



National Park Service
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Natural Resource Program Center Transmittal

To: Interested contributors to *Park Science*
From: Jeff Selleck, Editor, *Park Science*
Date: 4 November 2010
Subject: Call for abstracts/proposals—Climate change science issue of *Park Science*

Park Science, the National Park Service (NPS) journal for integrating research and resource management, is planning for the spring 2011 edition, which will explore climate change science applications to park management. Originally scheduled for winter 2010–2011, this theme edition has been delayed to encourage greater participation. Editor Jeff Selleck (jeff_selleck@nps.gov) is now accepting abstracts/proposals for the special issue and encourages broad participation by NPS staff and partners. Abstracts/proposals are due 24 November and should be sent to the editor for consideration. Proposals will be reviewed and determinations made for those ideas we would like to have developed into summary and feature-length articles. Authors will have a minimum of six weeks to develop draft articles, which will be due beginning 15 February 2011. The theme edition will be published in late May 2011.

Purpose of the special issue

Climate change is a universal issue for park managers, and much information already exists on the NPS response and strategy for dealing with it. Therefore, I want to focus this edition of *Park Science* on new knowledge of climate change and how it can be applied to park management. I also want to show connections between this knowledge and the NPS strategic framework: science, adaptation, mitigation, and communication. In addition to providing a brief overview of the Climate Change Response Program and the NPS strategy to deal with climate change, this issue will include case studies of climate change science applied in parks, what managers are learning, and how that science is incorporated into planning and management operations to adapt to climate change. This edition will help to educate our readers about NPS efforts to anticipate, respond to, and learn from climate change and elevate the importance of applying best available climate science to resource management. Depending on the number and type of article proposals I receive, I may reserve some material for a second edition on the subject to come at a later date.

Goals

Goals for the theme issue are to (1) share what we are learning about the effects of climate change on a broad geographic range of parks and resource types; (2) identify what can be done and describe what is being done—and by what parks—to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change; (3) discuss implications of climate change science for park planning and policy development; (4) describe the role of national parks and highlight NPS leadership in learning about, mitigating/restoring, adapting to, and communicating about climate change; (5) highlight progress and successes; and (6) learn from each other's experience.

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The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

I hope to blend several articles that summarize what we know about an aspect of climate change (e.g., state of science) with case studies or practical applications of science (i.e., place- or program-focused studies/projects). All articles should strive to share useable knowledge for park management. Abstracts and proposals should identify the topic and treatment of the proposed article and tell the basic story with a few supporting facts and conclusions. Article categories are described fully on the *Park Science* Web site (<http://www.nature.nps.gov/ParkScience>, see “Author Guidelines”), but for now simply indicate what type of article you would like to write, for example, case study, topical overview, state of science, human interest, research report, or any other thoughts on the treatment. The abstract/proposal should be in the range of 250–350 words and is due 24 November 2010.

Subject areas

The following topics are offered to stimulate your thinking about the special issue and to help you develop concrete abstracts/proposals:

- Economics/feasibility of response
- Human safety/infrastructure risks and operational response
- Planning and policy needs
- Phenological effects (e.g., range shifts, migration, green-up, boundary issues, pollination, citizen science networks)
- Vulnerability assessments—case studies
- Scenario planning/desired future conditions summary and case studies (e.g., ASIS, WICA, JOTR, KALO, GLAC)
- Communications to engage learning communities in resource stewardship
- Conserving biodiversity (e.g., vulnerable wildlife species and wildlife health effects)
- Update on Climate Change Response Program and NPS strategy, and profile of program staff, areas of responsibility and expertise, and contact information
- Implications of coastal infrastructure inventory
- Summary of glacial mass studies
- Updates on research projects funded by the Climate Change Response Program
- Effects of climate change on invasive species, wildlife diseases, infestations
- Enhanced inventory and monitoring data resources and applications
- Historical perspective on parks for climate change study (e.g., LTERs, NEON)
- Wildfire regime changes and prescribed fire operations
- Cultural resource risks and solutions (e.g., Arctic culture retention)
- Sea level rise (ocean resource concerns)
- Temperature/precipitation/flooding effects
- Role of parks in carbon sequestration
- Philosophical aspects of managing parks under climate change regime
- Habitat corridors for migration and genetic diversity—how parks are involved
- Air and water quality/water quantity
- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions
- Bibliography of recent studies, annotated for management application
- Annotated bibliography of training/information sources, such as webinars, Web sites, and data sources
- Glossary of terms and definitions related to climate change
- Map of ecotypes (e.g., deserts, mountains, grasslands, coastal areas) and related park management issues under climate change
- Photo gallery: (1) NPS resource managers and partners demonstrating effects of and evidence for climate change in parks, (2) primary resources affected by climate change, (3) projects to mitigate climate effects, and to adapt to and restore resources affected by climate change

Contact information

Please send your abstracts/proposals to Jeff Selleck (jeff_selleck@nps.gov) or call me (303-969-2147) to discuss your idea.