



Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Davis, CA  
Permit No. 34

ISSN 0194-3030

# WILDERNESS RECORD

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CALIFORNIA WILDERNESS COALITION

Vol. 13, No. 9

2655 Portage Bay East, Suite 5 Davis, CA 95616

September, 1988

## Clear Creek: No Surrender To Salvaging

In a pretty waterfall, Slippery Creek slips through old growth forest into Clear Creek, just west of the Siskiyou Wilderness in northwest California. This roadless area burned in fall of 1986, and the Forest Service wants to salvage log here.

Logging plans alarm local environmentalists, however, because on the eastern slope of the Siskiyou Mountains, including the Clear Creek watershed, grow some of the largest uninfected stands of Port-Orford (P-O) cedar, a tree species that has been devastated by a fungal root rot disease.

Tim McKay of the Siskiyou Mountains Resource Council (SMRC) feels that protecting areas where the cedars are uninfected is crucial to saving the species. Water quality is closely tied to the root rot of this riparian species, and McKay fears that the degradation of water quality from salvage logging might lead to the spread of the disease.

"What follows the extensive salvage logging the Forest Service is proposing will be erosion and thousands of acres of even-aged plantations," the SMRC warned in an action alert letter. "Last summer the plantations...proved to burn completely, leaving only the scorched earth!"

The SMRC is asking the Forest Service to write an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the salvage logging plan to address the water quality and P-O cedar issues as well as other cumulative impacts, such as the loss of standing woody debris that benefits cavity-nesting wildlife and the effects on anadromous fisheries values. If the Forest Service writes a shorter Environmental Analysis (EA), as seems likely, the SMRC is prepared to pursue the matter in court.

Although the Forest Service recently put together an "action plan" on the P-O cedar problem, several groups (Northcoast Environmental Center, SMRC, Redwood Region Audubon, North Group of the Sierra Club Redwood Chapter, North Coast Chapter of the California Native Plant Society,



An old-growth sugar pine tree dominates this view of the roadless area just west of the Siskiyou Wilderness. Burned trees are visible on the ridge top in the background; the Forest Service plans to salvage log here.

Photo by Nina Williams

the Krok tribe, and Concerned Earth Science Researchers) are appealing the plan on the grounds that it does not call for any action. As McKay puts it, "the action plan doesn't attempt to protect areas." The Clear Creek watershed is one such area.

McKay feels that a "non-degradation" policy for the area should be followed by the Forest Service since the Klamath River, into which Clear Creek feeds, is designated as a national Scenic River.

Streams which would be affected by

continued on page 4

## Drought Hits Wilderness Water Rights

By Lisa K. Miller

The U.S. Department of the Interior has issued a legal opinion denying wilderness areas a federal reserved right to water.

In a letter written before he left office in August, former Attorney General Edwin Meese agreed that the "opinion correctly assesses Congress' intent and properly finds that no legally sufficient basis exists for an implication of federal reserved water rights for wilderness purposes."

The endorsement by the Justice Department means the opinion affects all wilderness areas, not just those managed by the Interior Department, because the Justice Department will no longer represent any agency attempting to claim reserved water rights for wilderness.

Justice Department concurrence has not rendered the opinion any less controversial, however. Many environmentalists and at least one federal agency are unhappy with the Interior Department's decision to revoke federal reserved water rights for wilderness areas.

The federal reserved water rights doctrine is an established legal principle that was created by the courts. Simply put, the doctrine says that when Congress designates lands for certain purposes it also, by implication, reserves enough water to accomplish those purposes.

continued on page 4

### INSIDE

— California Wilderness Conference...p. 2

— Sensitive South Fork Mountain roadless area still slated as salvage...p. 3

— Wilderness Trivia Quiz Question...p. 3

— Editorial on Hodel's desert visit...p. 5

— Recommendations for East Carson, West Walker, and McCloud Rivers...p. 5

— Book review on Ventana Wilderness Guide...p. 6

# COALITION PAGE COALITION PAGE COALITION PAGE

## Report

Last year our traditional end-of-the-summer backpack had been planned for the Trinity Alps Wilderness. But after three weeks of waiting for the fires to end there, we gave up and headed for the Sierra.

This year we figured on thwarting Mother Nature by going to another state: Montana. But after Wendy, Inyo, and I got to Jackson we discovered not only that the road through Yellowstone Park was closed but that our intended destination, the Bear-tooth Wilderness, was being evacuated due to fires there. After consulting with local resident John Amodio, we headed southwest to the Wind River Wilderness.

We did have a great eight-day trip. More than half the time we were above 10,000 feet, camping near deep blue lakes, hiking across small glaciers, and slipping down steep talus slopes. As usual we had packs too heavy for our out-of-shape bodies, although Inyo helped us out by carrying some food and all of the brandy and scotch along with his supply of dog food.

Visibility was terrible on several days, not only from the Yellowstone fires but also from a large blaze in the Wind Rivers themselves. As we drove south into Colorado

and Utah things did not get better. Very smoky skies covered the West, so that when we got to our newest national park, Nevada's Great Basin National Cow Refuge, only a vague outline of Wheeler Peak could be seen.

This is the first time I've looked forward to returning to California to breathe "clean" air. But as I write this the King Range now has a raging conflagration.

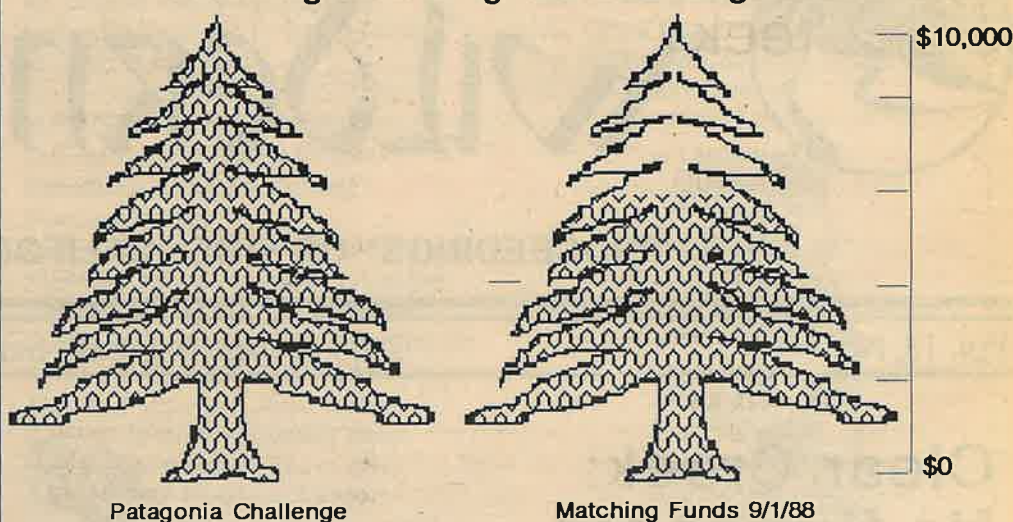
Debate over allowing natural fires to burn in parks and wilderness areas already is flaring. I'm sure you will be reading more about that in future issues of the *Record*.

