



QUEENSLAND
NATIONAL PARKS
AND WILDLIFE
SERVICE

Ringtail

September 1981

SAFE WORKING DAY

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1981

CONSIDER THESE FACTS

340 Queensland workers suffer serious injuries every working day of the year.

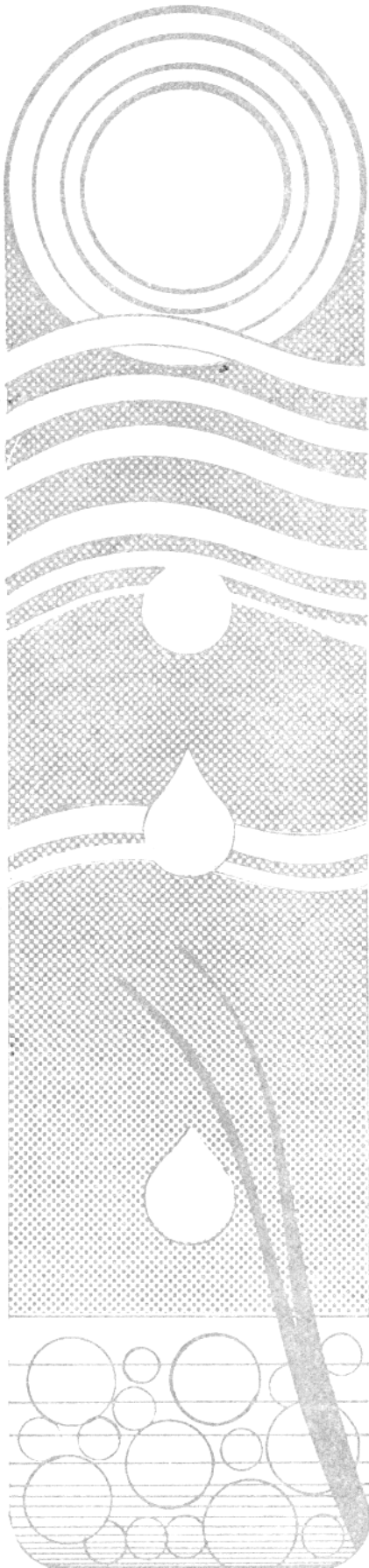
The idea of a safety day has originated with the National Safety Council whose aim is to have a accident free day on October 1, 1981.

The Council hopes to draw attention to the problems and show people how much damage to workers and machinery can be prevented.

The Service has lost 415 working days due to workers compensation claims while an amount of \$11,952.12 has been spent for the 1980/81 financial year.

An article appeared in the December 1980 edition on injuries and it is anticipated that further issues will continue this theme of awareness of workforce accidents.

EDITOR



Since my return from Zaire's IUCN conference, I've been in Christmas card contact with Michael Gwynne who then worked for the Wildlife Management people in Kenya. Now he is with UNEP in Kenya.

After the New Year's Eve bombing of the Norfolk Hotel (where I stayed a night in 1975), I wrote an anxious letter to him. He and his wife were going to a New Year's party there, but for some vague reason didn't and some of their intended party were killed or maimed.

His letter concludes "You should be glad to be in a peaceful place like Australia. (I am.)"

I must say how very much I appreciate the QNPWS calendar - they are magnificent and much admired within UNEP. People are brought in to see it as an example of what a conservation calendar should be - it has certainly resulted in a lot of favourable publicity for QNPWS."

Michael says he hopes to come out here in the not too distant future. He apparently travels a lot with his UNEP job. I'm looking forward to that and will try to arrange some Service time with him.

Clive Price

Was it Dick Clarkson, Chuck Wilder, Peter Ogilvie, Ron Kelly or Jim McEvoy?

A certain officer was asked on returning from Cherribah where the "bare your soul" part of the Management Improvement Programme is held, if he had benefited from the MIP course. "Well", he said, "I used to be indecisive - now I'm not so sure."

A December issue of Ringtail will be printed before the holiday period, so if any reader is contemplating forwarding an article for publication, you are urged to write your article as soon as possible, so as to enable it to be included in the next issue.

Editor

A judge eyed his prisoner disapprovingly and said, 'Why did you beat your wife?'

'It was a sudden impulse,' explained the prisoner.

'Very well,' said the judge. 'On a sudden impulse, I am going to put you in the cooler for thirty days.'

'Okay', said the prisoner sadly. 'But you are certainly putting a crimp in our honeymoon.'

TRIVIA!

So I was driving along this narrow country road late at night, alert for wildlife. I hate to kill a raccoon. Urban Florida is using the rabies myth to justify wiping them out, with guns, traps, and poison. The average raccoon is more affable, intelligent, and tidy than the average human who wants them eliminated, and is usually a lot better looking. It is both sad and ironic that the areas where the raccoon are obliterated are soon overrun with snakes.

This piece of trivia was taken from a book I am reading and seems to say a lot more than the rest of the book.

Graham Hudson

Management and Operations Branch

Following on from the last edition of Ringtail, here is another volume of Michael Harris' study into the status of nature conservation in certain south-east Asian countries.

"THE CONSERVATION MOVEMENT AND NATIONAL PARKS IN INSULAR SOUTH EAST ASIA"

(continued from last issue)

Singapore.

Although comprised of a significantly urbanised area, the island of Singapore possesses 4 quasi-conservation reserves which are the responsibility of a Board of Trustees under the Chairmanship of the Director of Singapore's Botanic Gardens. These reserves are illustrated in Figure 3.

These reserves range in size from 21 ha. to a water catchment area of 1,620 ha. (although water is supplied from mainland Malaysia), and they are invariably surrounded by intensive land uses. While the true nature conservation values of these reserves is debatable, they have both a distinct educational role in creating environmental awareness and understanding amongst the general public, and also a prime outdoor recreational role - except perhaps the water catchment area, which would presumably demand minimal entry and disturbance.

The security of tenure of these reserves may be questioned since in recent time a fifth reserve, the Labrador Nature Reserve, was alienated for industrial development.

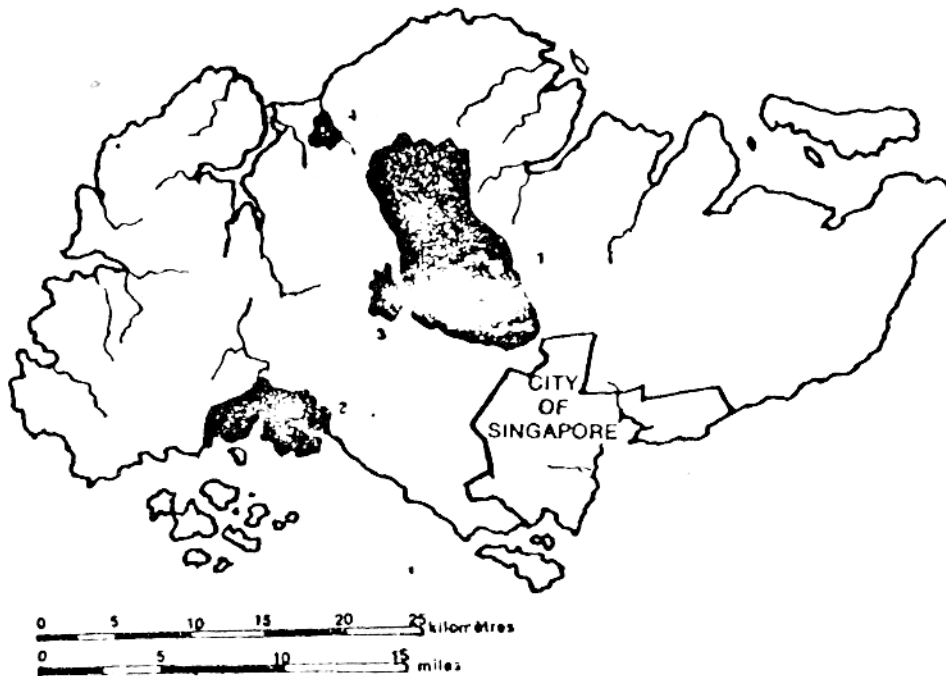
Brunei. Presently there are no conservation areas in Brunei, however there is an existing proposal to establish a 'State Park'. The 1977 I.U.C.N. Bulletin lists two areas which would be very suitable as conservation reserves - Bukit Peradayan and Ulu Temburong. In fact this country is in a good position to establish a good system of reserves because much of its forests and associated wildlife are not immediately under threat - a situation which is uncommon in many other countries. As a sidelight, it naturally follows that if the absence of a development ethic in this country were assured of perpetuity, the notion of reserves would

FIGURE 3 · CONSERVATION AREAS IN SINGAPORE

Listed Areas: four.

