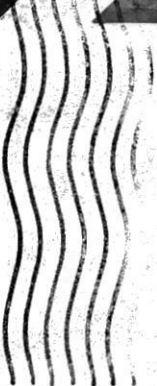




INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON NATIONAL PARKS

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EXECUTIVE BOARD ACTION ON SYSTEMS PLANNING PROGRAM

The Executive Board of IUCN met at International Headquarters, Morges, Switzerland, June 26, 27, 1964. The Chairman, President Francois Bourliere, informed the Board that the Park Systems Planning Program had received a terminal grant to carry on its work from Resources for the Future. The Board resolved that a letter of thanks be addressed to Resources for the Future. Some discussion was held on the search for funds to enable the program to continue on a permanent basis, and an opinion was expressed that too much emphasis had been placed on the socio-economic factors instead of ecological factors for park planning.

The immediate question of publishing the comprehensive report on park systems planning was considered. The Board considered that such a report might be issued as one of IUCN Technical Series if the report on Uludag National Park (Turkey) could be incorporated.

The Board decided that the texts of the park systems planning and Uludag reports be examined by an editorial committee. The committee consists of Vice Presidents Vander Elst and Worthington, Chairman of the Ecology Commission, Graham, Chairman of the Administration and Legislative Commission, Burhenne, Vice Chairman of the Commission on National Parks, Harroy, and Committee member, Kuenen. It was hoped that copies of the maps prepared as part of the Uludag report and a precise estimate of the cost of printing of an edition of the size and in the language recommended be circulated.

THAI PARK REPORT RELEASED

A report on a national park system for the Kingdom of Thailand has been released by the American Committee for International Wildlife Protection. The report was written by George C. Ruhle of the U. S. National Park Service.

Dr. Ruhle drew on his experience as a long-time park naturalist. He worked closely with the Royal Forest Department. After extensive trips into the field, he has recommended action for the protection and management of a number of natural areas.

Many of Dr. Ruhle's observations are valid not only in Thailand, but in other parts of the world as well. His work has opened the door for additional work in the field of national parks and for consideration of other park systems to meet the emerging needs of the Thai nation.

UNESCO UNDERTAKES INTERNATIONAL MONUMENTS YEAR

Under Resolution 4.41 of the Twelfth General Conference, entitled "Monuments and Museums--Preservation of the Cultural Heritage of Mankind," UNESCO has undertaken an International Monuments Year. All member states were informed of the general conference action in a letter, dated March 11, 1963.

In view of the importance accorded historic and prehistoric values in the British expedition to the Hashamite Kingdom of Jordan and the UNESCO Mission to Ethiopia, this is a significant opportunity for national park systems officers to advance the notion of protection and interpretation in natural as well as historic areas.

The United States National Park Service has administrative responsibility over historic and prehistoric sites of national significance. The Service has exercised this responsibility since 1932. Three other nations employ a single administrative entity to administer historic and prehistoric sites and natural park areas. In most cases the arrangement has met with great success. It is the judgment of the park systems planning program that the agency charged with administration of natural values which are significant to a nation as a whole, could very well be combined with administration of cultural sites of like significance.

Further information can be obtained from the Chief of Monuments, UNESCO, Place Fontenoy, Paris VII, France.