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Davis, CA  
Permit No. 34

ISSN 0194-3030



# WILDERNESS RECORD

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CALIFORNIA WILDERNESS COALITION

Vol. 14, No.10

2655 Portage Bay East, Suite 5 Davis, CA 95616

October, 1989

## Leave it to Senator Cranston

## New Los Padres Bill Welcomed by Conservationists

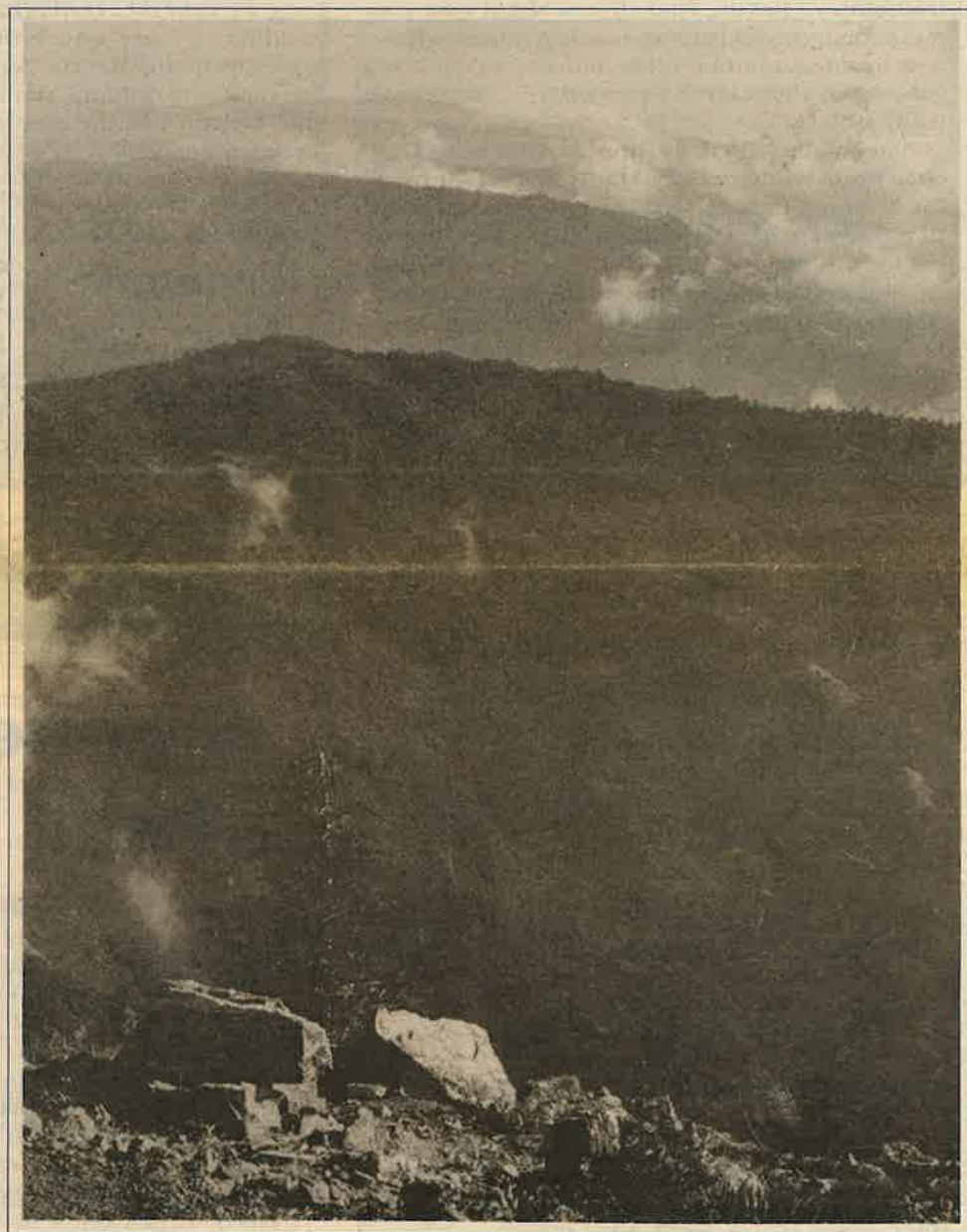
By Steve Evans

Senator Alan Cranston has introduced S. 1625, the Condor Range and Rivers Act, a bill that will add more than half a million acres of the Los Padres National Forest to the National Wilderness Preservation System and designate over 252 miles of National Wild and Scenic Rivers.

At stake are some of the largest remaining areas of undeveloped national forest lands in California. The river canyons and ridges of the Los Padres National Forest provide critical habitat for the endangered California condor and a wide range of primitive recreational opportunities for people throughout the state.

S. 1625 would add substantially to the existing Ventana and San Rafael wilderness areas, and establish a new jewel in the Los Padres crown—a 280,000-acre Sespe Wilderness. Other areas protected as wilderness in the Condor Range and Rivers Act include Matilija, Pinos-Badlands, Garcia, and Silver Peak. The rivers aspect of the bill will add Sespe Creek, Piru Creek, Matilija Creek, Sisquoc River, Lopez Creek, Arroyo Seco River, Little Sur River, and the Big Sur River to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

continued on page 3



Cranston's legislation would expand the Ventana Wilderness by 63,200 acres. The view here is looking south from Cone Peak. Photo by Phil Farrell

## A big-time rancher, cow pies, and an opportunity

By Stephanie Mandel

To many, the Golden Trout Wilderness is a beautiful retreat from the city. This area of extended meadows, forested ridges, and volcanic outcrops is also known as part of the Templeton grazing allotment.

