

## MOUNTAIN PROTECTED AREAS UPDATE

*Lawrence S. Hamilton, Vice-Chair for Mountains*

*No. 27, September 2000*

*World Commission on Protected Areas/IUCN*

*The soul of man is lifted up, a wider, nobler horizon is offered to his view; surrounded  
by such silent majesty he seems to hear the very voice of Nature...*

*-- Horace Benedict de Saussure  
during his ascent of Mont Blanc in 1788*

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### **New Brasil Mountain Protected Areas Network**

With the blessing of WCPA Vice-Chair for Brasil Claudio Maretti, a sub-network of Mt PA scientists and managers is being launched. George Georgiadis of Tangará Environment and Tourism Consultants has offered to increase his already full workload by being Coordinator for the Brasil Mt PA Network. The initial core of existing Network members consists of Silvana Campello, Jesús Delgado, Sonia Rigueira, Léo Nascimento, José Pedro de Oliveira Costa and Maurício Andrés Ribeiro but will undoubtedly increase rapidly under the leadership of George. He will begin to issue a short newsletter in Portuguese, using some items from this UPDATE, plus local Brasil items. A workshop for Mt PAs is under discussion to be held in Itatiaia National Park (see following item) with Léo as host. A possible focus is "Management Effectiveness", using some of the output from WCPA's Management Effectiveness Task Force (under Marc Hockings) and the WWF/World Bank Alliance "Rapid Assessment and Prioritization Methodology". More later as things unfold. Thank you, George, and good luck!

### **Forging Support Bonds with the Neighbors at Itatiaia NP, Brasil**

Linda and I had the good fortune to be taken over by Silvana Campello and George Georgiadis (Tangará Environmental and Tourism Consultants) after our mid-June WCPA Steering Committee meeting in Tijuca NP in the city of Rio de Janeiro. They have been working in, and promoting one of our favorite Mt PA Corridors, the Serra do Mar, and it was their purpose to show us something of this initiative which extends from Rio de Janeiro south to the area around Curitiba. A key unit in this corridor is Parque Nacional do Itatiaia, containing cloud forest, a high elevation plateau and peaks up to 2787 m. This was Brasil's first NP, established in 1937. Léo Nascimento, the creative and enthusiastic Manager/Superintendent has been managing the park only 4 months but had already begun a campaign of gaining community support, which had been previously lacking. He organized a week-long series of seminars open to all neighbors, from nearby universities to in-park or near-park hotel, restaurant and tourism operators. Silvana and George made a superb presentation on ecotourism potential and realities for Itatiaia. I spoke about PAs, Mt PAs and WCPA/IUCN, and our interest in encouraging corridors. The celebration included the unveiling of an Itatiaia video tape while a local musician played the sound track which he had composed and a local artist painted as she was inspired by the music and pictures. One of the Park staff, Wellington Carvalho with a small group of local musicians played and sang nature songs. Social events were hosted or sponsored by the various hotels. A photography contest was held and prizes awarded for nature photos in various categories. All in all it was an imaginative and productive celebration which will certainly do much to engender support for the conservation regime which Léo is initiating. We welcome Léo and his staff to the Network. Before we left he was already offering to host a Mt PA conference next year. George Georgiadis will work with him in planning and carrying this out. What great people mountain lovers are!

### **Lorentz Inscribed on World Heritage List**

Indonesia's Lorentz NP was inscribed as a World Heritage Site at the meeting of World Heritage Commission last December. Lorentz was initially identified by UNESCO and IUCN in the early 1980s as being of World Heritage caliber. Located in south-central Irian Jaya (western New Guinea), the 2.5 million hectare park extends

from the 4,884 m summit of Mount Jaya and the nearby Carstensz Pyramid glacier to vast expanses of mangrove forests on the Arufura Sea coast. Between these extremes lies a complete ecological spectrum of habitat types in the alpine, sub-alpine, montane, sub-montane and lowland zones. Lorentz also contains a wealth of cultural diversity in the several ethnic groups that inhabit the park. A species of tree kangaroo unknown to science was discovered in Lorentz by Tim Flannery in 1994. Network member Jim Schweithelm was the WWF Lorentz Project Leader at the time of the drafting of the WHS nomination document, and he provided this information.

### Crying Wolf in Switzerland

*Aamir Ali, Geneva*

Mt PA UPDATE of June 2000 reported on the extension of the natural range of the wolf in Italy and France. The next step is Switzerland, and the reappearance of the wolf in the Valais has already set off violent reactions from sheepherders.

In August 1995, a wolf entered the Swiss Val Ferret from Italy and over the next few months, killed a number of sheep; on 25 November 1998 a dead wolf was found in Reckingen (Valais); at the same time, wolves were reported in the Simplon region; on 14 January 1999, a young wolf was killed by a jeep on the road of the Simplon Tunnel.

On 1 May 2000, nine lambs killed, two disappeared and one badly mauled, in the Val d'Herens, Valais. Philip Roch, Director of the Federal Office for the Environment and former Director of WWF, authorized the killing of the wolf. The Federal Government is party to the Convention of Berne 19 September 1979 protecting, inter alia, the wolf. But early in 1999, Berne and the Valais agreed that any wolf that killed more than 7 sheep in two attacks could be shot. This particular wolf has been accused of killing, directly or indirectly (by panicking them) some 300 sheep. Sheepherders consider the Government's compensation of Frs. 4-500 per animal quite insufficient.

