

# MOUNTAIN PROTECTED AREAS UPDATE

No. 34, June 2002<sup>1</sup>

Lawrence S. Hamilton, Vice-Chair for Mountains  
World Commission on Protected Areas/IUCN

Many Network members will remember with affection, tinged with sadness, the memory of "Bing" Lucas, past Chair of WCPA, past Vice-Chair for World Heritage, and one of the original 40 members of the Mt PA Network. It was Bing who established the Mountain Theme in WCPA and appointed me as its Vice-Chair, back in 1992. While cataloguing Bing's library, Paul Dingwall<sup>2</sup> found the following extract in his well-thumbed copy of Reflections on Wilderness by Richards and Sheiter:

*He who helps the morning chase the shadows of night away, suddenly finds himself a millionaire. As payment for this services, the sun sprinkles the mountain slopes with a carpet of glittering, pendant diamonds - each one flawless, perfect, and radiating a thousand sparkles. But gather them he may not: for the moment he tries to touch one, it changes suddenly to a wetness on his fingertips. Worthless wealth? Mountains and mountain men don't think so.*

<sup>1</sup>Nota bene: This is the second and last issue of UPDATE brought to you courtesy of a small grant provided by Scottish Natural Heritage. We thank SNH again for this support. Do any readers know of other organizations which might step up to the plate and fund an issue or two, at roughly US\$900 per issue?

<sup>2</sup>Names of Mountain Protected Areas Network members appear in italics.

## **Great Teamwork from the Network!**

In mid-April, the waiting world (at least the editor and authors) was given from IUCN the special International Mountain Year issue of its bulletin, World Conservation (Vol. 33, No. 1). It bears the title Mountain High printed through on of *Ed Bernbaum's* superb picture of a pilgrim to sacred Mount Kailas. It is superimposed onto a *Jim Thorsell* photo of Sagarmatha/Mount Everest. Jim's photos are scattered liberally through the bulletin's 40 pages. I am deeply indebted to Nikki Meith from IUCN who worked with me on this issue. The following Network members were contributors: *Jack Ives, Mingma Sherpa, Ed Bernbaum, Sangay Nepal, Bruno Messerli, Jessica Brown, Stephan Doempke, Jim Thorsell, Shengji Pei, Jiri Flousek, Sampurno Brijnzeel, Chandra Gurung, Martin Price, Mario Boza, Gabriel Campbell, Mahesh Banskota, Patrizia Rossi, David Sheppard, Trevor Sandwith, Alejandro Camino and Doug McGuire*. Thanks to all of you, and to others in the Mt PA Network. Subscription information from [cindy.craker@iucn.org](mailto:cindy.craker@iucn.org).

Several members in the Network have also pitched in to assist in the production of an UNESCO-IUCN report which *Jim (Muddy Boots) Thorsell* and I are preparing on World Heritage Mountains, through Leslie Taylor of the Banff Centre for Mountain Culture. They have identified potential mountain sites which in their assessment might qualify for WH natural sites. These folks include: *Stephan Doempke, Suresh Chalise, Jim Barborak, Yuri Badenkov, Ali Salahi, Les Molloy, Jack Ives, Chandra Gurung, Andrew Plumtre, Martin Price and Fausto Sarmiento*. We hope to have this report published in July, and will have made a draft copy available for comment on the Internet, so that others in the Network may contribute. Thanks again, to willing Mt. PA colleagues.

## **World Heritage Mountain Nominations**

IUCN is seeking help with desk reviews of the World Heritage nominations in the pipeline. These cover several mountain sites, but also a number of others for which some of you may possess some knowledge. IUCN would like a short 1-2 page report, and would send the nomination documentation to those interested. Reviews due by end of September. Get in touch with [Georgina.peard@iucn.org](mailto:Georgina.peard@iucn.org). All comments treated in confidence. List of nominations follows:

### **Natural Sites:**

China - Three Parallel Rivers National Park  
Egypt - Ras Mohammed  
Kazakhstan - Steppe and Lakes of Northern Kazakhstan  
Russia - Wrangel Island  
Switzerland - Monte San Giorgio

### **Mixed Natural and Cultural Sites:**

Australia - Purnululu National Park  
Brasil - Rio de Janeiro - Sugar Loaf, Tijuca Forests and the Botanical Gardens  
Dominican Republic - Parque Nacional del Este and its buffer zone  
Egypt - Saint Catherine  
Portugal - Landscape of the Pico Island Vineyard Culture

### **Mixed Extensions:**

Brasil - Jau National Park (extension to form the Central Amazon Protected Areas)  
Brasil - Parc National Serra da Capivara

### **Cultural Landscapes:**

Poland - Valley of the Pradnik River in Ojcowski National Park  
United Kingdom - Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

### **News from New Zealand**

*Les Molloy, Heritage Works, Wellington, New Zealand*

West Coast Forests. On April 1, NZ Government formally added to public conservation land the 130,000 ha of prime West Coast indigenous forest previously earmarked for sustainable logging. This ended a campaign and regional resource controversy which has raged for the past 30 years. Nearly 18,000 ha will be added to three existing national parks, and nearly 10,000 ha of this will be added to Te Wahipounamu (South-West New Zealand) World Heritage Area. A proportion of the forest was on the lower slopes of the Southern Alps, Paparoa Range, Victoria Range and Brunner Range. I was lucky enough to be appointed one of the "expert" panel which the NZ Government asked to assess whether the forests had sufficient conservation value. It is a landmark decision for NZ, because the indigenous logging of public lands is now history. The West Coast is now a remarkable conservation resource, --about 98% of this very mountainous region is now public conservation land.

Two New Mountainous Wilderness Areas. Twenty years after we proposed the Adams and Paparoa Wilderness Areas at the 1981 NZ Wilderness Conference, Government has accepted that it is time to give them more than de facto protection. Public submissions have called on the Government's intention to give them legislative protection.

