



Wilderness RECORD

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CALIFORNIA WILDERNESS COALITION

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Wilderness Battle Moves to Senate

Cranston Backs Wilderness

On the day of adjournment for the August congressional recess, Sen. Alan Cranston introduced S. 1584, a bill to protect some 2.1 million acres of national forest roadless land as wilderness and some 1.5 million acres of national park wilderness in California. This bill is almost identical to H.R. 4083, the California Wilderness bill sponsored by Phillip Burton, which passed the House on a voice vote on July 17.

Cranston's bill differs from H.R. 4083 in only two respects; it deletes 600 acres in the Sheep Mountain Wilderness for the possible expansion of the Mt. Baldy ski area, and it adds 88,843 acres in the Mineral King area of the Sequoia-King Canyon Wilderness to conform to the boundary recommended by the National Park Service.

Cranston said, "I am introducing my own California wilderness bill to expedite Senate action on the California RARE II issue. Since the Forest Service finalized its wilderness recommendations, I have sought the counsel and views of all parties affected by the proposals, most especially those of the California timber industry." He expressed a need to pass legislation at "an early date" and said it would only be done through a bill that combined wilderness designations and the

conservationist-supported sufficiency language.

Noting that the House-passed bill was a compromise between earlier bills backed by environmentalists and the timber industry's position, Cranston stated, "I anticipate that there will be further modification to this bill, both in the Senate committee and in conference. What I believe is most important is to keep the process going so we can resolve the RARE II issues in California and protect for all time some of the most beautiful parts of the State."

The Cranston measure means that the two senators from the nation's most populous state are now on conflicting paths regarding the wilderness issue. Junior Senator S.I. Hayakawa is the chief sponsor of S. 842, the nationwide roadless area release bill designating no wilderness and precluding future wilderness consideration for the national forests. Despite a major campaign by the timber industry, S. 842 has not yet moved beyond the hearing stage in the Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee. The Senate Agriculture Committee, which would also have to act on S. 842, has not yet scheduled a hearing on it.

Sierra Club President Joe Fontaine praised Cranston's actions, but he did not endorse S. 1584 across-the-board. "Senator Cranston



Buckeye Canyon in Hoover Wilderness Additions

Photo by Tim Sherburn

anticipates additional changes. We hope that among those changes, he will consider protection for all of Sheep Mountain, as well as some other areas in the state which have been excluded from the bill or need boundary changes — areas like North Mountain, North Fork American River, and southern end of Granite Chief."

Conservationists also hope that the boundary for the White Mountains (Boundary Peak) Wilderness can be enlarged, and that areas proposed by the Trinity Wilderness Coalition can be added to the bill.

Regional Forest Plan By John Moore

The U.S. Forest Service has just issued a Draft Regional Plan for the California Region (all its lands in the state except Toiyabe National Forest). The Regional Plan assigns to each national forest its share of the regional goals for timber production management standards and numerous regional policies. The regional goals were

assigned by the 1980 national plan. Conservationists need to comment on portions of the plan overemphasizing commodity production that would adversely affect our national forests.

Conservationists also need to get involved in the Forest Plans for their local national forests. These plans, now being prepared,

will make crucial decisions such as deciding the fate of RARE II "future planning" areas, allocating land for timber production, and establishing special management zones, such as riparian zones. Contact your local national forests, and write John Hooper at the Sierra Club, 530 Bush, San Francisco 94104, to

cont. on page 3

House Passes Burton Bill

Without a single "no" vote, the House of Representatives passed Rep. Phillip Burton's California Wilderness bill by a voice vote on July 17th. The bill, H.R. 4083, would designate 2.1 million acres of national forest wilderness and 1.4 million acres of national park wilderness in California.

"Personally I feel that this bill represents a good balance between environmental and commercial interests."

-Sen. Alan Cranston

Burton guided the bill through the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs and onto the House floor after revising his earlier measures, H.R. 856 and H.R. 859. The new bill is similar to the bill the House passed in July 1980, except that the North Mountain addition to Yosemite National Park and the North Mountain Planning Area both have been dropped this year. A 600 acre addition to Sheep Mountain was included this year, however.

Several important changes were made during the committee markups. A

25,300 acre Red Buttes wilderness along the Oregon border was added, and the Dillion Creek area, adjacent to the proposed Siskiyou Wilderness, is back in the bill as a further planning area.

Besides the elimination of North Mountain, H.R. 4083 would allow the construction of a new ski area on Mt. Shasta, leaves the North Fork Smith River roadless area open to cobalt mining, and does not incorporate the additional wilderness recommended by the Trinity Wilderness Coalition.

The compromise measure now moves on to the Senate where Sen. Alan Cranston recently introduced S. 1584, a bill quite similar to H.R. 4083. No hearing have yet been scheduled.

"The bill represents both a reasonable compromise as to the amounts and lands set aside for both wilderness and increased timber production — and also represents a fair step forward under the RARE II process."

-Rep. Paul N. McCloskey, Jr.



Reps. John Seiberling (center left) and Phillip Burton (center right) at House Hearing on H.R. 4043 Photo by Russ Shay

Coalition Report

By Jim Eaton

It has been a pleasant change to gaze out our office window and watch the ripening plums, the birds, and the C5As descending towards Travis Air Force Base. During our hottest days (109° the warmest this summer) an overhead fan cools down our work space. This is quite a contrast from our previous quarters, a windowless cinderblock building with a constant churning air conditioner.

It also has been good to escape the flatlands and heat on four short backpack trips to the Ventana and Thousand Lakes Wilderness Areas and the Carson-Iceberg and Hoover Additions roadless areas. I now am looking forward to a week's vacation to Golden Trout country in early September.

Unfortunately, it is easy for wilderness activists to get caught up in the abstractions of wilderness work: the telephone, the typewriter, and the computer are essential tools of the trade. From time-to-time one can gaze at the walls to look at the maps of roadless areas, photos of wild places, and paintings of wilderness wildlife. But

since there is always more to be done and new places to save, too many of us never take time to get out into the wild lands we are trying to protect or have already protected.

If we would only listen to our leaders, writers, and poets! From John Muir to Edward Abbey, our spokespeople exhort others to explore and enjoy the wilderness and replenish their spirit.

We should take their advice. We come back from a trip healthier in both mind and body and are once again ready to take on the task of preservation of our natural heritage.

With this issue of the *Wilderness Record*, the California Wilderness Coalition is starting the "CWC Member Spotlight." This will be a section reporting on the member organizations that make up the Coalition. We are asking new and existing member groups to share information with our readers: what kind of group is it, what are its issues, and how can others help with its efforts. We hope this sharing of information will bring groups closer together in our Coalition and will

encourage individuals to get involved with an issue or organizations they like.

In the July-August issue of the *Wilderness Record*, we omitted thanks to Bob Doody of Porterville who helped persuade Dick Chamberlain to testify in Washington, D.C., on behalf of the Burton Wilderness bill, H.R. 4083. Bob has long been active in the effort to preserve California's remaining wilderness and was instrumental in the successful effort to secure a Congressionally designated Golden Trout Wilderness.