The Wilderness Act of 1964 says that although grazing is allowed in wilderness areas (where such use was established before passage of the wilderness designation),

it is "subject to such reasonable regulations as are deemed necessary by the Secretary of Agriculture."

This discretion to impose "reasonable regulations" has generally not been overused by land managers, to put it mildly.

However, the Inyo National Forest (NF) has shown signs of a new commitment to improving protection of fish, people, and wildlife. The new forest plan has guide-

lines that are hopeful signs of improvement.

Michael Prather of Lone Pine, California, says many popular recreation spots in the Inyo NF, including the Golden Trout Wilderness, have been marred by cows' inevitable by-product, cow pies. The cows also damage water, plants, and wildlife by trampling through sensitive areas. According to Prather, the recreational use of the

continued on page 3

## Get Ready For the California Wilderness Conference!!!

See pages 4 & 5



## COALITION PAGE

### Monthly Report

I did get away for a week into the Sierra after Labor Day and confirmed several things: it is an extraordinary year for yellow jackets, the mountains are dry ("permanent streams" were not flowing), and cows remain the dominant form of backcountry wildlife. Still, it was good to get into a portion of the Ansel Adams (*nee* Minarets) Wilderness that I had never visited.

Also, although we did not see very many people after Labor Day, there was a steady stream of backpackers and horsepeople leaving the wilderness on the holiday. Having read all year about how yuppies no longer backpack and are leaving the wilderness to ride mountain bikes and stay in condos, I got curious about just how sound this information really is.

Stephanie visited the Forest Service in San Francisco to get wilderness use statistics, and she asked the National Park Service for additional information. We wanted to write an article on backcountry use for this issue, but not all the data has arrived.

But we can tell you this: we have looked at the statistics and they are garbage. Not all, mind you, but some of the Forest Service figures are beyond belief.

Did use of the Yolla Bolly-Middle Eel Wilderness really drop tenfold in 1988 or did the decimal

point get misplaced? Did Granite Chief really get 2.4 thousand visitor nights (MVN) in 1985, 54.6 MVN in 1986, and 14.0 MVN in 1987? Did *nobody* visit the Castle Crag and Snow Mountain wilderness areas in 1988?

We will do our best to let you know what's really going on in the backcountry in our November *Wilderness Record*.

Our "Outreach Coordinator" Bill Burrows took on a full-time internship (which includes a daily commute to Concord), so his replacement is Nancy Kang, a recent U.C. Davis graduate. In keeping with tradition, we are underutilizing Nancy's botany degree by giving her the Zen experiences of repetitive stamping, folding, stapling, labeling, and sorting. Welcome to the exciting world of wilderness preservation, Nancy.

### Uncle Jim's Wilderness Trivia Quiz Question:

(See page 7 for answer.)

What wilderness area is a Shoshone Indian place name meaning "sandy place?"

## Desert Showdown

Get ready, desert lovers—it's going to get wild! Congress has scheduled three local hearings on the California Desert Bill and conservationists expect they'll be rowdy affairs, with supporters as well as opponents showing up in force.

According to the Sierra Club's Jeff Widen, the field hearings of the House Public Land subcommittee are a critical opportunity to show Congress that support for the desert bill (H.R. 780) is strong.

"This is it," Widen said. "This is our one shot to show Congress and the nation that Californians demand more protection for their desert. You can bet that the ORVers will be out in droves. We must have hundreds of our activists waving signs, testifying, and carrying the message for national parks and wilderness in the desert."

The first hearing will be held in Bishop on Saturday, October 28, the second in Barstow on Saturday, November 11, and the final in Los Angeles on some as-yet-undetermined date in January. On the Senate side, the Senate Energy Committee has scheduled a hearing on Senator Alan Cranston's desert bill (S. 11) on October 2 in Washington, D.C.

Free camping near the hearing locations will be provided by the Sierra Club, and Sunday hikes will be organized to round out the weekends. Bus transportation from various California locations is being arranged. For more information, contact Vicky Hoover, (415) 776-2211, Jeff Widen, (213) 387-6528, or Nobby Reidy (415) 541-9144.

### An Embarrassing List of Errors & Clarifications

from the September, 1989 *Wilderness Record*

#### TORTOISE STATUS CLARIFIED

The listing of the desert tortoise as an endangered species is, perhaps, only temporary. Endangered status was granted using emergency authority—used only rarely—to save species on the verge of extinction. After 240 days the normal listing procedures are due to be completed and a more permanent decision will be made. Only the Mojave Desert population of tortoises received this protection—those west and north of the Colorado River.

#### MISSING WORD FROM HEADLINE

The headline on page one, "Congress Slams BLM Wildlife," was inadvertently cut—it was supposed to read "Congress Slams BLM Wildlife *Gare*." While not an award-winning headline, it certainly would have made more sense.