1. Water Catchment Area.
2. Pandan Reserve.
3. Bukit Timah Reserve.
4. Kranji Reserve.

1620 ha
549 ha
74 ha
21 ha



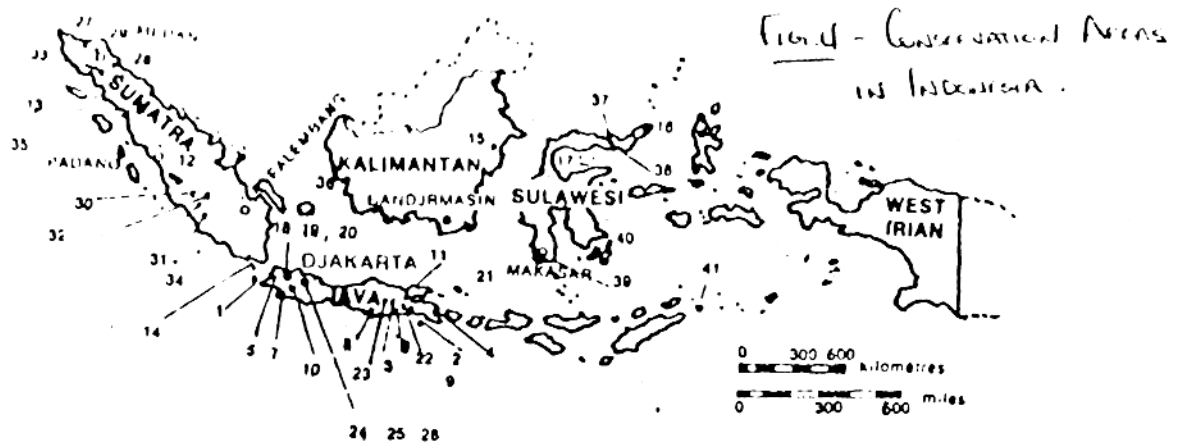
(Source: IUCN New Series Publ. N°15)

be entirely discordant and indeed redundant.

Indonesia. Indonesia is a large country with a history of economic and political problems. Development programmes have, for various reasons, not been as successful as those in Malaysia and this has indirectly aided the conservation of nature. From any relief map it can be seen that much of Indonesia is mountainous and using previous criteria, it may be expected that conservation reserves will be found in the volcanic arc of mountain ranges extending down the west side of Sumatra through Java to the lesser Sundas, and also in the extensive highland areas of central Kalimantan, Sulawesi, and Irian Jaya. Forest vegetation covers 1.2 million square kilometres or 63% of the land area of Indonesia and includes extensive areas of secondary vegetation on land once-cleared by shifting cultivators, often after intensive logging.

There are some 160 reserves with a total area of about 3.8 million hectares in this forest at present, but these are of various tenures, and have sizes ranging from about 1 hectare to 8,000 square kilometres (Gunung Leuser in North Sumatra). There are, as yet, no 'national parks' in Indonesia which could represent secure conservation areas, although there are 8 areas proposed. The present useful nature conservation areas are of two types - Nature Reserves which are land units with statutory protection, and Game Reserves in which the wildlife is protected, but whose habitat can be 'managed' - which includes, on some, such practices as timber exploitation with consequent habitat destruction.

Nature Reserves are areas fully protected by law and which allow no settlement, exploitation, or hunting. The I.U.C.N. lists only 41 such reserves which meet its standards of protection (Figure 4) - 16 reserves greater than 500 ha., 24 less than 500 ha., and one large area, Ujung Kulon-Panaitan, with an area of 41,150 ha. Although the latter, which is located on the western extremity of Java, has a staff of 40 and is promoted for tourism, the other reserves have little supervision, and control of activities such as poaching is not always effective - in several cases peripheral zones are being steadily eroded by settlement and human



Listed Areas : forty-one.

A. — NATURE RESERVE.

1. Ujung Kulon-Panaitan Nature Reserve.

B. — RESERVES OF OVER 500 HA :

a) Java :

2. Nusa Barung.
3. Lautan Pasir, Tengger.
4. Kawah Idjen, Merapi.
5. Rawa Danau.
6. Ranu Kumbolo.
7. Tjibodas, Gunung Gede.
8. Nusakambangan.
9. Pulau Sempu.
10. Kawah Papandajan.
11. Ardjuna-Lalidjiwa.

b) Sumatra :

12. Gunung Indrapura (Kerintji).
13. Rimbopanti.
14. Krakatau mountain.

c) Kalimantan (Borneo) :

15. Pandang Luwai.

d) Sulawesi (Celebes) :

16. Gunung Tangkoko, Batuangus.
17. Panua.

C. — Reserves of less than 500 ha :

a) Java :

18. Pulau-Dua.
19. Pulau-Bokor.
20. Pulau-Rambut.
21. Saobi.
22. Ranu Darangan.
23. Sigogor.
24. Gunung Djagat.
25. Takokak.
26. Tjige-teng-Tjipanti.

b) Sumatra :

27. Rafflesia Serbödjadi.
28. Dolok Tinggi Radja.
29. Sibolangit.
30. Rafflesia.
31. Despatih I/II.
32. Tjawang I/II.
33. Dolok Saut.
34. Dusun Besar.
35. Batang Palupuh.

c) Kalimantan (Borneo) :

36. Mandor.

d) Sulawesi (Celebes) :

37. Mas Popaja Radja.
38. Tanggala.
39. Bantimurung.
40. Napabalano.

e) Maluku (Moluccas) :

41. Gunung Api.

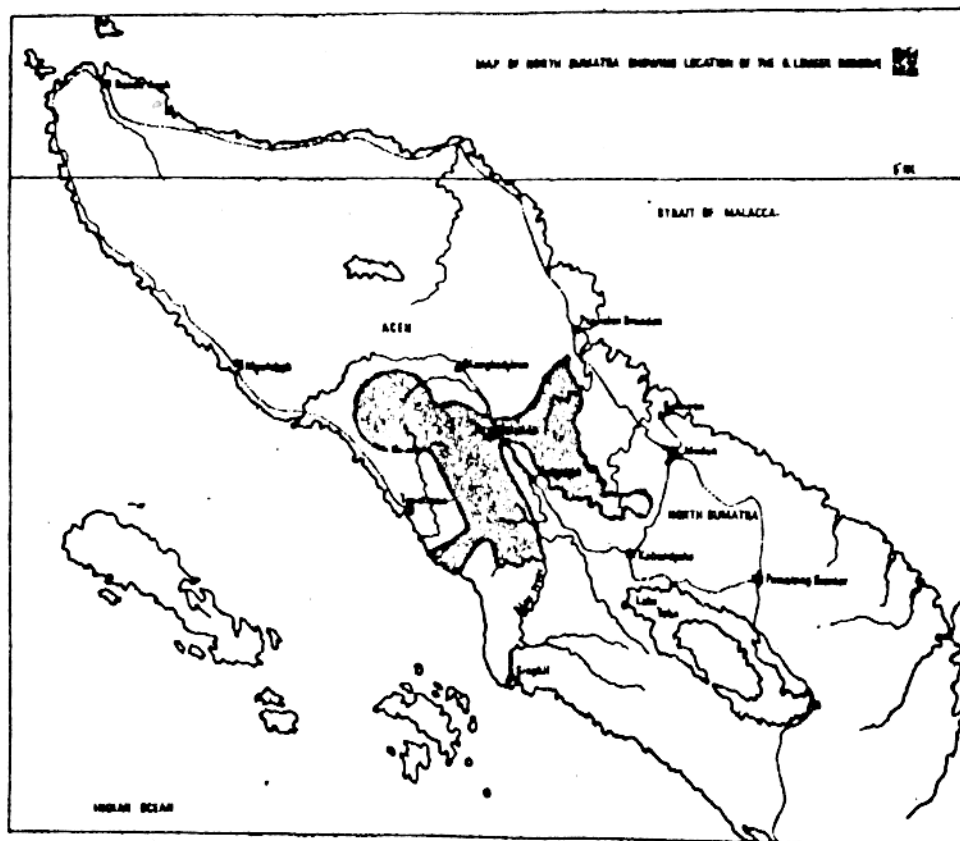
(Source: UNW News Series Pbl. N° 15)

exploitative activities. The security of tenure of these reservations is always threatened by the 'development ethic' which pervades the whole region of South-east Asia.

The World Wildlife Fund Yearbook 1974-75 predicts that "at least half the distribution area of the Orang Utan in Sumatra will be logged for commercial timber and primitive agriculture within the next 10-15 years". Despite the great diversity of Indonesia's wildlife, it has been variously observed that both the numbers and the range of most species, particularly the larger and more spectacular, are being steadily depleted through loss of habitat, hunting, and the such. The Bali tiger is thought to be extinct and it is estimated that not more than 4 or 5 Javan tiger are left - in Meru Betiri Reserve, East Java. Treated in isolation of any other factors such as the social environment, these statistics are disturbing from a nature conservation perspective - essentially because they reflect much broader problems.

Two potentially major conservation areas in Indonesia have not yet been discussed and do not appear in current lists of conservation areas because of their tenuous nature - namely the Gunung Leuser complex of reserves in North Sumatra, and the Lorentz Nature Monument in Irian Jaya. The Gunung Leuser Reserves, illustrated in Figure 5, are purported to be the last stronghold of the seriously endangered Sumatran rhinoceros, orang utan, Sumatran tiger, clouded leopard, and others. The area suffers from encroachment and poaching, and an article in Tigerpaper Volume 3(4) lists several problems, often associated with cultural foundations. The boundaries are marked in the field, but are not respected, and with the present high economic value of wood, commercial interests prevail and conservation is often only supported when it does not interfere with exploitative activities. Also with the growth in population, human activities spread into the reserve and squatters will not leave unless forced. As a background to this, the reserve does not have the full support of all levels of Government.