In 1998, Jean-Marc Landry, the wolf specialist and a crusader for its re-entry, was appointed as the Government's man for the wolf problem. He also agreed that the wolf condemned by Roch and the Valais should be shot. But shooting a wolf is no easy matter, as the hunters of the Val d'Entremont discovered in 1995-6 and the hunters of the Val d'Herens already discovered in 1999 when they placed a dozen or more traps to capture the wolf in order to fix a radio collar. And anyway, said Landry, if you shoot one, there will still be others coming in. We need a long term solution. Landry is as determined a protector of sheepherders as he is of the wolf. Long term protection means the guarding of flocks by shepherds and dogs. Trials have been made with the aid of French professionals.

With wolf packs now doing well in Italy (in the Abruzzi) and in France (the Mercantour, where the wolf infiltrated from Italy in 1992), it is inevitable that wolves would move across the Alps to Switzerland. A study carried out by Pro Natura and the WWF showed that the Cantons of the Valais, the Grisons and Tessin could accommodate some 85 wolves. The Valais is an obvious entrance; it is also the Canton with the largest number of sheep: about 73,000. Raising sheep is generally a secondary occupation, and most flocks are small, making the task of protection more difficult and expensive. Berne is going to finance the services of a dozen professional shepherds in the summer of 2000, but this is not nearly enough. Landry estimates that it needs three dogs and a shepherd to protect a flock of 500, which means about Frs. 18,000 a year. Shepherds only earn about Frs. 45 per lamb during the summer, plus Frs. 10 as a Government subsidy.

***Editor's Note: In his letter, Aamir says:***

*In a way it's a pity that the wolf is making his re-entry through the Valais, which is the most fierce anti-wolf Canton of Switzerland. It would have roused less passion if it had come in through the Grisons. But the problem of sheepherders would still have to be faced. What is worrying is that there are now enough deer, chamois and ibex for the wolves to feed themselves without attacking sheep, but I guess sheep are easier prey.*

## **Mount Damavand, Iran**

We pass on the following appeal from Ali Salahi, Head of Research Division, Mountain Environment Protection Society (MEPS) (Alborz Research Center, P O Box 31585-343, Karaj, Iran; alisalahi@hotmail.com) as a matter of interest and in case anyone is moved to assist in some way.

Damavand is a unique and precious natural heritage that belongs to the present and future generations. Mount Damavand, the symbol of strength and majesty, has long attracted adventures, mountaineers and nature lovers by its lure and beauty. The cone-shaped, snow-covered summit, the highest peak in the country of Iran (5,671 m) is visible from Tehran on a clear day. Unfortunately, as a result of massive mountaineering, mine exploitation, road construction and over-grazing in the past decades, Damavand has undergone excessive pressures and degradations.

The objective of the current MEPS Mount Damavand Clean-Up project is to: 1) Bring up the fundamental question of why mountains matter; 2) Elaborate the objectives of Mountain Agenda based on Agenda 21, Chapter 13, Managing Fragile Ecosystem, Sustainable Mountain Development; 3) Help raise the awareness of mountaineers, trekkers and nature lovers on the sustainable use of mountains; 4) Make efforts for the creation of mechanisms for the protection of mountain environment through legislative bodies; and 5) Stress upon the role of public participation in safeguarding the environment. MEPS welcomes contributions to this project.

## **Development versus Conservation in Scotland - The Universal Scenario**

Malcolm Payne reports from Scotland that the draft National Parks (Scotland) Bill has now progressed to stage 2 in Parliament. This stage involves scrutiny of every clause of the Bill by the Scottish Parliament's Rural Affairs Committee. The Committee has not accepted the widely-recommended strengthening of the "conservation" clause, which would have called for all aims (including local social and economic development) to be pursued within the overall context of protection as the primary aim. This is a major disappointment to the environmental lobby groups who fear that there is inherent conflict in the current wording of the Bill, which expects National Park Authorities to give equal emphasis to both development and conservation. Where there is "irreconcilable conflict" the Bill says that "greater weight" should be given to conservation. However, there remains a real concern that the Government's National Parks (Scotland) Bill is trying too hard to be all things to all people. Time will tell. At the time of writing, the enabling Bill was expected to become law in July this year. Then follows the crucial secondary legislation to establish the individual National Parks, with Loch Lomond/Trossachs the first candidate. The secondary legislation will define the Park boundaries, and the powers to be given to the Park Authority, and thus is of critical importance. The designation of the Loch Lomond/Trossachs National Park is proposed for summer 2001, with the Cairngorm Mountains following a year later. However, Malcolm reports that there are still a number of controversial issues to be resolved in the Cairngorms, where there is a long history of conflict between development proposals (e.g. for skiing) and long-term protection of this arctic-alpine area of the Scottish Highlands. A Cairngorms Recreation Seminar on September 2 will address some of these issues related to recreational use. Malcolm is hosting your Editor/Vice-Chair who is on the program along with Martin Price. Other Network members involved are Alan Blackshaw, Robert Aitken, John Foster, and probably others.

Taking a break from Scottish Parliamentary lobbying, Malcolm made a visit to Canada in May and had a meeting with Network colleagues at Parks Canada's Rocky Mountain National Parks office in Banff, Alberta. He reports that, sadly, he missed seeing Jim Thorsell while he was there but had a useful information exchange with staff on park management. Happily, one of his Parks Canada contacts in Banff was Kathy Rettie who will be heading for St. Andrew's University, Scotland to do her PhD there later this year. Malcolm plans to have further discussions on transatlantic protected areas issues once Kathy has settled into academic life at St. Andrew's.

