

Wilderness Record

Volume 25

Issue 1



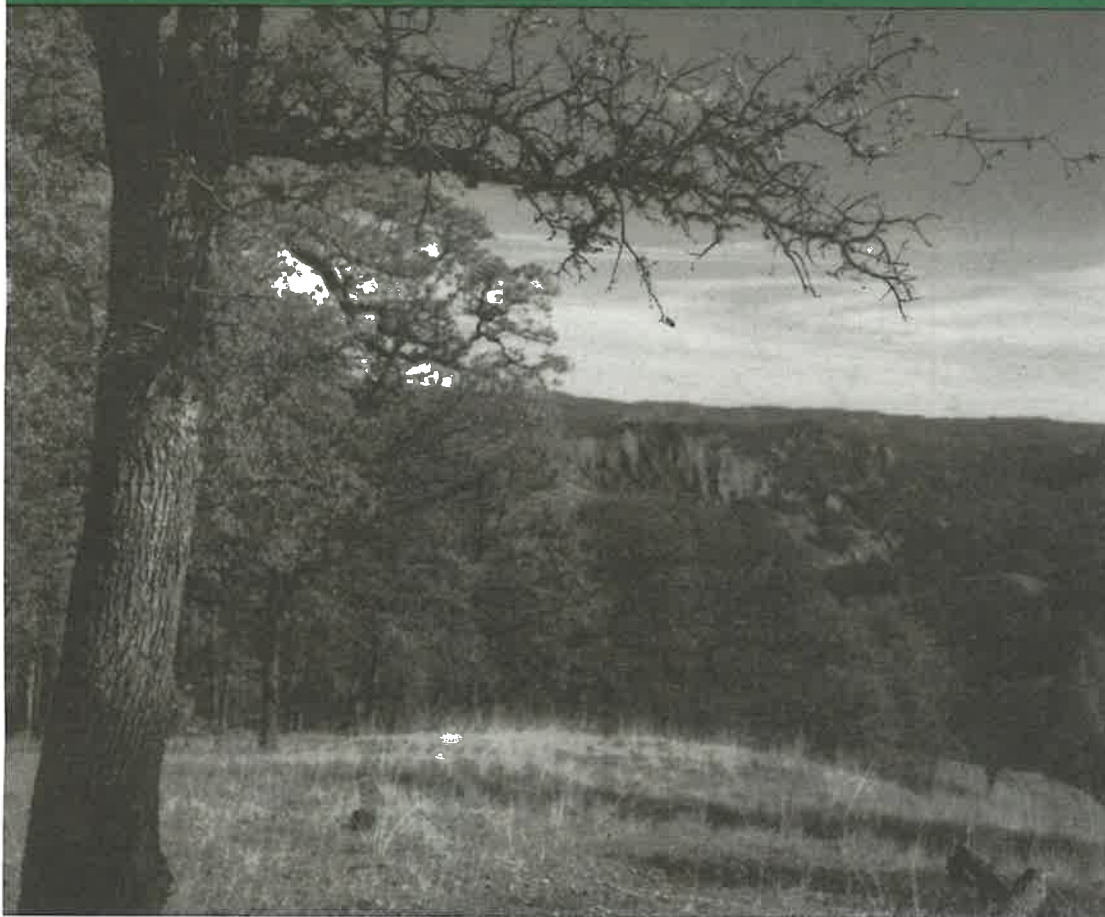
**CALIFORNIA
WILDERNESS
COALITION**

A Voice for Wild California

REGISTER TODAY FOR THE California Wilderness Conference

May 5 to 7, 2000

California State University, Sacramento



Learn

- about the new California Wild Heritage Campaign,
- about what wilderness is and means,
- about how we will preserve what wild places are left to save.

Celebrate

- the diversity of wilderness users,
- the history of wilderness preservation in California,
- the future of wilderness protection by welcoming a new generation of wilderness activists.

Act

- by applying your new knowledge,
- by using your new personal connections to other wilderness activists,
- by working to make your wilderness vision a reality with the California Wild Heritage Campaign.

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Our Mission

The California Wilderness Coalition defends the pristine landscapes that make California unique, provide a home to our wildlife, and preserve a place for spiritual renewal. We protect wilderness for its own sake, for ourselves, and for generations yet to come. We identify and protect the habitat necessary for the long-term survival of California's plants and animals. Since 1976, through advocacy and public education, we have enlisted the support of citizens and policy-makers in our efforts to preserve California's wildlands.

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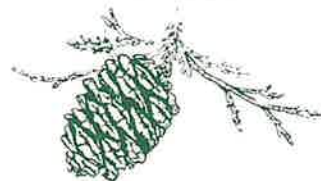
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Director's Report

Can we count on the teachers?



The year 2000 promises to be action-packed for California conservationists. President Clinton's initiative to protect wild forests could set aside four million acres of currently unprotected California wilderness. The President is also proposing to designate up to a half dozen national monuments throughout California, monuments that will preserve such important sanctuaries as the Carrizo Plain, Soda Mountain, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto mountains, and the Sequoia groves.

In addition, the U.S. Forest Service will soon complete a long-term management plan for the entire Sierra Nevada. This plan will guide the future management of 11 national forests. The agency is also completing a supplement to the President's Northwest Forest Plan, the plan that covers hundreds of thousands of acres of ancient forests and potential wilderness in northwest California.

Finally, the California Wilderness Coalition, along with numerous partners, has launched the California Wild Heritage Campaign, a long-term effort to protect millions of acres of wildlands throughout California as wilderness. 2000 will certainly be a busy year.

This flurry of activity has allowed a devious and pernicious measure to quietly make its way through the U.S. Congress, beneath the radar screens of numerous conservation organizations.

The measure is titled the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act, and its objectives are simple enough—to address budgetary shortfalls of rural counties caused by reduced national forest logging. But, as usual with industry-backed measures, the devil is in the details.

The bill will create "local advisory committees" in each rural county across the United States. These counties will receive a portion of national forest timber receipts, and will use this funding to plan logging projects in our national forests. This devolution—the turning over of national forest management to local entities—has been pushed by industry allies for decades. Remember the Sagebrush Rebellion? Welcome to the Y2K equivalent.

Such a plan would allow local committees (that are stacked in favor of increased resource extraction) to dictate the management of *national* forests. And do it with federal tax dollars. Imagine a Quincy Library Group in every county, one that does not operate by consensus but by majority rule. You get the picture.

What makes the measure so troublesome is not only the language of the bill itself, but the backers who are supporting it. By now, we have come to expect that the timber industry, organized labor, and rural counties, will continue to fight for increased logging in the national forests. But supporters of this measure include numerous county school boards throughout California, as well as the National Education Association. That's right, the NEA is going to bat for increased logging.

How did this happen? Since 1908, rural schools have received a portion of the receipts from national forest logging. As logging receipts have fallen, so has income for schools. For the past decade, rural schools have lobbied for increased national forest logging solely to generate more school funding. They have finally convinced the NEA to join them.

This is unfortunate for several reasons. First of all, the position of the NEA is bad for students. By continuing to link education funding to national forest logging, the NEA is subjecting students to a political debate. In effect, the NEA is joining the timber industry in holding students hostage to further their political objectives of increased logging. A more reasonable position would be to argue that the funding for education should be based on the needs of the students, not the amount of trees that are cut.

Further, the NEA's position is anti-forest and anti-wilderness. Our forests have suffered from a century of reckless logging. California's natural environment cannot stand continued abuse. That educators would join a lobby group that calls for increased logging to fund education is inconceivable. Our children and our forests deserve better.

If the timber-labor-teachers alliance sticks together, wilderness advocates will face tough sledding in the years to come. As a sign of things to come, the industry-education alliance is already considering opposing President Clinton's proposed wilderness protection policy. Will the teachers go to bat against wilderness proposals as well?

We should not disregard the power of this alliance. And we must show the teachers the inconsistencies of their position. Our teachers—whose job it is to prepare students for the future—must understand the value of setting aside land for future generations. Our job in the coming year is to educate the teachers, California's children, and our wilderness, are counting on us.

[Editor's note: see related alert on page 12.]

Paul Spitler
Executive Director

Cover photograph: Redbud Trail, Cache Creek Potential Wilderness, by Jim Eaton. Oak leaf found at the side of the Blue Ridge Trail, Cache Creek Potential Wilderness: possibly Oracle oak, a hybrid of black and interior live oaks.

The California Wild Heritage Campaign

Creating a Legacy of Hope and Opportunity

BY SCOTT HOFFMAN BLACK AND RYAN HENSON

Question: What do the King Range National Conservation Area, the White Mountains, the Little Sur River, the American River, the Amargosa river and the Orleans, Siskiyou and Portuguese roadless areas have in common?

Answer: They are some of the last unprotected wild areas and rivers in California.

Question: How do we make sure that these areas and others like them are protected for future generations to enjoy?

Answer: By encouraging and organizing groups and individuals from across the state to work together in a strong coalition to educate the public on the need to protect these areas and to advocate for their protection.

The California Wild Heritage Campaign is a new coalition that was formed by bringing together two already successful campaigns: Wildlands 2000 and the Sierra Nevada Forest Protection Campaign. The people and groups involved in these campaigns are now working together to protect wild areas and rivers across the state.

With these new partners comes a name change for Wildlands 2000: the California Wild Heritage Campaign (CWHC). The executive director of the CWHC is Scott Hoffman-Black, who is also the director of the Sierra Nevada Forest Protection Campaign. In addition, the campaign has hired Traci Sheehan as an outreach coordinator who will develop a comprehensive wilderness grassroots campaign.

The state has been divided into regions, each of which will have an organizer assigned to it. Sally Miller of The Wilderness Society will promote public support for wilderness in the eastern Sierra, Camille Armstrong will work in San Diego County, Warren Alford of the Sierra Club will organize the Bay Area region and portions of the coast, and Ryan Henson of the California Wilderness Coalition will generate support in far northern California. The remaining organizers have not been hired as of press time. The campaign has also hired former Capitol Public Radio (Sacramento's National Public Radio affiliate) reporter Jeff Howitt as its media coordinator. Last but not least, the California Wilderness Coalition, on behalf of the California Wild Heritage Campaign, has hired Sandra Fleming of Tehama County to work with local activists to get official wilderness proposals produced as soon as possible.

Over the last two years the California Wilderness Coalition has coordinated mapping efforts and community outreach throughout the state. The effort has grown tremendously and now involves numerous organizations and individuals from across California. On a parallel but separate course, Friends of the River has been working to inventory the wild and scenic rivers in the state.



Ryan Henson has trained dozens of field-checkers to read and mark maps of potential wilderness areas.

But the task of securing protection for these wild areas is bigger than any one conservation group. The mapping work and outreach of California Wilderness Coalition and Friends of the River, the large-scale education capacity of the Sierra Club, the economic and media work of The Wilderness Society, and the local outreach and education of dozens of grassroots groups across the state will be needed to make our goal a reality.

Through a highly focused campaign, we will lay a strong foundation for wilderness and wild rivers, and will develop a statewide base of support that will help assure the permanent protection for millions of acres of wildlands and hundreds of miles of river.