There was good news waiting in the office, though. Our fund appeal to match our challenge grant from Patagonia is doing fantastic. You, our wonderful members, have responded far more generously than in any previous call for cash. We have reached sixty percent of our goal, and that doesn't count \$1,000 of pledges that have yet to be received. Donations from \$5 to \$500 all have counted towards the challenge amount. Thank you all for helping us meet our fundraising goal.

A warm welcome to our newest business sponsor, Come Together of Ukiah.

By Jim Eaton

## Matching the Patagonia Challenge Grant



Patagonia Challenge

Matching Funds 9/1/88

## Letters to the Editor

### Big Butte Balance

Dear Ryan:

I just read "Big Butte Road: A Route to Exploitation?" in the *Wilderness Record* and want to thank you for a well-written, objective article. You did a good job of presenting both sides of this very sensitive issue.

I appreciate your time in gathering and presenting BLM's position and hope our open communication will continue.

Sincerely,

Alfred W. Wright

### Poverty is the Root

Dear Editor:

I'm very surprised at the population article. The root of the matter is: the reason why people have babies, in countries where there are no old-age social security programs, the number of children directly correlates with the possibility that someone will care for the parents in old age; the more poverty-stricken the parents, the more this is true. An example of this process is demonstrated by examining the birth rate vs. the average standard of living of the country. The problem can be slightly helped by eating more soybeans instead of wild rice, but

greatly helped by a political program designed to help the developing countries' poverty-stricken help themselves; I don't mean a few wells and schools; I mean no more propping up of corrupt puppets!

Nino Maida

*Note: Below are organizations working on populations issues:*

Californians for Population Stabilization  
1025 9th Street, #217  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
(916) 446-1033

Zero Population Growth  
1400 16th Street, NW, #320  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
(202) 332-2200

Los Angeles Chapter  
2008 1/2 Preusf Road  
Los Angeles, CA 90034  
(213) 839-1976

Population Crisis Committee  
1120 19th Street, NW, #550  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
(202) 659-1833



## Celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act

October 19- 22, 1989 — Visalia, California

Planning for the 1989 California Wilderness Conference is underway! The Visalia Convention Center has been reserved, the conference has been expanded from 3 to 4 days, and the fee has been set for \$15, the same cost as the 1985 California Wilderness Conference!

We estimate that this \$15.00 grassroots fee will pay for less than 25% of the conference costs, and are depending on the goodwill of those of you who have the resources to donate more. Please consider being a Conference Mentor by contributing \$50 or more, for which you will receive a free conference t-shirt.

**LOCAL CONFERENCE COORDINATORS ARE NEEDED** — volunteers from all over California can help to make the conference a success by helping with publicity in their region and by gathering suggestions for conference activities.

We're very interested in your suggestions for workshop subjects, speakers, entertainment, or any other element of this long-awaited conference.

Please send your suggestions, questions about being a local coordinator, fee and/or goodwill Conference Mentor contribution to:

Bob Barnes, P.O. Box 269, Porterville, CA 93258.

Make checks payable to: California Wilderness Coalition [or: CWC]

## ERRATA

from the August 1988 *Wilderness Record*

The part of a sentence missing between the two columns of the front page article titled "Los Padres Wilderness Bill Slight's Sespe Area" was (missing line in italics): "Besides the inadequate acreage in the Sespe area, Reid finds that HR 4747's allowance for the Johnston Ridge Trail, an off-road vehicle trail that smashes three-quarters of the way through the proposed Sespe Wilderness, is "outrageous."

Another truncated line was the punchy closing sentence to the "Cows in the Marbles" article on page 6, which should have read: "Grazing may predate the Wilderness Area, but the wilderness itself predates cattle grazing."

## UPDATES

# Elk Creek Appeal Stays Denied

On August 18, 1988 U.S. Forest Service (FS) Regional Forester Paul F. Barker denied all four requests for "stays" on the implementation of the salvage logging project planned in the Elk Creek Roadless Area (RA) in the Mendocino National Forest (see article in the August *WR*).

In the letter that denied the California Wilderness Coalition's (CWC) stay request, Barker's assistant, Raymond G. Weinmann, very carefully avoided any mention of the root of the arguments against the salvage sales that were raised by the CWC and other groups. These arguments concerned cumulative impacts from logging activities on adjacent private land and the CWC's contention that the FS has never properly studied the wilderness character of the Elk Creek RA.

Weinmann's denial also avoided addressing the CWC's concern that the Mendocino National Forest's Timber Management Plan, which was used to justify the salvage sale, predates most of the major environmental and land use laws enacted by Congress over the last two decades.

Among the appellants, Don Morris of the Mendocino County-based Rural Institute was not surprised by the decision. "The salvage sale was a foregone conclusion," says Morris; "they had no intention of ever granting the stay." In addition, Morris found that the denials were so quickly and sloppily prepared that "they even attributed a group of quotes to me that I had never included in my appeal." Morris attributes the reason for the FS' haste to the fact that "they feel their ultimate responsibility is to the timber industry."

Meanwhile, logging has yet to start in the Elk Creek Roadless Area, which is recovering quite well from the eons-old fire cycle.

## South Fork Roadless Area: Final EIS Ignores Environmental Concerns

In a situation described by South Fork Mountain Defense Committee (SFMDC) activist Larry Glass as changing every week, the Forest Service (FS) continues to pursue plans to salvage-log extensive areas in the sensitive South Fork Mountain Roadless Area.

When the final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) appeared in August, the Shasta-Trinity National Forest had selected an alternative that environmentalists found to be "outrageous."

