this new service to the public, resource managers and scientists, and anyone else interested in locating existing sources of biological data and information,” said **Dennis B. Fenn**, Chief Biologist, in announcing the clearinghouse.

“This is a great opportunity not only for us to help get the results of USGS biological science out to those who can use the data and information, but also for us to provide a tool that our partners and cooperators can use to help share their own data and information,” said Fenn. This clearinghouse is part of the National Biological Information Infrastructure (NBII), which is a cooperative effort led by the USGS to increase access to biological information from federal and state government agencies, universities, libraries, and private groups.

Internet users can search through the NBII Clearinghouse using the name of the investigator or author who collected the information, subject-matter keywords (including taxonomic group), and spatial coordinates to locate the study area. The database also describes how and when the information was collected; who to contact for more information; and how to access the information. The NBII Clearinghouse is available on the World Wide Web at: <http://www.nbio.gov/clearinghouse.html>

# Happy Birthday, New USGS



Above, Patricia J. Beneke, assistant secretary for Water and Science, offers congratulatory remarks at the anniversary celebration. At right, Chief Biologist Dennis B. Fenn supplies a shovel of dirt to a newly planted maple tree at the USGS National Center as part of the celebration.



**Patti Beneke**, assistant secretary for Water and Science, joined USGS officials, local political leaders, and employees on October 30 in celebration of the first birthday of the new USGS.

"The issues that we are facing today are complex—marked by the tension between growth and conservation, constricted by reduced financial and people resources—and they demand that we be opportunistic in our search for solutions," said Beneke. "We must have at our hand the full complement of scientific and technical expertise that the new USGS promises to deliver."

Her remarks recognized that USGS became a unique organization with the merger one year ago of biological science from the National Biological Service and minerals information component of the U.S. Bureau of Mines.

"The new USGS is a stronger USGS, better prepared to meet the challenges of today and tomorrow. The minerals information expertise from the former Bureau of Mines and the biological sciences expertise from the former National Biological Service complement the traditional strengths in geology, cartography, and hydrology which have been the backbone of the historical USGS," said Beneke.

## Chesapeake Map Helps Managers *Rebecca Phipps*

A poster produced from satellite images of the Chesapeake Bay watershed will aid a multi-state effort to restore and manage the bay's resources. USGS scientists will use the image of the entire 64,000-square-mile drainage basin of the Chesapeake Bay to provide a snapshot of recent surface conditions, including vegetation, that can be compared with historical and future images to help produce a report card of progress or setbacks in meeting resource management goals.

"Because the image can provide a key to at least a dozen vegetation types and other land-cover features, it will help us work with other agencies to develop methods for monitoring progress on changes along rivers and streams," said **Scott Phillips**, USGS Chesapeake Bay Program coordinator. "And we hope to work with other agencies to further develop methods that relate land-use change to ecosystem change in the bay watershed and the bay," said Phillips.

"As a federal land-management agency with responsibilities in all 50 states, the Natural Resources Conservation Service will use the Chesapeake Bay poster map in solving complex natural resource management issues in the six-state Bay watershed," said **Jerry Griswold**, Chesapeake Bay program coordinator for the Natural Resources Conservation Service. "The poster map is also a graphic reminder of the relevance of the Chesapeake Bay and its resources to the thousands of people that live in the watershed."

The USGS also produced the poster as an outreach tool for the public to better understand that activities in the Chesapeake Bay watershed may have an impact on the water quality and living resources of the bay. The image mosaic, composed of Landsat thematic mapper scenes collected from 1990 through 1994, will be the most complete and current basin-wide image to date of the entire Chesapeake Bay.

Copies of the map are available for \$4 each, plus a \$3.50 handling charge, from the USGS Branch of Information Services, Box 25286, Denver, CO 80225. Credit card orders may be faxed to (303) 202-4693. For more information on ordering call (800) 435-7627. For more about USGS science in the Chesapeake Bay watershed, check the World Wide Web at <http://chesapeake.usgs.gov/chesbay>

## Water Exhibit Debuts

*Toni Johnson*

*Our Susquehanna River: We All Live Upstream* is a new exhibit that was cooperatively developed by the USGS and the Museum of Scientific Discovery in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. It allows visitors to investigate water quality and quantity through four hands-on stations. The stations demonstrate how water data on streams in the Susquehanna River basin are collected and used. The exhibit also includes a map covered with fiber optic lights that pinpoint USGS water testing stations.



Museum curator Thomas LeCrone, Director of the Museum of Scientific Discovery, left, accepts a check for \$5,000 from Katherine Lins, director of the USGS Eastern Region, at the dedication the exhibit, on Sept. 26.

## USGS NEWS VIA LISTSERVERS

The USGS has set up several listservers, modeled after those of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, that will automatically provide users the latest news releases, bulletins, and other information from the Office of Outreach. The listservers are organized by topic: water, geologic hazards, biological, mapping, new products. To subscribe to any list, send mail to [listproc@listserv.usgs.gov](mailto:listproc@listserv.usgs.gov). In the body of the message write: subscribe (name of listserver)(your name). Example: subscribe water-pr Joe Smith. You may subscribe to more than one list; just be sure to list each command on a separate line. Names of List Servers are: water-pr, geologic-hazards-pr, biological-pr, mapping-pr, products-pr, and lecture-pr.

Subscribers will not be able to reply or send their own messages to the list. This listserver is designed as a 'one way street' for the rapid dissemination of information on the USGS and its activities, rather than for gathering feedback. Each item posted will have a point of contact to whom questions should be directed. Comments or questions about the listservers should be directed to **Karen Wood**, e-mail: [kwood@usgs.gov](mailto:kwood@usgs.gov), or phone (703) 648-4447.



Director of Personnel Carolyn Cohen, second from left, congratulates the USGS's award winning team. From left, Richard C. Williams, Kathleen B. Rutledge (third from left), and William E. Fordyce, at right. Photo by Tami Heilemann, ISC

## USGS TEAM WINS INTERNATIONAL AWARD

USGS employees **William E. Fordyce**, **Kathleen B. Rutledge**, and **Richard C. Williams** recently received the first Leading Edge Award presented by the International Personnel Management Association (IPMA) Federal Section at its annual conference November 17-18. In presenting the award, **Gail Lovelace**, director of Personnel for the General Services Administration and chair of the awards committee, told the conference attendees that the team's accomplishments stood out as an example of how the team concept can be applied to a key leadership position—an innovative approach at the leading edge of human resources management. The award was one of two presented throughout the Federal Section—one to a large agency (Department of the Interior) and one to a small agency (Small Business Administration).

The award recognizes the accomplishments of the leadership team, which directed the USGS human resources program for nearly three years. During this period, the team conducted a major reduction-in-force, absorbed functions from the Bureau of Mines as it was going out of business, managed the addition of the National Biological Service and handled buyouts, the three-week furlough, and other issues.

The team made significant strides in creating a strategic partnership between the human resources staff and USGS management, establishing the Human Resources Council, taking a seat on other senior management councils, and assuming a key role in the development of the USGS Strategic Plan. The team implemented an Alternative Work Schedule program bureau-wide, provided key direction and support to the newly-implemented DOI Federal Personnel Payroll System, and worked with the National Academy of Public Administration and other leading organizations on strategies for transforming the USGS human resources program.

The IPMA Federal Section established the Leading Edge Award to recognize significant and creative accomplishments by human resources professionals and to encourage greater achievement within the federal personnel community. IPMA represents more than 1,300 public sector agencies at the federal, state, and local levels of government. It also represents over 55,000 individuals, primarily human resource professionals in the public sector and educators throughout the United States and abroad.

**Preventing the Spread of the Brown Tree Snake, 30**  
**USGS Emeriti Dish the Dirt on Mars at Geological Society of America, 2**  
**USGS Flagstaff Field Center Bolsters Annual Science Festival, 6**



## Tracking Wildlife for Science

### Forum Shares Advanced Electronic Techniques

Wildlife researchers are constantly striving to find better ways to study the movements, habitat use, behavior, and survival of animals without adversely affecting the animals themselves. Recent advancements in electronics, driven by commercial developments in computer, cellular phone, and satellite technology, have led to new tracking and monitoring techniques for wildlife studies.

This technological development was the topic of discussion at a Forum on Wildlife Telemetry that included about 50 oral presentations and 50 poster demonstrations by biologists of the USGS and The Wildlife Society. The meeting brought more than 300 biologists and electronics experts from 19 countries and 44 states to Snowmass, Colorado from Sept. 21-23.

“We wanted to bring research biologists and electronics experts together, so they could share their knowledge and experiences in different areas of wildlife ecology and technology,” said **Jane Austin**, one of the forum’s co-chairs.

Austin and co-chair **Pam Pietz**, both from the USGS Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center in Jamestown, North Dakota, were pleased with the breadth of participation in the forum. More than 70 federal scientists attended from the Departments of Interior, Agriculture, Defense, Commerce, and Energy. The Fish and Wildlife Service, Forest Service, National



*Above, Forum participants discuss telemetry technology and demonstrate computer programs. At right, David K. Garcelon, and Peter B. Sharpe, both of the Institute for Wildlife Studies in Arcata, California, share information on transmitter equipment.*

Park Service, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency also were represented.

About 160 participants represented universities, state agencies, and the private sector nationwide. About 70 participants came from foreign countries on six continents. “Obviously there’s widespread interest in this kind of technology and this kind of meeting,” said Pietz.

General topics included innovations in transmitting and receiving systems, evaluations of transmitter attachment methods, using telemetry to collect physiological, behavioral, and environmental data, and processing and analyzing telemetry data. Panel discussions focused on radio frequency issues, animal care and welfare, and technological limitations and opportunities for future research.

“Researchers presented techniques applicable to a wide range of animals,” said Austin. “There were evaluations of transmitters and tracking methods for all kinds of birds, terrestrial and aquatic mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and even insects.” A wide variety of technologies were covered as well; researchers demonstrated systems that involved satellite tracking, global positioning systems (GPS), harmonic radar, LORAN-C, and hyperbolic navigation.



USGS scientists have long been involved in the development and use of radio transmitters to track wild animals. Studies using radio telemetry techniques have provided valuable data on habitat needs, movements, behavior, and survival of wild animals—data which cannot be obtained by other methods. Researchers have used telemetry to study polar bear movements across the Arctic, habitat needs and survival of nesting ducks, migration routes of geese and hawks, interactions of foxes and coyotes, and the habitat use and movements of threatened or endangered species such as spotted owls, giant garter snakes, and manatees.

“Despite these successes, telemetry techniques still have many limitations,” said Pietz. “We hope that interactions among biologists and engineers at the forum will lead to improved research tools and increased research opportunities.” Abstracts of papers that were presented may be found at the Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center’s website: <http://www.npwrc.org>

Pam Pietz can be reached at (701) 253-5505.

## TELEMETRY TRACKING HELPS A LIVING FOSSIL TO SURVIVE

*Brent Knights, Mike Dewey, and Steve Zigler*

The bottom-dwelling lake sturgeon is a living fossil—a relic from the Middle Ages of fish evolution—found in the drainage basins of the Mississippi River, Lake Michigan, and Lake Superior. It retains many primitive characteristics that have been lost or modified in more evolved fishes, such as a cartilaginous skeleton, shark-like fins, and bony plates instead of scales.

Native Americans revered the huge fish that reached weights of several hundred pounds. Lake sturgeon populations in the Upper Mississippi River were severely depleted by commercial fishing in the late 1800s and by the construction of a system of low-head dams in the 1930s to accommodate commercial navigation. Lake sturgeon are now considered threatened, endangered, or a species of special concern in most of their historic range.

The USGS and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are working to determine the effects of navigation structures and tow traffic on lake sturgeon and provide information on seasonal movement and habitat use. The goal is to protect or improve areas critical for survival and reproduction of this living fossil.

Biologists at the USGS Upper Mississippi Science Center are using telemetry to determine seasonal movement and habitat use of lake sturgeon in the Upper Mississippi River in relation to navigation structures and commercial traffic. In July, transmitters were surgically implanted in 10 lake sturgeon captured near Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin.

