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PROCEEDINGS OF THE CALIFORNIA WILDERNESS COALITION

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July/August, 1989

## History of the Wilderness Act

In honor of the 25th anniversary of the Wilderness Act, the remaining five 1989 issues of the Record will feature articles on aspects of the history of that legislative effort.

Message from The President of the United States transmitting
National Wilderness
Preservation System
To the United States Congress:

The Wonder of Nature is the treasure of America. What we have in woods and forest, valley and stream, in the gorges and the mountains and the hills, we must not destroy. The precious legacy of preservation of beauty will be our gift to posterity.

Ralph Waldo Emerson said a long time ago that—

"In the woods is perpetual youth. Within these plantations of God a decorum and sanctity reign, a perennial festival is dressed, and the guest sees not how he should tire of them in a thousand years. In the woods we return to reason and faith."

Emerson would have been cheered and comforted by the establishment of a National Wilderness Preservation System. On September 3, 1964, when I signed that law it brought into being the preservation for our time and for all time to come 9 million acres of this vast continent in their original and unchanging beauty and wonder.

The new law designated 54 national forest areas—9.1 million acres—as units of the National Wilderness Preservation System, with special provisions for certain restricted commercial uses for a limited period. Included were all the wilderness, wild, and canoe areas previously established by the Department of Agriculture.

continued on page 7



Summit Lake & Gibson Peak in the Trinity Alps Wilderness, part of the Klamath Province.

Photo by Jim Eaton

## Wilderness Wildlife Corridors Proposed

By Stephanie Mandel

"...the Rogue River gorge and the jumbled red humps of the Kalmiopsis to the north, the jagged peaks of the high Siskiyous and Red Buttes, the huge massiffs of the Marble Mountains and Salmon-Trinity Alps, the gentle but hulking summits of the Yolla Bollys to the south." —David Rains Wallace

Coming from all over Northern California, 50 people gathered in Yreka on May 24th to set in motion the making of history.

Inspired by an idea not widely acknowledged or thoroughly understood by science, the group of bureaucrats and citizens, mostly wildlife biologists, came to discuss a grand scheme. They would create an interconnected wilderness mosaic, or biodiversity conservation landscape—a showpiece, the first of its kind in the country.

The major pieces are already in place—

the Siskiyou, Marble Mountain, Red Buttes, Trinity Alps, and possibly Yolla Bolly, wilderness areas. Missing are corridors, or landscape linkages, to connect the larger preserves.

Connecting large wilderness preserves with corridors for wildlife is not a new idea, but has yet to be applied on a full scale by land management agencies. In a book called *The Fragmented Forest*, author continued on page 12

double-sized issue...more wilderness, wild rivers, good news, & bad news

### **COALITION PAGE**

### Monthly Report

I would like to thank our members who have responded to our annual fund appeal. The summer months are the financial doldrums for us, and your donations are crucial to getting us through this part of the year.

Thanks also to our new members who sent in donations. We hesitated to send the appeal to those who had just joined the Coalition, fearing that they would think we do little other than ask for money (and one new member did send us such a blistering note).

Our older members know that is not the way we operate. In addition to your annual renewal notice, you usually get one fund appeal a year. Fund raising experts think this is crazy, and many organizations hit up their members as often as six times a year.

We have a different philosophy here. You will not be inundated with fund appeals. You will not get return envelopes with 25¢ stamps attached. And as a result of a suggestion by a Chico member, your fund appeal was mailed at the 8.4¢ rate, not first class. We stretch your dollars as much as we can, with the vast majority of your donations spent directly on issues and the Wilderness Record.

It also has been gratifying to receive so many reservations to the October wilderness conference. We really need advance cash to put on this event. Where else can you attend a four-day conference for \$15.00? And we won't even charge you more if you wait and pay at the door. But we greatly appreciate the early sign ups, especially the Conference Mentors. See page 14

### By Jim Eaton

for more information on the conference and a list of our sponsors and mentors.

Shortly after receiving this issue of the Record those of you who have sent donations or asked for information should start to get thank you notes and replies. I took an earlier vacation this year, so things piled up on my desk in July rather than September.

Wendy and I joined CWC President Steve Evans and Jeanette Colbert for eight days in the Trinity Alps Wilderness. The beginning of the trip was a tad challenging as we ascended the snowy cirque above Caribou Lake into a two-day storm. But the rest of the trip was filled with sunny days, starry nights, unbelievable floral displays, hungry deer, and great views.

I also sneaked away with four of my neighbors for a three-day visit to the Hoover Wilderness. This second annual "all men's" trip is known for its gourmet meals. Even Inyo participated by hauling up a six-pack of beer in his canine pack. Last year's trip was wracked by a 24-hour flu bug; this year I was hit with huge, mysterious blisters on my back and chest. Our best guess is that the skin lesions were a retaliation from my fig tree for some summer pruning. But aside from that inauspicious start, the trip was wonderful.

We are delighted to welcome three new business sponsors to the Coalition: Robert J. Rajewski; Fred A. Ennerson, Consulting; and Paul F. Nielson, M.D., Inc. Also, People for Nipomo Dunes National Seashore is our newest member group.

### **LETTERS**

### Mining's the Pits

Dear Sir [sic]:

My major concern with preserving our wilderness is control or elimination of metal mining by open pit methods in California.

In the 1800's hydraulic mining was forbidden because it destroyed the land. Now we have something even more destructive, the open pit mine related to mining of precious metals and their extraction by cyanide leaching.

I believe the California Wilderness Coalition should work towards a referendum by the people that would prohibit open pit mining of gold and silver. Open pit mining of other materials would be permitted only after a very stringent review.

Yours truly, William W. Savage

(The next Record will include an article on U.S. mining law and its effects.—Ed.)

### Uncle Jim's

## Wilderness Trivia Oniz

How many of California's designated wilderness areas and unprotected roadless areas are larger than 100,000 acres? [more than any other state except Alaska]

[Source: The Big Outside, by Dave Foreman & Howie Wolke, Ned Lud Books, 1989]

(See page 14 for answer.)

## Inside this Issue

| Wilderness Legislation                  |            |
|---|------------|
| Carson-Iceberg Wilderness               |            |
| inholding appropriation (2)             | 3          |
| At last—desert bill hearings (3)        | 3          |
|   | W          |
| Roadless Area Watch                     |            |
| Pattison R.A. faces logging plans (4)   | 4          |
| Management of the Modoc                 |            |
| National Forest's Mt. Vida area (5)     | 4          |
| Mendocino NF timber sale                |            |
| exempted from appeals (6)               | 4          |
| West Girard R.A. eyed for timber (7)    | 5, 14      |
| North Mtn. R.A. faces logging plans (8) | 5          |
| Ant Sale cancelled (9)                  | 5          |
| Part I:                                 |            |
| History of the Wilderness Act           |            |
| Speech by Lyndon Baines Johnson         |            |
| as he signed the Act                    | 1.6        |
| People and Wilderness                   | 1, 6       |
| by Howard Zahniser, author of the Act   | 6.7        |
| by Howard Zaniniser, author of the Act  | 6, 7       |
| Features                                |            |
| Ahjumawi Lava Springs State Park        | Tarretti 8 |
| by Patrick Carr (10)                    | 8, 9       |
| Landscape linkage idea for              | 0, 5       |
| Klamath Mountains (11)                  | 1, 12      |
| The mysterious appropriations process   | 13, 14     |
|   |            |
| Wilderness Management                   |            |
| BLM changes interim WSA                 |            |
| management policy                       | 10         |
| Yosemite Wilderness parking lot         | 10         |
| New organization to keep                |            |
| "wilderness watch"                      | 10         |
| Let-burn policy suspended               | 11         |
| 500-foot TV tower blocks wilderness     |            |
| view at Big Baldy (12)                  | 11         |
| Pinnacles National Monument             |            |
| additions proposed (13)                 | 13         |
|   |            |
| Colifornio Mildornoso Conferen          | S EN LINE  |
| California Wilderness Conference        | 14         |
| Calendar                                | 1          |
| Calcilual                               | 15         |
| Member Group Focus:                     |            |
| People for Nipomo Dunes National        |            |
| Seashore (14)                           | 16         |



- 2 Carson-Iceberg Wilderness
- 3 California Desert
- 4 Pattison Roadless Area
- 5 Mt. Vida area
- 6 Ant Ridge Timber Sale
- 7 Girard Roadless Area
- 8 North Mountain Roadless Area
- 9 Yolla Bolly Contiguous R.A.
- 10 Ahjumawi-Lava Springs State Park
- 11 Klamath Province
- 12 Big Baldy
- 13 Pinnacles National Monument
- 14 Nipomo Dunes Nat. Seashore (proposed)

## LEGISLATION

### Activists gear up for July 27

## Desert Hearings At Last!

By Vicky Hoover

In the past month vigorous action for the California desert has been taking place on the east coast of our country: in Washington DC. July 27 was the date set for a hearing on the Cranston-Levine desert protection bill in the House of Representatives' National Parks and Public Lands Subcommittee.