As the California Wild Heritage Campaign hires staff and develops action plans, the California Wilderness Coalition's ongoing wilderness organizing efforts continue. The goal of our organizing efforts is to create local wilderness committees in key communities around the state. These committees will develop and implement local outreach efforts with advice and other assistance from California Wilderness Coalition staff. The committees have been formed, or are in the process of being established, in Susanville, Redding, Mount Shasta, Etna, Nevada City, Truckee, Visalia, Kernville, Alpine County, Mono County, Lake County, Trinity County, Chico, Garberville, Alturas, and Ukiah. Allowing local organizations and grassroots activists an opportunity to develop and coordinate local wilderness organizing efforts is a welcome departure from the top-down conservation campaigns that were all too frequent in the past.

The future of California wilderness and wild rivers is in your hands.

Despite intensive development and an expanding population, California still contains many special places where the natural landscape remains intact. However, these lands and waters remain at great risk from future degradation.

As always, volunteers are invaluable in making the vision of wilderness a reality. Won't you join us in this campaign to protect California's unique natural heritage?

For more information, please contact:
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Scott Hoffman Black is director of the California Wild Heritage Campaign and the Sierra Nevada Forest Protection Campaign. Ryan Henson is a Conservation Associate for the California Wilderness Coalition.



"STOP THE BULLDOZERS AND LOCK UP THE CHAINSAWS. THIS MAY BE OUR LAST CHANCE TO SAVE SIGNIFICANT BITS OF THE CALIFORNIA THAT WAS. ALL WILDERNESS ADVOCATES SHOULD ATTEND THE CONFERENCE."

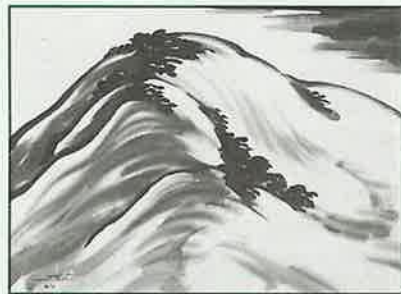
— Martin Litton

In the last 20 years we have lost wilderness in California the size of Yosemite National Park. It is time to organize to stop this loss.

The California Wilderness Conference will inspire, educate and activate friends of wilderness from across the Golden State. Wilderness faithful — young and old, new and seasoned, people of faith and people of color, Native Americans, and others — will meet to celebrate our victories, learn from those who have made wilderness happen, and organize a campaign to preserve California's remaining unprotected wilderness.

Join us and help make history.

— Paul Spitler, Executive Director
California Wilderness Coalition



California Wilderness Conference

May 5 to 7, 2000

California State University, Sacramento



Friday

1:00 pm

Welcome to the California Wilderness Conference
Paul Spitler, Exec. Dir., California Wilderness Coalition

1:15-1:40

Keynote — California Wilderness: History & Future
Jim Eaton, founder, California Wilderness Coalition

1:45-3:15

The 1964 Wilderness Act — A panel moderated by
Jay Watson, Regional Director, The Wilderness Society

3:30-4:30

The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act — A panel moderated by
Betsy Reifsnider, Executive Director, Friends of the River

4:30-5:00

Diversity in Wilderness Activism

5:00-5:30

Grantland Johnson, Secretary, California Health & Human Services (invited)

8:00-10:00

Evening Mixer, *John Muir (Frank Helling), Dave Foreman, Friends of Nevada Wilderness*
"Forever Wild" slide show

Saturday

8:30-9:00 am

Keys to Success — *Barb Boyle, California/Nevada/Hawaii Regional Director, Sierra Club*

9:00-10:00

California Wild Heritage Campaign slide show

10:00-10:30

Wilderness on the National Scene — *Doug Scott, People for Puget Sound*

10:45-12:00

Issue Panels — Session I

1:00-2:15

Issue Panels — Session II

2:30-4:00

Regional Workshop

4:15-5:30

Issue Panels — Session III

6:30-11:00 pm

Dinner — Emceed by *Joan Reinhardt Reiss, President, CWC*

A Success Story: the South Yuba Wild and Scenic River
Nevada County Supervisor Izzy Martin

Vignettes, recognition and awards with *David Brower, Martin Litton, Ike Livermore, Harriet Allen, Ed and Peggy Wayburn, Lucille Vinyard, Marge Sill, Elden Hughes, Katherine Petterson, Floyd Buckskin, Theodore Martinez, and many others*
Mumbo Gumbo — music

Sunday

8:30-9:30

Wildland Spirituality — *David Robertson, Putah-Cache Bioregion Project; Gary Snyder, Pulitzer Prize-winning poet; and Reverend Sharon Delgado, Earth Justice Ministries*

9:30-9:50

Why Environmentalists Aren't as Popular as They Once Were — *Chris Arthur, legislative expert*

10:00-11:30

Regional Workshop — Session II

11:40-12:10

A Call to Action — *Dave Foreman, founder, The Wildlands Project*

12:10-12:20

Final thank-yous and adjourn

1:00-4:00

Group meetings and presentations

CALIFORNIA WILDERNESS CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

Please complete this form and mail it, with payment (check or credit card) to California Wilderness Coalition, CONFERENCE, 2655 Portage Bay East, #5, Davis, CA 95616. Forms may be faxed to (530) 758-0382, or emailed to info@calwild.org. Registration confirmation* will be sent upon receipt of payment. (Please print)

First Name Last Name

Address City State Zip

Affiliated organization Title or Position

Home Phone Work Ph. Fax Email

Which wilderness have you adopted, or which is your favorite?

Please print names of all registrants here:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Registration Items

Registration Items	# of Items	Total
Conference	_____	@ \$45 _____
Saturday box lunch	_____	@ \$9 _____
Saturday Celebration dinner (must pre-register)	_____	@ \$25 _____
Conference T-shirt	_____	@ \$12 _____

Dinner: ☐ Chicken ☐ Vegetarian

Total Fee _____

Shirt #'s & size(s):

(Some scholarships available)

☐ I am interested in a scholarship

☐ I am interested in staying with a host

Credit Card: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express

Owner's Name (print as appears on card)

Credit Card Number Exp. Date

X _____

Owner's signature Date

*Information on lodging will be included with your registration confirmation packet.

Partial List of Workshops and Panels

FRIDAY

1:45 P.M. - 3:15 P.M.

THE 1964 WILDERNESS ACT

History of the Wilderness Act with a special emphasis on California

3:30 P.M. - 4:30 P.M.

THE NATIONAL WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT

The campaign to preserve Wild and Scenic Rivers in California endures

SATURDAY

10:45 P.M. - 12:00 P.M.

WOMEN IN WILDERNESS

What special perspectives, qualities and strengths can women offer to the wilderness movement? Susan Tixier, Great Old Broads for Wilderness

FINDING COMMON GROUND: BUSINESS PARTNERS

How do we identify and work with businesses to advocate for wilderness protection? Leigh Fitzpatrick, Sierra Business Council

WILDERNESS SCIENCE, RESEARCH, & THE WILDLANDS PROJECT

What are conservation biology and island biogeography? The Wildlands Project is a visionary approach to restoring and protecting the ecological biota of the North American continent. Dave Foreman, The Wildlands Project

WILDERNESS ON OUR PUBLIC LANDS: CURRENT PHILOSOPHY, ACTION AND MANAGEMENT

This discussion will focus on wilderness stewardship and management issues faced by public agencies and look at what they envision in the 21st Century. Jim Eaton, founder, California Wilderness Coalition

ALL POLITICS IS LOCAL

How to focus positive actions on key decision-makers and blunt the power of your opposition: developing a comprehensive community plan and conducting a successful campaign for local wilderness

USING THE MEDIA: IF A TREE FALLS IN THE FOREST AND LOCAL TV NEWS DIDN'T COVER IT, DID IT REALLY FALL?

Get your message out and do it creatively: ideas and strategies

1:00 P.M. - 2:15 P.M.

CREATION-VALUING SPIRITUALITY

People from several faith traditions will reflect on our human role as members of the community of life, called to protect and treasure all of God's creation. Susan Hope Bower, Christian Environmental Council

WILDERNESS AS HABITAT: CRITTERS AND PLANTS

Wilderness provides habitat for old growth trees, oaks, bears, lions, eagles, amphibians, tule elk, martin, fishers, and bighorn sheep. What are the challenges and opportunities we face in protecting these species? Lynn Sadler, The Mountain Lion Foundation

THE CALIFORNIA DESERT ACT: WE'RE NOT DONE YET

Come hear from those who were and who remain in the trenches as the complex follow-up of that monumental legislation unfolds. Jim Dodson, Sierra Club

NUTS AND BOLTS OF A GRASSROOTS CAMPAIGN

Coalition building, community events and forums, action alerts and phone banks, and getting local VIP's to support and sponsor your campaign. Creative sleuthing techniques for searching out who influences the person you want to influence

2:30 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.

REGIONAL PANELS FOR THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA: SESSION I

The California Wild Heritage Campaign organizers will help us work together region by region to identify key decision makers, analyze our opposition, and develop our tools and plans to ensure success.

4:15 P.M. - 5:30 P.M.

WILDERNESS USERS: CONFLICT AND COMMON GROUND

Can we find tolerance and understanding for traditional wilderness users? Listen to those most affected outline their concerns and needs. Sally Miller, The Wilderness Society

CULTURAL VALUES AND THE WILDERNESS MOVEMENT

Learn more about dynamic leadership demonstrated by members of California's diverse ethnic groups. Connie Stewart, Mayor of Arcata

RESOURCE ECONOMICS: WILDERNESS DOLLARS

While it is difficult to quantify the value of wilderness to clean water, habitat and human spirituality, recent studies have examined the value of wilderness recreation to rural communities

SUNDAY

10:00 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.

REGIONAL PANELS FOR THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA: SESSION II

There will be an exhibition hall and a presentation room for groups and individuals.



Artwork courtesy of the Obata family and Yosemite Association

Conference Sponsors:

California Wilderness Coalition
Sierra Club
The Wilderness Society
Friends of the River
Mountain Lion Foundation
CSUS Environmental Studies
Seventh Generation Fund
(Partial List)

Waiting for applause...

Clinton tests the waters with a few new National Monuments

Letters are needed to encourage Administration to designate additional monuments

On January 11, 2000, President Clinton delivered a stirring speech at the Grand Canyon, then signed proclamations that created or enlarged four national monuments, including two in California. The new national monuments include the California Coastal National Monument, and the Grand Canyon-Parashant National Monument and Agua Fria National Monument in Arizona. The President also decreed expansion of the Pinnacles National Monument, located a scant distance from California's Silicon Valley.

The Clinton Administration is actively considering designating several other monuments in California. *It is urgent that the public show its support for these additional biologically rich areas, which include the Sequoia groves, the Santa Rosa Mountains outside Palm Springs, the Carrizo Plain, and Soda Mountain, which straddles the California/Oregon border.*

Expansion of Pinnacles National Monument

BY BOB McLAUGHLIN

President Clinton's proclamation added 8,000 acres to the Pinnacles National Monument. While this was only two-thirds of the originally proposed acreage of 24,000 acres, it is still cause for celebration. (The additional acreage under consideration included private land, which would have to be purchased before being annexed.)