The CWC also wishes to thank the following people who have made the establishment of an office in Porterville a resounding success: Bob Barnes, Ryan and Sara Jewell, Mary and Fred Meisel, and Linda Renfro. All labor at the Porterville office has been voluntary, saving the Coalition valuable time and money for other issues at our Davis office.

We welcome three new member groups to the Coalition: Pasadena Audubon Society, Kern Audubon Society, and the Placer County Conservation Task Force.

UPDATE

Go Road Meeting Set

A meeting was set for August 26 on the proposed construction of the Chimney Rock section of the Gasquet-Orleans (GO) Road in the Six Rivers National Forest. The road would divide a portion of the proposed Siskiyou Wilderness.

The purpose of the meeting was to provide representatives of national, state, and local government, representatives of public and private organizations, and private citizens with an opportunity to receive information and to express their views on the undertaking and the

alternative courses of action that could avoid, mitigate, or minimize adverse effects on cultural properties included in or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

The Forest Service submitted for determination of eligibility an area primarily in the Blue Creek drainage that includes sites historically and currently used by Native American people for religious purposes. The Keeper of the National Register of Historic Places declared the area eligible and named it the Helkau National Register District.

The proposed Chimney Rock section of the GO Road is planned through this District. As a result, the National Advisory Council on Historic Preservation called for a public information meeting in Eureka. This meeting occurred after the *Wilderness Record* went to press.

People wishing to express their views may write the Executive Director, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, Suite 616, 44 Union Blvd., Lakewood, CO 80228.

—Siskiyou Mountains Resources Council

ORV Routes in the Desert

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has begun a process of determining off-road vehicle (ORV) routes in the California Desert. These routes are being identified in the "Class L" areas in the California Desert Plan.

The Desert Plan zoned lands into four categories: Class C, closed to ORV's; Class L, limited access Class M, open unless specifically closed; and Class I, completely open to ORV travel. There are some exceptions to this as some Class I mining areas have

limited ORV use. Also, the 2.1 million acres of Class C (recommended wilderness study areas) will be managed as Class L until congress actually designates the wilderness areas.

Class L areas have access limited to approved routes of travel only. Roads, trails, or washes are considered closed unless specifically designated for open use. BLM now is determining these routes of travel.

The public is being asked to add new routes not now shown on BLM maps. After looking over these addi-

tions to open routes of travel, the BLM will come back for public review before making a final decision on opening these new roads, trails, or washes.

If you would like to get involved with the designation of approved vehicle routes throughout the California Desert, write the District Manager, California Desert District, 1695 Spruce Street, Riverside, CA 92507. BLM members who have returned a Wilderness Activists Questionnaire will be receiving Wilderness Alerts on this issue soon.

Coalition in Action

The cross-town move took a lot of effort this summer. Until additional space becomes available later this year, many of the files are in storage and volunteer activities and *Wilderness Record* layout is occurring at the home of Jim Eaton and Wendy Cohen.

A major summer project has been the gathering of information on desert wilderness. With much assistance from the Sierra Club's Jim Dodson, Russ Shay, and Linda Wade, Coalition Executive Director Jim Eaton is compiling information and maps on scores of proposed wilderness areas in the California Desert. This project will extend into the fall with several meetings of desert activists planned to work on boundaries and narratives for roadless areas.

While in Southern California, Jim Eaton discussed wilderness issues on a live talk show on radio station KPFA Los Angeles.

Coalition staff and volunteers are working with State Park officials to accelerate action on numerous proposed additions to the California Wilderness System. A number of proposed State Wilderness Areas in Southern California are expected to be considered by the Parks and Recreation Commission next April.

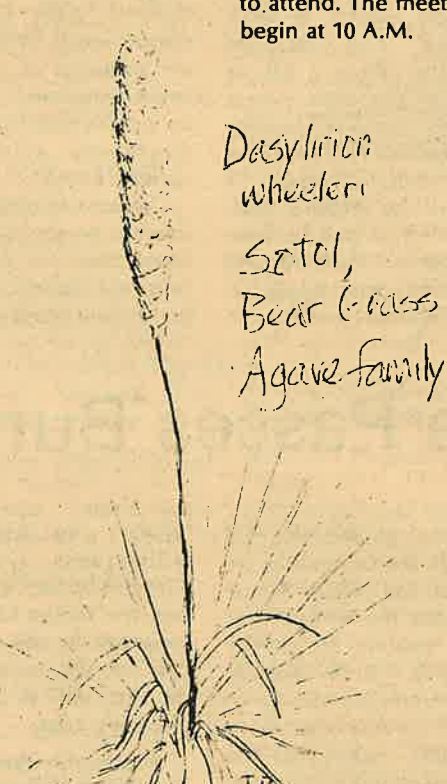
Coalition President Bob Barnes has been organizing citizens to support Wild

River status for much of the North Fork of the Kern River.

Director Steve Evans is monitoring small hydro-projects on wilderness rivers and creeks and is filing petitions of intervention on power projects within proposed wilderness areas.

MEETING

The Board of Directors of the California Wilderness Coalition will hold their next meeting on Sunday, September 30, at the home of Wendy Cohen and Jim Eaton, 2325 Shire Lane, Davis. Members are invited to attend. The meeting will begin at 10 A.M.



Snowmobiles in the Nat Parks

In response to an order from the Interior Secretary James Watt, the National Park Service will hold public meetings in late September to consider opening California parks to snowmobile use. Snowmobiles currently are not allowed in the national

parks in California.

Meeting will be held on September 21 in Redding, Sept. 22 in Fresno, and Sept. 23 in San Francisco. Snowmobile groups are pressuring for routes in Lassen Volcanic, Yosemite, and Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Parks.

Coalition members who have returned questionnaires and are on our wilderness alert lists will receive notice of the meetings and where to write letters when the locations are announced. Others should call the CWC office after September 17 at (916) 758-0380.

ORV Executive Order Stalled

Interior Secretary James Watt's plans to open even more public lands to off-road vehicles (ORVs) is stalled in the White House, according to a news story by Leo Rennett of the *Sacramento Bee*. Watt had recommended that President Reagan revoke

executive orders issued by former Presidents Nixon and Carter that give some protection to public lands from damages caused by ORVs.

The Defense Department and the President's Council on Environmental Quality have urged the White

House to reject the secretary's proposal. The Brown administration and environmental groups have been strongly critical of any efforts to weaken ORV regulations, and editorials opposing Watt's plan have appeared in the *Bee*, *Los Angeles Times*, and the *San Francisco Chronicle*.

Riparian Conference at UC Davis

Our state's riparian systems - its streamside forests, wet meadows, desert washes, palm oases and other mesic, moist soil, transported water systems have important productive values that touch virtually every segment of California's population. Riparian

systems will be the subject of a three-day conference held at the University of California at Davis on September 17-19, 1981.

Keynote speakers include Huey Johnson, Charles Warren, and Representative Vic Fazio. Wilderness activists Harriet Allen, Robert R. Curry, and Sari

Sommarstrom are among the scores of speakers and authors.

