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The Desert Act would designate the Whipple Mountains as wilderness.

Photo by Jim Eaton

GAO Report Confirms Environmentalists' Claims **Congress Slams BLM Wildlife**

On July 31, the Monday following the desert hearing, the General Accounting Office (GAO) released the California portion of a report on the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) wildlife management practices that was requested by Senator Alan Cranston almost ten months ago.

The GAO report details how Area of Critical Environmental Concern reports and habitat management plans are still incomplete after nine years, and the plans developed have had only a fraction of their recommendations implemented.

In addition to pointing out that funding is inadequate, the report details how wildlife biologists' requests for mitigation or changes to mining plans are ignored. The biologists claim that low priority is given to their work.

Member organizations of the California Desert Protection League (CDPL) have been citing the problems with BLM wildlife management ever since the desert bill was first introduced in 1986. Jim Dodson, a director of the CDPL and former Sierra Club Southern California Regional Vice President, said that wilderness represents the best way to protect wildlife habitat by curtailing the

proliferation of roads and protecting valuable springs and seeps.

Citing one of the most crucial elements of wildlife management—as pointed out in the desert plan and affirmed by the wildlife biologists—the GAO blasted the BLM's failure to monitor the effects of its actions. The GAO said that with the exception of some study plots for desert tortoise, no monitoring is taking place, and they fear the worst for many of the wildlife species, some of which were listed as endangered in 1980. In June the California Fish and Game Commission listed the tortoise, which is the state reptile, as threatened.



The Desert tortoise, California state reptile, is now listed by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service as an endangered species.

Supporters hit D.C. hearing

Desert Bill Heats Up House

By Judy Anderson

The California Desert Protection League, comprised of over 100 environmental organizations, stormed Washington D.C. in late July for a House hearing on H.R. 780, the Califo

H.R. 780 would establish 81 wilderness areas in the California Desert, a total of 4.4 million acres. It would also establish a new Mojave National Park in the East Mojave and change both Joshua Tree and Death Valley national monuments into national parks while expanding their boundaries by a total of about two million acres.

Twenty-two Californians and Sierra Club Vice President Sue Merrow of Connecticut visited the offices of well over 300 Members of the House, requesting that they co-sponsor the bill. By week's end, the co-sponsor count had grown by 10 to 88 Representatives, with several more expected in the next few weeks.

On Thursday, July 27, lobbyists crowded the hearing of the Public Lands subcommittee to standing room only. Press, administration officials, opponents, and supporters jockeyed for views and seats in the unusually popular hearing.

Thirteen Representatives, an extraordinarily large number, gave testimony on the legislation to underline its importance and precedent-setting nature for wilderness on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands all over the west. Several more Representatives submitted supportive statements for the Congressional Record.

Sponsor Mel Levine and subcommittee Chair Rep. Bruce Vento were present for the entire hearing and engaged in close questioning of most witnesses, especially on military and wildlife issues. The official listing of the desert tortoise as an endangered species took place the same day, and BLM Director Cy Jamison was pressed as he defended his agency's desert plan. (The BLM has jurisdiction over much of the desert land in question.) Vento tried to get Jamison to set a date for the release of the Administration's wilderness proposal, which has been under review since December, but Jamison dodged the question by saying that the report would be ready by

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COALITION PAGE

Monthly Report

The astute reader will note a new look to the *Wilderness Record* this issue. Yes, technology has struck again; we have the ability to make some changes so we are doing so.

The intent is to make this newsletter more readable, not just fancier looking. We think we have done so, but if 51 percent of our readers write in to complain we'll consider going back.

This all came about due to a generous grant from Apple Computer. Last May our contact person with Apple's corporate grants program, Sterling Speirn, called with a problem. Due to a mix-up, a group of activists from around the country (and a few other nations) was expecting a four-hour training session at U.C. Davis and Apple had no one to send. Could I help out? Sure, when? Tomorrow.

Fortunately, I had no pressing appointments for the following day, so I was able to prepare for the workshop and spend the afternoon with some delightful folks. Not only were they from different places, I was working with Black, Hispanic, and Native Americans. They had great senses of humor (a necessity when dealing with computers) and were really quick to learn.

Apple's reward was to upgrade our LaserWriter. Everyone who has been granted a Macintosh from Apple hints, begs, or demands this desktop publishing device. But so far, Apple grants computers and dot-matrix printers, but no LaserWriters. So we were forced to go out and find our own.

By Jim Eaton

We first bought the beast with funds from my spouse and parents and in cooperation with the attorney in the adjoining office. It was wonderful—as long as you wanted your type in Times or Helvetica. Oh, and 24-point was the largest headline you could manage, assuming the program you used didn't balk at that. PageMaker, the program used to design and print the *Record*, balked. Until this issue, Stephanie had to return to the light table (in this office that means a piece of glass on a fruit crate with a light bulb resting on a dented aluminum can) to manually paste the headlines onto the rest of the printed text. It was not high tech at its greatest.