The July 27 hearing before Chairman Bruce Vento's subcommittee of the House Interior Committee was a major step forward in the advancement of the desert bill through the House of Representatives. Interior Committee Chair Morris Udall (D-AZ) is already a cosponsor of the bill, as are 74 other members of the House of Representatives.

As of press time, July 13, the hearing schedule called for approximately twenty public witnesses, in addition to various Congressional and administration witnesses, both for and against the bill. Preparing to testify for desert protection were representatives of major environmental groups as well as experts on desert wildlife, minerals, grazing, and national park management.

To promote the visionary land protection measure first introduced by Senator Alan Cranston in 1986, the Sierra Club's Washington office was gearing up to hold a lobby week, with at least twenty activists brought to Washington for the week of July 24 to 28. While several activists were to testify at the hearing, most would devote their time to visiting as many Congressional offices as possible, explaining the need to

protect fragile, threatened desert wildlands in California. Such visits are part of the continuing drive to obtain additional Congressional cosponsors of HR 780 and S 11.

On the eve of the Washington hearing, the Levine bill gathered new allies as six new cosponsors officially joined the campaign for desert protection. The list of 75 cosponsors includes 23 members (just over half) of the California delegation, and 15 members of the Interior Committee.

#### **City Council Endorsements**

In addition to Congressional support in Washington, the desert bill is gaining significant endorsements among California counties and cities. Seven counties have formally endorsed the bill-of which the most recent was Contra Costa, in June. City endorsements are pouring in: Los Angeles and San Francisco were early supporters; in spring of this year these major urban centers were joined by the southern California cities of Riverside and Palm Desert. Twenty-Nine Palms voted a partial endorsement, and Barstow rescinded its previous opposition to the bill and took a neutral position. In the past month, the cities of Rancho Mirage, Santa Monica, Escondido, West Hollywood, and Del Mar have also passed formal resolutions in favor of the landmark legislation.

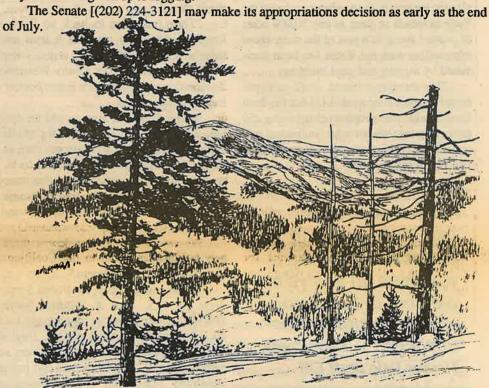
Vicky Hoover is a member of the Bay Chapter of the Sierra Club and an activist for the California Desert Protection Act.

# **House OKs Funds for Wilderness Purchases**

An ugly white scar has blemished the placid green on Forest Service maps of the Carson-Iceberg Wilderness. Encroaching along the East Carson River, a private land inholding of 3,000 acres threatens the river valley with development.

But perhaps no more. In late June the House of Representatives approved \$2 million to purchase the land for Forest Service management.

Potential wilderness lands along the Pacific Crest Trail at Castle Peak in the Tahoe National Forest and Carson Pass weren't quite as lucky, receiving only \$1 million of \$6 million requested. Unless this appropriation is increased by the Senate, conservationists say, some of the lands (except, of course, for the private land within Mokelumne Wilderness itself) may have to be given up to logging.



### ANCIENT FORESTS/SPOTTEDOWL

### **Listing Proposed**

Two months after announcing the northern spotted owl (Strix occidentalis caurina) was "warranted for listing" under the Endangered Species Act, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service formally proposed listing the bird as a threatened species throughout its range. The proposed rule can be found in the June 23 Federal Register.

A 90-day public comment period on the proposed listing ends September 21, 1989. In addition, the agency will hold four public hearings. (See Calendar on page 15 for dates and locations.) —Monthly Update, 7/7/89, The Wilderness Society's National Forest Action Center

### Sales Get Reviewed

Under a new policy, all Forest Service timber sales in suitable northern spotted owl habitat must be approved by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. In a process called conferencing, the Forest Service (F&WS) must present biological evaluations of each sale to the F&WS, which must then determine whether or not the sale puts the owl in jeopardy. F&WS biologists may make recommendations that could include changing sale boundaries or dropping portions of planned sales that would adversely impact the owls.

Forest Service officials estimate that most of the planned timber sales on four Northern California national forests will be affected—the Mendocino, Six Rivers, Shasta-Trinity, and Klamath.

Regional Forester Paul Barker, as quoted in the *Trinity Journal*, said that "due to the proposed listing, we have started looking for the owls outside the existing Spotted Owl Habitat Area network... But even if we don't find the birds in planned sale areas, we will still put sales there on hold if they contain 40 acres or more of spotted owl habitat that has been planned for harvest."

The process for the conferencing is still being worked out by the two agencies.



## ROADLESS AREA WATCH

The Recordincludes brief articles on roadless area timber sales and other management issues to alert people interested in. those areas. We are not actively involved in all the issues covered, but are willing to work with and advise people interested in maintaining the character of roadless areas.

## **Pattison Roadless Area**

Timber sales planned for this "relic" pristine forest in the Shasta-Trinity

The Shasta-Trinity National Forest has - criminal to be further degrading the waterplans to log part of the northeast potion of the Pattison Roadless Area, nearly 30,000 acres of pristine forest in a part of the state where surrounding national forest has been decimated by logging and road-building.

The recently-released draft environmental impact statement (EIS) for the Bear Creek timber sale proposes clearcutting 252 acres, logging 268 acres by "individual tree mark," and building six miles of roads in the Pattison Roadless Area.

"Economics were used in developing project alternatives and were an analysis element in assessing environmental consequences." - Bear Creek Timber Sale draft EIS

Patricia Schifferle of The Wilderness Society said that in the draft EIS the Forest Service has "chosen the alternative that causes the most watershed damage." Trees slated for cutting are in the watershed of Hayfork Creek, a productive and healthy

sheds there."

"They just want to hack up Pattison Roadless Area one piece at a time until there's nothing left of it," stated Joseph Bower of the South Fork Trinity Watershed Association and Citizens for Better Forestry, local citizens groups.

Bower feels the area would be more valuable as old-growth habitat for wildlife and a recreation haven for people than as a timber resource. Northern spotted owls, a species slated to be designated as threatened, live there now. Schifferle said that "logging any ancient, unfragmented forest would place the owl in jeopardy," as it would preclude that area from consideration as suitable habitat once the agencies get more organized on spotted owl management.

Under a new policy, the Forest Service must get U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (F&WS) approval before logging owl habitat. According to Anna Arnold, Hayfork District Planning Officer, they are now assessing the sale "from a spotted owl habitat suitability standpoint." This biological evaluation may be presented to the F&WS by late September, Arnold estimated. (See related article on page 3.)

Alternative 1 in the draft EIS would leave the Pattison Roadless Area intact. The deadline for written comments is August 17,



creek that runs through a dramatic gorge and sports spring-run (summer) steelhead, winter-run steelhead, and coho salmon. In other stretches of Hayfork Creek and the South Fork of the Trinity River, anadramous fish habitat has been damaged by soil erosion from past logging, and Schifferle says "it's

To support Alt. 1 or get a copy of the draft EIS, write to:

Forest Supervisor, Shasta-Trinity National Forests, 2400 Washington Ave., Redding, CA 96001, ATTN: Bear Creek

## Mt. Vida, Crane Mtn. RAs

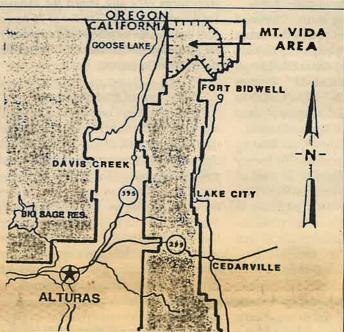
Comments on future management sought

Comments are being solicited regarding management of the Modoc National Forest's Mt. Vida area, which includes portions of the Mt. Vida and Crane Mountain roadless areas and is adjacent to the Mt. Bidwell Roadless

The Forest Service chose not to nominate these areas for the wilderness system during the second roadless area review and evaluation-RARE II-in 1976. Public comments will be considered as part of a draft environmental impact statement that will consider actions such as clearcutting timber, constructing and closing roads, reforesting using methods including herbicides and pesticides, improving riparian habitat,

and developing recreation and interpretive facilities.

The deadline for comments is September 30, and they may be sent to: Karen Shimamoto, District Ranger, Warner Mtn. Ranger District, Modoc National Forest, P.O. Box 220, Cedarville, CA 96104. For more information contact Karen Shimamoto, James Walker, or Doug Schultz at the above address or phone (916) 279-6116.



## Yolla Bolly Contiguous, **Thatcher Roadless Areas**

Forest Service invokes new clause for "catastrophic" exemptions from appeals

A large salvage sale of blown-down timber that includes some helicopter logging in roadless areas has been exempted from the Forest Service appeals process by Regional Forester Paul Barker.

