UC Berkeley

The George Wright Forum

Title

Editorial

Permalink

https://escholarship.org/uc/item/7077j15p

Journal

The George Wright Forum, 1(1)

Author

Matthews, Jean

Publication Date

1981-03-01



This material is from the archive of The George Wright Forum, the George Wright Society's journal of parks and protected areas (published 1981–2018)

https://escholarship.org/uc/gwf/

Source: *The George Wright Forum*, Volume 1, No. 1 (Summer 1981)

Published by: George Wright Society

ISSN: 0732-4715 (print), 3064-8564(online)

ABOUT THE GEORGE WRIGHT FORUM

The George Wright Forum was the journal of the George Wright Society from 1981 through 2018, published in 35 volumes with a total of 125 issues. Its mission was to "examine critical issues and present new research related to parks, protected areas, and cultural sites around the world." The hallmark of the journal was its interdisciplinary approach, covering all fields relevant to natural and cultural heritage stewardship.

Early volumes of the journal did not carry dates embedded on each page, so that information is provided on this cover sheet.

The George Wright Forum ceased publication at the end of 2018. Beginning in 2020, it is continued by Parks Stewardship Forum, an open-access journal co-published by the George Wright Society and the University of California, Berkeley, Institute for Parks, People, and Biodiversity. Parks Stewardship Forum continues both the mission and the interdisciplinary approach of The George Wright Forum. The first volume of Parks Stewardship Forum is denominated as Volume 36 to indicate this continuity. Parks Stewardship Forum is published at https://escholarship.org/uc/psf and has been selected by the Library of Congress to be archived as "an important and valuable addition to our collections and to the historical record."

CITING THE GEORGE WRIGHT FORUM

We recommend that you use the DOI (Digital Object Identifier) as the weblink. DOIs for each article are available at through *The George Wright Forum's* permanent archive website, https://escholarship.org/uc/gwf.

You can also find The George Wright Forum through JSTOR at https://www.jstor.org/journal/georwrigforu.

When citing, please note that the definite article "The" is part of the journal's title.

ABOUT THE GEORGE WRIGHT SOCIETY

The George Wright Society supports parks, protected/conserved areas, cultural sites, and other kinds of place-based conservation by encouraging communication among and convenings of researchers, managers, educators, practitioners, and the public to facilitate informed decisions and actions that embrace our values.

GWS is a membership organization and we would welcome your support. To find out more, or to donate, please go to https://www.georgewrightsociety.org.

EDITORIAL

The George Wright FORUM is deeply indebted to Ben Thompson for the fine piece on Wright carried in this issue. Throughout his restrained tribute to Wright, Thompson's words imply the selfless dedication of an exceptionally winsome human being, intent on mobilizing the cream of the scientific talent then available and doing so in an orderly, useful way.

It is fitting that the name and the spirit of this remarkable young man be invoked as the rallying point for present day kindred spirits—men and women who recognize the pragmatic as well as the aesthetic values inherent in protected areas and sites.

Today the threats to such areas and their values are mounted on too swift a juggernaut for hit-or-miss countermeasures. As Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "Things are in the saddle and ride mankind." We need to know when we act in managing these resources that what we do is right and sufficient. This requires basic, organized, retrievable information, available in a timely manner to those who must make policy and manage natural and cultural parks and reserves.

The George Wright Society seeks to promote research, the synthesis of information, and the useful dissemination of results to management, policy-makers and the public in whose hands the ultimate fate of parks, historic sites and reserves will rest. National parks have served as the point of origin and the early membership orientation; however, all areas that represent a basis for natural or historic research and education—whether of local, state/provincial, national or planetary significance—are within the scope of The George Wright Society's concern.

Like-minded individuals with a similar interest in understanding through research and maintaining, through enlightened management practices, the finest examples of humanity's natural and cultural underpinnings are welcome to membership in The George Wright Society.