An additional 20 lake sturgeon were tagged this fall. Fish are being tracked weekly during spring, summer, and fall to examine seasonal movements and habitat use. When fish are located near commercial barge traffic, field crews will attempt to evaluate the effect of the barge passage on the short-term movements of the fish.

Preliminary findings have shown that tagged lake sturgeon are quite active and have moved up to 135 kilometers within two weeks after tagging. Fish in the Upper Mississippi River are primarily using secondary channel or main channel border habitat, but some fish have moved out of the Mississippi River and into a major tributary, the Wisconsin River.



*Brent Knights, left, and Bob Kennedy, USGS researchers from the Upper Mississippi Science Center, hold a 60-pound lake sturgeon captured in Navigation Pool 10 of the Upper Mississippi River near Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin. This is one of 30 lake sturgeon to be tagged with a transmitter as part of a study to assess seasonal habitat use and movements of these majestic fish. In the background, the paddle wheeler Mississippi Queen makes a stop to allow passengers to enjoy the historic river front of Prairie du Chien.*

## DNA Technology Allows Non-Intrusive Study of Grizzly Bears in Glacier NP

*Kate Kendall and Dave Schirokauer*

With its close proximity to Canadian bears and wilderness territory, the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem has the best prospects of supporting a viable grizzly bear population in the United States. Key to this area are the grizzlies in Glacier National Park, Montana.

Yet, until now, no demographic study of the Glacier National Park grizzly bear population has been completed and no data exists on the population’s size, status, or trends.



In the past, statistically rigorous grizzly population studies in forested habitat could only be accomplished with radio telemetry, which is expensive and disruptive to bears, as well as to park visitors. Recent advances in genetic technology now allow identification of species, sex, and

individuals from DNA extracted from bear hair and scats (droppings) without handling bears.

A three year project to explore use of noninvasive genetic techniques to monitor Glacier National Park’s bear population will begin in 1998. USGS staff stationed in Glacier have already initiated a pilot study addressing one aspect of these techniques.

This past summer, park rangers and volunteers surveyed 99 percent of the park’s maintained trail system and collected approximately 450 bear scats and hair from 500 rub trees. Next year, more samples will be collected and a genetic lab will begin extracting DNA and establishing DNA fingerprints for each of the samples.

If these new methods prove effective, USGS staff will provide the National Park Service with baseline data on the grizzly population and, more importantly, protocols for long-term monitoring of the grizzly bear population trends.



Kathy Karpan, Director  
Jerry Childress, Bureau Editor

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## Appalachian Center Employees Show United Way Day of Caring

Ten employees of OSM's Appalachian Regional Coordinating Center in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, joined 264 other federal volunteers from 27 agencies who spent a day working on six community service projects in McKeesport.

**Ron Recker**, a member of the OSM Appalachian Center team who served as Federal Government coordinator for the United Way's 'Day of Caring,' spent a great deal of time and effort organizing and equipping the volunteer force.

Armed with shovels, wheel barrows, saws, and rakes, they built bike trails and walls, repaired fences, and planted trees, grass, flowers, and shrubs. Recker praised the efforts of the volunteers who were determined to complete their work despite dark, overcast skies, and pouring rain.

"The federal volunteers would not be deterred from completing their projects in spite of the conditions," Recker said. "The result was a significant improvement in the appearance of the community."

The OSM crew joined other workers who adopted the Kane Senior Citizens Rehabilitation Hospital. They constructed a bike trail in a heavily wooded area near the hospital along the Youghiogheny River. The trail is part of the Youghiogheny River Trail, a primary link in a bike route that will eventually connect Pittsburgh to Washington, D.C.



Above, at day's end on September 10, volunteers gather at the Kane Hospital Regional Center. From left are Tom Shape, Interior Solicitor's Pittsburgh office, Tim Dieringer, chief of the Abandoned Mine Land division at OSM's Appalachian Center, Steve Mahony, Interior Solicitor's Pittsburgh office, and Lisa Schwartz, a grant specialist at the OSM Appalachian Center.



Above right, Dr. Ed Carey, a physical scientist at the Appalachian Center, cuts vines, while Tim Dieringer, above, helps load debris into dump truck.

Recker said that the task was even more challenging because local naturalists wished to maintain the pristine character of the area and the hospital wanted a wooded backdrop for its patients.

## TOURING MARYLAND MINE SITES



Above, from left, OSM staffers Towanna Thompson, Cheryl Morgan, Mae Kimbrough, Vermell Davis, and Peaches Butler enjoy a rest stop during the September 24 tour

Thirty headquarters employees traveled to western Maryland for a two-day tour of surface and underground coal mine sites. The excursion was designed to provide the employees with a first-hand look at mining operations. The tour included both active and abandoned mine land reclamation sites.

Among the sites that the group visited were the Mettiki deep mine fish hatchery, which provides a large number of trout for stocking Maryland streams; the Buffalo Coal Company's permit 367 site, which involves wetlands, remining, and acid mine drainage; the Kempton deep mine bore hole, which discharges three million gallons of acid mine drainage each day into the north branch of the Potomac River; and the recently complete Vindex AML reclamation project.



Above, Mae Kimbrough and Mary Dyson tour the Mettiki fish hatchery. At right, Dennis Rice, John Trelease, Jim Kennedy, and Fred Block view operations at the hatchery.



**Copies of all OSM regulations, policy statements, and press releases are available from OSM's 24-hour Fax-On-Demand, (202) 219-1703, and from OSM's Homepage on the World Wide Web at: <http://www.osmre.gov>.**



Director Kathy Karpan

Department employees to illustrate the scope of the issues being explored in the rulemaking.

Written comments and requests for further information, including copies of concept/issue papers, should be directed to Earl Bandy, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, AVS Office, Lexington, Kentucky 40503, telephone: (800) 643-9748, E-Mail: ebandy@osmre.gov. The concept/issue paper is also available on the OSM World Wide Web site (<http://www.osmre.gov>), and from OSM's 24-hour Fax-On-Demand service (202) 219-1703.

OSM will follow up using regular rulemaking procedures, seeking further public comments and offering public hearings on the proposed rules, once they are developed and published in the *Federal Register*.

## Open Forum Rulemaking for Controversial Issues

**Director Karpan** recently announced a new approach to developing rules for OSM's most controversial issues, beginning with redesign of the ownership and control rules that form the basis of the agency's permit-block sanction against coal mine operators responsible for uncorrected violations of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act.

"What we intend to establish is a completely open forum for rulemaking—one that involves all interested parties at the very earliest stages of the process, way before OSM decides what goes into a proposed rule," Karpan said. "The idea is to reach out to everyone who needs to be involved and everybody who'd like to have a say. It's essential that we don't overlook good ideas anywhere they might come from."

"We are putting aside any preconceived notions about the best way to keep coal mine permits out of the hands of violators," Karpan added, "but we're committed to upholding the surface mining law's permit-blocking requirements and to making sure that those responsible for uncorrected violations are not allowed to mine again until they fix the problems they created."

Karpan welcomed good ideas from OSM's state partners, the coal industry, environmental groups, and the public. "That way we can develop regulations that are legal, effective, and fair, and that will stand up to litigation and survive court scrutiny," she said. "I decided on the ownership and control rules for the first test of this new approach because those rules and the computerized Applicant Violator System that implements them have been controversial and beset by litigation for a decade or more."

Karpan pointed out that OSM issued interim final regulations covering ownership and control, the permit application process, and improvidently issued permits on April 21, 1997, in response to a federal appeals court ruling that invalidated previous rules. In issuing those rules, OSM acknowledged they were intended to be interim and promised to seek public comment on any subsequent proposed regulatory changes. Now, OSM is seeking to involve the public in advance of developing a proposed rule.

During a press conference at OSM headquarters in Washington, Karpan described topics and regulatory provisions identified thus far by a team of Interior



Jamie Rappaport-Clark, Director  
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## Hudson Contamination May Threaten Nesting and Migratory Bird Species

Fred Caslick

In Washington Irving's *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*, accounts of a headless horseman caused concern among Dutch farmers in a portion of the Hudson River Valley. Today, there is growing concern among the valley's residents that the stalled clean-up of their once storied and magnificent but now PCB-laced river is posing a risk to hundreds of bird species as well as to fish and wildlife resources.

River bottom sediments in a 200-mile section of the river are highly contaminated from pollution by the General Electric Corporation, especially from factories in the upper portion of the river near Ft. Edward and Hudson Falls. An estimated 1.1 million pounds of untreated PCBs were released into this stretch by two General Electric plants between 1946 and 1977.

The area is recognized as one of the most highly PCB-contaminated ecosystems in North America. The river's entire 315 miles, from Hudson Falls, New York, to The Battery in New York City, was declared a Superfund Site in 1983 by the Environmental Protection Agency. The flesh of most Hudson River fish exceeds the Food and Drug Administration's PCB safety limit of two parts per million. Amazingly, a PCB level of 71 ppm was found in the fat of one young eagle killed by a train near the Hudson River—the PCB level was high enough to qualify the carcass as hazardous waste!

Yet scientists at EPA and General Electric are at odds over clean-up strategies. At the same time, Congress is debating the future of the 17-year-old group of clean-up laws known as "Superfund." In the meantime, the Hudson's fish and wildlife may be increasingly at risk. In a study begun in 1994 and completed this year, fish and wildlife biologist **Anne Secord** determined that tree swallow nestlings and eggs along the upper Hudson River have the highest concentration of PCBs ever recorded for the species.

Presentation of these results seems to have rekindled an intense debate on the extent to which the river's contaminants may be affecting not only fish, such as striped bass and the endangered shortnose sturgeon, but also the 143 bird species known to use the river for nesting or migration, including the federally threatened bald eagle. An estimated 40 bald eagles regularly spend the winter fishing along the Hudson; two pairs have built nests repeatedly. Yet either breeding did not occur or eggs laid did not hatch—until this year. Defying what apparently are very high odds, one eagle chick was hatched in 1997. This news has raised some hope and focused attention on the inability of the other pair to reproduce successfully. Can a young eagle survive on a diet of mostly contaminated fish from the PCB-laced river?

The concerns of Hudson Valley residents were amplified during a September 25 visit of Secretary Babbitt to the river's bank in Columbia County, New York. At a briefing for the national as well as regional news media, the Secretary was joined by a commercial fisherman, other Hudson River Valley residents, and fish and wildlife biologist Secord. His call for urgent action echoed the clear public mandate to clean up the PCB contamination in the Hudson that threatens numerous wildlife species as well as human health. That mandate led New York Governor **George Pataki** on Dec. 10 to formally nominate the Hudson as a candidate for the American Heritage River program—a new Administration-initiative that will provide special benefits for environmental clean-up and historic and cultural preservation efforts of communities along stretches of designated rivers. Members of New York's congressional delegation joined local environmentalists Dec. 11 at the Hudson River Museum in Yonkers to support the Hudson's designation as an American Heritage River. President Clinton is expected to name the first ten U.S. rivers to receive the designation and benefits early this year.

## SALTON SEA STAFF HONORED

Senator **Diane Feinstein** and Congressman **Sonny Bono** honored the Salton Sea National Wildlife Refuge staff with letters and a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition at the dedication of the new wildlife field hospital on Oct. 16. State Senator **David G. Kelley** also presented a California State Senate Certificate of Recognition at the ceremony. The awards recognize heroic efforts by the refuge staff to respond to avian botulism disease outbreaks on the Salton Sea in 1996 and 1997. The new wildlife field hospital will make such response easier in the future.

The dedication of the \$93,000 facility was a bittersweet occasion. Thanks to contributions of materials and labor from CalEnergy, Granite Construction, Imperial Irrigation District, and the California Waterfowl Association, the refuge now has an efficient and functional facility to treat sick birds. At the same time, building such a permanent facility acknowledges that fish and bird disease outbreaks will continue to plague southern California's Salton Sea into the foreseeable future. An estimated 20,000 birds died from avian botulism at Salton Sea in 1996, including more than 1,200 endangered brown pelicans. More than 1,000 sick brown and white pelicans were treated at the refuge before being transferred to a wildlife rehabilitator for long-term care.