IYM Conference, Dunedin. Professor Alan Mark of Otago University and the Federated Mountain Clubs of NZ organized an excellent two-day conference at Otago University at the beginning of March to mark IYM. A range of speakers delivered presentations. The Minister of Conservation, Hon. Sandra Lee, gave the keynote opening address. A highlight for the public was an evening address by New Zealand's mountaineering icon, Sir Edmond Hillary, on his climbs and work in the Himalaya.

### **A Snowy River Journey - Australia**

The Snowy River which rises in the Australian Alps, is well known both for its major water development activity (the Snowy River Project), and for its being the locale of the poem, song and a movie entitled The Man from Snowy River. As part of the IYM 2002, Virginia Logan, Coordinator of the Australian Alps Liaison Committee has announced a Snowy River Journey. It will be a celebration of this great mountain river and will occur in November, as a run-up event to the conference "Celebrating Mountains". This November 23-28 meeting is the chief highly visible activity in the IYM program in Australia. (See details in Meetings section.)

Linda and Larry will be participating, at the invitation of *Janet Mackay* and *Lee Thomas*, as well as Deputy Vice-Chair *Graeme Worboys*.

The journey will be undertaken by a group of invited leaders/members of Snowy River communities with some eminent persons/patrons. Each invitee will be invited to record their experience on the tour to add to the tour compendium and photo book. Community participation will be strongly encouraged with the journey group stopping at each of a number of locations along the route. At each location, the group will listen to selected stories told by local individuals. Each location will be well publicized so that anyone can join in at that stop. The event will present, share and document highlights of the heritage, history and common spirit of the communities of the Snowy River, including Aboriginal communities. A journalist will be along to participate and publicize the journey through newspaper articles. A documentary/publication could also be produced to support the journey.

This is a very innovative way to highlight the importance of mountain water in IYM. Issue No. 27 of News from the Alps newsletter is full of this and other fine activities. It includes an article by our friend *John Watson* from Western Australia, who is still trying to promote his "molehills" as "mountains". John points out that the peaks of the Stirling Range (even at 1,000m) are the highest landforms for over a thousand km in any direction; and as sky islands have incredible biodiversity with Stirling Range NP alone having 1,500 species of plants, including 80 endemics, with an astounding 123 species of orchids. Okay John, we'll let you call them mountains!

### **Odyssey of a Network Volunteer**

Working in Kluane National Park, Alaska for a quarter century has taught Brent Liddle a thing or two about helping people appreciate natural wonders. Recently, the retired 52-year-old Senior Park Interpreter put his well-honed skills to the test in Mexico and Tibet. His odyssey began with a foray into cyberspace. While plunking around on the Internet, he found the Mountain Institute, which was looking for volunteers to share their knowledge and experience with developing nations.

His first assignment was to work on the Bonampak Natural Monument in Chiapas. It is most noted for the best examples in the world of Mayan paintings, circa 1,000 years old. The ancient murals were not discovered until the late 1940s and now the area's indigenous people are adding displays and exhibits to help "organize their story". He did some interpretive training in a one-room schoolhouse and there was incredible community support; from little children to elders. In fact, there were people lined up outside to hear his ideas. Brent suggested ways they could foster a sustainable local economy through heritage tourism. Bonampak gets up to 10,000 visitors a year. They don't want to get into mass tourism, with bus tours and hotdog stands; they want to improve the site they have now. It's not a drive-in-take-a-picture-and-leave kind of site. They want people to experience the visitors' center and then go and visit the site. They want to increase the length of the visits and increase the quality of experience, but not necessarily increase the quantity of visitors. While in Chiapas, Brent stayed in the village of Lacanja, on the outskirts of the Selva Lacondona rainforest. While there, he stayed with families while trying to become part of the community. After a three-week stint with the Mayas, he flew home to Haines Junction for a few weeks before hopping a plane to Tibet and the Qomolangma (Mount Everest) Nature Preserve.

He did similar work in Tibet, --some interpretive training with the local Tibetan people and then a 12-day trip through the preserve right up to Everest base camp. Once again, he tried to live like the locals, traveling by horse and cart. Brent had plenty of anti-altitude sickness medication with him, but found that taking it made him feel worse than breathing the thin air. "When I was climbing up the steps to the Dalai Lama's former residence, I definitely felt winded, but then I'd look over my shoulder and see some 80-year-old pilgrim striding ahead," he said. The Tibetan people start trekking in the mountains and going on weeks-long religious pilgrimages soon after they learn to walk. Most of these religious treks are done in the winter, so they don't trample plants and insects along the way. These people had conservationist thinking right back to the 9th and 10th centuries.

Working in the shadow of the world's highest mountain seemed fitting, because he knows Canada's tallest peak. But the base camp at Everest is at the same altitude as the top of Mount Logan, at about 5,959 m. Hearing the Buddhist monks chanting and watching the moon rise over Everest was a moving spiritual experience. He only saw two other Caucasians while in Tibet.; because of all the paperwork needed to get into the country, westerners are few and far between. Liddle's entry was eased by a special invitation from the Chinese government. Despite sticking out like a sore thumb, he was well received everywhere he went in Tibet. In fact, he ended up becoming a bit of an attraction. "We cut through these tiny villages with our horse and cart, and everyone in the village would come out and follow the wagon, pointing and laughing at me. They'd run out of their shops just to shake my hand." After spending 6 weeks in Tibet, Brent returned home to his wife and their ecotourism business in Haines Junction. He is available for more volunteer adventures (kluaneco@yknnet.ca).