#### WHIPPLES OR CASTLES?

The photo on page one was of Castle Peaks in the East Mojave Desert—not the Whipple Mountains, as the caption mistakenly read. Page five featured a photo of the Whipples, correctly captioned. (Did anyone besides Jim notice this?)

#### MINING ARTICLE MISSING, AGAIN

We're sorry that the twice-promised article on U.S. mining law is not in this issue. The writer still intends to submit an article.



## Smoke Blanchard Memorial Fund Honors Mountaineer

Many were saddened by the death of 74-year old Smoke Blanchard in June of this year. The venerable climber and trekker was killed in an automobile accident.

A resident of the Owens Valley since the late 1930s, he climbed Mt. Hood over 100 times, most recently in 1988. Smoke ascended Denali/Mt. McKinley three times and had travelled all over the world.

Smoke made his living as a mountain guide. His incredible walking stamina was proven on walks from Dire, Nevada to Point Reyes, as well as on two separate hikes along the entire Washington/Oregon coastline.

James Wilson, a close friend of Smoke's, said "he had a love of wild land not exceeded by anyone."

Wilson, together with other close friends of Smoke's, has established in his honor the Smoke Blanchard Memorial Fund, administered through the California Wilderness Coalition. All funds raised will be distributed to Eastern Sierra conservation groups for their work on the protection, preservation, and management of wilderness in Smoke's most loved stomping grounds.

Contributions in Smoke's honor should be made payable to the California Wilderness Coalition or "CWC."

Send checks to:  
The Smoke Blanchard Memorial Fund  
c/o California Wilderness Coalition  
2655 Portage Bay East, Suite 5  
Davis, CA 95616



Smoke Blanchard. Photo by Mountain Travel



## WILDERNESS LEGISLATION & MANAGEMENT

### Los Padres

continued from page 1

Supported by the Sierra Club, Friends of the River and other conservation organizations, S. 1625 is Cranston's response to inadequate bills submitted by Representative Robert Lagomarsino and Senator Pete Wilson.

Lagomarsino's bill, H.R. 1437, was recently "substituted" by a version developed by House Public Lands subcommittee Chair Bruce Vento. Although Vento's version addresses wilderness and wild river protection in the northern portion of the Los Padres Forest, it still fails to adequately protect Sespe Creek. The bill would add only four miles Wild and Scenic miles and fails to foreclose the potential to build not just one, but two dams on this incredibly scenic river. It also protects substantially less roadless land than does S. 1625.

Although Senator Wilson has made a commitment to expanding the wilderness and wild river miles protected in his legislation, it is unlikely that he will include more than does the Vento substitute bill in the House.

Although no House version of Cranston's Condor Range and Rivers Act has yet been introduced, it is expected that the bill will be a major bone of contention when the substitute version of H.R. 1473 comes before the

full Interior Committee sometime in the next few weeks. Conservationists are lobbying Committee members to protect all of Sespe Creek from development, convince Representative Leon Panetta to support full protection for all of the Big and Little Sur Rivers (Panetta's district includes most of the northern Los Padres Forest), and add more wilderness acreage to the bill. For more information concerning this legislation, please contact Steve Evans at Friends of the River, (916) 442-3155.

### Inyo grazing

continued from page 1

areas. According to Prather, the recreational use of the Inyo NF exceeds that of Yellowstone and Glacier National Parks combined.

The first grazing allotment up for review in the Inyo NF is the Templeton. A sensitive plant, sand verbane (*Albronia alpina*), is found only along the sandy meadow edges of the Templeton allotment.



The update of the Templeton permit will be an important sign of the Inyo NF's commitment to stronger protection. The owner of the approximately 450,000-acre permit for this precious public wildland is John Lacey, President-Elect of the National Cattlemen's Association.

Also to be reviewed soon is the Cottonwood/Tres Plumas allotment, part of the proposed White Mountains wilderness.

Prather feels the "time has never been better for people to make a real difference in how grazing takes place on the Inyo NF. This is *the* time for effective input."

He urges people to ask that the new forest "Standards and Guidelines on Range, Riparian and Wildlife" be strongly enforced to improve the environment for fish, people, and wildlife, stressing the extreme precedent-setting importance of the Templeton and Cottonwood/Tres Plumas allotments. Comments may be sent to Supervisor Dennis Martin, Inyo National Forest, 872 North Main Street, Bishop, CA 93514. For more information, write to Michael Prather, P.O. Box 406, Lone Pine, CA 93545.

## NEWS

### Yellow Jackets: This Year's Late Summer Hiking Hazard

By Dan Kato

It's a beautiful summer day at Lake Tahoe. The sun is shining and birds are singing as you backpack with a friend through a green, grassy alpine meadow. You have been hiking since 8:00 a.m., and it's just about time for lunch. After lifting the burden from your back you search through your pack for a piece of fruit and a peanut butter and jelly sandwich. Finding it, you lift the sandwich to your mouth. But before you can bite into that luscious little piece of food you notice a yellow jacket circling your hand. Swatting at it only seems to bring you to the attention of four or five of its friends, and you break into the ritual yellow jacket dance—jumping from grass to rock, rock to grass, flailing your arms, murmuring curses, anything to avoid the little devils. Looking over at your companion, you see him doing the same dance. From mutual frustration you both decide to pack up and move to another spot to eat.

