



The Common Property Resource Digest

No. 1

Devoted to community-based resource management

December 1986

Presenting the *Common Property Resource Digest*

We are pleased to present this first issue of what we hope will become an innovative and valuable publication, the *Common Property Resources Digest*. It is the first step in an effort to create a network of people who work in one way or another with common property or common-pool resources.

Many of you have already heard of this initiative. Perhaps you cooperated by returning our questionnaire, submitted other materials, or helped in some other way. We wish to thank you for your enthusiastic support, and promise to do our best to make it a useful publication for you in your work. It is devoted to *your* activities as members of the network, your work, research, publications, plans, and policy initiatives. This first issue contains a great deal of this material. But it is appropriate that we begin with a brief description of the *Digest* itself, its goals and purposes, how it came about, and who is helping to produce it.

A Statement of Purpose

The Common Property Resource Digest exists to conserve and improve the use of common property resources throughout the world and to improve the lives of those people who are dependent on them. The *Digest* seeks to achieve this broad general goal by facilitating the flow of information between all those professionals who are concerned with the conservation, management, and use of these resources. Specific objectives include:

1. disseminating news about applied, practical work in the field of common property conservation, use, and management
2. informing members of ongoing research activities and of preliminary or final findings of such research
3. informing members of opportunities for and results of conferences, symposia, workshops, and

4. other opportunities for professional interchange
4. informing members of significant books, journal articles, or reports that may contain useful information for their work
5. reporting on significant common-property-related events or trends
6. ultimately developing a vital, self-sustaining, productive network of people who spontaneously share information and collaborate with each other

The premise underlying all of the above is that exchange of information is vital to our work, whether it be research, policymaking, or management. For our own efforts to be fruitful, and to avoid waste and duplication of effort, we need to know of the experience and findings of others. CPR systems are complex and diverse ecosystems with biological and social aspects. People from a wide variety of disciplines, backgrounds, and geographic areas work with these systems. Effective communication in this area must cross many boundaries, not only in terms of time and space, but

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in terms of disciplines and institutions. Such communication will not occur by chance. An overt, concerted, and sustained effort is necessary.

It should also be clear that our efforts do not spring from a philosophical or motivational void, but from specific beliefs and concerns. We believe that the conservation and wise use of resources are vital to the future of this planet and its inhabitants. We feel that common property resources are and will continue to be integral components of the earth's ecological and social systems. We recognize that we live in an age of population growth, technological innovation, and social change. These circumstances lead to specific concerns that include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. sustaining and preserving existing ecosystems
2. fragile lands and other fragile resources
3. biological and genetic diversity
4. cultural and social diversity
5. effects of population growth on biological and social systems
6. effects of technological change on biological and social systems
7. inducing appropriate technological and institutional innovation

As we move from beliefs and concerns to specific actions, including this *Digest*, we do not mean to suggest that we have the solutions to these problems. But we strongly assert that communication, the exchange of viewpoints and knowledge, is essential to dealing with them. The *Common Property Digest* and emergent CPR network are a concrete step toward that end.

A Bit of History

The *Digest* has its roots in a group initiated by the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) in the United States in 1983. Organized as an NAS Panel on Common Property Resources in 1984, the group sought to study CPR systems and their implications for development in the Third World. The group quickly recognized that there was a great deal of existing knowledge, but that this information was not well identified or organized. They also noted that the geographic and disciplinary diversity of existing studies prevented it from being a well-integrated or disseminated "body of knowledge." Conscious efforts to overcome this obstacle were clearly called for. A group of panel members agreed that development of a network through the initial medium of a newsletter was a step that should be taken. Various individuals drafted proposals and explored possible sources of funding. Dr. C. Ford Runge at the University of Minnesota assumed

primary responsibility as the project took shape.

In early 1986, the Ford Foundation agreed to fund organization and publication of an initial issue. Since then events have moved rapidly. Ed Lotterman was hired to administer the project and edit the new publication. A questionnaire was sent out to individuals on a list compiled by members of the NAS panel soliciting suggestions and material for publication in an initial issue. Responses were evaluated and items were selected for publication. Writing and editing began in September, leading to the initial issue you are now reading. Ongoing activities include expanding the mailing list, exploring sources of funding on a long-term basis, and preparing future issues.

The *Common Property Digest* is published by the Center for Natural Resource Policy and Management of the University of Minnesota. Its purpose is to disseminate information dealing with common property resources, their management, and policies related to their use. It also seeks by various means to foster communication between professionals who work with common property resources as policymakers, administrators, researchers, and educators.

The Board for Science and Technology in International Development of the National Research Council, The International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, and Winrock International collaborate in the publication of the *Digest*. Publication is made possible by a grant from the Ford Foundation.