### **Biodiversity Blitz at Mt. Kosciuszko (Australia)**

We have previously reported on the All Taxa Biodiversity Survey instituted in Great Smoky Mountain National Park (USA), and being extended to others in the US National Park system. Now, Ken Green from New South Wales National Park and Wildlife Service reports on a 24-hour inventory in the Australian Alps. Thanks for the following, Ken.

The concept of a Biodiversity Blitz is that over a 24-hour period, experts from all fields of biological sciences gather together in one place to make an inventory of all the different types of organisms within a defined boundary. This concept has proven popular in Germany where it is a common event, and in Switzerland, where the results were published in full color in the German journal *Geo*. The focus of the January 2002 Biodiversity Blitz was the Snowy Mountains with the target being the variety of ecosystems between the Thredbo Valley floor and the summit of Mt. Kosciuszko. A boat was even carried up to Australia's highest water body, Lake Cootapatamba to sample the alpine lake fauna.

The idea of holding the Biodiversity Blitz in the mountains in 2002 was aimed at serving a number of purposes. In the International Year of Mountains it highlighted the importance of the mountains in sustaining an unique alpine biota within the generally dry and low-lying Australian landscape. With global warming predicted to have a major impact in the mountains of southeast Australia the survey of the biota over a large altitudinal gradient (about 800 m) should also provide a baseline across the whole biotic spectrum for long-term monitoring work. This will be the first attempt to put in place a protocol to examine global warming impacts on the entire mountain biota. Finally, the Biodiversity Blitz enabled the networking of a variety of people interested in the mountains from specialist taxonomists to field naturalists, to the general public. So how did it go? Over the weekend of January 12-13, more than 70 people participated, with expertise in everything from birds to mycorrhizal fungi. Already there are some interesting results. Among the moths for example, Ted Edwards, who spent about 10 days in the area, collected an estimated 400 moth species including one new species and one last caught in 1922. A report with species lists should be published in time for Australian Alps Liaison Committee's IYM conference in November this year.

### **Golija Mountain Nature Park (Serbia)**

The Golija Mountain Nature Park is situated in the south-western part of Serbia and its highest peak in 1,833 m. The main value of the area is in its rich forest ecosystem, cultural values, and above all impressive cultural landscapes, revealing the long history of humans living together with nature, both in harmony and sustainably. It was designated as Yugoslavia's second Biosphere Reserve late in 2001. It includes in total, 53,804 ha. The proposal was developed by the Institute of Nature Protection for which *Jasminka Milošević* is Advisor.

### **Hallasan National Park (South Korea)**

We seldom get news about Mt PAs in South Korea, and it is of interest to note the existence of Hallasan NP which protects the core nature reserve (91 km<sup>2</sup>) of Mount Halla on the island of Chejudo (170 km south of the

Korean Peninsula). Here there is alpine heath, and coniferous forest containing the Korean fir (*Abies koreana*), a country endemic, and *Pinus densiflora*. On the island botanists have recorded 2,001 taxa of vascular plants (in 158 families) including 74 species endemic to the island and 230 endemic to Korea.

### **Haphazard Tourist Activities in the South African Cape Folded Mountains**

*Peter Blignaut, Southern African Mountain Environment Consultancy, Cape Town, South Africa*

The Cape Folded Mountains of the Southern and Southwestern Cape include 38 ranges totaling 21,000 km<sup>2</sup>. These mountains are the source of a limited supply of pure silt-free water that is the life-blood of human activities in the Cape. They are also the habitat of about 6,000 of the 8,800 species of the Cape Floristic Kingdom. The ranges are narrow and long, which enables the landowners and infrastructural agencies to easily exploit the mountainous area for their envisaged activity. The unspoiled mountain landscapes are becoming a significant tourist attraction, while the diversity, beauty and scientific value of the flora attract both national and international tourists and scientists.

The current exploitation of Cape mountain environments is aggravated by various factors:

- At the hub of the problem is that the majority of mountain land is privately owned. Traditionally many farmers have considered their mountain land as "waste land", have not developed a conservation ethic, and are now being made aware of the economic value of this land for agri-tourism by agricultural authorities who are actively encouraging this practice. Conservancies are being formed but many landowners have yet to develop an ethic of stewardship over their mountain properties.
- The unpredictable weather patterns, fluctuating agricultural produce prices and the abandonment of government subsidies means that landowners may need to augment their income.
- Due to our undervalued currency, foreign tourists who appreciate our natural environment and good infrastructure are coming in increasing numbers. The unfavorable exchange rate is also keeping South Africans in their country causing an increasing demand for recreational activities in natural areas. All this creates a ready market for the mountain environment entrepreneur.
- In 2001 legislation was promulgated that severely curtails the use of recreational vehicles on South Africa's coastline. This has immediately begun to increase pressure for 4x4 trails in mountainous areas.
- The exploitation syndrome is heightened by the insecurity of many farmers. This is caused by the on-going murders of farmers in South Africa by criminal elements, and the Zimbabwe land-grabs scenario from their own citizens. The tendency is no longer to perceive the farm as a long-term investment. This justifies short-term gain from mountain resources.
- There is a lack of adequate funding by central government for effective catchment and biodiversity management by the conservation authorities. Consequently, they are attempting to augment their funds by developing tourist infrastructure in their nature areas, including 4x4 roads in protected mountains.

The Cape is fortunate to have sparsely populated pristine mountain areas with extraordinary biodiversity and pure water. The picture could change adversely in a few years. The question is whether the politicians appreciate what we have and whether the relevant authorities will be able to act fast enough to preserve this unique asset.