If this scene sounds familiar to you, then you have noticed the increase in yellow jackets this year that has

affected the Pacific Northwest from British Columbia to California. Matt Mathes of the Forest Service acknowledged the steep increase in yellow jacket populations, though he added that, "the entomologists around here seem to think it's not a particularly historic event."

Some areas in California that have had the worst problems with yellow jackets are Kings Canyon, the Lake Tahoe Basin, and heavily used places like Angel Island, where large amounts of garbage give yellow jackets virtually unlimited food supplies. But as Mathes states, "this is the time of the year when the yellow jacket population peaks, so no matter where you go there will be problems."

The large increase in yellow jacket numbers has been attributed to the unseasonably warm springs over the last three years. Warm, dry springs have allowed more queens to escape the perils of wetness followed by freezing or bacteria infestation. Frank Ernick of the State Department of Health Services' Vector Control Division lists two more reasons for the infestation: the migration of a new, more domestic yellow jacket species that can maintain its popu-

continued on page 6



### Ancient Forest Show Goes On

The National Audubon Society's television special on ancient forests in the Pacific Northwest received a lot of free publicity, thanks to an unlikely source.

The show made the news when—less than a week before its September 24 airing—Turner Broadcasting Systems, Inc. announced that nine companies pulled their advertising from the prime time program.

Two of the companies admitted that pressure from loggers was their motivation for the pull-out.

The show went on as scheduled, with public service announcements and station promotions as breaks. Although Turner Broadcasting declined to release the names of the companies that cancelled their commercials, the *Sacramento Bee* named Ford Motor Co., Dean Witter Reynolds Inc., and Strohs Brewery Inc. (currently being purchased by Coors Brewing Co.).

Forest Service old-growth expert Jerry Franklin, forester Chris Maser, and logging company representatives had their say in the documentary titled "Ancient Forests: Rage Over Trees."

"Turner Broadcasting is committed to the goals and objectives of the National Audubon Society," the company's statement said. "We will continue to telecast World of Audubon specials despite pressure from special interest groups."



YELLOW JACKET



# California Wilder

## "Celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act"

Thursday, October 19th, 7:30 am - 11 pm  
A TIME TO WORK (Expanding Foundations-Part 1)

### all day

- in-depth workshop sessions

### late afternoon

- agency heads (BLM-Ed Hastey, Forest Service-Paul Barker, Park Service, etc.)
- discussion with agency heads

### evening

- multi-media presentations by various individuals & organizations
  - David Brower
- A JOHN MUIR EVENING
- John Muir State Holiday; presented by State Assemblyman Robert Campbell of Richmond
  - "An Evening with John Muir"—actor Lee Stetson
  - musicians (Bill Oliver & Glen Waldek, The Blusteins, or Darryl Cherney)

Friday, October 20th, 7:30 am - 11 pm  
A TIME TO WORK

### all day

- in-depth workshop sessions

### late afternoon

- Clifford Pinchot performance

### evening

- "Wheeled Locusts" slide show—John Nakata & Howard Wilshire
- Senator Alan Cranston
- wilderness musicians (The Blusteins, Bill Oliver & Glen Waldek, &/or Darryl Cherney)

Saturday, October 21st, 8:00 am - 11 pm

A TIME TO CELEBRATE & INFORM

(The Past & The Present)

### morning

- welcome & announcements
- The Desert—presentation & concurrent workshops on desert issues... workshops include: threats to the desert, desert wilderness management, desert bill primer, old desert tales & war stories, endangered species listing & its effects on public land management, grazing, mining, ORVs, waste & urbanization, wildlife, plant communities
- U.S. Representative Mel Levine
- U.S. Representative Barbara Boxer
- "The 25th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act - Wild Lands & Waters: Past, Present, & Future"—Doug Scott, Sierra Club Conservation Director

### afternoon

- The Waters—presentation by David Bolling, Executive Director, Friends of the River, concurrent workshops on water issues... workshops include: National W&SR campaigns; dam fights; state W&SR system; NPS river & trails program; BLM river management; individual river workshops include the American, Sespe, McCloud, Lower Kern, Yuba, Sacramento, and Clavey Rivers and Mono Lake.
- The Forests—presentation & concurrent workshops on forest issues... workshops include: spotted owls, the appropriations process, forest planning and appeals, forest politics in the state capitol, Bodie ghost town, King Range, and more

### late afternoon

- "Reforming the Forest Service" slide lecture & discussion—Randal O'Toole

### evening

- multi-media presentations by various individuals & organizations
- "Preservation & the Spirit of Adventure"—slide show & book signing by Galen Rowell, photographer & mtn. climber
- wilderness musicians (The Blusteins, Bill Oliver & Glen Waldek)

**Also...prize drawings, wilderness art shows, and book signings by Lynn Foster, Dave Foreman, Tim Palmer, Barrie Rokeach, & Galen Rowell**

## Preregister!

for short lines & fast  
registration...we expect hundreds  
of people!

For more information, call Bob Barnes at (209) 784-4477 or the CWC at (916) 758-0380.