The sale, mostly in the Mendocino National Forest's Covelo Ranger District, would be the third in California to gain a "catastrophic exemption" since the loophole was instituted as part of the new appeal regulations adopted on February 22. (The others were the Grider Creek salvage timber sale in the Klamath National Forest and a salvage timber sale in the Stanislaus National Forest.)

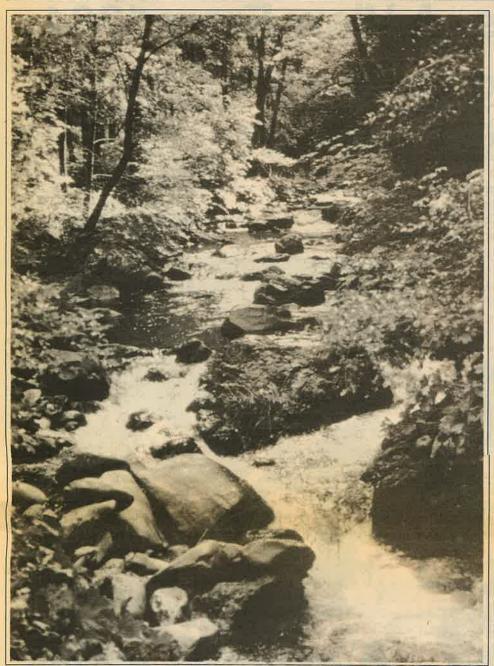
The "intent" and "current thinking" of the agency, according to spokesperson Paul Schuller, is to leave trees that "show good prospects for survival." Schuller said his agency also intends to avoid building roads in the Yolla Bolly Contiguous and Thatcher roadless areas.

According to Schuller, the unusually

strong north wind that hit on December 15 was clocked at 147 [no typo] miles per hour when it went through the Bay Area. "It left a real mess," he added.



## ROADLESS AREA WATCH



A massive logging plan threatens Squaw Valley Creek within the West Girard Roadless Area, near the Nature Conservancy's McCLoud River Preserve.

Photo by Eric Gerstung

## **North Mountain RA**

### Salvage logging in Stanislaus old-growth

The wilderness qualities of a roadless area and two potential Wild and Scenic rivers may be damaged by salvage logging in the Stanislaus National Forest's Groveland Ranger District.

The proposed North Mountain and Sawmill timber sales would infiltrate the North Mountain Roadless Area, taking dead old-growh ponderosa and sugar pine trees. Steve Evans of Friends of the River describes North Mountain as "one of the most spectacular stands of old-growth, mixed conifer virgin forest stands remaining in the Sierra Nevada."

In the Conservation Alternative to the Stanislaus National Forest's land management plan, six conservation groups recom-

mended that much of this area remain roadless and "semi-primitive." Although California Forest Service policy has been to write environmental impact statements for logging in roadless areas, no such intent has been announced for North Mountain.

Ranger Dave Hansen said "this is an emergency package," and estimated that 60 percent of larger trees are dying or dead due to insects and drought. Hansen said that "hopefully" the logging would be conducted by helicopter.

Another concern of conservationists is that the sales would take place in the watersheds of Cherry Creek and the Middle Fork Tuolumne River. In its forest plan, the Forest Service determined Cherry Creek is eligible

## **West Girard RA**

Logging & roads considered for old-growth along world-famous McCloud trout river

By Tim McKay

At the far eastern edge of the Shasta-Trinity National Forest, the Forest Service would like to put one of the last large, unroaded stands of old-growth timber on the chopping block.

The agency has begun to develop a draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) for the proposed management of the 40,000-acre area and is accepting public comments until August 1.

The Forest Service calls the area the "West Girard released roadless area." From its ridgetops are striking views of Mt. Shasta to the north, Castle Crags to the northwest, and Mt. Lassen to the southeast.

Tom Hesseldenz, who works near the area for California Trout, a sportsfishing organization, says that the unroaded forest parallels about 20 miles of the lower McCloud River, which is world-famous for its populations of rainbow trout. The McCloud and its largest tributary, Squaw Valley Creek, are being considered for national Wild & Scenic River status.

Below the old-growth Douglas fir forests, oak woodlands and chaparral dominate the low-elevation canyon country of the McCloud's tributaries, which also exhibit extensive limestone outcrops. The limestone areas support populations of rare species found nowhere else, such as the Shasta salamander and a plant called the Shasta eupatory.

Significant archaeological sites of the Wintu Indians are also located in this de facto continued on page 14

## Ant Sale Withdrawn, For Now

The Forest Service has withdrawn plans to log acres of green trees, including a bit of the roadless area next to the Yolla Bolly Wilderness. The Ant Ridge timber sale had been appealed based on concerns about spotted owls, Wild & Scenic rivers, and federal environmental laws by Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund, Rural Institute Environmental Defense Network, Citizen's Committee to Save Our Public Lands, and the California Wilderness Coalition.

Mendocino National Forest Supervisor Daniel K. Chisholm wrote that the green sale was withdrawn because "At the time the Decision Notice was signed, it was not known that the December 15, 1988 windstorm blew down a large volume of timber within the Ant Ridge Area. The windstorm materially changed the data upon which the environmental analysis was based."

For now, the agency plans to log blow-down and fire salvage timber to meet its quota. However, controversy over the area may arise again, as Chisholm's report said "At such time as timber from the Ant Ridge area may be needed to meet Allowable Sale Quantity a new environmental analysis and environmental document will be prepared based on current data, including the effects of the blowdown."

(An article on the appeal was printed on page 5 of the June 1989 WR.)



for Wild & Scenic River status; currently they are further studying the creek's suitability. Although the Middle Fork Tuolumne did not enjoy similar recognition in the Stanislaus forest plan, the Conservation Alternative proposes "Recreational" status for the river.

To receive a copy of the environmental assessment or to comment on the North Mountain and Sawmill Mountain salvage sales (although the official comment period is past) write to:

Christopher Perlee, Groveland District Ranger, Stanislaus National Fores, Star Route, Box 75G, Groveland, CA 95321.

## Part I — Wilderness Act History Series

## People and Wilderness- A View From 1964

In his remarks before the Fifth Biennial Conference on Wilderness sponsored by the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs on April 18-19, 1964, in Portland, Oregon, Howard Zahniser, late Executive Director and Editor of The Wilderness Society, presented his case to a bicameral legislature. His understanding of the long, democratic process made possible his confidence in the ultimate effect of a national consensus under the leadership of serious individuals and groups. This excerpt is an adaptation from Dr. Zahniser's remarks.

We have learned from our studies that wilderness preservation, an important aspect of our culture-not an exception from itwas nevertheless something that could be expected to endure in our culture only if it is deliberately valued as wilderness; that we and our forebears had already been through the history in which wilderness could exist just because there wasn't anything else to do with it; that we were already forced to recognize that all the wilderness we have has already been diverted to some other purpose—our forest refuge, for example. The pressures on this wilderness, and the total pressures on the land, were such that we recognized that all the wilderness there ever will be will be the wilderness that we deliberately determine to use as wilderness. All our land is going to be put to some use. To have any wilderness is to require our recognizing wilderness preservation as one of the important uses.

We also learned that with the exception of some magnificent areas—about a baker's dozen of them-within the custody of state governments, all our wilderness is in federal ownership and our Constitution says that it is in the custody of Congress. Our careful studied approach to the problem shows us that a basic necessity was the establishment by Congress of the policy and the program to accomplish it, no matter how long or difficult or irritating the effort might be to preserve wilderness through Congressional legislation. There exists no other assured way of doing it in our wonderful country and through our wonderful process of government. The Constitution gives the Congress the responsibility for determining what happens to our property and we must, therefore, think of Congress in these circumstances in terms of law-as a board of directors determining what is going to be done with the property that belongs to the stockholders. And in that sense, the administrative agency responsible for taking care of these lands must recognize that we need direction from Congress regarding the policy to govern these areas and setting up a program to put that policy into effect.

Now, our Congress is a marvelous institution. I don't disagree with criticisms that have been made, but one of the things for which I am thankful is this: That in all the difficulties of these past seven-plus years (in achieving Congressional sanction for wilderness preservation) and the preceding half-dozen which were characterized by the Echo Park fight, I have not lost my confidence in our form of government. Rather than suffering the ills of cynicism, which are so prevalent in Washington, where so much is abstraction so far removed from the real things

and Insular Affairs, Wayne Aspinall, whom I claim as a friend in these concerns, said, "You get it through the Senate and bring it over to us and we'll see what we can do with it." Many of the modifications are those that occurred between S.4028 to S.1176, S.1128 to S.174, which the Senate enacted. It took until the 87th Congress to get the bill through the Senate and it has been working two Congresses now in the House. We had similar experiences in the Echo Park fight but it

less influential than we are now, much less numerous, much less highly regarded by the total public—we were able to get what was called the most important feature of that project out of the act and to get written into it two declarations of basic importance. We have been enduring a similar working-out in connection with the wilderness legislation.

