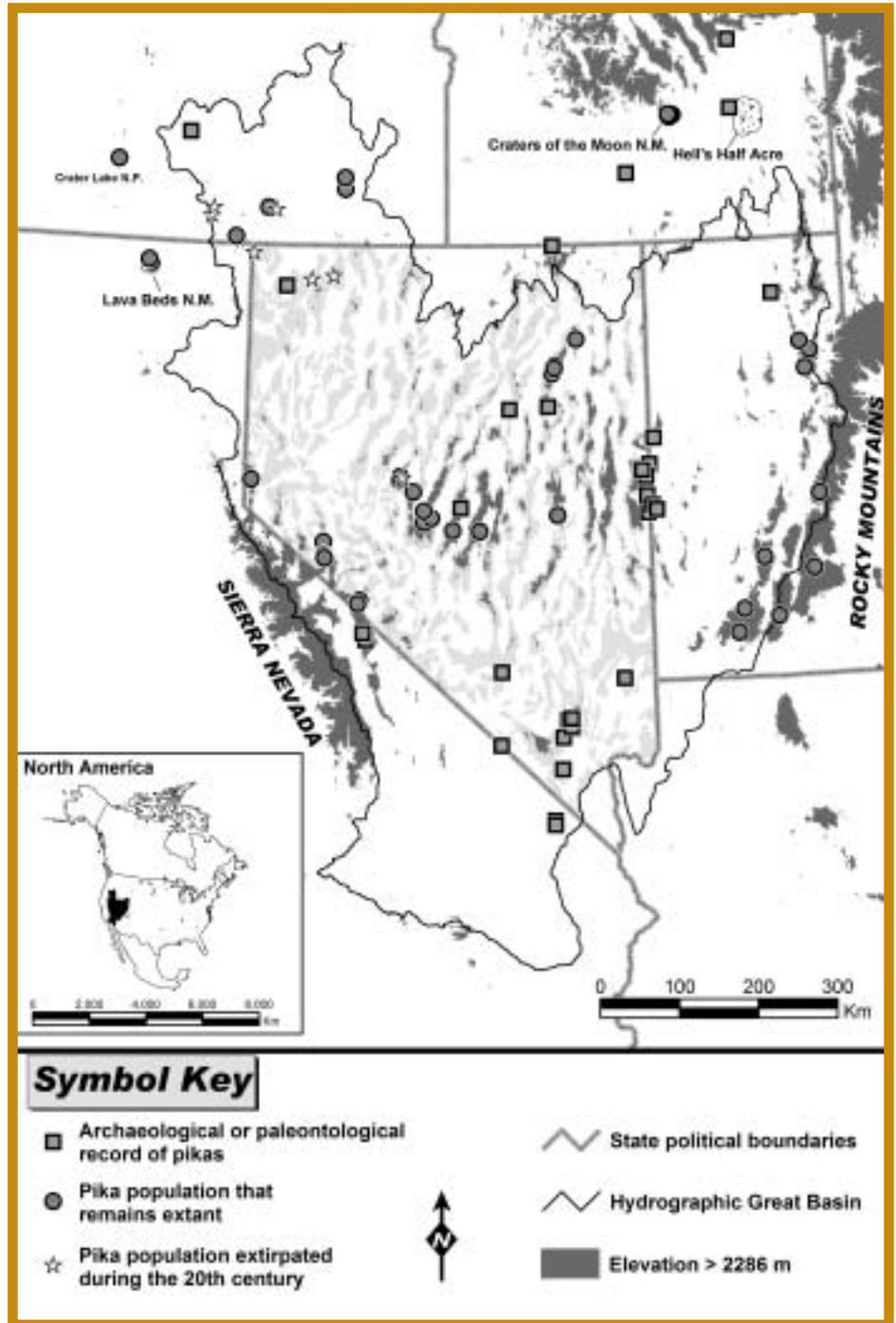


# news & views

## CORRECTION

In the article by Erik Beever regarding persistence and apparent extirpation of pika populations in and around the Great Basin that appeared in the spring 2002 printed edition, *Park Science* 21(2):23–29, the original figure 2 contained 24 data points that were assigned the wrong symbols and thus misclassified. This revised figure presents a more accurate picture of persistence and extirpation of pika populations in the region over time.





## Hose named director of National Cave and Karst Research Institute

Louise D. Hose became the first permanent director of the National Cave and Karst Research Institute in December 2002. Hose now leads staff and partners in the effort to further develop and refine the long-term

vision of the institute from her office in Carlsbad, New Mexico. She provides expertise built over 30 years in research, education, exploration, and conservation efforts related to caves and karst. She has explored and studied caves in New Guinea, England, Greece, South Africa, Oman, and Yugoslavia, but her most extensive work has been in the western United States and Mexico. *National Geographic* has twice featured her research: <<http://magma.nationalgeographic.com/ngm/0304/feature2/index.html>> and <<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/ngm/0105/feature4/index.html>>. She currently leads the institute through a “gearing up” phase, which is likely to last through 2003, and will consist of staff recruitment, design of the headquarters building, and initial operational setup.

With the selection of Hose, Zelda Chapman Bailey—who served as the institute’s interim director for two years and moved the institute from merely a concept to a fledgling but thriving organization—left the institute in May 2003. She now serves as director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), Boulder Laboratories, in Boulder, Colorado. Bailey’s primary goal as interim director was to establish the institute on a solid foundation of strong partnerships that would allow the institute to grow into a world-renowned center for cave and karst issues.

The National Cave and Karst Research Institute Act of 1998 (Public Law 105-325) enabled the National Park Service to establish the institute. The mission of the institute is to facilitate speleological research, enhance public education, and promote environmentally sound cave and karst management. In January 2003, the National Park Service, the City of Carlsbad, and the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, who constitute the three primary partners involved in establishing the institute, signed a memorandum of understanding to facilitate its development and management. The latest news regarding the institute is available at <<http://www2.nature.nps.gov/nckri/index.htm>>.

## USGS scientist is recipient of wilderness science award

Jan van Wagtenonk, an internationally known research forester stationed at Yosemite National Park, was the recipient of the USDA Forest Service’s 2002 Excellence in Wilderness Stewardship Research Award. This award recognizes van Wagtenonk’s career of more than 30 years in wilderness science. From 1972 through 1993, van Wagtenonk was employed as a research scientist with the National Park Service. Since 1994, he has been a research scientist with the U.S. Geological Survey.

His research at Yosemite National Park has assisted in the development of wilderness fire management and visitor use management programs that have contributed substantially to interagency wilderness stewardship programs in the Sierra Nevada. He has made major contributions to wilderness fire programs both in the Sierra Nevada and across the country with his work on fuel dynamics, fire prescriptions, remote sensing, and the application of geographic information systems to fire management.

Van Wagtenonk developed a concept and methodology for determining trailhead quotas and recreational carrying capacities—that is, how many people engaged in recreational activities a wilderness area can “support” without adverse environmental effects. Managers have found this information to be critical for making decisions relating to development, visitor use, and staffing plans. Although other researchers were developing similar work concurrently, van Wagtenonk’s work was the first to take a numerical approach and to be applied to an actual management situation. Managers in several national parks and wildernesses in national forests in Oregon, North Carolina, and California have used the techniques developed by van Wagtenonk.



Jan Van Wagtenonk (left) is presented the Forest Service’s 2002 Excellence in Wilderness Stewardship Research Award by Forest Service Chief Dale Bosworth.