In addition, the FS has reportedly issued a supplement to the final EIS without public input. Although the contents of the supplement have not been revealed to the public, the timber sale schedule continues. On an incredibly fast track for timber sales, the FS plans to advertise sales in the area on September 14 and award the sale contract on September 29.

The SFMDC, Northcoast Environmental Center, and The Wilderness Society plan to pursue their objections to salvage logging operations in this pristine area.

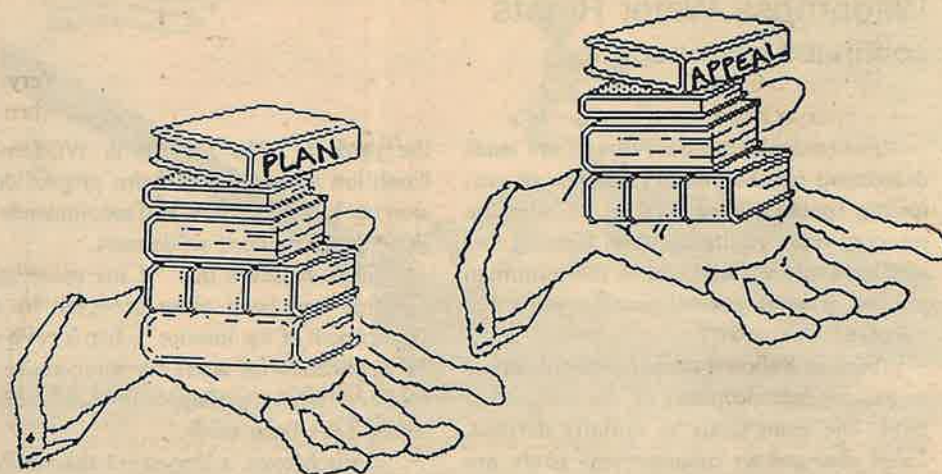
A geologist and a hydrologist who toured the proposed sale areas with Glass and Phil Towle of the SFMDC were appalled at the steepness and geologic instability of areas proposed for logging. In the Bear Wallow Mountain-Fisher Ridge area they found only a handful of dead trees and many big live ones. This section of the fire salvage sale also has critical spotted owl habitat.

The latest outrage has been a set of new tree marking prescriptions issued by the Hayfork District that give markers and loggers broad guidelines to determine that some trees might die in the future and should therefore be logged. The effect of this is to increase the volume of the sale, which can lead to many more miles of new roads.

The Interior Department's Fish & Wildlife Service and California Water Quality Control Board supported alternatives that were less destructive than the one chosen by the FS.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has stated that this plan would violate the

continued on page 7



## Appealum Giganteum Filed Against Sequoia Plan

By Stephanie Mandel

It must be one of the most thoroughly researched forest plan appeals yet written. An eight-pound, four-volume document was filed against the Sequoia National Forest's Final Land and Resource Management Plan, released last February.

The organizations appealing the plan are the Sierra Club's Kern-Kaweah and Tehipite chapters, Tulare County Audubon Society, California Trout, Federation of Fly Fishers, Kaweah Flyfishers, California Sportfishing Protection Alliance, California Wilderness Coalition, The Wilderness Society, and the Natural Resources Defense Council.

The appeal criticizes the Sequoia plan's focus on timber management and grazing. "Clearly the Forest is more important to the public for recreation than for commodity production, and this importance is growing," it says. "In stark economic terms, the Forest's value for non-consumptive uses far outweighs its value for logging and grazing. In the face of these facts, the Forest has adopted a completely inappropriate and unsupportable management plan. For the health of the forest, the allowable cut must instead be dropped significantly."

The appeal also contends that roadless areas are not properly reviewed and protected. It reads:

The Forest Plan schedules the vast majority of the Sequoia National Forest's remaining potential wilderness for development, possibly destroying this resource forever. The magnitude of the environmental impact is tremendous, and in most cases irreversible. It is this very activity—the planning for development, and thus possible destruction, of the pristine wilderness in roadless areas—that requires careful environmental analysis under NEPA [National Environmental Policy Act]...; yet

the Sequoia Plan and FEIS analysis of the impact of developing all remaining roadless areas is cursory, inconsistent, unclear and seriously deficient as a matter of law."

The appellants contend that the Regional Forester's decision to adopt the Forest Plan violated in numerous respects the letter and spirit of the National Forest Management Act (NFMA), the Multiple-Use Sustained Yield Act (MUSYA), the Clean Water Act, the Endangered Species Act, and NEPA.

All the appellant groups are geared to work together and follow through on the appeal, working for long-term changes in Forest Service practices in the Sequoia NF as well as other national forests. "I think this forest will become a showcase forest" in terms of citizen input, said Charlene Little of Kernville.

The appellants are aware that the Sequoia is the first Sierra Nevada national forest as well as the first "timber forest" in the Pacific Southwest Region (California) to complete its forest plan. Julie McDonald of the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund writes in the appeal that, "If the other Sierra Nevada forests follow suit with plans that call for increased clearcutting and with EIS's that are equally shallow, there can be no doubt that public outrage will follow. Forest planning as a means of resolving public controversy over management of our public forests will be a failure."

Many people contributed to the appeal, including David Edelson of the Natural Resources Defense Council, Eric Beckwitt, Joe Fontaine, Carla Cloer, Brett Matzke, Charlene Little, Randall O'Toole, Linda Blum, and professional foresters Gordon Robinson and Mike Yost.

The Sequoia is the southernmost of the nine Sierra Nevada national forests, located in Tulare, Kern, and Fresno counties and bordering the California desert.

### Uncle Jim's

### Wilderness Trivia Quiz Question:

In what California wilderness area does the Forest Service claim ownership of the land, even though the entire wilderness area is managed by the National Park Service?

## Wilderness Water Rights continued from page 1

For example, national forests are lands designated for the primary purpose of protecting timber and watershed. Under the reserved water rights doctrine, national forests have an implied right to the minimum amount of water needed to accomplish that purpose.

Federal reserved water rights only apply to the primary purposes of the designated land—the main goals as initially defined. Later changes in management goals are considered secondary and are not entitled to a reserved water right.

When the purpose of national forest land was expanded to include such things as habitat and fisheries protection, the courts ruled that these were secondary to the purpose of timber and watershed protection. The courts held that national forests have no reserved water right for these secondary goals.

In 1979, the Carter Administration's Interior Department issued a legal opinion granting wilderness areas federal reserved water rights. The new Interior Department opinion reverses that policy, arguing that wilderness is a land management status, its purposes secondary to the original purposes of the lands from which it is designated.