### **Water Bottle - Enemy of the Environment**

Mountain parks in Nepal are facing severe environmental crises due to empty plastic water bottles discarded by trekkers. In the Annapurna Conservation Area alone, thousands of PET (polyethylene terephthalate) plastic water bottles are discarded annually. Unlike PVC (polyvinyl chloride) and other plastic types, PET plastics pose recycling problems and are also potentially carcinogenic if recycled into new food or drink containers. In order to mitigate this problem, Annapurna Conservation Area Project in association with New Zealand-based Empower Consultants Ltd. has come up with an innovative new approach, supported by the New Zealand Overseas Development Assistance Fund. The project entails establishing community-owned, small drinking water stations in villages around the trekking route that sell locally ozonated water to local villagers and

tourists. Profit from the sale of this water goes into paying back the cost of the equipment, paying the operators' salary and investing in the development of the community. The whole idea of the project is to provide cheap, safe drinking water to tourists and the local people, prevent the environment from becoming polluted, create local employment and generate income for the community to spend on community identified conservation and development efforts. For more information see [http://www.mpwr.co.nz/acap\\_safe\\_drinking\\_water\\_update.htm](http://www.mpwr.co.nz/acap_safe_drinking_water_update.htm).

### **Towards a Vision for Biodiversity Conservation in the Forest of Lower Mekong Ecoregion Complex (Vietnam)**

*Jim Schweithelm, Mountain Forests Consultant, Vermont USA*

This two volume document, compiled by Michael C. Baltzer, Nguyen Thi Dao, and Robert G. Shore and published by WWF in late 2001, is of interest to readers of UPDATE because it articulates a conservation vision for two of the most biologically valuable mountain areas in mainland Southeast Asia, the Annamites and the Cardamoms. The document represents the first stage of analysis in the development of a strategy for large scale of the rich biodiversity in these mountain ranges.

The Annamites, sharply defining the border between Vietnam and the Lao PDR, rise to 2,000 m and contain a wide array of forest types and a unique assemblage of mammals and birds, including the Saola, a large mammal species unknown to science until 1993. Monsoon-driven winds off the nearby Gulf of Tonkin deliver high year round rainfall to the eastern slopes of the Annamites, producing cloud forests and providing a refugia for plant and animal species requiring wet forest habitat. The Annamites also contain some of the most extensive and biologically important areas of karst limestone, with many endemic species. The governments of Vietnam and the Lao PDR have established numerous protected areas in the Annamites and have cooperated in a Transboundary conservation project in a key karst area.

The Cardamoms, an isolated group of mountains in southwestern Cambodia, is not as biologically rich as the Annamites, but contain one of the largest expanses of relatively intact lowland and montane forest in mainland Southeast Asia. The Royal Government of Cambodia, with help from Flora and Fauna International and Conservation International, are working to protect the Cardamoms from relatively high threats from illegal logging, poaching, and land clearing.

Questions regarding this publication can be directed to Mike Baltzer ([erbc@wwf.vn](mailto:erbc@wwf.vn)) senior author and staff member of the WWF Indochina Program office. Copies of the report are available from WWF-US, WWF International and the WWF Indochina Program Office in Hanoi.

### **International Mountaineering and Climbing Federation (UIAA) Activities**

At its meeting in Trento, Italy on May 4, the UIAA Council reinforced its commitment to helping stop war damage to mountains, and promote cooperation and peace. The UIAA has recently made submissions to international sport and environment bodies on how to promote cooperation and peace through mountaineering, protect the mountain environment, and help bring an end to war damage such as on the Siachen Glacier in the Karakoram. The WCPA Mountain Theme is working with them on this. The proposals include support for the designation of the Mont Blanc Range as a Transboundary protected mountain area and to encourage discussions between China, India and Pakistan for a "peace zone" in the Karakoram. It is proposed to link this initiative with a series of international youth climbs in 2004 and the Olympic Games in Athens. In putting these ambitious projects forward, the UIAA has been highlighting the success of the Mountain Club of South Africa which spearheaded the creation of the Sehlabathebe National Park which is a conservation and development area in the Maloti-Drakensberg Mountains straddling the border of Lesotho and South Africa.

Under the auspices of UNEP a UIAA team has been assembled in Sagarmatha (Everest) National Park as part of IYM and in celebration of World Environment Day (June 5), and to gather information on the environmental health of the Park. *Andrei Iatsenia* is the key contact person. Their report will be made on June 5. *Roger Payne*

of UIAA is on the team. ICIMOD recently issued a statement of concern about glacial lake outburst threats due to global warming. The team will attempt a reading in the Island Peak area on the effect of warming on glaciers there. Also recently, IUCN's Protected Areas Programme received a disturbing report about the state of conservation of Sagarmatha from *Bruce Jeffries*, a WCPA Mt PA Network member. The UIAA team is being asked by IUCN to meet with IUCN Nepal (*Mahesh Banskota*) and with *Chandra Gurung* of WWF Nepal in order to clarify specific threats and identify helpful persons or organization. This is a World Heritage Site and the question has been raised about possible listing as a WH Site "In Danger". Several other Mt PA Network members are involved, including *Gabriel Campbell* (ICIMOD), *Alton Byers* and *Lhakpa Sherpa* from The Mountain Institute, and the World Heritage staff at IUCN HQ *Georgina Peard* and *Annalisa Koeman*.

### **Tourism and the Sacred Mountain, Nanda Devi (India)**

Nanda Devi has some level of protection in Uttaranchal as a National Park (63,000 ha), and as a Biosphere Reserve (223,674 ha). There has been some concern about ecological degradation due to past visitor use in the Sanctuary area, and the Indian Mountaineering Foundation last year sent an assessment team to help formulate a better management plan and encourage responsible tourism. Following this expedition, another from the Indian Army entered the Sanctuary and cleaned out garbage lying there from the 1970s. The Sanctuary has been closed since 1983. *K. S. Rao* and *K. S. Saxena* of the Mt PA Network have been conducting studies of management conflicts in the buffer zone.

