

# **NCRN Inventory and Monitoring Program Online Newsletter**

Number 007

March 2004

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## **1. I & M Team Welcomes New Staff**

We are very happy to announce an addition to our team. Geoffrey Sanders has taken the data manager position and will be joining us in mid April. He comes to us from Patuxent Wildlife Research Center in Laurel Maryland where he has been working on remote sensing for a global climate change program. He has extensive expertise in ArcGIS ArcInfo, GPS, and database development using Microsoft Access. He received his BS in Biology from University of Scranton and MS in Environmental Sciences from John Hopkins University.

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

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## **2. Outstanding in their fields**

As summer nears, it will soon be time to head out into the field for more biological inventories. So far we have completed the Small Mammal and Bird Inventories. All of this data has already been entered into NPSpecies. Meanwhile, field work is going to continue on several fronts, including the Amphibian and Reptile surveys at CATO, GWMP, HAFE, MANA, MONO, ROCR, and WOTR. Plant inventories will also continue at ANTI, PRWI, MONO, and WOTR. Fish inventories will continue as well but specific sites have not yet been identified for the field season. If you want a copy of the final report for birds or small mammals or join any of the principal investigators in the field, call the number below for more information.

For more information about the inventories, contact Marcus Koenen (202-342-1443 x216; [Marcus\\_Koenen@nps.gov](mailto:Marcus_Koenen@nps.gov)).

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## **3. New Projects for 04.**

We are currently pursuing several new projects. A non-vascular plant inventory was approved by the Board of Directors last fall and we are working to set up a project to inventory macrofungi in the NCRN. In addition, we are moving ahead with developing

protocols for the region-wide deer monitoring, bird monitoring and amphibian monitoring. Cooperators are already working with us to develop long term landscape monitoring using remote sensing tools, water quality monitoring, vegetation monitoring, and RTE species monitoring. There may be some field work associated with pilot projects this summer but no dates or parks have been scheduled so far.

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](mailto:Marcus_Koenen@nps.gov)).

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#### **4. You've got Whale!**

Did you know that there are whales at NACE? Ok, so maybe there are no living whales and there may not have even been any in recent memory. But, at one time there were. How do we know? Vince Santucci at GWMP has been spearheading a paleontological inventory for the I & M Program. His research noted that a partial fossil of a baleen whale was discovered along the Suitland Parkway during the spring of 1997. The specimen, including parts of the skull and post-cranial skeleton, was uncovered during a construction project. The remains were excavated and are now at the Smithsonian. The skeleton is estimated to be 14 feet in length. We'll soon be getting all the results from this and their many other findings.

For additional questions contact Marcus Koenen (202-342-1443 x 216; [Marcus\\_Koenen@nps.gov](mailto:Marcus_Koenen@nps.gov)).

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This Newsletter is sent out 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@nps.gov](mailto:Marcus_Koenen@nps.gov); 202-342-1443 x 216).