FIGURE 5: GUNUNG LEUSER RESERVES - NORTH SUMATRA

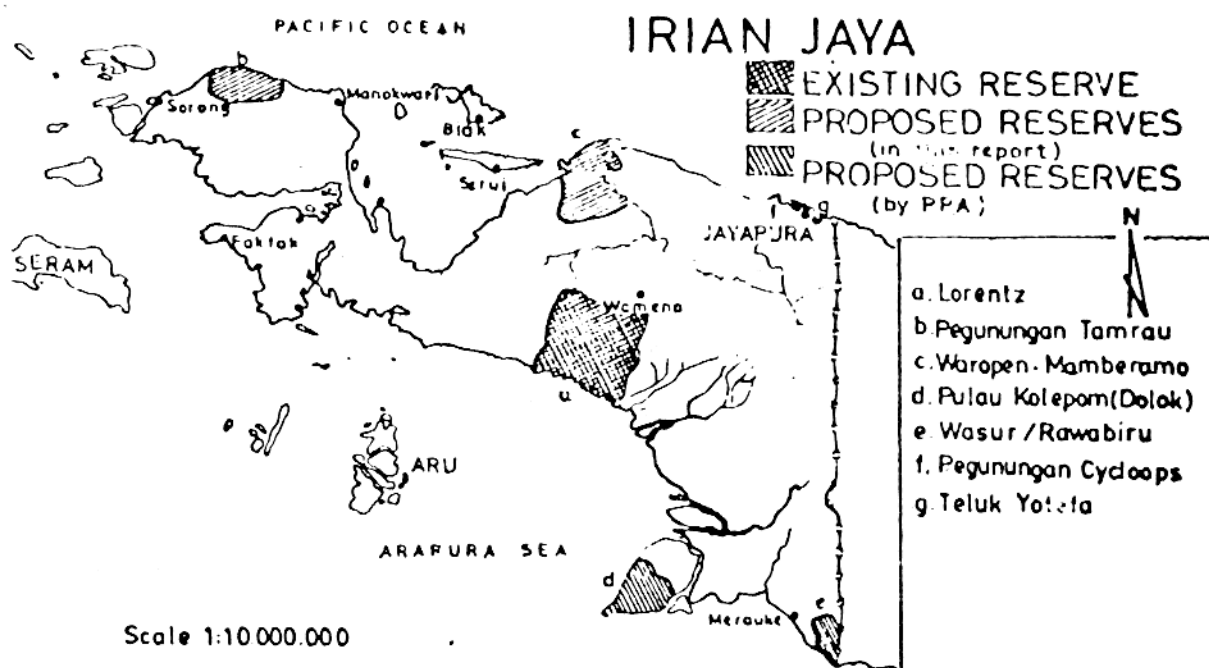


(Source: Tigerpaper Vol. 3(4))

Similarly the Lorentz reserve covering 2.16 million hectares, and hence potentially of great conservation value, has not been afforded administrative measures or supervision, and it is possible that the legal basis for its establishment may be rescinded. Figure 6 illustrates the location of the huge Lorentz reserve and other areas proposed as conservation reserves in Irian Jaya. Mulyana (1979) indicates that Irian Jaya is an area which needs considerably greater activity in the conservation field, and he suggests that "large samples of all ecosystems need to be set aside as natural forest allowing only entry by local tribes to hunt and gather, using traditional methods". Although 75% of Irian Jaya's total land area is still primary forest, threats exist since most of the lowland forests have now been surveyed for timber extraction, oil exploration, and copper mining. Problems common to other areas of Insular South-east Asia.

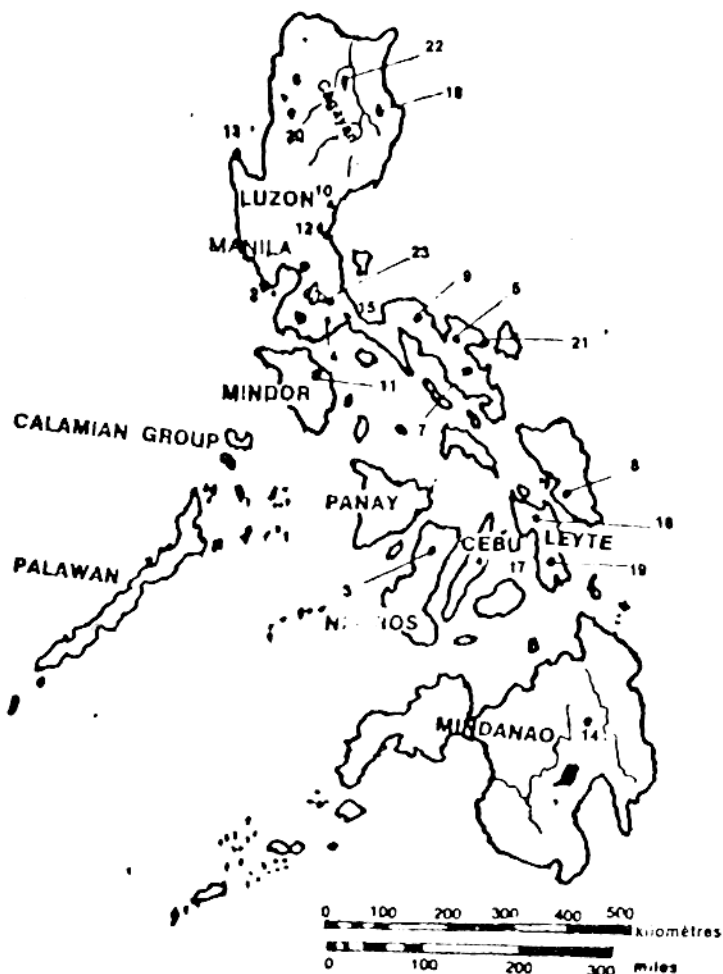
Philippines. There are a total of 42 national parks and 7 wildlife refuges in the Philippines, with a total area of 450,000 hectares. However, the security of all of these reserves is in doubt. The Government has undertaken to review and strengthen their legal status, but no such action has occurred to date. The I.U.C.N. has consented to list 23 reserves which range from 3 which have an area greater than 20,000 ha. to 9 with an area less than 1,000 ha. The majority of these are on Luzon and are illustrated in Figure 7. Even some of this 'short-list' of reserves have problems which significantly prejudice their conservation value. For example, forest exploitation and plantation agriculture is practiced within the boundaries of some national parks, and there is an executive rather than the normal legislative basis for the creation, modification, and most importantly the cancellation of national parks - making this process much easier to institute. The I.U.C.N. suggests that every conservation reserve in the Philippines presently suffers some degree of degradation through encroachment or neglect.

FIGURE 6: CONSERVATION AREAS IN IRIAN JAYA.



(Source: Tiger paper Vol. 6(i))

FIGURE 1 : CONSERVATION AREAS IN THE PHILIPPINES



Listed Areas: twenty-three (two-thirds of them on Luzon island).

1. Mount Apo National Park (Mindanao).
2. Bataan National Park (Luzon).
3. Canlaon National Park (Negros).
4. Banahaw and San Cristobal Mountains National Park (Luzon).
5. Mount Isarog National Park (Luzon).
6. Tirad Pass National Park (Luzon).
7. Mayon Volcano National Park (Luzon).
8. Sohoton Natural Bridge National Park (Samar).
9. Bicol National Park (Luzon).
10. Aurora Memorial Park (Luzon).
11. Naujan Lake National Park (Mindoro).
12. Biak-na-bato National Park (Luzon).
13. Hundred Islands National Park (Luzon).
14. Mainit Hot Spring National Park (Mindanao).
15. Quezon National Park (Luzon).
16. Fuyot Spring National Park (Luzon).
17. Sudlon National Park (Cebu).
18. Mahagnao Volcano National Park (Leyte).
19. Kuapnit-Balinsasayao National Park (Leyte).
20. Bessang Pass National Park (Luzon).
21. Caramoan National Park (Luzon).
22. Callao Cave National Park (Luzon).
23. Pagsanjan Gorge National Park (Luzon).

(Source: IUCN News Series Publ. No. 15)

Overall, the Philippines is lacking an adequate reserve system. Grimwood (1978) writes that "most of the islands have been heavily logged to meet the recent timber boom which, combined with an evergrowing demand for more agricultural land, makes undisturbed areas of forest extremely hard to find". As in other countries, hunting of wildlife is a major problem. Various statuses of reserve are all given the one label of 'national park' - some only protect monuments, historic sites, or recreation areas for city dwellers; many have been logged, and most have been invaded by settlement, and in some cases have very little natural vegetation.

The Report of the Committee of the Philippine Development Academy, dated 1975, recommended sweeping reforms including new legislation, new administration arrangements, the abolition of those parks which no longer serve a useful conservation purpose, and the establishment of a specified system which included 12 national parks, 7 natural wildlife sanctuaries, and 2 strict nature reserves. All the present reserves are threatened by undemarcated boundaries, lack of law enforcement, and inadequate staffing and financial provisions.

General Summary. Throughout Insular South-east Asia, the majority of the people belong to agrarian cultures and do not yet have empathy with the concept of nature conservation. The natural forest is perceived as something to be 'tamed' and exploited. It has been shown that a system of conservation reserves exists in each country, however these undoubtedly need further development and have common problems such as poaching and encroachment by agriculture and timber-getting. As 'developing' nations, there is a keenness to adopt commercial and industrial practices which are seen as indicators of prosperity, and this colours the implementation of nature conservation. For example, the Philippines can claim to have established some 60 'national parks', however the pure number of reserves (some of which are only a few hectares) cannot be used as an indicator of the status of nature conservation in a country.