So we were delighted that Apple saw fit to reward my day's work for them with the upgrade changing this machine from the bottom of the line to the top. Sterling said the fact we went out and bought the machine in the first place was a big factor in their grant.

Now our horizons have expanded. We can offer many different forms of type, clearer graphics, and more variety in our layout. We will strive to keep the same quality articles in the *Record* while making it a more pleasant newsletter to read.

This machine saves much time and money for us as well. We can create stationery, forms, thank you notes, and high quality correspondence in house now.

Welcome aboard to a new business sponsor, Robert Newcomb, M.D., and two new organizations, Friends of the Inyo (my dog, Inyo, is especially fond of them) and the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund.

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Uncle Jim's Wilderness Trivia Quiz

Question: (See page 8 for answer.)

What California
mountain range
is so rugged and
remote that its
highest peak
wasn't climbed
until 1973?

LETTERS

Dig Into Millsite Claims Issue

Dear Editor:

Since I noted in the last *Record* you will be having an article on U.S. mining law, I hope you will address the Millsite Claim in respect to how many millsite claims are permitted per mining claim and must there be a direct use relationship between the use of the millsite and its related mining claim?

Yours truly,
William W. Savage

The promised article on U.S. mining law will appear in the next issue (October) of the *Wilderness Record*. I spoke to the writer about your question regarding millsite claims. Thanks for writing! —Ed.

Wilderness Act History Series

Path to Preservation (Part I)

By Roderick Nash

Reprinted from *Wilderness magazine*, summer 1984

The Wilderness Act of September 3, 1964 is one of the most important milestones in the changing attitude of American civilization toward its oldest foe. What the act said, in effect, was that the war was over. It spelled out an environmental Marshall Plan for the preservation of something the nation had battled for three centuries and institutionalized a philosophical concept. Public Law 88-577 provided for wilderness to become an ongoing part of American civilization or, as the Act put it, "an enduring resource."

For the weighty, pragmatic machinery of the United States government to have moved its gears to give permanent, legal protection to wilderness and legitimacy to the idea of wilderness was, in a word, astonishing. Time was, and not all that long ago, when the disappearance of wild country defined progress. Protecting it was the last thing on the mind of a John Winthrop, a Daniel Boone, or a Thomas Hart Benton. From their perspective, what needed protection was civilization. The consequent struggle against wildness, in nature and in mankind, had given Americans a mission since the first European contact with the New World. Pioneers on every frontier from Virginia to Alaska spoke continually of "conquering" and "vanquishing" wilderness.

And so the frontier spread westward decade by decade, backing and filling as it went, until, in 1890, the census-takers gave up its documentation. But the process of environmental transformation continued to accelerate into the twentieth century. Dams tamed the nation's major rivers, the Indians retreated to the reservations, and the buffalo roamed largely in story and song. In time, the

amount of pavement in the contiguous forty-eight states (roughly 2 percent) would equal the extent of the remnant wilderness. Thoughtful Americans at mid-century recognized that the contest, the greatest game in the history of the continent, was essentially over. Ostensibly, civilization had won. But there were those who questioned that victory; there were those who were convinced that civilization had lost quite as much as it had gained, and that conviction led to the desire to make an enduring place for wilderness amid all the vigorous clutter of progress.

It took a long while for the protection of wilderness as wilderness to make sense to Americans. The nation protected parks for a century (if one takes the Yosemite state reservation of 1864 as a starting point) before it established a National Wilderness Preservation System, but in the minds of their creators, Yosemite and its progeny had significance primarily as scenic playgrounds or resorts with spectacular outdoor settings. In 1872, Yellowstone National Park was established as "a public park or pleasuring ground." Congress did not mention wilderness in the legislation. It only stipulated that "all timber, mineral deposits, natural curiosities, or wonders" be retained "in their natural condition." What the legislators wanted to protect were the geysers, hot springs, waterfalls, and lakes that had amazed explorers from John Colter (1807) and Jim Bridger (1825), to Ferdinand Hayden (1871). The reason Hayden included 3,000 square miles in his recommendation to Congress was that he did not want to miss protecting any "beautiful decorations" still undiscovered in the region. The wilderness qualities of the country did not figure in his thinking at all. Neither did it in the first reactions of the press to the new park.

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LEGISLATION

Congress Considers "Wild Rivers & Dams" Bill

By Steve Evans

The House Interior Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Land held hearings in July on Representative Robert Lagomarsino's bill that would designate two wilderness areas in the Los Padres National Forest and 27.5 miles of Sespe Creek as a National Wild and Scenic River. Unfortunately, his bill, H.R. 1473, would leave another 27.5 miles of the Sespe open for the construction of at least two proposed dams. In addition, the bill designates 31 out of a possible 33 miles of the Sisquoc River. Its wilderness recommendations are viewed as cautious by environmentalists, as well.

The heart of the last remaining habitat for the endangered California condor, the Sespe is also one of the last free-flowing rivers in the south state. This remote and truly wild river flows through rugged sandstone canyons, providing a wide variety of primitive and semi-developed recreation. Designated a Wild Trout Stream by the state, the Sespe is the most southern steelhead stream on the coast.