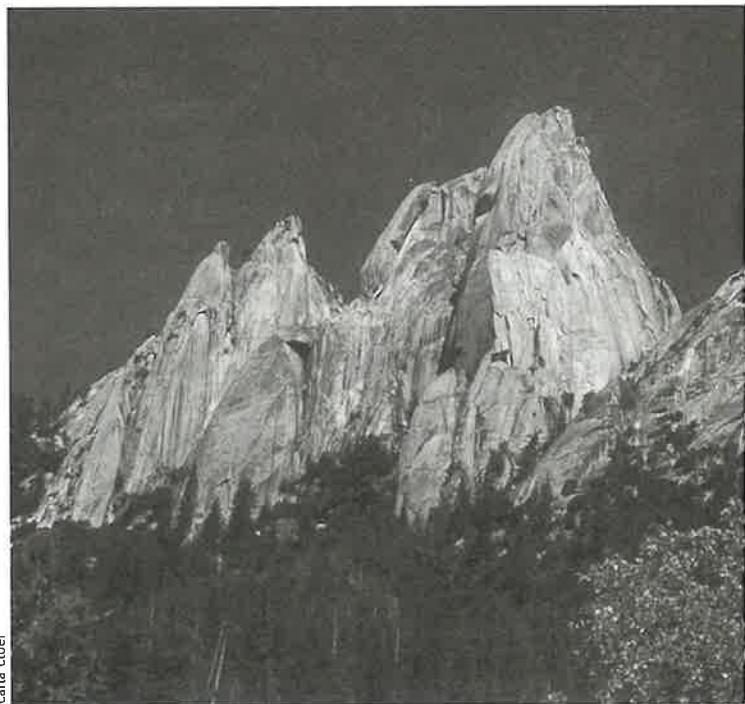
The expansion of Pinnacles National Monument was a smart choice by the Clinton Administration for many reasons:

1. It gave the Monument more geographically rational boundaries that will facilitate preservation of scenic views and protection of native wildlife and plants. Adding BLM land to the Monument will bring more of the watershed of Chalone Creek, one of the Monument's most important resources, under unified Park Service control. Critical



Bob McLaughlin

View to the north from within the north side addition to the Pinnacles National Monument.



Carla Cloer

Peregrine falcons have nested on these peaks overlooking the Kern River. Known as the Needles, these and other areas, including the world-renowned sequoia groves, would be included in the proposed Sequoia National Monument.

tributary streams and riparian habitat will be added to the Monument. Expansion will protect McCabe Creek and McCabe Ridge, which is part of the High Peaks view shed.

2. It will relieve backcountry overcrowding. Pinnacles National Monument suffers from severe overcrowding problems during the spring, which expansion will help alleviate.

3. It will preserve critical habitat for several rare species and increase protection of various Diablo Range ecosystems. Plants and animals of limited range will be helped directly by this. The Monument is still too small to protect sufficient habitat for wide ranging animals, but hopefully this will set a precedent for future conservation in the Diablo Range. Areas just to the north of Pinnacles National Monument are already coming under development pressure from Silicon Valley spillover.

The California Coastal National Monument

BY JAY WATSON

The small rocks, islands, and exposed reefs along the California coast have long been recognized as critical habitat in a unique marine ecosystem. In 1983, the Bureau of Land Management recognized them as a wildlife sanctuary. Steller sea lions, elephant seals, and harbor seals depend on these rocks and islands for "haul out" areas. In

addition, an estimated 200,000 breeding seabirds of at least 13 different species (including least terns, oystercatchers, and brown pelicans) use them for nesting and perching sites.

President Clinton has extended protection to this important area by proclaiming the California Coastal National

Monument, which extends over an 840-mile long stretch. The rugged California coast attracts millions of people every year to dive for abalone, fish, explore tide pools, watch birds and other marine wildlife, or enjoy the dramatic scenery.

The Proposed Sequoia National Monument

BY CARLA CLOER

Over 100 years ago, when John Muir won his campaign to create Sequoia National Park, the public thought the ancient and majestic giant sequoias, the largest living things on earth, native only to the western slopes of California's Sierra Nevada, were safe from the chain saw. In truth, more than half of the sequoias are NOT protected. They are in grave jeopardy in Sequoia National Forest, where logging reigns.

The proposed Sequoia National Monument will protect these "forgotten groves" and their sustaining ecosystems. And just

as important, it will protect and restore some of the most spectacular forests, vistas, landmarks, and wildlife habitat in the entire Sierra Nevada Range. To the north, the Monument will encompass most of the Hume Lake District where awesome views of the Kings River intertwine with remote sequoias. To the south, it encloses the eastern and southernmost groves whose watersheds include the mighty Kern River's descent through unique habitats resulting from an interface of Sierran and desert ecosystems.

Included are roadless areas and large blocks of closed canopy old growth forest populated with pine marten, fisher and spotted owl. The nest of the last condor born in the wild is hidden in the cavity of a sequoia near condor roosting sites in the Lion Ridge Roadless Area; reintroduced condors have been sighted here.

In 1984, after overlogging less sensitive lands, the Forest Service approved logging in nine sequoia groves; a 1986 Sierra Club lawsuit won an injunction and since then nearly every timber sale has been challenged. Logging has been slowed, but not stopped. Today the USFS doesn't log the sequoias themselves, but adjacent logging projects change-grove hydrology, cause erosion which undercuts the sequoia's roots, and change the microclimate upon which sequoias depend. Protection of sequoias demands more than merely sparing the land beneath their roots.

Sequoia National Forest has no Giant Sequoia Management Plan and no Fire and Fuels Management Plan, although both are required. Consequently, there are no guidelines about what to do if fire enters groves. Yet, fire suppression activities could pose a greater threat to the

groves than the fire with which they have evolved.

Projects abutting sequoias and in nearby ancient forests will haul off over 40 million board feet of old-growth. Logging the southern Sierra, with its low rainfall, steep, granitic, erosive soils that have low water holding capacity, is a disaster.

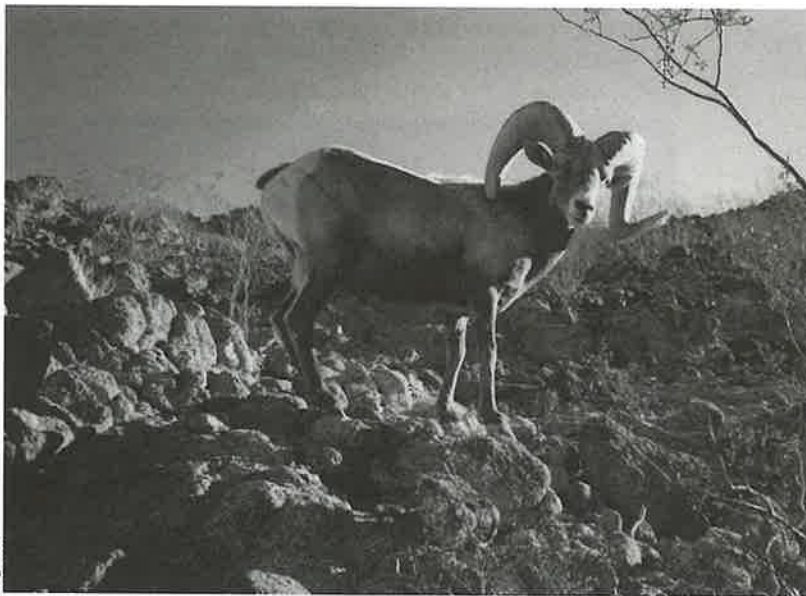
On February 15, President Clinton announced a proposal for a Sequoia National Monument at a press conference. A hearing date and location will be announced soon. After a 60-day comment period, a decision will be issued about whether to create the Sequoia National Monument. Letters encouraging the creation of the Sequoia National Monument are needed! (Please see "What you can do" on page 9.)

To take action: Sign on to NRDC's petition at <<http://www.nrdc.org/wildcalifornia/seqact.html>>. To receive alerts: Sequoia Task Force, P.O. Box 3543, Visalia CA 93278. For more information, send email to <cac@ocsnet.net> or <fontaine@lightspeed.net>.

The Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains Proposed National Monument

BY JOAN TAYLOR

The Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains have long been recognized as a nationally significant scenic resource. These mountains contain the steepest vertical escarpment in the



Bighorn Institute

Designating the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains a National Monument would help protect essential habitat for endangered Peninsular bighorn sheep (pictured here), desert slender salamander, least Bell's vireo, southwestern willow flycatcher and desert tortoise.

northern hemisphere, rising from 400 feet to 10,800 feet in elevation in 4 miles. They have been declared an international Biosphere Reserve, which encompasses five life zones ranging from Sonoran Desert to Arctic/Alpine.

The mountains provide essential habitat for many species. The area's unique natural, wilderness, scenic, cultural and biotic resources are enjoyed by over a million visitors annually. Visitors use the Palm Springs Aerial

continued on the next page



Paula Schiffman

Wildflower prairies of the Carrizo Plain constitute the largest and best remaining intact examples of the ecosystems that historically dominated much of California's San Joaquin Valley.

National Monuments, continued from the previous page

Tramway or the hundreds of miles of non-motorized trails to access the area. John Muir wrote of his climb to the peak, "The view from San Jacinto is the most sublime spectacle to be found anywhere on this earth."

Contained within the proposed National Monument are the San Jacinto Wilderness Areas (federal and state), San Jacinto State Park, the Santa Rosa Wilderness Area, the Indian Canyons Heritage Park, a potential addition to the San Jacinto Wilderness, the University of California Natural Reserve System Deep Canyon Research Center, the Magnesia Canyon State Ecological Reserve (and other smaller State Ecological Reserves), State Route 74 (a designated Scenic Highway), and the BLM Santa Rosa Mountains National Scenic Area Visitor Center.

There is a long history of efforts to preserve all or portions of the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains as a national monument, national park, or state park. These efforts have failed in past years to come to fruition, largely because the Agua Caliente, whose reservation lies within the mountains, had concerns about stewardship of lands and assuring protection of cultural and other values. The Agua Caliente tribe of Cahuilla Indians manages the world famous Indian Canyons, including Palm Canyon, the largest and finest palm oasis in the United States.

However, recently the Secretary of the Interior has reached an accord with the Agua Caliente over acquisition and exchange of lands within the mountains, recognizing tribal rights, and ensuring protection of unique resources.

In 1999, the Clinton administration advocated the creation of a National Monument of approxi-

California jewelflower (*Caulanthus californica*), one of the federally listed endangered species native to the Carrizo Plain.

Paula Schiffman



mately 280,000 acres, embracing both the BLM and USFS lands as well as private and Agua Caliente tribal lands. However, the Administration has not yet issued the proclamation needed to make the National Monument a reality.