## Upper Mississippi Wildlife Refuges Are Globally Important to Migratory Birds

The American Bird Conservancy has designated two Service refuges as globally important to migratory birds. The Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge and Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge encompass and protect more than 260 miles of habitat along the Upper Mississippi River from Wabasha, Minnesota, to Rock Island, Illinois. To qualify for this recognition, areas must host at least one

percent of the global population of a bird species or concentrations of at least 20,000 birds.



A certificate designating the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge an Important Bird Area was presented at a ceremony attended by, from left, Dr. Jeff Price, director of IBAs for the American Bird Conservancy; Bill Hartwig, director of the Service's Region 3 in Twin Cities, Minnesota; Dr. Melinda Knutson, a USGS avian researcher who helped to nominate the refuge for IBA status; Eric Nelson, refuge biologist; and Robert Drieslein, district manager of the refuge.

In presenting the designation to Service Regional Director **Bill Hartwig** during an October 3 ceremony in Fort Snelling, Minnesota, **Dr. Jeff Price** cited the critical importance of the Upper Mississippi River area in supporting populations of bald eagles, tundra swans, and canvasback ducks. Price is director of the Conservancy's United States Important Bird Areas (IBA) Program.

"More than 70 pairs of bald eagles nest in the area," said Price. "This represents more than one percent of the U.S. breeding population." In winter, more than 600 bald eagles inhabit the area, attracted by the open water, tall trees, and readily available food near the locks and dams. Fish comprise 90 percent of the eagles' winter diet. In addition to bald eagles, the Upper Mississippi River area hosts nearly 17,000 tundra swans (20 percent of the world's population) and more than 136,000 canvasback ducks (20 percent of the world's population) during fall migration.

The area also provides valuable habitat for more than 289 species of other birds, 30 percent of which are neotropical migrants—birds that breed in or migrate through the area en route to their wintering grounds in the tropics. A primary goal of the two refuges is to provide resting, nesting, and feeding habitat for waterfowl and other migratory birds throughout the year.

The United States' IBA program was created by the International Council for Bird Preservation, now known as BirdLife International, in the mid-1980s. The designation of IBAs is one component of the Partners in Flight program, a consortium of federal and state agencies and non-government organizations formed to address the needs of migratory birds. The goal is to identify those sites that contain vulnerable, threatened, or endangered bird species or large concentrations of seabirds, waterfowl, raptors, shorebirds, waders, or migratory land birds.

Once identified as IBAs, these critical habitat areas are expected to benefit from increased public awareness and enhanced habitat protection and management. The process of identifying IBAs also helps build partnerships and cooperation among ornithologists, birdwatchers, private landowners, and state and federal agencies. More than 3,000 sites worldwide have been designated IBAs by BirdLife International. Areas in Africa, Canada, Mexico, Panama, and Russia as well as the United States are being studied for similar designation. Both state and global IBAs have been identified; state sites may contain bird species threatened in a state or locality while global sites, such as the Upper Mississippi River and Trempealeau national wildlife refuges, are important to bird species worldwide.

## Hamilton Named Southeast Director

Vicki Boatwright

Director Jamie Rappaport Clark has appointed **Sam D. Hamilton** the new director of the Service's Southeast Region, headquartered in Atlanta. As regional director, Hamilton will oversee Service operations in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.



Sam D. Hamilton

"Throughout his career, Sam Hamilton has shown outstanding professionalism and leadership in dealing with some of the more difficult conservation issues we face," said Clark in making her October 8 announcement. "He has served in some of our hot spots and won the respect of wildlife conservation professionals and state and local leaders who have worked with him."

Hamilton's most recent position was as the Southeast Region's geographic assistant regional director responsible for refuges, hatcheries, and field offices in Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee.

## Ross Adams Chief at Illinois River Refuges

Georgia Parham

**Ross Adams**, a 23-year veteran of the Service, is the new manager at Illinois River National Wildlife and Fish Refuges, headquartered at Havana, Illinois. Adams will manage this complex of refuge lands, which stretches along 120 miles of the Illinois River and includes Chautauqua, Emiquon, and Meredosia National Wildlife Refuges. The Illinois River refuges encompass about 10,700 acres and provide important habitat for waterfowl and other migratory birds.

Adams comes to Illinois River from Mark Twain National Wildlife Refuge in Quincy, Illinois, where he served as refuge biologist. He started as a biologist for the Federal Aid program and later moved to Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge in southern Illinois. His tenure also includes stints as manager at Mark Twain's Annada District in Missouri, and at Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge in Ohio.

At Illinois River, Adams will oversee completion of habitat restoration on Lake Chautauqua, habitat acquisition and restoration at Emiquon refuge, and development of a comprehensive management plan for the refuge complex. Adams began his duties at Illinois River October 27.

## Kevin Adams Heads Law Enforcement

Sandra Cleva and Patricia Fisher

**Kevin Adams**, a 21-year veteran of federal wildlife law enforcement, is the new chief of the agency's Division of Law Enforcement. "Kevin Adams brings a successful record as a special agent, experience with complex international investigations, and demonstrated leadership skills to his new position," said Director Clark. "He understands the importance of law enforcement to the sound management of the Nation's fish and wildlife resources and its vital role in international conservation efforts."



Kevin Adams

As the Service's chief law enforcement officer, Adams oversees the enforcement of numerous federal wildlife protection laws and treaties, including the Endangered Species Act and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, commonly known as CITES. The Division of Law Enforcement conducts criminal investigations out of seven regional offices; maintains a force of federal wildlife inspectors stationed at U.S. ports of entry and border crossings; operates the National Fish and Wildlife Forensics Laboratory in Ashland, Oregon; and provides training for U.S. and international wildlife law enforcement officers.

"We will continue the Service's long tradition of working with state, Federal, and Tribal natural resource agencies to protect our native trust species," Adams said. "We must also strengthen our cooperative efforts with foreign governments to conserve global wildlife resources."

## Urban to Lead Caribbean Refuge Complex

Diana Hawkins

The Fish and Wildlife Service has named **Val Kevin Urban** the new project leader of its Caribbean Islands National Wildlife Refuge complex. As project leader, Urban will manage the entire Caribbean complex, comprised of seven refuges: Buck Island, Cabo, Culebra, Desecheo, Laguna Cartagena, Green Cay and Sandy Point National Wildlife Refuges. Sandy Point has the largest sea turtle nesting site under U.S. jurisdiction.

An employee of the Service for almost eight years, Urban has served as deputy project leader at St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge near Tallahassee, Florida, for the past five years. He began his career with the Service in 1990 as a refuge operations specialist at Lower Suwannee National Wildlife Refuge in Chiefland, Florida.



Above, this painting of a male Barrow's goldeneye will become the 1998-99 Duck Stamp. At right is the artist who painted it, Robert Steiner



## Working With America

# Barrow's Goldeneye Tops Competition

Janet L. Miller

**Robert Steiner**, a veteran California wildlife artist, is the winner of the 1998-99 Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp, better known as the Duck Stamp. His acrylic portrait of a male Barrow's goldeneye was chosen over 379 other entries in a Service-sponsored Nov. 6 contest to become the design for the next stamp.

"I did have a good feeling about this piece," said Steiner when contacted at his San Francisco studio. "I just put the earlier version (his acrylic that placed third two years ago) up in front of me and asked myself, 'How can I improve on that?' I was actually a little surprised at how much improving I was able to do."

Steiner is a professional artist who owns his own print publishing company and specializes in waterfowl and retrievers. He has designed 41 state duck stamps, a record in wildlife art, as well as the 1995 California upland game bird stamp. Second place went to **Dan Smith** of Bozeman, Montana, for his acrylic of a pair of Barrow's goldeneyes. **Harold Roe** of Sylvania, Ohio, took third with his acrylic painting of a mottled duck.

Duck Stamps are required of all waterfowl hunters age 16 and older. The stamps also are popular with collectors and wildlife enthusiasts, who see the purchase as an effective way to contribute to habitat conservation. Ninety-eight percent of the \$15 price of the stamp is used to acquire wildlife wetlands. Stamps bearing Steiner's winning design go on sale July 1, 1998, at Post Offices, national wildlife refuges, the Peabody hotels in Memphis and Orlando, national retail chain stores, and various sporting-goods stores nationwide.

The male Barrow's goldeneye is a striking black-and-white bird with dark purple head and an irregular white patch between the eye and bill, which is gray.

The female has a brownish head, white neck and belly, mottled gray back and wings, and yellow bill. As the name suggests, the eyes of both male and female are yellow-gold. The species is found chiefly in Alaska and western Canada. Breeding areas also include the Cascade Mountains of Washington, Oregon, and California and the Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming Rockies. In the West, they winter along the Pacific Coast from the Aleutians to San Francisco and in the East, along the coasts of southwestern Greenland, Newfoundland, and New England.

Barrow's goldeneyes usually nest in tree cavities, sometimes as high as 50 feet above the ground, and feed primarily on aquatic insects, mollusks, and crustaceans. This is the first time the Barrow's goldeneye will appear on a Duck Stamp. This year, artists could depict black scoters, Barrow's goldeneyes, or mottled ducks. Artists are limited to particular species so that, by the year 2002, all North American waterfowl species will have appeared on a Duck Stamp.

## ESA PROTECTS BOG TURTLES

The northern population of the bog turtle (*Clemmys mühlenbergii*) has been listed as threatened throughout its range—New York and Massachusetts south to Maryland. The southern bog turtle, which is found from southern Virginia to northern Georgia, was listed as threatened by similarity of appearance to provide added protection to its northern cousins. Critical habitat was not designated to prevent an increase in collection. The listing took place on Nov. 4.



Bog turtles are easily distinguished from other turtles by the large orange, yellow, or red blotch on each side of the head. The shells range in color from light brown to ebony. The small amphibian (adult bog turtle shells are only about 4 1/2 inches long) inhabits wetlands with soft, waterlogged ground. Most known sites are on privately owned land in the species' historic range. Habitat modification and destruction and illegal collection for national and international trade are primary threats to the bog turtle's survival. Bog turtles bring high prices in the pet market. Consequently, the northern population has declined by about 50 percent, mostly within the last 20 years.

## Single Issue Duck Stamps



The Service is working with the Bureau of Engraving and Printing to develop a new self-adhesive, single-issue Federal Duck Stamp with plans to launch the new format on a three-year trial basis beginning July 1, 1998. Both the single issue format and the present 30-gummed stamps-per-pane configuration will be available during the trial. For more information, call Anita M. Noguera at (202) 219-9822.

# Minerals Management Service



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## Diving for Science

Twenty Years of Research and Monitoring to Protect the Marine Environment

Gulf of Mexico Staff

Researching and understanding the marine environment that the MMS is charged with protecting is a vital necessity. That critical need has been an MMS priority since the Service was first charged with the responsibility of ensuring that offshore oil and gas development is conducted in an environmentally safe manner.

“Because the environment we study lies underwater,” said **Les Dauterive**, dive master for the Gulf of Mexico Region, “sometimes the most cost effective way to achieve our goal is to put on a SCUBA tank and go down for a look.”

For the past 20 years MMS scientists and divers have been doing just that and the results have been impressive. Among them, significant biological features have been protected, safety issues have been reported, and historic shipwrecks have been discovered. “And money has been saved both for industry and tax payers,” Dauterive added.

The MMS scientific dive team is a group of diver-scientists who provide the Region with scientific information through underwater observation, photo and video documentation, and other forms of scientific data gathering. Team members conduct diving operations for geoscientific research, sea-floor monitoring, historic shipwreck identification, and rigs-to-reef assessment.

“Some of the older production platforms have been standing in the Gulf of Mexico for twenty and thirty years,” Dauterive explained. “We’re working with state governments to allow the oil industry, in about ten percent of the cases, to leave part



### MMS HELPS NEEDY FAMILIES

The Minerals Management Service Employees Association and MMS employees adopted 21 families for Thanksgiving and were able to feed more than 120 needy people. Because of the agency’s generosity, more than 1200 pounds of food were donated for this worthy cause. MMS employees should be proud of their accomplishment and take comfort in knowing that the adopted 21 families did not go hungry for this Thanksgiving.