It is understandable that countries faced with considerable social and over-population problems should favour commercial expediency. Lack of education and scientific knowledge is a problem at all levels, and is reflected in the 'object-orientated' approach by Governments to nature conservation. Attempts are made, often unsuccessfully, to preserve specific wildlife species and treat each reserve as an entity rather than adopting a broad regional approach to conservation and nation-wide land use planning as a whole. As yet there is no real concept of zoning in land management where compatible uses are allowed on a specified area of land, and incompatible uses are actively restricted.

The natural environment, as it currently exists, indicates that there is still a tremendous potential to institute a conservation programme which could be perpetually viable. However, there are considerable threats to this because there is a cultural lag between the perception of the vast majority of inhabitants and the Western technologies of large-scale exploitation which the Governments are trying to import. Large-scale removal of forest cover in this biogeographic region can lead to irreversible processes of degradation, as witnessed in the 'desertification' of equatorial rainforest in South America.

Public education and the injection of scientific knowledge into land use practices perhaps represent the two most fundamental tools of nature conservation in this region.

M.J. HARRIS

TO BE CONTINUED NEXT ISSUE

ALL IN A DAYS' WORK

Picture the scene - Part 1:

Two National Park Ranger Overseers on a tour of inspection on Clump Point National Park (part of which juts out to the sea).

The old dilapidated Toyota is parked at the end of the roadway. The two Ranger Overseers wander off.

Purpose of the exercise is to inspect the estuary of a small creek with the view of using it as an anchorage for a promised boat.

Picture the scene - Part 2:

Two officers of the Harbours and Marine Department on a tour of inspection.

The shining new Toyota (complete with canopy and two-way radio) is parked along side the dilapidated one.

Knowing glances pass between the two as they follow the fresh footprints in the sand. Purpose of the exercise, hoping to make a second raid. Only a week before they had seized an illegal fishing net along this very shore.

Picture the scene - Part 3:

Two National Park Ranger Overseers returning, with mission completed.

Two Harbours and Marine Department officers advancing, determination in every step. The distance between the two parties is lessened with every step.

National Park Rangers all unsuspecting.

Harbours and Marine still determined.

Closer they come. A clash is imminent.

Twenty paces, fifteen, ten, five - at this distance the badges on the sleeves of the four officers are recognised.

Disappointment shows on the faces of the Harbours and Marine officers. Ah well better luck next time.

Picture the scene - Part 4:

Introductions all round. Handshakes and howdy's as the two parties settle down to a good old-fashioned Aussie yarn. (in the bosses time) Could have been talking yet, only for the rain.

Moral of the Story:

Always wear badges and uniform when on patrol.

Senior Overseer,
Edward Long,
Mission Beach.

The following article refers to a segment which appeared in the May 1980 edition of Ringtail.

Mike Harris' article on National Park Development Planning I found most pertinent to south-east Queensland and most stimulating as it gave an excellent overview to park management and focused on some significant problems of national park identity. For those who didn't wade through the article, I'll briefly re-iterate.

National parks are primarily areas of nature conservation but provide recreation facilities. The problem is the compatibility of the two roles. It is proposed that a set of principles or system be implemented to co-ordinate the two roles, within the context of the regions conservation and recreational resources.

It is feared that national parks will be seen as recreational areas to the exclusion of the primary role as nature conservation areas.

Mike proposed a re-classification of Service estate elements to maintain the national park concept and Service identity as the nature conservation authority for the public. He believes park zoning is only a part solution whilst the public and politicians view national parks as primarily recreation resources.

He proposes one recreation authority to co-ordinate a system of parks and reserves and make recommendations to the many land management authorities.

I find this theoretically fine, but in practice dangerous, as for instance with the Gold Coast Waterways Authority - a body presumably to co-ordinate developments - the perspective of the Authority is limited by its individual members viewpoint. Such a co-ordinating authority needs to be carefully scanned so we have sound responsible decisions.

In regard to re-classification of national parks so as to keep the national park concept viable rather than seem as another recreational area, I feel similarly doubtful. Fragmentation of national parks into zonings under other titles than national park could mean an ecological entity like the McPherson Range Rainforests or Southern Moreton Bay Wetlands is no longer seen as such, but as a land utilization or management system over and above an ecological system.

If Natural Bridge National Park was classified as an Environmental Park or Recreation Park, then it may be seen as only that and not as an essential link in a string of rainforest national parks along the McPherson Ranges - that is part of a rainforest ecosystem.

Similarly, the declaration of one large national park over southern Moreton Bay, as I heard recently proposed, would preserve its ecological integrity as a national park for nature conservation. If southern Moreton Bay was a fragmentation of parks under various titles the ecological integrity of the area as possibly last and the public see the area as one in which they can or can't do whatever, depending on the classification. Such fragmented titles would strengthen the national park concept as the 'heavy' area of restrictions but miss the point of the interrelatedness of the area ecologically.

Hence I feel zonings within a national park don't confuse the public on what limitations there are on recreation, and

maintain the viability of the term national park as an ecological entity or complex.

Re-classification, unless well co-ordinated makes for a hotch-potch of authorities and management practice and could create the problem of parks for people over and above conservation.

The only advantage of re-classification is if the co-ordinating authority is not hampered by conflicting viewpoints. If all parks were under National Parks and Wildlife Service or Ministry supervision then we would see a fine balance between nature conservation and recreation (wouldn't we?) but if under another authority, then I feel recreation again may have precedence over conservation because of public and political pressure and the motivations and horizons of the authority members. This authority, to work effectively, needs to be a professional Government public service body with the interests of the people and conservation as the objective.

Gilbert Field
Overseer Div II,
Natural Bridge
Via Nerang.

Thank you for your comments Gil.

Telephone call:

Ranger Power: 'National Parks and Wildlife Service, hello, can I help you?'

Female Voice: 'Can you tell me about the national park at Buchan's Point?'

Ranger Power: 'We have no national park at Buchan's Point.'

Female Voice: 'Is Fairyland a national park?'

Ranger Power: 'No, we don't have a national park of that name, but people might think we're in Fairyland sometimes.'

Conversation continued amidst suppressed mirth from Cairns office staff.

This article has been submitted by Ed Power, District Ranger, Cairns. However a P.S. was attached:

'Male chauvinism, at its height.'

Signed Femme fatale (dangerously attractive woman)
Cairns Office Staff.

AN ARTICLE BY BILL WHITEMAN

The need to preserve the natural beauty and the wildlife resources of a nation are widely recognised, so is the need for outdoor recreation and for the enjoyment of nature generally by the public. One need not labour these points today among enlightened people, for they are generally understood.

In Australia and more especially Queensland, the climate is ideally suited to outdoor recreation activity and the variety and expanse of our natural resources have a great deal to offer.

If Australians are to gain an appreciation of our natural resources, then they must have the necessary opportunity to experience and enjoy these areas. If people are to support the idea of National Parks in general, then they must have an appreciation of the purposes and values of parks both as a recreational resource and as a nature reserve.

Many kinds of areas are included in a nations park system from "Wilderness areas" of total natural preservation, areas of unusual scenic, scientific or historical interest, to extensive outdoor recreation areas.

Each element in a park system is closely related to other elements of the same system and park management planning should go beyond the boundaries of a single reserve and consider all influencing factors on a local, regional and often national context.

Park management is as much the management of people as the management of the natural resource.

Each kind of area within a nations system of parks has it's own particular use characteristics which are the basis for planning and management. Similarly the commercial values of National Parks cannot be ignored as the increasing demand for timber, mineral resources and the expansion of rural industry, now, more than ever make it necessary to preserve the essence of Australia represented in our National Parks.

Perhaps the greatest commercial value in National Parks today is tourism, because if properly managed it has the ability to be compatable with National Park ideals and it is an industry which is sustained by the continuing quality and integrity of the park areas.

From a tourist or park visitor viewpoint, it will surely be conceded that if we disfigure the landscape and make our national parks less than first rate through over use or blatant commercialism, then not only the natural values but also the commercial values will be greatly reduced.

Our National Parks are the natural heritage of all Australians and may one day provide the only opportunity that people may ever have to see something of nature.

Todays social and economic trends indicate clearly that greater affluence and increased leisure time must increase demands for recreation areas.

Tourism is here to stay and it will continue to grow as will the value of National Parks as outdoor recreation areas.

By wise use, these assets need not be squandered but kept for all generations.

BILL WHITEMAN

It seems rather ironical that Bill's one and only submission should be made when he is no longer working for the Service.

A continuation of Paul Sattler's article 'Nature Conservation in the United Kingdom and some European Countries - 1979'

Kew

The history of Kew goes back to the eighteenth century and coincides with that point in history of great exploration, botanical discovery and extension of geographical knowledge.

Upon the return of Sir Joseph Banks on board the 'Endeavour', his fame linked with Captain Cook caused King George III to choose him to direct the future of Kew.

Sir Joseph Banks' fame had come when the horizons of the world were enlarging and it was a time when his ideas of the interchanging of plants between various colonies and dependencies could be put to commercial use.

He visualised Kew as a storehouse of knowledge and research. On this vision the future of Kew developed.¹

Each year one of the Australian State's herbaria sends a representative to Kew for study and research. Fortunately in 1979, it was Rod Henderson from the Queensland Herbarium and this resulted in being able to have a close look at Kew.

