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ABOUT THE GEORGE WRIGHT FORUM

The George Wright Forum was the journal of the George Wright Society from 1981 through 2018, published in 35 volumes with a total of 125 issues. Its mission was to “examine critical issues and present new research related to parks, protected areas, and cultural sites around the world.” The hallmark of the journal was its interdisciplinary approach, covering all fields relevant to natural and cultural heritage stewardship.

Early volumes of the journal did not carry dates embedded on each page, so that information is provided on this cover sheet.

The George Wright Forum ceased publication at the end of 2018. Beginning in 2020, it is continued by *Parks Stewardship Forum*, an open-access journal co-published by the George Wright Society and the University of California, Berkeley, Institute for Parks, People, and Biodiversity. *Parks Stewardship Forum* continues both the mission and the interdisciplinary approach of *The George Wright Forum*. The first volume of *Parks Stewardship Forum* is denominated as Volume 36 to indicate this continuity. *Parks Stewardship Forum* is published at <https://escholarship.org/uc/psf> and has been selected by the Library of Congress to be archived as “an important and valuable addition to our collections and to the historical record.”

CITING THE GEORGE WRIGHT FORUM

We recommend that you use the DOI (Digital Object Identifier) as the weblink. DOIs for each article are available at through *The George Wright Forum*'s permanent archive website, <https://escholarship.org/uc/gwf>.

You can also find *The George Wright Forum* through JSTOR at <https://www.jstor.org/journal/georwrigforu>.

When citing, please note that the definite article “The” is part of the journal's title.

ABOUT THE GEORGE WRIGHT SOCIETY

The George Wright Society supports parks, protected/conserved areas, cultural sites, and other kinds of place-based conservation by encouraging communication among and convenings of researchers, managers, educators, practitioners, and the public to facilitate informed decisions and actions that embrace our values.

GWS is a membership organization and we would welcome your support. To find out more, or to donate, please go to <https://www.georgewrightssociety.org>.

Sounding a note of almost religious fervor, Under Secretary of State James Buckley welcomed the delegates to the US Strategy Conference on Biological Diversity, November 16 through 18, 1981, in Washington, DC. Extinction is "an act of awesome finality," Buckley said. "Man cannot restore a species. He can only exterminate."

The message that came through in almost every session of the three-day conference was the need in the United States for a national conservation strategy. Over and over, the delegates heard a call for all resource management agencies to examine their policies for attention to biological diversity—to assure that the living resources of the nation are preserved for research and for use in industrial and agricultural processes. Whether the subject was the filling-out of gaps and the maintenance of genetic banks; whether it was the establishment of a global communications system that would link researchers, breeders and users; whether it was the weather connection between Brazil's forests and the production of Kansas wheat—the recommendation that came through again and again was the need for a US policy that would promote maintenance of genetic resources domestically and in all international dealings.

Buckley decried the "accelerating impoverishment of global genetic diversity" and the resulting damage to the safety net these resources represent for all life on Earth. These are resources that "we are still too ignorant to understand" and they represent "books yet to be deciphered and read," Buckley told the delegates.

Final recommendations emerged on the 3d day from five working groups: terrestrial plant species, terrestrial animal species, aquatic species, microbial resources, and ecosystems maintenance. Conference Proceedings will be available free of charge after mid-February by writing Bill Long, Director, Office of Food and Natural Resources, Bureau of Oceans, International Environment and Science, Department of State, Washington, D. C. 20520.

In the interest of follow-up, The George Wright Society will sponsor a strategy conference on natural and cultural resource preservation in November 1982 in Washington, DC. The conference will be a working one with invited papers and discussions centering on how to build broad effective programs through policy and procedural structures that invite and use the widest possible government and private participation.

In conjunction with the strategy conference in November 1982 there will be a meeting of the membership of The George Wright Society for the purpose of holding the triennial election of officers and conducting other Society business. More news here in the Winter 1982 FORUM.

IRS and Us: Advance ruling has been issued (19 November 1981) by the IRS Detroit District Office granting the Society a tax exempt, tax deductible status under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Reprints of the Report to Secretary of the Interior James G. Watt, as noted on page 9, are being made available at cost to members and nonmembers as a part of the Society's resource research and education

rôle. 500 copies are available and a reprinting can be made if demand exists.

A meeting of the DC Chapter of the Society was hosted by the National Parks & Conservation Assoc. at their HQ on 8 December, where the film "Land of Lost Borders: The Chihuahuan Desert, Park I" was viewed and election of Chapter officers was held. Elected were: Ro Wauer, President; Destry Jarvis, Vice President; Clay Peters, Secretary; Diane Gelburd, Treasurer. Chapter by-laws and programs will be developed soon, and Program and Membership committees will be formed.

Fred Mallery Packard, 1914-1981, retired International Specialist with the US NPS, died 5 December of a heart attack at home in Fairfax, VA. Fred was born in Rutherford, NJ, re-

ceived a BS in ornithology from Harvard, conducted research on bighorn in Rocky Mountain NP, served in the Navy in WW-2. He became Executive Secretary of the National Parks Association after WW-2, joined BLM as a wildlife management specialist in 1962, and transferred to the NPS in 1964 where he became internationally known for his exemplary work in international park affairs. He compiled the first UN List of National Parks and Equivalent Reserves (within the UN member states), was very active in the work of IUCN and negotiated a cooperative agreement between Japan and the US on park matters. He advised the governments of Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda on parks and exhibits. Fred retired in 1978, but remained active until his death. He is survived by his wife, Jean, and a daughter Jean. □

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Special Task Force of the [US] National Park System Advisory Board and Council:*

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Larry Erickson. Rancher, Minot, North Dakota.

E. Raymond Hall. Professor Emeritus, Department of Systematics and Ecology, University of Kansas, Lawrence.

Walter M. Schirra. Consultant on Environmental Affairs, and former U. S. Astronaut.

* The Council is composed of former Advisory Board members.

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ILLUSTRATIONS

Line drawings of birds and mammals on pages 15 through 32 were specially prepared for this Report, by Ray Krumm, Pelkie, Michigan.