

Vital signs report evaluates natural resource conditions in Yellowstone

Though healthy, Yellowstone National Park faces challenges from environmental changes taking place inside and outside park boundaries, according to the *Superintendent's 2008 report on natural resource vital signs*, published recently. This report reviews research and data on more than two dozen indicators selected to monitor the condition of park natural resources. It cites progress with grizzly bear conservation, but indicates greater effort is needed to reverse the decline in cutthroat trout and trumpeter swan populations. It also raises concerns about how air pollution from outside the park may be changing native plant habitat inside the park. Yellowstone staff welcomes feedback on the report, which is published online at <http://www.GreaterYellowstoneScience.org/>.