Spain - Catalunya (Catalonia)

Spain has 2 major national parks of international significance:

Aigües Tortes in Pyrenne Mountains (Alps on French border)

Coto Donana on the south western coast

In addition, a number of 'regional' national parks exist. One of the 7 such parks near Barcelona was visited, Montseny National Park.

The contact with the N.C.C. had arranged in London, was a land use planner working at Barcelona University who had just published a book, 'The Town and the Country' dealing with the problem of advancing urbanisation into these parks behind Barcelona.

Montseny National Park is declared over a mountain range. Because of altitude, a distinctive biogeographic region occurs and above 1100 - 1500 metres the southern limit of European vegetation occurs as an 'island' within a Mediterranean climate.

One of the climax vegetation species is Abies alba growing at the limit of its geographical range under minimum ecological conditions. This species is being replaced by another species Fagus sylvatica, and the reasons for this and the management response, is an interesting account.

The area has been climatically warmer for the last 60 years and therefore of disadvantage to Abies. Also this species was severely logged and cleared in the Middle Ages for ships (Columbus! With a view to Service boat replacement I had a close look at the 'Santa Maria' in Barcelona).

A management policy of culling the invading Fagus has been adopted. Through an interpreter, the Director of the Museum who has research facilities in the park, appreciated that such management practices were not allowing natural processes but argued that the unnatural conditions due to earlier activities, centuries past, had contributed to the current situation. From the introduction of an exotic pine species, P. pinea by the Romans 2000 years ago, to an 11th century monastery in the park, to an American radar installation on top of the mountain range, gives conservation within the context makes an interesting comparison with our management objectives of determining (with difficulty) and simulating the natural regime pre 1788.

This park, like national parks in England, has a long history of traditional ownership. A major problem has been to develop an understanding of national parks, especially with the very low socio-economic circumstances of the rural community.

An interesting aspect of nature conservation efforts in Catalunya was the eager efforts towards establishing a good national park system in such a state of political flux. It had only been a couple of years since the end of Franco's

¹ Bingham, 1975 - 'The Making of Kew'.

regime and with a new found democracy, efforts not only in nature conservation but in exercising cultural expression as Catalans created a vibrant atmosphere.

National parks are still controlled from Madrid which because of cultural and ethnic differences would be more remote than Canberra in trying to manage all Australian national parks. The 'regional' national parks do enjoy some local control, however, major decisions are still made in Madrid where at this level, there may be little appreciation of the national park concept.

Belgium - Zwin Ornithological Reserve

A small reserve of 125 ha near Bruges in Belgium was visited. This park extends over a salt marsh and a sand dune beside the North Sea and is actually the mouth of a waterway up which ships sailed to Bruges in the Middle Ages. The information brochure describes the park as having a bird population and plant life unique to Belgium.

Two hundred and seventy-nine (279) species of birds are listed for the site and many species breed on the reserve.

The reserve is privately owned and is managed as a commercial enterprise. The same company also owns the local swimming pool and golf club. Four hundred thousand (400,000) people/annum, with dogs (although the ones I saw were on leashes), and children with their soccer balls visit the reserve. On some days 60 bus loads of tourists arrive. Within the 125 ha is a hotel and restaurant complex, gift shop, caged birds, artificial ponds for tourists to feed the ducks with grain purchased from the shop, coin-operated telescopes etc.

On top of the human pressure, is a rabbit population where warrens in places were only a metre apart. No management of rabbit populations is carried out and the only people management is exclusion of tourists from some nesting areas.

A small biological research station, employing 5 people is on the reserve.

Consider then: 400,000 visitors x 20 francs
= $\$ \frac{1}{4} \times 10^6$ + bar +
restaurant + gift shop
etc.

To think we have park management problems; it is remarkable that the reserve survives.

Conclusion

I was asked by an officer of the N.C.C. in England to give a pragmatic comment on their nature conservation efforts. To give an answer would question the direction of many of the European parks and reserves for nature conservation, especially within an international perspective; nature conservation, in a completely manipulated landscape, of small parcels of land, with centuries of human disturbance, of someone else's land, the pre-occupation to preserve the status quo, the conflicts of interest, the lack of clear government direction of purpose, the need to compromise, the lack of land.

All of this indicated the international responsibility Australia has to conserve the diversity and uniqueness of our natural heritage while the opportunity still exists.

Perhaps the more significant part in conservation that the European scene has to play is in conservation of their historical heritage. This is not to say there is not a role for the British systems of national parks, there is, but it is not to be confused with our system as some recent British commentators on Australia have done, eg. Prof. Mellanby.

List of Publications collected on Trip

Great Britain - National Parks

Brecon Beacons National Park Plan (1977)
Information booklets on Brecon
Beacons National Park (5)
Brecon Beacons National Park
Newsletters (2)

Exmoor National Park Plan (1977)
Information booklet on Exmoor
National Park (1)

Lake District National Park Plan (1978)
Lake District National Park Plan
- Ideas for discussion (Sachet of Publications)

Windermere Recreation Survey (1977)

Information booklets on Lake District National Park (5)

National Park News - Publication by Countryside Commission (4 editions)

Miscellaneous publications and leaflets on national parks, footpaths and bindleways (about 20)

Countryside Commission (Feb. 1979)
Catalogue of Publications.

Nature Reserves

Avon Gorge National Nature Reserve
- Management Plan (1975)

Nature Conservancy Council - Fourth Report (1977-78)

National Nature Reserves in Great Britain (1976)

'N.C.C. listing of reserves'

The Somerset Wetland Project - A Consultation Paper (1977) - N.C.C., S.W. Region publication.

The Somerset levels - A Case for Conservation by R. Williams,
Water Space (1977)

Misc. publications and leaflets on Nature Reserves (about 30)

Other

Historic Monuments, list and map of Publication by Environment, Scottish Development Department and Welsh Office.

'The Making of the Kew' (1975) by M. Bingham

Spain

El Montseny Parc Natural de Catalunya (1978)

Belgium

Les Plantes du Zwin by G. Burggraeve

Les Oiseaux du Zwin et du Zoute by L. Lippens

This is the concluding part of Paul Sattler's article. The first section appeared in the previous issue of Ringtail.



Real Crazy, Man

A guard from the lunatic asylum rushed up to a farmer on the road and said, 'I am looking for an escaped lunatic. Did he pass this way?'

'What does he look like?' asked the farmer.

'He's very short,' said the guard, 'and he is very thin and he weighs about 350 pounds.'

The farmer looked at him in amazement. 'How can a man be short and thin and still weigh 350 pounds?' he asked.

'Don't act so surprised,' said the guard angrily. 'I told you he was crazy.'

NPWS Social Club

Warana Boat Cruise

Saturday 26th Sept. 7-15pm

DANCE, SEE THE NIGHT LIGHTS AND OBSERVE THE FIREWORKS DISPLAY
FROM THE RIVER ABOARD THE HAYLES CRUISER 'MINGELA' CRUISING
FROM 7.30PM TO 11.00PM

PRICE: \$6.00 PER SOCIAL CLUB MEMBER AND
\$6.00 PER MEMBER'S PARTNER
(SUPPER AND DISC JOCKEY INCLUDED)

B.Y.O. DRINKS (IT MIGHT BE A GOOD IDEA TO SHARE ESKIES)

SHOULD YOU WISH TO BE PART OF THE FESTIVITIES, PLEASE ADVISE
ROBYN KREIS, CECILY VERSACE OR PETER CAVENDISH BY
FRIDAY 18 SEPTEMBER.

MONEY WILL BE COLLECTED IN ACCOUNTS SECTION AT 11.30AM ON
NEXT PAY, WEDNESDAY 16 SEPTEMBER

NPWS SOCIAL CLUB

NOMINATION FORM FOR THE POSITIONS OF
PRESIDENT, SECRETARY OR TREASURER
FOR THE 12 MONTHS 1.10.81 TO 1.10.82

..... is hereby nominated for the
position of on the committee for the
period 1.10.81 to 1.10.82.

Nominee: Name Signature.....Date.....

Nominator: Name Signature.....Date.....

Seconder: Name Signature.....Date.....

If further forms are required please have this one photocopied
or submit a hand written copy.

Listed hereunder is a current list of financial social club members.

F.R. Allison	G.J. Hudson	R.N. Newnam
R.A. Blick	C.R. Hughes	P.S. Ogilvie
P.J. Burke	D.J. Jeffress	G.N. Oliver
S.P. Burstow	S.A. Jones	W.B. Oxnam
P.A. Cavendish	S.P. Jonsson	M.J. Quinn
W.J. Chadwick	R.V. Kelly	G.J. Rees
D.F. Charles	D.K. Kolarski	A.F. Reeve
R.C. Clarkson	R.N. Krause	K.A. Rowland
R.C. Clause	R.A. Kreis	P.S. Sattler
G.F. Cole	H.J. Lavery	G.W. Saunders
S.M. Conway	C.A. Lloyd	J. Shambler
J.J. Curnow	D. Maccoll	R.A. Speirs
P.T. Curtis	J. Marles	J.P. Stanton
H.M. Dunis	R.O. Marshall	P.J. Starkey
B.D. Elder	J.H. Martin	G.C. Stone
P.A. Gilmour	M.J. McDevitt	J.W. Tozer
N.K. Hansell	J.S. McEvoy	C.M. Versace
P.J. Harmon-Price	R.W. McTaggart	T.J. Vollbon
C.J. Harris	N.P. Mee	N. Waters
M.J. Harris	J.E. Meehan	V.J. Wood
L.R. Hayes	J.P. Minehan	
J.L. Higgins	A.A. Moriarty	

Bob's Birthday

Making an entrance to the world on Christmas Day has many disadvantages. There is an officer in the Service who for the last 28 years has been obliged, since his first rattle doubled as a Christmas present, to endure the great hardship of one present for both occasions.