Please submit news items, announcements, suggestions, and questions to:

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Applied Economics
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St. Paul, MN 55108, U.S.A.
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Participating Institutions

An old proverb says that success has many parents, but failure is an orphan. We hope that this relationship works both ways. The network and *Digest* are the results of collaborative effort on the part of a number of different individuals and institutions.

The *Digest* and network are physically administered in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics at the University of Minnesota-St. Paul. This is due to the fact that Dr. C. Ford Runge, a professor in that department, was a member of the original NRC panel. After consultation with other panel members, Dr. Runge took the lead in outlining the concept of a network/newsletter and in seeking funding. He has a Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin in Agricultural Economics and works in the areas of property rights, land economics, and agricultural policy. He has published extensively on various aspects of common property. He will be responsible for overall editorial guidance and administration of the initial grant from the Ford Foundation.

Ed Lotterman, whose background includes farming, work on the Small Ruminant Collaborative Research Support Program in Peru, and teaching at Dordt College, a small liberal arts college in Iowa, will take charge of day-to-day editing and administration. The project is being managed through the University's Center for Natural Research Policy and Management. This center is an administrative one designed to facilitate natural resources research by faculty members. It includes members of the Departments of Agricultural Economics, Agricultural Engineering, Soils, and Forestry.

As noted previously, this effort had its genesis in the CPR panel organized by the National Academy of Sciences/National Research Council. These organizations bear some explaining, especially to persons who are not familiar with the U.S. research establishment. The NAS consists of a panel of distinguished scientists. It was established by President Abraham Lincoln over a century ago but is an autonomous institution, not a government agency. The National Research Council (NRC) is the administrative and executive arm of the NAS. Using funds derived from a variety of public and private sources, it sets research priorities, and commissions and evaluates specific research efforts in the areas of science and engineering.

One arm of the NRC is BOSTID, the Board on Science and Technology for International

Development. BOSTID has a mandate to explore ways in which research can be applied to the real-world problems of development. It is the agency that initiated and has overseen the CPR panel. Dr. Jeffrey Gritzner is responsible for that effort. He also organized meetings of the panel as well as the major conference held in Annapolis in April 1985. He is currently compiling the proceedings of that conference, which will be sent to all members on the network mailing list. A somewhat shorter set of papers from the conference will be published in book form by a commercial publisher. Dr. Gritzner organized compilation of the initial mailing list of persons concerned with or involved in CPR-related activities. He will continue to assist and advise the development of the newsletter and network.

Another collaborating institution is the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN). The IUCN headquartered in Gland, Switzerland, is an autonomous institution concerned with conservation of natural resources, environmental protection, wildlife preservation, and sustainable development. Many nations are official members of the IUCN, and its funds are derived from national memberships as well as other sources. Dr. M. Taghi Farvar, IUCN's Senior Advisor on Sustainable Development, was also a member of the BOSTID panel and will advise and assist in this effort.

The Winrock International Institute for Agricultural Development is the final collaborating institution. Winrock is a private, nonprofit development organization that incorporates what were formerly three well-known but separate institutions: the Agricultural Development Council, International Agricultural Development Service, and Winrock International Livestock Research and Training Center. Winrock's research and training activities reach all areas of the world and are funded from a variety of sources, including the institution's own endowment funds. Dr. David Nygaard, an agricultural economist, participated in developing the concept of a network/newsletter and volunteered Winrock's services in-kind for physical production of the initial issue. Winrock took care of typesetting, layout, and production of this issue and may continue to assist in this area. Winrock's Senior Program Officer/Communications, Dr. Mason Miller, has been extremely creative and cooperative in this effort. Winrock staff designed the masthead and suggested the format and color schemes. All in all, the *Digest* represents a great deal of willing cooperation by many people from many institutions.

What You Want

Sometime in August, most network members received a questionnaire mailed from St. Paul inquiring about their desires and preferences as well as soliciting information for the initial issues. This questionnaire is the basic source of information we are using as we make decisions about the focus, content, style, and format of the *Digest*. We mailed approximately 900 questionnaires to people on the initial list compiled by the NRC panel. To date, over 500 have been returned. Since they continue to trickle in, we have not yet performed a quantitative tabulation of responses. Nevertheless, a subjective review of them leads us to the following conclusions about your preferences. How we hope to respond to these apparent desires is detailed in a series of comments.

1. Network members are uniformly interested in general news about what is happening in our area of common interest as well as in more detailed reports on work in progress. Comment: News about common property resources, work in progress, and CPR policy will be the core of the *Digest*.