Fees are just \$30 general admission and \$20 for students. For further information, contact University Extension, University of California, Davis, CA 95616; telephone (916) 752-0880.

Hastey Returns to Calif.

Edward L. Hastey will return to California in November to become State Director of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), a position he held prior to

being transferred to Washington, D.C., a few years ago. James Ruch, who succeeded Hastey as State Director, has been transferred to BLM's Denver operation.

State Wilderness at Pt. Mugu

The State Parks and Recreation Commission will be considering the

3,500 acre Boney Mountain State Wilderness at their October meeting in Los

Angeles. The proposed wilderness is within the Pt. Mugu State Park.

Mono Lake National Monument Proposed

Congressman Norman Shumway has introduced two bills to help protect Mono Lake. H.R. 4057 would establish the Mono Lake National Monument and H.R. 4056 would repeal a 1936 law that enables Los Angeles to purchase federal Mono County land at \$1.25 an acre.

The effort to halt the dropping lake level would not be affected directly by these bills, but there are provisions that would help protect Mono Lake. H.R. 4057 would authorize a comprehensive study of alternative water management policies to conserve water and reduce the need for Mono Basin water diversions and would

institute scientific monitoring of the impact of water diversion on the Mono Lake ecosystem.

The Mono Lake National Monument would consist of federally owned land along Mono's shores, on Negit and Paoha Islands, and the Mono Craters. The Mono Craters are a Forest Service roadless area that was not recommended for wilderness designation by the agency, and local opposition from miners and off-road vehicle users may cause this area to be dropped from the bill.

Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (DWP) has applied to Interior Secretary James Watt for purchase of approximately

23,000 acres of Bureau of Land Management and Forest Service land in Mono County at \$1.25 an acre. DWP applied for land and aqueduct right-of-ways. Congressman Shumway introduced H.R. 4056 to stop this giveaway of public land to Los Angeles. If DWP were successful, they would own much of the lakeshore of Mono Lake, making the establishment of a national park or monument extremely difficult.

Los Angeles DWP officials have been lobbying heavily against the bills. Tom Cassidy, Mono Lake Committee Vice-Chairperson, has flown to Washington D.C., to walk the halls of Congress on Mono Lake's behalf.



Tufa Towers at Mono Lake

Photo by Dave Brown

Santa Monica Mountains By Nancy Pearlman and Elaine Standfield

The National Park Service, U.S. Department of Interior, has acquired 3,500 acres of the projected 150,000-acre Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, at a cost of \$29 million. Federal acquisition plans include only 55,000 acres, at an estimated cost of \$125 million.

Congressman Anthony C. Beilison, Democrat from West Los Angeles, has sharply criticized the Reagan administration's failure to proceed with purchase of key areas in the Santa Monicas.

"The five-year moratorium on land acquisition which the Administration has proposed is not a moratorium at all," Beilison said. "It is a final action which would destroy the park."

About 36,000 acres in the Santa Monica Mountains are already in public ownership, including Malibu Creek State Park, Topanga State Park and Point Mugu State Park. The State Park and Recreation Commission has established priorities for further acquisition: Backbone Trail (using money from Proposition One bonds); Lower Topanga Canyon, and Caballero Canyon. The rest of the land will remain in private ownership.

Interior Secretary James

winter and spring burning may drastically reduce chaparral regeneration, creating severe erosion and flood hazards, the Regional Plan should strictly limit burning during these seasons.

DAMS AND DIVERSIONS. The preferred alternative implies that very few proposed water developments on the national forests will be rejected. Conservationists need to insist that greater weight be given to the loss of potential wild and scenic rivers, river fisheries, anadromous fish production, and white-water recreation, as in alternative B. The preferred alternative ignores the vital need for comprehensive planning of water resource development, and the possibility of enlarging existing facilities. The Forest Service, in considering how much mitigation of the effects of dams should be required, should take into account its free gift of a valuable damsite.

G. Watt has ordered an investigation of land acquisitions in the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area and four other parks in the country as a first step toward deauthorization of the parks.

Congressman Beilison said he is "appalled that a President who greatly enjoys the outdoors himself, who was so charmed by the Santa Monica Mountains that he once owned a ranch there, who now spends \$52 thousand of taxpayer's money to fly to his Santa Barbara ranch for a week end of outdoor activities and self-renewal, is so oblivious or insensitive to

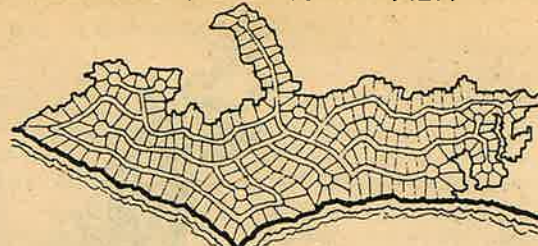
the need for public outdoor recreation that he cannot find, in a \$700 billion budget, the modest amount of funding necessary to make the Santa Monica Mountains accessible to all.

"The pressure to develop land in the Santa Monicas is so strong that if we wait five years to begin buying land again, the areas not considered prime park land will have already become an extension of Los Angeles's vast suburban sprawl.

"Even at its price, land in the Santa Monicas is still a bargain in terms of its potential use. The SMMN-RA has the potential to be our country's most heavily used national park."

WATTVILLE

FORMERLY
THE SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS
NATIONAL RECREATION AREA



A PRESTIGIOUS OCEANSIDE
RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY
LOCATED OVERLOOKING
THE PACIFIC OCEAN.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND A DESCRIPTIVE BROCHURE
WRITE: JAMES WATT, SECRETARY OF INTERIOR
WASHINGTON, D.C.

cont. from page 1

receive bulletins on forest planning.

A copy of the Draft Regional Plan and the accompanying EIS can be obtained from: Information Office, U.S. Forest Service, 630 Sansone Street, San Francisco, 94111. Your comments should be sent to the same address; they must be postmarked on or before September 25. A conservationists viewpoint on the most significant issues in the Regional Plan is presented below to help you prepare your comments.

You'll notice that the eternal vital issues like Wilderness, amount of timber and forage produced, anadromous fish production, and wildlife are not mentioned below. All these issues are being deferred until the next Regional Plan, which will appear about 1986, after all the forest plans are completed. Deferral doesn't necessarily signify that policies will remain unchanged in the meantime.

TIMBER MANAGEMENT

EVEN-AGED vs. UNEVEN-AGED MANAGEMENT. Present Forest Service timber management is almost exclusively even-aged. Conservationists have long argued that uneven-aged management often benefits other multiple uses and should be more frequently employed. In the Regional Plan the Forest Service proposes to

consider uneven-aged management, but to employ it only if many stringent silvicultural conditions are satisfied. The non-timber benefits of uneven-aged management will not be considered in making this choice, as they should be. Rules for making the decision are heavily biased against uneven-aged management.

BIOLOGICAL GROWTH STANDARD. Conservationists believe the Forest Service should not harvest sawtimber from lands that grow less than 50 cubic feet/acre/year. Only 2 percent of the Forest Service's California timber harvest comes from these lands, though they are 14 percent of the commercial forest acreage. Most timber sales on these lands lose money, and regeneration of cut stands is difficult. Concentrating timber management on the more productive lands makes these marginal lands available for recreation, wildlife habitat, and wilderness.

