

PREDECISIONAL DRAFT

Appendix B: Qualifications of Panel Members

- **Ms. Marti Leicester, Associate Regional Director, Park Operations and Education, Pacific West Regional Office, Federal Panel Chair**

Marti Leicester is a 29 year veteran of the National Park Service with wide experience in managing all aspects of visitor use and park operations. She is currently responsible for providing oversight, developing policy recommendations and resolving a wide variety of park operational issues for maintenance, interpretation and education, park protection, land acquisition and concessions issues for 54 parks in the Pacific West Region. Marti has also served as a park manager at various sites throughout the NPS, including several historic sites and at Santa Monica Mountains NRA and Golden Gate NRA. She has served as a project manager in the development of two regional trails and worked to resolve numerous user conflict issues.

Marti is a graduate of Stanford University and has a Bachelors degree in Mass Media and Communications. She has also completed graduate work at the University of Southern California in Environmental Management.

- **Mr. Woody Smeck, Acting Superintendent, Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, Federal Panel Co-Chair**

Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area is a large urban park located within the Greater Los Angeles Metropolitan Region of southern California which protects 150,000 acres of rare Mediterranean-type coastal ecosystems, including 26 distinct plant communities and over 450 vertebrate animal species. The national recreation area is composed of local, state, and federal parks mixed with private open space and developed land. Over 70 governmental agencies and private organizations work in collaborative partnerships to manage and conserve park resources and recreational amenities. Annual visitation to the national recreation area exceeds 35 million.

Woody Smeck has worked for over 20 years on a variety of complex land use and resource conservation issues in southern California as a planner and open space manager. He is a graduate of California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo with a Bachelors of Landscape Architecture and a Masters of Environmental Planning and Landscape Architecture.

- **Mr. Jacob Hoogland, Chief, Office of Environmental Quality, National Park Service**

Jake Hoogland has been the Chief of the Environmental Quality Division of the National Park Service for fourteen years. From 1995 to 1997 he was detailed to the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish and Wildlife and Parks as a Special Assistant. From 1979 until 1988 he was the Natural and Cultural Compliance Specialist at the National Park Service's Denver Service Center.

Jake worked as first a seasonal, then a permanent park ranger at Mesa Verde National Park in Colorado and Big Horn Canyon National Recreation Area in Montana and Wyoming.

He received a BA in History and Anthropology from Weber State University in Ogden, Utah in 1974. He received a Juris Doctor from the University of Utah College of Law Salt Lake City, Utah in 1977.

- **Mr. James Shevock, Associate Regional Director for Resources, Partnerships and Stewardship in the Pacific West Regional Office**

Jim Shevock received his B.S. (1976) and M.A. (1978) in Botany from California State Univ., Long Beach. He began his federal career as the botanist/ecologist with the USDA Forest Service, Sequoia National Forest (1979-84). In 1984 he accepted a 2-year assignment to assist the California Department of Fish & Game as botanist of its Natural Diversity Database. In 1986, Jim was promoted to Regional Botanist for the USDA Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region stationed in San Francisco where he administered the sensitive and rare plant program across 18 national forests in California. In 1998 Jim was selected to serve as the Associate Regional Director for Resources Stewardship & Science for the USDI National Park Service, Pacific West Region, now headquartered in Oakland, CA. He is also a research associate of the Department of Botany, California Academy of Sciences since 1983, and has been a research associate at the University Herbarium, University of California, Berkeley since 1996. He has served as President, Corresponding Secretary and Council Member for the California Botanical Society and as Vice President for Plant Programs with the California Native Plant Society.

- **Mr. Jay Wells, Chief Ranger for the Pacific West Region**

Jay Wells has been the Chief Ranger of the Pacific West Region for five years. He is the senior law enforcement officer, regulations program coordinator, and special park uses coordinator for the Pacific West Region. He has held field positions with the National Park Service for 28 years: Chief Ranger in Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve; District Ranger at Isle Royale National Park; Subdistrict Ranger at Glen Canyon National Recreation Area; Area Ranger at Assateauge Island National Seashore; seasonal ranger at Grand Teton National Park, Virgin Islands National Park, Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area and Redwood National Park. He has extensive experience in law enforcement, search and rescue, emergency medical services, visitor services, and interpretation.