2. Network members want to know about literature available, whether in the form of annotations of journal articles, books, and miscellaneous papers, or as longer critical reviews of such items. Several members noted that being notified of "staff" or "working" papers available could cut a year or more out of the information-dissemination cycle. Another noted that network members' willingness to share preliminary findings before the "journal article" stage would hasten much work and prevent needless duplication of effort. There was some difference of opinion on the number of book reviews to be included as well as which types of books should be chosen. We were cautioned to devote substantial space only to books in which CPR questions are prominent and to not review books dealing with natural resources in general. Comment: This issue devotes a substantial amount of space to relevant publications of various types. We plan to continue this practice. A brief annotation is more useful to most readers than a simple citation, but it is difficult to annotate materials that are not physically in our possession. We can locate many journal articles in the university library, though its collection of publications from the developing countries is weak. Most staff or working papers are unavailable to us. If you have a publication of interest to the network, *send a copy to us!* This saves a great deal of our time and we can return such materials if necessary.

3. Members are divided in their opinions on the value of notices of upcoming conferences, past conferences, requests for proposals, and notices of grants. Much of this difference in viewpoint apparently stems from legitimate doubts about whether the *Digest* will be published frequently enough for such announcements to be timely. Comment: This first issue notes a number of events that will be underway or past by the time this reaches you. We will try to avoid this problem in the future. Our eventual success or failure will depend largely on how quickly we receive notice of such upcoming activities, which in turn depends on how quickly members submit information.

4. People apparently want to hear about new policies but do not want to get bogged down in details that are of interest only to a specific country. One suggestion was "describe new policies very briefly and list a source we can contact for additional information." Comment: That is good advice and we will try to follow it.

5. There is apprehension that the *Digest* will focus only on one or two disciplines, especially economics and forestry or fisheries, or that it will focus only on one geographic area, the United States. Comment: We realize the danger but stress that our *goal* continues to be broad coverage geographically and disciplinarily. Members can help us reach that goal by submitting diverse items from a broad range of locations and interests, as long as they deal with common property.

6. We get conflicting advice on article sizes as well as total size of the publication. One group says, in effect, "Our time is valuable, so give us the news in a short, snappy format. Don't wander on, don't pontificate, don't become an academic journal." The other group seems to counter "Don't make the publication a mere bulletin board. Bridge the gap between a newsletter and a journal. Editorialize a bit, encourage healthy exchanges of opinion, do some in-depth articles." Comment: Our choice of the word *Digest* in our title reveals our preferences. We want this to be more than a newsletter. However, we will try to accommodate those who want a shorter publication by our choice of format. We will try to put news and announcements up front in short, concise articles. Longer reviews, reports, and opinions will occupy space toward the back. We will not be able to please everyone, but hope to meet the needs of as many people as possible.

In summary, the needs and desires of network members will have more impact on what we publish than any preferences that we in St. Paul have.

Continue to write us, not only submitting material, but telling us how we can make the *Digest* more useful to you. Please be patient, however, and bear in mind that we are trying to serve a broad range of people. After publishing three or four issues, we will send another questionnaire asking you to evaluate our actual product.

More Coming Up!

This issue is only the first of a number of items that you will be receiving. Individual network members on the NRC mailing list will soon receive copies of the proceedings of the Conference on CPR Management mentioned above. This is an extensive document, and editing and reproducing it have been time consuming. Jeff Gritzner informs us that it should be mailed in December.

Secondly, many people have noted that a listing or directory of all network members would facilitate direct communication and be very useful. We plan to produce such a directory and distribute it as soon as possible. It will be printed as a separate booklet, but may be mailed with the next issue. We did not include it with this issue since new members are

added daily as people hear about it through announcements placed in other publications. This growth should stabilize in a month or so and we will organize the directory then.

Finally, you will get the second issue of the *Digest* in about 3 months. It should contain a somewhat higher proportion of longer articles than this issue, since we will have more time to solicit substantial reports and reviews. We feel that the second issue will probably be more representative of our long-term format than is the present one.

An Apology!

We received a great deal of material in response to our request for submissions, much more than we are able to feature in this initial issue. If you submitted something and do not see it printed in this issue, it is not because we did not like it or find it useful. We chose to include what we did on the basis of timeliness and a desire to balance our coverage geographically and disciplinarily. Material not included in this issue will most likely appear in the next. So please be patient, and continue to send us news!

