

The National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Natural Resource Program Center
Biological Resource Management Division



Biological Resource Management Division FY02 Work Plan



Biological Resource Management Division – National Park Service

Work Plan FY 2002

Introduction

The Biological Resource Management Division (BRMD) was created in FY 2000, through the Natural Resource Challenge. Funds were provided through the Challenge to strengthen the ability of the National Park Service to conduct science-based natural resource management. Division elements include: the Exotic Species Management and Ecosystem Restoration Branch, the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Program, the Endangered Species Program, and the Wildlife Management Program.

Active resource management has become critically necessary as the natural heritage preserved within park boundaries is assailed by exotic species and other disturbances. Within two years the BRMD consolidated, initiated, and conducted activities to provide the NPS with a professional state-of-the-art science-based support program addressing exotic species management, ecosystem restoration, threatened and endangered species and wildlife management

Mission

The Mission of the Biological Resource Management Division is to preserve, protect and manage biological resources and related ecosystem processes in the National Park System. The Biological Resource Management Division works to meet this mission through programs designed to meet the changing needs of resource managers in the National Park Service. These programs, roles, functions and services are articulated in this Divisional Work Plan.

Roles and Functions of the BRMD

The Division...

Is responsible for policy formulation, planning, training, coordination, and implementation of biological resource management activities and programs of broad Servicewide importance;

Provides expert scientific, planning and evaluation assistance on management actions and biological resource management issues;

Identifies Servicewide biological research needs, develops ecosystem management and restoration strategies, provides wildlife health services, and identifies and provides training in biological resource management.

- Invasive Species Management & Ecosystem Restoration
- Endangered Species
- Wildlife Management
- Natural Resource Preservation Program Funding Source-Facilitator
- Resource Protection Funding Source-Administrator
- Biological Resource Management Competitive-Facilitator

Organization

The Biological Resource Management Division is part of the NPS Natural Resource Program Center and the NPS Natural Resource Stewardship and Science Directorate, and maintains offices in Fort Collins, Colorado and Washington, D.C. The BRMD is comprised of the Exotic Species Management and Ecosystem Restoration Branch, the Endangered Species Program and the Wildlife (Management) Program.

(Please refer to Appendix A for Division Organizational Chart)

Exotic Species Management and Ecological Restoration Branch FY 2002 Work Plan

Personnel:

Linda Drees	Branch Chief
Terry Cacek	IPM Coordinator – Wildland Invasive Pests
Carol DiSalvo	IPM Coordinator – Structural/Developed Area Pests
Greg Eckert	Terrestrial Ecologist
Luis Florez	Exotic Plant Management Team (EPMT) Liaison
Jeremy Gooding	EPMT Liaison
Lisa Jameson	EPMT Liaison
Antonio Pernas	EPMT Liaison
Summer Schulz	Program Analyst - NRPP
Christine Bishop	STEP Student

Goals and Functions:

The Exotic Species Management and Ecological Restoration Branch provides NPS lands with a wide range of innovative and science-based services and policy guidance to manage harmful invasive species and restore disturbed lands to ecological integrity. Focal points of the branch include: the IPM Program to determine low risk, environmentally sound options for pest control, the EPMT Program which facilitates the mobilization of strike teams of plant control specialists located in 9 host parks, and the Restoration Ecology Program which provides technical assistance on restoration and coordination with the Fire Management Program Center. The Branch also focuses on the facilitation of partnership efforts to control exotic species and restore ecological systems to preserve NPS lands. Service is provided to personnel at parks, regions, the Natural Resource Program Center, and the Washington Directorate. The Branch is also responsible for administration and coordination of the Natural Resource Preservation Program (NRPP) and Small Parks Grants.

Services:

The Exotic Species Management and Ecosystem Restoration Branch provides the following services through the EPMT, IPM, and Ecological Restoration Programs:

- Servicewide policy and guidance development on invasive species, integrated pest management and ecological restoration
- Coordinate and cooperate with other federal and state agencies and national organizations on invasive species management and ecological restoration
- Facilitate partnership efforts to control exotic species and restore ecological systems to preserve NPS lands

- Program management and analysis for NRPP, BRMD and Resource Protection competitive funds
- Development and maintenance of the Pesticide Use Proposal System (PUPS) web-based data system
- Training on invasive species management, IPM and ecological restoration actions
- Facilitate NPS performance management activities related to invasive species management
- EPMT Program management
- Collaborate with the Fire Management Programs Center (FMPC):
 - Participation in national teams to develop DOI strategies
 - Review national plans
 - Joint assessment of park resource issues
 - Remediation/Restoration of contaminated sites
 - Interdisciplinary resource assessments
- Technical Assistance to Regions and Parks, include:
 - Assistance with appropriate integrated pest management technologies
 - Review of NEPA compliance documents related to invasive species management
 - Remediation/restoration of disturbed areas

TITLE: Biological Management Division Annual Accomplishment Report
 Region: Servicewide
 Park: Servicewide
 Lead: Drees
 Completion: September 30, 2002
 Description: The BRMD, formed in 2000 as part of the NRC to provide state-of-the-art science-based technical assistance and policy direction, prepared and submitted an annual report on accomplishments and expenditures.

TITLE: Administration – Natural Resource Preservation Program
 Region: Servicewide
 Park: Servicewide
 Lead: Alger-Schulz
 Completion: Ongoing
 Description: The BRMD provides oversight and administration for NRPP competitive funding projects. 100 projects were funded in FY 2002. This funding source provides a reliable and dedicated source of resource management funding for national parks. Sixty percent of funds are usually available for unspecified park level natural resource management projects. The remaining 40% targets specific needs and is generally distributed to Small Park Projects, Disturbed Lands Restoration, Threatened and Endangered Species Projects, USGS/BRD Technical Assistance Projects and Servicewide Projects. The BRMD sponsors the ranking panels once a year, tracks and records implementation and completion reports, prepares

funding advice memos upon completion of program requirements. Finally the BRMD prepares the comprehensive annual reports on NRPP fiscal year funding for submission to Congress.

Invasive Species and Integrated Pest Management Programs

TITLE: Performance Management Goal Coordinator lalb – Exotic Species
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Drees
Completion: Ongoing
Description: The BRMD is the Servicewide wide goal coordinator for goal lalb – Containment of Exotic Plant Species. Staff participated in a workshop concerning revisions and improvements for goal lalb. Staff continually provides technical guidance and reports Servicewide accomplishments of lalb using PMDS.