### Just About Everyone Benefits From Mineral Lease Revenue

Royalty Management Program Staff

Just about everyone benefits from MMS programs. Management of revenues from with federal offshore and onshore mineral leases is conducted by the MMS Royalty Management Program and is one of the Federal Government’s greatest sources of non-tax revenues—on average, more than \$4 billion per year.

Revenues derived from offshore federal leases are deposited into several special accounts of the U.S. Treasury: The General Fund for government operations; the Reclamation Fund for water projects in the West; the Historic Preservation Fund, which provides matching grants to states for historic site acquisition and restoration; and the Land and Water Conservation Fund, which assists state and local governments with outdoor recreational development and purchases federal park and recreation land.

Finally, a portion of federal mineral revenues go directly to affected states. More than \$467 million dollars has been distributed to 36 states during the first nine months of 1997. The money is then used for schools, roads, and other public works or placed in general funds and used as needed.



Members of the MMS Gulf of Mexico Region dive team have logged thousands of hours underwater gathering scientific information that allows the agency to better serve the public and the environment.

of their decommissioned structures in place so as not to destroy the marine community that has grown on it over the years.”

Rigs-To-Reef began in the Gulf of Mexico when Exxon relocated a structure from offshore Louisiana to an artificial reef site off the Florida coast. Since then more than 100 Rigs-To-Reef sites have been developed in the gulf to enhance marine habitat and fisheries.

Another significant achievement of the dive team has been protecting the Flower Garden Banks—a National Marine Sanctuary in the Gulf of Mexico—from oil and gas activity.

“We have played an important role as inspectors for long-term monitoring studies, ensuring that protective measures are effective,” said **Jack Irion**, lead scientist for sea floor monitoring. The Flower Garden Banks are home to more than 130 species of fish.

In addition to Dauterive, dive-team members include: **Dr. Ann Bull**, senior environmental scientist; **Dr. Jim Kendall**, chief of environmental studies for the Region; **Dr. Jack Irion** and **Rik Anuskiewicz**, marine archaeologists and lead scientists for the region’s Sea Floor Monitoring Project; **Joe Christopher**, chief of environmental assessment; Terry Dembre, senior geophysicist; and **Dr. James Lima**, a sociologist who was recently activated to diver status in the Pacific OCS Region.

## REGIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

### DENVER

A Special Institute on Federal and Indian Oil and Gas Royalty Valuation and Management is scheduled to be held in Houston, February 2-8, 1998.

Co-sponsored by MMS and the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation, the three-day session will provide analyses of issues for valuation and payment of mineral royalties associated with federal and Indian lands.

The session’s format will include presentations of professional papers, panel discussions and hands-on training by representatives from the federal government, state government, and industry. Included among scheduled MMS participants are **Director Cynthia Quarterman**; Associate Director for Royalty Management **Lucy Querques Denett**; Deputy Associate Director **Donald Sant**; and MMS staff **Theresa Walsh Bayani**, **Milton Dial**, **Hugh Hilliard**, and **Kenneth Vogel**.

Additional information about the Foundation can be found on its website at <http://www/rmmlf.org> or by calling (303) 312-8100.

### GULF OF MEXICO

To ensure compliance with mitigation measures required of the oil and gas industry during exploration and development of offshore petroleum resources, the MMS developed the Seafloor Monitoring Project. The Gulf of Mexico Region Leasing and Environment Office began the program in 1997 to find a method to examine seafloor impacts caused by industry activities that could affect submerged, protected biological and archaeological sites.

A high resolution (600kHz) side-scan sonar was used to image the seafloor using reflected sound much the same way a camera uses light. By towing the instrument behind a boat, pictures of the ocean floor, up to a distance of 75 meters on either side of the vessel, are produced. The device, operated entirely by MMS personnel, consists of light, portable, battery-powered equipment for use aboard any convenient vessel.

The pilot project accomplished more than was originally planned. Side-scan data were collected on protected biological topographic features at the Sonnier and Flower Garden Banks, and although some evidence of damage to protected features was noted, in most cases, the oil and gas industry had complied with the avoidance measures that MMS recommended. Submerged archaeological features like the steamship *New York*, which sunk in 1846, also were documented.

# Evaluating Puerto Rico's Sand and Gravel Resources

A team of MMS scientists recently learned that the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico is running out of land-based sand and gravel resources and is in a crisis situation for construction aggregate supplies. Island officials estimate that by the year 2000, land-based deposits will be exhausted.

The Commonwealth is currently permitting sand and gravel extraction from coastal sand dunes and parts of beaches. Alternative sources include dredging offshore deposits, manufacturing sand from crushed rock, and importing aggregates from other islands.

Because of MMS's offshore mineral expertise, the Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources officially requested that the Service review the island's sand and gravel supply situation, assess the feasibility of developing the island's offshore sand resources for construction aggregate materials, and recommend environmental studies to avoid adverse impacts should the Commonwealth decide to proceed with offshore mineral development.

"Construction is important to Puerto Rico's economy," said **Barry Drucker**, a physical scientist with MMS International Activities and Marine Minerals Division (INTERMAR). "In a few years they will run out of construction sand and by early in the next century alternative sources for construction aggregates will have to be developed."

Drucker, along with **Roger Amato**, also a physical scientist with INTERMAR, traveled to Puerto Rico to meet with island officials and federal agency representatives to review the island's sand and gravel supply situation and to collect available environmental information and data relative to the offshore areas.

**Sand Dunes**  
The First Line of Defense

Barry Drucker

In many coastal areas, sand dunes are the first line of defense against erosion and storm damage to man-made structures. The dune system found along many beaches provides a buffer zone which may prevent, or at least decrease, the full power of storm-induced waves from severely impacting the inland coastal area. Ideally, all construction should be landward of the primary dunes and construction should never involve removal of sand from the primary dune system.

Natural sand dunes are formed by winds blowing onshore over the beach, transporting sand landward. Grass and sometimes bushes grow on sand dunes creating a natural barrier against sea attack. The dunes provide a reservoir of beach sand during severe storms, thus helping to prevent floods and wave damage to

"We determined that because of the higher costs of manufacturing sand and importing sand and gravel from other islands, developing offshore deposits appears to be viable for the near-term," said Amato. "To their credit, Puerto Rico wants to develop their offshore resources in an environmentally sound and acceptable manner," Drucker explained. "The MMS can help because we are currently at the forefront of technology in addressing environmental issues in relationship to offshore dredging."

Amato and Drucker have prepared a report which details recommendations on how best to proceed with leasing and development of three of the island's largest offshore sand deposits. Because enough geological survey work has been completed to define the deposits, the report focuses on physical oceanographic and biological studies needed to assess the environmental consequences associated with the mining of the deposits, including cost estimates and length of time to complete.

The costs of such studies would be borne by the Government of Puerto Rico. However, MMS is willing to serve as a consultant to the island's Department of Natural and Environmental Resources and to help in contracting for the recommended studies. Commonwealth officials are currently reviewing the MMS report and evaluating the options for mining of their offshore sand and gravel deposits.

*Sand Dunes at  
Indian River, Delaware.  
Photo by Roger Amato*



adjacent property. In areas where substantial dunes exist, the post-storm beach width can be greater than the pre-storm width.

If dunes are destroyed or threatened, there are ways to restore them artificially, or help to stabilize the existing structures. Planting dune grass or sea oats in bare areas serves to stabilize existing dunes and encourages existing additional dune growth. Sand fencing is commonly used to trap sand and to increase the size of the primary dunes. The success of sand fencing depends largely on whether sand is presently being blown inland from the beach. Dunes may also be restored, or built from scratch, using sand transported from inland areas or pumped ashore from the adjacent offshore zone.

## COORDINATION ENHANCES SCIENTIFIC RESPONSE TO OIL SPILLS

Oil spill response planning works. The coordinating efforts of the Minerals Management Service over the past five years made a distinct difference earlier this year in the response to a pipeline spill off the coast of northern Santa Barbara County, California. The planning paid off in the form of a prompt and coordinated response by a wide variety of scientists during the spill. (See November, 1997 PLW, 3.)

As part of the Pacific Outer Continental Shelf Region's Environmental Studies Program, MMS scientists have monitored rocky intertidal sites in Santa Barbara County, jointly prepared a sampling protocol handbook, and worked with many federal and state agencies and private organizations to set up an intertidal monitoring network in Southern California.



Scientists respond to the spill early on the morning of Sept. 29 and videotaped MMS' long-term monitoring site at Point Sal on Vandenberg Air Force Base. In the background is Melissa Wilson of the University of California. In foreground are MINT team scientist Mary Elaine Dunaway and Dr. Peter Raimondi of the University of California-Santa Cruz.

On the morning of the spill—September 29—MMS Pacific Region scientists in the Office of Environmental Evaluation were alerted and began mobilizing the region's Intertidal Survey Team (MINT). By low tide at 3 p.m., scientists armed with video cameras and oil sampling equipment were at Vandenberg Air Force Base. MINT team scientists **Maurice Hill** and **Mike McCrary** responded to the spill early that morning and joined the Multi-Agency Rocky Intertidal Network (MARINE) scientific teams to conduct surveys.

Because of the coordination efforts and pre-spill planning by MMS, and at the invitation of the on-scene incident commander for the spill, MMS and other agency scientists had time to collect needed pre-impact information along the 15-mile stretch of beach.

The spill tested the coordination and communication efforts of rocky intertidal scientists, equipment accessibility, and mobilization practices. **Rob Ricker**, from the California Office of Spill Prevention and Response, coordinated the National Damage Response Assessment for this spill, recognized the MMS efforts through his office's participation in MARINE and by inviting MMS to share its expertise and data.

The MMS Pacific OCS Region has worked diligently to ensure a unified and smoothly coordinated scientific response, should a large spill occur offshore California. The Pacific Region's goal is for the agencies and industry to have a coordinated response which builds on the scientific research base and results in the joint collection of scientific information. To that end, the Pacific Region strives to coordinate data collection in a manner that has the recognition and confidence of the scientific community.

In their pursuit of scientific cooperation, MMS has initiated three efforts. In 1991, the Service and Santa

Barbara County jointly initiated the Shoreline Inventory Study, designed to document the shoreline resources in the county. MMS subsequently formed an in-house team of biologists, MINT, to monitor rocky intertidal resources such as abalone, sea stars, mussels, algae, barnacles, and limpets in areas adjacent to offshore oil and gas production.

Scientists look for changes in their abundance. If there are significant changes then additional research is needed. The biggest change noted recently has been a sharp decline in black abalone brought on by the wasting foot disease which is a virus that causes the abalone's foot to shrink. If its foot shrinks, the creature falls off the rock it clings to rendering it vulnerable to predators and ocean currents. MMS is currently working with the University of California Santa Barbara, through the MMS-funded Coastal Marine Institute, to support this effort.

MMS also facilitated the formation of MARINE, stretching from San Luis Obispo to San Diego, including the offshore islands. This effort, supported by 14 agencies and private organizations—including the National Park Service, California Coastal Commission, and the County of Santa Barbara—links existing monitoring sites along the coast into a database system, and provides for coordination, and scientific review of diverse monitoring programs.

Lastly, MMS, the California Office of Oil Spill Prevention and Response, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Office of Damage Assessment are preparing a rocky intertidal sampling handbook which could be used in the event of a spill to coordinate the collection of data gathered by scientists following a spill so that data can be compared. In previous oil spills, scientists collected their own data but it was difficult to compare cross trends and have some unity.



# U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs



Kevin Gover, Assistant Secretary  
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## Confronting the Contradictions New Assistant Secretary Outlines Challenges, Goals & Plans

Why on earth would anyone want to leave beautiful New Mexico and take on the chore of running the Bureau of Indian Affairs? That was the question many people asked **Kevin Gover** when he was nominated to lead the Bureau.

