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systems.

Question 1: How do we turn the erroneous biblical ideas around? Comment: Only through good interpretation, particularly that done by the church.

Question 2: Is man part of nature? Comments: Choices we make all relate to our own values, whether they be "pray and work," or a true ecological philosophy. I added that man is part of nature and that an adequate data base must be acquired so that man can know at what point he IS or IS NOT compatible with natural laws, based upon an area's management objectives.

## **NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT- NATURE CONSERVATION IN PARKS**

**Statement by Roland H. Wauer  
at the New Directions for Conservation of Parks Conference**

The National Park Service Ranger historically has been a "man for all seasons." His responsibilities have included the protection of the resources, people and park facilities, as well as the full spectrum of management of the park's operational activities and the varied resource programs. But as more and more people came to visit the parks, the Park Ranger's time was spent more and more on people management and less and less on the management and monitoring of the park's significant resources.

In 1970, riots in Yosemite Valley triggered the realization that better and more law enforcement was required to address the numerous volatile issues of the time. The result was that all Park Rangers were required to obtain 400 hours of law enforcement training for certification and an additional 40 hours annually to maintain that status. The product was greater expertise, interest and attention to protecting people and facilities, but less expertise, interest and attention expended in the monitoring and management of the natural and cultural resources of the parks.

All of this happened at a time when the technological advances in industry, agriculture, mining, forestry and the like were beginning to affect adjacent lands. And many of the national parks began to show evidence of these adjacent land uses. Most effects were slow and not readily evident, but some were catastrophic.

The 1960s and 1970s saw increasing park visitation but only moderate increases to the park's budgets and staffs. This was coupled with the significant increase in the number of new parks that diluted the available budgets and staffs. Park resources continued to be impacted.

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The situation within the parks was brought to a head when the Park Service submitted a "State of the Parks Report," to Congress in May 1979, that listed over 4300 "threats" within seven different categories to the natural and cultural resources from both internal and external sources. This initial report was followed with a second "prevention/mitigation report" to Congress in January 1980. This report layed out a strategy that the National Park Service was about to embark upon to provide for the greater protection and management of its resources. The following discussions will include six of those activities:

1. *Resources Management Plans*. New guidelines were completed in January 1980 that made it mandatory for all parks to prepare a Plan by December 1980, that documents all of the current and anticipated management, monitoring and research activities for both the natural and cultural resources. These Plans are 85% completed at this time. Each is housed in loose-leaf binders to permit changes as needed, so that it becomes a park's daily resources workbook, and each must provide the basis for all requests for new dollars and personnel. No new dollar allocations will be permitted until it is first documented within an approved Plan.

2. *Significant Resource Problems (SRPs)*. As a way to identify the most immediate needs for new dollars, every park was asked to prepare SRP statements for their most urgent needs. These were further ranked by pertinent regional offices and submitted to the central office. All of the Regional Directors met to rank these SRPs into a Servicewide list of 38 natural and 63 cultural resource projects. These then became the Service's priorities for budget requests for the next budget cycle.

The SRP exercise has since been used annually and serves as a method to rank requests for funds available from special resources management allocations received from Congress.

3. *Natural Resources Management Training*. Courses and workshops were designed for Superintendents, mid-level personnel, and Resource Specialists to update those employees on ecological principles, environmental law, better interrelationships between science and resources management, the modern tools of the resources manager, and special Servicewide initiatives underway and anticipated.

To date, 150 Superintendents and 160 mid-level people have received these instructions, and of the seven proposed workshops for Resource Management Specialists, four have been held for 160 employees.

4. *Natural Resources Management Trainee Development Program*.

This program was started in 1982 by placing 37 new Natural Resources Management Specialist Trainees in parks most needful of this expertise. All of the trainees prepared Individual Development Plans that lay out their 24-month long training curricula. All of the components are product-oriented so that home parks can benefit immediately from their presence. At the end of the

training period, each individual will remain within their home park as the new Resources Management Specialist.

The program is designed to repeat every two years by bringing on new trainees and placing them into parks where this expertise is most needed. These two-year training assignments will continue every two years through 1990. By then, all park units that possess significant natural resources will possess at least one fulltime Natural Resource Management Specialist at a level where resources management can compete with the other areas of park protection, interpretation, maintenance and administration.

5. *Information Baseline Guidelines.* These guidelines will provide the park manager with a better tool for understanding what information is required for various levels of decision-making. All conceivable information needs will be listed in one of three levels: (1) Level one is the baseline information necessary prior to any master planning, such as base maps and files on key resources (examples: topographic, cultural and type maps; localities of all endangered and unique species, soil types at key sites, etc.); (2) Level two includes more specific information that is required to develop specific management action plans, such as those for backcountry, river management, exotic species reduction or control, species restoration, etc.; and (3) Level three includes all other information that may be necessary but may never be fully acquired.