TITLE: Exotic Plant Management Team Annual Report
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Drees, Reep
Completion: October 30, 2002
Description: The BRMD provides budget oversight, selected administration and technical assistance to the 9 mobile EPMT's based in host parks. The branch tracks quarterly and annual accomplishments and budget expenditures through the Alien Plant Control and Management (APCAM) database and other database formulations. An EPMT annual accomplishment report is prepared and included as part of the Division's annual accomplishment report.

TITLE: Year in Review Article on Exotic Plant Management Teams
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Drees
Completion: January 18th, 2002
Description: The Exotic Species and Ecological Restoration Branch was requested to produce an article on the accomplishments of the EPMT's from January 2001 – January 2002 for the NPS Year in Review publication. The article and photos were prepared and presented to Year in Review staff for edit and publication.

TITLE: Alien Plant Control and Management Database Workshop and Implementation.
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Cacek, Kogan
Completion: May 2002
Description: The BRMD is the focal point for administration and technical assistance to the 9 mobile EPMT's. The EPMT's are located in 9 host parks and 1 region and serve up to 91 parks. Development of the APCAM database was initiated by the Pacific Islands EPMT data manager, Aaron Kogan. This database was utilized, refined and updated at an APCAM workshop held in Fort Collins, CO, with collaboration of the Inventory and Monitoring Program, BRMD and EPMT liaisons and leads. The database contains a catalogue of fields to record and measure control and restoration activities used by all EPMT's. APCAM also has application for I & M Networks which may conduct invasive species mapping and monitoring.

APCAM is being viewed as a prototype for management databases integrating NPSpecies and the database template. Major effort of BRMD was focused on modifying and collaborating APCAM with PUPS. This included identifying all herbicides residing within the pesticide database and importing this list into the APCAM database. Also, an APCAM training session for the new EPMTs was hosted in Ft. Collins, CO, as APCAM was field beta tested in February and March and adopted in the 2002 field season.

TITLE: Exotic Plant Management Team Supervision and Administration
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Drees, Cacek
Completion: September 30, 2002
Description: Day by day supervision of the EPMT's is a responsibility of the 9 host parks, however, BRMD provides financial administration, review of personnel actions, technical oversight, training, programmatic guidance, and, if necessary, dispute resolution. BRMD also maintains a flow of information to WASO and outside interested parties.

TITLE: Prepare for FY 2003 Exotic Plant Management Teams
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Cacek
Completion: September 30,2002

Description: The FY 2003 Budget calls for creation of 7 new EPMT's. BRMD will need to support the new host parks by providing a series of telephone briefings, sample position descriptions, sample vacancy announcements, and similar information.

TITLE: Exotic Plant Management Team Evaluation

Region: Servicewide

Park: Servicewide

Lead: Cacek

Completion: September 30, 2002

Description: With 7 new EPMTs to be established in FY 2003, there is a very narrow window of opportunity to evaluate the existing teams and fine-tune the organization and administration of the team concept *before* the new teams come on line. This effort will stop short of evaluating the technical aspects of field work, which will be done in a later fiscal year. The current effort will involve development of an evaluation scheme, recruitment of evaluators from inside and outside NPS, and evaluation followed by the composition of a final report. If done by contract, it will involve writing a scope of work, selecting a contractor, and administering the contract.

TITLE: National Invasive Weeds Awareness Week (NIWAW), Washington, D.C.

Region: Servicewide

Park: Servicewide

Lead: Drees

Completion: March 1, 2002

Description: NIWAW and the International Aquatic Nuisance Species Conference were held in D.C. from February 24 to March 1, 2002. Because of its commitment and role in invasive species management, NPS was asked to participate through presentations, poster sessions and meetings with partners during this week. The NPS provided daily presentations at events to inform and educate policy makers on NPS invasive species management efforts, including the EPMTs.

TITLE: Revision of Directors Order RM-77: Integrated Pest Management

Region: Servicewide

Park: Servicewide

Lead: Drees, Cacek, DiSalvo

Completion: September 30, 2002

Description: Reference Manual-77, developed and adopted in 1988, is under revision to reflect and correspond to the updated "Management Policies 2001" and the new NPS Directive System initiated in 2001. Review of the 1988 RM-77 was conducted with comments and amendments provided during the 2001

IPM Coordinators Workshop. Amendments reflect new technologies, and structural changes in the IPM program within NPS. As a result of the review and comments a draft DO and RM will be developed and provided to the NPS Chief of Policy for distribution to the National Leadership Council.

TITLE: Enhancement of the Pesticide Software
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Cacek
Completion: January 2002
Description: Several new capabilities were added to the pesticide management software of the PUPS database including the ability to print blank forms, and an automated report listing proposals and their status.

TITLE: Administration of Pesticide Use Proposal System
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Cacek, DiSalvo
Completion: Ongoing
Description: Approximately 1,500 pesticide use proposals are processed annually using the intranet-based software. About 5% of the pesticide proposals are reviewed by Cacek and DiSalvo, with the balance reviewed by regional IPM Coordinators. Other activity includes maintenance of the pick lists, with focus on the pesticide product list, which must be updated continually, and preparation of an end-of-year summary of pesticide use and/or compliance with pesticide reporting.

TITLE: Transfer of Pesticide Data to Archives
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Cacek
Completion: April 30,2002
Description: The National Archives is requiring that BRMD submit pesticide data for all previous years to the archives. The Natural Resource Information Division (NRID) has primary responsibility for this, however, BRMD must ensure that they have all the data and must help resolve changes in database format that evolved over the years.

TITLE: Forest Health Program
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide

Lead: Cacek
Completion: September 30, 2002
Description: This involves administration of transfer funds from the U.S. Forest Service (USFS). Every year, BRMD solicits proposals from parks, provides technical assistance in the preparation of proposals and economic evaluations, collects and evaluates the proposals, forwards the proposals to the USFS, and distributes the funds. This typically involves one meeting per year with the USFS in Washington D.C. and one multi-agency field review.

TITLE: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Technical Advisory Group
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Cacek
Completion: Ongoing
Description: BRMD represents NPS on the APHIS Technical Advisory Group, which reviews testing protocols and proposals for the release of biological control agents. This involves review of technical proposals for individual biological controls and representation of NPS at an annual meeting in Washington, D.C.