Imagine Bob McTaggart's (who shall remain nameless) delight to find that his most stalworth supporters have designated May 21st as his new birthday date.

He appeared stunned and somewhat confused by the arrival at morning tea time, of a magnificent cake (lots of chocolate and cream) and the trio of Neil Krause, John Martin and Marcia Mulvena singing "Happy Birthday" followed by hip-hip hooray and congratulations all round. The word spread fast and the room was soon packed with well wishers carrying "A4 bond" serviettes!

Bob still sat there shaking his head; for it seemed the organisers had neglected to advise Bob of the new arrangements.

The whole affair was perhaps the social event of the year with some well chosen psychology from 'JHD' himself and Neil Krause in his party gear.

The setting was ideal, the sombre grey of the compactus units was the ideal backdrop to Marcia's vogue blue suit, while Bob, the guest of honour, appeared unable to fully grasp the situation and displayed his brightest red hues.

Everyone feasted and Bob was seen to have grown a chocolate cream moustache. With one slice of cake left, Robyn Kreis entered the room. Bob offered her the last piece. On accepting this Robyn's mind was ticking away. She spluttered "I thought your birthday was at Christmas - you can't fool me!" Alas, it was too late, Bob has been convinced. He leaned back in his chair and thanked everyone for coming to the cries of "Speech - Speech".

Bob's birthday wishes poured in all day, and no doubt his wife Sheena was puzzled at his arrival home in such a delightful 'birthday' mood.

Many happy returns Bob and we all hope that from now on you have a real birthday on May 21st each year.

P.S. All belated cards and well wishes can be sent direct to Bob C/- the Sand Pit, Management Service Section.

WORK EXCHANGE SCHEME

During 1980 the Deputy Director initiated a proposal for Service wages staff to participate in an exchange program to enable them to spend varying periods in other branches of the Service and thus broaden their knowledge and experience.

Although a limited response only was received, a number of officers participated and all were enthusiastic at the benefits of the scheme.

It is proposed that the opportunity he again offered this year to enable staff exchange to occur wherever possible.

Some constraints are imposed by both funding and the need for officers to be replaced in their own position, however every endeavour will be made to enable officers who apply to be given experience in areas which would broaden their knowledge of the Service and thus make them more capable in their normal duties.

Exchanges last year involved Management and Operations Branch, Technical Services Section and Research and Planning Branch.

Should any officers desire to participate in the scheme this year application should be made through your branch supervisor to the Liaison Officer who will endeavour to arrange suitable placement.

Please re-read Ringtail issues of March 1980 for original details of the scheme.

Geoff Cole
Liaison Officer

MANAGEMENT SERVICES UNIT

The Department of the Public Service Board has instituted Management Services Units for most Departments within the Queensland Public Service.

The Management Services Unit of National Parks and Wildlife Service was established on 5th February, 1981, with my secondment from Research and Planning to Administration Branch.

I have since been appointed Senior Management Services Officer and I am located in Head Office on the 7th floor, M.L.C. Centre.

Due to the increasing demand on the services offered by the Unit, Mr Bob McTaggart has been seconded to assist in the capacity of Acting Management Services Officer.

The following article represents a trimmed version of a paper on the role of Management Services Units in the Queensland Public Service - which was written by Mr Cliff Bunning, Deputy Chief Management Advisory Officer Public Service Board and presented to the Queensland Public Service Senior Managers Conference Brisbane April 1, 1981.

If you have any questions regarding the role of the unit or wish to discuss any matters concerning the organization, please do not hesitate to write or telephone myself or Bob McTaggart at the Head Office address or EXT 7761.

John Martin
SENIOR MANAGEMENT
SERVICES OFFICER

THE ROLE OF MANAGEMENT SERVICES UNITS IN THE QUEENSLAND PUBLIC SERVICE

The Situation in 1970

Ten years ago only 3 Departments had both Methods Officers and Training Officers formally designated as such and in each case the two classes of officers were in separate Sections, reporting to different parts of their organisation. Two other Departments had Methods Officers only and one Department had a Training Officer only.

The methods work was typically based on the Organisation and Methods (O&M) approach developed in the British Civil Service in the early post-war period. The main emphasis was upon chartering, pre-determined time standards and the achievement of operational efficiency. The training approach at that time was drawn mainly from Army training approaches and Technical College courses and emphasized the lecture method. The content was typically concerned with such matters as letter writing, dealing with the public or supervision of staff.

Developments during the 1970 - 1980 Period

The main changes that occurred during the last decade are shown below, although it needs to be recognised that the sequence of change varied between Departments, as did the timing - some Departments evolving early in the decade and other Departments only quite recently. These changes were -

- . progressive integration of the two activities of Methods and Training into the one Section and ultimately into the one role - that of Management Services Officer;
- . increase in the number of Departments having Units and in the number and classification levels of officers in the Units;
- . increase in the educational standard and personal ability level of officers entering the function and an increase in the amount of post-entry professional training given;

- . major changes in philosophy and techniques used in both the methods area and the training area towards -
 - (a) a more consultative, participative approach to clients.
 - (b) a more direct focussing on the real issues operating in the actual situation, as distinct from the previous approach of focussing mostly on what should be and seeking to override any resistance;
 - (c) a much wider range of developmental activities offered - many of them being completely new to the Service. These include Planning and Goal Setting, Seminars, Participative Job Redesign, Team Building, Conflict Resolution and experiential Learning groups for interpersonal relations;
- . As a consequence of the preceding changes, a capacity to deal directly with major strategic issues in Departments, rather than be confined to low level operational issues as was previously the case.

1981 and Beyond

The role of Management Services Officers has now been defined by the Public Service Board in the following terms -

"Management Services Officers are employed in Departments to act as internal consultants to management. They may work independently or as part of a project team but in all instances they aim to achieve two primary goals -

- . The provision of advice and direct assistance in the resolution of existing managerial and operational problems; and

- . The provision of advice and direct assistance in the development of the organisation's capacity to function effectively and manage in the longer term."

The intention of the second aim is to encourage going beyond the immediate task of "firefighting" or dealing with immediate problems. The enhancement of line officers' capacity to solve problems for themselves and, indeed, to function in ways that avoid some problems ever arising, is a vital part of the Management Service Officer's role.

Three broad areas of functioning are seen to be -

- . Job and Systems Redesign;
- . Personnel Development;
- . Comprehensive Development
This includes both the above areas but is used to refer to those longer term programs (often several years in duration) that address all the relevant issues, including legislative changes, restructuring etc. that can arise in the comprehensive development of an entire Department or major part thereof.

Effective use of Management Services Officers

Given the existence of appropriately selected and trained Management Services Officers, their effective utilization is a vital issue, if the Units are to be cost effective. In particular, the following mistakes of the past must be avoided -

- . ad hoc allocation of projects in an unplanned way without consideration of alternative activities and the priorities of those alternatives;
- . using Management Services Officers for miscellaneous duties such as relieving in line positions and undertaking administrative activities falling outside the role as outlined earlier;

- . keeping them confined to low level "safe" projects, whilst strategic higher level problems remain unaddressed or are dealt with in a superficial way by senior managers who lack both the time and the assistance to deal with them effectively; and
- . failing to deal with reports on change proposals so that very little implementation actually occurs.

Relations with other specialist Units

1. Departmental or Central Computer Groups

Only on rare occasions have Management Services Officers worked in conjunction with Systems Analysts or Central Computer Groups in the redesign and establishment of major new computerised systems in Departments. Management Services Officers can increase the range of skills brought to major projects of this kind, particularly in the areas of organisation problem diagnosis, attitudinal skills and training, redesign of positions that interface with computer systems so that the manual duties enhance motivation, output and job satisfaction.

Also, Management Services Officers can assist any structural changes via redeployment counselling, retraining etc.

Some Departments have their computer staff actually reporting to their Manager of Management Service and in those cases, an integrated approach should be quite easily arranged.

2. Departmental or Central Operational Audit

This new activity and the Management Services function share a common goal in contributing to an increase in the efficiency and effectiveness of Departmental operations, where this is needed. The difference lies in the major activity engaged in by each.

Operational Audit is primarily a Review Function, whilst Management Services is primarily a Development Function. It is expected that many Operational Audit Reports will generate developmental work for Management Services Units and, where this is likely, it would seem prudent to involve the Manager of the Management Services Unit at the time of consideration of these issues, rather than after the decision has been made to engage in developmental work. Should this not occur, it would be conceivable that the Management Services Officer would want to do his own diagnosis of the apparent problem using the Operational Audit Report as a start. This could lead to duplication of effort.

Management Services Officers, for their part, may well enter areas requiring development that have not been the subject of an Operational Audit. In those cases they will carry out their own data collection and diagnosis phase and report to line management prior to any developmental program being undertaken.

The main potential source of conflict is if the Operational Auditors have a different view from Management Services Officers as to what constitutes "a good system" or as to what is the appropriate diagnosis of the problems. In this case, it would be difficult to agree on the objectives and main parameters of any subsequent program. If or when this occurs, problems such as these can be resolved at the Departmental level by accountable officers having full consultation with Operational Auditors, Management Services Officers and other Line Managers.

