

## **United States Department of the Interior**

The activities conducted at the Departmental level are under a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Department of the Interior and the Ministry of Land and Resources to Promote Cooperation on Natural Resources. This was signed on June 22, 2000 and discussions are underway to extend it. The MOU is subject to the Science and Technology Agreement signed in 1979 as extended and amended.

The only project in 2004 was arrangements for a trip to the U.S. in December by Professor Fang Keding and four officials of the Ministry to complete their study of the organization of the Department of the Interior, and its methods of coordinating and integrating efforts in implementing strategies and programs.

Discussions are being held about possible technical assistance the Office of Surface Mine Reclamation could offer to China to deal with coal seam fires and reclamation of abandoned mine lands. Funding is being sought by the Chinese to cover DOI costs.

### ***United States Fish and Wildlife Service***

#### **Types of Activities**

- Exchanges of Chinese and U.S. personnel; activity is under the auspices of the Nature Conservation Protocol between the U.S. Department of the Interior and the P.R.C. State Forestry Administration (1986)
- Grants for Asian elephant conservation; activity is under the auspices of the Asian Elephant Conservation Act passed by the U.S. Congress in 1997 (16 U.S.C. 4261)
- Grants for tiger conservation; activity is under the auspices of the Rhinoceros and Tiger Conservation Act passed by the U.S. Congress in 1994 and amended in 1998.
- Grants for great ape conservation; activity is under the auspices of the Great Ape Conservation Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 6301)

### ***United States National Park Service***

In 1998, the National Park Service and the Chinese National Parks Agency (NPA) negotiated a five-year program of technical exchange and cooperation in parks management. Since then, three U.S. delegations have visited China, and three Chinese delegations visited U.S. national parks. The Chinese tours of NPS sites include formal training components. A two-year work plan was signed for 2002-04 when D/D Murphy renewed the MOU in Beijing, in November 2002. A draft 2005-07-work plan is under review.

Exchanges and workshops have been undertaken covering a wide variety of management and operation policies and practices. A senior member of China's NPA spent many months at a NPS regional office studying park management policies and practices utilized in field units. Adapting NPS concessions and planning policies, this official drafted

policies applicable to all Chinese provinces that were formally adopted into law by the Chinese State Supreme Council in 2003.

NPS has unofficially hosted several Chinese delegations numbering over 100 provincial officials, in FY 2005 alone. There have been a number of requests for reimbursable technical assistance from provincial Chinese park administrators, some fielded through US Consulates in China.