

GWS News+Notes: Announcing Parks Stewardship Forum

[Campaign Preview](#)



Teaming up with UC Berkeley on a new journal

A new page for the GWS

Dear GWS Members,

We have exciting news to share with you today. After 37 years of publishing *The George Wright Forum* (1981–2018), we are transitioning the journal to a new identity and a new publishing platform—one that has the potential for global reach. We have just signed an agreement with the [University of California Berkeley's Institute for Data, Design, and Diversity \(IDD\)](#) to --

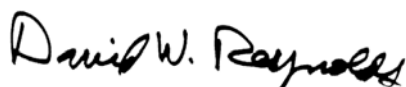
[California Berkeley's Institute for Parks, People, and Biodiversity \(IPPB\)](#) to co-publish [Parks Stewardship Forum](#), The Interdisciplinary Journal of Place-Based Conservation.

This partnership, over a year in the making, is an excellent strategic fit for the Society. Our new partner is led by Jonathan Jarvis, most recently the director of the U.S. National Park Service (and a past president of the GWS). We have worked closely with Jon over many years and his vision for the IPPB aligns well with ours, positioning our two organizations to be complementary partners. As luck would have it, Jon and the IPPB are just out with a short video describing their vision, titled "Landscape Resilience by Design," which has been selected as a finalist in the National Science Foundation's Idea Machine 2026 Competition. You can learn more about it later in this newsletter.

The launch of *Parks Stewardship Forum* is a major milestone in the ongoing development of our Society. Please take time to read the following announcement and call for papers, and consider submitting to our new journal.

And this is not the only partnership we are working on with a major university: we anticipate having news to share soon regarding our popular Park Break Fellowship Learning Program.

These are just two examples of new directions that the Board of Directors is exploring to expand the impact of our George Wright Society community. Without your financial and intellectual support as members, none of this would be possible. We thank you for that. As always we welcome your suggestions for improving and expanding our services and membership while staying true to our mission.



David W. Reynolds
President



David Harmon
Executive Director

Announcing ...

Parks Stewardship Forum

The Interdisciplinary Journal of Place-Based Conservation

The [UC Berkeley Institute for Parks, People, and Biodiversity](#) and the George Wright Society are excited to announce that they are joining forces to create [Parks Stewardship Forum](#), a new interdisciplinary journal to serve the global stewards of parks, protected areas, and cultural sites—the people at the forefront of conserving the special places most crucial to safeguarding the world's cultural and natural heritage.

Parks Stewardship Forum will continue—and significantly expand upon—the nearly 40-year publishing record of [The George Wright Forum](#), which from 1981 through 2018 served as the the George Wright Society's journal of parks, protected areas, and cultural sites.

Like its predecessor, *Parks Stewardship Forum* will explore innovative thinking and offer enduring perspectives on critical issues across the whole spectrum of place-based heritage management and stewardship. It will continue to be the only professional conservation journal with an interdisciplinary focus, publishing insights from all fields related to parks, protected areas, and cultural sites.

Parks Stewardship Forum will also serve as one of the communication vehicles of the new UC Berkeley Institute for Parks, People and Biodiversity, bridging the published research of the University of California and other academic institutions into real-world applications.

Beyond this, we plan to take the new incarnation of the *Forum* to higher level, with a specific recognition that parks and public lands play an increasingly important role in broader issues such as climate adaptation, public health, education, jobs, Indigenous sovereignty, and environmental justice, among others. *Parks Stewardship Forum* will feature younger and more diverse voices, both for their own sake and in service of helping prepare the next generation of conservation leaders. There will be an option for contributors to have their papers peer reviewed if they desire.

Parks Stewardship Forum will be published on the [University of California's eScholarship Open Access Publications platform](#), whose journals have amassed over 50 million views. This arrangement ensures that *Parks*

Stewardship Forum will reach a worldwide audience of scholars, practitioners, and concerned citizens. As such, the *Forum* will be on-line only and free to all, with each issue built and produced through philanthropic and GWS-member support.

The Institute and Society's partnership for the new journal continues to honor the visionary legacy of UC Berkeley graduate George Melendez Wright, who played a pivotal role in the early development of scientific and scholarly capacity in the U.S. National Park Service.

Call for Papers, *PSF* Inaugural Issue

“Climate Change and Protected Places: Adapting to New Realities”

Proposals accepted through July 15, 2019

The first issue of *Parks Stewardship Forum* will explore how researchers and managers of protected places are collaborating to search for adaptation responses to climate change. Is your park, protected area, or cultural site planning for—or already managing—the impacts of climate change? If so, we invite you to share your story! We are looking for:

- Field case studies that clearly explain the climate-related impacts your park/area/site is dealing with, what resources or values are at stake, how your management approach has changed or is changing in response to the potential impacts, and what specific steps or programs you have implemented or plan to implement to adapt to, or mitigate, the impacts.
- The focus should be on solutions-oriented thinking, highlighting methods and approaches that can be adopted by other park/area/site managers.
- We actively seek case studies that reflect a wide range of cultural and natural resource issues, applications of social science, and multidisciplinary team approaches to problem-solving.

To propose a paper (which should run 2000-4000 words), please submit an abstract by July 15, 2019, using the form at:

<https://www.georgewrightociety.org/forumsubmissions>

<https://www.georgewrightssociety.org/forumsubmissions>

Decisions on proposals will be provided by July 31. If your proposal is accepted, you will have until September 15 to submit a final paper for consideration, with publication of the inaugural issue anticipated for early December 2019.

If you have questions, contact Dave Harmon, PSF managing editor, at dharmon@georgewright.org. We are glad to help.

We are also accepting proposals for future issues of Parks Stewardship Forum. Please visit <https://www.georgewrightssociety.org/forumsubmissions> for more information.

Reimagining protected areas for resilience

Comments encouraged on proposal to National Science Foundation

As mentioned in our introductory message above, UC Berkeley's Institute for Parks, People, and Biodiversity (IPPB) has set out its conservation vision in a short (5-minute) video titled "[Large Landscape Resilience By Design](#)." IPPB is calling for a fundamental reconsideration of the current model of protected area management. Rather than thinking about parks, protected areas, and cultural sites as islands in a sea change, IPPB wants us to think about place-based conservation in terms of "learning to manage at the landscape scale, with parks or equivalent protected areas linked with corridors and integrated with communities, transportation systems, watersheds, agriculture, and sustainable economies as a critical component to the future of conservation."

"Large Landscape Resilience by Design" is one of 33 finalists (out of 800 entrants) in the National Science Foundation's [Idea Machine 2026 Competition](#). The prize? The winner's "big idea" will become one of NSF's priority funding areas. We encourage you to [view the video](#) and submit comments, which will help the judges determine the winner.

Not a GWS member? Join us today!

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