3. Management Advisory Division, Department of the Public Service Board

Apart from the regulatory work of recommending the acquisition of office machines and ADP equipment and occasional investigations at the request of a Minister, the bulk of Management Advisory Division activities consist of services which are availed of, or not at the discretion and request of the Departmental Head.

The only exception to the foregoing is the review of service-wide systems such as Printing and Reproduction, ADP personnel practices review and functional review of staff utilization. All these review activities are however, done co-jointly with Departmental staff, often with Management Services Officers from within that Department.

The Division has a Section of officers committed exclusively to providing developmental services to the Management Services function itself. This includes central recruitment of new staff where desired, testing of applicants, provision of central training etc. However, apart from entry testing, these are basically services which are used or not at the discretion of the particular Department.

Reporting Relationships within the Department

Experience has indicated that successful Management Services Units report directly to the Permanent Head or his deputy. In this way, the priorities of the Units' work program can be established to meet the initiatives determined by the senior policy-makers within each Department. It also helps to ensure that the Units' activities are not diverted into other activities, that, although important, may not utilize fully the skills of the Management Services Officers in the Department.

Efficiency and Effectiveness

The ground work has been laid in many Departments for the new or expanded Management Services Unit to make a significant contribution to increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of Departmental operations. The extent to which this hope becomes a reality now depends upon senior Departmental officers making full use of the capacity that has been provided.

The Yolk was on the Tourist

The tourist was introduced at Albuquerque to an Indian with a reputedly perfect memory. Skeptical, the tourist asked, "What did you have for breakfast on November 6, 1910?" The Indian answered, "Eggs". The man scoffed. "Everyone eats eggs for breakfast. He's just a fraud."

Eight years later the traveller's train stopped again at Albuquerque, and he saw the same Indian lounging on the platform. The tourist went up to him and said, "How!"

Quick as a flash, the Indian answered, "Scrambled".

Dead End

The gentleman left his country club slightly the worse for wear. Turning into the main highway in his car he decided in his alcoholic daze that the safest procedure was to keep his eyes glued on the car ahead and follow it closely.

This he did for some time and he was just congratulating himself on his sagacity when the car ahead suddenly stopped and he crashed into it with a loud bang.

The irate driver of the first car stuck his head out of his window and glared back angrily. 'What's the big idea?' he bellowed.

'What's the big idea?' the drunk retorted. 'Why didn't you stick out your hand?'

The other driver's eyes opened wide with astonishment. 'I didn't think I had to do that in my own garage,' he yelped.

A LIGHTHEARTED VIEW OF AN ACQUISITION

The following is a brief and possibly facetious look at the process of acquiring land for a national park under the present system.

Scene 1

Ranger Fred X wandering through some rugged countryside on his day in lieu comes across a remarkable plateau vegetated with unusual tall trees, possesses as active volcano is inhabited by 10' kangaroos, the odd dinosaur and other Mesozoic miscellanea. This strikes Ranger Fred as interesting and he sends off a memo to Head Office mentioning the possibilities of a national park in the area.

Scene 2

On receipt of the memo the land acquisitions branch slips into action like a well-oiled machine. The memo is made into a file and given a PR number and all registers are noted. For those who are unaware we are presently up to PR 904.

Action then moves into the Drafting Section where aerial photos are consulted and we check the area on a cadastral (property) map to work out possible boundaries and it is discovered that it is part of the vast Upson Downs Pastoral Holding. Proposal plans are drawn and our first approach is then made to the Department of Lands with a letter stating that the Service has an interest in the area and could any further dealings (changes of tenure, ownership, lease conditions etc) be referred to the Service.

All existing correspondence and information is then passed on to Research and Planning Branch who are asked to provide a technical evaluation of the area.

Scene 3

After a while a glowing report comes back full of such phrases as - "krasmozim soils on tertiary basalt show a high degree of laterization", "low notophyll vine thickets with araucarian emergents",

"wacking great dinosaurs" or "jolly fine place for a zoo".

Scene 4

In response to this report the regional superintendent (through appropriate channels of course) or one of our smooth talking acquisitions officers is asked to go and "negotiate" with the lessee. Such factors as low grazing potential, better defined boundaries, T.B. free zones and "doing the right thing for future Australians" are pointed out to the lessee. Usually a deal is made whereby he will agree to surrender the part of his property we are after if we pay all survey costs, smile benignly when he makes moves towards freeholding his property - and give him a calendar.

Once the lessee/owner is on side Mines Department are advised of the proposal as without their approval gazettal as national park cannot proceed.

Scene 5

Next, we get back to the Lands Department advising that the lessee is willing to surrender the area of our interest and requesting their concurrence. If they are in agreement surrender forms are prepared, signed by the lessee and registered with Lands. In the meantime the Department of Mapping and Surveying has been asked to draw up a gazettal or NPIU plan and when the O.K. has been received from Lands then an Order in Council is placed in the Government Gazette setting apart the described land as national park.

In the middle of all this any of the following authorities may have to be approached to ascertain their views or obtain their concurrence to the proposal - depending on its location and boundaries - Queensland Fisheries Service; Shire Councils; Department of Primary Industries; the Local member; Beach Protection Authority; Department of Forestry; Queensland Water Resources Commission, Marcel Morain etc.

What I have outlined in the above is very simplified as there are nearly always complications with one or more facets of acquisition. With the surrender of crown holdings such as the above example there is sometimes friction between the lessee and the Service, usually over such matters as grazing rights, surveys or access. Also keep in mind that this is a fairly straightforward example of only one type of acquisition. Further chapters in this probably never-to-be-published series are -

How to revoke a State Forest;
How to purchase a deceased estate;
How to accept a gift of land;
How to resume a freehold property;
How to close a non-existent road.

Paul Curtis

LIBRARY

The 'Central Australia Flora' will be published this year by the South Australian Department of the Environment. Since the Service made a donation towards this publication, copies are being offered to us at a 40% discount at \$21-00.

Any officers interested in purchasing a personal copy at this rate should contact the Library.

Earlier this year, the Service was approached by a representative of the United Nations Environmental Programme to register as a source for INFOTERRA. This is a world wide network through which organisations and individuals requiring environmental information can obtain the names and addresses of appropriate sources. INFOTERRA now contains nearly six thousand information sources in forty-nine countries. The data collected on each information source is processed and stored on computer files in the National Focal Point of each participating country.

Further information is available from the Library.

The Library has recently purchased a copy of 'Ecological Biogeography of Australia' edited by Allen Keast. This is a new edition of the 1959 publication 'Biogeography and Ecology in Australia' (monographiae Biologicae, Volume 8).

The three volume work is a review of the Australian biota, its origins, evolution and adaptations. It is built up on the basis of a series of introductory chapters dealing with the spatial and physical events of early history, reviews of the fossil record through the Tertiary, and an extensive series of chapters on major plant and animal groups, their relationships, evolution, diversification and adaptation to the Australian Scene. A final series of chapters deals with the Australian aborigines - their origins and physiological and ecological adaptations.

The Library staff will send photocopies of the contents pages to any officer requesting them.

Kathy Buckley



GAZETAL ACTION

Well things are beginning to warm up on the gazettals scene and we have quite a few new parks etc to report.

Especially for Warren, Chris, Dan, Vic and Claude, our Environmental Park enthusiasts, we set aside three new areas as Environmental parks.

(1) Lake Broadwater Environmental Park

This park is 1,220 hectares in size and is situated south west of Dalby. The Lake which is the only large body of water in the Dalby area covers about 300 hectares and provides an ideal habitat for a large variety of native fauna especially waterbirds.

It is one of only two environmental parks permanently staffed (Townsville Town Common is the other, manned by Claude Azzopardi) and is manned by Vic Wood.

(2) Mon Repos Environmental Park

This park of about 23.52 hectares provides protection for the most significant turtle rookery in Eastern Australia. Each year from late October to January, Loggerhead, green, flatback and leather back turtles make their way up to the sand dunes to lay their eggs.

Because of the large attraction this has for Tourists the park is required both to protect the dunes from development etc and to allow the Service to place some control on the large numbers of people who come to view the turtles each year.

(3) Kuranda Environmental Park

This small environmental park is about 5.5 hectares in size and is situated on the western side of Jumrum Creek in the town of Kuranda.

Although only small this park will complement the existing environmental park on the eastern side of Jumrum Creek.

To please our national park supporters we extended four existing parks.

The first of these was Edmund Kennedy National Park which was extended by 157.5 hectares. Total size of this park is now over 6,200 hectares.

This extension, besides removing inholdings from within the park boundary provides an area ideal for the development of camping and picnic facilities.

On the same day (14/3/81) as the Edmund Kennedy Gazettal Cape Hillsborough National Park was also extended. This time by about 89 hectares making a total area of 816 hectares.

These extensions rationalised the existing park boundary and an adjoining public purposes reserve within the park.

The third park to be extended was Mt Jukes National Park.

This park was more than doubled in size to 612 hectares when 383 hectares of adjoining land, mountainous of terrain, with vegetation ranging from vine forest to eucalypt forest was added.

The final addition was made to Blue Lake National Park on Stradbroke Island.

Here 67 hectares of land was surrendered by the mining company Thanium and Zirconium Industries Pty Ltd from their lease to enable it to be added to the park, bringing the size of the park to 501 hectares.