The Proposed Carrizo Plain National Monument

BY PAULA SCHIFFMAN

The Carrizo Plain Natural Area is an

"ecosystem relict," meaning that its grasslands, wildflower prairies, spiny saltbush scrub and *Ephedra* savannas constitute the largest and best remaining intact examples of the ecosystems that historically dominated much of California's San Joaquin Valley. Because of this, the Carrizo Plain is critical habitat for many migratory birds as well as numerous endemic

species including threatened and endangered animals (giant kangaroo rat, blunt-nosed leopard lizard, San Joaquin kit fox, San Joaquin antelope squirrel) and plants (California jewelflower, San Joaquin woolly threads). In addition, the Carrizo Plain is one of the best places to view the San Andreas earthquake fault and other geological curiosities. And it is a place of historical and cultural importance to Native Americans.

Although it said to be "cooperatively managed by the United States Bureau of Land Management (BLM), California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) and The Nature Conservancy (TNC)," the BLM is by far the largest landowner and, therefore, dictates the Carrizo Plain's land management. At the Carrizo Plain, management is done in very close collaboration with the livestock industry. In addition, the hunt of numerous wildlife species is encouraged at Carrizo by CDFG. While the "managing agencies" do focus some attention on the Carrizo's threatened and endangered species, the ecologies of hundreds of other native species that lack explicit federal protection are essentially ignored. Ironically, it is these other species that provide the habitat that sustains the federally listed species that the agencies are mandated to protect. If the Carrizo Plain's rare and special ecosystem is to persist into the future, it must be understood and managed as a complex whole.

Currently, Congressional Representative Lois Capps (D-San Luis Obispo) and pro-BLM forces are attempting to prevent the creation of Carrizo Plain National Monument by advocating legislation that would designate the Carrizo Plain as a "national conservation area." Unfortunately, Capps's proposed House bill not an acceptable alternative. As a "national conservation area," the budget for BLM management might increase, but conservation would not be adequately enhanced nor would

exploitation by livestock interests be eliminated. Moreover, the hunt of pronghorn antelope, tule elk, quail, rabbits, pig, rabbits, coyotes, doves, etc. would continue. The best hope for genuine protection for all of the Carrizo Plain's diverse species is as a national monument, as national monuments are overseen by the National Park Service (NPS).

Representative Capps and the rest of Congress should be urged to abandon the national conservation area concept and instead give strong support to a presidential designation of Carrizo Plain National Monument.

Please tell your government officials that you support the Carrizo Plain National Monument!

An Oregon-California National Monument Proposal: Soda Mountain

BY DAVE WILLIS

One of the best wild places in southern Oregon is in northern California — and vice versa.

Near Siskiyou Pass, "the flows of life run north and south along the Cascades, east and west along the Siskiyous. These great flows converge along the Oregon-California border, in an area known for its highest peak, Soda Mountain," where the Great Basin, Cascade Range, Siskiyou Mountains, and inland valleys intersect.

Species at the limits of their ranges mingle to form unique communities. This region is a crossroads, "an important link for migration, dispersion, and the process of evolution in the Northwest." The Klamath-Siskiyou Mountains hold the most botanically diverse coniferous forest in North America.

Secretary of Interior Bruce Babbitt visited the Oregon side of the Soda Mountain area last October as a potential national monument site. He declared 2000 to be a "year of decision" for the area. But the Department of Interior continues to give mixed signals about including contiguous California public lands in a probable Oregon national monument designation.

The Soda Mountain area's steep canyons, breathtaking vistas, sunlit oak groves, wildflower-strewn meadows, hidden waterfalls, and towering fir forests — in both California and Oregon — are a single ecological unit with greater than local significance. A state line should not be a factor in a national designation that will enable public acquisition of private inholdings from willing sellers and help BLM protect public land in both states from degradation by logging, commercial livestock, off-road vehicles, and future mining threats.

We recommend proclaiming the bi-state Soda Mountain area a National Monument and naming it the "Soda Mountain National Ecological Preserve." On February 14, Senator Boxer wrote Secretary Babbitt supporting inclusion of the California lands in the proposed Soda Mountain National Ecological Preserve. Please THANK Senator Boxer for her support, and urge Senator Feinstein and Governor Davis to join her.

For more information, contact Dave Willis of the Soda Mountain Wilderness Council; telephone (541) 482-0526 or send email to <sodamtn@mind.net>.

What you can do!

Please write to President Clinton, Senators Boxer and Feinstein and Governor Gray Davis at the following addresses and tell them that you support the additional proposed national monuments: Sequoia National Monument, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument, Carrizo Plain National Monument, and Soda Mountain National Ecological Preserve. Your letters will help provide the critical support to protect these precious areas.

President Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

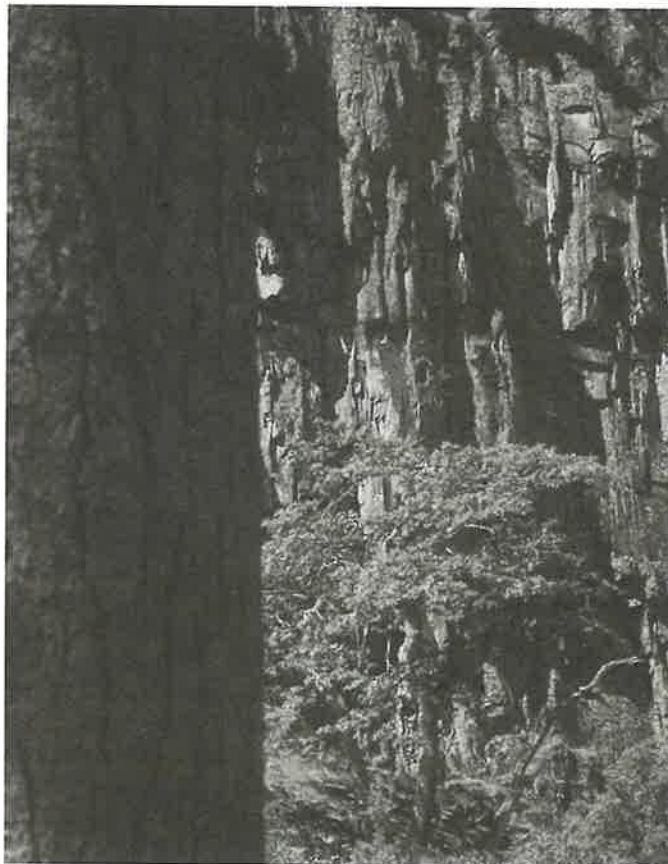
The Honorable
Dianne Feinstein
US Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable
Barbara Boxer
US Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Governor Gray Davis
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

Contributors to this article included: Carla Cloer, Bob McLaughlin, Paula Schiffman, Joan Taylor, Jay Watson, and Dave Willis. Carla Cloer has worked to protect the Sequoias since 1979 and teaches the third grade. Bob McLaughlin is a dedicated activist for the Wilderness Committee of the Bay Chapter of the Sierra Club, which has worked hard since the early 1980's to bring Pinnacles expansion to fruition. Paula M. Schiffman, Ph.D., is a professor of biology at California State University, Northridge, and has had a long-standing and on-going scientific-ecological research program at the Carrizo Plain. Joan Taylor has worked for many years to protect the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains. Jay Watson is Calif./Nevada regional director of The Wilderness Society. Dave Willis is an outfitter-guide who coordinates the Soda Mountain Wilderness Council. He has been working to protect Soda Mountain wildlands since 1983.

WR



Soda Mountain Wilderness Council

The proposed Soda Mountain National Ecological Preserve

Past and future problematic proposals and projects

State of California must stop contributing to environmentally damaging ORV routes

Almost thirty years ago, the California legislature enacted legislation designed to address the environmental damage caused by a growing number of off-road vehicles (ORVs). Tens of thousands of jeeps, motorcycles, dune-buggies, and snowmobiles were disrupting wildlife habitat, degrading watersheds, causing air and water pollution, and creating conflicts with hikers, backpackers, skiers and others seeking the peace and quiet of the great outdoors.

The legislature decided to annually direct \$25-30 million of the state's gas tax revenues towards supporting ORV recreation opportunities, while attempting to minimize the environmental and social conflicts caused by these vehicles. Nearly three decades and half a billion dollars later, the program is fraught with abuse.

Off-road vehicles continue to harm soils, wildlife, and watersheds; conflicts with other recreationists abound; violations of wilderness and other laws occur with increasing frequency. Further, the program that was designed to limit the damage caused by ORVs, is now doing just the opposite.

The following examples are a sampling of the projects that have been funded with state tax dollars through California's off-road vehicle program. It is a program that continues to jeopardize our state's last wild places, and one that is in need of serious review.

Sequoia National Forest

Only a month and a half before Forest Service Chief Mike Dombeck finalized a nationwide policy prohibiting road construction in certain roadless areas, the Sequoia National Forest released a "trail plan" that calls for the construction of 27 miles of new off-road vehicle routes into unprotected wilderness areas in the Sequoia. (The Forest Service claims that only ten miles of vehicle routes will be built into roadless areas, but agency maps show 27 miles of new vehicle routes.)

The 43,700-acre Chico wild area will be carved up by three miles of new ORV routes. The Oat Mountain area is scheduled for seven miles of new routes. Routes are planned for the Rincon, Staff, Cannell, and Dennison Peak de facto wildernesses as well. So many new routes are planned for the Staff wild area, that the Forest Service is proposing to open to motorized vehicles over 5,000 acres of the area that were previously closed to such vehicles.

While the "trail plan" is not currently funded through the State of California off-highway vehicle program, the plan was originally funded through the state program. (Note that only management plans that called for continued or increased ORV use can be funded through the state program, thus predetermining the outcome of the trail plan.) Additionally, the Sequoia National Forest is approved for

\$440,000 for off-highway vehicle "operation and maintenance" in the 1999-2000 state budget.

Inyo National Forest

Currently, several routes are under consideration within the Inyo National Forest that would affect unprotected wilderness areas. The first is the reconstruction of an ancient route up Birch Creek into the White Mountains potential wilderness area. This primitive route was eliminated by flooding some years ago, but under the new proposal will be re-built and turned into a standard four-wheel drive route.

A second route is planned up Furnace Creek in the eastern White Mountains. A primitive route once existed here, but it too has washed away. Both of these routes are within the area we are currently considering for proposed wilderness; the construction of these routes will severely damage the wilderness character of the area and will make wilderness designation much more difficult.

These projects are being funded primarily with monies received through the state grants program. Without such funding, it is unlikely that the projects would have been proposed.

Mammoth Bar

The State of California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) operates a off-highway recreation area on Bureau of Reclamation land adjacent to the Middle Fork American River. With state funding, DPR has constructed a motocross track and parking lot within a stone's throw of the Middle Fork American, a potential Wild and Scenic River. (Ten years ago, the area was considered a "sacrifice zone," as it was scheduled to be inundated by the waters of the Auburn dam.) The motocross track is fraught with environmental problems, in an area the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) says has "significant and sensitive biological, scenic, and recreational qualities." EPA went on to state that it was "very concerned about the potential lack of compliance with federal laws" at the site.