TITLE: Advice to U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) on Inventory of Weeds
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Cacek
Completion: Completed
Description: Attendance at a two-day workshop for the purpose of providing input to USGS on NPS needs for inventory and mapping of weeds.

TITLE: Saltcedar Technical Review
Region: All Western Regions
Park: All Western Regions
Lead: Cacek
Completion: September 30, 2002
Description: Facilitate an event or process for reviewing available technology for managing saltcedar, educating NPS personnel about the technology, and developing strategies for introducing appropriate technologies to NPS lands.

TITLE: Survey of Bio-engineered Crops
Region: Servicewide

Park: Servicewide
Lead: Cacek
Completion: September 30, 2002
Description: Bio-engineered crops are being used by several parks, however, the extent of use is unknown. A survey will be designed and conducted to reveal the types of bio-engineered organisms being utilized on NPS lands, the acreage involved, and the locations.

TITLE: NPS Inventory and Monitoring of Invasive Plants Workshop
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Drees, Hiebert
Completion: August 30, 2002
Description: An I&M Invasive Plants Workshop, co-sponsored by BRMD and NRID, was held in Fort Collins, Colorado on June 4 through 6, 2002. A selected group of NPS, other Federal agencies, states, and academic experts with experience in park-based monitoring programs, protocol design, modeling, and/or the ecology of invasive plants attended the three-day workshop. Workshop attendees addressed key reasons for monitoring: 1) prevention and early detection, 2) measure the effect of control programs on the target exotics, 3) measure the effect of control programs on recovery of the natural system impacted, and 4) determination of patterns and trends on a landscape and regional scale. The attendees developed a draft framework and guideline to serve as the foundation for the development of invasive plant monitoring protocols for each of the I&M networks. This framework will be presented at the I&M Vital Signs meeting in Denver, CO in August 2002.

Restoration Ecology Program

TITLE: Coordinate BRMD Tech Assistance Requests
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Eckert
Completion: September 30, 2002
Description: Receive, delegate and track BRMD leads on approximately 50 Technical Assistance Requests from parks.

TITLE: Monthly and Annual Reports & Year-In-Review
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide

Lead: Eckert
Completion: September 30, 2002
Description: Prepare accomplishment reports, as requested, for Natural Resources Year in Review, as well as for Natural Resource Challenge Reports.

TITLE: Responses to WASO info requests
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Eckert
Completion:
Description:

TITLE: CTAG participation
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Eckert
Completion: Ongoing
Description: Represent terrestrial biological and ecological issues on an interdivisional work group addressing contaminant issues on NPS units.

TITLE: General Ecological Management Issues
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Eckert
Completion: Ongoing
Description: Respond to various short-term requests for review of documents, proposals and actions related to terrestrial ecosystem management issues from parks. Examples include approaches to habitat for a rare organism that conflicts with fire management needs, role of burning in contaminated areas, and strategies for compatible economic and conservation land use on non-park lands.

TITLE: Compile information for future updates of Reference Manual-77
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Eckert
Completion: Ongoing
Description:

TITLE: Terrestrial Ecology Impairment guidelines and development
Region: Servicewide

Park: Servicewide
Lead: Eckert
Completion: Ongoing
Description: NRPC scientists and other staff continue to develop guidelines to parks for evaluating potential impairment of natural resource issues.

TITLE: Complete Reference Manual-77, Vegetation Management
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Eckert
Completion: Spring 2002
Description: NPS-77 has been replaced with RM-77. The Vegetation Management section has been updated to reflect NPS Management Policies 2001, along with new approaches and techniques in management.

TITLE: Disturbed Lands Reclamation I and A workshop
Region:
Park:
Lead: Eckert
Completion:
Description:

TITLE: Western Park Restoration
Region:
Park:
Lead: Eckert
Completion: March 2002
Description: Assist in workshop development. Use workshop as a forum to collect and assess restoration needs from major parks and restoration and revegetation specialists from throughout NPS.

TITLE: American Chestnut introduction
Region:
Park:
Lead: Eckert
Completion: Fall 2002
Description: With the help of Jim Sherald (NCR), organize a workshop to evaluate advances in science, propagation and management of hybrid and native varieties of *C. dentata*, and developing NPS's role in the effort to restore *C. dentata* to eastern forests.

TITLE: Role of Eastern parks in Natural Resource Conservation
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Eckert
Completion:
Description: Begin discussions to assess needs and main issues for identifying the role of eastern parks in natural resource conservation.

TITLE: Emerging Issues in restoration ecology
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Eckert
Completion:
Description: Track emerging issues in restoration and management. Integrate into existing programs or policies or propose new policies or programs as appropriate. Examples include the selection of appropriate indicators for restoration projects, and assessing restoration of pollinators and dispersers.

TITLE: Participate in NRPC RTAG
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Eckert
Completion:
Description:

TITLE: DOI Strategic Plan
Region: Servicewide
Park: Serviceiwde
Lead: Eckert
Completion: February 2002
Description: Represent NRSS at meetings and in work-groups to develop Department-wide outputs, strategies and end-outcomes to be incorporated into DOI strategic plans and budgets.

TITLE: Fund SRR Participation by NPS Scientists
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Eckert
Completion:
Description:

TITLE: Mycorrhizae Inoculum Evaluation
Region:
Park:
Lead: Eckert
Completion:
Description:

TITLE: QAQC for Terrestrial Biological and Ecological Projects
Region:
Park:
Lead Eckert
Completion:
Description:

TITLE: Mycorrhizae Training for Glacier National Park
Region: Intermountain
Park: Glacier NP
Lead: Eckert
Completion:
Description:

TITLE: Facts Sheet
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Eckert, Bishop
Completion: Ongoing
Description: Develop technical notes highlighting barriers to restoration and examples of successful restoration methods related to control of non-native plant species.