According to the Interior Department opinion, wilderness areas in the national forests, for example, have a right to enough water to meet the goal of timber and watershed protection (the primary purpose of NF lands), but not to protect wilderness values. If a wilderness area needs water for wilderness purposes, the agency will have to apply for those rights through state water laws.

### ■ What about California?

The opinion's effect on California wilderness may be relatively small, according to Ron Stork of Friends of the River. "Practically, it only affects wilderness areas that have upstream non-wilderness areas. This is a fairly rare, but not unheard of situation in California." Stork refers to California wilderness areas as mostly "rocks and ice" wilderness. "They control the headwaters," he said.

Two areas in California with potential for trouble are the Ishi Wilderness and the proposed Sespe wilderness, Stork said.

Stork also discussed the Pit River Wilderness Study Area (WSA). He admits that water flows there have already been "significantly altered," but considers the WSA a good example of the problems the new opinion may create for wilderness.

In November, 1986, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) approved a hydroelectric project in the Muck Valley and Pit River Canyon Area. The project diverts water from the Pit River above the WSA and returns it to the river below the WSA.

The BLM was recommending the WSA for wilderness designation when it approved

the project. The California Wilderness Coalition appealed the hydro project decision but lost. The BLM still recommends the WSA be designated wilderness.

Stork believes that "if the reservation doctrine had been more accepted by the Department of the Interior" when it reviewed the application for water diversion above the Pit River WSA, "perhaps a different decision would have been made."

Chris Meyer, a lawyer for the National Wildlife Federation, noted the current administration's anti-environment tendency. "The timing of the opinion is based on Ed Meese leaving and the Reagan Administration trying to do as much environmental damage as possible," said Meyer.

***"It is beyond cavil that water is the lifeblood of the wilderness areas..."***

Meyer believes the opinion won't hold up under legal scrutiny. He said the documents look good at first glance, but that a closer look reveals flaws. "The courts will look at this as a last ditch political flip-flop and will give it the deference it deserves, which is none," he said.

Sierra Club Washington Representative Debbie Sease thinks the quotes cited in the opinion are misleading. They are often incomplete or taken out of context, she said. The Sierra Club will be working with the next administration in an attempt to get the opinion reversed.

***"Unless the courts specifically change the opinion, we're probably stuck with it."***

Another black mark against the new opinion is that it is directly contrary to a Colorado Federal Court decision about wilderness water rights in *Sierra Club v. Lynn*.

In his well-researched opinion, U.S. District Court Justice John L. Kane, Jr. wrote that "it is beyond cavil that water is the lifeblood of the wilderness areas...Without access to the requisite water, the very purposes for which the Wilderness Act was established would be entirely defeated. Clearly," he concludes, "this result was not intended by Congress."

Kane goes on to deny that wilderness is merely a land management status, stating that it is a federal reservation "whose status, as concerns the implied-reservation-of-water doctrine, is equal to that of other federal reservations such as national forests, parks, and monuments."

Also disagreeing with the Interior De-



The roadless area at the headwaters of Fivemile Creek in the Klamath National Forest is targeted for a logging operation.  
Photo by Nina Williams

## Clear Creek continued from page 1

the proposed logging include Slippery Creek, Fivemile Creek, No Man's Creek, and Fourmile Creek, all of which feed into Clear Creek.

The SMRC is petitioning the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service to list the P-O cedar as a threatened species and is seeking a moratorium on entry (road-building and logging) in areas uninfected with the fatal fungus.

Send letters to: George Harper, District Ranger, Happy Camp Ranger District, Box 377, Happy Camp, CA 96039.



partment is the Forest Service. According to Sease, the two departments have been arguing about the issue for some time. "The Forest Service did not want this opinion," she said.

Deputy Assistant General Counsel Jim Snow (the Office of General Counsel represents the Forest Service in legal matters) said that "various views were submitted to the Justice Department. When a legal dispute occurs between two departments, the Attorney General makes a decision...In this instance, for whatever reason, he [Meese] has ruled with the Interior Department."

Snow admits that former Attorney General Meese "is not the last word on the sub-

ject" but thinks that "unless the courts specifically change the opinion, we're probably stuck with it."

Chris Meyer said "the importance of the wilderness water rights issue is in the future. Today it is an academic discussion. It is important to get the water rights established so they can be used to combat problems that arise in the future." He added, "I think we'll survive this thing." For the sake of our wild lands, let's hope so.

***Lisa K. Miller is an intern at the CWC who is studying English at the University of California at Davis.***

## Hearings Held on E. Carson, W. Walker, McCloud Wild Recommendations

By Steve Evans

California Resources Secretary Gordon Van Vleck recently held hearings in response to the completed studies of the McCloud, East Carson, and West Walker rivers for possible state Wild and Scenic designation.

The hearings were held as the result of a private consultant's investigation, which found that all three rivers possess "extraordinary" values. The consultant recommended portions of the rivers for state Wild and Scenic River status, which prohibits the construction of major dams and diversions and is intended to preserve a river's free-flowing character.

The Resources Secretary has until January 1, 1989 to make a formal recommendation for Wild and Scenic status to the State Legislature. Van Vleck held a hearing concerning the McCloud River in Redding on August 16 and two hearings in South Lake Tahoe on August 18 regarding the East Carson and West Walker.

The study produced by the private consultant recommended designation of 33 miles of the McCloud River out of the 43

miles studied. A 10-mile stretch of the East Carson was recommended, as were 33 miles of the West Walker. In addition, a 10-mile stretch of Squaw Valley Creek, a major tributary to the McCloud, and a 1-mile stretch of Leavitt Creek, a West Walker tributary, were recommended for Wild and Scenic status.

Public support for the designation of the McCloud was overwhelming at the Redding hearing, with no vocal opposition. Even the McCloud Chamber of Commerce supported Wild and Scenic status. Several groups also supported the designation of the upper 10 miles of the McCloud River, which the consultant found to be ineligible. A unique strain of trout, known as the Redband trout, live in this stretch of the river.

Nevada water development interests have targeted the East Carson for a large dam and reservoir project. Opposition to Wild and Scenic status was intense at the South Lake Tahoe hearing, although river supporters outnumbered the dam promoters. Because of the opposition by the Alpine County

continued on page 6

## Species Act Passed, At Last

By Alicia Perrone

The prolonged struggle to schedule the Endangered Species Act (ESA) for action on the Senate floor ended when the bill passed by a 93-2 vote on July 28. Approved by the House last December, the reauthorization bill strengthens and supports the protection of endangered species.