Pete Wilson, environmentalist?

Timber Beasts Try to Sidestep Key Court Decision

Some teachers automatically docked us a grade for late homework. Others wouldn't accept it at all. They never responded by writing the reports for us.

That, however, is how the U.S. Senate came close to answering Forest Service violations of the Wild & Scenic River Act.

In 1981 the Act "assigned" the Forest Service the task of completing a management plan for the Wild & Scenic South Fork of the Trinity River. The Shasta-Trinity National Forest never got around to it, though, and in 1988 a U.S. District Court stopped them from completing a timber sale near the river in the South Fork Roadless Area. The judge ruled that environmentalists were right—the logging couldn't take place there because river corridor boundaries to protect the Wild & Scenic river had not yet been established.

Early last August Senator Pete Wilson, pushed by Sierra Pacific Industries, wanted Congress to clear the way for the timber sale. Wilson tried, through a sneaky amendment to appropriations legislation, to set the corridor boundaries for the South Fork Trinity at one-quarter mile on each side of the river. It would have been a hasty determination, one that Congress originally directed to be made after study and public input.

The South Fork case is an important, precedent-setting one, and environmental groups quickly launched an intense lobbying effort. Senator Alan Cranston refused to support the "rider" and circumvent the Wild & Scenic River Act, and the timber sale is still dead. But the tactic of adding last-minute amendments to unrelated bills remains available. Whenever courts step in between public interest law and government agency actions, a judges decision can be side-stepped through this process.

Is the appropriations process an appropriate place to make such decisions? What about public input? Should the third branch of government be ignored at an industry's whim? As the late summer heat rests on the state, these questions ride heavy in environmentalists' minds.

Despite the protective designations, H.R. 1473 is virtually unanimously opposed by environmental groups, including Friends of the River, Keep the Sespe Wild, and the Sierra Club, primarily because it fails to protect all of the Sespe and the Sisquoc and contains inadequate boundaries for the proposed wilderness areas. The groups are calling it the "Wild & Scenic Rivers With Dams" bill.

Water development interests support H.R. 1473 in order to preserve the option of building two proposed dams at sites located above and below the 27-mile segment designated by the bill. Keep the Sespe Wild Committee has countered this position with more than 800 endorsements from Ventura County businesses in support of wild and scenic protection for all 55 miles of the creek. Conservationists point out that aggressive water conservation and reclamation programs are the only reasonable alternatives to water development on the Sespe, which dam propo-



Two Out of Three Ain't Bad

East Carson, West Walker rivers tucked into state system, McCloud left out

By Steve Evans

The first new Wild and Scenic Rivers since the state rivers system was created in 1972 were designated this summer by a stroke of Governor Deukmejian's pen.

Culminating a six-month legislative campaign spearheaded by Friends of the River (FOR), the Governor signed AB 1200, authored by Assemblymember Byron Sher (D-Palo Alto). The bill permanently protects a 10-mile segment of the East Carson River and 33 miles of the West Walker River. A third river, the McCloud, was not formally designated Wild and Scenic, but the legislature adopted a provision prohibiting hydroelectric development on it.

Unique high mountain/high desert rivers that drain the magnificent eastern Sierra escarpment, the East Carson and West Walker are popular rivers for anglers, white-water boaters, hikers, and other recreationists. The East Carson offers a gentle whitewater experience complete with hot springs-equipped campsites. The West Walker is an experts-only whitewater run with easy access from Highways 395 and 108 for anglers, hikers, and backpackers. The McCloud is one of California's premier trophy trout streams and also offers a medium-difficulty whitewater experience for private boaters.

Nevada development interests strongly opposed passage of the bill because they would like to build a large interstate water project on the East Carson River. After the legislature approved the bill, the Carson City Nevada *Appeal* newspaper ran a front page story with the headline "East Fork dam plan doomed." But AB 1200 only protects the California side of the East Carson, leaving several scenic miles of this whitewater river unprotected in Nevada. FOR will continue to press for National Wild and

nents acknowledge would provide Ventura County less than an 11-year reprieve before water demand outstrips all current and future supplies.

Conservationists also note that the proposed dam sites are located near earthquake faults, have poor foundation rock for dam-building, would inundate a state highway and popular campground, and are just too expensive to build. Acknowledging the controversy at the hearing's conclusion, Committee Chairman Bruce Vento stated that he "usually feels good at the end of a hearing, but there are some issues that need to be worked out in this bill." Committee consideration of potential changes in H.R. 1473 is expected in September.

Senator Pete Wilson has introduced wilderness and wild rivers legislation that mimics the Forest Service's recommendations, which are considered very cautious by environmentalists.

Endeavoring to improve the bill, conservation organizations are pushing a regional wild rivers and wilderness bill for the entire Los Padres National Forest. Representative Leon Panetta (from the Monterey area) and Senator Alan Cranston have been asked to sponsor a regional bill that would designate additional rivers including Piru Creek, Lopez Creek, Arroyo Seco River, Big Sur River, and Little Sur River.