And that leads me to a further point on which we base our conviction of the necessity: we are not advocating a program for The

"We are not advocating a program for The Wilderness Society or the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs; we are advocating a program for the people of the United States of America."





Ms. Olaus J. Murie (I.) and Mrs. Hard Zahnlser, widows of two of the greatest wilderness act advocates, receive from President Lyndon B. Johnson pens used in the signing of the Wilderness Act.

White House Photo by Abble Rowe

that the irritations are easily gotten under your shoe or saddle (even if you ride in a car), I have felt that our Congress is in many ways a remarkable institution. We have learned two things that are important in this situation, I think. One of them is that we have learned what it is to have a bicameral legislature. In the Echo Park fight our opponents readily put the project, with its authorization of a dam in the National Park System, through the Senate three times—but they didn't get it through the House. Twice the Wilderness Bill went through the Senate—yet enactment of the law by the House was still being worked out. The Chairman of the Committee on Interior

was the other way around.

That leads to the second outstanding characteristic that I have learned to emphasize in our Congressional government—in our whole government—and that is this: it is very difficult for anybody in our form of government to get anything done that anybody doesn't want done. Now you can see right away, that's a pretty good characteristic of a large democratic government established by a people who have learned to fear tyranny and to fear over-government. But out of the workings of that practice during the advocacy of the upper Colorado River storage project we were able—a small group much

Wilderness Society or the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs; we are advocating a program for the people of the United States of America. From that broad point of view the most important things are still in this legislation and have never been dropped and, so far as I know, have never been questioned, except by the very few people who question wilderness preservation itself—and they are becoming fewer and fewer.

So our process though these years has been one of widening the consensus to the point where it comprises the majority. In our form of government, with characteristics that I have reported to you, we don't force—we persuade—we try to meet objections. Legislators are more worried about the opponents of a proposal, who may be few, than they are about the proponents, who may be many. Opposition to a project is serious; support is important, but tends to be taken for granted. So once again the principle of the difficulty of overcoming any objection is greatest.

We have been widening this consensus, and the task over these years, from our broad points of view, is one of education—of help to people who enjoy the things we have enjoyed. We don't like to be controversial, most of us-we want people to know the importance of maintaining a contact with the earth, of knowing the wilderness, and beyond all, the purpose. I can see now that it's going to be served better by our successors than by us who are already falling away and getting out of breath, but that objective requires the establishment of basic policies, the preservation of these areas—the means to the end, which is the human preservation of those values that are dependent on contact with wilderness.

We are establishing for the first time in the history of the earth a program, a national policy, whereby areas of wilderness can be preserved. That will not be the end of our efforts. That is just the beginning. It is the charter of a program that can endure. It establishes a program.

It will be our undertaking—yours, especially, who live near these areas-to equip yourselves, to know these areas being reviewed, to prepare materials in cooperation with the land administrators, to appear at the hearings that will be held, to continue to support the establishment of this program. I think in every community where it is possible there should be a committee as large as the interests of the people would determine it to be and to meet and know about these things. I would like to see a program established in communities, experimentally at firstsomething like the Great Books program for people who have the time, for a period of let's say six weeks, to meet once a week and in the groups to discuss the basic things that need to be known if we are going to lead our fellow citizens.

We have fought most of the battle on the national front. A good many wars are won on the battlegrounds and lost at the peace treaty. I hope that won't be the case now. But it seems to me that as we see adopted the national policy of wilderness preservation by Congress that will be sustained by the present consensus, it's up to us to start now, as citizens, to influence our fellow-citizens in the most effective way to get the maximum amount of wilderness preserved in the most enduring fashion that we possibly can.

Reprinted from The Living Wilderness, Spring-Summer 1964.



Howard Zahniser, Foremost Advocate

The passage of the Wilderness Act in 1964 was, wrote David Brower at the time, "the most fitting of memorials to the man who did not turn, who gave the most of all, to give wilderness that chance."

Howard Zahniser, who served for years as Executive Secretary of The Wilderness Society and Editor of *The Living Wilderness*, died on May 5, 1964, missing by 3 and 1/2 months the passage of the Wilderness Act through Congress.

Brower called Zahniser "the nation's foremost advocate of wilderness," recognizing his tireless efforts during the eight years between enactment and the first introduction of the Wilderness Bill by Senator Hubert M. Humphrey of Minnesota, Congressman John P. Saylor of Pennsylvania, and twelve of

their associates

Credited with writing the Act, it was Zahniser who defined wilderness as "an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammeled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain."

Again, to quote Brower:

"The values that are in the Wilderness Act are in large part a tribute to Howard Zahniser's fidelity, to his patient, devoted years. He was able to make wilderness everybody's business. He engaged the most effective of allies and the honor roll is long...But what made the most difference was one man's conscience, his tireless search for a way to put a national wilderness policy into law, his talking and writing and persuading, his living so that this Act might be born."



**Howard Zahniser** 



Lyndon B. Johnson U. S. President from 1963 - 1968.

## Message from the Pres.

continued from page 1

Thirty-four national forest primitive areas—5.5 million acres—will be reviewed over a 10-year period for possible addition to the system. Also to be reviewed are all roadless areas of 5,000 acres or more in the national park system, as well as all such areas and roadless islands, regardless of size, in the national refuges and game ranges. None of the areas to be reviewed may be added to the system except as provided for by subsequent acts of Congress.

Only in our country have such positive measures been taken to preserve the wilderness adequately for its scenic and spiritual wealth. In the new conservation of this century, our concern is with the total relation between man and the world around him. Its object is not only man's material welfare but

the dignity of man himself.

The Congress can justly be proud of the contribution of foresight and prudent planning expressed by this measure to perpetuate our rare and rich natural heritage. Generations of Americans to come will enjoy a finer and more meaningful life because of these actions taken in these times.

It is now my privilege to send to the Congress today a report which, in accordance with the terms of the act last year, details the beginnings of our progress on a long road of "reason and faith."

I am confident that it is a road worth the travel and a journey we shall be proud to have pioneered.

Lyndon B. Johnson The White House, February 8, 1965

# Where the Waters Come Together: A perfect candidate for state wilderness?

By Patrick Carr

Ahjumawi Lava Springs may well be the least seen and hardest to reach of California's state parks. Those who like the place hope it stays that way.

In California's far northeast, about a seven-hour drive from the San Francisco Bay Area, Ahjumawi doesn't limit its tests of the traveler to mere miles of asphalt. Those who pilot their boats across the moat-like pond that constitutes Ahjumawi's sole access route must, in the words of the official leaflet describing the park, be prepared for "extreme heat in summer or extreme cold in winter," "voracious" mosquitoes, and should "watch for rattlesnakes."

If you're up to these tests, you'll find Ahjumawi unique among California's state parks. If you're not, this article will let you "armchair travel."

The 6,000-acre reserve lies at the edge of Shasta County's Fall River Valley, a flat dish of rough-hewn small towns and ranches that is famous among trout anglers for its cold spring-fed streams and eager fish. The local Ajumawi (no "h") band of Native Americans, whose name means "river people," lived (and still live) among the valley's streams and marshes. These people knew the area that state officials named for them as "where the waters come together," an apt description of the park's most striking feature.

Below the bridge near one of three boat-in campsites in Ahjumawi, Ja-She Creek (also known as Squaw Creek) rumbles with the force of a small river. But 100 yards upstream its birthplace is lost in a thicket of oaks, junipers, and volcanic boulders.

## Among the Largest Springs in the Country

The spring that gives rise to Ja-She is only one of many that cumulatively bring two billion gallons of water each day to the Fall River Valley. Much of this intensely cold, pure flow, which Ahjumawi Ranger Steve Moore says ranks in output among the largest spring systems in the U.S., erupts from the shores of Big Lake, Horr Pond, Ja-She Creek, and Tule and Little Tule rivers—the interconnected and rather ill-defined bodies of water that form the park's southern boundary.

A view of the horizon around the park suggests the source of these springs: Mt. Lassen dominates the south. Mt. Shasta the west, and a host of smaller Cascade volcanoes punctuate the other compass points. Bathed in solid white even in late spring, these peaks and shield-like highlands unleash enormous volumes of water into their porous lava substrates each year. Ground water slowly flows through rock channels until it reaches a low point, such as at Ahjumawi, where it erupts with a surprisingly even flow from month to month and year to year. According to Moore, geologists believe that Ahjumawi's water comes chiefly from 7,500-foot peaks around Medicine Lake, 35 miles to the north and almost a vertical mile above the park.

Much of the park's roughly 20-mile trail system, a relic of the days when Ahjumawi was a barely tamed cattle ranch, wanders among the solidified lava flows that characterize this region. Sometimes the trails skirt piles of aged rock so barren they look as if they might have been blasted onto Earth's surface just last year, and the frequent small caves and crater-like depressions, some almost 100 feet deep, suggest easy access to an igneous underworld. Most of the caves, however, are too small for anything more than cramped shelter from a sudden cloudburst, and what pass as craters are evidence not of explosive eruptions, but of the slumping and sinking of lava as it cooled. The source of most of the lava in the park is Timbered Crater, a small mountain to the north that last blanketed Ahjumawi about 2,000 years ago.

