

## 2. INTRODUCTION

The NRS has come a long way from its early days when a small number of reserves were managed by a dedicated few facing limited problems, many of which could be solved by a few phone calls or by biting the bullet and making precedent-setting decisions. The NRS has more than quadrupled in size from the original seven reserves, and NRS administration at both campus and Systemwide levels now involves more people dealing with issues of greater complexity. The individual reserves are now involved with advisory committees and caretakers. This administrative manual was developed to provide consistent policy guidance in order to facilitate the continued development of the NRS and to ease the burden of uncertainties in making administrative and management decisions.

We hope you will take the time to read this document, get its overall feeling, and refer to it frequently. We also urge you to enter marginal notes freely and insert additional pages on matters specific to your individual needs. Remember, others who follow you can benefit from your experiences and innovative solutions to vexing problems. Your entries in the manual will be important to your successor.

We intend this to be a dynamic document and look forward to your comments and suggestions for improving it.

NRS Systemwide Staff  
Natural Reserve System  
University of California  
1111 Franklin Street  
Oakland, CA 94607-5200  
ucnrs.org