## California Wilderness Conference Registration

name \_\_\_\_\_

address \_\_\_\_\_

city/state/zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Before October 11th**

send your conference registration to:  
California Wilderness Coalition  
2655 Portage Bay East, #5 Davis, CA 95616

\_\_\_\_\_ Here is my \$15 conference registration fee.

\_\_\_\_\_ Here is \$30 for reg. & CWC membership.

\_\_\_\_\_ Here is my \$50 Conf. Mentor contribution.

*Make checks payable to: CWC*

**After October 11th**

send your conference registration to:  
CWC, c/o Tulare County Audubon  
P.O. Box 4402, Visalia, CA 93278



Martin Litton



Dave Foreman



Galen Rowell



Bill Oliver



# Wilderness Conference

**October 19-22, 1989**

**Visalia Convention Center  
Visalia, California**

**Sunday, October 22nd, 8:30 am - 5 pm**  
**A TIME TO ACT (The Present & The Future)**

## morning

• environmental leaders, including David Brower, Dave Foreman, Norman "Ike" Livermore, John Amodio, Mark DuBois

## morning & afternoon

• A Time To Act (Deserts, Forests, Waters)—environmental leaders

Other workshops not listed elsewhere: wilderness songwriting, organizing a campaign, public relations & the media, horse & foot use of the wilderness, slideshow by Barrie Rokeach (author of *Timescapes: California from the Air*), adopt-a-wilderness, working on your campground—planning and effects on the desert environment, and more!

## accommodations

### Camping

**KOA campground**—(209) 651-0544. In Visalia, one mile from U.S. Highway 99 & approximately 7 miles from the convention center. (Mention Mary Moy's name and you get a 10% discount.)

**Lemon Grove/Sequoia Campground**—(209) 597-2346. 18 miles east of Visalia, on the road to Sequoia National Park.

**Kaweah Park Resort**—(209) 561-4424. On the Kaweah River, 30 miles east of Visalia & 7 miles from Sequoia National Park.

**The Spalding House Bed and Breakfast Inn**—(209) 739-7877. In Visalia.

**RVs** The Visalia Convention Center allows free self-contained RV parking in their parking lot. Restrooms will not be open overnight.

**Other** If you cannot afford to stay at a hotel, we may be able to arrange for you to stay at the home of a local wilderness supporter. Call or write to Mary Moy, (209) 625-0287, 646 N. Vista Street, Visalia, CA 93291. If you can't reach Mary, call Brian Newton at (209) 627-3571 and leave a message.

## Conference Co-sponsors:

Back Country Horsemen of California, Friends of the River, Genny Smith Books of Mammoth Lakes, Patagonia, Inc., Sierra Club Angeles, San Francisco Bay, Kern-Kaweah, and Loma Prieta chapters, Sierra Club Northern California/Nevada Field Office, The Wilderness Society, Tulare County Audubon, Yosemite Association.

## Conference Mentors:

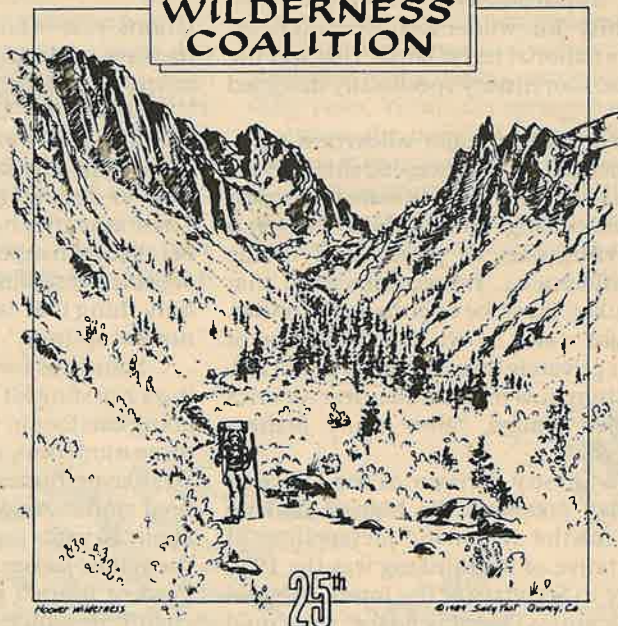
Harriet Allen, Bob Barnes, Arthur & Sidney Barnes, Liz Caldwell, Alan Carlton, Patrick A. Carr, Joanne Carter, Jim Clark, Steve Dalton, Bill Duddleson, Fred Eisler, Joe & Leah Fontaine, Cal French, Anna Garlund, Sara Lee Gershon, Elizabeth Scott-Graham, William Hauser, Ron & Mary Ann Henry, Andy & Sasha Honig, Vicky Hoover, Sally Kabisch, Kern Audubon Society, Sarah & John Konior, Richard E. Kust, Bob Lindsay, Norman B. Livermore, Jr., Julie McDonald, Mendocino Lake Group, Richard Neilson, Brian Newton, Trent Orr, Mark Palmer, Michael Prather, Bob Rajewski, Sally & Michael Reid, Douglas Balfour Rogers, Save the Redwoods League, Nancy Schaefer, Bob & Anne Schneider, Mary Scoonover, Marjorie Sill, Barbara G. Sparks, Robert L. Starkweather, Steve Stocking, Ron Stork, Paul & Barbara Tebbel, Beth Teviotdale, Shirley & Harry Tow, Lorraine & Arthur Unger, Jay Watson, Stan Weidert III, Carl Weidert, Brad Welton, Mendocino-Lake Group, Sierra Club, Save-the-Redwoods League.