Compromises were made regarding the Turtle Excluder Device to which Senator Howell Heflin of Alaska objected. The devices keep turtles from becoming tangled up in fish nets. The Senator Heflin's amendment delays the use of the devices until 1989 for offshore waters and 1990 for in-shore waters.

Senator James McClure did not support the act either, and wanted to require a cost analysis of a species' listing and recovery efforts before implementing a protection plan. Senator George Mitchell, the bill's author and chair of the Environmental Protection Subcommittee, denounced McClure's proposal by describing the medical importance of rare plants which could become extinct if protection were delayed.

This new bill raises funding for endangered species protection from \$39 million to \$56 million and also contains positive amendments proposed by Mitchell himself, including increased monitoring of species



## Plans Laid for Plumas, Inyo Forests

Final forest plans for the Inyo and Plumas National Forests are out!

The Forest Service estimates that five more final plans for Pacific Southwest Region (California) national forests will be forthcoming in 1989 and seven in 1989. The plans that are slated (perhaps optimistically) to come out withing the next few months are for the Eldorado, San Bernardino, Lassen, and Sierra national forests.

Administrative appeals may be filed during a 45-day period after each plan is issued.

proposed for listing and better protection for endangered plants.

Alicia Perrone is a student at the University of California at Davis.



Interior Secretary Donald Hodel toured the California desert, where he visited the Patton Museum, toured mining operations, rode a dune buggy, flew in a supersonic military jet, and blasted Senator Alan Cranston's Desert Protection Act.

Photo from *Newsbeat*, Bureau of Land Management

## BLM Squanders Public Money On Deceptive Propaganda

By Steve Evans

Every month, the Bureau of Land Management's newsletter and propaganda sheet, *Newsbeat*, appears unasked for in my mailbox. Although I never subscribed to the newsletter, I usually receive more than one copy.

Ordinarily, I would shrug off the unsolicited publication to the vagaries of an over-computerized society, but the shrill contents of *Newsbeat* really sets me to a slow boil.

The July issue of *Newsbeat* proudly proclaims in a front page banner headline "Interior Secretary Hodel Tours Desert." The article is accompanied by a photograph of Hodel sitting astride an army tank at the new Patton Museum in the California Desert. The museum is intended to commemorate the soldiers who trained in the desert under General Patton in the early days of World War II. (Where they haven't been obliterated by the more recent scars of today's off-road macho-machines, the tracks of Patton's training maneuvers remain in the California desert to this day—a testimony to the fragility of the desert.)

Now if the Interior Secretary gets his kicks getting his picture taken on top of a tank, that's his problem (I think it would be a pretty neat thing to do if I were 10 years old). As I said, it's the actual content of the *Newsbeat* articles that I object to.

Practically every issue of *Newsbeat* this year has taken the opportunity to bash Senator Alan Cranston's California Desert Protection Act, S. 7. The BLM is rabidly opposed to the legislation, which would transfer considerable amounts of "their" land to the National Park Service and designate other portions as protected wilderness areas.

July's headline article quotes Hodel as criticizing S. 7 because it would make the California Desert "inaccessible to all but those who have the time, money, and the physical stamina to reach these areas by foot." This ignorant and unsupported view is not surprising when you read further and discover that Hodel's desert visit was hosted by the High Desert Cattleman's Association, Gold Fields Mine, U.S. Borax, off-road vehicle clubs, and the U.S. military.

I don't think that a publically funded publication should promote class warfare (the Joe sixpacks vs. the supposed elite environmentalists). But the comparison is deceptive anyway. A completely outfitted backpacker has spent maybe \$500 on his recreation. I haven't seen an off-road (four-wheeled) vehicle for under \$14,000. Hodel's statement only becomes true when you exchange the word "foot" with the word "vehicle."

By the way, the military is given a special pot shot at S. 7 in the July *Newsbeat*. Brigadier General Larry Henry complained to Hodel that all those proposed national parks and wilderness areas will get in the way of his shiny, new, expensive jets.

It's the BLM's role to advise Congress and make recommendations concerning public land management issues. Given the abysmal record of the Reagan Administration on environmental matters, Hodel's opposition to S. 7 is predictable. But when his agency spends thousands of dollars publishing unsolicited propaganda, he is squandering the taxpayers' hard earned dollars.

Steve Evans is President of the CWC.

## Book Review: Window to the Ventana

*Hiking the Big Sur Country: the Ventana Wilderness*

by Jeffrey P. Schaffer

Wilderness Press, 2440 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, CA 94704-9885  
168 pp, 25 maps, \$12.95

*Reviewed by Phil Farrell*

The Ventana Wilderness contains the rugged mountains lying along the fabled Big Sur coast of central California. It is accessible year-round and most attractive for hiking and camping from fall through spring. A new book from Jeff Schaffer of Wilderness Press, *Hiking the Big Sur Country, the Ventana Wilderness*, provides the information you need to plan and enjoy an outing in this Wilderness.

Schaffer has used his considerable naturalist skills to produce a true wilderness guide. He offers concise and informative summaries of the geology and ecology of the region, describes the conditions of travel, water sources, and camping areas, gives specific information about pests and hazards, and provides plenty of interpretive notes mixed in with the usual trail directions. The directions are very complete in terms of landmarks, route-finding problems, distances, and — very important in this area — steepness of trails.

I liked Schaffer's attempts to classify and describe the ecosystems of the Ventana Wilderness according to the dominant vegetation types seen along the trails. After reading the introductory sections on botany and zoology, I could visualize more clearly what the country would look like as Schaffer describes passing from tanbark oak forest

into ponderosa pine woodland, for example. A good sprinkling of photographs helps too.

Schaffer prides himself on the detail and accuracy of his trail mapping, and this newest book upholds his standards. The maps alone are worth the book's price. Starting with out-of-date U.S.G.S. topographic base maps, he re-mapped all trails and roads and even corrected some topogra-

phy from direct field observation. The two-color maps are printed in 25 page-size sections and bound into the book. One minor quibble: trails that run back and forth from one page section to another can be hard to follow. A small overlap in the maps at the page edges would have helped.