Nonetheless, the federal Bureau of Reclamation has received annual state funding through the state off-highway vehicle grants program since 1993. The Bureau will receive \$250,000 from the program in 1999-2000.

The California Wilderness Coalition, along with several of our partners, is working to ensure that the California ORV program conforms with all applicable state and federal regulations, and that the program does not fund environmentally damaging ORV activities. For more information on this program, contact the California Wilderness Coalition office at (530) 758-0380.

WR



Bob Schneider

Experts participated in large and small group discussions and made many useful recommendations at the recent Sierra Nevada Wildlands Project workshop.

CWC hosts Sierra Nevada science workshop

BY CHRIS ERICHSEN

On January 15 and 16, 2000, the California Wilderness Coalition hosted over 25 scientists, who were participating in a science workshop held in Davis. Sheltered from a cool winter shower, a dedicated set of wildlife biologists, planners, academic researchers, ecologists, and activists spent a day and a half reviewing and editing over 20 maps of the Sierra Nevada region. As a milestone in the Sierra Nevada Wildlands Project's mapping process, the science workshop was extremely useful in identifying preliminary boundaries for a regional reserve network.

Widely recognized as a tool of conservation planning, science workshops are an effective way to pool a diverse knowledge base. By utilizing cartography, the result is, in Wildlands Project terminology, a Vision Map. At a coarse scale, a Vision Map defines the forest types, roadless areas, wildlife habitat, endemic species, watersheds, migration routes, and other biologically key areas necessary to compose a functional, fully representational reserve network. True to its name, it is a vision for the long-term (1) viability of an ecoregion or larger area.

The Wildlands Project (TWP) staff ecologists Barbara Dugelby and Michael Soulé spoke about TWP history and the tenets of the Rewilding (2) approach, respectively. Dr. Soulé explained the principle of "top-down regulation," in

which large carnivores are critically important for keeping the size of populations of other species, such as deer, in balance (and yet in many places, these crucial predators are currently absent from the ecosystem). From this vantage point, the participants had a foundation upon which to base the Sierra Nevada Wildlands Project goals, as presented by Chris Erichsen, California Wildlands Project coordinator:

- 1) *Restore native species*
- 2) *Preserve all native plant communities and riparian systems*
- 3) *Rewild the greater Sierra Nevada by healing major ecological wounds*
- 4) *Implement wildlands conservation strategy*

The results of the workshop were developed in the small group brainstorming sessions which followed. The larger group subdivided into three focal species groups in order to concentrate available expertise, review the wildlife mapping methods, and identify key

areas the experts believe are vital to a reserve network. The aquatics group proposed 20 site nominations with a justification for each based upon known species and community types present or in need of restoration. Carnivores were addressed by six experts, who identified focal species and key data layers necessary to create a regional habitat network for the wolverine, fisher, marten, California spotted owl, and goshawk.

The third group addressed native grazers and the need to protect deer migration routes, sage grouse habitat, and remaining patches of wintering grounds in the oak woodlands.

The science workshop concluded with presentations of results from each of the three small groups. As evidence of the workshop's success, there is now a clearer Vision Map for the Sierra Nevada. The workshop has developed greater interest, commitment, and collaboration from its participants, which will benefit the project as it

develops. The first draft of the Sierra Nevada Wildlands Project Vision Map and accompanying report will be available by May, 2000. This is but the first step in a long process to involve the Sierra's people, governments, and institutions in a regional conservation strategy to protect wildlands and improve stewardship.

(1) Long-term implies greater than 400 years.

(2) For more information on Rewilding, see: www.twp.org/aboutus/curreprojects/rewilding/rewilding.html

WR



Bob Schneider

Scientists at the Sierra Nevada workshop discussed the draft maps for habitat needs of mountain lion, mule deer, foothill yellow-legged frog, California spotted owl, goshawk, wolverine, fisher, marten, and many other species.

Do You Want Healthy Forests or 'Clearcuts for Kids?'

Protect Our Forests and Our Children by Helping to Defeat the National Forest Giveaway Act!

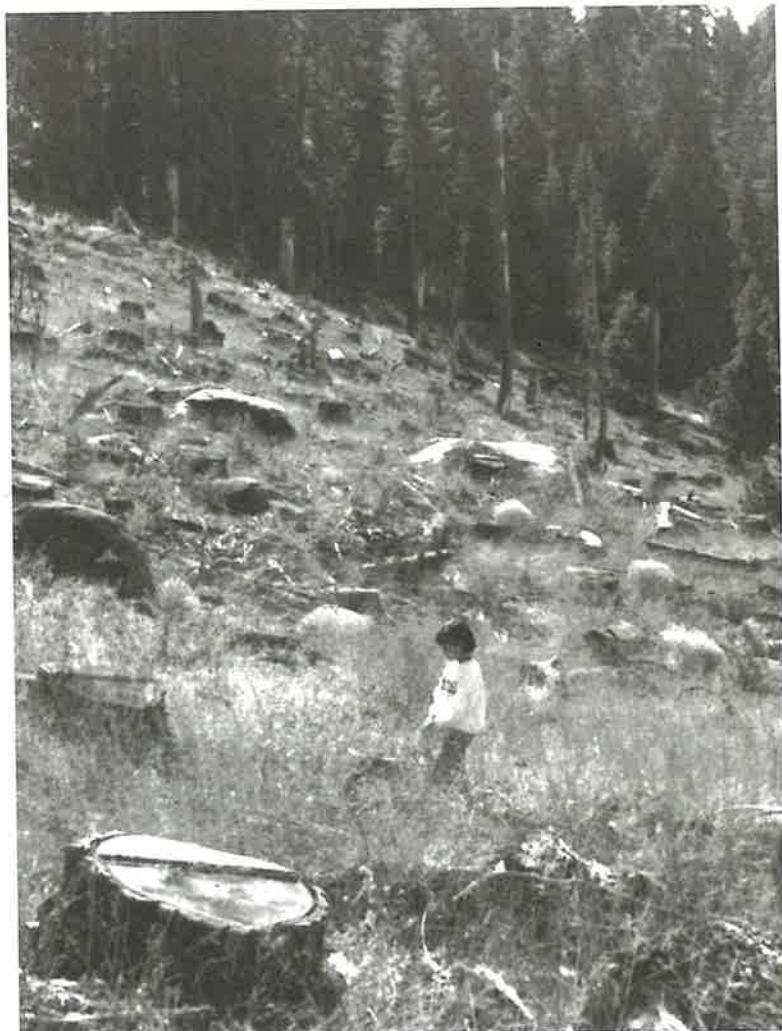
In November, 1999, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 2389, the "Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act." This law is a Trojan horse for local control of national forests and could cause devastating effects in forests throughout the United States. We need your help to stop this bill in the Senate and to ensure that our forests—and school children—are protected!

Currently, rural counties derive a portion of their income—including funding for schools—from national forest logging receipts. Thus, rural schools are dependent on logging to generate income.

Supporters tout H.R. 2389 as a measure that will provide a stable funding source for cash-strapped counties that have suffered due to declining national forest logging levels. In fact, H.R. 2389 will not guarantee additional funds for rural schools and will continue to tie education funding to logging. Do we really want to make our children's future dependent on logging in our national forests?

Also, H.R. 2389 would drastically change management of ALL national forests by creating new, timber-friendly councils in every county. These councils would use federal tax dollars to initiate logging projects within adjacent national forests. The revenues from these projects would return directly to the counties, to be used to initiate more logging.

In effect, H.R. 2389 is the first step in turning control of the national forests over to the counties—an effort that could lead to the degradation of millions of acres of unprotected wilderness and old growth forests. Our children and our forests deserve better. Please, send a letter today on behalf of California's forests and kids!



Do we really want to make our children's future dependent on logging in our national forests? H.R. 2389 will continue to tie education funding to logging and will not guarantee additional funds for rural schools.

What you can do:

Write Senator Dianne Feinstein and ask her to oppose H.R. 2389 or similar measures when they are taken up in the Senate. Urge her to support President Clinton's proposal to permanently separate national forest logging from rural school funding, and provide *guaranteed* stable county payments. Also, ask the Senator to oppose any measure that allows counties to control the fate of national forests.

The bill may come up soon in the Senate so please send a letter today. You should also send a copy of your letter to Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman.

Honorable Dianne Feinstein
United State Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Secretary Dan Glickman, Department of Agriculture
14th St. and Independence Ave. SW
Washington, DC 20250

If you are a teacher, we need your help! Please call us at (530) 758-0380.

WR

Wildlands Conservancy acquires 225,000 acres of California desert

BY ELDEN HUGHES

On January 19, 2000, the Wildlands Conservancy purchased 225,000 acres from Catellus Corporation and transferred them to the federal government, mostly to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). This is the largest land acquisition in California history. It is a stunning achievement, but we are only halfway to the goal.

The movement to protect the California Desert started in the 1920's, when the Sierra Club and other organizations, particularly garden clubs, motioned to preserve large park lands in the desert. By the 1930's, Death Valley and Joshua Tree National Monuments and Anza Borrego State Park were created. By the 1980's, 120 environmental organizations strove to pass the California Desert Protection Act; its passage in 1994 raised the protection levels on more than 9 million acres.

A weakness in the California Desert Protection Act was that there were enormous inholdings in the parks and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) wilderness. The inholdings had been created earlier in the nation's history when Congress gave land to railroad companies, including Southern Pacific Railroad, to encourage western expansion.

In the late 1980's, Southern Pacific Railroad began selling off land it had held for over 120 years. The new owners began gating, fencing, and developing these private lands, which formed a checkerboard pattern amid public lands. Hikers, hunters, sightseers, jeep clubs, and campers thus became locked out of public lands.

Responding to the outcry, the Wildlands Conservancy, a non-profit corporation, paid over \$5 million to purchase many former railroad lands that threatened nationally significant areas. The Wildlands Conservancy has given these lands to the people of the United States as a part of the California Desert Land Acquisition. They include:

- 18,705 acres of private land in Joshua Tree National Park
- 2,550 acres in the Big Morongo Area of Critical Environmental Concern
- 1,920 acres in the San Geronio Wilderness
- 1,910 acres along the Rattlesnake Canyon access route
- 1,275 acres in the Whitewater-Mission Creek Wildlife Corridor

Additionally, the Wildlands Conservancy has pledged \$2.5 million to purchase up to 24,000 acres of small inholdings in Joshua Tree National Park and Mojave National Preserve. All of these acquisitions will be donated to the National Park Service.

By the spring of 1999, the Wildlands Conservancy had land purchases and options on the land and a package complete for presentation to Congress:

- Total land acquisition: 487,365 acres
- Land Value: \$78.5 million



The largest land acquisition in California's history: The Wildlands Conservancy recently facilitated the purchase of 225,000 acres of wilderness, including inholdings in the Mojave National Preserve.

- The Wildlands Conservancy donation: \$26.1 million
- Catellus (successor to the railroads) land value donation: \$16.4 million
- Cost to the federal government: \$36 million or \$74.00 an acre.

Subsequently Senator Feinstein negotiated the \$36 million to \$30 million.