At Work with Common Property

Tropical Wildlands

Jim Barborak and several colleagues at CATIE, the Centra Agronomico de Investigacion y Ensenanza, in Turrialba, Costa Rica, are working on a number of interesting topics including "planned/spontaneous colonization of public lands, Indian land rights and land management, and wildlife and wildlands management." They have also produced a number of papers listed in the CPR Publications section of this issue. They can be contacted at:

Programa de Areas Silvestres
CATIE
Turrialba, Costa Rica

Privatization in Kenya

Network member Joao S. de Queiroz sent an interesting feature article from the *Nairobi Daily Nation* of August 15, 1986. Entitled "When communal land becomes a private issue," the article details a trend toward privatization of once-commonly-held grazing lands on the Amboseli

plains south of Nairobi. In the past, the government of Kenya encouraged nomadic herders to settle into stationary pastoralism. As part of this policy they set up large group ranches intended to provide for 20 to 400 families. Now many residents of the region would like to subdivide these ranches into private landholdings, an action prohibited by current law. Problems associated with the existing system as well as with existing de facto privatization are also noted. The article is journalistic rather than academic but is an interesting example of the practical problems faced when changing management systems. Anyone desiring a photocopy should write the *Digest* editor.

Cooking Energy in India

Dr. Anuradha Damodaran informs us that the Centre for Science and Environment in New Delhi is working on a cooking energy project and that "anything to do with common property resources with special reference to forest areas would prove helpful." This is an area of research with implications not only for South Asia but for much of

the developing world. It is also an area where there is room for a great deal of useful interchange between ongoing projects in different regions. Anyone desiring to correspond with the CSE can do so at the following address:

Centre for Science and Environment
807 Vishal Bhawan
95 Nehru Place
New Delhi 110019, India

Social Forestry at ODI

The Social Forestry Programme at the Overseas Development Institute (ODI) is well known to many forestry professionals, but may be new to many network members from other disciplines. Supported by grants from the Ford Foundation and Aga Khan Foundation, the Social Forestry Programme is directed by Dr. Gill Shepherd. Activities include an ambitious research program as well as a network/newsletter that served in part as a model for our efforts. The network includes approximately 1000 members from a variety of disciplines who receive twice-yearly mailings of the newsletter. In addition to general news and information on new publications, each issue includes "several articles written by members about their experiences in planning or implementing social forestry projects." Anyone interested in more information about these efforts should contact Dr. Shepherd at the following address:

Social Forestry Research Office
Overseas Development Institute
Regents College
Inner Circle Regents Park
London NW1 4NS, United Kingdom

Land and Forest Management Network

The idea of aiding resource management by improved collaboration between biological and social scientists appears to be a popular one. The Forestry/Fuelwood Research & Development Project (F/FRED) being implemented by the Winrock International Institute for Agricultural Development out of their Bangkok office includes plans for a land and forest management network (LFMN) for South and Southeast Asia. Dr. William F. Hyde has shared some documents with us outlining this effort. The focus is on interdisciplinary evaluation of public policies on land settlement and forest management, "particularly those policies featuring trees and other local common property resources." An important goal is the inclusion of more Asian social scientists

in forestry and agricultural research. The LFMN will have resources for the following efforts:

- "a. research awards to Asian scientists and managers for field research and policy analysis;
- b. short term training in Asian institutions for prospective scientists and managers;
- c. limited graduate training in U.S. programs;
- d. workshops, seminars, and publications . . .
- e. technical assistance to network scientists and institutions in research design, implementation, and evaluation."

It appears from these initial documents that one of the key features of the F/FRED and LFMN project is its emphasis on providing resources to national researchers in Asia rather than bringing in North American or European expatriates. Initial planning and organizational meetings are underway. We hope to be able to follow the development of this network and related efforts. Anyone desiring more specific information about the LFMN should contact:

Dr. William F. Hyde
Winrock International
133 Sukhumvit 21 (Asoke)
P.O. Box 1172, Nana Post Office
Bangkok 10112, Thailand

CPR Bibliographies

The Workshop in Political Theory and Policy Analysis at Indiana University has long had a strong interest in public policy related to common property. At present, their activities include a useful effort to improve access to material that has been written about CPR. Fenton Martin, librarian at the workshop, is compiling a bibliography of case studies and theoretical literature related to common property institutions. The bibliography now contains over 700 items from all regions of the world. Preliminary copies of the bibliography are available in exchange for copies of case study materials written by members of the Common Property Network. The bibliography will be published in December 1987 and available at cost to network members. Preliminary copies are available on an exchange basis to anyone who submits case studies or other documents dealing with CPR. Relevant materials can be sent to:

Ms. Fenton Martin, Librarian
Workshop in Political Theory and Policy Analysis
Indiana University
513 N. Park
Bloomington, IN 47405, U.S.A.