“I will concede that running the Bureau is probably one of the most difficult jobs in the government,” said Gover, an American Indian attorney and enrolled member of the Pawnee Tribe. “But I believe that is because the Bureau has one of the most daunting and complex missions of any agency in the government,” he told the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs at his confirmation hearing.

The BIA provides critical services, he said, pointing out that it is the primary vehicle for fulfilling the federal trust responsibility to Indian people and Indian governments as well as overseeing tens of millions of acres of trust land and billions of dollars in Indian trust assets. The agency delivers services to 554 communities inhabited by more than a million Indian people. The BIA must also carry on a respectful government-to-government relationship with diverse communities in different social, political, and legal contexts.

“The Bureau of Indian Affairs has been made to carry out profoundly contradictory policies toward tribal governments in its 160-year history,” Gover testified. “It carried the baggage of every mistaken policy initiative, every naive assistance program, and every broken promise ever directed toward tribal governments. It is not the worse-run agency, but the agency with the worst problems.”

Nevertheless, Gover said he wanted the opportunity to lead the BIA because it “can and must be made to fulfill its statutory mandates. I believe any organization can be made to function properly with appropriate leadership. I wish to lead through inspiration rather than intimidation, through reward rather than punishment. The people of the BIA are good people and can do their jobs successfully if given the opportunity to apply their natural ability and creativity.”

Acknowledging that this opportunity necessarily includes the right to err, Gover said these mistakes should be “errors of enthusiasm rather than sloth. I want the agency to be full of optimism about its own future and that of the people it serves. I want the agency to be prepared to enter the next century with a clear vision of its place in the future of federal-tribal relations.” He outlined three major requirements to resolve what he called the BIA’s identity crisis. First, the agency must find a consensus among tribal, congressional, and administration leaders that specifically defines the missions and objectives of the agency. “We have all the tools necessary to deliver services in virtually any form a tribe might desire,” Gover said. “The choice should belong to the tribe, and the tribe must accept the consequences of its choices.” Congress should support that consensus through appropriations, oversight, and authorizing legislation that allows the BIA and the tribes to solve some of these vexing problems.

Secondly, the Bureau must develop and consistently apply a working model for consultation with tribal governments. Gover agrees with the complaint of many tribal leaders that the BIA has acted without informing the tribes and has offered “consultations” that presented them with decisions that had already been made. “I appreciate the need for a federal agency to exercise its lawful authority and

### The Source

“The most valuable experience I have gained, the things that I know, the ideas I have, the dreams I hold for Indian people all come from my work with tribal leaders,” Kevin Gover told an October 30 U.S. Senate hearing on his confirmation. “I have always believed that the best ideas in Indian affairs do not come from Washington. Instead they come from the work of the people out there on the reservations trying to make these small and struggling governments work. They constantly are creating and innovating in order to meet the most urgent needs of their communities. I am in awe of the things these people are able to accomplish usually without any financial resources to speak of and sometimes in the face of disputes with the non-Indian communities around them.

“Any success I may find in this position is due to having worked with and for people like **Alex Lujan** and **Frank Chaves** of Sandia Pueblo; **Ralph Goff** of the Campo Band; **Jacob Viarrial** of Pojoaque Pueblo; **Marvin Herrera**, **Rick Vigil** and **Herman Vigil** of Tesuque Pueblo; **Walter Dasheno**, **Gilbert Tafoya**, and **Calvin Tafoya** of Santa Clara Pueblo; **John Washakie** and **Darwin St. Clair** of the Shoshone Tribe; **Ted Smith** and **David Kwail** of the Yavapai-Apache Nation. These leaders and dozens of others like them have been my greatest teachers.”



At left, Secretary Babbitt swears in Kevin Gover as the assistant secretary for Indian Affairs in the Secretary’s Office at Main Interior Building. Below at right, Lynn Cutler, the White House deputy director of Intergovernmental Affairs, joins Gover and Secretary Babbitt after the November 12 ceremony. At bottom left, Gover is congratulated by Loretta Tuell, the minority counsel for the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. The medallion worn by Assistant Secretary Gover during the ceremony was presented to him by students of the Santa Fe Indian School in New Mexico, who asked him to wear it during his swearing in. Photos by Lavonda Walton, FWS



discretion,” Gover said, “but the Tribes have a right to meaningful consultation on matters that affect them as an essential element of the government-to-government relationship. We must develop a system for meaningful consultation and still not let it become a procedural excuse for inaction.”

Thirdly, the BIA must constantly examine how it allocates its resources. While he agreed with the overall goal of doing the greatest good for the greatest number, Gover emphasized that the Bureau also must examine treaty and compact commitments and the federal trust responsibility in order to determine an appropriate allocation of federal resources.” BIA has been reorganized many times, he noted, but these have led to little change in how the bureau does its job.

“I do not plan to add to the mountain of documents analyzing the Bureau’s organization, nor do I plan a sweeping reorganization,” Gover said. “I believe in doing small things right, one by one, until the overall look of the organization is precise and efficient.” He noted that congressional oversight, initiatives mandated by the Government Performance and Results Act, and the BIA’s internal auditing procedures “will provide the guideposts for the hundreds and perhaps thousands of little changes that can transform the agency.” To bring about these changes, Gover added, he will need the help of the Bureau’s 11,000 employees and the tribal leadership throughout the country as well as the assistance of Interior leaders, the Congress, and the Administration.

“My objective is to leave the BIA better than I found it, not so much through brilliance and vision as by hard work,” Gover concluded. “And if Indian people can make the same sort of progress in the next 100 years as they have made in the last, at the turn of the twenty-second century, we will see Indian tribal communities as healthy and prosperous as the great nation that surrounds them.”

## Landmark Tribal Water Rights Agreement

A water rights agreement that provides certainty for all water users in the Deschutes River Basin and the Metolius River of Oregon was signed by **Secretary Babbitt**, chiefs of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, and Oregon’s Governor **John Kitzhaber**. Signing for the Tribes were **Chief Nelson Wallulatam** of the Wasco Tribe, **Chief Vernon Henry** of the Paiute Tribe, **Chief Delvin Heath** of the Warm Springs Tribe and **Joseph Moses**, chairman of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Tribal Council.

“This is a great day for the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, a great day for the Deschutes Basin water users and the citizens of Oregon,” said Babbitt at the November 17 ceremony at the Kahneetna Lodge on the Warm Springs Reservation. “This is a model for collaboration over conflict, a landmark agreement that recognizes the reserved water rights of the Warm Springs Confederated Tribes. “At the same time it serves the long-term habitat needs of fish and other aquatic species by guaranteeing the full natural flow of each stream and river on the reservation and agreed-upon minimum flows on the two rivers. It will protect the fishing traditions of the Warm Springs Tribes but also vital habitat for fish species that swim up these rivers to spawn.”



Students in the BIA water resources training program learn to collect aquatic samples to estimate fish populations, left; identify, handle, and dispose of hazardous waste, above, and conduct field surveys for a construction site, right.



## FBI JOINS BIA TRAINING PROGRAM

The Federal Bureau of Investigation has joined several other federal agencies to provide instructors for the BIA's water resources training program, according to **Hilda Manuel**, deputy commissioner of Indian Affairs. The Water Resources Technician Training Program introduces Indian youths who have completed high school to the profession of water resource development and natural resource management. The six-week course is offered every summer at the New Mexico State University in Las Cruces, New Mexico, and at CISPUS Learning Center in Randle, Washington.

"I welcome the FBI's contribution to the program," said Manuel. "The students in last summer's program were enthusiastic about the presentation of Special Agent **Robert Bornstein** of Oklahoma City, who explained the FBI's role in the prosecution of environmental crimes. Bornstein also demonstrated how to develop and preserve evidence of damage to natural resources and the students learned valuable communication and interviewing techniques," Manuel said.

"The FBI is committed to the enforcement and protection of our natural resources, and the Water Resources Technician Training Program is a worthy educational program that will assist in this most important cause," said **Thomas M. Kuker**, special agent in charge of the FBI's Oklahoma City Division. Other federal agencies that work with the BIA in the program are the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U. S. Forest Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S.D.A. Natural Resources Conservation

Service, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, Office of Surface Mining, Fish and Wildlife Service, and the U. S. Geological Survey. Additional instructors are provided by Indian Tribes, New Mexico State University, and CISPUS Learning Center.

The students take courses in English, mathematics, computer science, Indian Water Rights, hydrology, hazardous waste management, mine reclamation, soil surveys, fish and wildlife management, and dam operation and safety, among others. Instruction is not confined to the classroom, according to **Mo Baloch**, a BIA engineer/water rights specialist. "Students get their hands dirty and their feet wet as they take water flow measurements, gather samples of fish for study, and suit up to handle hazardous waste," Baloch said.

Federal instructors also gain valuable knowledge from these students—insights into diverse Indian cultures and their students' innate respect and caring for the earth and its resources. "The most remarkable learning experience I have observed in the past six years," said **Ross Mooney**, the acting chief of the BIA's Division of Water and Land Resources, "is the pool of intelligent and talented individuals who reside on the reservations and who should be enrolled at Harvard, MIT, Cal Tech, or similar institutions of higher learning. They are quite brilliant."

Since it began in 1992, the program has produced 163 graduates who then completed a one-year practicum with their tribal governments to gain experience in

dealing with environmental problems. Many graduates take permanent positions with their tribes to develop natural resource management and protection plans. Others join local government agencies or private groups or pursue higher education.

"The BIA is committed to expanding the program as part of the Bureau's effort to promote tribal self sufficiency by enabling tribes to perform their planning, management, and development of their natural resources," said **Terry Virden**, director of the Office of Trust Responsibilities. "The program provides tribal governments their own experts who have an intimate knowledge of the land and deep commitment to improving the quality of life for their people."

The BIA pays student program expenses related to travel, room, and board and provides the home tribes of graduates with vouchers that cover the cost of a year of full-time temporary employment as entry-level water resources technicians. To be eligible, participants must: be a high school graduate or have a GED, be nominated by a tribal government, have a certificate of membership in a federally recognized tribe, submit a one-page statement of reasons for enrollment and career plans after the course, and submit a SF171 application for federal employment or a form with similar information. Submit applications to: Mo Baloch, PE, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, NW, MS-4513, MIB Code 210, Washington, D.C. 20240. Call (202) 208-6042.



Dr. Parker McKenzie is assisted at his 100th Birthday celebration by Marian Kaulaity Hansson, curator of museum property for the BIA. Hansson, who was mentored by McKenzie, presented him with a copy of her research work, *A Guide to the Kiowa Collections* at the Smithsonian Institution.

## PARKER MCKENZIE HONORED

**Dr. Parker McKenzie**, a linguist and educator—and possibly the oldest living former Interior employee—was honored at a 100th birthday celebration at Red Buffalo Hall, Kiowa Tribal Complex, in Carnegie, Oklahoma. Though McKenzie also is a tribal historian and cultural preservationist, he prefers to be recalled as a lexicographer because of his work in developing an alphabet and syllabary to transcribe the oral Kiowa language. He also has been a mentor to dozens of Kiowa students and scholars who have gone on to study American Indian languages, history, and culture.

"Parker is absolutely remarkable," said one of his admirers at the November 15 ceremony. "There is no one anywhere who has done what he has done for the study of American Indian languages. He knows practically every Kiowa and from records on hand shares the treasures of his work eagerly with all who come to him from help."

McKenzie, who continues to work daily at his office in his home, was born in 1897 in a teepee north of the Rainy Mountains while the Kiowa were camped there. He received his surname 'McKenzie' from his father who was given that name because

two fingers were missing from his hand—a disfigurement similar to that of U.S. Army General Ronald McKenzie.

As a self-taught linguist, McKenzie worked for seven decades on his written form of the Kiowa language. In 1918, the Smithsonian Institution sent **Dr. John Peabody Harrington** to study the Kiowa language. He hired McKenzie as interpreter and consultant and that professional relationship endured to the 1940s. Their work was published as *Vocabulary of the Kiowa Language*. In 1984, the University of Nebraska published *A Grammar of Kiowa*—a result of collaboration between McKenzie and **Dr. Laurel Watkins**.