"No matter how worthy the cause or noble the objective, there will always be an opposition." Congressman Jerry Lewis, (R-CA), seeks approval of the expansion of Ft. Irwin, a military base, into the finest desert tortoise habitat in the Western Mojave. Congressman Lewis is chair of the Military Appropriations Subcommittee of the House. This gives him great power over all appropriations, even non-military appropriations. Congressman Lewis sought to link the expansion of Ft. Irwin to the approval of the federal \$30 million for the California Desert Land Acquisition.

President Clinton and Senator Feinstein sought the \$30 million for the acquisition, whereas Congressman Lewis sought zero expenditure. The result was a compromise: \$15 million would be appropriated this year with no Ft. Irwin strings. Next year, the final \$15 million is subject to "resolution" of the Ft. Irwin question.

Compromises do not leave one completely happy. Clearly the Ft. Irwin expansion question should be on a separate track from the Desert Land Acquisition. Congress originally intended to appropriate the full \$30 million. Congressman Lewis had the power to stop it.

Still, \$15 million unencumbered are worthy and 225,000 acres is not trivial. In fact, it is massive and most worthy of celebration. Even though the appropriation met neither the timing or structure of the land options held by the Wildlands Conservancy, Catellus has honored the lower negotiated price.

Actions this year in Congress are unknown, but the starting point is right. We have been assured the remaining \$15 million will be in the President's budget. Stay tuned.

Elden Hughes has worked to protect the California desert for decades.

WR

Sierra Pacific Industries logs potential Mill Creek Wilderness

By STEVE EVANS

The largest timberland owner in the United States has built roads and logged part of a northern California roadless area that the Forest Service had previously recommended for Wilderness designation. A timber harvest plan (THP) amendment recently submitted to state authorities by Sierra Pacific Industries (SPI) shows that as much as 600 acres of its private land in the Forest Service's proposed Mill Creek Wilderness on the Lassen National Forest has been logged since 1996. The area was recommended for Wilderness designation by the Forest Service in 1992.

The destruction of part of the potential Mill Creek Wilderness ironically comes on the heels of a proposal by President Clinton to protect all National Forest roadless areas from further development. The situation underscores the need for public acquisition of all privately owned

passes the deep and rugged canyon of Mill Creek. Fortunately, SPI's road building and logging has thus far been limited largely to the canyon rim. But there are no state or federal regulations to ensure that SPI will not continue to build roads and log its private lands through the heart of the wilderness proposal, thereby cutting it in half and permanently destroying its eligibility for wilderness designation.

In the last five years, SPI has greatly accelerated the level of clearcutting on its private timber lands in the Sierra Nevada, including lands in the Mill Creek watershed. At risk are Mill Creek's threatened spring run chinook salmon and steelhead populations — one of the last remaining salmon runs in the Sierra Nevada. Road building and logging on formerly roadless private lands will increase erosion and sedimentation, and may adversely impact water quality and habitat for these threatened fish species. In addition, the road building and logging could provide increased access by vandals to sensitive cultural sites of the Yahi Indian Tribe. Development of the private land within the potential wilderness would also degrade the area's outstanding primitive recreation experience, as well as adversely impact one of the largest stands of old growth forest on public lands in the northern Sierra. This area provides critical habitat for many sensitive wildlife species such as the California spotted owl and peregrine falcon.

The only solution to this threat is to expedite the Forest Service's acquisition of SPI's private inholdings in the potential Mill Creek Wilderness and along the proposed Mill Creek Wild & Scenic River. Unfortunately, declining federal budgets have made it difficult for the agency to raise the money to purchase the inholdings outright. The property could be acquired through a land exchange between the Forest Service and SPI, but this has evidently languished due to lack of adequate staff and constant changes in leadership for the Lassen National Forest. With the recent appointment of a new Forest Supervisor for the Lassen Forest, we now have an opportunity to push this issue to the top of the agency's agenda.

What You Can Do!

Write a letter today to Ed Cole, Lassen National Forest Supervisor, USDA Forest Service, 2550 Riverside Drive, Susanville, CA 96130. Urge him to expedite acquisition, either through purchase or land exchange, of the private inholdings in the potential Mill Creek Wilderness and along the proposed Mill Creek Wild & Scenic River. Note that the Forest Service cannot effectively protect these areas as required by federal law and regulations if the private lands within them are roaded and logged. Be sure to mention the need to protect the outstanding fish, wildlife, recreation, scenic, and cultural values found in the roadless area and along the creek.

For more information, contact Steve Evans at Friends of the River, 915 20th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, (916) 442-3155, Ext. 221, email: sevans@friendsoftheriver.org.

Steve Evans is Conservation Director for Friends of the River. **WR**



Jim Eaton

Mill Creek's threatened spring run chinook salmon and steelhead populations constitute one of the last remaining salmon runs in the Sierra Nevada.

inholdings in designated and potential wilderness, roadless areas, Wild & Scenic Rivers, and other sensitive areas largely comprised of public lands.

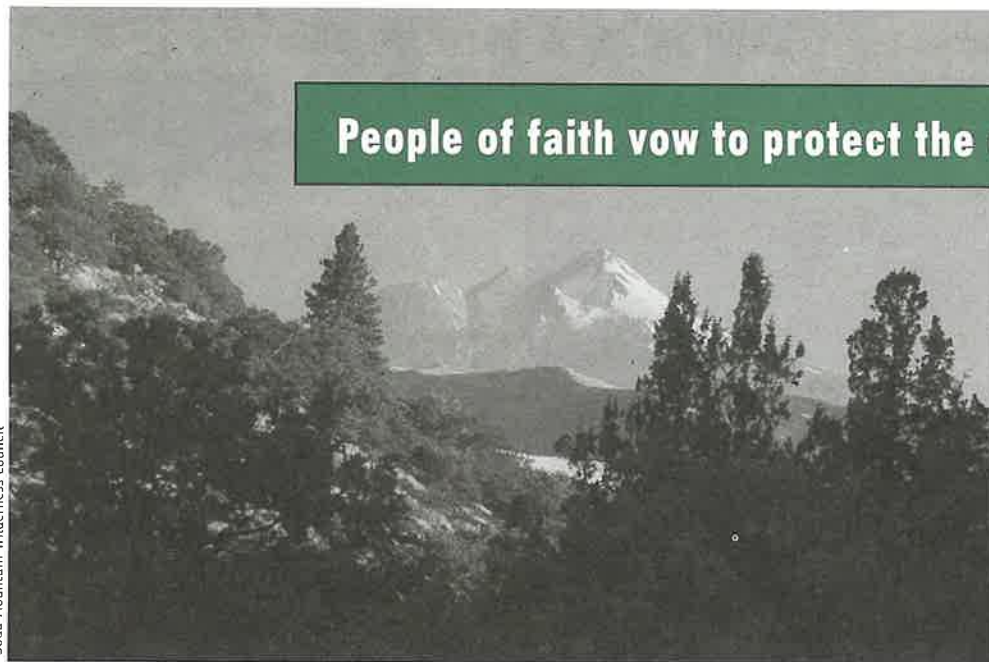
Despite the Forest Service's recommendations that 1) the Mill Creek roadless area be designated wilderness and 2) all of Mill Creek within the Lassen National Forest be added to the National Wild & Scenic Rivers System, Mill Creek and its surrounding wildlands remain unprotected from industrial logging. Unfortunately, the potential Mill Creek wilderness is literally cut in half by private lands owned by Sierra Pacific Industries. These lands were originally the property of the Pacific Gas & Electric Company (PG&E) and have long been the target of Forest Service acquisition efforts. However, PG&E sold its inholdings to SPI in the mid 1990's.

The timber giant indicated that it was acquiring the PG&E inholdings for future trade to the Forest Service. But the THP approved in 1996 resulted in the construction of new roads and clearcut logging on hundreds of acres of land originally included in the Forest Service's Mill Creek Wilderness proposal. In response to a wildfire that swept through the cut-over area last summer, SPI has sought and gained approval from the California Department of Forestry (CDF) on an amendment to its 1996 THP that allows for cutting of all dead trees and permits winter operations.

The potential Mill Creek Wilderness primarily encom-

People of faith vow to protect the environment

Soda Mountain Wilderness Council



Target Earth has taken a very direct approach by purchasing endangered lands as part of its ministry, striving to be a national movement "of Christians who reflect a commitment to give to the next generation, not take from it." The Target Earth division known as Eden Conservancy purchased 74 crucial acres in the Soda Mountain proposed National Monument, because "The owner had indicated interest in either logging the land himself or selling it off to someone who would."

By JIM ROSE

"CITING SCRIPTURE, MORE WORSHIPERS JOIN ENVIRONMENTALISTS"
— CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, DECEMBER 23, 1999

The faith community is taking an increasingly active role in forest conservation and wilderness protection; in fact, the Christian Science Monitor called the phenomenon a "growing global movement."

The California Wilderness Conference will focus on this effort with a panel on May 6, 2000 entitled "Creation-Valuing Spirituality."

Carl Schwarzenberg and Sharon Delgado, two of the panel participants, joined over three hundred other religious leaders recently in signing a letter to the White House. The letter urges the Clinton Administration to protect all national forest roadless areas of 1000 acres or more. Panel moderator Susan Hope Bower is the Forest Point Person for the Christian Environmental Council, which is the sponsor of the letter.

The conference panel follows another breaking development. The Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles has launched a deep, year-long focus on "Stewardship of All Creation...for the Next Century." Many desert activists heard of this for the first time in an e-mail titled "Tidings of Great Joy," sent December 20, 1999 by a worker for desert protection who is an Episcopalian. As stated in the current Episcopal News, "These concerns and opportunities for change stand out among the most important spiritual challenges we together face! A changed people and culture are needed. Stay tuned!"

Target Earth has taken a very direct approach by purchasing endangered lands as part of its ministry. Target Earth is active in 15 countries, and strives to be a national move-

ment "of Christians who reflect a commitment to give to the next generation, not take from it."

Their commitment is real. The Target Earth division known as Eden Conservancy purchased 74 crucial acres in the Soda Mountain proposed National Monument (see related story on pages 6 through 9), because, as the November/December 1999 issue of Target Earth magazine reports, "The owner had indicated interest in either logging the land himself or selling it off to someone who would." Target Earth donated this key land on October 28, 1999 to the federal government (specifically entrusting the land to Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt), in concert with the Soda Mountain Wilderness Council and the Oregon-based Wild Hope group.

The Target Earth article concludes, "...the excitement and awe of the moment and the place were lost on no one, including Secretary Babbitt....It is expected that Secretary Babbitt will soon confer national monument status on the Soda Mountain area. That will open the way for Congress to designate it as a protected wilderness."

Faith groups are active participants in the wilderness movement and we need to work closely with them. Bring your ideas to the California Wilderness Conference panel on May 6th at California State University, Sacramento and be prepared to share and learn. Help make history in this growing field.

Jim Rose is a photographer and works for Verve Enterprises as Conference Associate. For more information on the California Wilderness Conference, see pages 4 and 5 of this issue of the Wilderness Record.