The legislation proposed by environmental groups would also designate several wilderness areas in addition to expanding the Sespe Wilderness beyond what is proposed in H.R. 1473. For more information, please contact Steve Evans at Friends of the River, (916) 442-3155.

Scenic protection for the entire river to stop any dam projects that may be proposed in Nevada.

The one disappointing aspect of the bill was the deletion of the McCloud from formal state protection. It was not recommended because of the frenzied opposition of private land owners (most notably the Hearst Corporation) and the timber industry. Because of the ongoing legal wrangling over the federal government's supposed right to "pre-empt" state control of its waterways, it is unknown whether the new bill's hydroelectric prohibition will actually protect this magnificent river. Significantly, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has approved several hydroelectric projects over the opposition of state agencies, including a project on state park land on the Yuba River.

Not satisfied with simply derailing state Wild & Scenic protection for the McCloud, the Hearst Corporation and the timber industry have badgered the Forest Service to prevent a favorable federal recommendation for National Wild and Scenic River status. A recommendation will be made in the draft Shasta-Trinity National Forest plan, which is due to be released for public review sometime in November. The fight to protect this river will continue.

The inclusion of the East Carson and the West Walker in the California Wild and Scenic Rivers system represents a new renaissance in state river protection. River activists should look for opportunities to add other rivers to the state system in the near future.

Steve Evans is President of the CWC and Conservation Director of Friends of the River.

ROADLESS AREA WATCH

Moses Roadless Area: Massive logging in Sierra paradise?

By Robin von Breton Derbes

The Moses Roadless Area (RA) includes the steep and pristine canyon of the North Fork of the Middle Fork of the Tule River and the watersheds of Hossack, Meadow, Alder, and Burro creeks. The Moses RA begins low in the chaparral of the front range of the Sierra and extends up the Tule River through black oak and incense cedar, Ponderosa and yellow pine, alder, white and red fir, dogwood, California hazelnut, torryea, and *Sequoia gigantea*. Moses ends at the escarpment at the end of the Tule's canyon where the true Sierra high country begins, the sharp southeastern boundary of Sequoia National Park and the northeastern edge of the Golden Trout Wilderness.

Unfortunately, this fragile and extraordinarily beautiful wild area has not yet been designated a protected reserve. With the completion of Sequoia National Forest's management plan, the area's "Further Planning Area" status was stripped and it was returned to the timber base.

In March 1989 the Forest Service sent out its first letter informing the public of its logging plans for the Moses RA. Residents in the area, however, did not receive copies until June. Moses is contained in the Tule River District of Sequoia National Forest. The southern part of the Moses RA lies in an area labeled by the USFS as the Wishon Compartment.

The USFS plans to build 14 miles of roads through the heart of the area—through *Sequoia gigantea*, pine, and fir groves, and to cut nearly 26 million board feet of timber out of the forest every ten years. Virtually every square foot of the territory between North Alder and Burro creeks will be cut if the Forest Service has its way.

The Moses RA is the last large, closed canopy forest remaining in Sequoia National Forest. It is vital habitat for 36 species of vertebrates, including the spotted owl (the Forest Service has been inventorying the spotted owl population by using untrained college students who seek owls at high noon), wolverine, fisher, pine marten, and Sierra shrew.

Although areas north and east of the Moses RA are protected as national park and wilderness, to the south the Sequoia National Forest has been ravaged by logging. An estimated half of the available timber in the national forest has been cut in the last eight years, and there may be only ten years of marketable timber still standing. As one environmentalist described Sequoia National Forest, "The forest looks like Swiss cheese, except it is now all holes."

Shocking indeed, from the air and from the ground, are the forest's stands of Sequoias entirely bald of an understory. The Forest Service was logging all but the redwoods over six feet, and the Big Trees stand forlorn in the middle of clearcuts, besieged by the rampant erosion now occurring in the wake of timbering and wind storms.

There is some question whether in planning this sale the USFS hasn't jumped the gun. After all, the Sequoia National Forest plan is presently under appeal. Have National Environmental Policy Act regulations been violated?

As it stands, the Moses RA is an area of extraordinary diversity, chaparral to subalpine. Its river and creeks are tender and ebullient, full of trout. Its hiking trails (largely neglected by the Forest Service but maintained by foot traffic) lead to magically lovely pools and vistas. Its endangered forest is a vital habitat for increasingly stressed species. It is an intimate wild area, nestled between high peaks and steep canyon walls. It is full of bird songs, of

quiet, of sharp and filtered light.

The Moses RA may be reached by way of Highway 190 through Porterville and Springville. There are trails into the area from Camp Wishon, Quaking Aspen, Shake Camp, the Golden Trout Wilderness, and Sequoia National Park.

"The forest looks like Swiss cheese, except it is now all holes."