Socioeconomic Perspectives on Watershed Management

Dr. K.G. Tejwani at the International Center for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) in Kathmandu and Dr. Hans Gregerson at the University of Minnesota are calling for increased emphasis on problems of degradation of upland watersheds. They hope to establish a new working group dealing with this topic within the International Union of Forestry Research Organizations (IUFRO). Other goals include an eventual international workshop/symposium and better dissemination of research or practical experiences. They invite members to write them:

1. expressing particular interests within the topic listed above
2. raising issues and making suggestions regarding topics of concern, goals, and best strategies for moving ahead
3. commenting on title and scope of the effort

We will try to present a further report on this effort in our next issue, including a report on responses to their initiative at the IUFRO conference in Yugoslavia. Interested members are urged to write:

Dr. K. G. Tejwani
Resident Associate (WSM)
International Centre for Integrated
Mountain Development (ICIMOD)
P.O. Box 3226
Kathmandu, Nepal
Telex 2439 ICIMOD NP

Dr. Hans Gregerson
College of Forestry
University of Minnesota
1530 N. Cleveland Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55108-1030, U.S.A.

Water Distribution in India

The Centre for Applied Systems Analysis in Development has completed a number of studies of irrigation and water distribution in India. These range from a small, 300-year-old run-of-the-river system in Dhule district to lift irrigation in Pune, and to a water-distribution society in Gujarat State. They are currently working with farmer groups on a 400-hectare lateral of a very large system in Ahmednagar district. For more information please contact:

Shri R K Patil, Visiting Professor N I B M
12, Aboli Society
102-103 Law College Road
Pune 411 004, India

Conferences Past and Future.

Future Conferences:

Editor's Note: Due to the short lead time in getting this initial issue out, we are unable to provide you with adequate notice for many conferences. If you are involved in the organization of a conference, please send us the call for papers and the general announcement as soon as possible. If you become aware of a relevant conference, please ask the organizers to contact us so that we can pass the news to our membership.

ASSA-AEA

The annual meetings of the Allied Social Sciences Association and the American Economic Association will be held in New Orleans, December 27-30, 1986. The preliminary program includes one session devoted to CPR on Tuesday, December 30, 1986, at 8:00 a.m.:

Emergent Markets for Common Property Resources
Presiding: Alex G. Vicas, McGill University

Papers:

Anthony D. Scott, University of British Columbia.
The Emergence of Marketable Fishery Licenses.
Robert W. Hahn & Gordon L. Hester, Carnegie-Mellon University. Implementing "Radical" Ideas Incrementally: A Case Study of EPA's Emission Trading Program.

Michael E. Levine, University of Southern California. Markets in Airport Landing Rights.
Harvey L. Levin, Hofstra University. Emergent Markets for Orbit Spectrum Assignments — An Idea Whose Time Has Come.

Discussants: Clas G. Wihlborg, Claremont Graduate College; Severin Borenstein, University of Michigan

Past and Present Conferences:

IUFRO-Ljubljana

The International Union of Forestry Research Organizations held its International Congress at Ljubljana, Yugoslavia, September 8-13. Held at 5-year intervals, IUFRO congresses give foresters a valuable opportunity to exchange information on a worldwide basis. A more extensive report on this conference focusing on CPR aspects will be included in the next issue of the *Digest*.

Tropical Forests & The World Bank

A "Citizens Conference on Tropical Forests, International Environment and The World Bank" was held in Washington D.C., September 28-30. The sponsor is the Environmental Policy Institute. We hope to report on this conference in more detail in our next issue.

Ecological Management of CPR

As part of the Fourth International Congress of Ecology meeting at Syracuse University in August, a 1-day workshop/symposium was organized on the Ecological Management of Common Property Resources. The objectives of the session were:

1. to address the "Tragedy of the Commons" from an ecological perspective
2. to contribute ecological theory bearing on the issue
3. to contribute to ecological theory, if possible, on the basis of the experience with common property resources
4. to stimulate an exchange of ideas between ecologists and social scientists who have been working on common property issues

While the special problems of CPRs have been recognized by academics for about 30 years, the ecological dimensions of the issue have not been explored to any extent. The workshop/symposium focused specifically on the strengths and limitation of the "Tragedy of the Commons" paradigm, which has become standard in textbooks, curricula, and the conventional wisdom of CPR managers.

