

Selected Excerpts Related to Science and Management from the CNPPA-NA Draft Regional Action Plan

Note: Leaders for these actions have been determined, but are omitted here for reasons of space, as are links between actions and timetables for completion. The numbers are those assigned to each action in the Plan.

1.1.1 Short-Term Interventions

Action: Participate/intervene in marine protected area initiatives (Canada Oceans Act, British Columbia Marine Protected Areas Strategy development, NMSS reauthorization, CSD4, and AEPS/CAFF process) based on consultations among CNPPA-NA members.

Product: Briefs and submissions.

1.1.2 Marine Network

Action: Establish a regional marine protected areas network.

Product: Operative network.

1.1.3 National Marine Working Groups

Action: Establish/energize national marine working groups with the following specific objectives in mind: (1) Focus on both new area designation and existing area management; (2) Identify key people, organizations, and the funding for priority work; (3) Identify opportunities to promote marine protected areas.

Product: Functioning marine working groups in Mexico, USA, and Canada.

1.1.4 Marine Protected Areas Workshop

Action: Organize workshop to focus on case studies of successful marine protected areas that embrace adaptive solutions to socio-economic issues in establishing and managing marine protected areas and can assist the development of science and socio-economic instruments required to accelerate marine protected areas systems completion.

Product: Workshop, followed by report for practitioners worldwide; report to include recommended follow-up actions.

1.2.1 Clarify Role of Science and Management in CNPPA-NA

Action: Consider and clarify CNPPA-NA's role with respect to science and management: what is the potential contribution of CNPPA in this complex area?

Product: Statement/report.

1.2.2 Adaptive Management

Action: Explore the concept of adaptive management as it applies to protected areas, including an analytical approach to decisions, promoting a team approach to science and management, and treating management actions as experimental manipulations.

Product: Progress report and action plan.

1.3.2 Shared Species Management

Action: Identify key terrestrial and marine species which share habitat in all three countries of North America (i.e., butterflies, migratory birds, marine mammals), their habitat requirements, and their interrelationships with protected areas.

Product: Report.

2.1.1 Current Status of North America Protected Areas

Action: Evaluate the current status of protected areas in North America.

Product: Report to World Conservation Congress in October 1996.

2.1.2 Comparative Study of System Planning

Action: Carry out a preliminary comparative study of protected areas system planning in the three countries to get a sense of the relative strengths and weaknesses, comparative rationale, and foreseeable trends.

Product: Progress report to World Conservation Congress in October 1996.

2.1.4 Evaluation of Threats

Action: Develop regionally consistent criteria to evaluate threats to terrestrial and marine protected areas.

Product: Report to World Conservation Congress in October 1996.

2.2.1 Task Force on Information Management

Action: Prepare a discussion paper on information resources and needs of the region; draft terms of reference for an Information Management Task Force.

Product: As above.

2.2.2 *Biogeographic Classification for North America*

Action: Conduct a preliminary assessment of existing (ongoing) biogeographic classification schemes (ecoregions, ecozones, etc.) from which CNPPA-NA could choose the most appropriate to suit regional needs (e.g., for ecosystem-based management gap analysis)

Product: Report to World Conservation Congress in October 1996.

2.2.3 *Implications of Contrasting Approaches to Biogeographical Mapping*

Action: Develop the case for a sensitivity analysis of the implications for gap analysis of different approaches to biogeographical mapping in North America.

Product: Prospectus for presentation to World Conservation Congress in October 1996.

2.2.4 *Identify Indicators*

Action: Identify baseline biophysical, social, and other indicators or hard data that are already or should be monitored in North American protected areas.

Product: Draft monitoring protocols and identification of practical approaches for review at World Conservation Congress in October 1996.

There are a number of other actions that relate to science and management, including:

- Strengthen the existing Mountain Protected Areas Network and create networks on Temperate Grasslands, on Local Communities and Protected Areas, on Arctic Protected Areas, and on Marine Protected Areas.
- Develop monitoring methods for World Heritage Sites.
- Establish a CNNPA-NA e-mail list and Worldwide Web site.
- Explore the feasibility of starting a peer-reviewed journal of protected area research and management.