## meals

A caterer will be on the premises selling a variety of quick breakfast, lunch, and snack foods. A list of nearby restaurants will also be provided.

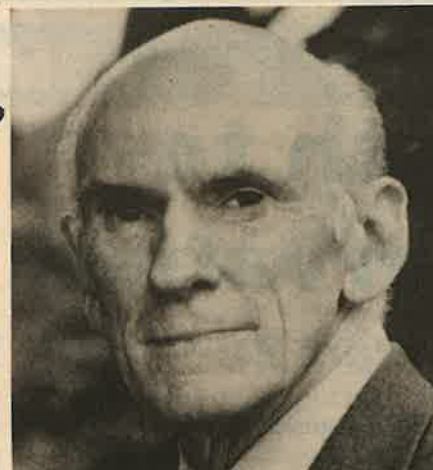
**PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN COFFEE MUG!** Styrofoam cups will not be available, and throw-away cups will be limited.

**CALIFORNIA  
WILDERNESS  
COALITION**



ANNIVERSARY OF THE WILDERNESS ACT 1964-1989

The CWC's conference t-shirts will bear this design, by Sally Yost of Quincy.



U.S. Senator Alan Cranston



U.S. Rep. Barbara Boxer



David Brower



Lee Stetson



## Wilderness Act History Series

# Path to Preservation

## (Part 2)

By Roderick Nash

Reprinted from *Wilderness magazine*, Summer 1984, © 1984, The Wilderness Society

In part 1, Professor Nash talked about how the American perception of wilderness developed from one of conquering to the "scenic playground" and "museum" visions that gave birth to the first national parks, to signs of a recognition, in the early 20th century, that wilderness deserved preservation for science and its intrinsic values.

Part 2 begins an exploration of how the growth of wilderness appreciation became a campaign for legislation that would permanently protect wilderness...

The first deliberate commitment of national forest land to wilderness values occurred in 1919 when forest planner Arthur Carhart accepted an assignment on the White River National Forest in Colorado. Carhart's orders were to plan for the development of roads and summer homes at Trappers Lake. But the more he worked on his survey, the more uneasy he felt. Finally he mustered the courage to inform his supervisors that the best plan for Trappers Lake was to have no plan at all. Do nothing. Let it alone. Undeveloped lakes, he argued, were becoming rare in the West. Their wildness constituted their greatest value. Rather surprisingly, considering the date and Forest Service tradition, the regional bureaucracy approved Carhart's concept. Trappers Lake remained undeveloped.

Meanwhile, in New Mexico another young Forest Service employee named Aldo Leopold was reaching conclusions similar to Carhart's. But Leopold thought in much larger terms than a 300-acre lake. He wanted to protect the wilderness qualities, and particularly wildlife habitat, on half-million-acre tracts. Leopold's seminal essay, "The Wilderness and Its Place in Forest Recreation Policy," appeared in the *Journal of Forestry* in 1921, and his enthusiasm stimulated District Forester Frank C. W. Pooler to designate 574,000 acres of the Gila National Forest as a roadless area devoted to wilderness recreation. It should be clear that this June 3, 1924 action was purely bureaucratic. No law was involved. The next person in charge of the Gila could, with a pen stroke, remove its protection. But, tentative as it was, the 1924 policy did mark the start of a process that led, forty years later, to the Wilderness Act.

The interest of the Forest Service in systematic preservation grew through the 1920s. The chief forester at that time, William B. Greeley, could even write in 1927: "The frontier has long ceased to be a barrier to civilization. The question is rather how much of it should be kept to preserve our civilization." At the same time Greeley instructed his assistant, L. F. Kneipp, to prepare an inventory of all *de facto* wilderness in the national forests. Kneipp's list of seventy-four roadless areas larger than 360 square miles (the agreed upon minimum) was the first of its kind in American history.

The Kneipp inventory became the basis, in 1929, of the L-20 Regulation. This regulation standardized the name "primitive area" and declared it the policy of the Forest Service to maintain primitive conditions within them. In the next eight years seventy-two primitive areas, or almost all of Kneipp's inventory, were established in ten western states. Regulation L-20 also established a series of smaller "research reserves" intended to please American scientists. Although this was a major milestone in the systematic identification and preservation of wilderness, L-20 had two major defects. In the first place, few commer-

Rockbound Lake in Desolation Wilderness.

Photo by U.S. Air Force

cial activities were actually prohibited. Purposeless road building was the only forbidden activity. The door was still wide open, however, for a lumber company seeking access to a marketable stand of timber. Secondly, L-20 had no teeth. It was not law, just policy, and as such was subject to change by the chief forester. Indeed, the main motive for the Forest Service's 1929 action seems to have been the aggressive leadership Stephen Mather and Horace Albright were giving the National Park Service. The foresters feared losing prime scenic wildland to parks and preferred to put it in temporary and deliberately ambiguous "reserves."