TITLE: PCA
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Eckert
Completion: Ongoing
Description:

TITLE: Plant and Soil Materials Development
Region:
Park:
Lead: Eckert

Completion: Ongoing
Description:

TITLE: Mycorrhizae Assessments and Innocula
Region:
Park:
Lead: Eckert
Completion:
Description:

TITLE: Soil Quality and Index for Restoration
Region:
Park:
Lead: Eckert
Completion:
Description:

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

TITLE: Road Restoration
Region: Intermountain
Park: SAGU
Lead: Eckert
Completion:
Description:

TITLE: Restoration Matrix for Park
Region: Intermountain
Park: GRCA
Lead: Eckert
Completion:
Description:

TITLE: Drainage Restoration
Region: Intermountain
Park: FLFO
Lead: Eckert
Completion:
Description:

TITLE: Prairie and Riparian Restoration
Region: Midwest
Park: FOUS
Lead: Eckert
Completion:
Description:

TITLE: Disturbed Land Restoration
Region: Midwest
Park: OZAR
Lead: Eckert
Completion:
Description:

TITLE: Dyke and Marsh Restoration
Region: National Capital
Park: GWMP
Lead: Eckert
Completion:
Description:

TITLE: Restoration Strategies
Region: Northeast
Park: ACAD
Lead: Eckert
Completion:
Description:

TITLE: Restoration of Vegetation / NRDA support
Region: Northeast
Park: MORR
Lead: Eckert
Completion:
Description:

TITLE: Native Grass on Earthworks
Region: Northeast
Park: VAFO
Lead: Eckert
Completion:
Description:

TITLE: Superfund Remediation
Region: Washington Office
Park: APPA
Lead: Eckert
Completion:
Description:

TITLE: Slash Pine Remediation
Region: Southeast
Park: TIMU
Lead: Eckert
Completion:
Description:

TITLE: Restore Hemlock Community
Region: Northeast
Park: DEWA
Lead: Eckert
Completion:
Description:

TITLE: River Corridor Restoration
Region: Intermountain
Park: GRCA
Lead: Eckert
Completion:
Description:

TITLE: Evaluate Fuel Management
Region: Intermountain
Park: MEVE
Lead: Eckert
Completion:
Description:

TITLE: Restore Historic Places
Region: Intermountain
Park: CHIC
Lead: Eckert

Completion:
Description:

TITLE: Brome to Tallgrass Restoration
Region: Midwest
Park: TAGR
Lead: Eckert
Completion:
Description:

TITLE: Restoration Post-Weed Control
Region: National Capital
Park: PRWI
Lead: Eckert
Completion:
Description:

TITLE: Establishment of spring woody species after non-native species control
Region: Intermountain
Park: BIBE
Lead: Eckert
Completion:
Description:

ENDANGERED SPECIES PROGRAM ANNUAL WORKPLAN: FY 2002

PERSONNEL:

Loyal A. Mehrhoff	Program Manager
Peter Dratch	Endangered Species Specialist - Animals
Vacant	SCEP/STEP Student

GOALS AND FUNCTIONS:

The primary goals of the NPS Endangered Species Program (Program) are to promote viable populations of endangered species in parks and to fully meet all obligations under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The Program functions as a source of technical expertise with respect to endangered species issues. This involves providing expertise on endangered species regulations and the appropriate management of endangered species to:

- The Associate Director, Natural Resource Stewardship and Science.
- The Chief, Biological Resource Management Division.
- The Natural Resource Program Center.
- Regional Endangered Species Coordinators.
- Resource managers at individual parks.

To meet its goals, the Program needs to help NPS accomplish six key tasks:

- Fully comply with ESA requirements to consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service on projects that may affect listed or proposed species.
- Monitor the status of listed species in order to better tailor NPS management efforts.
- Control invasive alien species that threaten listed, proposed, or candidate species.
- Restore native ecosystems in parks.
- Reestablish native species that have been extirpated from parks.
- Control poaching within parks.

SERVICES:

The Endangered Species Program provides the following services:

- Development and maintenance of program initiatives to improve management of endangered species.
- Service-wide policy development.

- Review and interpretation of new regulations, executive orders, and directives.
- Liaison with other federal agencies, tribal governments, and national organizations on endangered species issues.
- Provide database and other information on endangered species to park units.
- Management of NRPP-T&E funding program.
- Coordination of the NPS Performance Management program for endangered species.
- Training on the Endangered Species Act and the management of endangered species.
- Technical Assistance to Regions and Parks, to include:
 - Review of NEPA and ESA compliance documents.
 - Review of endangered species management issues or plans.
 - Assistance with performance management issues.
 - Assistance obtaining additional scientific expertise (e.g., genetics)

PROJECTS AND TASKS:

TITLE: Endangered Species Database.
 Region: Servicewide
 Park: Servicewide
 Lead: Mehrhoff
 Completion: March 2002
 Description: This database provides information on the occurrence of endangered, proposed, and candidate species in NPS units. Data includes the status and trends of species, listing information, and recovery plan information. The Association for Biodiversity Information, Colorado Heritage Program, Colorado State University, and Colorado Plateau CESU are cooperators.

TITLE: Management Summaries for Endangered Species
 Region: Servicewide
 Park: Servicewide
 Lead: Mehrhoff
 Completion: October 2003
 Description: These management summaries describe specific actions that NPS managers can and should take to restore endangered species on NPS lands. The Colorado Heritage Program and Colorado State University are cooperators.

TITLE: Cooperative Agreement and MOU with the National Seed Storage Laboratory
 Region: Servicewide

Park: Servicewide
Lead: Mehrhoff
Completion: June 2002
Description: The MOU and Cooperative Agreements provide mechanisms for NPS to store highly important collections of rare plant seeds at the National Seed Storage Laboratory and to undertake research on how to germinate seeds of selected endangered plants.

TITLE: Cooperative Agreement and MOU with the Center for Plant Conservation
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Mehrhoff
Completion: September 2002
Description: The MOU and Cooperative Agreement with the Center for Plant Conservation provide a mechanism for NPS to field collect seed samples from rare and endangered plants.

TITLE: Conservation Agreement on the Canada Lynx
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Dratch
Completion: August 2002
Description: This Conservation Agreement outlines how NPS will manage lynx on NPS lands. It also provides a foundation for park consultations with the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

TITLE: Conservation Agreement on the Black-tailed Prairie Dog
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Dratch
Completion: September 2002
Description: This Conservation Agreement outlines how NPS will manage black-tailed prairie dogs on NPS lands. It also provides a foundation for park consultations with the US Fish and Wildlife Service and for future re-establishment efforts.

TITLE: MOU with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on Migratory Birds
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Dratch
Completion: September 2002

Description: This MOU outlines how NPS will conserve migratory birds on NPS lands. It also addresses procedures for NPS to take migratory birds.