Last year in October, as a result of a local community level consultative process, the Nanda Devi Biodiversity Conservation and EcoTourism Declaration was issued in the courtyard of the temple of the revered Nanda Devi, the Goddess of Bliss (one of the forms of Parvati, the mountain daughter goddess of Himalaya). Here are some interesting excerpts from the Declaration:

- We will give preference to our unemployed youth and underprivileged families; we will also ensure equal opportunities for disabled persons with special provisions to avail such opportunities.
- That we will ensure the involvement and consent of the women of our region at all levels of decision making while developing and implementing conservation and tourism plans.
- We will ensure that tourism will have no negative impact on the biodiversity and culture of our region.
- By developing our own marketing network, we will eliminate the middlemen and endeavor to reduce the travel costs of the tourist.
- While developing the tourism infrastructure in our region we will take care of the special needs of senior citizens and disabled persons.
- Acknowledging the spirit of Agenda 21 of the Earth Summit, Rio 1992, the Manila Declaration on the Social Impact of Tourism 1997 and the International Year of the Mountains and Ecotourism, 2002, we will strive for biodiversity conservation and an equitable economic development within the framework of the Constitution of the Republic of India.
- Today on October 14, 2001 in front of our revered Nanda Devi, and drawing inspiration from Chipko's radiant history we dedicate ourselves to the transformation of our region into a global center for peace, prosperity and biodiversity conservation.

### **Raptors and Costa Rica's Talamanca Mountains**

Ornithologists and bird watchers have periodic raptor-frenzy attacks when hawks and vultures migrate and pass certain well-known observation points in huge numbers, such as Hawk Mountain Sanctuary in Pennsylvania USA (Appalachian Mountains). Recently revealed is an astounding new location in the Talamanca Mountains, where Costa Rica's La Amistad National Park is located (transborder with Panamá's La Amistad). The record number of passing hawks at Hawk Mountain in a year has been 45,000. This number was surpassed in "seven good hours" at Talamanca, according to The Nature Conservancy. The count totaled as astounding 2,979,102 birds, --a raptor highway constricted in the narrowing Central American isthmus.

## **Some Activities in the Small Mountains of New England (USA)**

Readers will, we hope, forgive a small bias by the Editors, in reporting on some Mt PA action in our "local" mountains. Not cloud piercers exactly, but they have true alpine zones on many summits even at elevations of as low as 1,000 m.

Mount Abraham (1,234 m) in the State of Maine is home to rare plants and is actual or potential habitat for 4 rare animal species. After a 3-year acquisition process using private funding, the Appalachian Trail Conference bought 1,632 ha of the mountain and have donated it to the State. It is valued at more than US\$1.3 million. The Nature Conservancy holds a conservation easement on the property that assures a ban on development and timber harvesting. The Appalachian Trail Conference is a private organization that manages the famous Maine-to-Georgia footpath. ATC recently celebrated IYM at its annual meeting.

The Nature Conservancy has also recently been active in the White Mountains of New Hampshire, and acquired 7,560 ha which includes 12 peaks over 1,200 m, as part of building a large Northern Appalachian Ecoregional Corridor. Over half of the area is a preserve (though open to visitors) while the remainder has been sold to a private timber company, with a conservation restriction to assure sustainable, nature-friendly management.

In our own State of Vermont, where Larry is on the TNC Board of Trustees, TNC has recently done the same sort of thing in our Northern Forest (just barely mountainous), employing both devices of preservation, purchase, and partial sell-back with conservation restrictions. Complex, but works well to achieve large impact.

### **Great Forest Campaign**

An ambitious program to create a continuous large and long corridor of essentially wild mountain land along the Southern Appalachians was officially launched by the Southern Appalachian Forest Coalition at a meeting near Asheville, North Carolina April 12-13. This includes Great Smoky Mountains National Park and connecting US National Forests, but particularly designated Roadless and Wilderness Areas within them. It goes through 8 states. *Hugh Irwin* is Conservation Planner for the Coalition, and we are using some of his excellent "corridor" maps. *Larry Hamilton* spoke at the launch, bring an international perspective, and WCPA Mountain Theme is a formal endorser.

The Coalition unites some 18 national, regional, state and local environmental groups along the roughly 965 km mountain corridor of protected and possible linkage lands. In so doing, it has valuable experience for other corridor initiatives where partnerships are needed, and where access by a united group to the governmental public lands planning and policy centers is an urgent need. [www.safc.org](http://www.safc.org) or [safc@safc.org](mailto:safc@safc.org).

### **Who Is Visiting the Mountains in the North American West?**

*Taken from a paper by Alison Gill, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC, Canada*

The most significant trend evident in the demand for tourism and outdoor recreation is an increasingly pluralistic society pursuing an increasingly varied array of activities in mountain regions. There are growing numbers of participants who are college-educated, are of non-white racial origin, earn over US\$50,000 per year and are going to school or are retired. There has been a substantial growth in sport-oriented mountain tourism, with activities such as snowboarding, heli-skiing, mountain biking, hang-gliding, bungee jumping, backcountry skiing, snowmobiling, kayaking and whitewater rafting attracting many participants. Mountain-sports participants are active urban dwellers with significant disposable incomes who tend to travel ever-greater distances for shorter periods of time. Demand is driven by the rapid development and marketing of new technologies by sports companies. The global spread of these activities is facilitated by improved access due to expansion of transportation networks, for example the use of helicopters to access previously inaccessible areas. The worldwide growth in ecotourism associated with enhanced societal concern over environmental integrity is also drawing hikers and campers into backcountry mountain areas. The result of this varied activity is

increasing conflict between users who hold conflicting values. (Note: This is from one of the papers in the Proceedings of the June 2001 Banff conference on Human Use Management in Mountain Areas. See Recent Publications section.)