McKenzie attended Rainy Mountain Kiowa Boarding School, Phoenix Indian Boarding School, Union High School, Lamson College, and Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical. In 1920 he was hired by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and continued his employment with the bureau for 39 years. In 1990, the University of Colorado conferred on McKenzie a Doctor of Humane Letters in recognition of his extraordinary interest, skill, and insight into the Kiowa language.

## Interior Proposes Trust Fund Settlement Process

The Department has sent Congress a plan that could settle millions of dollars worth of Tribal Trust Fund accounts that have been in dispute for more than two decades. The recommendations and legislative proposals lay out a process designed to acknowledge and respect Tribal sovereignty by using informal dispute resolution mechanisms as an alternative to costly and protracted litigation.

The plan, *Recommendations of the Secretary of the Interior for Settlement of Disputed Tribal Trust Fund Accounts*, must be approved by Congress. Under the proposal, the Federal Government would pay Tribes for errors identified in their trust fund account balances and offer each Tribe the opportunity to settle other claims immediately for a specific sum. That sum would be based on a formula that takes into account the particular characteristics of the Tribe's accounts. If the Tribe accepts the offer, claims would be settled according to the formula, and the matter would be closed. If the Tribe does not accept the offer, it would be withdrawn.

Tribes that did not accept the stage-one offer would then have the opportunity to engage in government-to-government non-binding settlement negotiations with the assistance of a mediator. This opportunity for individual Tribal negotiations was not among the Department's original settlement options, but was recommended by numerous Tribes during the consultation process. As part of these negotiations, there would be an opportunity to obtain additional data or undertake additional analysis to the extent it would be constructive in reaching a satisfactory resolution of claims. If the mediation process is not successful, a Tribe would be authorized to file a claim in the United States Court of Federal Claims within the parameters defined by Congress in the legislation.

The Secretary of the Interior, through the Office of the Special Trustee (OST), maintains about 1,500 accounts for 338 Tribal entities with assets in excess of \$2.5 billion. Each year, more than \$802 million passes through the Tribal trust funds system. Though not the focus of the recommendations to Congress, the OST also maintains more than 300,000 individual Indian money (IIM) trust fund accounts through which about \$300 million passes each year.



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## California State Director Honored

**Ed Haste**y, the BLM's state director for California, has received the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's prestigious Chuck Yeager Award. The honor is presented to outstanding individuals "who make a difference in on-the-ground conservation."

The award honors Ed's 'can do' approach to resource conservation and his commitment to partnerships with outside groups and agencies. Working in partnerships with such organizations as the California Biodiversity Council and raising \$16 million in one year for fish and wildlife watershed projects were cited as examples of Haste's efforts, which have benefited millions of acres of public lands in California.



The award was presented to Haste by Foundation Executive Director **Amos Eno** at the Foundation's fall benefit dinner at the California Academy of Sciences Steinhart Aquarium in San Francisco on October 28. Also presenting the award was BLM National Director **Pat Shea**, who had worked hard to keep the award a surprise until the final night of the presentation.

Presented annually since 1989, the award is named for Foundation Board Member Brigadier General **Chuck Yeager**, the famous test pilot who was first man to break the sound barrier. It recognizes those individuals who exemplify Yeager's goal-

oriented philosophy. Haste is only the second BLM employee to receive the award. **Wayne Elmore**, the coordinator of the National Riparian Program in Prineville, Oregon, was given the award in 1994.

## Schmitt Named Manager of National Recreation Group

**Rodger Schmitt**, a 26-year BLM veteran and former associate district manager for the bureau in Boise, Idaho, is the new Group Manager for the BLM's National Recreation Program. In his new position, Schmitt will oversee recreation, travel, and tourism activities on 265 million acres of public lands in the 11 western states.

Schmitt is the first manager for the BLM's National Recreation Group, which resulted from the October, 1996 reorganization of the BLM's Headquarters Office. With an annual budget of \$35 million, the BLM Recreation Program provides national policy direction for the Recreation Fee Demonstration Pilot Program, reauthorization of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991, innovative partnership agreements, and alternative funding sources for maintaining facilities, services, and programs to meet the needs and expectations of the ever-increasing recreating public. Schmitt's group works with a staff of 10 in the Washington, D.C. Headquarters Office, three recreation staffers attached to BLM state offices in Arizona, Colorado, and Utah, and 12 state recreation leads in all the BLM state offices.

In addition to his previous responsibilities in the BLM Boise office, where he served for eight years, Schmitt's earlier positions with the BLM included natural resource analyst in Washington, D.C.; manager of the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area, in Las Vegas, Nevada; and senior staff member with the President's Commission on American's Outdoors. He spent several years in California where he served as park ranger, senior park ranger, and assistant park manager for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Schmitt received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration from Humboldt State University, and a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Resources from Sacramento State University, California.

"His skills will serve the BLM well as we work with the Administration, Congress, the recreating public, local governments, and the recreation industry," said **Maitland Sharpe**, assistant director for Renewable Resources and Planning. "Rodger has 26 years of professional natural resource management and outdoor recreation experience," he added. "Rodger is able to work with many different groups and keep the central themes of the BLM orchestrated and on track," noted Sharpe, whose directorate includes the National Recreation Program.

Schmitt assumes his position at a time of rapidly increased recreational activity on BLM-administered land. Since 1994, visitation to the BLM public lands has increased by 42 percent to 72 million visitors annually. Recreation and leisure opportunities provided on BLM land include hunting, fishing, hang gliding, hiking, horseback riding, caving, white water rafting, mountain climbing, gold panning, motorcycling, off-highway vehicle driving, wildlife viewing, and driving for pleasure.



## BLM Builds Community Support, 6

# Celebrating Diversity at Eastern States

## Changing Attitudes and Beliefs is a Real Challenge

Cathy Applegate, Eastern States

Human diversity is as valuable to the world's cultural and social preservation as ecosystem diversity is to global environmental conservation. That was the keynote message of a National Hispanic Heritage Month celebration at BLM's Eastern States Office.

About fifty guests and employees attending the event were greeted by **Hord Tipton**, their new director, in fluent Spanish! Well, almost. Although Tipton's mastery of the Spanish language is limited, his efforts pleased and surprised the audience!

Keynote speaker **Sylvia Baca**, the deputy assistant secretary for Land and Minerals Management, suggested that Hispanic Heritage Month is a time for celebrating not only Hispanic culture but also America's ethnic diversity.

"Celebrating diversity means ensuring equal rights and equal opportunities for people of all ethnic backgrounds, races, religions, ages, and genders," Baca said.

She emphasized that one of the top priorities for the Department and BLM is creating a workforce that reflects America's rich ethnic and cultural diversity.

"The real challenge is not just in changing specific numbers," said Baca, "but changing attitudes and beliefs that comprise our corporate culture. We talk about how diverse terrain and vastly different ecosystems benefit all who use and visit the public lands, and how this diversity contributes to the value of our public land legacy. We have to look at workforce diversity the same way."

Baca concluded her speech by reflecting on her recent trip to Greece, Italy, and Turkey. "My travels reminded me that cultural diversity is what makes this world such a colorful and interesting place. And it is that diversity that makes the future of peoples of all cultures, backgrounds, and circumstances so full of hope and promise."

As if to punctuate Baca's sentiments, **Paul Baker**, an Eastern States employee who is known for his poetry, presented his thoughts in verse, reciting a poem, entitled *What is a Hispanic?*, that he had written. The **Mystic Warriors**, a trio that visited Eastern States once before, delighted listeners with Andean instrumentals.

Spirited South American music of the guitar, *charango* (miniature guitar), and *sampona* (reed pipes) soon got feet tapping and hands clapping. And there were a few folks who could not resist that lively beat and just had to dance! As the music played, the Eastern States employees and guests danced their way to tables filled with authentic Mexican cuisine such as *chili* (Tipton's hot! hot! hot!), *tortillas*, *salsa*, *enchiladas*, *tacos*, and *sangria*.

The cultural diversity event was hosted by **Heddy Lozano**, the manager of the Hispanic Employment Program, **Linda Nix**, manager of the Equal Employment Opportunity Program, and the Hispanic Heritage Celebration Committee.



Sylvia Baca

# BLMers Adopt a Virginia Highway

Cathy Applegate, Eastern States

It was a gloomy, rainy Saturday morning, the kind of day just made for sleeping in. But there were no extra winks for the hardy BLMers who had volunteered to take part in the first quarterly Eastern States Adopt-a-Highway event! Besides, the signs were up—everyone driving on Fullerton Road and Boston Boulevard in Springfield, Virginia, would know that BLM-Eastern States was proud to be part of this community.

**Jennie Taft**, a legal clerk in the division of Cadastral Survey and General Land Office Records, led the effort to have the Eastern States' office become an official Adopt-a-Highway volunteer group. Taft prepared all the paperwork to apply to the Virginia Department of Transportation for responsibility for a two-mile segment of highway near the office. Once accepted, she set the date for the event, and garnered the support of coworkers, friends, and family.

Outfitted with gloves, vests and bags, the Eastern States' litter patrol spent about three hours methodically attacking its assigned sections of road. Team members stuffed 30 large trash bags with all manner of refuse—batts, wrappers, nails, bolts, chunks of plastic, and pieces of glass. What didn't fit in the bags was left at the litter pick-up location for the state collection trucks.

Virginia's Adopt A Highway program was developed and introduced in 1988 by the Virginia Department of Transportation in cooperation with Keep Virginia Beautiful. Since then, Virginia's program has become the second largest in the United States—thanks to countless volunteers who want to make a difference.



Above, Terry Lewis, Eastern States External Affairs Chief, picks up litter along a portion of Eastern States Adopted Highway.



Dressed in interpretive clothing of the 1800s, homesteaders at Rich Cabin include, from left, Richard Whitt, Big Stone Gap, Virginia; Amy Long, Irving, Texas; Brad Crawford, Eureka, Missouri; Michelle Cousin, New Braunfels, Texas; and Leonard Pederson II, Lakeville, Minnesota.

## Back to the Pristine Future

Mona Schermerhorn

A pretty, young woman who was dressed in a long, calico skirt greeted us as we approached the homesteaders' cabin. Her homey smile and cheery 'Hello' transported us back in time.

"Welcome to Rich Cabin," she said, standing on the porch of the rustic, log-built structure, which appeared to be from the late 1800s. It sat in a grassy clearing, flanked by a barn and utility sheds, and surrounded by farm animals—a pristine wilderness setting. The interior was furnished in the simple Amish style and heated by a wood-burning stove.

Her soft countenance suddenly changed as she pierced us with an abrupt question and stern warning: "Do you want to stay on our land?" she asked. "If you want to stay, you have to do chores for us—earn your keep!" she scowled.

For a moment we were caught in a time warp, uncertain what to believe or say. Then her bright smile and gentle laugh eased us back into the present, as she informed us that "chasing the rooster and hen is the hardest. It separates the city boys from the country boys. The ones from the city are in awe of the farm animals. It's like a game: Who can get the most in the pen first."

The woman dressed in the interpretive clothing of the 1800s is **Amy Long** from Irving, Texas. She uses the same greeting for all the groups of weary Scouts who reach her station after a two-day trek through the backcountry of Philmont Scout Ranch. About 20,000 Scouts passed through last summer.

"The Scouts then slop the pigs and make mud for them, milk the cows, chase chickens into coops, and put ducks in their pens," explained Long, a Philmont program counselor. They learn some of the history and culture of the early American West as part of their experience at the camp, which sprawls over 214 square miles of wilderness in New Mexico's Sangre de Cristo Mountains.

The Rich Homesteader Cabin is one of 32 back-country camps at Philmont, each with a different theme and learning experience. The Scouts who we joined at the cabin were taking part in a Bureau of Land Management-sponsored Leave No Trace class—an outdoor camping ethics program that was added to the backcountry camps this year. The team that ran the Leave No Trace program was led by **Bill Wagner** and **Bill Brooks**, who are with the BLM; **Atilla Bality**, National Park Service; **Patrick Martinez**, U.S. Forest Service; **Rich Brame** National Outdoor Leadership School, and **Doug Palmer**, Philmont's associate director.