TITLE: Revise and maintain performance management system on endangered species
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Mehrhoff
Completion: Ongoing
Description: The NPS performance management program maintains one service-wide goal on endangered species. This goal has had significant problems with data reliability. The Endangered Species Program will revise the goal as needed and provide whatever oversight is needed to ensure quality control.

TITLE: Complete draft of Director's Order 77-8 (Endangered Species)
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Mehrhoff
Completion: January 2002
Description: This Director's Order delineates NPS responsibilities under the Endangered Species Act and outlines management direction with respect to endangered species.

TITLE: Complete draft of Reference Manual 77-8 (Endangered Species)
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Mehrhoff
Completion: January 2002
Description: This Reference Manual provides a discussion of how to implement and interpret management directives with respect to endangered species.

TITLE: Manage NRPP-T&E funding source
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Mehrhoff
Completion: Ongoing
Description: This funding source commits approximately \$500,000 of NRPP annually to projects on endangered species. The Endangered Species Program organizes the review of project proposals, the convening of a review panel, and oversight of funds.

TITLE: Manage Native Plant Conservation Initiative funding program
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Mehrhoff
Completion: Ongoing
Description: This funding source commits approximately \$50,000 to \$150,000 of NPS funding annually to projects on native plant species. The Endangered Species Program organizes the submission of project proposals, participates in the review panel, and tracks project completion.

TITLE: Manage Law Enforcement funding program
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Dratch
Completion: Ongoing
Description: This funding source commits approximately \$300,000 of NRPP annually to projects that promote law enforcement efforts to protect natural resources. The Endangered Species Program organizes the review of project proposals, the convening of a review panel, and oversight of funds.

TITLE: Conclude Cooperative Agreement on database information with The Nature Conservancy
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Mehrhoff
Completion: July 2002
Description: The Nature Conservancy has been contracted to provide data on the distribution of endangered species on NPS lands. This project is almost complete and is awaiting the final data delivery.

TITLE: MOU with the Smithsonian Institution on the management of NPS collections housed at the National Museum of Natural History
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Mehrhoff
Completion: February 2002
Description: This MOU will outline how NPS can house biological specimens at the National Museum of Natural History (The Smithsonian Institution). The MOU will establish streamlined protocols for The Smithsonian to comply with NPS directives.

TITLE: Training on the NPS Endangered Species Program

Region: Pacific West and Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Dratch
Completion: March 2002
Description: The Endangered Species Program will provide training on the Endangered Species Act to the Pacific West Region and to the Albright Training Center.

TITLE: Endangered Species Brochure
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Dratch
Completion: September 2002
Description: The existing Endangered Species Brochure is out-of-date. The revised brochure will provide current information on endangered species in the National Park System.

TITLE: Endangered Species Web Page
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Dratch
Completion: September 2002
Description: The Endangered Species Web Page will be improved to include reference information on park species lists, recovery plans, species trend status, and expenditures.

TITLE: NPS Issue of the Endangered Species Bulletin
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Dratch
Completion: January 2002
Description: The Endangered Species Program has contributed a series of articles to the US Fish and Wildlife Service's Endangered Species Bulletin. These articles outline the NPS program and case studies of endangered species management in parks.

TITLE: Protection of rare, threatened, and endangered species and natural areas
Region: Washington Office
Park: APPA
Lead: Mehrhoff
Completion: June 2002

Description: The Appalachian Trail has requested assistance in prioritizing rare and endangered species for future management actions. The Endangered Species Program is assisting Kent Schwarzkopf (304-535-6767) with this effort.

TITLE: Jamestown Island 400 Project Assistance
Region: Northeast
Park: COLO
Lead: Mehrhoff
Completion: Ongoing
Description: The Jamestown Island 400 project is a large effort by NPS to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the founding of the Jamestown settlement. There are a number of endangered species issues associated with this effort and the Program is helping Chuck Rafkind (757-898-8679) with various aspects of the project.

TITLE: Channel Island Fox Restoration
Region: Pacific West
Park: CHIS
Lead: Dratch
Completion: Ongoing
Description: The protection and restoration of Channel Island foxes is extremely complex. The Endangered Species Program is assisting Kate Faulkner, Tim Coonan and other park staff with various aspects of captive propagation and restoration efforts.

TITLE: Cooperative Agreements for Genetic Analyses
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Dratch
Completion: October 2001
Description: This Cooperative Agreement provides a mechanism for parks to obtain genetic analyses of hair samples from lynx and other forest carnivores. The University of Montana and the Northern Rocky Mountains CESU are cooperators.

TITLE: Regional Endangered Species Strategy
Region: Alaska
Park: Region-wide
Lead: Dratch
Completion: May 2002

Description: The Alaska Regional Office has requested help with the development of a regional endangered species strategy. The Program will be assisting Terry DeBruyn with the development of this strategy.

TITLE: Cooperative Projects with Bat Conservation International
Region: Pacific West and Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Dratch
Completion: September 2002
Description: Developing several areas of cooperation with BCI. One includes multi-park funding for bat-friendly gates of caves and mines. Helping to organize a workshop on determining bat habitat in abandoned mines in western parks.

TITLE: Monkey flower monitoring
Region: Midwest
Park: SLBE
Lead: Mehrhoff
Completion: September 2002
Description: The program will be assisting Steve Yancho (231-326-5134) with technical assistance on how to conduct monitoring for monkey flowers.

TITLE: Vegetation management plan
Region: Midwest
Park: GWCA
Lead: Mehrhoff
Completion: September 2002
Description: George Washington Carver NHS is undertaking an integrated vegetation management plan. The Program will assist the park (and Steve Cinnamon) with this effort in order to ensure that prairie restoration efforts are appropriate.

TITLE: T&E analysis of fire plan
Region: Intermountain
Park: MEVE
Lead: Mehrhoff
Completion: September 2002
Description: Mesa Verde National Park is undertaking a new Fire Management Plan and the park has requested assistance in analyzing the effects of the plan on endangered species. The Program will provide that assistance to George San Miguel (970-529-5069).

TITLE: Partners for Amphibian and Reptile Conservation
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Dratch
Completion: April 2002
Description: Insure that the PARC MOU is reviewed at the regional and Washington levels and signed by the Director. Participate in the PARC Federal Steering Committee during semi annual meetings.

