

Inside AAAS

Mesoamerican Forests

The Interciencia Association, whose 14 members are the AAAS and its sister scientific organizations in the Americas, will be holding an international symposium on "Forest Conservation in Mesoamerica" at its annual meeting on 11 to 13 December. The event will be hosted by the Instituto de Ecología of Mexico and will be held at the Institute's headquarters in Jalapa, Veracruz.

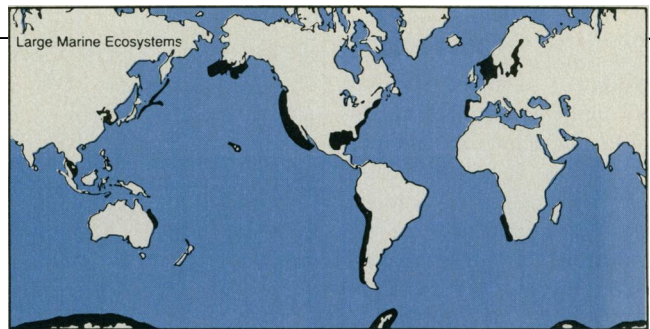
The nations of Central America and Mexico have made major strides forward in the conservation of their forest ecosystems in recent years, and the symposium will bring together participants from the region to evaluate this progress. There will also be discussions on what remains to be done and how to cooperate across international frontiers to achieve it.

The business meeting of the

Association will include discussions of new Interciencia Association projects, such as its program on Environment and Sustainable Development (PRO-MADES) and initiatives in agriculture and forestry. For further information, contact Douglas Boucher, Executive Secretariat, Interciencia Association, AAAS, 1333 H Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005; telephone 202-326-6650.

Large Marine Ecosystems

Large marine ecosystems (LMEs)—the relatively narrow ocean zones that produce nearly 95% of the world's usable marine biomass—have, in recent years, been subjected to increased stress from both natural and anthropogenic changes. This situation has aroused major international concern due to its possible negative ecologic and economic effects.



Dark areas on this map represent large marine ecosystems, the narrow ocean zones that produce nearly 95% of the world's usable marine biomass.

A new AAAS book on the subject, edited by Kenneth Sherman, Lewis Alexander, and Barry Gold, deals with the possible impacts of global change on ocean productivity and provides scientific, geographic, socioeconomic, and legal arguments for managing LMEs as multinational units in order to sustain biomass yields of major coastal regions.

The book is divided into three major sections. Part I presents case histories of significant perturbations and their effects in

several LMEs. Part II examines interactions of LME organisms in a variable physical environment and explains how understanding these processes can dramatically improve the management of LMEs. The final section relates ecological theory to the study of LMEs and argues for implementing global marine ecosystem management from the LME perspective.

The information presented will be valuable to scientists and students in marine-related fields, as well as conservationists, natural resource policymakers, and everyone concerned about the future of the world's marine ecosystems. The softcover book, entitled *Large Marine Ecosystems: Patterns, Processes, and Yields*, is available from AAAS Books, P.O. Box 753, Waldorf MD 20604 (\$31.95 for AAAS members, \$39.95 to others; prepaid orders only at this price; California residents, please add applicable tax).

Proyecto Futuro

Chicago will be the site of a new 2-year AAAS project, "Proyecto Futuro" (Project Future), funded by the U.S. Department of Education. The program will target eight public schools with a high Hispanic

AAAS VISA® Gold Member Benefit

AAAS is pleased to announce a new member benefit—the AAAS VISA® Gold Card. We believe this credit card program is of value and service and that it merits your consideration. You may even wish to close out current accounts and replace them with the AAAS VISA Gold.

The AAAS VISA Gold Card is issued free of an annual fee the first year and has a provision for a continuing annual fee waiver each year if the member charges at least \$3000 during the preceding 12 months. The card features a competitive 16.9% annual percentage rate, a 25-day grace period with no finance charge on purchases, and a credit line up to \$25,000.

Because AAAS members are professionals who travel frequently, the program has additional benefits at no extra charge:

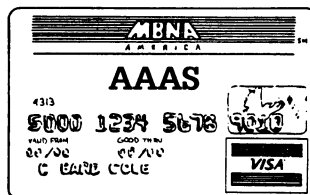
- automobile rental coverage
- travel accident insurance

- lost luggage protection
- 24-hour toll-free customer service

AAAS has developed this new credit card program solely as a service to our membership. The Association does not profit from the program's operation.

The AAAS VISA Gold is available exclusively to qualifying AAAS members in good standing. In addition, the Association has designed a special program with easy credit access for student members.

Watch for your invitation to take advantage of this new member benefit, coming in the mail at the end of October. If you prefer to apply immediately, call our issuing bank, MBNASM



America, at 1-800-847-7378, ext. 5000. When calling, be sure to mention the AAAS priority code BYMC, and be prepared with your AAAS ID number as listed on your *Science* mailing label.

AAAS VISA® Gold Member Benefit

Science **250** (4978), 299.
DOI: 10.1126/science.299-a

ARTICLE TOOLS

<http://science.sciencemag.org/content/250/4978/299.2.citation>

PERMISSIONS

<http://www.sciencemag.org/help/reprints-and-permissions>

Use of this article is subject to the [Terms of Service](#)

Science (print ISSN 0036-8075; online ISSN 1095-9203) is published by the American Association for the Advancement of Science, 1200 New York Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20005. The title *Science* is a registered trademark of AAAS.

© 1990 by the American Association for the Advancement of Science