MAXIMUM SIZE OF TIMBER HARVEST BLOCKS. The Forest Service proposes allowing openings up to 60 acres in douglas-fir and up to 40 acres in other timber types. A smaller maximum size, for example 20 acres, is desirable to aid regeneration, create more "edges" for wildlife habitat, and reduce the potential for erosion.

INTENSIVENESS OF TIMBER MANAGEMENT. Conservationists believe

that the use of herbicides and pesticides should be extremely limited because there is strong evidence of adverse environmental and human health effects from their use.

SENSITIVE SPECIES HABITAT. The Forest Service proposes to reserve enough old growth forest to support minimum viable populations of spotted owls and goshawks, two species dependent on old-growth. Given our limited knowledge of these species' habitat requirements, it is prudent to maintain populations considerably larger than minimum viable populations. Old-growth stands also benefit other dependent species, preserve forest diversity, and have numerous other benefits. The whole issue of maintaining old-growth should have been addressed in the Regional Plan.

CHAPARRAL. Up to now the Forest Service has mainly put out fires. They propose more intensive management in the future, including much prescribed burning, biomass harvesting, and conversion of chaparral to grass. Conservationists oppose biomass harvesting and large-scale conversions at this time and believe further research into their environmental effects is needed first. Many of the same benefits can be obtained with less risk by creating uneven-aged mosaics of chaparral by prescribed burning. Since

winter and spring burning may drastically reduce chaparral regeneration, creating severe erosion and flood hazards, the Regional Plan should strictly limit burning during these seasons.

DAMS AND DIVERSIONS. The preferred alternative implies that very few proposed water developments on the national forests will be rejected. Conservationists need to insist that greater weight be given to the loss of potential wild and scenic rivers, river fisheries, anadromous fish production, and white-water recreation, as in alternative B. The preferred alternative ignores the vital need for comprehensive planning of water resource development, and the possibility of enlarging existing facilities. The Forest Service, in considering how much mitigation of the effects of dams should be required, should take into account its free gift of a valuable damsite.

WATER YIELD. The preferred alternative emphasizes increasing water yield for consumptive uses. Alternative B is preferable: equal consideration should be given to benefits from increase water yield for non-consumptive uses, such as anadromous fish production, riparian habitat, recreation, and hydro-power production from existing facilities.

COMPATIBLE LAND MANAGEMENT. This policy is concerned with problems caused by adjacent or intermingled private land and with Forest Service land acquisition. Major conservationist concerns are: (1) providing public access to National Forest land where no access now exists, a severe problem in Southern California; (2) prompt acquisition of over 100,000 acres of checkerboard lands with high scenic and recreational value in northern California—lands in Granite Chief, in the

Trinity Alps, and at Mount Shasta, for example.

RESEARCH NATURAL AREAS (RNA'S): These areas are set aside to preserve typical examples of forest and aquatic ecosystems and geological areas for non-destructive scientific research. Only 11 RNA's have been designated on California national forests. More than 100 are needed to adequately represent California's great variety of ecosystems. Alternative B comes closest to designating an adequate system. The preferred alternative would place RNA's in wilderness whenever possible; conservationists should insist that the most suitable sites for RNA's be chosen, without regard to location. Indeed, research performed on commercial forest types in RNA's may not be applicable on commercial forest land, if the RNA's are not sufficiently like the commercial forest land.



Important Issues in Regional Plan

WILD KERN:

North Fork Kern Wild and Scenic River

By Bob Barnes

The North Fork Kern River travels 83 miles from its headwaters near Forester Pass along the Kings-Kern Divide (elevations over 13,000 feet) in Sequoia National Park southward to Isabella Reservoir (elevation 2,600 feet) about thirty miles northeast of Bakersfield. Of the several prominent Sierran rivers, only the Kern River flows from north to south. The Kern River, entirely within Tulare and Kern counties, is the southernmost river in the Sierra Nevada.

Starting its life in the snowfields and seeps along the boundary between Kings Canyon National Park and Sequoia National Park, the North Fork Kern River for 27 miles flows through Sequoia National Park. In a magnificent, glacial carved, U-shaped valley it passes beneath the highest peak in the contiguous United States, Mount Whitney. For those who like to indulge in

scenic ecstasy, a well-maintained trail runs alongside the river for virtually this entire 27-mile stretch, affording just such an experience. A delightful soak in the Kern Hot Springs, at the midway point of this section, adds to the pleasure of an already incomparable setting.

After leaving Sequoia National Park, the North Fork Kern River enters Sequoia National Forest for a 55-mile journey. The 21 miles immediately south of Sequoia National Park flow through the 306,000-acre Golden Trout Wilderness to the forks of the North Kern and Little Kern rivers. Eleven miles of this portion of the river form a common boundary between Sequoia National Forest and Inyo National Forest. By this time the Kern has already descended to an elevation of 5,000 feet. Among the scenic delights of this region are Kern and Little

Kern lakes, appropriately set beneath Coyote Peaks (10,892 feet) and immediately adjacent to the Kern River, with high cliffs and colorful vistas of Sequoia National Park to the north. The trail mentioned above traverses much of this section of the river, 20 miles from the nearest road.

South of the Golden Trout Wilderness is the 17-mile stretch of the North Fork Kern River that passes through the 59,000-acre Rincon Roadless Area. It is here, whitewater enthusiasts have declared, that one finds the finest whitewater rafting in North America north of Mexico, with 80 major rapids, earning a Class V rating on the International rafting I-VI scale (VI being unraftable) for this unrelenting stretch of whitewater. Several waterfalls cascading down from tributary streams completes the setting.

The last 17-mile segment, from the Johnsdale Bridge to Isabella Reservoir, is in a heavily used recreation area with several developed campgrounds, small settlements, the town of Kernville, and a county road immediately adjacent to the river. This stretch of river affords the motor-vehicle-bound visitor a chance to view the wild character of the North Fork Kern, a river well worth experiencing.



Management Study

The Sequoia National Forest is currently evaluating its management objectives and recreation carrying capacity for whitewater boating activities on the Kern River. The three floatable sections extend from the Forks of the Kern to the Johnsdale Bridge north of Kernville, the Johnsdale Bridge to Kernville, and Lake Isabella Dam to Democrat Hot Springs in the Lower Kern Canyon.

An Environmental Assessment will be prepared that will evaluate several alternative management objectives ranging from lower use levels to maximizing use through de-regulation. Recreation carrying capacities will vary according to the management alternatives.

Issues, concerns and

opportunities which the Environmental Assessment will address include public safety, access to the river for various recreational purposes, the number of commercial white-water boating companies permitted by the Forest Service to offer trips on the Kern, allocation of use to non-commercial boaters, and minimizing conflict between participants of various recreation activities.