TITLE: International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Dratch
Completion: September 2002
Description: Working with IAFWA staff to integrate important NPS activities with this organization that primarily represents the interests of state natural resource agencies. Serve on IAFWA committees such as Threatened and Endangered Species, Science and Research.

TITLE: GAO Audit of Desert Tortoise Recovery
Region: Pacific West
Park: MOJA, LAME, ZION, JOTR, DEVA, GRCA
Lead: Dratch
Completion: March 2002
Description: The GAO is conducting an audit of the desert tortoise recovery program to identify the costs of the program and determine the results of recovery to date. The listed Mojave population of the desert tortoise occurs in six NPS units, four of which include desert wildlife management areas (DWMAs). Providing resource managers and superintendents in these parks with information on the rationale of the inquiry and how they can cooperate.

TITLE: Marine Mammal Commission Report
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Dratch
Completion: June 2002
Description: Summarizing federally funded research conducted in the National Parks for the Marine Mammal Commission for their annual report to Congress. Utilizing the NPS Investigators Report to compile the initial list of projects, and checking with the regions and NPS units to insure that the

projects list is complete, that the federal funds expended are correct, and that the research conducted is described.

33. TITLE: Endangered Species Expenditure Report for U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
 Region: Servicewide
 Park: Servicewide
 Lead: Mehrhoff
 Completion: December 2001
 Description: Track and report annual NPS expenditures on federally listed species. NPS is tasked with submitting this report to the Fish and Wildlife Service.

Table 1. Endangered Species Projects Managed Through the NRPP-TE and Fee Demo-TE Funding Sources during FY 2002.

Project	Region	Park	PMIS	TITLE
TE-00-01	MWR	SACN	47668	Winged Mapleleaf Mussel Assessment
TE-00-02	PWR	GOGA	81115	Mission Blue Butterfly Restoration
TE-00-03	SER	GUIS	48106	Perdido Key Beach Mouse Recovery
TE-00-04	SER	SHIL	47493	Gray and Indiana Bat Inventories
TE-00-05	NER	ASIS	61431	Seabeach Amaranth Restoration
TE-00-06	IMR	CARE	40594	Endangered Plant Inventory
TE-00-07	IMR	DINO	2891	Ladies' Tresses Assessment
TE-00-08	PWR	MOJA	63398	Desert Tortoise Population Survey
TE-00-10	PWR	NOCA	7057	N. Cascades Grizzly Survey
TE-01-02	IMR	GRCA	60762	GRCA Inventory for spotted owls
TE-01-06	MWR	SACN	61184	Mussel communities in the St. Croix
TE-01-11	PWR	HALE	60814	Control feral cats
TE-01-12	PWR	MOJA	60864	Tui chub habitat maintenance
TE-01-15	SER	BISO	58842	Genetic analysis for the duskytail darter
TE-01-17	SER	CAHA	59382	Seabeach amaranth: Habitat assessment/ restoration using remote sensing data
TE-02-01	IMR	BITH	60181	Reintroduce Texas Trailing Phlox
TE-02-02	MWR	WICA	61245	Reintroduction of Black-footed Ferrets to WICA - Phase 1
TE-02-03	IMR	ROMO	70261	Re-establish, Stabilize, and Manage 19 Populations of Greenback Cutthroat Trout
TE-02-04	PWR	LAME	76898	Off Highway Vehicle Damage Control in Desert Tortoise Critical Habitat, LAME
TE-02-05	PWR	SAMO	76865	Exotic Species Removal and Habitat Restoration for Recovery of <i>Pentachaeta lyonii</i>
TE-02-06	PWR	PINN	65245	Re-establish California Red-legged Frogs to the Bear Gulch Reservoir
TE-02-07	SER	MACA	68671	Protect Endangered Species Habitat at Wilson Cave
TE-02-08	NCR	CHOH	75934	Restoration and Recovery for Federally Endangered <i>Harperella (Ptilimnium nodosum)</i>

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM ANNUAL WORKPLAN: FY 2002

PERSONNEL:

Michael Coffey	Wildlife Biologist
Margaret A. Wild	Wildlife Veterinarian
Kyle McCarthy	STEP Student (Wildlife Bio-Tech)
Vacant	Wildlife Biologist GS486-12/13

GOALS AND FUNCTIONS:

The wildlife program addresses issues of wildlife management with particular emphasis on wildlife health, native and exotic species management, and animal capture. The program's goal is to provide technical expertise that will support wildlife management actions of Regions, Support Offices, Clusters, and Parks. The program provides consultation, technical assistance, and training to NPS personnel and addresses service-wide wildlife management issues through policy review and development.

SERVICES:

The Wildlife Program provides the following services:

- Servicewide policy development, guidance, and interpretation.
- Review and interpretation of new regulations, executive orders, and directives.
- Liaison with other federal and state agencies and national organizations on wildlife health and wildlife management issues.
- Management of BRMD Competitive funding program.
- Training on wildlife field anesthesia and capture and wildlife disease investigation.
- Veterinary diagnostic services and disease investigation services.
- Technical Assistance to Regions and Parks, include:
 - Review of wildlife anesthesia, capture, and handling protocols.
 - Wildlife anesthesia, capture, removal, and translocation.
 - Eradication and/or removal of exotic animal species.
 - Consultation on animal overabundance and control.
 - Wildlife health monitoring programs.
 - Review of animal welfare issues.

PROJECTS AND TASKS:

TITLE: Inter-regional White-tailed Deer Working Team
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Coffey
Completion: Ongoing
Description: The Working Team is made up of white-tailed deer subject matter experts from 4 regions. The team assists parks in developing management goals and objectives and in designing and implementing monitoring and inventory programs to assess impacts of white-tailed deer on park resources.

TITLE: Aerial, Capture, Eradication, and Tagging of Animals
Region: Inter-Agency
Parks: Inter-Agency
Lead: Coffey
Completion: Ongoing
Description: Serves as subject-matter expert to the DOI, U.S. Forest Service, and Office of Aircraft Services on the use of aircraft to capture, eradication, herd, and tag animals. Develop training and certification standards, provide training, conduct aerial check rides for pilots and gunners.

TITLE: Department of Interior Committee for the use of firearms by non-law enforcement personnel
Region: Department-wide
Parks: Department-wide
Lead: Coffey
Completion: Ongoing
Description: NPS representative to the Department Committee to establish standards and qualifications for the use of firearms by non-law enforcement personnel.