In addition four more properties were declared Fauna Sanctuaries:-

Mt Aberdeen - Bowen
Dryander - Proserpine
Glenhowden - Harlin
Solitary Point - adjoins Bunya
Mountains National
Park.

Although legislatively we, as a Service do not have a great deal of control over Fauna Sanctuaries we welcome the interest that private individuals are

showing in nature conservation by declaring their land as Sanctuaries.

When sanctuaries were first started, one of the major reasons for their declaration seemed to be the owners desire to prohibit shooting on their properties.

It is obvious from more recent applications that people are now taking a greater interest in nature conservation and are requesting Fauna Sanctuary status for this reason.

Although this trend is still relatively new it is a beginning and we, especially those of us in the field should make every effort to encourage it where possible.

A summary of current Service Estate as at 31.8.81 is as follows:-

303 National Parks - 2,841,281
90 environmental parks - 39,575
3 fauna reserves - 30,228
2 fauna refuges - 5551
1 scientific purposes reserve - 5,346
1343 fauna sanctuaries - 11,238,035



Daffynitions

Husband: A man who can wait all day long for his supper, but not five minutes more.

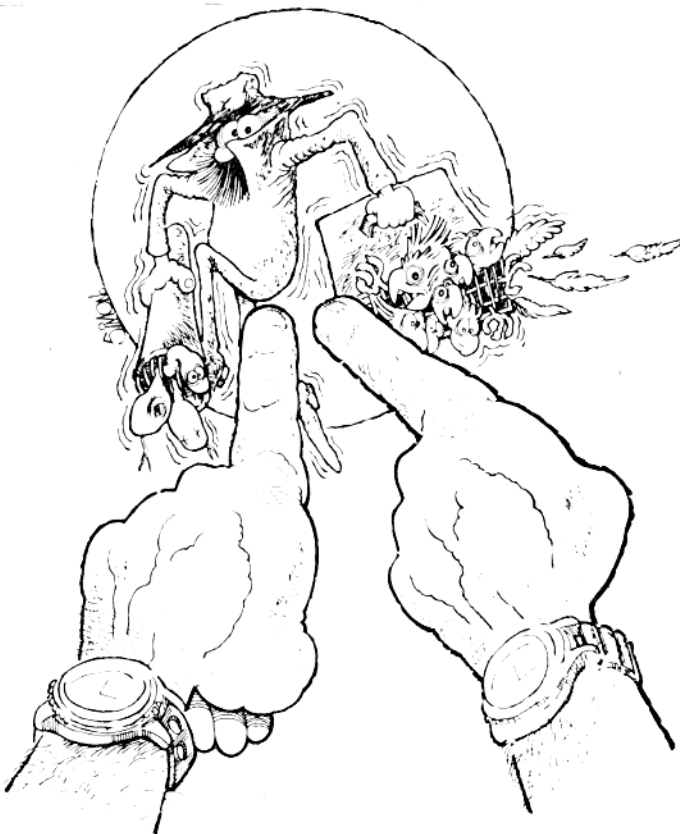
Efficiency expert: A fellow who says his prayers once a year, and all the rest of the time says "Ditto".

Pranks for the Memory

A kind old gentleman was strolling down the street when he saw a small boy standing on the front steps of a house trying to reach the doorbell. The small boy stood on tiptoe, and even jumped up as high as he could, but he was unable to reach the bell.

The kind old gentleman went up the steps rang the bell, and said, "Well, my little man, now what?"

"I don't know what you're going to do," said the little man, "but I'm gonna run like the devil".



Research and Planning Branch

The following article appeared in a well known publication:

'.... They drove in silence the short distance to Mon Repos, and it wasn't until they were out on the broad white sands of the beach that Con began explaining to Verna the true significance of the turtle rookery.

"It's only really in the last few years that the place has begun to get the recognition it deserves," he said.

"It's probably the only mainland beach in Australia where significant numbers of turtles come to lay their eggs, and certainly it's the only one that's so easily accessible to people. In a lot of ways, that's a bad thing, because even now there isn't enough organisation to give the poor turtles the protection they should have."

He and Verna walked slowly along the beach, keeping to the soft sand above the water-line and watching for the characteristic marks of the huge turtles as they plodded up to reach the nesting areas.

"You realise that we might not see anything at all," he said pensively, "even though the time is about as right as you can get with a high night tide. Then on the other hand we might get really lucky; it's just about mid-point in the season, and we could actually see both a turtle going up to lay eggs and some fresh hatchings."

He reached out to capture her hand as Verna stumbled in the soft sand, and she felt a thrill of inner content when he chose to hang on to it as they continued their walk. Con explained that the beach had long been known as the rookery for loggerhead turtles, but only in recent years had it become famous as well because of the nesting green turtles and the little-studied flatback variety.

It was the discovery and study of the flatback turtles by local scientist Col Limpus that had really begun to bring out the ecological significance of Mon Repos, he said, giving the impetus for increased control and protection of the area.

"That's why we're not using our torch, by the way. The researchers have found that too much light and activity can upset the turtles."

A little further along, they were stopped by one of the turtle research team, who casually but determinedly questioned them about their knowledge of the rules that had been established to ensure protection for the egg-laying reptiles.

Finally satisfied that they were at least reasonably safe to be left on their own, he suggested a specific area for their investigation and left them to wander off and check on the arrival of yet another couple. It wasn't until then that Verna realised how many people actually had joined them on the long stretch of beach.

Con took up her hand again along with their discussion as he related more about the turtles, which nested at Mon Repos from November to March each year.

"The actual nesting is usually from November to January or early February, but the hatching goes from January to March," he said. "Most of the nesting turtles will weigh two hundred to three hundred pounds. The loggerheads and greens will lay an average of one hundred and twenty eggs in a clutch, and the eggs are the size of ping-pong balls. The flatbacks lay about fifty eggs, and they're the size of billiard balls. The turtles will lay up to five clutches in a season, at roughly fortnightly intervals, and they don't lay every year."

Verna was fascinated by the information this man seemed to be able to keep as if on a tape-recorder in his mind, but she was also supremely content just to listen to the rumbling sound of his voice as they strolled hand-in-hand along the beach. She wasn't even looking anymore for the marks of moving turtles, and returned to full awareness with something of a start when Con halted abruptly and

If you have found the article engrossing, perhaps you would like to read the book entitled 'The Sugar Dragon' printed by Mills and Boon Limited.

... Who was the senior executive sitting in his office, door closed, and engrossed in this novel? Dr Livingstone we presume?!

Loretta Rush, pictured right, together with Megan Williams from the well known television series 'The Sullivans'.

Loretta is employed by the Service at Pallarenda office as a Secretary.

Loretta not only won a sash but also Townsville Show Girl for 1981. Included in the prize was a trip for two to New Zealand as well as spending money for the holiday.

Congratulations from all the Service staff, Loretta.

Peter Stanton of the Cairns office has commented on a travelling expenses claim he received recently. Apparently a misprint occurred on the voucher which showed travelling expenses for Mary (instead of May).

Peter has pointed out that his wife's name is Karen and also that in future, he would prefer that all expense vouchers were not forwarded to his home address.

Karen do you really believe that story?



Helen Dunis and Cecily Versace handed this cartoon to senior staff of Research and Planning Branch. Hmmmmm.....



New Appointments - Wages Staff

David Batt - Cunningham's Gap
Victor Bushing - Brisbane
John Carvill - Cooloola (Freshwater)
Robert Christie - Bunya Mountains
Adrian Ellis - Mount Isa
Derek Elsdon - Moggill
Robert Hinds - Rockhampton
Walter Rose - Pallarenda
Coral Sinnamon - Moggill
Stephen Smith - Cooloola (Kinaba)
Elizabeth Stutchbury - Natural Bridge
Robert Thompson - Maiala
Jeremie Van Delft - Pine Ridge
Rowan Ward - Maiala
Martin Williams - Cooloola (Freshwater)

Transfers - Wages Staff

Peter Chapman - Binna Burra to Burleigh Heads
Richard Dwyer - Noosa Heads to Gympie Office
Paul Enkelmann - Green Mountains to Cunningham's Gap
Paul Grimshaw - Girraween to Moggill
Peter Slaughter - Cunningham's Gap to Palmerston

Resignations and Retirements

Brian Mackness - Private Enterprise
Graeme McConochie - R.A.C.Q.
Charles Roff - Retired
Simon McLean - Now Freelance Artist
Peter Van Vree - Private Enterprise
Julian Nott - Private Enterprise
Bill Whiteman - Private Enterprise
Bill Carter - Brisbane Forest Park Authority

Transfers - Salary Staff

Brett Porter - Maryborough to Cairns.

Unfinished business

A man named Quiggle died very suddenly, leaving his office in a terrific mess. Among the unfinished business was an important business letter left unmailed.

Before sending it off, his secretary felt the delay required some explanation. She was a stickler for detail anyway. Below Mr Quiggle's signature she added a postscript:

"Since writing the above, I have died".

A canny Scot was engaged in an argument with the conductor as to whether the fare was to be five or ten cents. Finally the disgusted conductor picked up the Scot's suitcase and tossed it off the train just as they were crossing a long bridge. It landed with a mighty splash.

"Hoot, Mon", screamed Sandy. "First you try to rob me and now you've drowned my little boy!".

Daffynitions

Pessimist: A woman driver who's sure she can't park her car in a tight place.

Optimist: A man who thinks she won't try.

Ringtail

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