Interest parties are invited to comment on these issues and concerns as well as additional issues they may feel important. The Sequoia National Forest Supervisor will carefully consider these comments since management direction is dependent on knowing the needs of the people using the Kern River. Final date for receiving comments is

September 15, 1981. Send to: Public Information Officer, Sequoia National Forest, 900 W. Grand Avenue, Porterville, California 93257.



Proposed Wild River stretch of Kern River

Photo by Bob Barnes

Wild Kern Proposed

The California Wilderness Coalition has learned that the U.S. Forest Service is recommending Wild and Recreational status for all eligible segments of the North Fork of the Kern River. The Sequoia National Forest will soon release a draft environmental impact statement on a Wild and Scenic River study for the Kern.

Although a release date

for the study has not been announced, the CWC has learned that a public meeting will be held on the proposal at 1 P.M. October 24, at the Kernville Elementary School in Kernville.

A 90 day public comment period will follow the release of the study. Persons wishing to comment or receive copies of the study should contact Jim Heinle,

Sequoia National Forest 900 W. Grand Avenue, Porterville, CA 93257.

78.5 miles of the 83 mile length of river mandated as a study river will be recommended for designation as either "wild" or "recreational" under the federal Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. The study mandate was part of a national parks omnibus bill of Phillip Burton that passed in 1978.

A Guide To Whitewater Rafting

Whitewater Rafting by William McGinnis (Quadrangle/The New York Times Book Co., 1975) is a comprehensive, lively guide to the art of running rivers in inflatable rafts. In 361 pages, it explains in detail the important rafting skills, including reading whitewater, oar, paddle, and sweep-oar techniques, cooking with a dutch oven, making a river sauna, river photography, coping with

bears, camping in an ecologically sound manner, planning menus, assembling and using a complete medical kit, emergency procedures, building rowing frames, raft patching, and knot tying. The book provides overviews of 28 of the finest rafting rivers across the United States, from Maine to California.

The author writes in a manner that is clear,

thorough, personal, at times humorous and always honest and readable. He presents not only the outward, objective facts of rafting and river life but also the subtleties of form and technique and the emotions that pervade the sport - wonder, excitement, fear.

Seventy-six drawings and more than thirty photographs illustrate techniques and river characteristics, and provide plans for

rowing frames and sauna tents, portray types of rafts and gear, show rafts running rapids and falls, and offer spectacular views of rivers and canyons. The book is valuable to those who raft on their own, but also enhances the experience of those who take guided river trips.

Whitewater Rafting is available in bookstores or may be obtained by writing directly to Whitewater Voyages.

A Whitewater Paradise

Rafting the Forks of the Kern

By William McGinnis

(Forks of the Kern to Limestone; 18 river miles; 3 days; difficulty V)

A whitewater paradise! In this breathtaking granite canyon, deep within Sequoia National Forest, the Kern River dances and swirls through what is probably the finest stretch of raftable whitewater in North America. Eighteen miles long and dropping at the astonishing rate of 60 feet per mile, the river tumbles through a delightful, nearly continuous series of class IV and V rapids and waterfalls. Awesome drops, mammoth holes, and towering waves crowd in one after another.

The Forks of the Kern have such an abundance of superlative rapids that even if they were spread out over a 50-mile run, the result would be one of the most relentless, demanding, and exciting pieces of whitewater anywhere. Here on the forks, sometimes called "the inner gorge of the Kern," the miracle is that the tightly-compressed run is thoroughly raftable!

Rising well over one thousand feet, the canyon walls are in places swathed in lush, sloping forest and elsewhere are of naked, vertical granite. The water is

clear and sweet, the fishing is heavenly, and the woods along the banks are ideal for camping. Spectacular cataracts plunge into the canyon. A few yards from the river, Freeman Creek forms a magical waterfall, full and high, descending into a bowl scooped from the canyon wall. Filling the base of the bowl, a plunge pool with sandy bottom swirls and bubbles, inviting one to swim around behind the falls and peer out through the cascades. And Dry Meadow Creek enters the main canyon down a staircase of magnificent waterfalls. It is appropriate that this river is now under study for possible designation as a National Wild and Scenic River.

The launch point, at the confluence of the Little

Kern with the main Kern, is accessible only by trail. A three-mile-long path first moves through level forest and then ambles gradually down into the majestic canyon. All food and river gear is taken in by pack animals, and each trip member carries in his or her own gear (I suggest a 30 pound limit) in special waterproof bags with shoulder straps which are provided. Packing in heightens the isolation, the wilderness adventure, and the awareness that this canyon is very special.

Whitewater Voyages was the first to raft the entire Forks of the Kern. This trip is recommended only for healthy, active people who have been on a previous whitewater rafting trip. Wet suits are essential.

Talks and Films

William McGinnis is available to speak to your group. Depending on the group's interests, Bill will show slides and comment on rafting in Norway, touring in Russia, rafting fundamentals, or whitewater throughout the West. Also, 16mm films which

provide plunging, tantalizing views of rafting are available. A fee is charged and compensation for travel expenses is required for speaking engagements outside the San Francisco Bay Area. Contact Whitewater Voyages to make arrangements.



Kern River offers exciting rafting

Photo by Bob Barnes

INTERNATIONAL SCALE OF RIVER DIFFICULTY:

I. **Easy.** Waves small; passages clear; no serious obstacles.

II. **Medium.** Rapids of moderate difficulty with passages clear.

III. **Difficult.** Waves numerous, high, irregular; rocks; eddies; rapids with

passages clear through requiring expertise in maneuver.

IV. **Very Difficult.** Long rapids; waves powerful; irregular; dangerous rocks; boiling eddies; powerful and precise maneuvering required.

V. **Extremely Difficult.** Exceedingly difficult, long and violent rapids, following each other almost without interruption; riverbed extremely obstructed; big drops; violent current; very steep gradient.