#### **Trails**

The trails themselves, being former roads, are wide and fairly gentle. For the most part they stay within the park's expansive woodlands of oak, juniper, and ponderosa pine. They are neither named nor signed (though the park staff hope to place trail signs this summer), and junctions can be somewhat confusing, so travelers should use the map available from the park staff. There is no water away from the shores of Big Lake and its associated waterways—and no water in the park is verified safe to drink without treatment or filtration.

Ahjumawi's three "environmental" camps each consist of two or three campsites in a cluster at the edge of the forest. Since all access is by water and the park's annual visitation averages only about 2,000 people,



**Photos by Patrick Carr** 

## How about wilderness?

Perhaps the most undeveloped and remote of all California's state parks—it can be reached only by boat—Ahjumawi Lava Springs is viewed by some as an ideal candidate for designation as a state wilderness.

Park officials say the possibility of wilderness designation has been raised only casually, although once a Bureau of Land Management (BLM) employee was inspired by a vision to designate a wilderness of adjoining lands managed by state parks, BLM, and the Forest Service. (The BLM's 17,896-acre Timbered Crater Wilderness Study is adjacent to Ahjumawi's northern boundary.) Retirement took the agency advocate out of the picture, however, and the idea left with him. Local BLM officials recently submitted to the Washington office their recommendation that the roadless area be considered unsuitable for wilderness.

A wilderness review of state park lands was conducted in 1978-80, but this was a year before Ahjumawi was designated as a state park.

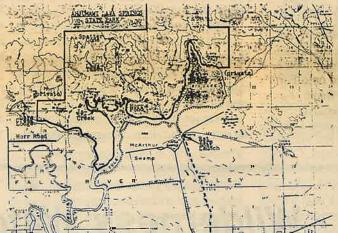
"Wilderness classification happens because of need, which is created by the public and managers," says Jim Trumbly, Resource Ecologist with the California Department of Parks and Recreation. But according to Breck Parkman, archaeologist at Ahjumawi, there is often controversy within state park departments over whether to recommend wilderness status for an area. Objections arise because "there are certain things you can't do in a wilderness," in terms of management, Parkman explains, adding his perspective that "there's a lot you can do."

Parkman believes that Ahjumawi has very fragile natural and cultural resources, and at present no vehicles are permitted there. Park officials, however, are currently planning to mow or burn grasses to maintain short-stemmed grass habitat that may be critical for cackling geese. Before the grazing lease ran out this year, grasses had been cropped by cows.

A General Plan for the park will be developed in the coming years, although officials don't know when. Ranger Steve Moore says that although there has been "loose discussion" of various options, including a cultural preserve for the Ajumawi people, it is "undetermined exactly what future consideration for Ahjumawi might be."

## Ahjumawi Lava Springs State Park







you're not likely to have trouble finding a campsite. (Unlike some other California state parks, you cannot reserve campsites at Ahjumawi.) While each camp is visible from the water, boaters coming across Big Lake and Horr Pond will want to refer to their map of the park, and you may need to scout the shore for a distance before you spot your camp. That is actually an opportunity, for boating along Ahjumawi's shores, especially by canoe, kayak, or other quiet craft, is an excellent way to visit the park's hidden coves and shoreline springs. The current is almost imperceptible in most areas, though a chop can arise on a windy day. There are no boat ramps or docks, so you will need to tie on to the bank or beach your boat.

"Ajumawi myth holds that the sun and moon were placed in the sky through a great contest between two spirits on the shore of Horr Pond."

#### **A Place of Noises**

The "river people" had it right, for Ahjumawi's heart is by the water. But strictly speaking, the park's shores and marshes are not always tranquil places of wilderness serenity. Camped one spring dawn at a site called Crystal Springs, I was awakened, red-eyed and wondering, by an unruly racket of honks, cackles, quacks whistles, bangs, and weird guttural growls. Contributing the chorus, I later learned, were a fair portion of the birds and animals that make Ahjumawi an extraordinary place to view wildlife: mallard, pintail, and a host of other ducks, coots, and grebes; Canada geese, including their threatened cousins, the cacklers; white pelicans, pileated woodpeckers, numerous songbirds, and coyotes. The weird growling went on for several days before I learned that this sound passes for pillow talk in a great blue heron rookery. Bald eagles, hawks, ospreys, sandhill cranes, weasels, and a beaver eagerly feasting on willow shoots also livened up my stay. Save for the absence of grizzly and bighorn, it seemed like a wilderness vision of California a century ago.

#### Ahjumawi Myth

Adding to that impression is the continuing presence of the "river people." The land "where the waters come together" was once an Ajumawi settlement, and even after it passed into the hands of white ranchers, these people pursued their tradition of capturing the fish we call suckers in stone traps they built. That tradition continues, and according to Ahjumawi archaeologist Breck Parkman, the park also preserves several sites of great spiritual value to the Ajumawi people. "Ajumwai myth," says Parkman, "holds that the sun and moon were placed in the sky through a great contest between two spirits on the shore of Horr Pond," and he notes that several Ajumawi "power sites" are present in the park. There is power enough in finding this place wild and untrammeled. It was magic for me.

Reprinted from California Explorer, published in Tahoe City.

Pat Carr is a free-lance writer and former editor of Friends of the River's Headwaters, living in Sebastopol.

### **WILDERNESS MANAGEMENT**

## **BLM Changes WSA Management Policy**

By Jim Faton

On October 21, 1976 the President signed into law the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA), which established guidelines for the administration of public lands by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Part of the law required BLM to study roadless areas for possible inclusion into the National Wilderness Preservation System. The agency was given fifteen years to complete the task.

Since BLM was required to prevent unnecessary or undue degradation of these lands until Congress made a final wilderness determination, the agency developed Interim Management Policy and Guidelines. As one might expect with Interior Secretaries such as James Watt and Donald Hodel, these guidelines allowed for mining, grazing, offroad vehicle races, and other destructive projects in wilderness study areas (WSAs). These activities were allowed on the theory that the WSAs would recover by the time the BLM's recommendations were sent to the President. The deadline for recovery was June 30, 1989.

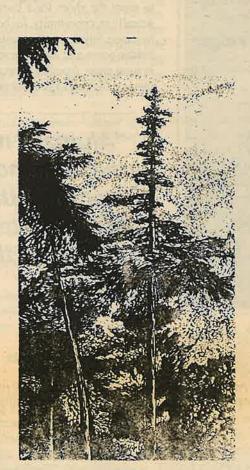
For years conservationists have been protesting and appealing the most outrageous of these schemes. And for more than a decade, June 1989 seemed like an eternity

But now it is July 1989. The longawaited deadline is passed. Are things going to change? Maybe.

Ed Hastey, BLM's California State Director, has signed a new policy for authorizing actions in WSAs. The general policy, with some exceptions, is that all proposed activities which require either recontouring of topography, replacement of topsoil, or restoration of plant communities will be prohibited. The new guidelines fall into three

- 1) Discretionary actions—actions that require reclamation will not be approved. They must be substantially unnoticeable in the WSA upon completion of the activity. Examples of activities that could be allowed include:
- · temporary structures which can be removed easily and immediately upon wilderness designation,
- Special Recreation Use Permits [such as off-road vehicle races?] which would have little or no physical evidence of the event immediately after its occurrence,
- · maintenance of existing range improvements, and
- · minor activities on post-FLPMA [grandfathered] mining claims, including any activity which is exempt from a Plan of

2) Grandfathered actions, or valid existing rights actions-surface-disturbing ac-



tivities may be approved. Reclamation will be accomplished as soon as possible after completion of the activity, and a bond will be required.

3) Emergency actions—in the event of wildfire or search and rescue, any action necessary to prevent loss of life or property may be taken, even if the actions will impair wilderness values.

Despite these new guidelines, since June 30 the California Wilderness Coalition has received several notices of actions proposed for WSAs. Most of these are for mining activities. Will BLM get tough and enforce these new policies? Check the Wilderness Record in the coming months to find out.

## They Paved Paradise, and Put in a Parking Lot

The National Park Service is proposing to use part of the Yosemite Wilderness for visitors' parking at the Mariposa Grove area of the national park. The agency is asking for public comments during their "scoping" process prior to writing an environmental impact statement (EIS).

The EIS will analyze the impacts of: • relocating the south entrance station on

Highway 41 and enlarging the parking lot,

- relocating the Mariposa Grove access road and staging area out of the Lower Mariposa Grove,
- · improving the utilities system, including underground electrical service to the new

· restoring the Lower Mariposa Grove after relocation is completed.

The proposed location of the new visitor parking area would require the use of a portion of the legislated wilderness. The Park Service says that the relocation creates the opportunity to add to the wilderness from the area vacated, but changing a wilderness boundary requires an act of Congress.