## **Interpreting the Cultural and Spiritual Significance of Mt PAs**

Edwin (Sacred Mountains) Bernbaum, through The Mountain Institute, is implementing in two NPs in the USA a project of interpreting for the public some of the cultural and spiritual values of mountains. Edwin writes:

*The lure and magic of mountain wilderness, the essence of what makes many of our national parks so deeply attractive, comes from the sense of the sacred that such places evoke - the experience of mystery and beauty in nature that inspires us with powerful feelings of wonder and awe. There is something fundamentally wild about the sacred itself, the way it eludes all our attempts to control and domesticate it. Like the inaccessible summit of a distant peak, it lies outside our reach, free from the restraints of any artificial order we would try to impose upon it. Its law is its own, not ours. Henry David Thoreau was referring to the sense of the sacred hidden in the wild places of nature, many of them preserved today in national parks, when he wrote, "in wildness is the preservation of the world."*

Ed is working particularly with Rocky Mountain and Great Smoky Mountain NPs. The text for the introductory panel of a photographic exhibit on national parks set up in the latter Park in the foyer of the new theater in the most heavily visited visitors' center in the most heavily visited park in the US National Park System includes the above statement. The GSM NP decided to incorporate spiritual themes in presenting the various parks (22 photos of 22 different national parks, ranging from Acadia to Haleakala) and had Ed adapt a passage from his book Sacred Mountains of the World to set the tone for the overall exhibit. Each picture has a descriptive caption with a quote, many of them evoking the spiritual inspiration of that park, many of them from Native Americans as well as figures like John Muir.

### **More on Noise in PAs, from New Zealand**

*Gordon Cessford, Recreation and Tourism Research, New Zealand Department of Conservation*

I saw a copy of the March 2000 Mt PA UPDATE, passed to me by my manager Paul Dingwall. I saw the section on The Sounds of Silence, and thought some of your readers might be interested to know about an international symposium on recreational noise held in Queenstown, New Zealand in late 1998. The useful papers generated at this major symposium, covering topics on aircraft, jetboats, monitoring, management and general noise issues, are published in 3 special issues of the Noise Control Engineering Journal, starting with Volume 37 Number 3, 1999. As well as your general audience, I believe the US National Park Service would also benefit from seeing these papers since they are developing a noise management manual. Contact gcessford@doc.govt.nz or PO Box 1024, Wellington, New Zealand; fax 64 4 471 32 79.

### **Pacific-Asia Biodiversity Transect Network (PABITRA)**

Mt PA news from Pacific Islands is rather rare, and we are glad to include here a brief bit about a new initiative that has much relevance for Pacific Island conservation biology and resource management, and which will include any existing PAs of all kinds from the mountains to the reef. Conceived by Dieter Mueller-Dombois, it proposes transect studies from the outer high islands of the Paleotropics (i.e. Hawai`i and the Marquesas), through Fiji as a "gateway" into Melanesia to Southeast Asia. The gateway transect in Fiji will start on Mt. Tomaniivi (formerly Victoria) at 1,323 m and run down the mountain to the coast in the Rera River watershed. It will study similar biogeographical ecosystems at differing horizontal, altitudinal levels across the region, but also include this vertical dimension of summits to the sea. The web site is: <http://www.botany.hawaii.edu/pabitra/>.

Incidentally, in June Dieter was honored by receiving the Reinhold Tüxen Award which is presented every two years to honor outstanding scientists in vegetation ecology. Dieter is Emeritus Professor at the University of Hawai`i, but like your editor and Vice-Chair, cannot seem to "retire".

### **More on Mining and PAs**

We previously reported on (thanks to David Mihalic who was then Superintendent of Glacier NP) a decade-long ban on oil and gas drilling on National Forests in the Rocky Mountain Front of Montana next to and south of the Park. Last year a two-year ban on hard rock mining went into effect. Now the US Forest Service is proposing to extend the ban for another 20 years to keep hard rock mining out of this scenic and biologically valuable area having several threatened or endangered species. 750,000 acres (303,500 ha) of the Lewis and Clark National Forest would be off-limits to drilling.

Following the issuance of a WCPA position statement on mining and protected areas last year, WCPA Chair Adrian Phillips was asked (in a somewhat adversarial way) to explain and defend this position before the Natural Resources Committee of the US Congress. Some Congressmen saw WCPA (and IUCN) as posing a threat to US sovereignty, --an attitude that is directly linked to the listing of Yellowstone NP as a World Heritage Site In Danger from a gold mine in the watershed. This resulted in action by President Clinton to prevent the mining through a buy-out and land transfer that we reported on previously. The position statement submits that mining should not take place inside Category I-IV PAs, and is only permissible in others under stringent conditions. As to outside of the PA, Chair Phillips states: "The environmental impacts of working minerals outside protected areas are potentially very damaging, especially when they take place within the watershed draining towards the park. So, any mining of this kind must be subject to the highest operating standards and after-use conditions." (Editor's Note: One might add "airshed" to this for some mining activity.)