VI. **Unrunnable.**

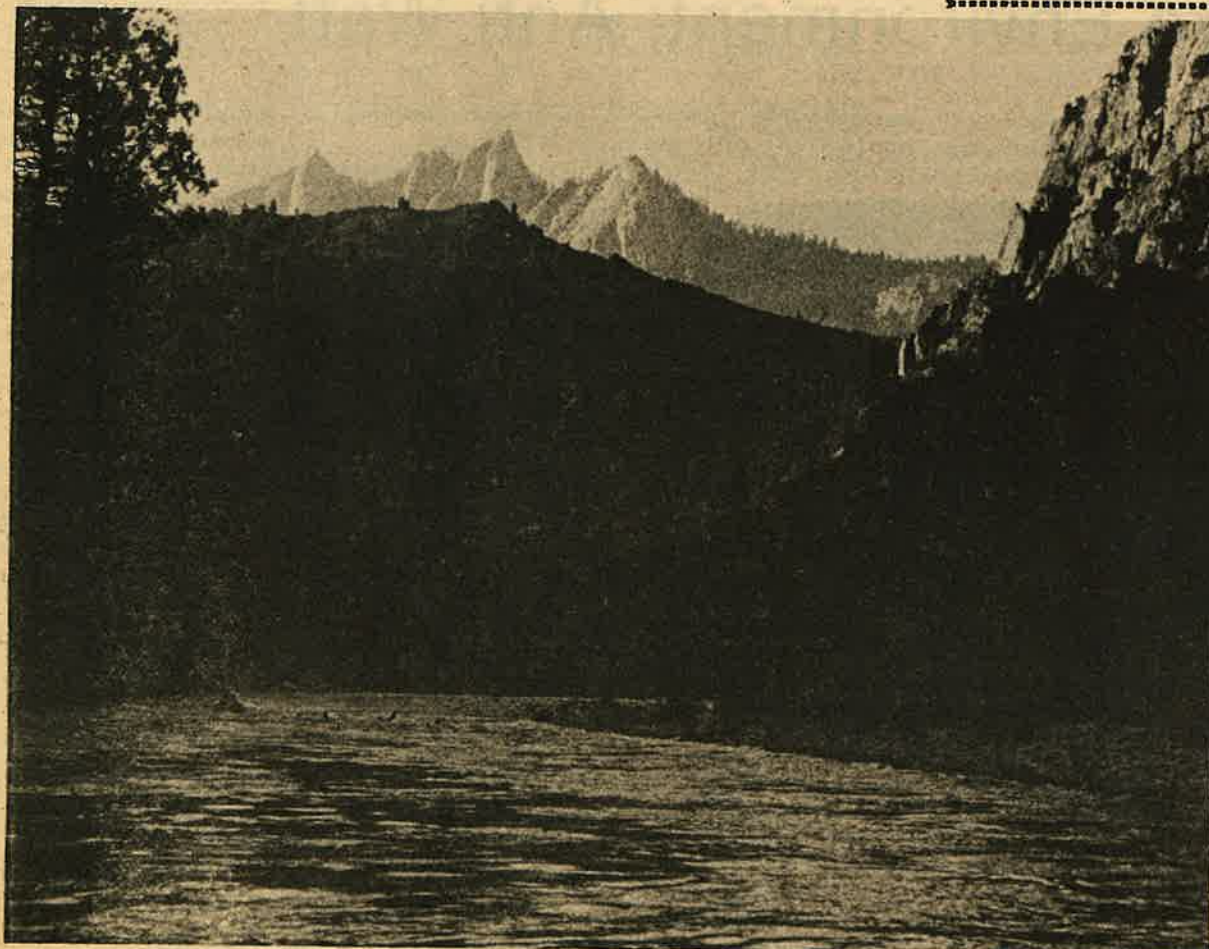
Forks of the Kern Rafting Permittees

Chuck Richard's
Whitewater
P.O. Box WW Whitewater
Lake Isabella, CA 93240
(714) 379-4444

Outdoor Adventures
3109 Fillmore
San Francisco, CA 94123
(415) 922-9998

Westwaters Expeditions
236 Euclid Ave.
Long Beach, CA 90803
(213) 434-3063

William McGinnis'
Whitewater Voyages
P.O. Box 906
El Sobrante, California
94803
(415) 222-5994



The North Fork Kern River and Golden Trout Wilderness

Photo by Bob Barnes



Not as Wild

Whitewater Rafting is available along two other stretches of the Kern: on the 17-mile stretch between

the Johnsondale Bridge and Isabella Reservoir, and on the river below the reservoir.

Small Hydro Endangers Wild Areas

By Steve Evans

A flood of preliminary permit applications for so called "small hydro" projects on hundreds of creeks and rivers throughout California may pose a serious threat to the protection of potential wilderness areas in the National Forests.

Small creeks and rivers on public lands are being targeted for potential hydroelectric development by individuals, municipalities, and private corporations. In several cases, preliminary applications filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) include sites in proposed wilderness areas, roadless areas, natural, recreational, and scenic areas, and in one case, a National Wild and Scenic River zone.

A large majority of the FERC preliminary permit applications in California are being applied for by companies out to make a profit by generating electricity from public resources and selling it to private utilities.

The term "small hydro" generally refers to hydroelectric projects which produce less than five megawatts of electricity (an amount that can supply the power needs of a few thousand residential customers). FERC has literally been inundated with thousands of preliminary permit applications for small hydro projects over the last year. The number of applications has tripled from 1979 to 1980. In California alone, several hundred applications have been received over the last few months including 32 during a one week period in April.

Granting of a preliminary permit by FERC allows the

applicant to study the hydro electric potential of the site for up to three years, although it does not allow construction. Presumably, other land management agencies, such as the U.S. Forest Service, would participate in the final authorization process for the permits.

The typical small hydro project outlined in these preliminary permit applications includes a small diversion dam which diverts a certain percentage of the river flow through a flume or conduit, drops it down in elevation, and runs it through a turbine to generate electricity. Even though no large reservoirs are involved, these projects entail the construction of roads in steep and sensitive river canyons, the reduction of stream flows or the virtual de-watering of some river sections, and the stringing of transmission lines over mountain terrain.

Although some small hydro applications undoubtedly represent viable projects which can generate a much needed commodity, many are being proposed in extremely sensitive and endangered roadless areas and wilderness proposals.

In the Lassen-Plumas region of the northern Sierra, preliminary FERC permits are being considered for sites in the proposed Ishi Wilderness (Sulphur Creek); the proposed Feather River Wilderness (Soda Creek, Yellow Creek, and Chips Creek); the Bald Rock roadless area and Feather Falls Scenic Area (Fall River), and even within the Middle Fork, Feather Wild and Scenic River zone (South Branch, Middle Fork).

Other California water-

ways being considered for preliminary permits include Beegum Creek (Tehama County), Eddy Creek (Siskiyou County), Cache Creek (Lake County), Kern River (Kern County), Bull Creek (Humboldt County), Trinity River (Trinity County), Pine Creek (Inyo County), and the Mokelumne River (Amador and Calaveras Counties).

One particularly worrisome project could potentially de-water or severely reduce the flows over America's sixth highest waterfall (Feather Falls on the Fall River) as well as result in road and transmission line construction in the Feather Falls Scenic Area. Another potentially damaging project is located on the South Branch of the Middle Fork, Feather River. This particular project is clearly within the quarter mile Wild Scenic River zone of the Middle Fork. Although the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act prohibits water development in order to preserve the wilderness resources and free flowing nature of designated rivers, FERC is evidently routinely processing the application with little or no consideration of the existing protective classification.

Until recently, the concept of "small hydro" was primarily applied to the potential for installing power plants at existing dams, diversions and even irrigation ditches. The State Department of Water Resources has estimated that over 500 megawatts of power can be generated at existing hydroelectric structures in California, enough electricity to serve the needs of a million people. "Small hydro"

often has been offered as a non-polluting alternative to traditional energy production methods by environmentalists.

New regulations promulgated by the Public Utilities Commission drastically have changed the "small hydro" concept. State regulations now require private utilities to purchase electricity from any individual or entity with the resources to produce it (whether it be hydro, wind, solar, or whatever). Although these regulations certainly are a laudable step forward in the decentralization of energy production, they may well have a severe impact upon the waterway and wilderness resources on public lands as people scramble to "stake" their claims to potential small hydro sites.