### **Successful East-Asia WCPA Conference Held in Taiwan**

The Mountain Theme was represented by Deputy Vice-Chair *Graeme Worboys* at this fine meeting in Yangmingshan National Park just outside Taipei, March 18-23. *David Sheppard* from IUCN Headquarters also participated as a featured speaker. Graeme gave a presentation on managing mountain tourism. Over 300 delegates from academia, park management, NGOs and government officials attended. Co-Chair of the meeting was our friend *Professor Woo, Bo-Myeong*. In addition to country reports and technical papers which are published in a Proceedings, the Yangmingshan Declaration was issued, aimed at improving PA management. The Taiwan government, National Park Authority agreed to establish a WCPA East Asia education center at Yangmingshan, to be available for WCPA member use. Of particular interest to our Mountain Theme was a presentation by *Monica Kuo* on the potential for a north-south Central Taiwan Mountain Conservation Corridor. Other Network members attending included *Mashiko Ohsawa, Masahito Yoshida, Yeh Shih-Wen* and *Kuo-Shih Hsu*.

### **2003 Parks Congress and Mountains**

Mt PA Network members are strongly urged to submit individual proposals for presentations, posters or panels, to the 7 streams of workshops that will take place September 11, 12 and 13. The Congress program structure is too complex to summarize here, so please consult the WCPA web site <http://wcpa.iucn.org/wpc/programme/programme.html>. Then contact the appropriate Stream Leader.

The Mountain Theme's main contribution will be a Pre-Congress Field Workshop in the Drakensbergs, in Ukhahlamba-Drakensberg National Park and World Heritage Site. *Graeme Worboys* and *Larry Hamilton*, with assists from *Trevor Sandwith* and *Dave Harmon* are laying the groundwork for a September 4-8 program. (Congress begins at 16:00 on September 8.) We will depart Durban by bus on the 4th and visit 3 park units along the mountain range. For logistical reasons, participation will probably be limited to 40. We will see and discuss in the field at least the following topics: San cave and cliff paintings and cultural aspects; Maloti-Drakensberg transboundary conservation; water source areas for the lowlands; alien species control; fire management; new visitor and education center; managing user/tourism impacts; linking PAs along the mountain range; working with PA neighbors. Abstracts for papers on these topics are invited. Note that papers accepted will NOT be verbally presented, but will be distributed during the workshop and form the grist for subsequent publications (which will also include texts of the field presentations made during the day by staff of Kwazulu-Natal Nature Conservation Service or others). Each evening we will break into 3-4 small groups, according to interest previously registered, to take management guidelines or principles that have been published on specific themes, and through discussion and writing, come up with improvements or a seal of approval. Most of these will be taken from the book *Protected Area Management, Principles and Practices* (see item in Bits and Pieces section) by *Graeme Worboys* et al., and a few from *Guidelines for Mountain Protected Areas* by *Duncan Poore*. The results will be used in revised, updated editions of these publications. In addition, some of the tabled papers which are especially relevant will be included in the Australian book, to give it more international flavor. And Graeme would like to have a Drakensberg case study for the book, perhaps a synthesis of the material given in the field.

When we have costs from Trevor and a logistics group in South Africa made up of *Adriana Dinu, Greig Steward, David McDonald* and others, we will provide it, --hopefully in the next issue of UPDATE. *Dave Harmon* will develop a web page for the Field Workshop. Send abstracts of no more than 300 words by November 15, indicating which theme topic, to both Graeme at [g.worboys@bigpond.com](mailto:g.worboys@bigpond.com) (or 3 Rischbieth Crescent, Gilmore, ATC 2905 Australia) and to Larry at [hamiltonx2@mindspring.com](mailto:hamiltonx2@mindspring.com) (or 342 Bittersweet Lane, Charlotte, Vermont 05445 USA). We will also solicit a few key papers from specific individuals.

## Bits and Pieces

*Bruno Messerli, Jack Ives* and *Hans Hurni* were featured at an UNU Symposium in February at the University of Hokkaido celebrating the IYM 2002. Jack also officially opened the UNU Mountain Photography Exhibit in the UN Gallery with his remarkable photos from his trusty Honselblad camera. The exhibit terminated there March 29, and shifted to the Banff Centre for Mountain Culture where Network members *Bernadette McDonald* and *Leslie Taylor* are in charge of BCMC's several IYM activities.

A new PA in the completion process for a continuous conservation corridor in Brazil's Serra do Mar has been established with the designation of Parque Estadual los Três Picos. It consists of 60,000 ha. The Serra do Mar is now the most completely protected segment of the overall Atlantic Forest ecological corridor, and was worked on for several years by *George Georgiadis* and *Silvana Campello*. This good news was provided by WCPA Regional Vice-Chair for Brazil, *Claudio Maretti*.

To celebrate IYM in New England, USA *Merv Stevens* and Larry have initiated a project with the New England Society of American Foresters. This involves a simultaneous proclamation of an "Honor to the Mountains" Day in September by the Governors of all five States. There will be a celebration at the five tallest points in Vermont (Mt. Mansfield), New Hampshire (Mt. Washington), Maine (Mt. Katahdin), Massachusetts (Mt. Greylock), Connecticut (Mt. Frisell) and Rhode Island (Jerimoth Hill). The agency in charge of the summit area will arrange a program.

WWF and IUCN cooperatively publish a very fine newsletter called *Arborvitae* dealing with forest conservation issues. Since much remaining forestland is in mountains, there are often articles and notes relevant to Mt PAs. They are glad to extend the reach of this newsletter to people who can use it. If you would find it useful, our Network member *Simon Rietbergen* will put you on the list. Contact [forests@iucn.org](mailto:forests@iucn.org), giving in the subject line "Arborvitae new subscriber".

