

SEMINARS

The noon talk scheduled for Tuesday, January 27th, in the Ancon Conference Room will be given by STEVEN MORGAN from the University of Maryland. His subject:

The Impact of Planktivorous Fishes on the Life Histories of Estuarine Crabs.

There will also be an evening staff seminar given by JAMES KARR at 7 p.m. in the Ancon Conference Room. All Staff, Students and Visitors are welcome. His subject will be:

Tropical Forest Ecology: Birds Tangled in a Complex Web.

The following Tuesday, February 3rd, ROBERT BUSCHBACHER from the Conservation Foundation will give the noon talk entitled:

Forest Recovery after Amazon Pasture Development.

Dr. Buschbacher has been working in Venezuela and Brasil for 6 years, and in 1986 received a Fulbright Fellowship to work in Brasil. Currently, he is the project director of tropical forestry for the Conservation Foundation. His main interest is the study of nutrient cycling and productivity in pastures from the Amazon rainforest.

ARRIVALS & DEPARTURES

The Smithsonian Institution's National Board of Associates will be arriving next week to visit the different STRI facilities from Saturday, January 31, to Wednesday, February 4. The visitors include Mr. and Mrs. Robert Donner, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Hadley Griffin, Mr. and Mrs. Edson W. Spencer, and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Schmidt.

IMPORTANT REMINDER

In order to enter the Gamboa Pier to board the launch for BCI, it is necessary to show a STRI ID or a letter of authorization from STRI's Visitors Office (G. Maggiori, Tivoli). Anyone without such an ID will be turned back by the Canal Commission guard.

GOINGS ON AT ANCON

Facilities Management has been cleaning and repainting parts of the Ancon Building. As part of the face-lift and thanks to the artistic ability and hard work of Maria Luz Jimenez, there is a new and more complete visitors bulletin board outside. The intercom system is also being modernized; this will allow visitors who come after hours to call any office from outside the building. (The rumors about the strobe lights in the seminar room are not true, however.)

STRI MINI-BOOK STORE

The Tivoli bookstore has a new book for sale:

Walker's Mammals of the World
\$ 65.00

ON LEAVE

We welcome back VIELKA VERGEL on a part-time basis until she fully recovers from 3 broken ribs.

DOUGLAS ROCHA will be on sick leave until February 7 recovering from an operation.

JAMES E. WEBB FELLOWSHIP

The Webb Fellowships were established by the Smithsonian to "promote excellence in the management of cultural and scientific not-for-profit organizations by recognizing and developing the management ability of individuals..." They offer a 2-year appointment but the actual period of training cannot exceed 12 months. Training includes formal instruction at a graduate institution of business, public administration or management, or on-site training in these areas, or a combination of both.

Federal and Trust Smithsonian employees are eligible. The deadline for submission of applications has been postponed until **February 17** for fellowships beginning between June 1, 1987 and May 31, 1988. Awards will be announced April 1 of this year. For more information see the STRI Educational Coordinator.

NEW FUNDRAISING METHOD

(Taken from *Biotropica* 18 (13): 292, 1986)

Guanacaste National Park—A Tropical Christmas Catalog

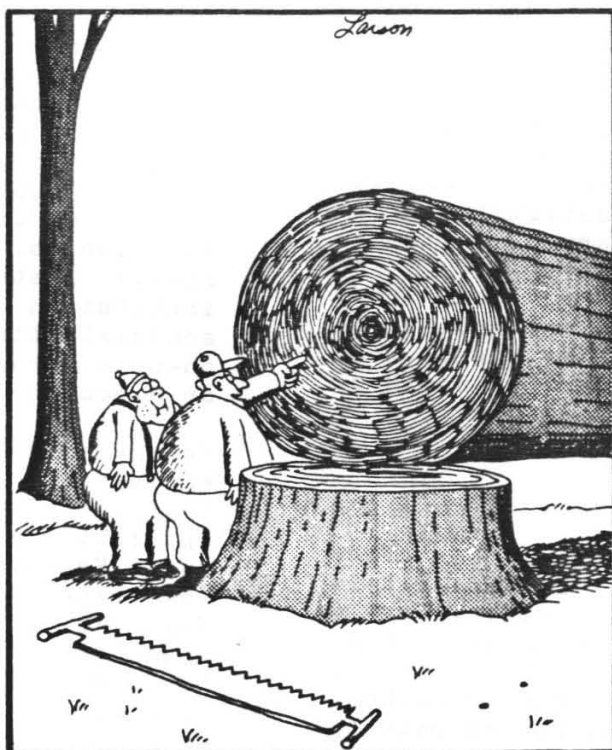
Western Mesoamerica had a "France-worth" of tropical dry forest but now less than 2% remains. Only 0.09% of the original area has conservation status. The proposed Guanacaste National Park (GNP) in northwestern Costa Rica would restore 700 km² of dry forest and rainforest refugia and would double the amount of Mesoamerican conserved dry forest.

Restoration can be accomplished with land purchase and protection from ranching, fires and hunting. The necessary organisms for colonization come from the 255 km² of National Park restoration already within GNP, and from population fragments in the damaged habitats. Invasion by native organisms will be natural or assisted, depending on the zone. Cultural restoration is also involved. The GNP will be a living classroom and research laboratory run by and used largely by Costa Ricans, with an international audience as well. GNP has raised \$1 million, and requires \$5 million more by May 1987 to purchase GNP's 160 km² core. This purchase will secure the entire project.

The Christmas shopping menu—\$300 buys all of (forever):

1 hectare or 2.47 acres
0.001 jaguar
0.1 adult guanacaste tree
0.000029 volcano
0.0071 bird species
0.04 anteaters
0.01 muscovy duck
0.0029 herp species
0.1 agouti
0.05 curassow
200 sphinx moth caterpillars (offer good in July only)
25 spiny pocket mice
0.429 insect species
0.000016 of the join between 330 km² dry forest and 210 km² rain forest
1,000,000 ants
10,000 mushrooms (early rainy season bargain)
0.25 tinamou
0.4 adult guapinol tree
0.5 parrots
5 m riverbank
0.005 tapir
1 rattlesnake
200 orchids
3 million unlisted organisms
0.01 white-lipped peccary
400 dung beetles
20 roads
125,000 acorns
0.023 mammal species
100 vines
5,000 bruchid beetles (rainy season purchase not guaranteed)
100 scorpions
0.000028571 peripatus species
0.03 spider monkey

Your tax-deductible Christmas purchase order of any amount should be mailed to Nature Conservancy-Guanacaste Fund, 1785 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20036. All purchases will be held for your on-site inspection by the Costa Rican National Park Service. Detailed information available from D. H. Janzen, Department of Biology, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA 19104 (215-898-5636).



"And see this ring right here, Jimmy? . . . That's another time when the old fellow miraculously survived some big forest fire."