TITLE: A Critique of Wildlife Radio-Tracking and Its Use in National Parks
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Coffey
Completion: February 2002
Description: A task agreement through the Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit, University of Minnesota to prepare a report closely examine the technique and use of radio tracking to determine (1) if any less-intrusive method may supply the same information, (2) what the full range of radio-tracking technology

is, to determine the least-intrusive techniques being used, and (3) whether future technological improvements might lead to less-intrusive techniques.

TITLE: Technical Assistance in Wildlife Management and Wildlife Capture

Region: Servicewide

Park: Servicewide

Lead: Coffey

Description:

- Remove Free-Ranging Horses and Burros, Big Bend National Park. This will require a consulting visit to the park and a meeting with consultants and relevant park staff to evaluate management action alternatives and a report summarizing the problem and alternatives, and a course of action. A second phase of technical assistance may be required to assist during the implementation of the capture and removal plan. Completion Date: Dec.2002
- Removal of African Oryx, White Sands National Monument. Provide technical assistance in the lethal or non-lethal remove of approximately the last 10-20 exotic African Oryx. Complete Date: Dec. 2002
- White-Tailed Deer Working Team Site Visit and Consultation, Pea Ridge National Military Park. Facilitate and arrange for a site visit and consultation with park staff to assist the park in developing management goals and objectives, and guidance in developing a deer management plan. Completion Date: Feb. 2002
- Develop Predator Control Plan, Cape Hatteras National Seashore. Conduct a site visit to assist the park in developing NEPA documents, review and evaluate research and management information relating to predator impacts (feral cats, fox, and raccoons) on T & E species (sea turtles, piping plover, seabeach amaranth) as well as other colonial shorebirds and wildlife. Completion Date: Spring of 2002.
- Wildlife Management Issues, Antietam National Battlefield. Conduct a site visit to assist the park in developing a wildlife management program that can be intergraded into a park with historical/cultural mandates. Completion Date: Dec. 2002
- Conduct Aerial, Capture, Eradication Training and Certification, HAVO and HALE. Provide formal training and check rides for pilots and gunners for aerial capture, eradication, and tagging programs. Evaluate current aerial capture programs at the parks. Completion Date: March 2002.

- Training in use of the Coda Net Gun to capture shore birds, Acadia National Park. Provide formal training in the safety and use of the net gun to park personnel and to provide training to capture shore birds with the net gun. Completion Date: March 2002
- Training in Wildlife Capture and Aerial Capture, Alaska Region Parks. Provide formal training in wildlife capture, field anesthesia, and aerial capture for NPS staff from numerous Alaskan parks. Completion Date: Dec. 2002

TITLE: Manage BRMD Competitive Call
 Region: Servicewide
 Parks: Servicewide
 Lead: Coffey
 Completion: June 2002
 Description: This funding source commits approximately \$750,000 of BRMD funding annually to parks for biological and natural resource projects. Projects are limited to 2 years and not to exceed \$50,000 per project. The Wildlife Management Program organized the review of projects proposals, the convening of a review and rating panel, and the oversight of funds.

TITLE: Evaluation of proposed use of oral rabies vaccine in units of the NPS.
 Region: Servicewide
 Park: Servicewide
 Lead: Wild
 Completion: Ongoing
 Description: APHIS-Wildlife Services and state public health departments have requested that some units of the NPS participate in wide-scale oral rabies vaccination programs for raccoon in the eastern U. S. and coyote and gray fox in Texas. No Servicewide policy decision that gives guidance to parks on the use of oral rabies vaccination has been made.

Tasks:

- Provide coordination with APHIS-WS, CDC, and states to discuss potential application of oral rabies vaccination in units of the NPS and aspects of park resource management that may influence NPS participation.
- Brief NPS decision-makers on oral rabies vaccination and make recommendations on NPS participation.
- If the NPS agrees to the concept of participation in vaccination programs, assist parks with information on oral rabies vaccination and environmental compliance that will be required at the park level.

TITLE: Complete draft of Director's Order-77-4.

Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Wild
Completion: March 2002
Description: This Director's Order (DO) provides policy and regulatory information for appropriate use of pharmaceuticals in wildlife in units of the NPS.
Task: Complete draft Director's Order.

TITLE: Complete draft of Reference Manual-77-4.
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Wild with detailee
Completion: September 2002
Description: This Reference Manual (RM) section describes training requirements for individuals using pharmaceuticals in wildlife in units of the NPS and details regulatory requirements for proper drug storage, use, disposal, and record keeping.
Task: Recruit an NPS employee for a detail with the BRMD to assist in the preparation of the RM section.

TITLE: Provide veterinary diagnostic services to parks.
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Wild
Completion: Ongoing
Description: Health monitoring is an important component of wildlife management programs in parks.
Tasks:

- Develop protocols for submission of veterinary diagnostic samples.
- Provide veterinary diagnostic services as needed to parks using a CESU agreement with Colorado State University or assist parks in locating and coordinating with other veterinary diagnostic laboratories.
- Develop a database to track health data collected using these diagnostic services.
- Investigate disease outbreaks as they occur in NPS units.
- Provide training to parks and at the Albright Training Center on wildlife disease investigation and sample collection.
- Work with Colorado State University (through the CESU agreement) and Water Resources Division to develop protocols to investigate fish die-offs and to collect field samples and necropsy fish for diagnostic purposes.

TITLE: Host technical workshop on remote delivery of biologics to free-ranging wildlife.

Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Wild
Completion: January 2002
Description: Immediate need for improved methods for remote delivery of biologics to wildlife is at Yellowstone National Park; however, potential applications to other service-wide wildlife management needs also exist. This workshop will assemble an interdisciplinary group to brainstorm new technology.

Task: Coordinate, with assistance from the University of Montana CESU and YELL, a technical workshop on remote delivery of biologics to free-ranging wildlife.

TITLE: Initiate review of NPS policy on disease-causing agents.

Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Wild
Completion: Ongoing
Description: NPS policy should be reviewed for adequacy in addressing emerging disease agents and issues.

Task: Initiate an interdisciplinary review of the NPS policies regarding disease-causing agents (e.g., pathogenic bacteria, viruses, and prions) and emerging infectious diseases.

TITLE: Complete draft manuscripts on research projects that would benefit wildlife management in NPS units.

Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Wild
Completion: September 2002
Description: Prior to employment with NPS, Margaret Wild completed research projects but did not publish results on several projects that could benefit wildlife management in NPS units.

Tasks: Complete draft manuscripts as lead or co-author on:

- Heart rate as a predictor of acute stress in bighorn sheep.
- Preclinical diagnosis of chronic wasting disease in captive deer using tonsillar biopsy.
- Serologic survey for viral and bacterial diseases in western populations of Canada Lynx.
- Effects of GnRH agonist (luprolide) on reproduction and behavior in female wapiti.
- Efficacy of lufenuron for control of fleas in white-tailed prairie dogs.

TITLE: Technical assistance on veterinary aspects of contraception evaluation in elk.
Region: Intermountain
Park: ROMO
Lead: Wild
Completion: Ongoing
Description: Rocky Mountain National Park, as well as some other parks, may benefit from development of a safe and effective contraceptive agent for cervids.
Task: Provide veterinary expertise and support to research projects evaluating a short-term (GnRH agonist) and a long-term (GnRH-toxin conjugate) contraceptive in captive cervids.

TITLE: Technical assistance with developing and implementing surveillance and management programs for chronic wasting disease of cervids.
Region: Intermountain and Midwest
Park: ROMO and WICA
Lead: Wild
Completion: Ongoing
Description: Chronic wasting disease (CWD) is a transmissible spongiform encephalopathy of cervids (deer and elk). ROMO is the only NPS unit within the current distribution range of the disease in wild cervids. WICA is concerned about CWD due to previous occurrence of the disease in a game ranch adjacent to the park.

Tasks:

- Provide training on CWD to staff at ROMO and WICA.
- Assist in developing CWD surveillance and management programs at ROMO and WICA.
- Provide diagnostic services for CWD surveillance.
- Publish in peer-reviewed journal results of a new technique developed to diagnose CWD in live deer using tonsillar biopsy.
- Assist in writing CWD section of elk EIS at ROMO.
- Assist in preparation of manuscripts for popular press.

TITLE: Technical assistance on veterinary aspects of safety testing strain RB-51 vaccine in captive pregnant pronghorn does.
Region: Intermountain
Park: YELL
Lead: Wild
Completion: September 2002
Description: Yellowstone National Park will soon begin vaccinating bison against brucellosis using strain RB-51. YELL is concerned about the safety of

RB-51 in non-target species, including their declining pronghorn population.

Task: Provide veterinary and animal handling expertise to support a cooperative project with APHIS-Veterinary Services to test the safety of RB-51 vaccine in captive pregnant pronghorn does.

TITLE: Mule deer disease screening and relocation evaluation at Zion National Park.

Region: Intermountain

Park: ZION

Lead: Wild

Completion: December 2001

Description: Zion National Park staff is considering relocating some “nuisance” deer; however, this herd has had previous outbreaks of pinkeye. Zion requested evaluation of herd health and a recommendation on relocation of deer.

Task: Provide clinical assessment and diagnostic specimen screening of deer prior to relocation. Train Zion staff to perform these sample collections in the future. Based on results of diagnostics, provide recommendations on deer relocations.

TITLE: Veterinary oversight of bighorn sheep research at Rocky Mountain National Park.

Region: Intermountain

Park: ROMO

Lead: Wild

Completion: April 2002

Description: Rocky Mountain National Park is funding two research projects that address management needs for bighorn sheep.

Task: Provide veterinary oversight on animal capture and handling, consult on sampling needs, provide training to staff on sample collection, and assist in evaluation of results from diagnostic sampling.

TITLE: Review of potential disease transmission between domestic and wild animals in Alaska.

Region: Alaska

Park: AKSO

Lead: Wild

Completion: December 2001

Description: AKSO was requested to provide information on potential disease transmission between domestic and wild animals to the Subsistence Resource Chairs in Alaska.

Task: Provide a written summary of diseases and supporting literature on domestic-wildlife disease transmission, particularly between domestic and wild hoofstock and dogs and wolves.

TITLE: Participate in review of control options for non-native mountain goat population in Olympic National Park.
Region: Pacific West
Park: OLYM
Lead: Wild
Completion: Ongoing
Description: Olympic National Park requires additional information on control of exotic mountain goats. This information will be used to renew the NEPA process.

Task: Participate on a panel to review and update information on contraception and other forms of control for exotic mountain goats in Olympic National Park.

TITLE: Development of a comprehensive bison sampling protocol.
Region: Intermountain and Mid-West
Park: YELL, GRTE, BADL, WICA, THRO
Lead: Wild
Completion: September 2002
Description: YELL has requested that the utility of a comprehensive bison sampling protocol be explored and, upon concurrence by other parks, developed. The proposed protocol would standardize bison sampling in the five NPS units that support bison.

Task: Consult with NPS units that support bison and, upon concurrence of need, recruit a student (through the CESU or use STEP student) to develop a comprehensive bison sampling protocol.

TITLE: Technical assistance on selection, funding, and review of brucellosis research proposals.
Region: Intermountain
Park: YELL, GRTE
Lead: Wild
Completion: September 2002
Description: NRPP has previously provided up to \$300,000/yr in funding to support brucellosis research. Mike Soukup has requested a transition in funding for this work to competitive processes.

Task: Assist Intermountain Region, YELL, and GRTE in transition of funding and prioritization for brucellosis-related research.

TITLE: Represent NPS in the United States Animal Health Association.
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Wild
Completion: Ongoing
Description: United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) is a group of primarily regulatory veterinarians representing state and federal agencies.
Task: Represent NPS at annual USAHA meetings and serve on USAHA committees (e.g., Wildlife Disease Committee, Foreign Animal Disease Committee).

TITLE: Review proposed legislation and draft federal plans regarding animal health.
Region: Servicewide
Park: Servicewide
Lead: Wild
Completion: Ongoing
Description: NPS perspective on proposed federal legislation on animal health (e.g., Animal Health Protection Act; Animal Disease Risk Assessment, Prevention, and Control Act) is important to provide to NPS and DOI decision-makers.
Task: Timely review and comment on proposed federal documents regarding animal health issues. Preparation of briefing statements, as needed, to summarize information.

Appendix A - Division Organizational Chart

Appendix B - Division Staff Background

Appendix C - BRMD/ NRPP Project Coordination by Division Staff