

NCRN Inventory and Monitoring Program Online Newsletter

Number 006

December 2003

(1) NEW STAFF

(2) NEW WEB ADDRESS

(3) MONITORING PLANNING CONTINUES

(4) WHAT HAVE WE DONE LATELY?

1. I & M Team Welcomes New Staff

Filling the Regional I & M Coordinator position has been a long time in the making. Please join us in welcoming Dr. Shawn Carter to the helm as the Regional Coordinator. Dr. Carter comes to us from Syracuse NY where he was working on a Post Doctoral position involving ecosystem health monitoring. He has also collaborated with the NE Temperate Network in developing conceptual models.

In addition, we welcome Briana Sanders to the team. Some of you may already be familiar with her through her previous work as a Bio-Technician for the IPM Program. She has already been working extremely hard by adding lots and lots of new data to the inventory database (NPSpecies).

For more information about our new staff contact Shawn Carter (202-342-1443 x227; Shawn_Carter@nps.gov). You may also take a look at our website <http://www.nature.nps.gov/im/units/ncrn/index.html>).

2. New Website Address

The NCRN website continues to be updated with Board of Directors meeting minutes, Newsletters, and annual report and workplans. Please note that the web address has changed to: <http://www.nature.nps.gov/im/units/ncrn/index.html>.

For more information about the website, contact Mikaila Milton (202-342-1443 x225; Mikaila_Milton@nps.gov).

3. Protocol Development Begins

In order to start the drafting of monitoring protocols, the I & M staff has been coordinating meetings between parks and principal investigators to evaluate existing monitoring programs and discuss the implementation of region-wide monitoring that complements existing park efforts. Most recently, MANA hosted a meeting for parks, CUE staff, and Dr. Dave Chojnacky of the USDA Forest Service who is collaborating with I & M staff to develop vegetation monitoring protocols. In addition, PRWI hosted a meeting to discuss water resources monitoring for the region. Other meetings that have been held include a remote sensing meeting with I & M staff and Drs. Phil Townsend and

Bob Gardner and an RTE monitoring meeting with Jeff Waldon of Virginia Tech. More planning sessions will take place throughout the year.

For more information about the progress planning process, contact Shawn Carter, Regional I&M Coordinator (202-342-1443 x227) or Marcus Koenen, Monitoring Coordinator (202-342-1443 x 216; Marcus_Koenen@nps.gov).

4. Recent Products

The I & M team has been busy this fall. We have just completed our annual report which is posted on our web page. While many annual reports are great cures for insomnia, you'll note that the I&M Annual Report is full of interesting tidbits about the region. In it you'll note that the first year of the bat inventory found the greatest diversity at ROCR despite its urban surroundings. One of our cooperators also found a significant population of the rare Alleghany Woodrat at CHOH. Take a look to see what other interesting facts may be available about your park.

To download a copy of the report go to <http://www.nature.nps.gov/im/units/ncrn/index.html> and select products. For additional questions contact Marcus Koenen (202-342-1443 x 216; Marcus_Koenen@nps.gov).

This Newsletter is sent quarterly by the National Capital Region Network Inventory and Monitoring Program. The staff is based out of the NPS Center for Urban Ecology, 4598 MacArthur Blvd. NW, Washington DC 20007. Please pass it on to interested individuals. If you would like to be added to or deleted from the mailing list, please contact Marcus Koenen (Marcus_Koenen; 202-342-1443 x 216).