The analysis and comment period for the proposed Alnus timber sale has been extended to October 1; the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is scheduled for November 1990, and the final EIS for June 1991. The first timber sale is planned for 1993, the second for 1994.

Friends of the River is asking that the Tule River be given Wild and Scenic status. Many feel that the northern section of the Moses RA should be added to Sequoia Na-

tional Park and the southern section be designated an ancient forest reserve of some sort. There is a small piece of private land, Doyle Springs, on the Moses RA border whose residents strongly urge wilderness status for the area and oppose all roading.

To be put on the mailing list or to comment, write Del Pengilly, District Ranger, Tule River District, Sequoia National Forest, 32588 Highway 190, Springville, CA 93265. Send copies to Jim Crates, Forest Supervisor, Sequoia National Forest, 900 Grand Ave., Porterville, CA 93257, Paul Barker, Regional Forester, Region 5, 630 Sansome St., San Francisco, CA 94111 and Dale Robertson, Chief, Forest Service/USDA, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, D.C. 20090-6090.

Representatives involved are Charles (Chip) Pashayan, 203 House Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510 and Senators Pete Wilson and Alan Cranston, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C., 20510.

Robin Derbes is a freelance writer who owns property at Doyle Springs, California.

Pattison Roadless Area: Draft EIS gives no alternative for wildlife

The Forest Service has issued a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Bear Creek timber sale in the Pattison Roadless Area of the Shasta-Trinity National Forest.

The Wilderness Society, the local Citizens for Better Forestry, and South Fork Trinity Watershed Association take strong exception to the document, citing major deficiencies in its scope, analysis methods, and predicted impacts. The Bear Creek sale would be the first entry into this prime natural area of nearly 30,000 acres in Trinity County, which the county had previously supported for wilderness as part of its 1979 Roadless Area Review & Evaluation (RARE II) position.

In making this entry into this large and valuable roadless area, the Forest Service would be contributing to a decline in the area's ability to act as a haven for all forms of wildlife, and further contributing to a decline in the endangered fisheries of the South Fork Trinity River system.

In this Draft EIS the Forest Service has carried out their analysis in a rather contorted manner. They have included the entire 28,900 acre roadless area as the analysis area, but have only studied the 4,000 acres proposed for logging and roading. Thus, all the alternatives considered focus on various means to log timber in the entered portion of the area, and there is no consideration given to impacts on the balance of this prime expanse of wild lands. They do not even disclose what their eventual plans are for

The *Record* includes brief articles on roadless area timber sales and other management issues to alert people interested in those areas. We are willing to work with and advise people interested in maintaining the character of roadless areas.

road systems. Thus, their approach is like the camel that tries to stick its nose under the tent prior to collapsing the whole habitation by so doing.

Local and national environmental groups call for a complete and comprehensive range of alternatives to be considered and rigorously analyzed for the entire Pattison Roadless Area prior. In particular, they have asked the

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Snow Mtn. Roadless Area Logging Plans

About one-third of the remaining unprotected Snow Mountain Roadless Area is being eyed by the Mendocino National Forest for logging.

In 1984 37,000 acres were designated the Snow Mountain Wilderness. Some of the roadless area on the south side was left out, and is now being considered as part of the Fur timber sale.

According to Bob McCabe, a Forest Service timber sale preparation officer, alternatives being considered in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the sale are two logging systems. One involves 211 acres of helicopter logging while the other would log 237 acres using tractor-cable methods. The draft EIS might be completed by the beginning of 1990. To receive a copy or send in comments, write to James Giachino, District Ranger, Stonyford Ranger District, HC R-1, Box 12, Stonyford, CA 95979.



The California Desert's Whipple Mountains.

Photo by Jim Eaton

Desert

continued from page 1

by law. BLM's plan for tortoise recovery was treated with some skepticism.

Following testimony by Members of Congress and Administration officials, 10 of the 20 public witnesses spoke in favor of the prompt passage of H.R. 780. In the words of one critic of the bill, the pro-witnesses were articulate, knowledgeable, and well rehearsed.

Desert lobbyists were buoyed by last-minute news of endorsements by the Fresno City Council and both the City and County of Sacramento. Since the hearings, Long Beach has joined the list of cities endorsing the bill, making the total 13 cities and nine counties.

Where do we go from here? Rumors abound. The political strategy has been to move the bill in the House before taking it up again in the Senate. The issue is expected to heat up again immediately after Congress returns from its August recess.

Desert Representatives Bill Thomas, Al McCandless, Duncan Hunter, and Jerry Lewis are pushing for hearings in California before the committee takes action on the bill. Lewis indicated that before long he will introduce his own bill on the desert, but Representative Mel Levine is pushing for resolution now.

Judy Anderson is the Director of the California Desert Protection League.

Wilderness Act history

continued from page 2

Newspapers praised it as a "museum" of importance to science and celebrated its "freaks of nature."