### **Environmental Education in Alpine Huts (European Alps)**

*Nathalie Morelle, nat@nmorelle.free-online.co.uk*

This document is the result of a long-distance hike through all 7 Alpine countries, along which 123 mountain huts were visited. The potential contribution of mountain huts to environmental awareness raising, through the information and education of their guests, was discussed with the hut-keepers met. Alpine clubs, protected areas and other organisations involved were also contacted, as well as numerous hikers and alpinists met on the way. There was a very high demand for an exchange of experience at all levels of hut management and especially among the keepers. Due to its unique situation, each hut is different, however the problems encountered are similar in all Alpine regions. Nowadays, owners and keepers have to be especially careful about the environmental impact of the hut. The solutions to minimize it rely on environment-friendly technologies, but also a lot on a thoughtful day-to-day management. Work and reflection carried out in this domain should be communicated to the users much more intensively, through written material, informal contacts and possibly some animations. A stay in the hut also offers excellent opportunities to transmit to the tourist some knowledge on the natural environment, basing on the features of the site. Environmental education hasn't been developed very much yet in mountain huts. Only 13 % of the huts visited had already taken up the subject. However close to all the persons involved in the project agreed on the relevance of developing the use of this environmental education potential. 80 % of the hut-keepers interviewed are ready to become more active in that area. Many isolated initiatives, often started by idealistic and motivated hut-keepers, give a wealth of examples of easily implemented and reproducible education actions, which are much welcomed by the public. Finally a draft Charter for Environmental Education in Alpine Huts is proposed.

### **Economic Use of MtPA Wilderness Areas by Outfitters/Guides in Montana**

In 1998, researchers received contact information for all outfitters in Montana permitted by the United States Forest Service or Bureau of Land Management to use designated wilderness areas or inventoried, undesignated roadless areas. Those outfitters were surveyed to learn the number of clients they entertained and the service days they worked in 1998, and the number of those clients and service days which occurred in designated wilderness and unprotected roadless areas. The research team requested information regarding roadless area use only from outfitters conducting nonmotorized outfitting in those areas and did not include river outfitters unless the river they gained access overland through roadless areas or wilderness.

Some key findings of the study include:

- 306 outfitting businesses utilize designated wilderness or roadless areas in Montana;
- 235 outfitting businesses utilize inventoried roadless areas in Montana;
- Outfitters utilizing either designated wilderness or roadless areas (wildlands outfitters) have an annual economic impact in Montana of US\$107 million, and are responsible for the employment of 4,366 Montanans;
- Hunters account for only a quarter of outfitter clients, but half their income; and
- Three-quarters of Montana's outfitters have been in business at least a decade.

### **Mt PA Air Quality Problems - A New Approach**

*Erik Hauge, Head, Earth Team*

I began to organize Regional Clean Air Partnerships (RCAPs) a decade ago in the US. They are voluntary cooperative associations of land managing and air regulatory agencies, indigenous peoples, industry and citizen group representatives which deal with air pollution and its impacts on national parks and other protected areas on a regional basis. They share the responsibility and costs of planning, monitoring, research, regulatory review, and outreach programs. There are several RCAPs in North America, including international partnerships with Canada and Mexico. They have served as models for the Regional Air Management Partnerships now required under the EPA's regional haze regulations. Last year I helped organize the first RCAP outside North America in South Africa's Eastern Cape Province. Additional South African partnerships will follow.

While in South Africa, I realized that the developing nations needed more expertise than I alone could offer. 160+ nations have established national parks. However, many of those nations are rushing to industrialize without adequate environmental controls. This not only affects public health, but the awesome natural and cultural resources of the parks they created. To help these nations deal with this problem, I conceived the E-Team (Earth Team), a non-profit organization of 28 internationally experienced experts who can provide assistance in developing environmental and sustainable economic programs. The E-Team will be funded primarily through donations from individuals, foundations, and corporations. The team will begin its work this year in South Africa, conducting an air quality training course. Additional work in Asia, Eastern Europe, and Latin America is under discussion.

**Editor's Note:** Network member Erik Hauge recently retired from the US National Park Service where he worked in several Mt PAs. The E-Team has 28 names of world class experts who can participate. The first RCAP was in the Southern Appalachian Mountains Biosphere Reserve beginning in 1991, and there is a solid record of accomplishment since then. David Sheppard, on behalf of IUCN's Protected Areas Programme has endorsed this initiative, and the Mountain Theme of WCPA certainly is enthusiastic. Unfortunately no funding support to meet expenses of E-Team in other countries has yet surfaced, but "contracts" could be arranged with governments if any Mt PAs need this service. Erik is at xanadu@undial.com or 30378 Appaloosa Drive, Evergreen, Colorado 80439 USA.

### **Mont Blanc Region (Italy, France, Switzerland)**

CIAPM (International Committee of Associations for the Protection of the Mont Blanc) is a volunteer coalition of 20 Alpine Clubs and environmental organizations. It is dedicated to achieving transborder protected area designation (National Park) for this highest mountain peak in the Alps. Barbara Ehringhaus, of Mountain Wilderness Suisse, and President of CIAPM writes:

*Located at the intersection of the Western and Central Alps, - its knee or elbow - the Mont Blanc represents a variety of geological and geo-morphological alpine features. It combines all climate and altitudinal zones of the Western Alps with 2/3 of all alpine and sub-alpine vegetation cover and the respective fauna.*

- As the Roof of the Alps, the Mont Blanc has become a major geographic and symbolic landmark, an icon, in Europe and beyond.
- The MB summit itself with its 4,807 m is the highest mountain peak of the Alps.
- The MB range has numerous other summits above 4,000 m, pointed peaks and pinnacles, called "aiguilles", and a huge mass of glaciers in its core zone.
- There are spectacular views onto the main range from the mountains all around, and of course a fabulous panorama from the Mont Blanc itself onto the surrounding mountains.
- The core zone around the mountain ranges about 80,000 ha.
- The whole area embraces more than 300,000 ha, joining both the Vanoise National Park in France and the Gran Paradiso National Park in Italy, and thus offering a triangular protection cluster of significant size.