Comments on the scope of the EIS and potential impacts to be addressed in the study should be sent by August 9 to the Superintendent, Yosemite National Park, P.O. Box 577, Yosemite, CA 95389.

## Wilderness Watch Watches Wilderness

What would you think if you heard ment policies—president William A. Worf of an organization that focused solely on strengthening protections for already-designated wilderness, but did not get involved in battles for new wilderness areas? There is such a group, a national non-profit citizens organization started in Montana, called Wilderness Watch, Inc. (WW). Wilderness Watch is "dedicated to preserving rare & endangered experiences.3

Recognizing that more wilderness additions are needed, WW chooses to leave those battles to the long-established environmental groups, emphasizing instead "taking care of what we've got." WW is uniquely qualified to advocate sound wilderness manage-

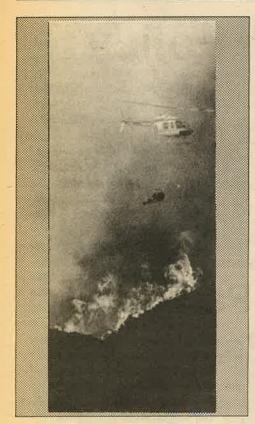
was the principal author of the U.S. Forest Service's wilderness management regulations. After working as a Forest Service wilderness program director in Montana and Washington, D.C., failing eyesight in 1981 forced Worf to retire. "When I retired," says Worf, "I made up my mind that I was going to spend my energy working on management issues, because there wasn't anybody doing it." Worf knew that a bad precedent set in one wilderness management plan could infect the whole wilderness system and weaken protections across the nation. Tired of having his purist suggestions brushed off by his former employers, Worf and two dedicated student volunteers formed WW.

The first battle, still going on, is against the proposal by Idaho outfitters and guides to establish permanent camps in the River of No Return Wilderness. This would violate the "pack it in, pack it out" policy in wilderness, claims Worf.

Another threat to the same wilderness comes from a proposed resort along the Wild & Scenic Salmon River. None of the major wilderness organizations would touch either issue, Worf says, because of sensitive alliances built up to support the Idaho wilderness bill. So, out of frustration, WW was formed.

In California, the group has become involved in issues surrounding dams in the Desolation Wilderness and the Ishi Wilderness management plan. (Brief articles on these issues were included in the April 1989 Record.)

## **WILDERNESS MANAGEMENT**





## Wilderness too!

## Fire Moratorium Likely To Remain Through '89 Season

"Such measures may be taken as necessary in the control of fire, insects, and diseases, subject to such conditions as the Secretary deems desireable." —Wilderness Act, section 4(d)(1)

Until fire management plans are approved, the National Park Service and Forest Service have placed a moratorium on allowing natural fires to burn within national parks and national forests, including their wilderness areas.

Reviews of fire plans for many, if not all, of California's national park and probably all national forest wildereness areas will not be complete by the 1989 late summer fire season. The moratorium will remain in effect and fires in wilderness areas will be put out. In addition, the report proposals could restrict natural fires in the future.

For two decades the policy of the National Park Service has been to allow fires caused by lightning or other natural causes to burn unimpeded, unless they threaten to endanger life and property.

This "let-burn" policy was seriously threatened, however, by political controversy surrounding the wildfires that burned 1.5 million acres in Yellowstone National Park and adjacent national forests in 1988.

The Yellowstone fires led to protest from the tourism industry and allegations of National Park Service mismanagement.

In response, the Interagency Fire Management Policy Review Team was formed, comprised of appointees from the U.S. Departments of Interior and Agriculture, mostly Park Service, Forest Service, and Bureau of Land Management employees. The team is reviewing each national park's fire plans and recommending changes. Their report supported the objectives and philosophy behind the current prescribed natural fire policies in national parks and wilderness areas. Bruce Kilgore, Regional Chief Scientist with the Park Service and member of the interagency team, described his agency's policies as "fundamentally sound," but added that they need to be "refined, strengthened, and reaffirmed." Kilgore said the reviews will help them "be certain they incorporate the best

According to Kilgore, wilderness fires would be suppressed with helicopters and crews with back pumps and shovels. The interagency team's paper says that actions to suppress wilderness wildfires will use the "minimum tool concept," and "will be conducted in such as way as to protect natural and cultural features."

In response to questions about fire roads being cut into wilderness areas, Kilgore said "I would not picture that happening in any areas I could imagine now—at least I would hope not." Kilgore feels "for the time being it's [the policy to put out all wilderness fires] likely to be a low impact thing."

However, Jim Eaton, of the California Wilderness Coalition, said, "the moratorium on allowing fires to burn is due to politics and bad public relations. The facts show that most of the Yellowstone fires were not 'let burn' fires but were fought from the start. When conditions are right the forest is going to burn no matter what you do."

The Interagency Fire Management Policy Review Team held eleven public meetings throughout the country and solicited written comments before issuing its final report. Among the concerns raised at the meetings were those of park neighbors, such as the Yellowstone tourism industry. "We do have to be responsible neighbors," Kilgore said, and "our policy can't go right up to the boundaries. It would be nice to have a broader area adjacent to the park."

The let-burn policy was initially adopted by the Sequoia and Kings Canyon national parks in 1968, in recognition of the fact that periodic natural fires were an essential part of the forest ecosystem. Although the term "let-burn" has become popular, it is avoided by the Park Service, according to Kilgore, because although it is "fairly accurate," it is only so "up to the point of implying lack of responsibility."

For more information or a copy of the interagency team's final report, contact Aviation & Fire Management, USDA Forest Service, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, D.C. 20090-6090.

# TV Tower May Spoil Treasured Wilderness View from Big Baldy

By John Rasmussen

On June 17 while looking at an old timber sale on the Hume Lake District of Sequoia National Forest friends and I came across construction in progress which appeared to be the foundation (still drying) for a building and the base for a tower. At three, evenly spaced locations 200 to 300 feet from the base support were large holes dug down to bedrock, presumably for guy wires. The construction is less than 500 feet east of the National Park boundary and approximately a quarter mile south of Big Baldy Peak (T14S, R29E, Sec. 31, MDM).

After requesting additional information about the project and the Environmental Analysis (EA) from the Hume Lake Ranger District, it was discovered that this was the future site of a 498-foot tower for Pappas Telecasting KMPH, channel 26 Visalia/

Fresno

A 500-foot tower at this location will have significant visual impacts on a large section of the national park and surrounding forests. The tower will be visible from the many locations along the Generals Highway including the Redwood Canyon Overlook. It will also be visible from Redwood Mountain and Redwood Canyon, many locations in the Jennie Lakes Wilderness, a significant portion of the Sequoia National Park back country including Mt. Silliman, and possibly Moro Rock. The entire tower will be visible from points along the Big Baldy trail and, towering 200 feet above, will overwhelm the view from Big Baldy Peak. The EA only identified visual impacts along the Generals Highway.

The EA also failed to adequately notify the public about this project. The only groups or agencies notified were the Park Service, the Forest Service, and the local group camps. The Sequoia National Forest's project planning schedule also identified the project (by section number) as being located on Eshom Point, to which we would not have objected.

Because of the severe visual impacts this tower will have on the national park, wilderness areas, and scenic highway, the Sierra Club Tehipite Chapter Executive Committee at its June meeting voted to oppose construction of KMPH TV tower located on Big Baldy Ridge. The Tehipite Chapter Executive Committee also voted to request the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund to pursue the possibility of legal action to prevent further construction of the tower.

John Rasmussen is Conservation Chair of the Sierra Club Tehipite Chapter.

#### Good things fire does for ecosystems:

- Heat is essential to release seeds from certain types of pine cones.
- Fire burns dead limbs and other litter on the forest floor, releasing nutrients that can then be utilized by the ecosystem.
- Fire can diversify an ecosystem by opening up the forest canopy and allowing sunlight to reach the forest floor. New growth appears in these openings. Not only does the new growth represent a wider range of species than the unburned forest alone, but in doing so it opens a niche for more species of animals than can exist in a more uniform forest

## Landcape Linkages Proposed for "Wizened" Klamaths

continued from page 1

Larry Harris submits that a patchwork of wildlife reserves will not serve the purpose in the longer term. He writes that "fragmenting landscapes into disjunct patches and restricting and isolating wildlife populations by amplifying the risks associated with movement have drastic consequences for the preservation of biological diversity."

Large mammals, such as black bear and mountain lion, are known to need wider ranges than the present wilderness areas allow, roaming naturally over hundreds of miles to find food and mates.

Richard Spotts of Defenders of Wildlife explains the rationale that if habitat is saved for the animals with the widest range requirements, "you get everything underneath it automatically."

Even smaller species, according to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency biodiversity specialist Reed Noss, need wide areas over a long term. Noss says preserves must, ultimately, allow species to adjust to climate changes, natural and otherwise, as well as

"The Klamath mountains are an exceptionally rich storehouse of evolutionary stories, one of the rare places where past and present have not been severed as sharply as in most of North America, where glaciation, desertification, ubanization, and other ecological upheavals have been muted by a combination of rugged terrain and relatively benign climate." —David Rains Wallace, The Klamath Knot

allow genetic exchange between populations, to prevent inbreeding.

