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INTRODUCTION

1992 ANNUAL REPORT

During the period of this report the University of Wyoming-National Park Service (UW-NPS) Research Center supported and administered research in the biological, physical and social sciences performed in the 41 national parks, monuments, and recreation areas in Wyoming, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Colorado and Utah. The UW-NPS Research Center solicited research proposals from university faculty or full-time governmental research scientists throughout North America through a request for proposals. Research proposals addressed topics developed by National Park Service scientists, resource managers, and administrators and dealt with questions of direct management importance as well as those of a basic scientific nature.

The Research Center continues to consider unsolicited proposals addressing applied and basic scientific questions related to park management. Research proposals are distributed to nationally-recognized scientists for peer review and are also reviewed and evaluated by the Research Center’s steering committee. This committee is composed of university faculty and National Park Service representatives and is chaired by the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, University of Wyoming. This committee makes recommendations to the National Park Service regarding awarding of research contracts. Research contracts are usually awarded by the middle of March.

The UW-NPS Research Center also operates a NPS-owned field research station in Grand Teton National Park. The research station provides researchers in the biological, physical, and social sciences enhanced opportunity to work in the diverse aquatic and terrestrial environments of Grand Teton National Park and the surrounding Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. Station facilities include housing for up to 40 researchers, wet and dry laboratories, a library, herbarium, boats, and shop accommodations. The research station is available to researchers working in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem regardless of funding source, although priority is given to individuals whose projects are funded by the Research Center.

RESEARCH PROJECT REPORTS

The following project reports have been prepared primarily for administrative use. The information reported is preliminary and may be subject to change as investigations continue. Consequently, information presented may not be used without written permission from the author(s).
FEATURE ARTICLE