The team presented directors and program counselors of the backcountry camps with plastic cards listing the basic principles of Leave No Trace and teaching methods they could use in getting the message across to Scouts. The 3x5-inch plastic cards are designed to be easily attached to gear or clothing. Each card serves as a reminder and teaching tool for one of the principles of Leave No Trace: plan ahead and prepare; travel lightly; camp with care; use fire sparingly and only where permitted; use proper and appropriate sanitation techniques; keep the wilderness wild.

What better way to instill good camping ethics in young people than to interrupt their visit to the past (when pristine places were taken for granted) with a reminder of today's environmental concerns—that it is their responsibility as care-takers of the land to preserve it for their futures as well as for future generations.

The privately-owned homesteader cabin and site, which abuts Philmont's backcountry, has recently been purchased by Ted Turner. Philmont used the property for the historical reenactment program under an agreement with the previous owners. Camp staff not only hope the new owners will keep the cabin and continue to allow the Scouts access but also look forward to a visit from Jane.

Mona Schermerhorn is a mineral leasing specialist at BLM's New Mexico State Office at Santa Fe and assistant to BLM's National Minerals Outreach Coordinator.

## A MOVABLE CUSTOMER SERVICE

Terry Lewis, External Affairs Chief

While most oil and gas lease sales conducted by BLM's Eastern States Office are held in the division's Springfield, Virginia, office, the venue of the October 23 sale was moved to New Orleans, Louisiana. The relocation—an effort to provide better customer service—gave more industry representatives a chance to bid on the federal parcels available for lease—all of which are in Louisiana and Mississippi.

The sale drew 21 bidders who represented oil and gas companies from five states. They competed for 139 parcels and the sale netted more than \$350,000. The New Orleans' ABC television network affiliate covered the sale on site. Prior to the sale, **Walt Rewinski**, Eastern States deputy state director for Resources, Use, and Protection, and Terry Lewis, external affairs chief, made courtesy visits to local offices of Senators **Breaux** (D-LA) and **Landrieu** (D-LA) and Congressmen **Livingston** (R-LA, 1st) and **Jefferson** (D-LA, 2nd).

## WHO READS PLW?

**Pat Harvey reads People, Land and Water for a monthly overview of Interior land management initiatives and activities.**





*Allen P. Stayman, Director  
David S. North, Bureau Editor*

## Museum Hosts Palau's Ambassador

The Republic of Palau's Ambassador to the United States, the **Honorable Hersey Kyota**, formally opened an exhibit of his nation's most popular export art at a recent ceremony at the Interior Museum.

In his remarks, Ambassador Kyota, who recently presented his credentials as Palau's first ambassador to the United States, related some of the history and culture behind Palauan "storyboard art" for the gathering of guests and OIA representatives at the November 20 ceremony. The art form—relief carving and painting—depicted scenes from Palauan life and mythology and was used to decorate the beams, rafters, and gables of traditional council houses in Palau.

**Dr. Mary McCutcheon**, a visiting assistant professor of Anthropology at George Mason University, discussed the evolution of storyboard art, which over the centuries was used to communicate the history and accomplishments of clans and villages, and outlined its continuing role in Palauan culture. Today, Palau's artists cut and paint their visions and interpretations on hardwood boards, which are bought by islanders and visitors alike to decorate homes and offices. The boards are popular throughout the Pacific, in Hawaii, and in U.S. West Coast communities.

Ambassador Kyota also suggested that Interior might consider assisting with an Internet web site to encourage the continued development of traditional art forms in the U.S.-affiliated Pacific. The outlet could help island carvers, painters, and weavers to reach a wider American audience with their art. The ambassador presented museum assistant curator **Anne James** a framed painting of one of the most popular Palauan legends—the story of the Magical Breadfruit Tree.



*Above, Palau Ambassador Hersey Kyota addresses museum guests, and above left assistant curator Anne James. At left is Dr. Mary McCutcheon. At far left, OIA Acting Director Nancy Fanning greets Ambassador Kyota. Photos by Tami Heilemann, ISC*



The ambassador later met with **John Berry**, assistant secretary for Policy Management and Budget, to discuss a number of current issues. OIA coordinates federal budget assistance and program grants to Palau, which was formerly a United Nations trust territory administered by the United States. The archipelago, located in the southwest Pacific about 500 miles east of the Philippines, gained its independence in 1995 but is affiliated with the United States through a Compact of Free Association.

## Preventing the Spread of the Brown Tree Snake

*Thomas H. Fritts*

A new barrier to prevent brown tree snakes, *Boiga irregularis*, from invading new territory was unveiled recently on the Pacific island of Rota by scientists from the U.S. Geological Survey and Ohio State University. Rota, which is part of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands that lies nearest to Guam, is vulnerable to snakes hidden in cargo from Guam, making the island an excellent place to try a new approach.

The brown tree snake, an introduced species which arrived to Guam from the South Pacific in the late 1940s, has played a major role in the loss of many of the island's birds, lizards, and mammals. It has also caused frequent disruptions of electrical power, preyed on poultry, rabbits, and pets, and on occasion bitten infants when it invaded homes in search of food.

Scientists estimate there are more than one million brown tree snakes on Guam. Snakes can unwittingly be carried on ships and airplanes originating from or traveling through Guam. They can hide in cargo, airplane wheel-wells, and the vessels themselves. There have been more than 40 reported sightings of snakes on Saipan, also in the Northern Marianas, which has much greater commerce with Guam than Rota. To date, seven brown tree snakes have been documented in the state of Hawaii.

Snakes pose a serious threat to the wildlife and economy of Rota and other Pacific islands. Two arrivals of snakes have been recorded in Rota in the last ten years. No one can be sure how many went undetected. Female snakes may be able to store sperm, and therefore lay eggs, over a period of several years without further contact with a male. Once a snake leaves the port of a snake-free island, it is almost impossible to catch. Even an individual snake is potentially harmful.

The barrier was installed around the Rota port facility. Rota is the only island in the world to have such a barrier. Scientists developed it for protecting large areas, such as ports and airports. It is made of metal mesh and attached to existing cyclone fencing. It will help Commonwealth biologists to protect the island's interior from snakes. The project was built in



coordination with the Mayor of Rota, **Joseph S. Inos**, and Rota Harbor Manager **Fidel A. Mendiola**. It was funded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Office of Insular Affairs.

The scientists have developed three types of barriers. Mesh barriers of the type installed at the Rota port are more durable than the portable temporary barrier developed for military activities. A slightly modified version of a permanent snake barrier has recently been completed by Voice of America contractors on Tinian. It is now used to quarantine cargo arriving from Guam to ensure snakes are not introduced to the island during construction of a relay station there.

Another permanent barrier model, still under laboratory testing, is intended for use in rough terrain for conservation and restoration projects on Guam. It may be field tested at the Guam National Wildlife Refuge within the next year. Despite the damage caused in the region by super-typhoon Keith, the Rota barrier showed no damage. It is now fully operational and is helping protect Rota from cargo-born brown tree snakes.

## Federal Funding for U.S.-Affiliated Islands

The fiscal year 1998 Interior Appropriations Bill contains more than \$215 million for seven U.S.-affiliated island jurisdictions. The funds are to assist the island governments in delivering services to their citizens and to construct essential public service infrastructure.



The seven entities include four U.S. territories (American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands) and the three freely associated states (FAS) (the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI), and the Republic of Palau). The largest portion of these funds are the sums paid to the freely associated states under the Compact of Free Association—\$71,907,000 to FSM, \$36,342,000 to RMI, and \$19,221,000 to Palau. About \$88,059,000 of the total are discretionary funds, which, as finally approved, was \$400,000 more than requested by the President.

"At a time of overwhelming fiscal restraint it is reassuring to know that President Clinton and the Congress are not only not cutting the insular budget, but are actually increasing it slightly," said **Allen P. Stayman**, OIA's director.

In addition to the \$215 million, grants from other federal agencies also provide assistance to the island governments for education, health projects, road-building, and airport construction. A third category of federal funding to the U.S. territories, not covered by Interior's budget, includes government-to-individual payments, such as food stamps, social security checks, and pension payments to retired federal workers. In 1995, the most recent year in which data are available, these payments to individuals amounted to: \$29,584,000 for American Samoa; \$139,287,000 for Guam; and \$160,136,000 for the U.S. Virgin Islands.

## A 'Worm's Eye View' of Hudson Casino Controversy

This article is reprinted with permission from the Minneapolis Star Tribune's Sunday edition of November 23, 1997.

By Greg Gordon and Dennis Cassano  
Star Tribune Staff Writers

Four years ago, three poverty-stricken Chippewa tribes in northwestern Wisconsin welcomed a plan to help feed their children: They would open a casino at a financially failing dog track in Hudson, Wis. It offered the promise of a better life for tribal members. Children of the Red Cliff reservation on the Wisconsin shore of Lake Superior, for example, "don't wear Nike tennis shoes" and rarely get to eat beef, said Tribal Council Chairman **George Newago**. With average household incomes of \$5,300, these families forgo such things and "buy clothes at garage sales," he said.

But the leaders of the Red Cliff, Mole Lake-Sokaogon and Lac Courte Oreilles tribes could not have guessed that their attempt to open an off-reservation casino in the Twin Cities area would lead to a Washington brouhaha that has swelled to scandal proportions. The controversy over the casino proposal, which eventually was rejected, has enveloped the White House and Interior Secretary **Bruce Babbitt** in congressional and FBI investigations. And a federal judge is weighing whether to order the department to decide the case again.

Whatever the outcome of the case, it offers an extraordinary glimpse of "how decisions are really made" in Washington, said **Charles Lewis**, director of the Washington-based Center for Public Integrity. "Usually, these lobbying things are done in the dark," Lewis said. "You very rarely get the worm's eye view of who's sitting where and what time they met and who said what. In that sense, it's delicious."

### Why all the controversy?

What stirred up all the fuss is a paper trail showing how well-connected lobbyists for Minnesota and Wisconsin tribes, fearful that gamblers would forsake their casinos for an easy drive down Interstate Hwy. 94 to Hudson, tried to sway top administration officials to kill the proposal.

One of the lobbyists, Minneapolis lawyer **Patrick O'Connor**, not only approached **President Clinton** directly, he also got action from **Donald Fowler**, then chairman of the Democratic National Committee (DNC) who was courting the Indians as campaign donors. Fowler says he phoned White House Deputy Chief of Staff **Harold Ickes** and "someone at Interior" to urge them to listen to the tribes opposed to the Hudson casino. More than a dozen opposing tribes, their members and their lobbyists made more than \$400,000 in state and federal campaign donations to Democrats in 1995-96.

Babbitt's chief of staff, **Tom Collier**, and **John Duffy**, a Babbitt counselor who worked on the case, later fueled the furor by joining a private law firm where they represent one of the opposing tribes, Minnesota's Shakopee Mdewakanton Dakota Community. Collier has acknowledged delivering a \$50,000 campaign check from the Shakopee tribe to the DNC. The investigations and a court suit filed by the losing tribes all turn on the same questions: What really happened inside the Interior Department? Was the decision tainted by the White House? Did administration officials deftly deliver a favor in return for hefty campaign donations?

The answers are elusive. Interior Department officials say there were policy grounds for the casino rejection, which reversed a recommendation from the Minneapolis area office of the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The officials said area office approvals of off-reservation casinos had been overturned at least eight times before.

But the decision also marked a departure from the past: Babbitt's aides said he used his broad secretarial discretion in the case to set a clear policy that his agency would not jam off-reservation casinos "down the throats" of localities that don't want them. Local opposition was not previously viewed as a decisive factor.

And despite Babbitt's Senate testimony that the decision was made by career civil servants, department officials acknowledge that political appointees, including top aides to the secretary, participated in the deliberations.

### If you can't lick 'em . . .

For Miami-based HAH Associates, Inc., the owner of the Hudson dog track, a casino sounded like an ingenious idea. The \$40 million St. Croix Meadows greyhound track had opened in 1991 to virtual financial disaster. HAH President **Fred Havenick** blamed the losses that eventually peaked at \$7 million a year on the almost simultaneous opening of Indian casinos.