Schaffer writes with a polished style, easily mixing natural history with naviga-

tion. His material is well-organized. There is an excellent index and list of supplementary reading. You can tell that Schaffer is enthusiastic about his subject. My only stylistic complaint is that he occasionally lapses into deprecatory statements about trails "not worth taking" because they visit "inferior" landscapes. I find that every wilderness place has something of value to teach, even if it is not spectacular or even pleasing to the senses.

The book contains sensible advice about travel hazards and how to avoid them. Schaffer's suggestion to wear slick nylon rain pants when traversing tick country made good sense to me: the ticks have a hard time climbing the fabric and they are easy to see.

I have only visited the Ventana once since the great Marble Cone fire of 1977 burned most of the wilderness. Thus I was much interested in Schaffer's descriptions of the changes in vegetation and trails wrought by the fire. Some of the old trails are now choked by brush. Other areas have lost their shading canopy of mature trees. But the fire brought "beneficial" changes, too, including rejuvenation of flowering plants.

The U.S. Forest Service publishes a topographic map of the whole Ventana Wilderness on one sheet. While inferior to Schaffer's maps for route-finding because of its smaller scale and roughly drawn trails (some just plain wrong), it does provide a useful overview and orientation for trip planning. To get a copy, send a check for one dollar to U.S.F.S. Office of Information, 630 Sansome St., Room 529A, San Francisco, CA 94111.

*Phil Farrell is a former CWC President and veteran explorer of California wild lands.*



Mysterious hiker near Cone Peak in the Ventana Wilderness.

Photo by Phil Farrell



### River hearings continued from page 5



Board of Supervisors, protective legislation will be difficult to pass for this extraordinary high mountain/high desert river.

Support for the designation of the West Walker was near unanimous at the second hearing in South Lake Tahoe. One private land owner objected to the designation of Leavitt Creek. Much of the West Walker is located in the proposed Hoover Wilderness additions on the east side of the Sierra.

A positive recommendation to the legislature from the Resources Secretary is important to ensure that these rivers are swiftly protected through the legislative process in Sacramento. Written comments from the public will be accepted by Secretary Van Vleck until September 15. Letters supporting State Wild and Scenic designation of the McCloud, East Carson, and West Walker Rivers should be mailed to:

Mr. Gordon Van Vleck  
Resources Secretary  
1416 Ninth Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

In particular, written comments should mention that a large dam and reservoir proj-

ect on the East Carson River is not economically feasible and that the recreation currently provided by the free flowing river (rafting, fishing, camping, hiking) provides revenue to the Alpine County economy.

*Steve Evans is President of the CWC.*

### Wilderness Trivia Quiz Answer:

**The Forest Service never has acknowledged that lands in the Modoc National Forest were legally transferred to Lava Beds National Monument when it was established, hence the Forest Service claims land ownership of the Monument and the Lava Beds Wilderness Area.**

### It's All Right

Sometimes it seems as if  
The Trees  
Could Save Your Life  
And if You Asked Them  
They would help you  
And if you looked to Them  
They would heal you.

Sit down and  
Watch the Sky  
And it will tell you  
"It's Alright"  
And its abundance  
Will Shade your light  
And its Sunsets  
Will melt your anger.

And if It All Came Down  
I would beckon to the Sky  
And summon all the Trees  
To cleanse my eyes with clear pictures  
To fill my heart with the Truth

That if I can perceive such beauty  
It must be really there.  
And if the beauty is really there  
Then the opposite is an illusion.

—Alicia Perrone  
8-1-88

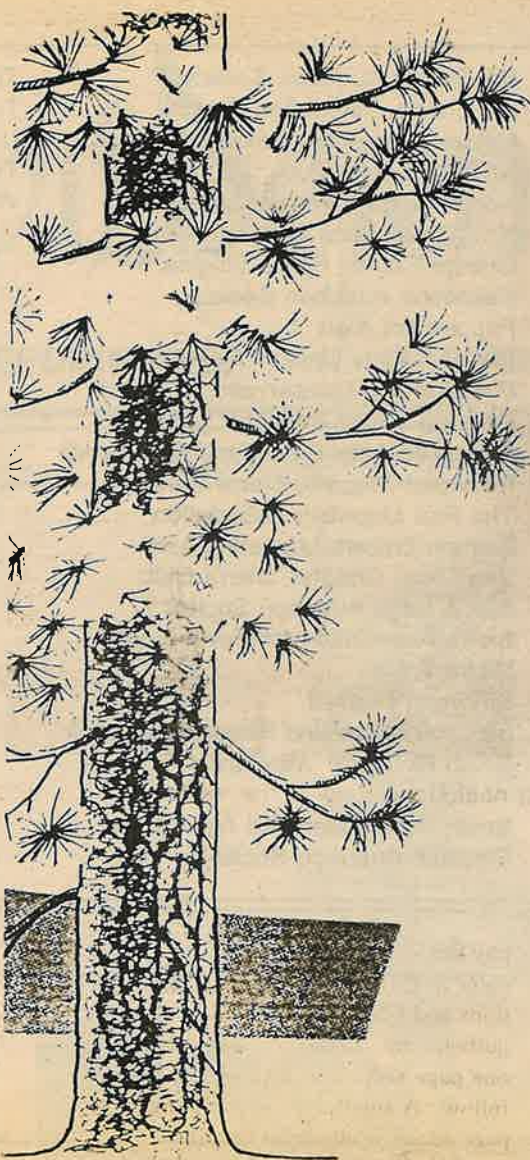
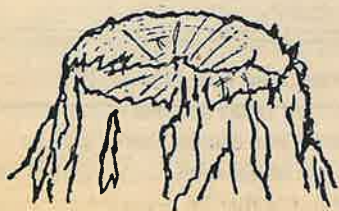
## South Fork Roadless Area

continued from page 3

Clean Water Act's provision to manage Wild & Scenic Rivers for high quality water. The EIS also flies in the face of intentions of the federally-funded Trinity River restoration program, which aims to upgrade water quality and fish habitat.

Interested persons can join the SFMDC appeal by writing the Shasta-Trinity National Forest, requesting that they be added to the appeal and demanding that the selected sale alternative be stopped and redone to better reflect the environmental sensitivity of the South Fork Mountain Roadless Area.

Shasta-Trinity National Forest  
2400 Washington Avenue  
Redding, CA 96001



## CALENDAR

**mid-September** ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS DUE for the Baldy Fire Recovery Area (see article in this issue). For a copy, contact Jim Anderson, Klamath National Forest, 1312 Fairlane Road, Yreka, California 96093, (916) 842-6131.

