



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

MAR 18 2004

American Society of Landscape Architects
636 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001-3730

Dear Awards Committee:

This letter is in support of James S. Bedwell's nomination for the American Society of Landscape Architects LaGasse medal. Through my work with the National Park Service, I have known and worked with Jim for 10 years. He has demonstrated an outstanding commitment to the management and conservancy of natural resources on our public lands throughout his career. He has served as an outstanding partner with the National Park Service, working with us to further the mission and accomplishments of both the National Park Service and the U.S. Forest Service.

He is an outstanding public servant who is respected as a leader in natural resource management-based landscape architecture. The legacy and quality of his work has been demonstrated throughout his career in New Mexico, Puerto Rico, Washington, DC, and Colorado.

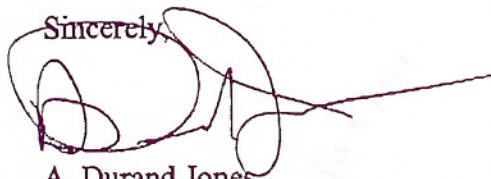
Jim's contributions include the design and construction of many recreation facilities in New Mexico, sensitive to the environment and ecological processes of high desert landscapes. He was team leader for the planning, design, and construction of visitor facilities in Puerto Rico, a facility dedicated to the wise management and conservation of sensitive tropical rain forests.

As Chief Landscape Architect for the Forest Service, he advanced programs for outdoor recreation accessibility, scenic byways, and scenery management. Jim's focus on delivering tools and resources to hundreds of field Forest Service landscape architects is demonstrated by his outstanding leadership in the development of the Forest Service Build Environment Image Guide (BEIG). This recently published handbook provides guidance for the planning and design of facilities that exemplify the agency's concern and responsibility in conservation, stewardship, and sustainability.

Presently, as Forest Supervisor for the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest and Pawnee National Grasslands, Jim is providing leadership in critical fire planning and fuels management for the protection of forest resources, life, and property. He has proven a valuable advisor to the National Park Service in the completion and promotion of accessibility projects. He has also worked with the National Parks in helping to implement sustainability projects as part of a reconstruction of major park facilities in addition to the new Forest Service Headquarters Office in Fort Collins, Colorado. He has

brought his leadership skill from Washington to help solve real life issues at the park and forest level. He is seeking maximum use of "green" architecture, while assuring that the facility will portray an excellent image for the agency. Jim is truly a leader in natural resource landscape design.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'A' followed by a horizontal line extending to the right.

A. Durand Jones
Deputy Director