The following papers were presented:

"Ownership, Access and Allocation as Related to Renewable Resources" by Henry A. Regnier and A.P. Lino Grima

"Institutional and Jurisdictional Constraints in Fisheries Management" by Susan J. B. Cox

"Meeting Environmental Concerns Caused by Common Property Mismanagement in Economic Development Projects in the Third World" by Robert Goodland, George Ledec, and Maryla Webb

"On the Diversification of Common Property Resource Use in Indian Society" by Mahdavi Gadgil

"Technology, Territoriality and Ecology: The Evolution of Mexico's Caribbean Spiny Lobster Fishery" by David L. Miller

"Graphs and Gaffs: A Cautionary Tale in the Common Property Resources Debate" by Milton M. R. Freeman

"Common Property Resources: Ecology of a Management Dilemma" by Fikret Berkes

A symposium volume is being planned, incorporating these papers and additional chapters prepared specifically for the volume. These include "Solving the Common Property Dilemma: Village Fisheries Rights in Japanese Coastal Waters" by Kenneth Ruddle; "Socioeconomic Transformations and the Evolution of Resource Management Systems" by A. P. Lino Grima; "Resources, the Ecosystem View, and Sustainable Development" by Fikret Berkes and three others for which arrangements have not yet been finalized. (Reported by F. Berkes, Brock University, Saint Catharines, Ontario, Canada.) The symposium volume will be announced and reviewed when it is available.

Farming Systems Research & CPR

Kansas State University held a conference on Farming Systems Research & Extension during the period October 5-8. A number of papers presented dealt with CPR issues. Eva Wollenberg, of the University of California-Berkeley will present one entitled "Private and Common Property Sources of Protein: A Dilemma for FSR/E." Other CPR-related papers include; Jorge Flores-Ochoa, "Alpacas and Llamas in the Andean Trapezoid," and David W. Guillet, "Alfalfa Introduction, Animal Management, and Land Tenure in an Andean Village." Information on the content and availability of this and other papers will be included in our next issue.

About Books:

In future issues, a substantial proportion of the *Digest* will be devoted to announcements and reviews of books dealing with various aspects of common property resources. Due to constraints on space as well as on time, no reviews or annotations are included in this first issue.

CPR Publications:

Fisheries Economics

During the past year, network members at the Institute of Fisheries Economics in Bergen have produced a number of articles and papers dealing with the economics of fisheries and other renewable resources. They include the following:

Trond Bjørndal and John Conrad:

"Capital Dynamics in the North Sea Herring Fishery," Discussion Paper 01/85.

"The Dynamics of an Open Access Fishery,"

Discussion Paper 02/85. (Also available as Staff Paper 85-31 from the Department of Agricultural Economics, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853, U.S.A.)

Rognvaldur Hannesson:

"The Effects of a Fisherman's Monopoly in the Market for Unprocessed Fish," *Marine Resource Economics* 2(1): 75-85, 1985.

"Inefficiency Through Government Regulations: The Case of Norway's Fishery Policy," *Marine Resource Economics* 2(2): 115-141, 1985.

"Optimal Thinning of a Year-Class with Density-Dependent Growth," *Canadian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences* 43(4): 889-892, 1986.

"The Effect of the Discount Rate on the Optimal Exploitation of Renewable Resources," Discussion Paper 01/86.

Copies of these publications are available upon request from the authors at the following address:

Institute of Fisheries Economics
Norwegian School of Economics and Business Administration
Helleveien 30
N-5035 Bergen-Sandviken
Norway

Land Tenure in Sub-Saharan Africa

One of the best reviews of the literature dealing with land as common property is contained in a World Bank report written by Dr. Raymond Noronha. Entitled *A Review of the Literature on Land Tenure Systems in Sub-Saharan Africa*, the report is available as ARU 43 from:

Research Unit
Agriculture and Rural Development Department
Operational Policy Staff
The World Bank
1818 H Street
Washington D.C. 20433, U.S.A.

Noronha takes a chronological approach, briefly surveying pre-colonial economies and then examining the colonial era, its effects on tenure, and African responses to colonial policies in much more detail. Roughly half of the paper is a survey of the post-independence period. A separate chapter details the sharply negative effects of colonial policies on transhumant pastoralism. Noronha's penultimate chapter, "Communal versus Individual Tenure: Adventures in Theology," is perhaps his best, and certainly is of broadest application to common property in a general sense. As hinted at in his title, Noronha's argument is that "arguments (about tenure systems) belong to a realm of belief systems since so few marshal any evidence in support of their claims evidence . . . where both methodology and data are open to independent scrutiny." Strong stuff this, but well researched and written. The author organizes the chapter around three questions.

