The impoundment of water, whether for public water supplies, irrigation, or hydroelectricity, has had a profound effect on many of the areas within the U.S. National Park System. From the controversy over the flooding of the Hetch Hetchy Valley in Yosemite to the current concerns about the Glen Canyon Dam and the Grand Canyon, the impacts on both cultural and natural resources have been significant and enduring. The articles found in this issue of The George Wright FORUM illustrate how wide-ranging and challenging these impacts have been, from contributing to changes in USNPS management and policies to the elimination of one of the world's great salmon runs. The U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) will be overseeing the relicensing of an unprecedented number of hydroelectric facilities in this decade, many of which will directly or indirectly affect not only parks, but national forests and wildlife areas, and other national, state, and local reserves. The examples presented here are just the tip of the iceberg. They underscore, however, how important reliable resource data, a strong commitment to the resources, and cooperation among all of the involved parties are to seeking reasonable compromises between the preservation and use of these resources.