

### Use and Management of Preserved Areas

The Conservation of Ecosystems Subcommittee will prepare survey check sheets describing natural areas for use by the Monks Wood data center. Also, the subcommittee will sponsor the preparation and publication of comprehensive ecological surveys of preserved natural areas in the United States. The cooperation of the Subcommittee on Systematics and Biogeography and the Ecological Society of America will be sought to further this program. To insure comparability of data and comprehensive coverage, the subcommittee will prepare appropriate handbooks on the ecological and systematic aspects of the surveys.

Certain conservation groups—e.g., the Nature Conservancy—have already begun to develop information needed in negotiating for ownership of reserves. These groups will be asked to assist in preparing and distributing a compendium of these "legal" guidelines to potential users.

Attention must also be directed to the means by which areas can be most effectively protected against misuse and destruction by private individuals and organized groups. One or more persons experienced in matters of this kind will be commissioned to prepare a list of measures needed to reduce damage to the minimum. The information will be included in a management handbook.

Finally, a program of continuing research will be established to formulate specific management techniques.

### SYSTEMATICS AND BIOGEOGRAPHY

It is essential to investigate selected biotas of major systematic and evolutionary significance currently threatened with destruction. Two such studies are summarized here.

#### Hawaii Project

The Hawaii Project will be a detailed, long-term, comprehensive investigation of the endemic and invading biotas of the Hawaiian Archipelago. This group of islands supports one of the most critical biotas in the world—critical because of an exceptionally high level of endemism and the rapidity with which it is disappearing before the on-

slaught of man and of introduced animal and plant species. Furthermore, these islands are an outstanding natural laboratory for the study of evolutionary processes, on which a considerable background of previous work already exists. The following features make the project highly appropriate to the International Biological Program: (1) The project is feasible; (2) it can provide a model of how to deal with endangered floras and faunas; (3) it is urgently needed; and (4) it will serve to dramatize the scientific basis for preserving ecosystems.

#### Tropical Latin America

In many areas of Central America and northern South America, highly localized, endemic faunas and floras are being destroyed by man's activities. This is particularly conspicuous in the northern Andes. Colombia appears to offer the most promising site for this study; sites most suitable for comparisons at different altitudes and in the different ranges of the Colombian cordillera will be selected in consultation with Colombian scientists and others with knowledge of the area.

### HUMAN RESOURCES

In recognition of critical shortages of trained manpower in this country and of the need to assist developing countries through education and training, the U.S. National Committee will—

Encourage the representatives of Federal agencies on the Interagency Coordinating Committee to collaborate on an undertaking to (a) increase support for pre- and post-doctoral training in this country; (b) identify funds in each agency that can be used in training scientists in developing countries; (c) encourage scientists submitting proposals for research in foreign countries to plan on using students in these areas for training; and (d) support requests for travel funds needed for participation in U.S./IBP activities.

Sponsor interinstitutional cooperation so that faculties and facilities can be pooled and exploited, particularly where specialized resources in statistical techniques, systems analysis, ecological management, etc., are available.