Barbara and her colleagues are promoting World Heritage status for Mont Blanc area. This past July, in the footsteps of Saussure (see quote on page 1), a series of events and a popular hike to the summit of Salève, and series of excursions were implemented under the banner of Campaign "Mont Blanc 2000". Ed Bernbaum was a special guest with his program on sacred mountains. We wish success to CIAPM and its affiliate organizations in their efforts to finally achieve formal protection for this mountain range.

### **Yosemite NP - Aircraft Overflights**

*From: Report on Effects of Overflights on the National Park System*

A survey by National Park Service showed that aircraft were audible 30-60% of the time, particularly in areas out of the valley. Acoustics were measured at four sites and they found that high altitude commercial aircraft could be heard at a rate of 10-30 per hour, and private propeller planes at a rate of 2-4 per hour. Currently in place under the National Parks Overflight Act for this park and four others is a restriction on flights below 2,000 ft above the terrain; but this has not solved the problem, as seen by the above data. For other mountain areas with no restriction but with scenic attractiveness, the problem can be very large.

### **International Ranger Federation Activity**

Enthusiasm is contagious, and this seems to be the case with the IRF and a growing number of national associations. The IRF Newsletter is a delight to peruse because it engenders a feeling of optimism that at least some of our PAs are being well cared for by dedicated people. The IRF year 2000 Congress, September 10-16 in Kruger NP, South Africa will have well over 300 delegates, according to President Gordon Miller.

A new Partnership for Zapovedniks and National Rangers has been announced by Natalia Danilina, which will strengthen and support a new Russian ranger association. A park ranger corps has been created in Chile by the Corporación Nacional Forestal, which has jurisdiction over the parks. The German Ranger Association now has 132 members. The Slovak and Czech Ranger Associations are cooperating in joint meetings as are the four associations in Ireland, Northern Ireland, Scotland and England/Wales. Vlado Vancura continues to be one of the most active of our Mt PA Network members in this IRF movement.

### **Mountain PAs in Albania**

Though often in the news over the past few years, most of us know little about the protected areas system in the country of Albania. I have excerpted some sections from the EUROPARC newsletter to partially rectify this with brief notes on the Mt PAs of Albania. We have no Network members from this country and would welcome any suggestion as to an appropriate individual or two. The information was provided by Mehmet Meta of the General Directorate of Forests and Pastures.

About 36% (1,040,000 ha) of Albania's land is in forest, 87% of which is in timber production with the rest set aside for conservation. Since 1966, there has been a system of National Forest Parks whose untouched ecosystems are of particular value for scientific, social and tourist purposes. There are six such parks: Thethi,

Lura, Dajti, Bozdoveci, Divjaka and Llogara, covering a total of 11,000 ha. Five of these are mountainous, as is the country itself.

Thethi NP is comprised of the mountains around the Thethi River and is marked by old stands of beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) forests. The Lura NP, located in northeast Albania represents the richest coniferous pine and fir forests, which are comprised of black pine (*Pinus nigra*) Macedonian pine (*Pinus peuce*), Bosnian pine (*Pinus heldreichi*) and white fir (*Abies alba*). Dajti NP, located on the mountain of the same name, just 30 km from Tirana, is a geological phenomena with very rich flora and fauna, and is an important enjoyment area for inhabitants of Tirana. Bozdoveci NP is located in the southeastern part of the country and is known for its majestic fir forests, numerous streams and unique rock formations. Llogara NP is named after a mountain which rises from the Ionic Sea up to 2,018 m, and which has many vegetation zones, from Mediterranean oak forests with Kermes oak (*Quercus coccifera*), and beech forests, to alpine grasslands with individual Bosnian pines (*Pinus heldreichi*).

There are in addition several national parks about to be established and various other kinds of reserves and monuments set up to protect such things as the endemic Balkan forsythia, Bosnian pines and white fir, habitat for bear, wolf, wild goat and marten.

### **Huemul and E-Conferencing**

Anthony Povilitis, President of Life Net in Willcox Arizona has been working with wildlife restoration and re-wilding programs for many years. His latest foray is into the world of the huemul, an endangered type of deer of the Southern Andes. It is the symbol of Chile, and a national heritage of Argentina, and transfrontier conservation cooperation is required to bring back this species whose abundance is estimated at between 800 and 2,000 individuals in scattered mountain populations. Bi-national conferences are now held every 3 years attended by park personnel, scientists, foresters, conservation educators and NGOs. Continual cooperation and communication are essential to the process of restoration, plus the development of a centralized data base for the two countries. The last conference was held in Bariloche in 1998. Tony has in 1999 been involved as a moderator for a successful electronic conferences in intervening year, so that more interested persons can participate. This seems to be the kind of e-conference with a high payoff, --fairly narrowly targeted.

Tony has just spent two months in Chile at the beginning of this year. Further information available from him [anthony@roadrunner.com](mailto:anthony@roadrunner.com) or HCR Route 3, Box 3845, Willcox Arizona 85643 USA.