Besides the problems created by the vast number of applications being filed, there are several important issues that investigation in terms of insuring protection of our wilderness resources.

Because FERC is being inundated by small hydro preliminary permits, the agency is proposing that projects generating less than five megawatts be exempt from licensing. Although the agency maintains that it would still possess certain enforcement powers concerning fish and wildlife protection and navigation requirements, the periodic review of these requirements as well as the public intervention process of all FERC licenses would not be in effect.

FERC is primarily a power agency, one that is continually lobbied by the utilities that it is supposed to regulate. A good case can be made that the agency is

not even effectively regulating the licensed projects under its power. For example, the South Fork Feather River project, licensed by FERC and operated by the Oroville-Wyandotte Irrigation District, has had over 9,000 violations of mandated instream fishery flows since 1961. Complaints from the U.S. Forest Service and the State Dept. of Fish and Game have been received concerning these violations, and yet FERC has failed to enforce their license requirements.

Other agencies, such as the U.S. Forest Service, Dept. of Fish and Game, and the State Clearinghouse of the Office of Planning and Research, would have great impact with their comments concerning the FERC permits. Unfortunately, they do not have the resources to effectively cope with the sheer amount of work involved with researching and commenting upon every permit. Consequently, we can expect vitally important and potentially damaging projects being approved with little or no criticisms from other government agencies.

At this time, it appears that the conservation community and the public at large are not aware of the magnitude and potential for destruction that this so called "small hydro" boom could have. In order to protect the remaining wilderness and watershed of California, conservationists must familiarize themselves with the issue. FERC publishes weekly news releases which list the applications for small hydro permits. These lists provide the name of the individual or entity applying for the

permit, the project number and name, the waterway and county it is located in, and the kilowatt capacity. You need to request the actual application from FERC in order to determine the exact location of the project (a map is provided). Requests for documents should be mailed to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Div. of Public Information, 825 North Capitol Street, N.E.-Room 1000, Washington D.C. 20426.

Immediate comments should be directed to FERC if you determine that a potential small hydro project conflicts with other resources and uses (constructed in a proposed wilderness area for example). Preliminary permits do not authorize construction; they simply reserve for the applicant the exclusive right to study the small hydro potential of a certain site for a three year period. An early track record of opposition to potentially damaging projects will put FERC on notice that certain projects deserve closer study. Licensing exemption of small hydro projects should be opposed as the licensing process has a built-in public intervention and periodic review mechanism that insures full public participation, fish and wildlife mitigation, and information disclosure.

As in many issues, small hydro may not prove to be a problem at all. Familiarization with the issue and vigilance in reviewing permit applications will prevent the small hydro boom from becoming a particularly thorny conflict with wilderness.

Public is Pro Environment; Anti Watt

This following article by Mervin D. Field of the California Poll is from the

August 19 Sacramento Bee. During the few months that he has held the post of

secretary of the interior in the Reagan Cabinet, James Watt has generated a

preponderantly negative impression with that portion of the California

public which has formed an opinion of him.

As interior secretary, Watt wields enormous authority in determining the usage policies for the nation's large areas of public lands, national parks and offshore drilling areas, much of which is in the West. Since taking office Watt has alarmed many national conservation and environmental groups with a series of actions and statements that run counter to a long-held set of government positions regarding this country's ecology.

A recently complete California Poll finds that just 35 percent of the public had formed an opinion of Watt. Among this group twice as many (24 percent) have a negative view of him as have a positive view (11 percent).

By a 58 percent to 31 percent majority, the California public believes this country can have

sufficient economic growth without relaxing existing environmental safeguards. And by a larger margin, 60 percent to 23 percent, Californians would choose to protect the environment even if this slows down the economy and costs some jobs, rather than promote economic growth if this leads to more pollution and risk to the environment.

In response to a question as to where they think Secretary Watt stands on these issues, 43 percent believes Watt leans either strongly or somewhat on the side of economic development of our national resources, while just eight percent feel he stands for the protection of our environment. The remaining proportion say they aren't sure where he stands.

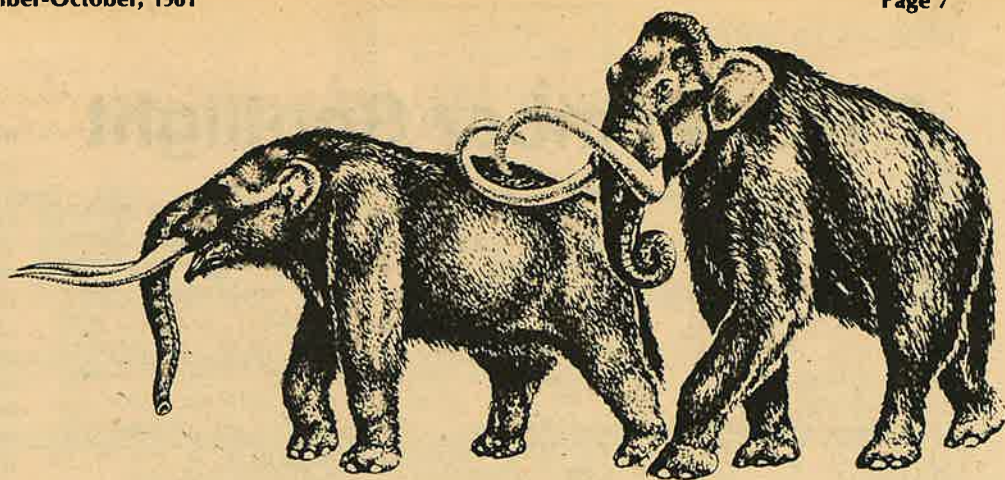
An analysis of the current survey findings show the Reagan's popularity does not as yet seem to be adversely affected by Watt's image.



Wilderness Wildlife

Did Man Kill the Mastodons?

By Dennis Coules



James F. Smith

From 10,000 to 13,000 years ago, a naturalist's visit to California would have been enriched by the sight of camels, mammoths, sabertoothed cats, lions, dire wolves, sloths, giant bears, mastodons, and other exotic beasts that one can barely imagine in the state today. Collectively, these large and primarily extinct species are referred to as the "Pleistocene megafauna." Causes of the massive die-off of these mammal species during the Pleistocene epoch, particularly after the latest (Wisconsinan) glaciation, have long been a subject of speculation. In recent years, scientists have hypothesized that a major Pleistocene extinction, of large mammals at least, may have been induced by man.

The Pleistocene epoch is thought to have begun about 1.8 to 1.9 million years BP (before present). This period contained a succession of four glaciations and three intervening, relatively short interglacial periods. The first glaciation began 1.5 million years BP and the last ended about 15,000 - 20,000 years BP.

Extinction occurred throughout the two million years of the epoch, and during the early part of the Pleistocene, many species of bats, rodents, and other small mammals disappeared from the fossil record. The giant bison disappeared between 21,000 and 30,000 BP, possibly due to competition and interbreeding with the smaller bison which still (barely) survives. But in a relatively short period from 9,400 to 12,700 BP, most of the large mammals that had dominated North America through the Pleistocene suddenly became extinct on the continent. Suspiciously, this period also corresponds to the period of rapid expansion of human populations which had invaded the continent over the Bering land bridge between Siberia and Alaska and showed a large reliance on big game for food.