WR

New Wilderness

Redwood State Parks

Point Reyes National Seashore



Tim Palmer

Jedediah Smith State Park

BY TIM MCKAY

Two new state wilderness areas were designated in November, 1999 when the California State Parks and Recreation Commission gave its blessing to the state portion of a new management plan for Redwood National and State Parks.

The commission, which can declare a wilderness within a state park, created the 5,500-acre Redwood Heritage State Wilderness within Jedediah Smith State Park and the 6,000-acre Murrelet State Wilderness inside Prairie Creek State Park.

More marbled murrelets can be found in Prairie Creek than anywhere else in the lower 48 states. (Editor's note: the marbled murrelet is a seabird that nests in the large, mossy branches of old-growth trees, particularly coast redwood.)

The designations matter because they put the areas off-limits to roads and other development. The bold new plan will guide the joint redwood parks for 15 to 20 years.

The biggest plus for all lovers of Redwood Creek is a "commitment" by the National Park Service to accelerate its watershed-restoration and road-removal plans from a 66-year time frame to 17 years.

Another key goal is restoration of the Redwood Creek estuary, severely damaged by a decades-long Army Corps of Engineers channelization and riprapping project that followed the 1964 flood.

The joint management plan applies to the intertwined Redwood National Park and Prairie Creek, Del Norte Redwoods and Jedediah Smith State Parks.

Humboldt Redwoods State Park, at 52,000 acres the largest of the state redwoods parks, is in the beginning phases of its general management plan review. Efforts there could foster even bigger redwood wilderness opportunities. People interested in the planning process can contact project manager Joann Weiler at the Dept. of Parks and Recreation's Northern Service Center, 1725 23rd St., Ste. 200, Sacramento, CA 95828; (916) 322-3081.

Tim McKay is a member of the Advisory Committee for the California Wilderness Coalition. Information about new wilderness in redwood state parks was reprinted with permission from the December 1999 Econews, newsletter of The Northcoast Environmental Center. **WR**

BY JAY WATSON

On November 18, 1999, the National Park Service added approximately 1,752 acres to the Phillip Burton Wilderness at Point Reyes National Seashore. The lands included Limantour Estero, Abbot's Lagoon, and an area known as Muddy Hollow.

When the Point Reyes Wilderness was designated in 1976, these areas were did not qualify for wilderness status because of incompatible uses, including a utility line through Muddy Hollow. They were, however, considered "potential wilderness." In a process unique to the Park Service, if non-conforming uses in potential wilderness are eliminated, the Park Service can administratively add them to the wilderness system through a notice in the Federal Register. That notice was published on November 18, 1999.

The Mt. Vision fire of 1995 resulted in the power line being rerouted underground along a nearby road, enabling the Park Service to pull the acreage into the wilderness system. There are now 27,122 acres within the Phillip Burton Wilderness. The California/Nevada office of The Wilderness Society worked with the Park Service to see this additional wilderness at Point Reyes — wilderness quite literally at the edge of the continent!

Jay Watson is the California/Nevada Regional Director of The Wilderness Society.

WR



Alan R. Houser

Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park

For a New Era

Otay Mountain

BY NICK ERVIN

It is something of an unlikely candidate for all of the controversy it has engendered, yet the Otay Mountain wilderness, signed into law by the President on December 9, is our nation's newest full-fledged component of its cherished wilderness system. The new Otay wilderness spans 18,500 acres of rugged and stark landscape in the otherwise crowded western San Diego county.

Its classic chaparral, coastal sage scrub and oak woodlands shelters a surprising variety of threatened plants and animals: the mariposa lily, Otay manzanita, mountain misery, quino checkerspot butterfly and substantial stands of the rare and prized Tecate Cypress. As a biological refuge and open space treasure Otay Mountain interests different people for a variety of sociopolitical reasons.

Astride the border with Mexico, it remained a quiet, secluded place until the U.S. Border Patrol implemented its famous "Operation Gatekeeper" five years ago. That program cracked down on illegal immigration in the fifteen-mile stretch from the ocean to the western flanks of the present wilderness. Its net effect was to push many desperate immigrants up into the steep hillside and unforgiving canyons of the mountain, where many tragically died of exposure.

The impacts of this human wave were alarmingly evident by late 1996 when local conservationists and government officials found huge piles of trash, dangerous campfire remains and proliferating foot trails in the area. To prevent the Otay region from losing its wilderness character, the environmental community agreed not to oppose the construction of a two-mile-long dirt road along the border. The road provided the Border Patrol with improved access in order to interdict immigrants closer to the international line. This not only reduced the environmental impacts to the delicate landscape but also the death toll of human beings who became lost in the maze of canyons.

Over the last several years, degradation due to human foot traffic from Mexico has been dramatically reduced and a true wilderness is left to be preserved.

The Otay Mountain area also interests local activists and politicians because it is an integral piece of the landmark Multiple Species Conservation Plan in San Diego county. This plan is an attempt to use scientific data to identify and protect critical habitat for keystone species, and release other land for future development.

As you stroll into this quiet refuge, you can contemplate its beauty in silence — a scarcity near such a huge concentration of people. After a patient struggle of many years, the Otay Mountain complex has now been protected at the highest level possible: as wilderness.



Nick Ervin

The newly created Otay Mountain Wilderness harbors chaparral, coastal sage scrub and oak woodlands, which shelter the threatened mariposa lily, Otay manzanita, mountain misery, quino checkerspot butterfly and substantial stands of the rare and prized Tecate Cypress.

Friends of Del Norte organize Aleutian Goose Festival

On March 24-26, 2000 in Crescent City, the Friends of Del Norte will hold their second annual Aleutian Goose Festival. An endangered species, the Aleutian Canada goose population was reduced to a mere 800 birds in 1970. Today, over 30,000 of these geese grace the sky. The entire world population of Aleutian geese visit northwestern California's Del Norte County every spring.

Friends of Del Norte is a special group in that it has augmented standard defensive conservation tactics with the festival, an example-setting event in a logging- and fishing-based community always on the lookout for new ways to solve its economic troubles. Last year's festival convinced the local chamber of commerce and other business leaders that eco-tourism pays.

This year's festival features over forty different nature seminars, with most held in the field. These outings include guided hiking, birding, kayaking, and canoe trips focusing on the region's ecological glories, from its migrating whales to its ancient forests and pristine streams. There is also a strong emphasis on children's programs.

Come support this important eco-tourism effort to show that conservation is good for both the land and rural economies. To learn more about the festival, call Friends of Del Norte at (707) 465-0888, or visit the festival website at www.delnorte.org/soar.

WR

Nick Ervin is a member of the Board of Directors of the Desert Protective Council and a member of the BLM California Desert District Advisory Council.

WR

Forest Service amends Northwest Forest Plan

After a successful lawsuit by 14 conservation organizations, including the California Wilderness Coalition, the U.S. Forest Service is preparing to modify the President's Northwest Forest Plan. This plan governs the management of millions of acres of forest land from northern California to the Alaska border.

The amendment calls for minor modifications to the plan's surveying and monitoring requirements for rare and sensitive species of wildlife. The previous requirements were widely ignored by the agency.

Conservationists have expressed dismay at the relatively minor scope of the plan amendment and are calling on the Clinton Administration to re-do the proposal. Even under the modified rules, one million acres of continue to be in jeopardy. The agency should consider an alternative that completely eliminates all old growth logging.

What you can do:

Please contact your Congressional Representative and ask them to:

1. Set an example for the world by stopping the liquidation of the remaining ancient forests in the United States.
2. Use the process underway to amend the Northwest Forest Plan to end the logging of old-growth forests.
3. Encourage the Clinton Administration to pull the proposed amendment to the Northwest Forest Plan and reissue it to include a "no logging old-growth" Citizens' Alternative. The public deserves the right to comment on this critical public policy.

Write to: Your representative, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515.

Conservation organizations petition Forest Service to develop off-road vehicle policy

In mid-December, over a hundred conservation organizations, including the California Wilderness Coalition, presented a formal petition to the U.S. Forest Service, asking the agency to develop a uniform policy for managing and monitoring off-road vehicles on public lands.

The petition pointed out the serious environmental and social impacts of off-road vehicles, and asked the Forest Service to develop a national policy that would:

- Prohibit cross-country travel, and allow ORV use only on system roads and trails designated and posted as open.
- Ensure that ORV use and route construction complies with the National Environmental Policy Act, and allow ORV use only in areas where monitoring and analysis demonstrates in a public process that use by ORVs will not cause adverse environmental impacts.
- Prohibit ORV use in unprotected wilderness areas.

The petition is the latest in the hotly contested debate over ORV management on public lands, and comes at a time of increased interests in the issue.

BLM to develop off-road vehicle policy

Responding to the growing criticism of the management of

off-road vehicles on public lands, the Bureau of Land Management announced in January its intention to develop a national strategy for managing ORV use on all lands managed by the agency.

The policy was spurred by conservation organizations who have long protested the mismanagement of motorized vehicles on public lands. In California, motorized vehicles cause severe water and soil quality degradation, disrupt wildlife habitat, and cause continual conflict with hikers, campers, and other recreationists. Further, many BLM areas are currently being managed according to outdated management plans written in the 1970's and 1980's. These plans do not reflect the current conditions, nor do they adequately protect sensitive areas.

BLM Acting Director Tom Fry said, "The strategy we will develop is aimed at recognizing the interests of OHV [off-highway vehicle] users while protecting environmentally sensitive areas on the public lands...Our agency is developing this strategy at a time when Westerners recognize the crucial role that BLM lands play in maintaining the appeal and lifestyle of their fast-growing, fast-changing region. Now more than ever, the public is turning to BLM-managed land as the final frontier for wide open space, as an outdoor recreational playground, and as a sanctuary from the stresses of urban life. The OHV management strategy will recognize the importance of each of those values."

The BLM, an agency of the U.S. Department of the Interior, manages more land—264 million surface acres—than any other Federal agency. Most of this public land is located in 12 Western states, and includes 14 million acres in California. The agency gave no timeline for the development of the new policy.

Joshua Tree National Park bans climbing bolts

Some 75 percent of the nearly 800,000-acre park, considered a rock climbers' mecca, will be an "anchor-free zone," said Ernest Quintana, park superintendent. The change means that those areas will be off-limits to climbers who use metal bolts drilled into the sheer rock faces to secure their ropes.

The plan went into effect Dec. 6, barring a legal challenge, and will not affect rock climbers who use ropes alone. Bolts that are already there will be removed, Quintana said.

The remaining 200,000 acres will be open to climbers who need to use rock bolts, but they will be required to apply for permits, he said.

Interior Department rules BLM can reject some mines

A January 14th ruling states that the BLM has the authority, under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, to deny proposed mines, based upon a project's environmental and cultural impacts. The legal opinion specifically addressed both environmental and cultural threats raised by a controversial large-scale open-pit cyanide process gold mine proposed on public land in the protected California Desert, in southeastern California, known as the Imperial Project. The area contains sites of cultural and religious significance to the Quechan Indian Tribe.