Wilderness was also notable for its absence in the 1916 act establishing the National Park Service. Congress mentioned only "scenery," "wildlife," "natural and historic objects," and the necessity of keeping them "unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations." Nor was wilderness preservation an anticipated benefit of the restructuring of national park administration. Consequently, Stephen T. Mather, the first director of the Park Service, and his right-hand man, Horace M. Albright, saw nothing incompatible with park purposes and roads, tramways, resort hotels, scheduled bear feedings, and such synthetic spectacles as Yosemite's nightly firefall. It was not that Mather and Albright were insensitive clods; rather, they were keen students of public tastes, and in the 1920s and 1930s the American tourist did not put a premium on wilderness.

There were exceptions. The 1934 enabling act for Everglades National Park, for example, stated clearly that the great swamp was to be "permanently reserved as a wilderness." And six years later Kings Canyon became a roadless, hotelless national park in the southern Sierra which Congress directed the National Park Service to manage so as to preserve its "wilderness character." But these just tested the rule. As late as 1956, the National Park Service launched an ambitious program of facilities expansion called "Mission 66." Everglades and Kings Canyon

apart, nothing in the legislative directives of the other national parks required the protection of wilderness. If, under the broad concept of visitor "enjoyment," the Park Service determined to extend a road to a scenic overlook and put in a motel and coffee shop, so much for wilderness.

Although different from that of the National Park Service, the pre-1964 relationship of the United States Forest Service to wilderness was also half-baked—some recognition of wilderness but not the permanent legal protection Americans came to desire by the 1960s. Initially, to be sure, American forestry had nothing to do with wilderness preservation. Gifford Pinchot, who assumed direction of the forestry division of the Department of Agriculture in 1898 and became chief of the new United States Forest Service in 1905, received his training in Europe, where forests were crops. His ideal of sustained-yield management demanded periodic harvesting of mature timber. Pinchot, the archetype utilitarian conservationist, always expected the forest reserves (called national forests after 1907) to be productive, working environments. When his friend John Muir suggested in 1897 that the reserves be kept free of any economic activity, the friendship ended abruptly. Later, the two men clashed bitterly over the use of another undeveloped region: California's Hetch Hetchy Valley. Pinchot won that battle, too, when San Francisco received permission in 1913 to dam what Muir considered a holy wilderness temple.

But by the second decade of the twentieth century,

June Mtn. Ski Plan: Back to Square One

A decision has been made on the appeal of the proposed expansion of the June Mtn. ski resort in the Inyo National Forest. At least we *think* a decision has been reached.

In March 1988 Inyo Forest Supervisor Dennis Martin authorized an expansion of the June Mtn. ski area that would more than double the capacity of the existing resort and develop a portion of the San Joaquin Roadless Area. His decision was appealed by California Wilderness Coalition, Eastern Sierra Audubon Society, Friends of the Inyo, Toiyabe Chapter of the Sierra Club, and Sally Miller.

The appellants contend that the Forest Service needed to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that fully considers the impacts of the June Mtn. project and the future plans for a massive ski area complex that would join the June Mtn. and Mammoth Mtn. ski resorts.

The Regional Forester partially agreed with the appellants, but he did not require the preparation of a comprehensive EIS. The appellants then appealed this decision to the Forest Service Chief.

After *physically* losing the appeal, the Chief's office now has issued a decision, the crux of which follows:

"We are unable to make a determination on whether or not there should be one comprehensive EIS because many of the pertinent documents from the first level appeal record are not included in the record sent to us for review. Rather than delay these proceedings any further, and because the Forest Supervisor has already been directed to make further analysis and a new decision, we believe it sufficient to give direction to the Regional Forester to ensure that the Forest Supervisor seriously considers the option of making one comprehensive EIS."

So it is back to square one for the Forest Service. But since the Chief did not *require* a comprehensive EIS, the Inyo Forest Supervisor may choose not to write an EIS, leading the appellants back into the appeal process once again. Stay tuned for details.

the winds of change were beginning to modify the profession of forestry in America. A few people started to understand that the value of the national forests could be measured in terms other than board-feet. Recreation was also a forest product. As early as 1910, for instance, the Forest Service asked Treadwell Cleveland, Jr. to write about recreation on the public lands. And Cleveland made a significant prediction: "So great is the value of national forest areas for recreation, and so certain is this value to increase with the growth of the country and the shrinkage of wilderness, that even if the resources of wood and water were not required by...civilization, many of the forests ought certainly to be preserved...for recreation use alone." In 1917, Frank A. Waugh surveyed the recreational potential of the national forests. His report concluded that the "enticing wildness" of the forests had "direct human value" and should be given parity with economic consideration in determining the future of these public lands. Additional support for wilderness came from the Ecological Society of America. Founded in 1915, it called for preservation for the sake of science.

...to be continued in the next issue of the *Record*.

Rod Nash is a professor of history and environmental studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara, and one of the nation's foremost authorities on wilderness philosophy. His classic study Wilderness and the American Mind was first published in 1967 and has been revised twice.