Some good news about the book *Protected Area Management Principles and Practice*, prepared by Mountain Theme Deputy Vice-Chair Graeme Worboys and his colleagues Mike Lockwood and Terry DeLacy. The initial print run sold out, and in March 2001 it was reprinted by Oxford University Press. The book was an IUCN WCPA Australia-New Zealand project, and was designed to transfer the wisdom of protected area practitioners to the new generation of managers. It includes some 100 personal accounts of real life park management and a comprehensive text which describes all aspects of protected area management from incident management to administration to cultural and natural heritage management to managing at the landscape level. Graeme reports that the text book has been warmly received as a reading text for 7 universities, and all formal reviews have positively recommended it. It is an investment in improved management and our protected areas for the future. A second edition will be prepared, and in 2003 Graeme will be looking for outstanding international case studies for inclusion, including some from the Parks Congress.

Well-deserved recognition is awarded in June to *Bruno Messerli* when he will be presented with the Royal Geographical Society's Founder's Medal for "contributions to mountain research and the public awareness of mountain issues." Congratulations Bruno, and amen!

Correction: *Martin Price* points out an error in the last issue of UPDATE with regard to Entlebuch Biosphere Reserve. It is not strictly speaking the first BR in Switzerland, since the Swiss National Park (created in 1914) was declared also a BR in 1979. Entlebuch has received its first protection in 2002 as a created Biosphere Reserve, having had no previous protection. We apologize for our inexact language.

## Some Recent Publications

Managing Protected Areas in a Changing World. 2002. This 1,533 page tome has 6 editors, including Network member Paul Eagles. It is hardcover Proceedings of the Fourth International Conference on Science and

Management of Protected Areas, which was implemented by the SMPA Association, and is published by SMPAA. Available from the Association c/o Centre for Wildlife and Conservation Biology, Acadia University, Wolfville, Nova Scotia, B0P 1X0, Canada. Information from Neil\_Munro@pch.gc.ca. The conference coincided with a working session on marine PA management, and 5 of the 12 chapters have a marine focus. But mountains are there, with presentations by Network members: *Paul Eagles, Phil Dearden, Adriana Otero, Ryan Danby, Larry Hamilton, Per Nilsen, Hank Tyler, John Peine and Scott Slocombe*.

World Conservation. The IUCN Bulletin Vol. 33, No. 1 Special Mountain Issue for IYM. 2002. Edited by *Larry Hamilton* and Nikki Meith. See previous article on this.

Making Parks Work: Strategies for Preserving Tropical Nature. Eds. J. Terborgh, C van Sehaik, L. Davenport and M. Rao. Island Press. 2002. 511 pages. Not particularly oriented to mountains, but several of the many case studies are of Mt PAs. *Mario Boza* was a contributor to this volume.

Two annotated reading lists are of substantial interest:

Linking Wilderness Research and Management Vol. 2: Managing, and Monitoring Wilderness Visitor Experiences and Vol. 3: Recreation Fees in Wilderness and Other Public Lands. 2001. These are General Technical Reports RMRS-GTR-79 volume 2 and 3 from the US Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station, Publications Distribution, 240 West Prospect Road, Fort Collins, Colorado 80526 USA or [rschneider@fs.fed.us](mailto:rschneider@fs.fed.us).

Pianificare L'assetto Ambientale. Eds. Bernardino Romano and Biulio Tamburini. 2002. University of Aquila, Monteluco di Roio, 67100 L'Aquila, Italy. For those who can read Italian, this will be of interest, for it deals in 79 pages with the strategy of connecting protected areas in the Central Appenines through settled landscapes, picking out the most likely biotic corridor through permeability analysis. Bernardino has been working several years on this topic. [romano@dau.ing.univaq.it](mailto:romano@dau.ing.univaq.it).

Human Use Management in Mountain Areas. Proceedings of a June 2001 conference. Eds. Leslie Taylor and Anne Ryall. Banff Centre for Mountain Culture. I feel impelled to recommend strongly this (294 page) publication. I have rarely encountered a conference collection of papers and ensuing discussion of such consistently high caliber and usefulness to PA managers. Congratulations to Leslie Taylor and BCMC for getting such "on-target" speakers and in providing a format for pertinent discussion and working sessions. The Proceedings are available at [www.banffcentre.ca/mountainculture](http://www.banffcentre.ca/mountainculture) (follow links to Products and Services to Online Store. Cost Canadian \$35 plus shipping. Or write BCMC, Box 1020, Station 38, Banff, Alberta T0L 0C0 Canada.

### **A Few (from the many) Interesting Meetings Coming UP**

Note that a number of the meetings listed in the last issue of UPDATE are not repeated here. Refer to Issue 33, March 2002. Also for more complete list of 2002 meetings related to many aspects of mountain sustainable development, see [www.mountains2002.org](http://www.mountains2002.org), the FAO IYM activity list, and you can subscribe to the newsletter for IYM at [info@mountains2002.org](mailto:info@mountains2002.org). In French: [info@montagnes2002.org](mailto:info@montagnes2002.org); in Spanish: [info@montanas2002.org](mailto:info@montanas2002.org).

Global Mountain Biodiversity Assessment Symposium: Linking mountain diversity with fire, grazing and erosion, August 19-24, Moshi, Tanzania. GMBA holds this cooperatively with the African Mountain Association. A parallel theme will be held by GMBA at the Second World Meeting of Mountain People in Quito, Ecuador, September 20-24. Details from [gmba@unibas.ch](mailto:gmba@unibas.ch). Deadline for paper submissions has passed. [www.unibas.ch/gmba](http://www.unibas.ch/gmba).