1. Does individual tenure provide greater security, access to capital markets, and incentives to raise productivity?

2. Is there any need for registration of land and under what circumstances does this need arise?

3. When do indigenous systems have to be reinforced (by statute or non-indigenous authorities), restrained, or replaced?

These are fundamental questions with implications that extend far beyond specific policies in Africa. Noronha argues that much of the debate about appropriate tenure systems springs from a lack of knowledge of specific systems and a tendency to carelessly group diverse and complex systems into general categories of "communal" or "individual" and to then ascribe to each of these general categories a stereotypical set of attributes. Noronha competently demonstrates the complexity and diversity in African land tenure, and illustrates very well the tragic pitfalls of applying a priori policies to such systems. Whether you accept all of Noronha's conclusions or not, his arguments are stimulating. A bibliography of over 30 pages and an extensive appendix reviewing colonial land policies in specific countries are other valuable components. The bibliography alone will make the report a valuable asset for many scholars. In summary, this is an important and valuable work. It is unfortunate that its availability is not more well known and that it is not likely to receive wider dissemination.

CPR and Collective Action

In a recent article in *World Development*, Carlisle Ford Runge reexamines some commonly accepted economic theories related to common property. He argues that assuming "free-riding" will always occur is in error. When actions are affected by mutual expectations of what other actors will do a number of outcomes are plausible. Privatization is only one of many management alternatives available. Runge cites a number of factors that may make communal management the preferred option from both efficiency and equity standpoints. He ends with a call for more empirical research on the topic. The complete citation is:

Carlisle Ford Runge, "Common Property and Collective Action in Economic Development," *World Development*, Vol. 14, No. 5, pp. 623-635, 1986. (copies are also available from the author at 332 C.O.B., 1994 Buford Ave, St. Paul, MN 55108, U.S.A.)

Common Property and Population Growth

Dr. N. S. Jodha examines linkages between population growth, technological change, land reform, and the decline of common property resources in a recent article. Entitled "Population Growth and the Decline of Common Property Resources in Rajasthan, India," the article appeared in *Population and Development Review*, Vol. 11, Number 2, (June 1985). Dr. Jodha argues that, while well-intentioned, land reform in Rajasthan deprived the region of its comparative advantage in livestock raising. He also calls for a ban on further curtailment of common property resources through privatization.

In a related article, Dr. Jodha examines the importance of common property to the rural poor in India. "Common Property Resources and Rural Poor in Dry Regions of India," published in the *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. XXI, No. 27 (July 5, 1986), presents quantitative data from 80 villages in seven Indian states. The data suggest that the contribution to poor households from CPR is more significant than benefits from anti-poverty programs and that common property is of much greater importance to poor households than to richer ones.

Tropical Wildlands

The Wildlands Program at CATIE (Centro Agronomico Tropical de Investigacion Y Ensenanza), located at Turrialba, Costa Rica, has produced a number of interesting papers dealing

with the planning and development of protected wildlands in the tropics, including the following:

Roger Morales, James R. Barborak, and Craig McFarland, "Planning and Managing a Multi-Component, Multi-Category International Biosphere Reserve: The Case of the La Amistad/Talamanca Range/Bocas de Toro Wildlands Complex of Costa Rica and Panama," *Natural Resources Research XXI*.

Miguel Cifuentes, Craig McFarland, and Roger Morales, "Strategic Planning of National or Regional Systems of Biosphere Reserves: A Methodology and Case Study from Costa Rica," *Natural Resources Research XXI*.

Craig McFarland, James R. Barborak, and Roger Morales, "Training Personnel for Biosphere Reserves and Other Managed Wildlands and Watersheds: CATIE's Experience in Central America," *Natural Resources Research XXI*.

James Barborak and Gina C. Green, "Implementing the World Conservation Strategy: Success Stories from Central America and Colombia," 1985. (available from the authors)

Centro Agronomico Tropical de Investigacion y Ensenanza, Turrialba, Costa Rica.

CPR in the North

While CATIE's focus is on tropical resources, the School of Community and Regional Planning at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver specializes in resource and development problems in the far north. They have a number of staff papers available, including a series entitled "Studies in Northern Development." Among other items in this series are

- K. Leghorn, "Planning for Fairness: An Evaluation of the Canadian Native Claims Settlement Process," August 1985.
- W.E. Rees, "Politics, Power, and Northern Land Use Planning," July 1984.