In 1993, the track and the three Chippewa tribes, which are located 85 to 188 miles from Hudson, formed a joint venture. The tribes would seek federal approval to put a casino at the track; the track owner would remodel the track clubhouse, buy 2,500

slot machines and 45 crap tables and take 40 percent of the profits. Getting approval under the 1988 Indian Gaming Regulatory Act, however, was no simple task. A provision covering off-reservation casinos required the tribes to obtain both Babbitt's agreement and the approval of Wisconsin Gov. **Tommy Thompson**.

For Babbitt to sign off, the law required the tribes to meet two tests: that the casino would benefit the Chippewa and that it did not prove "detrimental" to the local community and surrounding tribes. The second prong posed a thorny problem. Surrounding tribes in Wisconsin and Minnesota were vehemently opposed, and residents of Hudson were divided over the casino.

With help from HAH, the tribes submitted a formal application in October 1993 to the BIA's Minneapolis area office. On Nov. 15, 1994, the area office recommended that Washington approve the casino, despite strong opposition from Minnesota's 11 tribes, which ran 18 casinos of their own, and several Wisconsin tribes.

### Turning up the heat

The opposing tribes, which earlier enlisted the Minnesota congressional delegation to write letters on their behalf quickly escalated their efforts to kill the casino. They assembled a lobbying lineup that included O'Connor, a former DNC treasurer; Indian lobbyist **Larry Kitto**; former Illinois Republican Rep. **Tom Corcoran**; former Nixon White House aide **Patrick O'Donnell** and former Minnesota Democratic Rep. **Gerry Sikorski**.

Havenick and the three Wisconsin tribes also had artillery but were slower to position their guns. They had former Wisconsin Democratic Rep. **Jim Moody** and later hired **Paul Eckstein**, a friend and political ally of Babbitt's.

The opposing tribes scored quickly. They persuaded most of the Minnesota congressional delegation, led by Sen. **Paul Wellstone**, D-Minn., to request a meeting with Babbitt. On Feb. 8, 1995, Rep. **Jim Oberstar**, D-Minn., whose district includes six Indian reservations, was the host of a meeting in his office that was attended by Wellstone, three other House Democrats from Minnesota, two senior Interior officials and the leaders of a half-dozen opposing tribes.

Oberstar contends the case was a no-brainer. "My comments to the Interior folks were, 'Who wants

this thing? Why should a bankrupt dog-track owner be bailed out by using an extraordinary procedure to acquire land off reservation and make a casino out of it that was opposed by the people in the community where it was going to be and by the governor of the state?'" Before the meeting was over, Duffy made a potentially pivotal decision: He reopened the record, allowing opponents to submit new material, including a resolution of opposition adopted two days earlier by Hudson's city council.

### Difficult issues

While the lobbyists took turns approaching senior Interior officials, **George Skibine**, the new head of the BIA's Office of Indian Gaming Management Staff, grappled with difficult issues. Department officials said they had never faced a case like Hudson, where tribes so distant wanted to open a casino in a community that opposed it.

But BIA officials had been instructed that community opposition should not be an automatic deal killer. To reject cases based on a city council's objection, agency officials feared, would be to allow racial prejudice to decide the fate of Indian economic development projects. Staff members had been instructed to find more objective measures of detrimental impact, such as severe traffic tie-ups or environmental problems.

Past cases, in which the department had sometimes heeded and sometimes disregarded local opposition, offered little guidance. **Heather Sibbison**, a Babbitt political appointee who worked for Duffy, said the department's position on off-reservation casinos was evolving. Facing complaints from Congress that the gaming staff was allowing too many unwanted Indian casinos, she said, department officials worried that the law that was helping tribes become self-sufficient might be rewritten.

Sibbison said a group including her, Duffy and other senior department officials met regularly with Skibine during the spring of 1995 to help decide what to do in the Hudson case. Skibine said Duffy told him more than once that he was "concerned" about the local opposition. Duffy's concerns did not entirely square with a BIA directive sent just months earlier to all area offices, instructing staff members how to judge whether a casino would be detrimental to a community. The list of seven factors did not include community opposition.

One memo on the Hudson case seemed to follow those guidelines. On June 8, 1995, **Thomas Hartman**, a financial analyst in Skibine's office, wrote: "Allowing local

Continued on page 32



# A SILLY STORM CIRCLES BABBITT

The following article is reprinted with permission from the December 2, 1997 Boston Globe where it appeared on page A19.

By Thomas Oliphant, Globe Columnist

**WASHINGTON**—In the rapidly evolving scandal culture around here, the belated discovery of officially sought documents is supposed to produce a symphony of clucking and manufactured outrage.

Now comes the Interior Department's senior officialdom, bearing initial drafts and other material related to a decision in an overhyped Native American gambling casino case, and all the usual squawkers are oddly silent.

Could it be that the latest evidence is worthy only if it adds fuel to the endless shouting matches and gets a deafening ho-hum if it buttresses a position the officials involved have maintained credibly for months? Seems so. And this tale is instructive in the wake of Attorney General Janet Reno's latest independent counsel pronouncement.

For the cops, at least, the standard appears to be direct evidence that a real crime has been committed and that someone covered by the statute may have committed it. For the rest of the scandal culture, far cheaper fodder will do.

To rewind, it was considered a big deal in the press just before Thanksgiving that another batch of videos of Democratic Party and Clinton-Gore reelection events had turned up in White House archives. One video in particular got nearly all the play—of a fund-raising event held on the evening of July 13, 1995, in the country home of one of the Washington lawyers lobbying the casino case and featuring President Clinton himself as the draw.

The lawyer, **Thomas Schneider** of Maryland, was part of the team lobbying for rejection of a casino plan pushed by lobbyists for three tribes in Wisconsin. Schneider's lobbying was on behalf of one tribe that operated a casino nearby and eventually gave nearly \$400,000 to the Democrats.

The reason for the play, in the words of the Associated Press, was that the fund-raiser was held "the night before the Interior Department rejected the gaming plan." This juxtaposition of events to imply cause and effect is silly, since neither six-figure fund-raising parties nor government decisions are arranged with that kind of precision timing.

But since the video was a big deal, it ought to be relevant that the freshly discovered decision drafts and other material clearly show an issue that had already been decided well before the

fund-raiser by professional people at the department. And they show a timing judgment for the decision's formal announcement with no evidence of White House pressure and with significant evidence pointing in a different direction.

The decision drafts all come from the computer of **George Skibine**, an 18-year veteran of the department who ran its Indian Gaming Management staff; they were



## A Worm's Eye View of the Hudson Casino Controversy, 31

## A View of Hudson Casino Controversy (Con't)

Continued from page 31

opposition, not grounded in factual evidence of detriment, to obstruct Indian economic development sets a precedent for extensive interference, compromised sovereignty and circumvention of the intent" of the Indian gaming law. Hartman also dismissed the contention of other tribes that a rival casino would hurt their own gambling operations, saying, "business abhors competition."

Despite Hartman's arguments, Sibbison said, everyone in the high-level policy group, including civil servants Skibine and deputy BIA head **Michael Anderson**, agreed that it was time to quiet fears that the agency would force communities to accept tribal casinos. "We wanted to send a message," she said. "We wanted to draw a bright line."

Skibine drafted a decision. It not only cited the local opposition as evidence of detriment; it also said Babbitt was exercising his broad discretion under the decades-old Indian Reorganization Act to refuse to take off-reservation land into a tribe's trust.

### Improper influence?

No one has shown that White House officials influenced or ordered the decision in the case, but there is plenty of evidence that the lobbyists tried to get the White House involved. On April 24, 1995, O'Connor shook Clinton's hand at a Twin Cities reception and complained to the president that a White House aide wasn't taking his calls about the case. That day, presidential adviser **Bruce Lindsey** phoned the White House from Air Force One to pass along O'Connor's beef.

Four days later, O'Connor and the leaders of five of the opposing tribes met in Washington with DNC chairman Fowler. Fowler has defended his ensuing calls to senior presidential aide Ickes and Interior on behalf of the tribes. If the tribes' potential as campaign donors hadn't registered from Fowler's calls, O'Connor reinforced the message by faxing Ickes a letter about the case on May 8, stressing that the opposing tribes were longtime Democratic contributors. O'Connor then enlisted the help of law partner **Thomas Schneider**, a friend of Clinton's who later was the host of a \$420,000 fund-raiser for the president.



being readied for the approving signature of the lone political appointee involved in the decision, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs **Michael Anderson**.

Both have given sworn depositions that they had no contact with anyone at the White House or the Democratic National Committee about the case and got no heat of any kind from any colleague as they did their jobs. But they were not called before Senator **Fred Thompson's** committee to tell their stories.

The drafts, and the internal comments on them, are on

substantive points. Three bands of Chippewa had applied in late 1994 to get 55 acres of land in Hudson, Wis., placed in a federal trust so they could open a casino in a floundering dog track facility. It was a controversial application because the tribe was seeking to move nearly 100 miles from its own boundaries into a market occupied by a casino run by the St. Croix and because there was strong local opposition.

As it turned out, the regional Interior Department office thought the application should be granted; civil servants here disagreed; and the only evidence to date is that the case was decided on its merits. As for the timing, the new material shows a desire for speed in getting the decision announced. But it shows the reason was a forthcoming visit to the region by **Ada Deer**, director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, who had recused herself from the case.

In one computer message on July 8, Skibine writes: "The secretary" —Bruce Babbitt— "wants this to go out ASAP because of Ada's impending visit to the Great Lakes area." In another, handwritten note on July 10, **Heather Sibbison**, an Interior Department official, urges that copies of the decision be faxed to the affected tribes "so that they will have some time to digest the information before Ada arrives later in the week."

Imagine the hue and cry had any of this stuff included pressure to announce the decision in time for a campaign fund-raiser. As it is, a lawsuit is already moving forward, brought by the losing tribe, charging political interference. And, where there is campaign money, a look-see by the Justice Department's huge task force is anything but inappropriate. But for Reno to seek an independent counsel on the existing evidence is ridiculous. And it would be especially ridiculous if, as he has testified without contradiction, Babbitt had no role in deciding the issue whatsoever.

Schneider said in a court deposition that in mid-May 1995 he approached Ickes at a Clinton fund-raiser at Washington's Mayflower Hotel and urged him to take O'Connor's appeals "seriously." Schneider said Ickes said that he had told O'Connor he would look into it. Ickes, who says he doesn't remember talking to Schneider, said he turned the matter over to his aides. The White House says Ickes' aides made only three routine calls to Interior to check the status of the decision.

The casino affair probably would not have drawn so much attention were it not for Eckstein, the Arizona lawyer who came to the Interior Department to meet with Babbitt on July 14, the day the decision was issued. Eckstein said that Babbitt told him that Ickes had ordered the decision be issued that day and remarked that "these Indians" had donated about \$500,000 to Democrats.

Babbitt says he has no recollection of mentioning campaign money and that he only tossed out Ickes' name as a way to get Eckstein to leave his office. Sibbison said there were other reasons to issue the decision that day, including that a secretary had inadvertently sent a copy of the decision the day before to the St. Croix Tribe of Wisconsin, an opponent of the Hudson casino plan.

Eckstein's allegations have prompted an FBI inquiry aimed at determining whether a special prosecutor should investigate the truthfulness of Babbitt's sworn testimony. Babbitt's case has not been helped by a fund-raising appeal that lobbyists O'Connor and Kitto sent out on Sept. 14, 1995. "As witnessed in the fight to stop the Hudson Dog Track proposal," they wrote, "the Office of the President can and will work on our behalf when asked to do so."

Babbitt's chief spokesman, **Mike Gauldin**, said that in the face of the lobbyists' boasts to their clients and the allegations of congressional Republicans and the losing tribes, he welcomed the Justice Department's "experienced investigators, who are trained in weighing evidence." But, he said, even assuming the investigators find no wrongdoing, the stain of the controversy will be difficult for Babbitt to erase. "The damage is done," Gauldin said.