

CONSERVATION CROSSFEED

Notes from AFCEE/ECC
May 2001

INTERNATIONAL MIGRATORY BIRD DAY, 12 May 2001

A time to celebrate by brewing shade-grown coffee for the day.

Coffee Lovers everywhere. This is to ask for your support and participation in observing International Migratory Bird Day (IMBD). What, you might ask, is the connection between migratory birds and coffee? Well, actually the connection is quite strong. Most of those little birds, which are active in our backyards and gardens in the spring and summer, spend the winter in the tropics (Central and South America), where coffee is a large cash crop. Traditionally coffee is/was grown under large shade trees, providing habitat for a large number of different species of birds. Newer varieties of coffee (often with higher yields and greater economic gain) can be grown under full sun. Unfortunately, there is a large tradeoff here. Growing the newer varieties requires huge inputs of fertilizers and pesticides and also destroys essential habitat for migratory birds. Because of the economic benefit more growers are tearing out traditional shade tree coffee plantations and putting in sun grown coffee. Results of numerous bird studies in North America indicate a reduction in the numbers of individual birds as well as the numbers of species.

How can individuals help? One of the strategies presented by the organizers of IMBD is to promote consumption of shade tree grown coffee. By drinking shade grown coffee we promote the conservation of essential bird habitat in the tropics. Obviously shade grown coffee is more expensive, but as environmentally aware individuals lets put our money where our mouth (or in this case, our tastebuds) are.

Here at AFCEE we celebrated IMBD on 10 May 2001 by offering shade grown coffee, exclusively at all coffee stations, and by providing informational display at each coffee station explaining the connection between the birds and the shade-grown coffee. Although the official day (May 12) has past, you could celebrate it a little late, or definitely mark it on your calendar for next year. I'm sure the birds would like that.

If you have questions about the concept please see more on the IMBD website <http://www.birdday.org/> or give us a call at DSN 240-3823 (Dan Friese)

The Mandatory Center of Expertise for Curation and Management of Archaeological Collections (MCX-CMAC), US Army Corps of Engineers, St Louis District Office, has recently completed an interactive webpage for Tribal Cultural and Natural Resources POCs. Page address is: <http://www.mvs.usace.army.mil/engr/curation/NagpraPOC.asp>

Other useful information regarding archaeological collections curation and management can be found at their more general webpage: <http://www.mvs.usace.army.mil/engr/curation/home.htm>
Or contact Dr. Jim Wilde DSN 240-6546



A quick thank you to all whom sent pictures and stories about Earth Day. We were unable to use them in this year's display, much to our disappointment.



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NEW POLICY FOR WILDLAND FIRE MANAGEMENT

HQ AFCEA/CEXF AND HQ AFCEE/EC co-hosted a policy workshop at Tyndall AFB between 6-8 Mar 01 to discuss wildland fire management on Air Force installations. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the implementation of new requirements for wildland fire preparation and response within DODI 6055.6 - *DoD Fire and Emergency Services Program*, dated 10 Oct 2000. The updated DoD Instruction implements some of the recommendations of the DoD Wildland Fire Policy Working Group commissioned by DUSD (ES), Mr. Gary Vest, in 1995. The DoD working group, which included seven Air Force participants, submitted six recommendations to DoD in 1997 - with four of the six recommendations being implemented in the new DoD Instruction. The four recommendations that have become policy are as follows:

1. DoD will accept and endorse the principles, policies, and recommendations of the Federal Wildland Fire Management and Program Review documents.
2. DoD will become a signatory participant in the Interagency Fire Management Agreement with the Departments of Agriculture and Interior.
3. DoD will request a voting membership in the National Wildland Fire Coordinating Group (NWCG).
4. DoD will establish and maintain a fire protection specialist position at the National Interagency Fire Center in Boise, Idaho to represent DoD wildland fire issues.

Not implemented in the Instruction was a DoD working group recommendation to establish a wildfire contingency budget similar to that used by the Departments of Agriculture and Interior. Also not implemented in policy was a requirement to revise the DoD Fire Incident and Reporting System to accommodate wildfire reporting (although this change will most likely be implemented anyway).