The complete catalog is too extensive to reproduce here, but is available from:
University of British Columbia
School of Community and Regional Planning
6333 Memorial Road
Vancouver, British Columbia
Canada V6T 1W5

Japanese Land Redistribution

The mention of land redistribution in Japan would evoke thoughts of the post-World War II agrarian reform in the minds of many land economists. However Dr. Philip Brown of the History Department at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte is doing research into another,

more historic type of land redistribution. In "Land Redistribution Schemes in Tokugawa Japan," a paper presented at the December 1985 meetings of the American Historical Association, Dr. Brown outlined how cultivation rights to arable land were rotated among villagers during the period from 1600 to 1868. He writes "Redistributive schemes are generally thought to have been applied only to mountain and grassland resources, however, in about one-third of Japan, villagers, at their own initiative or that of the village overlord, also rotated cultivation rights to arable land. While redistributive practices were most prevalent in the 17th to mid-19th centuries, many villages continued to reallocate arable land well into the 20th century, even after nationwide establishment of modern property rights. The existence of these practices raises important questions regarding their origin (ecological factors? convenience in allocating land taxes?), the extent to which they created disincentives for peasants to improve the lands they farmed, and the interaction between traditional peasant practices and the reforms of a modernizing state." This research has

obvious implications for management of common property in the present as well. Dr. Brown's paper will be included in the AHA conference proceedings coming out later this year.

Common Heritage of Mankind

Members who are interested in the concept of certain areas or resources being a "common heritage of mankind" should read a recent article by Dr. Christopher Joyner in *The International and Comparative Law Quarterly*. Dr. Joyner reviews the emergence of this concept and its application to Antarctica, ocean floor resources, and outer space. While noting that this legal doctrine is still emergent, he evaluates some of its more interesting legal implications. The complete citation is:

"Legal Implications of the Concept of The Common Heritage of Mankind," *International and Comparative Law Quarterly*, Vol. 35, 190-199, (January 1986).

Notes From The Editor's Desk

About Computerized News:

Several network members suggested that we disseminate news items via some sort of computer bulletin board. I am investigating two possibilities. One is to send out periodic minibulletins via BITNET, an electronic message network between universities and research centers in the U.S. BITNET is tied into NETNORTH in Canada and EARN in Europe and Asia. To receive any bulletins sent via this system, members would require a valid computer account number at a computer facility that participates in one of these networks. If you are interested in receiving CPR news via BITNET, send your userid and nodeid to me at the following address: userid: SBKC at node: UMINN1. Please also mail the same info as a backup. I will try to send back a confirmation message. Even if your institution is not part of BITNET, you may be able to access me through a gateway from MAILNET, UUCP, CSNET, or other communications networks. If you have not used BITNET, but are interested, check with your local computer center for more information.

We are also working on a round-the-clock bulletin board utilizing a personal computer within the Agricultural Economics Department here in St.

Paul. This would allow us to post messages that could be read by anyone with an IBM PC or compatible machine with capability of dialing St. Paul.

If anyone can suggest other alternatives, please write or call to give me your recommendations.

About Our Title

One of the more difficult tasks associated with starting a new publication is coming up with a good title. A title is the first thing people see when examining a publication. It is the most salient aspect in terms of bibliographic references. Thus it should suggest the content and at the same time be inviting to the reader. This publication is not an academic journal, so "Journal" and "Review" were obviously not appropriate. Its primary purpose is to disseminate news, but we want it to be more than just a "Newsletter." So we settled on "Digest," to reflect a varied content intended for a number of different audiences. "Digest" is a flexible term that should allow us to include just about everything we had in mind in addition to possibilities that may arise in the future. We hope you like our title, but more importantly, we hope you like our content, and find it interesting and useful in your work.

Languages:

Given our location and nationality, the primary language of this publication will be (American) English. At the risk of sounding like linguistic chauvinists, English is also a pragmatic choice for an international newsletter. We do not want this choice to be unduly restrictive, however. I am very comfortable reading Spanish and Portuguese and can manage German and French with some strain. With the help of colleagues, a wide variety of other languages can be interpreted — from Mandarin Chinese to Swedish. If you wish to correspond with us and are not comfortable in English, feel free to write in another language. We will read it somehow! In terms of what we can publish, there are more restrictions. Our typesetting facilities at present limit us to the Roman alphabet, and my editorial abilities are limited to Spanish. If you have a news item that you feel would be especially relevant to speakers of those two languages, please draft a short article in that language, and we will attempt to publish it. Depending on length, we will also probably publish a translation or synopsis in English.

International Newsletter, Eh!

As frequently noted, we intend the *Digest* to be *international* in focus. Believe us, we are sincere! One Canadian colleague responded to our questionnaire with the following suggestion, "Please do us the favour of not treating the U.S. as the world." Having spent the last 4 years teaching at a small college where about 20% of the student body was Canadian, I can easily accept that suggestion in the spirit in which it was offered! I want the *Digest* to be international, but its makeup will depend in large degree on network members. If members from outside the U.S. submit material about their work, publications, meetings, and so forth, we will gladly feature it. The focus of the NRC/BOSTID panel was on CPR in international development, and we wish to maintain that focus. But with a staff of one, we are heavily dependent on you! So keep those cards, letters, conference announcements, books, and papers rolling in!

Common Property Resources Digest

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