Just as with Everglades and Kings Canyon national parks, one exception in the early Forest Service relationship to wilderness pointed directly to 1964. At stake was the Superior National Forest in northern Minnesota. Arthur Carhart visited the area in 1919, after his Trappers Lake assignment, and again in 1921. After his second reconnaissance he recommended that "the whole place should be kept as near wilderness as possible, the wilderness feature being developed rather than any urban conditions." Apparently a meeting with Aldo Leopold late in 1919 had lifted Carhart's sights from single lakes to over one million acres of interconnected waterways. But other interests had their eyes on Superior, especially hydropower developers, and Carhart feared its imminent transformation. So he worked with Sigurd Olson, a young biologist and canoe guide, and others to press for what became, in 1929, the Superior Primitive Area. Everyone knew, however, that this bureaucratic protection was paper-thin given the energy and resource potential of the canoe country. The only real assurance of continuing wilderness was law. In 1930, preservationists persuaded Congress to pass the Shipstead-Newton-Nolan Act protecting the opportunity for wilderness recreation on 1,269,000 acres of this national forest land. This was the first federal law in American history specifically designed to protect wilderness.

In the 1930s, the mantle of major wilderness advocacy in the Forest Service fell on the energetic shoulders of Robert Marshall. He had experienced ultimate wilderness in Alaska's remote Brooks Range from 1929 to 1931 and returned fired with enthusiasm to preserve all of the nation's remaining wilderness. He recommended that Alaska, north of the Yukon River, be a permanent frontier. In the other forty-eight states he wanted every acre of wilderness, publicly or privately owned, legally protected. When a skeptic asked him how much wilderness America really needed, Marshall replied, "How many Brahms symphonies do we need?"

As director of the forestry division of the Office of Indian Affairs, Marshall pressured the highest ranking government officials for the systematic preservation of wilderness. Representative of his thinking was the 1934 memorandum he gave to Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes calling for a "Wilderness Planning Board" that could present areas to Congress for permanent, legal preservation. Marshall also prepared his own inventory of roadless land and urged the Forest Service to increase the number

and extent of its "primitive areas." Understanding the leverage private interest groups could exert on government policy, Marshall spearheaded and financially underwrote the formation of The Wilderness Society in 1935. Aldo Leopold helped him in this task as did Benton MacKaye of the Tennessee Valley Authority. MacKaye's involvement is significant because, as one of the nation's first regional planners, he understood the need to take a broad view of land allocation. This perspective on preservation appealed to Marshall and Leopold and suggests that from its very beginnings The Wilderness Society had in mind a nationwide system of preserved wilderness rather than a series of piecemeal defenses. Indeed, the initial issue of *The Living Wilderness* in 1935 declared that "our objectives should be positive...as well as merely defensive."

Back in the employ of the Forest Service after 1937, Marshall urged an extension of wilderness policy. The result, on September 19, 1939, was the U Regulations which superseded the L rules of 1929 and tightened protection on more than 14,000,000 acres of national forest land. Although this was still administrative policy, not law, the U Regulations came from the Secretary of Agriculture, and most of the persons involved assumed they were permanent land-use directives. Regrettably, Bob Marshall had only two months to celebrate the policy for which he was largely responsible. He died at the age of thirty-eight in November 1939.

...to be continued.

## Yellow Jackets

continued from page 3

lations year-round in attics and hollow walls, and the increase in developed park areas, which supply an ideal environment for yellow jackets to live.

To control the insect's numbers, many state and national parks are now employing such techniques as swing-type lids for garbage cans, public education about how to discourage the insects, nest removal, and traps. These attempts, however, meet with only marginal success because each nest can produce five to seven queens, which are able to establish their own nests. As Ernick states, "the only thing that can calm the problem is the return of our normal springs."

Some tips for the wary outdoorsperson include making a bee sting kit an essential part of your first aid kit, not going barefoot in the late summer when yellow jackets are more numerous, avoiding things that attract yellow jackets, like perfumes, hairspray, suntan lotion, brightly colored clothes, and sweets, and setting out a piece of food about 30 yards from picnic spots well in advance to divert the yellow jackets. Finally, do not swat at yellow jackets—dead or injured yellow jackets release a pheromone, or chemical, which attracts others and prompts them to attack.

Dan Kato is an intern with the CWC and a student at the University of California at Davis.



## Book Review

# A Radical Retrospective

### Conscience of a Conservationist

by Michael Frome

The University of Tennessee Press, 1989

In addition to fighting the environmental brush fires of today and planning for the future, it is important to look back at our conservation roots. *Conscience of a Conservationist*, a collection of Michael Frome's writings from the 1960s and 1970s, gives us a good historical perspective of past victories and losses.

Frome is known to many as the environmental writer who was fired from both *Field and Stream* and *American Forests* magazines because of his refusal to allow his conservation views to be censored. But in addition to working for those publications, Frome's outspoken writings have appeared in dozens of magazines, from *Parade* and *Changing Times* to *Smithsonian* and *National Parks*.

Half of the book consists of essays about portions of the Southern highlands, the mountainous region stretching from Alabama to Virginia. Frome writes about the issues and the people that led to the establishment of the Great Smoky National Park, the Blue Ridge Parkway, and the Pisgah National Forest. He tells us why we need to save wilderness in the East, about protection of the Eastern panther, and why there should be no Tellico Dam.