Implementation of the new mandates will require each military service to establish implementation guidelines that adhere to the new standards. The Air Force wildland fire policy workshop held at Tyndall AFB this March resulted in proposed new implementation guidelines for placement the upcoming revision of Air Force Instruction AFI 32-7064 - *Integrated Natural Resources Management*. The update of AFI 32-7064 will, for the first time, include a chapter on wildland fire management. The proposed new text will require installations to develop a Wildland Fire Management Plan when appropriate, and establishes new certification, training, and fitness requirements for personnel who respond to wildfires or conduct controlled burns on Air Force installations. The proposed policy also states that position descriptions for natural resource management personnel will describe the expected level of involvement in wildland fire management activities. The Air Force working group proposals have been forwarded to HQ AF/ILEVQ for consideration. Persons wishing to review the working group proposals should contact Kevin Porteck at DSN 240-5631 to obtain a copy.

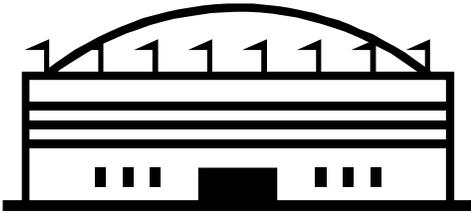


For those of you that missed the annual meeting of the **National Military Fish and Wildlife Association (NMFWA)**, it was held in Washington, DC on 18-23 Mar 2001. The four days of technical sessions included presentations on climate change and its effects on flora and fauna, human population growth and the effects on resource management, conservation agreements, conservation and management of carnivores on military lands, feral animal impacts on military operations, wetlands management, threatened and endangered species management and the effects of outsourcing on natural resources programs. The last day of the workshop was devoted to DoD service breakout sessions. The Air Force breakout session included information on current and future Air Force natural resources issues, presented by Mr. Terry Yonkers, the acting SAF/MIQ and Col. Tom Lillie, the military liaison to the Department of Interior. Other issues discussed included programming and budgeting guidance, Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan status regarding USFWS coordination (see last page for Sikes Act and ESA coordinators by region), Critical Habitat Designations under the Endangered Species Act, Migratory Bird Treaty Act MOU, Clean Water Act and the DoD Biodiversity Workshop.

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TRAINING COURSES -- WORKSHOPS



NEW

DOD Historic Buildings Conference II 12-14 Jun 01 in Atlanta,GA

This year's conference focuses on historic properties less than 50 years old and will feature case studies from each of the services. Air Force case studies will include Vandenberg AFB, the Ellsworth MM II site (now part of the National Park Service), and the Air Force Academy. For more information including the agenda contact Julia Cantrell by e-mail at julia.cantrell@hqafcee.brooks.af.mil or by phone at DSN 240-3515.



Hotel registration deadline is 1 Jun 01

DOD's American Indian Cultural Communication Course offerings:

Coast Guard Academy, New London, CT	June 11-14, 2001
Camp Pendleton, San Diego, CA	July 16-19, 2001
Elmendorf AFB, Alaska	August 14-17, 2001 (open to staff working Alaska issues)

DoD is pleased to provide this training so all of the DoD communities can learn to implement DOD's American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) Policy. The course integrates lectures with shared experiences from other DoD participants and tribal representatives. With this training, we hope to build better relationships with our Indian and Alaskan neighbors.

This course begins with an afternoon session at 12:30 p.m. and continues for three and half days. It covers the "how to's" for understanding Indian law history, diverse American Indian / Alaska Native cultures and the resulting communication style differences. Understanding these cultural factors can help DOD successfully consult with tribes. Jim VanNess, DOD associate general counsel for installations and environment, will speak.

NO tuition for federal employees! Preregistration by email or web is mandatory!

To register on-line, go to www.aepi.army.mil or contact Dr. Donata Renfrow at drenfrow@aepi.army.mil
Questions? Contact Donata at 404-524-9364 x 235.

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ENVIRONMENTAL NEGOTIATION WORKSHOP Sponsored by CECOS.

LEARN HOW TO BE A MORE EFFECTIVE NEGOTIATOR! Approximately 40 environmental professionals recently took part in the Navy's CECOS *Environmental Negotiation Workshop*. Content and exercises were interesting and stimulated a lot of discussion. The speakers were well known experts in their subject matter and really able to connect with the attendees. Most of the workshop participants left feeling their time was well spent and that they gained some new ideas and approaches to negotiating with regulators. There are two more workshops scheduled for this year. There is no course fee. For more information contact the Registrar, 3502 Godspeed Street, Suite 1, Port Hueneme, CA 93043-4336, phone (805) 982-2895, fax (805) 982-4386, or email at <http://www.cecos.navy.mil>.