California Wilderness Conference

"Celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act"

Tentative Agenda

Thursday, October 19th

A TIME TO WORK (Expanding Foundations-Part 1)

- 7:15am -Registration begins
- 8:00am - 3:30pmIn-depth workshop sessions
- 4:00pm - 5:00pmAgency Heads (BLM-Ed Hastey, Forest Service-Paul Barker, Park Service, etc.)
- 5:00pm - 5:45pmDiscussion with Agency Heads
- 7:00pm - 7:45pmMulti-media presentations by various individuals & organizations
- 7:45pm - 11:00pm A JOHN MUIR EVENING
- 8:00pm - 8:30pmJohn Muir State Holiday; presented by State Assemblyman Robert Campbell of Richmond
- 8:30pm - 11:00pm"An Evening with John Muir" starring actor Lee Stetson, followed by wilderness musicians (Bill Oliver, The Blusteins, or Darryl Cherney)

Friday, October 20th

A TIME TO WORK (Expanding Foundations-Part 2)

- 7:15am -Registration begins
- 8:00am - 3:30amIn-depth workshop sessions
- 4:00pm - 5:30pmGifford Pinchot performance
- 7:00pm - 7:50pm"Wheeled Locusts" slide show, presented by John Nakata & Howard Wilshire
- 8:00pm - 8:30pmSenator Alan Cranston
- 8:45pm - 10:30pmWilderness musicians (The Blusteins, Bill Oliver, &/or Darryl Cherney)

Saturday, October 21st

A TIME TO CELEBRATE & INFORM (The Past & The Present)

- 7:15am -Registration begins
- 8:35am -Welcome & announcements
- 9:00am - 10:30amThe Desert—presentation, then concurrent workshops on desert issues
- 11:00am - 11:30am.... "The 25th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act - Wild Lands & Waters: Past, Present, & Future"—Doug Scott, Sierra Club Conservation Director
- 11:35am - 12:00pmU.S. Representative Barbara Boxer
- 1:05pm - 2:20pmThe Waters—presentation by David Bolling, Executive Director, Friends of the River, then concurrent workshops on water issues
- 2:55pm - 4:10pmThe Forests—presentation & concurrent workshops on forest issues
- 4:20pm - 5:30pm"Reforming the Forest Service"—A slide lecture and discussion with Randal O'Toole
- 7:00pm - 7:45pmMulti-media presentations by various individuals & organizations
- 7:50pm - 8:15pmU.S. Representative Mel Levine
- 8:30pm - 9:30pm"Preservation & the Spirit of Adventure"—Galen Rowell, photographer & mtn. climber
- 9:45pm - 11:00pmWilderness musicians (The Blusteins, Bill Oliver &/or Darryl Cherney)

October 19-22, 1989
Visalia, California

Conference Co-sponsors:

Back Country Horsemen of California, 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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Sunday, October 22nd

A TIME TO ACT (The Present & The Future)

- 7:30am -Registration begins
- 9:00am - 11:00amEnvironmental Leaders
- 11:00am - 11:35amA TIME TO ACT (Deserts, Forests, Waters)
- 11:45am - 12:30pmEnvironmental Leaders
- 1:30pm - 3:15pmA TIME TO ACT (Deserts, Forests, Waters)

*Among the environmental leaders expected or scheduled to attend are: David Brower, Dave Foreman, Norman "Ike" Livermore, and Michael Fisher.

Pattison Roadless Area

continued from page 4

Shasta-Trinity National Forest to study a "wildlife alternative" and a "full development alternative"—both covering the entire area—as the two extremes.

A full development alternative should specify the location of all commercial timber and all future access roads in order to disclose what the eventual impacts of the Forest Service's development plans on this prime area would be. This information would have value to all sides of the debate, for not only would timber cutting potentials be fully disclosed, but so would the full extent of the damage to the area's natural ecosystems.

Of particular concern to The Wilderness Society is the wildlife resource. The Pattison Roadless Area presently is serving as a wildlife population reservoir. It is a natural haven for all wildlife species that presently live in and use the area and a constant source of life to re-populate the surrounding lands which have been so impacted by timber sales that they cannot support many species at prior levels.

An example of such a species is the black bear. Pattison is excellent bear habitat, and the black bear is presently suffering declining numbers in California. Pattison is also excellent habitat for other fur-bearing species and for old-growth dependent species such as the spotted owl. The Forest Service's draft EIS gives such species very inadequate

treatment and even goes so far as to claim that this timber sale will have no irreversible impacts on wildlife. That simply cannot be, given the sharp decline in population levels that has resulted from logging and road construction on adjacent land in the past.

Under the Society's proposed wildlife alternative, the Pattison Roadless Area would be managed for wildlife population maintenance and enhancement, including fisheries. The alternative would keep the area basically unchanged in the integrity of its ecosystems. Compatible uses would be encouraged, such as wildlife and fisheries research sites, research natural areas, low-impact wildlife and fisheries enhancement projects, developed back-country campsites, and unroaded primitive recreation. Roving would be excluded in order to prevent impacts on the population carrying capacity of the area for all species.