**September 16-18** EARTH FIRST! CALIFORNIA RENDEZVOUS at Somes Bar, California. Call (707) 826-1621 for information or to volunteer.

**September 19-23** PUBLIC HEARINGS ON *The Monuments: Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Boundary Adjustments for Death Valley and Joshua Tree National Monuments*. Hearings in Riverside, Palm Springs, Ridgecrest, Lone Pine, and Shoshone at 7:00 pm and in Riverside at 10:00 am. For meeting locations, contact Gerald Hillier, District Manager of the California Desert District at (714) 351-6394.

**September 22-24** CALIFORNIA RIPARIAN SYSTEMS: A CONFERENCE ON PROTECTION, MANAGEMENT, AND RESTORATION FOR THE 1990s, at the University of California at Davis. Thursday and Friday day programs are professionally-oriented, Saturday and evening

seminars are designed to bring professionals, activists, and the general public closer together on riparian issues. For more information, contact Dana Abell at (916) 752-3098.

**September 24-25** EARTH CIRCA '88 *Environmental Awareness Faire*, sponsored by the Mendocino Environmental Center and Rural Institute; keynote speakers David Brower and Dave Foreman, workshops, booths, entertainment; Ukiah High School, 1000 Low Gap Road, Ukiah. For more information contact Betty Ball at (707) 468-1660.

**September 26** APPEAL PERIOD CLOSING for the Inyo National Forest Final Land & Resource Management Plan. Send appeals to: Paul F. Barker, Regional Forester, Pacific Southwest Region, USDA Forest Service, 630 Sansome Street, San Francisco CA 94111.

**September 30-October 2** GREENING THE WEST: WESTERN REGIONAL GREEN GATHERING, sponsored by the Northern California Greens at Jones Gulch, CA. For information contact: Greening the West, P.O. Box 3727, Oakland, CA 94609.

**October 10** DEADLINE for appeals of the Plumas National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan. Send to: Regional Forester, Pacific Southwest Region, USDA Forest Service, 630 Sansome Street, San Francisco CA 94111.

**October 27** COMMENTS DUE on *The Monuments: Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Boundary Adjustments for Death Valley and Joshua Tree National Monuments*. Send comments to: California Desert District, Bureau of Land Management, Attn.: Monuments EIS, 1695 Spruce St., Riverside, CA 92507.

## CWC T-Shirts— Wild & Wonderful

With only a few individuals left, the California Wilderness Coalition's "Keep It Wild" T-shirts are destined to be collector's items—don't delay in ordering yours!

This design of black mountains beneath a blue sky with yellow sand dunes in the foreground comes in white, tan, light blue, and yellow in small, medium, and extra-large (no larges). French-cut style shirts are available in white, pink, and light-blue in sizes small, medium and extra-large (except no x-large in blue or white).

The shirts are 100 percent double knit cotton, and cost \$8.00 for CWC members and \$10.00 for non-members (sales tax included). Use the order form on page 8, and clearly indicate if you want regular or French-cut, and a substitute color. Please add \$1.50 postage and 75 cents for each additional shirt.



## California Wilderness Coalition



### Purposes of the California Wilderness Coalition

...to promote throughout the State of California the preservation of wild lands as legally designated wilderness areas by carrying on an educational program concerning the value of wilderness and how it may best be used and preserved in the public interest, by making and encouraging scientific studies concerning wilderness, and by enlisting public interest and cooperation in protecting existing or potential wilderness areas.

### Board of Directors

**President** —Steve Evans  
**Vice-President** —Trent Orr  
**Secretary** —Catherine Fox  
**Treasurer** —Wendy Cohen  
**Director** —Sally Kabisch  
**Director** —Bob Barnes  
**Director** —Ron Stork  
**Director** —Jay Watson

**Executive Director** —Jim Eaton

### Advisory Committee

Harriet Allen  
David R. Brower  
Joseph Fontaine  
Phillip Hyde  
Martin Litton  
Norman B. Livermore, Jr.  
Michael McCloskey  
Julie McDonald  
Tim McKay  
Nancy S. Pearlman  
Bob Schneider  
Bernard Shanks  
Richard Spotts  
Thomas Winnett

The *Wilderness Record* is the monthly publication of the California Wilderness Coalition. Articles may be reprinted; credit would be appreciated. Subscription is free with membership.

The *Record* welcomes letters-to-the-editor, articles, black & white photos, drawings, book reviews, poetry, etc. on California wilderness and related subjects. We reserve the right to edit all work. Please address all correspondence to: California Wilderness Coalition, 2655 Portage Bay East, Suite 5, Davis, California 95616, (916) 758-0380.

Printed by the Davis Enterprise.

### Production

Wendy Cohen Lisa Miller  
Jim Eaton Julie Stoughton

### Editor

Stephanie Mandel

### Contributors

Jim Eaton  
Steve Evans  
Phil Farrell  
Ryan Henson  
Lisa Miller  
Alicia Perrone

### Photos & Graphics

Phil Farrell  
Frank Milezicik  
Lisa Miller  
Newsbeat  
Nina Williams

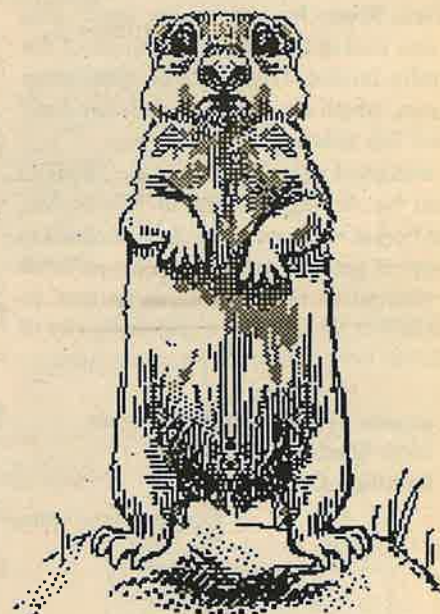
## COALITION MEMBER GROUPS

American Alpine Club  
 Angeles Chapter, Sierra Club  
 Back Country Horsemen of Calif.  
 Bay Chapter, Sierra Club  
 Butte Environmental Council  
 Cahto Coalition  
 California Alpine Club  
 California Native Plant Society  
 Camp Unalakee Association  
 Citizens Comm. to Save Our Public Lands  
 Citizens for Better Forestry  
 Citizens for Mojave National Park  
 Committee for Green Foothills  
 Committee to Save the Kings River  
 Concerned Citizens of Calaveras Co.  
 Conejo Valley Audubon Society  
 Conservation Call  
 Davis Audubon Society  
 Defenders of Wildlife  
 Desert Protective Council  
 Ecology Center of So. California  
 El Dorado Audubon Society  
 Environmental Protection Info. Center  
 Forest Alliance  
 Friends Aware of Wildlife Needs

