

COMMUNICATIONS EVENT REPORT

Purpose of Event

USGS Exhibit at Denver Museum of Nature and Science in conjunction with Jane Goodall's Making A Difference Exhibit

Attendee's Name

Joseph J. Kerski
Geographer: Education/GIS
Denver

Location Denver Colorado

Web Site

<http://www.dmns.org>

Other USGS Attendees

Gene Jackson – USGS RMMC
Pete Modreski – USGS CR
Steve Vandas – USGS CR
Pat Schassburger – USGS CR
John Lahr – USGS NEIC
Waverly Person – USGS NEIC
Ken Gerson – USGS RMMC
Lisa Wald – USGS GD
Lynn Highland – USGS GD
Jerry Godbey – USGS BRD
Sandy Godbey – USGS BRD
Laura Ellison – USGS BRD

Event Date(s)

March through June 2003

Purpose of Event

Operate educational exhibit, highlighting USGS education work and new USGS products, especially in Colorado, including:

- 1) New mapping products such as the Lewis and Clark map.
- 2) Educational Partnerships and future

training events.

- 3) Other resources for education and research from the USGS.

Summary

The USGS and other organizations worked at a "Make A Difference" exhibit at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. The exhibit was in conjunction with scientist Jane Goodall's exhibit "Discovering Chimpanzees."



What is the connection between Jane Goodall's 40 years of work with chimpanzees in Africa and the USGS? First, the Goodall exhibit at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science highlighted work that benefits our planet. The USGS also does work that benefits the planet. Second, the theme of the Goodall exhibit is "Making a Difference." The USGS exhibit there highlighted the same thing—that we can all make a difference in our world, as we study it through biology, geography, hydrology, and geology.

USGS staffpersons worked the exhibit from 10am to 2pm on 12 Thursdays from March through June 2003. We had representatives there from all USGS disciplines, and each highlighted topics in their disciplines that were of high interest to the general public, as well as topics that all of us are concerned with at the USGS. This provided us with an excellent opportunity to

share what we do at the USGS to an estimated 100,000 visitors during the time period of the Goodall exhibit.

The Denver Museum of Nature and Science:

The Denver Museum of Nature and Science is one of the premier museums of its type in the USA. The museum staff conducts and sponsors research, educational opportunities, and continually updates their own facility in Denver's City Park.

Connections Between the USGS and the Denver Museum of Nature and Science:

This exhibit was the latest collaboration between the USGS and the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. Other work that we have done with the Museum over the years:

--hosted field trips that the Museum sponsors to USGS facilities around Denver such as the National Water Quality Lab, the National Earthquake Information Center, and the Rocky Mountain Mapping Center.

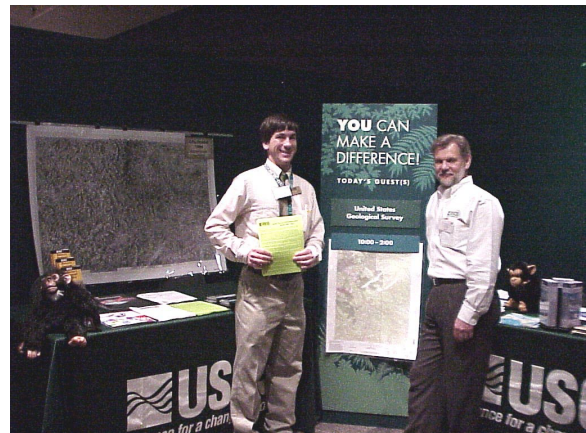
--worked with staff on research projects such as the Denver Basin core drilling.

--worked with staff on educational projects such as GIS in education.

--collaborated on the Front Range Board of Cooperative Education Services (BOCES) effort that brought hundreds of educators to the museum and to the USGS.



Entrance to the Jane Goodall exhibit at the Museum.



Joseph Kerski (L) and Gene Jackson at the USGS exhibit. We featured new Colorado and Lewis and Clark maps as well as brochures, posters, and educational pamphlets.

Observations:

Our exhibit was at the back of the Goodall exhibit, but we had a variety of teachers, students, and the general public stop by, since we were on the main "route" through the exhibit hall.

The Goodall exhibit featured sections created like the Gombe National Park, with a walk-through rainforest

There was even a walking and talking like a chimp exhibit. I took a photograph of two of our mapping interns in this exhibit, but promised them that I would not include it in this report!

Videos told the story of Dr. Goodall's fascinating research in Gombe. My favorite part of the exhibit was the multimedia display about making a difference in our world that featured stories of people around the world who do just that.



Part of the Gombe rainforest section in the exhibit.



Another section of the exhibit that discussed chimpanzee habitat, communications, diet, behavior, and other facets of their life.



The USGS exhibit at the Museum. We had two large tables and some wall space in which to work. Other organizations exhibited at the exhibit as well on other days.

Acknowledgements

Obviously, putting together this event required quite an effort, and Pat Schassburger was our lead person on organizing this event. Congratulations and thanks to Pat for making it a success! I also thank Debra Klich at the museum and the other helpful museum staffpersons. I also thank the other USGS staffpersons who worked at our exhibit to “make a difference.”

*** End 2003 Denver Museum of Nature and Science Jane Goodall Exhibit Report