DoD BIODIVERSITY WORKSHOP

HQ AF hosted this workshop at Arnold AFB TN for all branches of the DoD. The presenters from Oregon (OR) Defenders of Wildlife and OR TNC were well informed and candid about the challenges they faced while assessing and describing the biodiversity of OR. Two of the project goals were to take a look at the big picture view of biodiversity conservation needs and develop a conservation strategy as a framework for future actions. Major findings from this effort were: current conservation network is inadequate; west-side forests are relatively well protected; east-side habitats have largely been ignored; and the richest, most productive habitats have already been impacted, especially the water-related habitats. This group took a look at both at-risk species and habitats. From this two-prong approach a conservation strategy was adopted. The major elements of the strategy are better stewardship of "working landscapes" (i.e. forest and agricultural lands), expand existing conservation network (collect and analysis data), and focus conservation efforts on "best" opportunities (most bang for the buck).

Col Tom Lillie finished off the presentations with the DoD "formula for managing biodiversity". A few key points from his presentation were: *Identify* (the stakeholders), *Communicate* (to understand the issues), *Cooperate* (as partners to find solutions), and *Collaborate* (to achieve long-term consensus).

The workshop produced a notebook of the presentations and a number of publications from the Defenders of Wildlife. A few of these notebooks and publications are available, to receive a set, contact Mary Anderson at DSN 240-3808 or mary.anderson@hqafcee.brooks.af.mil

The Nature Conservancy convened a Roundtable Review of ecoregional planning initiatives April 23-25, 2001 at Tahoe City, CA. The ecoregional approach identifies conservation priorities within a broad geographic area and sets the stage for government and non-government organizations to manage natural resources in partnership. Participants divided into workgroups to critique draft plans for nine ecoregions. Following the workgroup input, representatives from each ecoregion gave a 30-45 minute presentation to everyone in attendance and obtained feedback during a facilitated discussion.

Participants were grateful for the support DOD has provided for ecoregional planning through the Legacy Resources Management Program. In addition to the Sonoran and Oregon Biodiversity Initiatives, DOD funded efforts in the Colorado Front Range, Great Basin, Cook Inlet, and West Gulf Coastal Plain. All but the Colorado Front Range were presented at the meeting in Tahoe City. DOD's interest in the program came about when managers realized that the ecoregional approach could minimize the impact of encroachment, facilitate compliance with environmental laws, and conserve biodiversity. For more information, contact Colonel Tom Lillie at 202-208-7211 or tom_lillie@os.doi.gov.

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SIKES ACT COORDINATORS

REGION	NAME	PHONE	FAX	ADDRESS
R-1	Ed Forner	(503) 872-2763	(503) 231-2062	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 911 N.E. 11 th Avenue Portland OR 97232
R-2	Pete Stine	(505) 248-6869	(505) 248-6845	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 500 Gold Avenue SW, Rm 3118 Albuquerque, NM 87103
R-3	Brian Lubinski	(612) 713-5114	(612) 713-5289	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Bishop Henry Federal Building One Federal Drive Ft. Snelling, MN 55111
R-4	Thomas Sinclair	(404) 679-7324	(404) 679-4141	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1875 Century Blvd., Suite 250 Atlanta GA 30345
R-5	David Perkins	(413) 253-8405	(413) 253-8488	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 300 Westgate Center Drive Hadley MA 01035
R-6	Mike Stempel (Interim)	(303) 236-7862 x248	(303) 236-7875	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 134 Union Blvd. Suite 400 Lakewood CO 20228
R-7	Steve Klosiewski	(907) 786-3523	(907) 786-3640	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1011 E. Tudor Rd Anchorage AK 99503

ESA COORDINATORS

REGION	NAME	PHONE	FAX	ADDRESS
R-1	Vicki Finn	(503) 231-6158	(503) 231-6243	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 911 N.E. 11 th Avenue Portland OR 97232
R-2	Steve Chambers	(505) 248-6920	(505) 248-6788	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service P.O. Box 1306, RM 4012 Albuquerque, NM 87103
R-3	T.J. Miller	(612) 713-5334	(612) 713-5292	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Bishop Henry Federal Building One Federal Drive Ft. Snelling, MN 55111
R-4	Noreen Walsh	(404) 679-7085	(404) 679-7081	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1875 Century Blvd. Atlanta GA 30345
R-5	Paul Nickerson	(413) 253-8615	(413) 253-8482	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 300 Westgate Center Drive Hadley MA 01035
R-6	Jill Parker	(303) 236-7400	(303) 236-0027	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 134 Union Blvd. Lakewood CO 20228
R-7	Sue Detwiler	(907) 786-3505	(907) 786-3350	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1011 E. Tudor Rd Anchorage AK 99503

To view a map of US with regions delineated go to: <http://offices.fws.gov/directory/listofficeregion.cfm>