These guidelines will help park managers prioritize information needs, based upon specific problems, planning efforts anticipated, and long-term ecological monitoring and research.

6. *Resources Information Tracking System (RITS).* This is a three-part system designed to track (1) various types of natural and cultural resource activities that are documented in area Resources Management Plans, (2) abstract materials for all related reports, and (3) all pertinent permits issued for research and monitoring activities.

RITS will provide the park manager with instant information about the great amount of already available information about the parks, and will be an extremely valuable tool for the decision-maker as well as planners and scientists.

It is extremely important that these various activities progress together so that the tools and attitudes are compatible, and that the adequate personnel and dollars are available for program implementation. All are designed to address the priority of available information and the long-term, systematic approach to problem identification and assessment, and prevention and mitigation of threats to the significant natural and cultural resources for which the parks were established.

*Roland H. Wauer*, Assistant Superintendent, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, North Carolina-Tennessee, USA.

## **RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED AT THE INTERNATIONAL WORKING CONFERENCE: New Directions for Conservation of Parks--June 5-15, 1983**

INTRODUCTION. The Conferees agreed to resolutions on various matters of concern to parks of North America and Europe. A small committee was created and participants were asked to submit suggestions. These were then edited by the Committee and discussed at two meetings of the whole. A consensus was reached on the following resolutions and were adopted by a formal vote of the conference participants.

1. Toward a Philosophical Basis of Understanding  
WHEREAS humanity depends wholly on the natural order for its material and spiritual existence.  
WHEREAS we then must perceive ourselves as part of the body of nature and develop an adequate value system.  
BE IT RESOLVED therefore that the participants of this International Conference on "New Directions for Conservation of Parks" strive toward the realization in these matters and go forth to seek out and work with all institutions that they may aid in bringing about an ecological conscience in mankind.
2. Humanities and National Parks  
WHEREAS like science, the humanities can promote understanding of national parks and their role in protecting environment, for example through studies of human history.  
WHEREAS these studies can reveal much about varying human perceptions of environment, as shown by literature, art and music, as well as by different technologies and their environmental effects.  
BE IT RESOLVED therefore that conservation organizations lead in promoting the humanities approach to national parks. These organizations should promote films, art exhibits, special magazine issues, books and TV programs, among other endeavors for use in parks, schools, churches or other appropriate settings.
3. Ecosystems in Need of Protection  
WHEREAS great progress has been made in designating, setting up and managing national parks and other protected areas in the countries from which the participants in this conference have come.  
WHEREAS desirable efforts have been made to create systems including representative natural and cultural areas.  
WHEREAS there are major categories that are inadequately or not represented in the international network.  
WHEREAS there are certain unique areas which should be part of the protected area system.

BE IT RESOLVED therefore that

1. National governments should as a matter of urgency complete the establishment of park and reserve systems to protect as many as possible of the significant inadequately represented types, for example: intact raised bogs in Europe, the tallgrass prairie in the U.S., other dry grass areas and forests in Europe, and seashores and marine ecosystems in both areas. Efforts should also be made to protect unique areas such as the Columbia River gorge and Santa Monica Mountains in the U.S. and the Waldensee and Hohe Tauern Alpine Region in Europe.

2. Governments be urged to prepare inventories of such crucial ecosystems while respecting the initiative of citizen groups as they develop sound ecological and economic data of the protection of such examples of the global heritage.

4. Wilderness, Potential Wilderness and Equivalent Areas

WHEREAS such areas should be a basic part of nature conservation which aims to maintain and develop diversity in floral and faunal species and ecosystems and landscape types.

WHEREAS such areas should not detract from the creation and management of different man-made landscape types, parks and reserves.

WHEREAS such areas should essentially be unaltered by man now or in the future.

WHEREAS such areas should be sites where natural evolution can go on.

WHEREAS such areas are more and more rare in Europe and North America.

BE IT RESOLVED therefore that

1. Wilderness, potential wilderness and equivalent areas be preserved and/or restored in each country in all ways that are possible.

2. Such areas be protected against any disturbance by recreational use which would detract from the wilderness character.

3. Such areas be created and managed in such a way as to promote conservation while maintaining the integrity of indigenous people who might be living in the area.

5. A Declaration on Natural Parks and Nature Reserves

WHEREAS a declaration in support of national parks and nature reserves would assist in raising the consciousness of people and governments.

WHEREAS the declaration should be made with IUCN to reaffirm the Bali World Conference Resolutions.