#### The Klamath Province

Inspired by Harris' book, citizen activists, Forest Service staffers, and state Department of Fish and Game rangers have been visualizing the "Klamath Province" as an ideal area upon which to apply landscape linkage theory.

Referring to three mountain ranges, five or six designated wilderness areas, and three major river systems, the Klamath Province is, generally, north-central California. (see map) This region is recognized as one of the two or three most species-rich in the country. An example of this lushness is the 17 species of conifers found within a square mile of the Horse Range and Sugar Creek drainages. The province is called a center of "endemism," meaning that it contains a number of

Veitch Dec TRINITY WILDERNESS

The Klamath Province, with possible biodiversity linkages.

plant species found nowhere else.

The region's unique geology, flora, and fauna fascinated author David Rains Wallace, who called it the "Klamath Knot" in the title of his book exploring its complex natural history. Wallace writes:

"Perched on my Siskiyou eminence, I again felt suspended over great gulfs of time. The stunted little trees and their giant relatives on the lower slopes were not a mere oddity forest where ill-assorted species came together in a meaningless jumble. They were in a sense the ancestors of all western forests, the rich gene pool from which the less varied, modern conifer forests have marched out to conquer forbidding heights from Montana to New Mexico. Looking out over the pyramidal Siskiyou

ridges, I was seeing a community of trees at least forty million years old."

#### **Watershed Corridors**

Exact boundaries are not yet settled, but the general idea is to establish linkages along rivers and creeks, encompassing the watershed from ridgetop to ridgetop.

Much of the potential corridor land is within the Klamath National Forest. The agency's draft 10-year forest plan is due by spring 1990.

According to Jim Anderson, head of the forest planning effort, the concept of land-scape linkages is alive in their process. "We have discussed it at great length," he said. Biodiversity will be addressed by a team of people with scientific ability, along with timber industry representatives, and the draft

plan's selection of alternatives will include a "biodiversity alternative"

Anderson says that his office has been "inculcated" (indoctrinated) from the Cheif's office level with "specific and repeated direction that we will not exceed the biological and physical limits of the forest." He feels that the forest's timber sale program could be designed around biodiversity corridors.

Despite such a reassuring response, conservationists are suspicious of biodiversity being relegated to one of several forest plan "alternatives," especially since timber sales are currently planned for all of the now-pristine watershed corridors supporters of the linkage idea have their eyes on. Although many individual Forest Service staff people are enthusiastic, the Forest Service has not officially embraced the potential of a showcase biodiversity network.

Wary of what the bureaucratic process will bring about, conservationists are circulating drafts of legislation that would designate biodiversity corridors. Advocate Tim McKay believes that the recent political developments surrounding spotted owls and old-growth forests may help the linkage idea become reality. "The spotted owl dilemma could be a catalyst," he believes.

But like the management of the spotted owl, much more information is needed to truly know what the historic travel and genetic exchange patterns of the hundreds of species that exist there. Neither the Forest Service nor the Department of Fish and Game is even close to

possessing such data, and, with the agencies' current patterns of funding, such an endeavor is clearly impossible. The Klamath Knot seems destined to remain unravelled.

David Wallace writes that "There is something wizened about the Klamaths." In his book, he tried to "peer into time's depths as I peered into the depths of my dreams. Perhaps now is a time for dreams and visions for the Klamaths.

The address of the planning honchos on the Klamath National Forest is 1312 Fairlane Rd., Yreka, CA 96097.





From left, Steve Tabor (mostly hidden), Bob McLaughlin, Alan Carlton, and Paula Ray review their whereabouts in the wilderness study area near Pinnacles National Monument.

Photo by Vicky Hoover

### **More Monument!**

Bay area explorers recommend more Pinnacles National Monument Wilderness

By Bob McLaughlin

Hawks wheel overhead. Fog flows rapidly up the Salinas Valley on a bracing sea breeze. The high peaks of Pinnacles National Monument loom sharply in the distance, while at your feet the terrain drops off rapidly into an oak-studded canyon. This spectacular view is typical of the numerous high ridges in the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Wilderness Study Area (WSA) surrounding the Pinnacles. The WSA is directly adjacent to the monument, and, when combined with other adjacent BLM land, totals 6,439 acres. The Monument contains 14,000 acres.

In recent years, the Sierra Club Bay Chapter's Wilderness Subcommittee has hiked and mapped all of the WSAs five individual parcels, finding them all worthy additions to the Monument. The group recommends transferring the BLM land to the Park Service and also adding a majority of this land to the Pinnacles Wilderness.

Transferring the land would provide maximum protection and simplified, consistent management. Pinnacles National Monument is a small park with irrational,

section-line boundaries. Adding the BLM parcels would provide more logical geographical boundaries. More importantly, this action would:

- help protect the views from the high peaks, the main scenic feature of the Monument
- potentially provide better protection from cattle trespass into the Monument, and
- provide a much larger trail network, helping relieve pressure on the over-crowded high peaks section. In short, the case is very compelling. This WSA should be transferred to the Park Service.

The Bay Chapter's Wilderness Subcommittee has had great fun exploring and mapping the Pinnacles WSA. For others working on BLM wilderness issues, our advice is don't get discouraged, BLM wilderness is a long-term undertaking. Get out and explore a WSA near you.

Bob McLaughlin is a member of the Sierra Club San Francisco Bay Chapter Wilderness Committee.



## The Mysteries of the Appropriations Process

By Jay Watson

The annual appropriations process in Congress is fundamentally important to the management of public lands. Congress, as holders of our nation's purse-strings, has the task of appropriating, or assigning funds for specific purposes.

Conservation organizations regularly look to the appropriations process to achieve a wide range of environmental goals. For example, The Wilderness Society annually seeks increased funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund, decreases in the Forest Service road construction budget, and overall restructuring of the Forest Service budget, and thus its priorities, through appropriations.

Conservation organizations and others have also successfully used the appropriations process in the past to thwart the prodevelopment schemes of the Reagan Administration, for instance, securing an annual ban on oil and gas leasing in wilderness areas and moratoria against certain outer continental shelf leases off the coasts of California, Florida, and Massachusetts.

The appropriations process is also growing in legislative importance and is becoming "where the action is" in Congress. Nonetheless, despite the growing influence of appropriations and the above-listed victories, many consider the appropriations process a complex and mysterious procedure—and thus may be overlooking it as an avenue to achieve a particular goal. This article was written with hopes of removing some of the mystery.

Before money from the U.S. Treasury can be spent, Congress must first pass an authorization bill and then an appropriation bill. Authorization bills set up or continue federal programs, specify a program or agency's purpose, authorize the appropriation of federal funds, and generally set spending ceilings. These bills are produced by committees with legislative authority, such as the House Agriculture and Interior committees.

Appropriation bills, on the other hand, actually provide the funding previously approved in an authorization bill. Appropriation bills are produced by appropriation sub-committees, such as the House Interior and Related Agencies Subcommittee, but prior to going to the floor of either the House or Senate for a vote appropriation bills must also be approved by either the full House or Senate Appropriation committees.

There are 13 subcommittees in each of these, each of which has a subcommittee with jurisdiction over a regular appropriations bill. (In accordance with Article I, Section 7 of the U.S. Constitution, appropriations bills originate in the House.)

Before finalizing appropriation bills, Congress sets forth general guidance on spending. This guidance is accomplished through an annual budget resolution, a statement that sets targets for budget authority, outlays, and revenues. In other words, it guides and restrains Congress in actions on spending.

The budget resolution is supposed to be adopted by Congress by April 15. At this point, the House and Senate consider authorization and appropriations bills. Congress is supposed to complete action on each of the 13 regular appropriations bills by September 30, in time for the beginning of the new fiscal year on October 1.

In approving annual spending, Congressional budget committees tell the House and Senate Appropriations committees how much they may spend. The budget committees allocate spending by 21 functional classifications. (Natural resources and environment spending is known as Function 300). Next, the House and Senate Appropriations committees set spending ceilings for their respective subcommittees. The subcommittees then establish line item spending levels.

Appropriation bills are then approved and reported by each of the 13 appropriation subcommittees. The bills must then be approved in full committee, and are eventually sent to the floor of either the House or Senate for a vote. Invariably there are differences between the versions of bills passed by the House and Senate. The bill then goes to conference committee, consisting of members of both House and Senate, where the differences are worked out. Once the conference committee reports a bill, it must again be passed by both the House and Senate. The bill then goes to the President for signing into law

The annual appropriations cycle offers conservation organizations an effective, albeit challenging and tedious, opportunity to achieve real environmental victories. Environmentalists have pursued through the appropriations process the inventory and protection of ancient forests, increased funding for recreation and wilderness management by the Forest Service, and increased spending for trails on all of our public lands systems.