### **Managing the New Recreational Impacts in Mt PAs**

*Roz McClellan, Southern Rockies Ecosystem Project, [mccler@spot.colorado.edu](mailto:mccler@spot.colorado.edu)*

The current expansion of outdoor recreation is a function of a growing and more mobile population with a hunger for physical challenge and access to nature. While conferring many social and economic benefits to society, outdoor recreation must be managed responsibly so as to maintain the natural attractions, --scenery, natural values and an authentic outdoor experience-- on which it is based.

Current policies and mandates do not adequately address the ways in which new types and levels of recreation differ from previous public lands uses. Laws and policies are needed which assure that recreational growth is compatible with maintaining the ecological values of public lands. New policies can be based on the array of coping strategies which land managers are currently improvising to meet the challenge of recreational growth. Carrying capacity models, designated trail programs, timing and seasonal restrictions, habitat effectiveness models and Travel Management Plans are among the approaches which could form a basis for new recreational policies.

Public education, self-regulation and self-restraint will be important components of any successful recreational policy. Another solution may be the reclamation, through landscaping and other means, of recreational settings in already disturbed areas, as a substitute for entering irreplaceable, naturally-evolved habitat. Ultimately, the Parks Services with their "visitor experience/resource protection" services models, may offer some of the best prospects for managing the human recreational experience so that it stays within the carrying capacity of the land.

### Bits and Pieces

Natalia Danilina tells us of an interesting event called "**Peaceful Caucasus.**" It was initiated by National Park Alanya (in Oessetia), which joined with Zapovedniks and National Parks from Dagestan, Kazachero-Cherkessia in Krasnodar Region in a walk to Mount Elbrus (highest in Europe). The objective was to celebrate together for mountains and nature in a peaceful environment, and it was held in conjunction with the European Day of Parks. The flags of EUROPARC Federation and Natalia's Environmental Centre for Zapovedniks were "planted" on the mountain with extensive press and TV coverage. The idea was conceived by Rodion Bucherkury.

The WCPA Steering Committee meeting in June was hosted in a mountain PA, within the city limits of Rio de Janeiro. **Parque Nacional do Tijuca** (highest peak, 1,021 m) was originally largely cleared for coffee plantations during the 17th and 18th centuries. When Rio's water supply situation became serious, protection and massive restoration with species largely native to the Mata Atlantica rainforest was initiated by the Portuguese government in 1861. Thousands of saplings were planted each year until 1888, and with nature's regenerative powers, the forest today is a fine complex forest resembling the Mata Atlantica. It became a National Park in 1961 and is managed jointly by Rio de Janeiro and the Federal parks agency IBAMA. It was a fine place for our meeting. A day long field trip was organized and delivered by Silvana Campello and George Georgiadis to nearby areas where they are working.

The **Santa Rosa and San Jacinto National Monument** has been authorized by the US Congress. Ordinarily the President declares National Monuments, so this is precedent setting. It also designates the Bureau of Land Management rather than the National Park Service as the agency to have jurisdiction, --also a precedent. This is 272,000 acres (110,075 ha) and almost one-fifth of the area is privately owned, with provisions to "protect private property rights." Network member Mike Hamilton is Director of the University of California's James/San Jacinto Mountain Reserve in the San Jacinto range, and this is a welcome development for him, though it is a rather unusual Monument.

**New World Heritage mountain sites** approved are: Noel Kempff Mercado NP (Bolivia), Kinabalu Park (Sabah, Malaysia), Drakensberg Park also known as Okhahlamba Park (South Africa), and Isole Eolie - Aeolian Islands (Italy). Kinabalu at 754 sq km is Malaysia's first World Heritage site.

Until now none of our Mt PA Network have been, as far as I am aware, honored by having a road named after them. But in June, **Bing Lucas**, WCPA Vice-Chair for World Heritage, was so honored by the community of Tawa, New Zealand where he lives. There is now Bing Lucas Drive, though Bing does not reside on that street. Congratulations to our colleague and friend to many in the Network.

A new Mt PA, **Morne Diablotin NP** has been declared in the Island of Dominica, representing 4.4% of the country. The rare (estimated 200 individuals) sisserou parrot, Dominica's national symbol, was the prime reason for protecting the cloud forest on the slopes of this 1,447 m (4,747 ft) peak. Nearby Morne Trois Pitons (1,387 m) became a World Heritage Site in 1997. A Florida NOG, the Rare Species Conservatory, contributed US\$750,000 to buy a large key private parcel for this new Mt PA.

We have previously reported on the **All Taxa Biodiversity Inventory** which is underway in Great Smoky Mountain NP (estimated that the survey will take 15 years). Already scientists have documented 67 species

previously unknown to science, and another 195 never before seen in the Park. It becomes increasingly obvious that these Appalachian mountains are a major center of biological diversity for the temperate zone of the world.

A **mountain cloud forest web page** has been developed at the World Bank by economist Kenneth Chomitz. It is <http://www.cloudforestalive.org>. He is particularly interested in the Monteverde Cloud Forest Reserve in Costa Rica, and in the Meso American Biological Corridor (largely mountainous) about which we have previously written. Could it be that our "Campaign for Cloud Forests" is finally making some headway?

I am much remiss in not having reported the honor bestowed on one of our Network members. Professor Woo, Bo-Myeong of Seoul National University, Republic of Korea received the **Fred M. Packard International Award**, the highest recognition that WCPA can give for outstanding service on behalf of protected areas. Our sincere congratulations, and my own personal plaudits as well to a long-time colleague, --for he and I go way back to watershed work in Asia and the Pacific in the early 1980s.