Coalition news

Coalition Director appointed to off-road vehicle commission

Paul Spitler, CWC Executive Director, was appointed by the Senate Rules Committee to the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Commission. Spitler will serve for a four-year term on the commission.

The ORV commission's primary responsibility is to allocate millions of dollars of state gas tax revenue that is directed towards off-road vehicle recreation. The commission approves funding for federal ORV projects, and also takes positions on issues related to ORV use. (See related article on p. 10.)

Spitler said the appointment presents a welcome opportunity, "For far too long, California's residents and our natural environment have been forced to endure the effects caused by motorized vehicles that are, quite often, operated outside the law. I look forward to ensuring that off-road vehicles are used in accordance with the laws of California, and in a manner that does not threaten our precious environment."

Jessica Rios and Sandra Fleming join the CWC team

Two new staff members are a welcome addition to the CWC team. Jessica Rios will be working on a campaign to



Jessica Rios with David Brower

wilderness bill for California. As proposal coordinator, Sandy's job is to work with local activists to get regional wilderness proposals ready so that they can be included in the bill. This requires hundreds of hours of careful map review, editing, graphic design, and occasional field work, a large job that we are glad to entrust to the very capable Sandy. After working for the Forest Service for 13 years, Sandy went back to school to study biology at California State University Chico. She will be working for the CWC half-time from her home in Shasta County.

disengage county school funding from national forest logging. She'll be traveling throughout the state and contacting teachers to encourage them to fight the ill-conceived measure (see article on page 12). Her sparkling personality and ready wit are already much appreciated. Jessie hails from Earth Island Institute, where she worked with David Brower to plan a Restoration Fair.

Sandra Fleming joined the CWC crew in January to help us advance the California Wild Heritage Campaign (CWHC), the next federal lands



Sandra Fleming

Member group profile:

LEGACY-The Landscape Connection

LEGACY-The Landscape Connection was founded in 1992 and currently has eight paid staff and over 25 volunteers. Based in Arcata (Humboldt County, California), Legacy's mission is to "protect native biodiversity through the integration of local knowledge and science." For example, Legacy helped craft a vision (called the "Redwoods to the Sea" initiative) to protect habitat between Humboldt Redwoods State Park and the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) King Range National Conservation Area. Both of these important wild areas are at great risk of becoming islands in a sea of clearcuts and roads. Legacy helped to map essential habitat links between the state park and the King Range and to teach local residents how to survey for sensitive species such as the pine marten and Pacific fisher.

This survey data will help Legacy to identify additional parcels that must be acquired if the Redwoods to the Sea habitat corridor is to become a reality. Several thousand acres have been acquired by the BLM in the Redwoods to the Sea corridor thus far, particularly in the locally popular Gilham Butte area.

The group considers completing its "North Coastal Basin Vision Map" its highest priority. The north coastal basin encompasses several watersheds, including the Eel, Mad, and Van Duzen rivers, as well as thousands of acres of private and public land. The map will synthesize scientific information regarding key habitats and wildlife populations and identify ecological critical areas as either core habitat reserves (called "core conservation areas"), habitat buffers around these reserves (called "stewardship zones"), and migration corridors between the reserves (called "landscape linkages").

Legacy would like to see the map used by local conservation groups to identify conservation priorities and focus their work accordingly. Legacy is dedicated to science and education, not conservation advocacy. Therefore, it is up to these local groups to use Legacy's blueprint to make the vision map a reality.

Legacy is the only group on the north coast looking at conservation priorities in the region as a whole and combining its scientific and mapping efforts with local grassroots education work. To learn more about Legacy, please contact them at (707) 826-9408 or visit their website at <http://www.legacy-tlc.org>.



Artwork: Heron Dance

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The Activist Files:

Dick Kunstman

Dick Kunstman of the Yosemite Area Audubon Society has worked tirelessly to protect the Sierra National Forest and Yosemite National Park since 1983. Dick is not only a veteran of the "timber wars" of the 1980s, but also a veteran of the Italian campaign in World War II. After the war, Dick went to college and eventually became a chemical engineer where he worked for the oil industry in Texas. He and his wife Alice now have three children and four grandchildren and live in Midpines in Mariposa County.

As an activist, Dick has a gift for numbers and has a reputation for unmercifully debunking Forest Service calculations.

How did you get involved in the conservation movement?

I've always enjoyed camping and observing wildlife. Alice and I got involved with Audubon around 1960. We were just regular members and weren't very active. We helped form Yosemite Area Audubon when we moved to Midpines from Texas in 1981. My serious activist work started with the effort to protect the Merced River from several proposed dams by getting it designated a Wild and Scenic River.

What do you appreciate about your local public lands?

They haven't been totally screwed up by development. Their wild character is essential for maintaining ecosystem processes, and I'm glad to see those processes continue.

What areas in your region are you particularly fond of?

The Yosemite high country. It's unspoiled. Wildlife there aren't very afraid of people. I like that.

What's your biggest conservation success?

Just my routine forest defense work. By demanding that the Sierra National Forest comply with federal law, I've been blamed by some people in the community for causing trouble. I take this to mean that I'm actually having a positive impact. Many projects have been abandoned, stopped, or modified because of my intervention. I think the Forest Service is proposing better projects today because it knows it's being watched.

What's your biggest defeat or disappointment?

One terrible timber sale with something like 119 acres of clearcuts was snuck through the decision-making process before restrictions were put in place to protect California spotted owl habitat. Ironically, a local mill owner asked for my help in getting the sale cancelled because he bought the logging rights to the project when timber prices were high

and then the prices went down before he could cut it. He faced losing a lot of money. The Forest Service threatened him with a breach of contract suit if he didn't clearcut the trees. The local mill closed as a result of the owner's bad business decision. Of course, he blamed everyone but himself for his woes. Now he has moved his operation to Mexico where he faces almost no regulation. That logging project was thus a real lose-lose for the environment both here and south of the border.

How would you like to see Yosemite National Park managed in the future?

I would like to see as much development removed from the valley as possible. A lot of the damage the Park Service has done along Highway 140 is a result of trying to increase visitation to the various concessionaires in the valley. [Editor's note: The National Park Service recently decided to expand the size of Highway 140. While doing so, the agency destroyed a substantial amount of habitat along the adjacent Merced River. A judge has since ordered park staff to reexamine the project.]

How about the Sierra National Forest?

My vision is best described by the Sierra Nevada Forest Protection Campaign's conservation blueprint for the Sierra Nevada. This includes such goals as reintroducing fire to the forests, protecting all remaining ancient forest, closing unneeded roads, etc.

The conservation blueprint you cite supports very limited tree-thinning for habitat restoration purposes. Some activists advocate a "zero cut" approach instead. What do you think?

If zero-cut means that we will be prohibited from effectively dealing with the small trees that would have been destroyed by fire before we started suppressing fire so aggressively, then I'm against it. [Editor's note: zero-cut would mean the end of commercial logging, but would still allow non-commercial thinning for restoration purposes.] I want to see fire returned as an ecological process in the forest. Because of past logging and fire exclusion, some unnaturally dense thickets of small trees must be thinned before they are burned. Otherwise, our remaining ancient forest and other precious habitats may be severely damaged by unnaturally severe fires. Since this kind of small-tree logging doesn't make any money, Congress must acknowledge its responsibility to deal with this problem by adequately funding these and other restoration projects. Also, I believe each forest should be allowed to charge reasonable recreation fees that can be used for additional restoration projects. These fees should also be used for maintaining recreation facilities and for law enforcement.

What would you particularly like to see protected as wilderness in your region?

I love the potential additions to the existing Kaiser Wilderness. Unfortunately, this area is currently threatened by a large logging project. Fighting this project has taken up a lot of my time lately. It must be stopped at any cost. WR

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Wildland Advocates is the most significant opportunity to participate in the protection of California wildlands since the California Wilderness Act of 1984 and the California Desert Protection Act of 1994. As we enter the next century, we must undertake a stronger, smarter, renewed effort to protect those wild places that are still threatened by logging, mining, and road building. Wildland Advocates giving levels begin at \$250 annually. A contribution of \$21 dollars a month on your credit card will get you started!

We appreciate your renewed commitment to California wildlands. For additional information on how to help, please contact Bob Schneider at (530) 758-0380.

Help protect wilderness with a gift membership to the California Wilderness Coalition

Gifts to friends are treasures that bring joy to our lives. We can multiply that joy knowing we are also helping to protect California wilderness.

Each new membership adds to the grassroots strength that CWC needs to protect the last wild places in California. Gift memberships are a great idea for every occasion including baby showers, birthdays, marriages, anniversaries, housewarming, retirement and promotions, graduation, and just as a surprise "Thank you."

Use the membership form on the facing page and add "Gift from" with your name and the occasion you're celebrating with the new member. We'll send you a confirmation of the membership and a gift acknowledgment to your friend.

Introduce people you know by giving them a membership in the CWC. As with the Bristlecone Pines, your wilderness gift will last 4,000 years and more!

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Photograph courtesy of Galen Rowell, Mountain Light Photography.

This bristlecone pine forest in the White Mountains potential wilderness area has existed for over 4000 years. With care and stewardship, our children and their children will continue to enjoy their company.

Your bequest will protect our wilderness heritage. You make a lasting contribution to our wildlands with a bequest to the California Wilderness Coalition in your will. Here's an example of language you might use in making a bequest:

"to the California Wilderness Coalition, a non-profit organization organized and existing under the laws of the State of California with current address of 2655 Portage Bay East, Suite 5, Davis, CA for its general purposes."

For further information on giving, please call (530) 758-0380 and ask for Bob Schneider.

Donate to CWC on-line

You can make a donation on-line at:
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DONATE NOW!

Get-a-member success

Congratulations to Alan Grinberg. Alan signed up 6 new members in the CWC Get-A-Member campaign and received a signed Galen Rowell photograph of the bristlecone pine forest in the potential White Mountain wilderness. Thank you, Alan!

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Thank you to our Wildland Advocates! Your donations are critically important to the success of our mission to protect California wilderness. The CWC has successfully:

- Inventoried our remaining wilderness,
- Sparked the California Wild Heritage Campaign,
- Curbed ORV abuses,
- Organized new groups and individuals to protect wilderness, and
- Coordinated the California Wilderness Conference for May 5-7, 2000.

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Wilderness Conference: register today!

"I want to hear about new paradigms in confronting environmental issues. I want to be inspired, not depressed about wilderness. I want to reimagine the world with wilderness throughout, not just around the ever-expanding edges."

— Alison Bowman

Wilderness Conference attendee



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Support and advertise your cause

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s/00/wr



Third graders enjoy the proposed Sequoia National Monument.

Action Corner

- X **Help preserve the sequoia groves and other unique areas for future generations. Pages 6 through 9.**
- X **Rescue our last old-growth forests and our rural schools. Page 12.**
- X **Protect one of the last remaining salmon runs in the Sierra Nevada: Mill Creek. Page 14.**
- X **Ask for a "no logging old-growth" Citizens' Alternative in the revised Northwest Forest Plan. Page 18.**



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