Five members of the California delegation sit on the House Appropriations Committee. They are Representatives Edward Roybal, Julian Dixon, Vic Fazio, Bill Lowery, and Jerry Lewis. Congressman Lowery also sits on the House Interior and Related Agencies Subcommittee, which has jurisdiction over the funding for the National Park Service, Forest Service, Bureau of Land

continued on page 14

## California Wilderness Conference

"Celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act"

October 19-22, 1989 Visalia, California

Featuring:

Randal O'Toole

Senator Alan Cranston
Representative Mel Levine
Representative Barbara Boxer
Assemblymember Bob Campbell
David Brower
Martin Litton
Doug Scott
Dave Foreman
Michael Frome

Entertainment by: Bill Oliver Bluesteins (cajun) Darryl Cherney

Workshops on:
desert, wild rivers, population,
acid rain, wilderness management, deep ecology, reforming the Forest Service,
endangered species,
reviewing environmental
documments, ancient forest,
John Muir, non-desert BLM,
King Range, forest planning
and appeals process, spotted
owl, small hydro, etc.!

(A detailed agenda will be included with the next issue of the Wilderness Record.)

Conference Co-sponsors:

Friends of the River, Genny Smith Books of Mammoth Lakes, 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.

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## **SHORTS**

## Mining's *Manly*Manual Lujan

When Interior Secretary Manual Lujan expressed approval of a mining company's plan to dye mined rock dark brown "to give it a natural look," United Mining Councils of America President Howard W. Dare, as reported by the Los Angeles Times, commended Lujan's approval, saying "I think he'll be better than any [Interior Secretary] we've had. I feel it seriously. He seems like he is all man. You can talk to him easily."

### **Population Facts**

• The US consumes 28 percent of world energy, nearly as much as all Third World countries combined, which have 74 percent of world population. An American uses 236 times as much energy as a Bangladeshian or 385 times as much as an Ethiopian. (From Zero Population Growth)

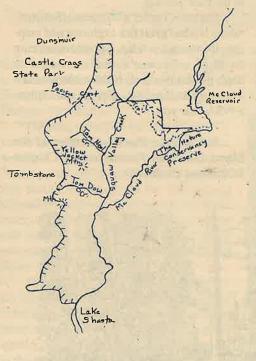
• California added 681,000 humans to its population in 1987. That's more people than live in Alaska and Montana combined! (Californians for Population Stabilization)

Contributed by Tom Stoddard

#### Mysteries, from page 13

Management, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Jay Watson is Director of The Wilderness Society's National Forest Action Center and serves on the CWC's Board of Directors.



West Girard Roadless Area

### West Girard, from page 5

wilderness, and the Pacific Crest Trail goes through some of the old-growth forest stands.

Because of intensive logging and road-building in adjacent wild land, the California Department of Fish & Game has acknowleged that the West Girard area is particularly important for old-growth and wilderness-dependent wildlife species such as the wolverine, fisher, and martin as well as black bear, elk, and deer. Mountain lion populations are high, spotted owl habitat areas are present, pileated woodpeckers are not uncommon, and peregrine falcons are believed to nest in the area. Opponents of the logging plans say much more inventory work needs to be done in the region before any intensive development is allowed.

Proponents of a more protective management strategy say the ridgetop boundaries make a logical line for watershed protection and that the economics of logging and road-building do not justify the costs to the environment. Low-intensity recreation makes much more sense, they say.

The official deadline for scoping comments for the draft environmental report is August 1, and they may be sent to McCloud District Ranger Steve Carlson at P. O. Box 1620, McCloud, CA 96057. If you want a copy of the draft report when it is done, be sure to ask to be included on the mailing list. For more information from Tom Hesseldenz, call (916) 926-2731.

## Wilderness Trivia Ouiz Answer

According to Dave Foreman, there are 42 (!) roadless areas of 100,000 acres or more entirely inside California and 11 more shared with with Oregon, Nevada, or Arizona. The largest is the High Sierra (Southern Yosemite to South Sierra Wilderness) at 2,800,000 acres.



### Fill this space

of black & white photographs of wilderness and roadless areas. negatives to the CWC, they would be

## CALENDAR

MENTS for the Middle & South Fork of the Kings Wild & Scenic Rivers management plan. Send to: Sierra National Forest, Attn.: Kings River SMA, Federal Bldg., 1130 "O" St., Fresno, CA 93721. Maps available upon request—call (209) 487-5155.

August 2 & 3 PUBLIC MEETINGS for the scoping process of the South Fork Eel Wild & Scenic River Activity Management Plan. On the 2nd at Laytonville Elementary School Multi-Purpose Room, the 3rd at the Eureka Inn Colonnade Room, both at 7 pm. For more information, contact Linda Hanson, Planning & Environment Coordinator, at (707) 462-3873 or write to the Ukian BLM office.

August 17 PUBLIC HEARING on the proposed listing of the northern spotted owl (Strix occidentalis caurina) as a threatened species; Redding Convention Center, Redding, CA; 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm and 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Depending on the number of witnesses, statements may be limited to five to ten minutes. (Hearings also in Oregon August 14 & 28, Washington State August 24.)

August 17 DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS on the Bear Creek Timber Sale Draft E.I.S (Pattison Roadless Area). Send written comments to the Forest Service. Shasta-Trinity National Forest, 2400 Washington Ave., Redding, CA 96001, Attn.: Bear Creek DEIS. Questions may be referred to Dan Angello, (916) 628-5227. (For more information, see article on page 5.)

August 1 DEADLINE FOR COM- August 25-27 Incentives for Better Forest Management, A National Conference on Forest Service Reform, sponsored by CHEC; speakers Jerry Franklin, Chris Maser, Randal O'Toole, Terry Anderson, Brock Evans, and others; oldgrowth forest tours. For more information, see ad on this page.)

> August 30 DEADLINE FOR COM-MENTS for the "scoping" process for the South Fork Eel Wild & Scenic River Activity Managment Plan. To raise issues you think should be addressed in the draft plan & EIS, write to: Ukiah District Manager, 555 Leslie St., Ukiah, CA 95482, Attn.: EIS Team Leader.

September 21 DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS on the proposed listing of the northern spotted owl as a threatened species. Send written comments to: Listing Coordinator, US Fish & Wildlife Service, 1002 N.E. Holladay St., Portland, OR

September 30 DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS on management of the Mt. Vida Area in the Modoc National Forest. Send written comments to: Karen Shimamoto, District Ranger, Warner Mountain Ranger District, Modoc National Forest, P.O. Box 220, Cedarville, CA 96104. For more Forest Service information, contact Karen Shimamoto, James Walker, or Doug Schultz at the above address or phone (916) 279-6116.

October 19-22 CALIFORNIA WIL-DERNESS CONFERENCE, sponsored by the CWC, in Visalia, CA. (See page 14 for more information.

We would like to expand our collection If you would like to donate any prints or gratefully accepted. Please send to our address, on the front of this newsletter.

#### Purposes of the California Wilderness Coalition



Coalition

have photos and a journal of the

ful to family.

climb which would be very meaning-

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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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-theeditor, 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

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Eaton

Vince Haughey

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**Editor** Stephanie Mandel W. Cohen

Production Bill Burrows Steve Evans Vince Haughey Vicky Hoover Lyndon B. Johnson Bob McLaughlin TWS Monthly Update John Rasmussen Jay Watson The Living Wilderness Photos & Graphics Chris Adams, Patrick Carr, Jim Eaton

Contributors

Patrick Carr

Jim Eaton

Econews

Eric Gerstung Vicky Hoover The Oregonian Abbie Rowe

#### Coalition Member Groups

#### Focus: People for Nipomo Dunes National Seashore

Like the delicate-looking plants whose long, tendrilous roots web the sand dunes, the People for Nipomo Dunes National Seashore (PNDNS) have held fast for their vision of 18 miles of unique seashore preserved in its natural, magical state.

Located in San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties and bordered on the north by Pismo State Beach, the 18,000 acres of the proposed national seashore include the largest undisturbed dune tract in California as well as rocky cliffs and marshlands. It is home to hundreds of species of flora and fauna, including 27 rare or endangered plants, mammals, and birds.

Efforts to preserve this fascinating and fragile ecosystem have been slow and sometimes patchy over the last thirty years, coming together with the formation of PNDNS in August 1984. Now 600 members strong, the latest step toward their goal has been the public acquisition of 2,500 acres at the mouth of the Santa Maria River, funded by Proposition 70.

The PNDNS is conducting interpretive hikes through the summer, culminating in Coast Week activities in mid-September. For more information, contact Bill Denneen at (805) 929-3647 or PNDNS at Box 73. Nipomo, CA 93444.

American Alpine Club; El Cerrito Ancient Forest Defense Fund; Ukiah Angeles Chapter, Sierra Club; Los Angeles Back Country Horsemen of CA; Springville Bay Chapter, Sierra Club; Oakland Butte Environmental Council; Chico California Alpine Club; San Francisco California Native Plant Society; Sacramento Citizens Commmittee to Save Our Public

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