Those Mt PA managers who are engaged in programs of predator recovery or re-introduction may be interested in a compilation of **compensation methods for wolf and bear injury** to livestock used in Austria, France, Italy, Greece, Spain and Portugal. Available from maria-isabel.madronal@DG11.cec.be or fax 32 3 296 95 56.

A Meso American Trail Project is being implemented by the Wildlife Conservation Society through Jim Barborak, to develop a system of international hiking trails that could hasten the consolidation of the **Meso American Biological Corridor** involving seven nations. It will also increase revenue for PA management authorities and generate new income for communities in remote areas. Jim Barborak is at WCS fax 352 373 64 43; wcsfl@afn.org or web [www.afn.org/-wcsfl/](http://www.afn.org/-wcsfl/).

Five mountain NPs are among the eight PAs designated by the Philippine Government for special EU funded development as **National Integrated Protected Areas** under a new program. They are: Mount Pulang, Mount Isarog, Mount Iglit-Baco, Mount Guiting-guiting and Mount Malindang.

In a fine article in Vol 38 of Nature and National Parks, the European Bulletin of EUROPARC Federation, Network member Martin Šolar reports on the process of applying the primary management guidelines of the **IUCN PA Management Categories**. Martin is Deputy Director of Triglav NP in Slovenia, an alpine park, and in the article he states that these management objectives criteria for Category II areas have been very helpful in moving Triglav toward a stronger nature conservation status over 40% of the area. When I was in Triglav a few years ago Martin and I discussed this problem of Category II strictness which is a common problem in many parks in Europe labeled National Parks, but which are mostly Category V or sometimes even Category VI. Very helpful is the "Interpretation and Application of Protected Areas Management Categories in Europe" (second edition) published in 2000 by EUROPARC and IUCN.

Paul Dingwall from New Zealand's Department of Conservation has sent us a photo he took in the mountains near Wellington of a metal plaque bolted into a rock which states: "**Great Things Area Done When Men and Mountains Meet.**" Not politically correct, for there have been many mountaineering women, but the sentiment is great. Thanks, Paul.

The Government of Canada has enacted the **Species at Risk Act** that provides authority to prohibit actions which would destroy listed endangered or threatened flora and fauna (including habitat destruction) on all lands in Canada. It gives official recognition to a Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada which would do the listing. Over the past 22 years, COSEWIC has classified 340 species as extinct, extirpated in Canada, endangered, threatened or vulnerable.

### **Some Publications of Interest**

Cooperation in the European Mountains 2: The Caucasus. Edited by Martin Price. IUCN Environmental

Research Series 13 of European Regional Office, Tilburg, Netherlands. Contributions by Yuri Badenkov and V. Vashakmadze. Will be translated and published in Russian. Available from IUCN Publications Services Unit, 219c Huntingdon Road, Cambridge CB3 0DL United Kingdom; fax 44 1 23 27 71 75; info@books.iucn.org.

Cooperation in the European Mountains 3: The sustainable management of climbing areas in Europe by Brigitte Hanemann. IUCN Environmental Research Series 14 of European Regional Office, Tilburg, Netherlands. Good discussion of conflict between climbing and nature conservation in sensitive areas, especially in Germany, Austria, Switzerland, France and England. Available from IUCN Publications Services Unit, same as above.

Biosphere Reserves Bulletin 8, January 2000. This issue appears after a long lapse of time, re-awakened by Peter Bridgewater, Director of the Division of Ecological Sciences, UNESCO. It is an excellent issue, and hopefully ushers in an era of regular publication. UNESCO MAB Programme, 1 rue Miollis, 75732 Paris, Cedex 15, France; mab@unesco.org; fax 33 1 45 68 58 04. Number 9 will appear soon, Peter promises.

The World Network of Biosphere Reserves, 2000. Map and descriptive material, 64 cm x 99 cm, is available also from MAB/UNESCO (see above). Solving the Puzzle: the Ecosystem Approach and Biosphere Reserves. UNESCO, 2000. 12 principles for an ecosystem approach, beautifully illustrated. Available MAB/UNESCO (see above).

Refuges des Alpes (itinerant study on foot of 123 refuges (huts) of 7 Alps countries) by Nathalie Morelle. 2000. Analyses the potential of mountain huts for environmental awareness-raising and makes recommendations to this end. See article on this study in this issue. Commission Internationale pour la Protection des Alpes (CIPRA); cipra@cipra.org; <http://www.cipra.org>; Im Bretscha 22, FL-9494, Schaan. (See article by Nathalie in this issue.)

Voices from the Summit. The world's great mountaineers on the future of climbing. Edited by Bernadette McDonald and John Ammat and published in 2000 by National Geographic Society in cooperation with the Banff Centre for Mountain Culture. Available from the Society, P O Box 916, Hanover, Pennsylvania 17331; fax 1 888 225 5647 for price inquiry.

Decision Time for Cloud Forests. L. A. Bruijnzeel and L. S. Hamilton, 2000. Published by UNESCO International Hydrological Programme, WWF and Netherlands Committee for IUCN. A semi-popular document, written for decision-makers, non-cloud forest scientists, and general citizens, to explain cloud forests and stimulate conservation action. It is No. 13 in the UNESCO Humid Tropics Programme Series and is available from UNESCO/IHP, 1 rue Miollis, 75352 Paris 07SP France; fax 33 1 45 67 58 69.