Interested parties are urged to write the Shasta-Trinity Forest Supervisor at 2400 Washington Ave., Redding, CA 96001. Those concerned might urge the agency to support the concept of the wildlife alternative and to begin managing the entire Pattison Roadless Area for its priceless wildlife resource, including the black bear. Also, those concerned might ask the agency to give consideration to the entire area as a whole in its EIS review and in so doing

look at a full range of alternatives that includes a complete disclosure of the effects of eventual plans for development.



Book Review

The Big Outside

A Descriptive Inventory of the Big Wilderness Areas of the U.S.

Dave Foreman and Howie Wolke, Ned Ludd Books, Tucson, 1989, 458 pp., \$19.00.

In the world there are normal people and there are wilderness fanatics. Wilderness fanatics spend their weeknights hunched over maps looking for out-of-the-way roadless areas to visit, imagining the terrain just by reading topographic maps, and working to preserve "real" wilderness—areas large enough to get lost in. Wilderness fanatics actually try to answer Uncle Jim's wilderness trivia quiz without automatically turning to the answer first.

These folks, and many normal ones as well, are about to shell out \$21.00 for a necessary reference book, *The Big Outside*. This book, by Dave Foreman and Howie Wolke of Earth First! fame (notoriety?), describes the big wilderness areas of the United States outside of Alaska.

The Big Outside is a big book. At 458 pages, it can keep a fanatic busy for many evenings reading about roadless areas 100,000 acres or larger (50,000 acres in the East) that still exist in 25 of our lower 48 states. Aside from keeping Uncle Jim stocked with trivia questions for months on end, you can get the answers to burning questions such as:

Where is the farthest point from a road in the U.S. outside of Alaska? What is the largest chunk of unroaded wild country in the 48 contiguous states?

Your local Forest Service official may not agree with some of the acreages Foreman and Wolke espouse. Written from a more radical perspective, they have no qualms about closing dirt roads and including private lands in their inventory.

The authors believe that while protecting all remaining wildlands is important, size is an important criteria for nature preserves. Many species of animals and plants require large tracts of land for their very existence.

The last such inventory prepared was done in 1938 by Robert Marshall. Although *The Big Outside* is more complete than his tally, the nine million-acre roadless area in Utah has been chewed up in the last 50 years as well as the million-acre area in the mountains above Santa Barbara.

The book is dedicated to the late Edward Abbey. In his Foreword, writer Michael Frome says that the book "challenges human conscience and courage to rescue the few remaining fragments of original America while there is still a chance to do so. Every word between its covers counts toward that end."

As Foreman and Wolke explain, "there is not enough wilderness left to compromise any further."

If you can't find this book in your local bookstore, you may order it directly from Ned Ludd Books, P.O. Box 5141, Tucson, AZ 85703. Price, including shipping, is \$21.00.

—Jim Eaton

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Another View of the Wilderness Act: A Monkeywrench in the Gears

"The Wilderness Act of 1964 was not a reform measure, it was a monkeywrench in the gears. The Forest Service had proven itself unwilling to protect wilderness on the national forests when after World War II it began to hack apart Bob Marshall's system and regulations. The Wilderness Act said simply that the Forest Service was incapable of protecting wilderness values within its general management framework and so those decisions would be taken out of its hands. The Wilderness Act is an indictment of the Forest Service's forest management. Designation of an area as wilderness is a means not to reform but to thwart standard agency management." — Dave Foreman

Excerpted from Foreman's essay on the Forest Service's forest planning process titled "The Expected Failure of Forest Planning," from the July 1989 issue of Forest Watch magazine.

CALENDAR

August 30 DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS for the South Fork Eel Wild & Scenic River Activity Management 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 16 & 17 WILDERNESS CONFERENCE for Southern Oregon and Northern California, in Ashland, OR. For more information, write to the Soda Mountain Wilderness Council, P.O. Box 512, Ashland, OR 97520.

September 21 DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS on the proposed listing of the northern spotted owl as a threatened species. Send written comments to: Listing Coordinator, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, 1002 N.E. Holladay St., Portland, OR 97232.

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 information, contact Karen Shimamoto, James Walker, or Doug Schultz at the above address or phone them at (916) 279-6116.

October 1 DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS on the Alnus timber sale in the Moses Roadless Area of the Sequoia National Forest. Comments for the sale's environmental impact statement should be sent to Del Pengilly, District Ranger, Tule River District, Sequoia National Forest, 32588 Highway 190, Springville, CA 93265. (For more information, see article on page 4.)

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 19-22 CALIFORNIA WILDERNESS CONFERENCE, sponsored by the CWC, in Visalia, CA. (See page 6 for more information.)



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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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:

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Wilderness Trivia Quiz answer: from page 2

According to Dave Foreman in *The Big Outside*, the highest peak in the Saline Range (northwest of Death Valley National Park) was not climbed until 1973. The Saline Range is part of the proposed 486,300-acre Saline Valley Wilderness in the California Desert Protection Act.

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