Friends of Plumas Wilderness  
 Friends of the River  
 Golden Gate Envir. Law Society  
 Granite Chief Task Force  
 Greenpeace  
 Ishi Task Force  
 Kaweah Group, Sierra Club  
 Keep the Sespe Wild Committee  
 Kern Audubon Society  
 Kern Plateau Association  
 Kern River Valley Audubon Society  
 Kern River Valley Wildlife Association  
 Kern-Kaweah Chapter, Sierra Club  
 Knapsack Sec., Bay Ch., Sierra Club  
 Lake Tahoe Audubon Society  
 Loma Prieta Chapter, Sierra Club  
 Los Angeles Audubon Society  
 Lost Coast League  
 Marble Mountain Audubon Society  
 Marin Audubon Society  
 Marin Conservation League  
 Mendocino Environment Center  
 Merced Canyon Committee  
 Mono Lake Committee  
 Monterey Peninsula Audubon Society  
 Morro Coast Audubon Society

Mt. Shasta Audubon Society  
 Mt. Shasta Recreation Council  
 Natural Resources Defense Council  
 NCRCC Sierra Club  
 Northcoast Environmental Center  
 N.E. Californians for Wilderness  
 Orange County Sierra Singles  
 Pasadena Audubon Society  
 Peppermint Alert  
 Placer County Conser. Task Force  
 Planning and Conservation League  
 Pomona Valley Audubon Society  
 Porterville Area Environmental Council  
 Redwood Chapter, Sierra Club  
 The Red Mountain Association  
 Salmon Trollers Marketing Assn.  
 San Diego Chapter, Sierra Club  
 Sea & Sage Audubon Society  
 Sierra Association for Environment  
 Sierra Treks  
 Sinkyone Council  
 Siskiyou Mountains Resource Council  
 South Fk Trinity Watershed Association  
 South Fork Watershed Association  
 Stockton Audubon Society

Trinity Alps Group  
 Tulare County Audubon Society  
 U.C. Davis Environmental Law Society  
 The Wilderness Society  
 Wintu Audubon Society



## CWC Business Sponsors

Like many citizen organizations, the California Wilderness Coalition depends upon sponsorship and support. The organization is grateful to the following businesses that have recognized the need to preserve the wilderness of California.

agAccess 603 4th Street Davis, CA 95616	Daybell Nursery 55 N.E. Street Porterville, CA 93257	Hibbert Lumber Company 500 G Street Davis, CA 95616	The North Face 1234 Fifth Street Berkeley, CA 94710	Renewed Resources Art Derby 555 Chapman Place Campbell, CA 95008	Brock Wagstaff Architect 2200 Bridgeway Sausalito, CA 94965
Alpine West 130 G Street Davis, CA 95616	David B. Devine 447 Sutter San Francisco, CA 94115	Jacobs Construction 1130 N. Heritage Drive Ridgecrest, CA 93555	Ouzel Voyages 314 West 14th Street Chico, CA 95928	Ridge Builders Group 123 C Street Davis, CA 95616	Bradlee S. Welton Attorney at Law 1721 Oregon Street Berkeley, CA 94703
Baldwin's Forestry Services P.O. Box 22 Douglas City, CA 96024	Echo, The Wilderness Company 6529 Telegraph Avenue Oakland, CA 94609	Richard Karem, M.D. 1290 West Street Redding, CA 96001	Quality Sew-Ups 21613 Talisman Street Torrance, CA 90503	Bob Rutemoller, CFP Certified Financial Planner P.O. Box 7472 Stockton, CA 95207	Wilderness Press 2440 Bancroft Way Berkeley, CA 94704
Kathy Blankenship-Photography 402 Lago Place Davis, CA 95616	John B. Frailing Froba, Frailing, & Rockwell 1025 15th Street Modesto, CA 95354	David B. Kelley Consulting Soil Scientist 216 F Street, #51 Davis, CA 95616	Recreational Equipment, Inc. 1338 San Pablo Ave. Berkeley, CA 94702	San Francisco Travel Service 407 Jackson St., Ste. 205 San Francisco, CA 94111	Yakima Products, Inc. P.O. Drawer 4899 Arcata, CA 95521
Come Together Box 1415, c/o Gary Ball Ukiah, CA 95482	Genny Smith Books P.O. Box 1060 Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546	Mike McWherter Writing and Photography 1231 Bottlebrush Pl. Oxnard, CA 93030	20640 Homestead Road Cupertino, CA 95014	Siskiyou Forestry Consultants P.O. Box 241 Arcata, CA 95521	Yes Electric 22 Claus Circle Fairfax, CA 94930
Creative Sound Recording Michael W. Nolasco 6412 Cerromar Court Orangevale, CA 95662	Gorman & Waltner 1419 Broadway, Suite 419 Oakland, CA 94612	The Naturalist 219 E Street Davis, CA 95616	9 City Boulevard West The City, Store #44 Orange, CA 92668	Christopher P. Valle-Riestra Attorney at Law 5500 Redwood Road Oakland, CA 94619	Zoo-Ink Screen Print 2415 St. # 270 San Francisco, CA 94107

## Join the Coalition

### T-Shirt Order Form

Item      Size      Color      Amount

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Subtotal \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Yes! I wish to become a member of the California Wilderness Coalition. Enclosed is \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for first-year membership dues.

☐ Here is a special contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to help the Coalition's work.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

### Annual Dues: <sup>1</sup>

Individual	\$ 15.00
Low-income Individual	\$ 7.50
Sustaining Individual	\$ 25.00
Patron	\$ 500.00
Non-profit Organization	\$ 30.00
Business Sponsor	\$ 50.00

<sup>1</sup> tax deductible

Mail to:

California Wilderness Coalition  
 2655 Portage Bay East, Suite 5  
 Davis, California 95616