The rest of the book deals with larger issues. In a 1967 essay Frome warned us about the buildup of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. In 1970 he called for a halt to all timber cutting in both Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management roadless areas. In 1973 he called for an end to clearcutting. In 1974 he warned us of increasing water pollution from toxic wastes.

His articles bring alive the conservation battles of the time: the Wilderness Act, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, forest management, and the beautification of America.

Frome frequently warned against compromising away lands we value. In a 1967 article, "The Politics of Conservation," Frome said, "the timid, the hesitant, the compromisers often have failed. The bigger and bolder the program, the greater the chance of success."

This is good advice to ponder as the Wilderness Act now is 25 years old. But even as the Act approached its tenth anniversary, Frome reflected:

"The Wilderness Act has always impressed me as one of those epochal instruments of law and social policy, but more so now than ever. At a time when so many people have thrown up their hands in despair over the failures of government, and perhaps our own inadequacies in self-government, this Act reinforces what is right and hopeful about America and the American system."

These words still ring true.

—Jim Eaton

## Lorax Accused of Subverting Young Loggers-to-Be

We really had not meant to be radical—honestly—when we carried a book review of Dr. Seuss' *The Lorax* in the November/December 1987 *Wilderness Record*.

There is controversy over the favorite children's book in schools in Mendocino County's Laytonville, where some parents have protested the book's supposedly subversive effect on their children.

The *Sacramento Bee* quoted eight-year-old Sammy Bailey, who told his father after school one day: "Poppa, we can't cut trees down. It's not good. You take houses away from the little animals."

"Poppa" is a nationwide logging equipment wholesaler.

Seuss' Lorax is a creature who watches his world logged down to the last tree for the profit of the "Onceler."

Parents who like the book in the schools' curriculum have circulated petitions demanding academic freedom.

In early October the local school board may take a vote on whether to demote the book from required to optional reading status for second graders.

## Wilderness Trivia Quiz Answer

(from page 2)

Cucamonga Wilderness in the San Bernardino National Forest



**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.

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# CALENDAR

**October 14 ENVIRONMENTAL SYMPOSIUM:** "Protecting Southern California's Environment: Living Here in the 1990's"; California State University, Los Angeles. Sponsored by the Planning & Conservation League. For more information, contact John McCaull at PCL, 909 12th St., Suite 203, Sacramento, CA 95814, (916) 444-8726.

**October 17 & 24, Nov. 16, Dec. 5 PUBLIC LAND ROUND TABLE DISCUSSIONS** with Bureau of Land Management officials; in Bakersfield, Cedarville, Eureka, & Ridgecrest, respectively, at 7 pm. All topics open for consideration. For locations and other information, contact the BLM's State Office of Public Affairs in Sacramento at 2800 Cottage Way, (916) 978-4746.

**October 19-22 CALIFORNIA WILDERNESS CONFERENCE** sponsored by the CWC; Visalia, CA. (See pages 4 & 5 for more information.)

**October 28 DESERT BILL FIELD HEARING;** Bishop. Hearing of the House Interior Committee's Public Lands Subcommittee. Free camping and bus transportation from various California locations will be available. For time and place or other information, contact Vicky Hoover, (415) 776-2211, Jeff Widen, (213) 387-6528, or Nobby Reidy, (415) 541-9144.

**October 31 DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS** on the Mendocino National Forest's plans to log portions of the Thatcher and Wilderness Contiguous roadless areas in the Covelo Ranger District. Send comments and suggestions to Charles L. Fadin, District Ranger, Covelo Ranger District, Mendocino National Forest, 78150 Covelo Road, Covelo, CA 95428.

**October 31 DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS** on the Merced and South Fork Merced Wild and Scenic Rivers management plan. "Comments are welcomed on any and all aspects of the management of the wild and scenic rivers," says the Forest Service. Send to Sierra National Forest, Attn.: Merced WSR/Plan, Federal Building, 1130 "O" Street, Fresno, CA 93721.

**November 11 DESERT BILL FIELD HEARING ;** Barstow. Hearing of the House Interior Committee's Public Lands Subcommittee. Free camping and bus transportation from various California locations will be available. For time and place or other information, contact Vicky Hoover, (415) 776-2211, Jeff Widen, (213) 387-6528, or Nobby Reidy, (415) 541-9144.

### The Wilderness Record

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  
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Printed by the Davis Enterprise.



## Coalition Member Groups

### Focus: Friends of the Inyo

Committed to eastern Sierra environmental issues, Friends of the Inyo was not formed to honor Jim Eaton's dog.

The group jelled in October of 1986, when the release of the Inyo National Forest's draft forest plan brought together a core of about 25 wilderness lovers.

Besides commenting on the draft and appealing the final Inyo National Forest plan, Friends has worked on issues including the June Mountain and Sherwin Bowl ski plans and development schemes in the Mono Basin. One of their future priorities is the establishment of a White Mountains wilderness area.

With members living from Bridgeport to Lone Pine and south, the group covers many miles to work together. Member Sally Miller does not seem to mind, however, saying "we have the prettiest meeting places of any group!"

The Friends of the Inyo are happy to give tours of their favorite places.

To find out more or to join, write to: Mike Prather, P.O. Box 406, Lone Pine, CA 93545.

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