Papers and Proceedings of Human Waste Management Workshop held in Australian Alps NP in April 2000 is now available. It emphasized the waste problem for remote and high elevation areas. Cost is A\$45 from Brett McNamara [brett\\_mcnamara@bigpond.com.au](mailto:brett_mcnamara@bigpond.com.au).

Nature and Culture in the Andes by Daniel Gade. Dan is a geographer and senior scholar specializing in the Andes, and living 12 miles away from us in Burlington, Vermont. The book is a series of thoughtful and perceptive essays on the convergence of nature and culture in these magnificent mountains. It covers such topics as wilderness, food and plant biodiversity, urban environmental challenges and the complexity of ecological relationships. University of Wisconsin Press, 11030 S. Langley Ave., Chicago, Illinois 60628; fax 800 621 84 76. Paper cover US\$18.95, cloth US\$45; shipping in US add \$3 and overseas add \$4.50 for surface mail.

### **Forthcoming Meetings**

The many September 2000 meetings are not reported here since it is presumably too late to arrange participation in most of them. See last issue for listing.

World Conservation Congress. October 4-11, Amman, Jordan. Theme: Ecospace. The big conservation event of 2000. WCPA meeting October 3-4. Interactive Sessions October 5 and 7. Members' business meetings October 6, 10 and 11. Technical meeting October 9. Excursions October 8. Congress website: <http://www.iucn.org>. Congress Officer at IUCN, Rue Mauverney 28, 1196 Gland, Switzerland; fax 41 22 999 00 20, [jth@hq.iucn.org](mailto:jth@hq.iucn.org).

Managing the Mosaic: Connecting People and Natural Diversity in the 21st Century. October 16-20. Twenty-seventh Natural Areas Association annual conference. St. Louis, Missouri, USA. Information: [www.natareas.org](http://www.natareas.org) (conferences link) or from Coordinator Kate Leary, tel 573 751 4115, ext 183; [learyk@mail.conservation.state.mo.us](mailto:learyk@mail.conservation.state.mo.us).

African Mountains as Water Towers. October 16-20, Maseru, Lesotho. The 5th meeting of the African Mountain Association. Sponsored by Lesotho Mountain Research Group. Contact T. Green, Sechaba Consultants, P O Box 0813, Maseru, 105; [greent@sechaba.co.ls](mailto:greent@sechaba.co.ls); fax 266 31 04 72.

World National Parks Convention. October 23-27, Harz NP, Germany. Contact: Nationalpark Harz, Convention Bureau, Oderhaus 1, D-37444 Sankt Andreasberg; fax 49 55 82 91 89 19; [postelle@npharz.niedersachsen.de](mailto:postelle@npharz.niedersachsen.de). Organized to coincide with EXPO 2000 in Hanover (theme: Man-Nature-Technology). Convention co-sponsored by EUROPARC Federation and held in the World Heritage community of Goslar. Patrizia Rossi is involved in the planning.

V Congreso Internacional de Gestión de Recursos Naturales, November 20-24, Valdivia, Chile. Main themes: Wildlife Management, Environmental Education, and Sustainable Development. Contact: Claudia Gil Cordero, Centro de Estudios Agrarios y Ambientales, Casilla 164, Valdivia; fax 56 63 299 065; [cea@telsur.cl](mailto:cea@telsur.cl).

George Wright Society Conference. April 16-20, 2001, Denver, Colorado. It will focus on integrating approaches to protected areas. Hope to have a large North American Mt PA Network group there for a meeting. [www.georgewright.org/2001.html](http://www.georgewright.org/2001.html).

Human Use Management in Mountain Areas. June 10-14, 2001. Banff, Alberta Canada. Banff Centre for Mountain Culture and Parks Canada.

EUROPARC 2001. Autumn 2001, Lienz, Hohe Tauern NP, Tirol, Austria. Contact: EUROPARC Federation, fax 49 85 52 96 10 19, [office@europarc.org](mailto:office@europarc.org).

World Parks Congress. September 15-26, 2002, Durban, South Africa. Theme: Benefits Beyond Boundaries. 2002 is the International Year of Mountains, and we hope to have substantial Mt PA input and presence at the Congress. I have made proposals for workshops (depending on funding to get participants there) including: re-wilding of Mt PAs; new developments in Mt PA corridors/connections; mountain biodiversity; water from Mt PAs; mountain access issues. Anyone willing to take the lead or assist with a workshop, including finding money, please contact me. Bernadette McDonald of the Banff Centre for Mountain Culture has a fine proposal for a Mountain Festival to run throughout the time; and there will be a field trip to the Drakensberg Mountains post-meeting. Start making your arrangements to participate in this important IUCN event, which happens only every 10 years! Save your money or search for funding support since WCPA Mountain Theme sadly will have none to offer.

### **NEWS FLASH!! IUCN Appoints Mountain Focal Point**

**Andrei Iatsenia**, a native of the Ukraine working at The World Bank, is now at IUCN HQ in Gland as the focal point for Sustainable Mountain Development. This is great news and is a fulfillment of Director General Maritta Koch-Weser's avowed interest in mountains and water. I will meet with Andrei and others August 30 to lay out elements of an IUCN initiative, and pull together the various activities of IUCN Programmes that have a mountain component. Stay tuned for further developments!

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)

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**Browsing Classification:** General: Periodicals: Global: Mountain Protected Areas Update  
Généralités: Périodiques  
Generalidades: Publicaciones Periódicas

**Citation:** Hamilton, L.S. (ed.). 2000. Mountain Protected Areas Update, No. 27. September 2000.

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