Mountain Communities Conferences: Ecological and Earth Sciences in Mountain Areas, September 6-10, Banff, Alberta, Canada. Banff Centre for Mountain Culture. Being organized by *Leslie Taylor* and *Kathy Martin*, so it will be a good one. Network members on program include *Bruno Messerli* and *Larry Hamilton*.

EUROPARC 2002, October 2-6, Snowdonia National Park, Wales. Theme is the role of PAs in sustainable development in rural areas. Details at [www.europarc.org](http://www.europarc.org) or [office@europarc.org](mailto:office@europarc.org).

The Power of Nature and the Empowerment of Natural Areas, October 2-5, Asheville, North Carolina, USA. 29th Annual Natural Areas Conference. A major topic theme is international natural areas conservation. Not specifically oriented to mountains, but since much of the world's remaining natural areas are in the high lands, many presentations are relevant. [www.naturalarea.org](http://www.naturalarea.org). Asheville is next door to Great Smoky Mountain National Park.

Wildlands Exchange: Beyond the Border, October 5-6, Paul Smith's College, Paul Smith's, New York, USA. Sponsored by the Adirondack Mountain Club and the College, and planned by *Dave Gillespie*. For managers and users of mountain wild areas in northeastern USA and eastern Canada. [www.adk.org](http://www.adk.org).

Summit 2002, Extreme Landscapes: Challenges and Celebration, October 27 - November 3, at Banff Centre for Mountain Culture, Banff, Alberta, Canada. Combining Banff Mountain Film and Book Festival with a conference, exhibits and readings by outstanding mountain writers. Spark plugged by *Bernadette McDonald*. Endorsed by IUCN/WCPA and its Mountain Theme. A one day version will subsequently be implemented at the Royal Geographical Society in London. *Jim Thorsell* assures that this will be a winner. <http://www.banffcentre.ab.ca/cmc/>.

Bishkek Global Mountain Summit, October 28 - November 1 in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. This one is very appropriate because it was Kyrgyzstan that initiated the push for IYM in the UN. The Issyk-Köl Biosphere Territory will be a prominent feature. Proposing 4 plenary sessions, 28 section topic meetings, 1,000 participants. Contact Andrew Fesenko, [andrewvf@mail.ru](mailto:andrewvf@mail.ru).

Nature and People: Conservation and Management in the Mountains of Northern Europe, November 7-9, Pitlochry, Scotland. Details from Scottish IYM 2002 Initiative [www.iym.org.uk](http://www.iym.org.uk) or Andrew macpherson, [Andrew.macpherson@perth.uhi.ac.uk](mailto:Andrew.macpherson@perth.uhi.ac.uk).

Interpreting Our Mountain Heritage, November 7-10, Zakopane, Poland. Sponsored by Nature Friends International and the Polish Tourist Country Lovers' Society in cooperation with the European Network for Heritage Interpretation. *Piotr Dabrowski* is one of the organizers, and states that it will cover guiding, environmental education, and interpretation in the montane zone. Papers and posters invited. Details from Piotr at [oapttk@eco-tourist.interkom.pl](mailto:oapttk@eco-tourist.interkom.pl) or from Manfred Pils at [nfi@nfi.at](mailto:nfi@nfi.at).

Protected Areas of European Mountains - Place for Life, Recreation and Exchange, November 13-17, Chambéry, France. Sponsored by Network of Alpine Protected Areas. This conference will be the first to bring together the different protected areas of the European mountains. The objective is to create an exchange between protected areas facing the same conservation and management issues in the sensitive mountain regions. Information from [www.alparc.org](http://www.alparc.org) or [Sylvia.unterreiner@alparc.org](mailto:Sylvia.unterreiner@alparc.org).

Celebrating Mountains, November 23-28, Jindabyne, New South Wales, Australia. Australian Alps National Parks/Australia ICOMOS/CRC Tourism. Organized by *Janet Mackay*. Paper presentation interest deadline is past, but international participants welcome. Themes: Mountains for the Future; Mountains for Tourism; Mountains of Meaning. Includes film festival, concert, community festival. Both your Vice-Chair Larry and Deputy Vice-Chair *Graeme Worboys* will be there, and WCPA Vice-Chair *Lee Thomas* and other Network members.

Making Ecosystem-based Management Work: Connecting Managers and Researchers, May 11-16, 2003, University of Victoria, Victoria BC, Canada. Fifth International Conference on Science and Management of Protected Areas (SAMPAA V). Abstracts due December 31. Details at [www.sampa.org](http://www.sampa.org).

Vth World Parks Congress, September 8-17, 2003, Durban, South Africa. See especially the Pre-Congress Mountain Field Workshop in Drakensbergs in a previous article in this issue.

Planetary Garden: Mountains' Future, October 26-30, 2003, Savoie Technolac, Chambéry, Savoie, France. Note: This is a postponement of the International Symposium originally scheduled for November 3-7, 2002. Abstract deadline February 1, 2003. Fifteen themes, several pertinent to Mt PAs. English and French. Organizer: *Lucien Deschamps*, [deschamps@2100.org](mailto:deschamps@2100.org), or [www.2100.org](http://www.2100.org).

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IUCN

The World Conservation Union  
World Commission on Protected Areas - Mountain Theme  
Rue Mauverney 28  
CH-1196 Gland, Switzerland  
fax 4122 999 0002; e-mail: [mail@hq.iucn.org](mailto:mail@hq.iucn.org)

Lawrence S. Hamilton and Linda S. Hamilton  
ISLANDS AND HIGHLANDS, Environmental Consultancy  
342 Bittersweet Lane, Charlotte, Vermont 05445 USA  
Telephone/fax 802 425-6509; [hamiltonx2@mindspring.com](mailto:hamiltonx2@mindspring.com)

Battleby, Redgorton  
Perth PH1 3EW  
Scotland  
[www.snh.org.uk](http://www.snh.org.uk)

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