- WHEREAS a statement would be timely.
- WHEREAS parks improve the appreciation of culture/heritage and are a vehicle for international understanding.
- WHEREAS it is appropriate that the Council of Europe make a declaration.
- BE IT RESOLVED therefore that the Council of Europe and other international bodies should make a formal declaration on the importance of parks and nature reserves to natural and cultural heritage protection in the member nations as well as in promoting international understanding. Allowing time for suitable preparation of appropriate activities, the Council should also support a year of the parks.
6. Data on Economic benefits of Parks and Nature Reserves
- WHEREAS local opposition to creation of strictly protected national parks and nature reserves is often founded on concern about continued viability of the local economy.
- WHEREAS the principal national parks and nature reserves objective is protection of outstanding natural and cultural resources.
- WHEREAS creation of such parks and reserves can confer significant economic benefits for the community.
- WHEREAS reliable data is often not available about economic benefits of park development.
- BE IT RESOLVED therefore that there be developed a general method for collection and dissemination of credible information about park and reserve economic benefits.
7. Zones in National Parks and Nature Reserves
- WHEREAS the practice of zoning has been used for several years.
- WHEREAS the zoning method is used in different ways as a planning system and/or management system, as buffer zones and so on.
- WHEREAS there are now different opinions about the need for zoning and the efficiency of zoning.
- BE IT RESOLVED therefore that an evaluation be done of the benefits and drawbacks of zoning in national parks and nature reserves.
8. Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)
- WHEREAS EIAs and equivalent systems are seen as useful parts of planning processes in order to ensure that all possible impacts are considered.

WHEREAS such systems help to bring environmental issues clearly into the political side of decision making.

BE IT RESOLVED therefore that

1. EIAs and equivalent systems should be incorporated at the earliest stage possible of the planning process.
2. Such systems are a beneficial aid to the assessment of development, but should not be used as ends in themselves.
3. Such systems should be brought in at the policymaking stage of the planning process to assist in determining appropriate land and resource uses.
4. Such systems should provide ample opportunity for citizen review in early as well as later stages of the process.

9. Volunteer and Citizen Group Involvement in National Parks and Nature Reserves

WHEREAS nations which foster and encourage the management of national parks, nature reserves and the like provide the citizens of their respective countries with invaluable and vital resources for scenic and wildlife protection, cultural and historical preservation, scientific studies and resource management, and human recreation.

WHEREAS these citizens can learn from and contribute to national parks and nature reserves through involvement in park policy and practice.

BE IT RESOLVED therefore that national parks and nature reserves personnel encourage volunteers and citizen groups inclusion in the activities of parks and reserves in the interest of a more informed citizenry and more effective management.

10. International Cooperation and Parks

WHEREAS continued learning and sharing of ideas is necessary for the worldwide conservation of parks and other protected areas.

WHEREAS international thematic conferences and seminars seem likely vehicles for providing continuous learning and the sharing of ideas.

WHEREAS professional and citizen group leaders can learn much from exchanges.

WHEREAS worthy individuals from various countries are unable to attend such international events due to financial limitations.

BE IT RESOLVED therefore that

1. The international seminar on the administration of national parks and equivalent reserves arranged jointly by the University of Michigan, U. S., National Park Service and Parks Canada be continued and further developed.
2. Corresponding seminars to meet European needs be arranged by responsible organizations such as the Federation for Nature and National Parks of Europe and the National Parks & Conservation Association.
3. Exchange and learning opportunities also be arranged for professional personnel and citizen group leaders.
4. Scholarship funds be created to assist financially with exchanges and the attendance of worthy individuals at international conferences and seminars.
5. Special committees of appropriate organizations be appointed to administer and develop financial resources for the scholarship fund.

11. Landscape Management

WHEREAS the European experience with the management of national parks has suggested the compatibility of certain natural and manmade components when managed as part of an integrated landscape. Such landscapes serve an essential role in preservation of natural habitats, local economies, and traditional lifestyles, both in Europe and increasingly in the U.S.

BE IT RESOLVED therefore that the concept of "Greenline Parks" be further developed for implementation in the United States with the aid of the European experience.

12. Future International Conferences and Exchange of Ideas

WHEREAS this meeting on New Directions for Conservation of Parks has led to greater understanding among participants.

WHEREAS the participants believe that future conferences are very desirable for promoting exchanges of ideas.

BE IT RESOLVED therefore that

1. The sponsoring organizations work toward the holding of another comparable conference in the near future, preferably at Banff National Park on the occasion of the 1985 Canadian National Park Centennial.
2. Further efforts be made to develop international forums or federations preferably on a continental basis.