Pleistocene Herbivores

The mammoths and mastodons were the dominant herbivores in North America until the recent epoch. Closely related to the elephant, and similar in size, the Jefferson's mammoth (*Mammuthus jeffersonii*) was very abundant and has been found directly associated with human hunters at several sites dated at about 12,000 BP. Like the giant bison, the mammoth originated in Eurasia and immigrated to North America about 500,000 BP. A small subspecies even inhabited the California channel islands. The mammoth inhabited open prairies, feeding on grasses. It had long, incurved tusks and a thin coat of fur.

The disappearance of *Mammuthus*, which occurred about 11,000 BP, corresponds with a radical change in human culture from the Clovis mammoth-hunting culture to the Folsom culture which was based on bison hunting. Overspecialization, climatic change, and a change in the composition of the rangeland grasses contributed to the mammoth's demise, but human hunting of the weakened and declining populations was probably the final factor leading to extinction.

Unlike the mammoth, the mastodon preferred forest habitats where it apparently browsed trees, shrubs, and mosses. Shorter but stockier than mammoths, mastodons were covered with coarse, brownish hair and had tusks to nine feet long. When both tusks are preserved together, one is always shorter than the other, indicating that individuals were either right or left-"tusked."

The giant beaver was a rodent the size of a black bear that was found across the continent, although fossils are most abundant in the Great Lakes region. It fed on marsh vegetation,

but no evidence exists of dam-building or tree-felling. The Central Valley marshes and riparian areas of California would probably have offered prime habitat. Competition with the smaller species of beaver which survives today may have spelled doom to the giant form.

Several species of both camels and llamas were common in North America until the end of the Pleistocene. Large herds of "yesterday's camel" roamed the Southwest. This species, originally described from Livermore, California, was a grazer that stood about 20 percent taller than modern camels. At least three species of llama were found in California at times during the epoch.

California was also the home of a tapir which resembled a species still surviving in South America. Tapirs are now restricted to the American and Asian tropics.

The Shasta ground sloth, ranging in size to eight feet long and 400 pounds, lived in the western part of the continent where it ate roots, stem, seeds, flowers, and fruits of desert plants such as Yucca, Agave, prickly-pear cactus and mesquite. A well-preserved specimen found in a fumarole in New Mexico had long yellowish hair, probably given a green camouflaging tinge by algal cells on the living animal. Sloths are now found only in South American tropics.

The cow family had several representatives among the extinct fauna. The scrub-ox, four-fifths the size of modern bison, survived until 11,500 BP. The woodland muskox, which lived in both woodlands and plains, inhabited much warmer areas than the modern muskox, and hung on at least until 11,100 BP. The giant bison, as mentioned, coexisted with the surviving *Bison bison* until between 21,000 and 30,000 BP, and was joined in

Mammutidae and Elephantidae. The dominant proboscideans during the Pleistocene were the mastodons and mammoths. Shown are *Mammuthus americanus* and *Mammuthus columbi*.

oblivion by the steppe bison (*Bison priscus*), which also migrated to North America from Eurasia. The steppe bison's terminal date was 11,910 to 12,460 BP.

Pleistocene Carnivores

The most powerful predator of the Pleistocene was not the sabertoothed cat but rather an unusually lithe-bodied and long-legged bear, the giant short-faced bear. Much more carnivorous than modern bears, which tend toward omnivory, this species frequented caves. Competition with invading grizzly bears, which migrated to the lower continent during the last phase of glaciation, may have combined with other ecological changes to cause the demise of this bear by about 12,650 BP.

Numerous members of the weasel family vanished during the Pleistocene, but the most imposing was undoubtedly the "voracious flesh-eater," *Ferriestrix vorax*. Never abundant in the fossil record, this creature exhibited a massive jaw and teeth and was larger than the modern wolverine.

Of the dog family, hyena-like "bone-eating dogs" were last recorded in the early Pleistocene. Probably serving to fill their hunter/scavenger niche later in the epoch was the dire wolf. Very abundant in the fossil record, the dire wolf was similar to a modern grey wolf in size but had a much heavier build with a very broad head and large teeth in its slaving jaws. Remains of over 1,646 individuals were recorded from the La Brea tar pits. This wolf became extinct at the same time as much of the other North American megafauna. Coyotes, however, were also abundant in the Pleistocene and continue to do well today despite man's harassment.

The most famous Pleisto-

cene carnivore, the saber-toothed cat, lived in North America in large numbers after its mid-Pleistocene disappearance from Eurasia. It preyed on large, slow-footed animals which were stabbed in vital areas by the huge fangs. Maimed and infirm saber-toothed cats haunted the La Brea Tar pits, attracted by trapped animals, as evidenced by broken teeth and bones and skeletal disease found in many specimens there. The disappearance of saber-tooths at either 9,410 or 8,000 BP is linked to the extinction of their important, large prey species.

The scimitar cat was heavily specialized for preying on mammoth and mastodon calves which readily explains its disappearance after these herbivores were hunted down by man. It probably attacked the calves from ambush, slashing them with its short, razor-sharp sabers, and hiding until the parents left the bloodless corpse of their dead offspring. The scimitar cat often used caves as dens, where its remains are found with the milk teeth of its prey.

A subspecies of the surviving African lion, called the American lion, was found throughout the continent, but primarily in the West, where it preferred open terrain. The lion was actually the most widespread land mammal species of all time before the advent of modern man, as it inhabited all continents except Australia and Antarctica. The American lion was extinct by 10,000 BP. There is much evidence of hunting of this species by Paleo-Indian humans (although hunting of humans by lions undoubtedly also occurred!). Cougars were also present in the Pleistocene, and the range of jaguars, ocelots and many smaller felines included areas far to the north of their present boundaries.

It will be some time before the ancient evidence of the massive Pleistocene megafauna extinction is deciphered to a point where the question of its cause can be answered with any certainty. Direct evidence of widespread human hunting exists for only a few species, but the Paleo-Indian culture of the period appears to have been primarily a big-game hunting culture.

Some families of large mammals became extinct in North America but still survive on other continents. Examples include camels, llamas, hyenas, tapirs and elephants. Others went extinct on a global scale, such as mammoths and mastodons. The megafaunal species that apparently evolved in North America had a higher rate of extinction than those species which immigrated across the Bering land bridge at one or more periods from Eurasia. Perhaps the immigrants, having a longer period of contact with humans, were better able to withstand the onslaught of Paleo-Indian hunters in North America.

The modern science of ecology demonstrates that direct impacts of humans on other species is not necessary to create ecological changes leading to extinction. For example, when the declining mammoth populations were finally reduced to non-existence by human hunters, any specialized predators such as the scimitar cats would be doomed also. Removal of grazing pressure once exerted by a large dominant herbivore, such as the mammoth, would have had effects on the composition of the rangeland vegetation, which would have favored some herbivores and harmed others. The changes in relative populations of these herbivores would have led to changes in the populations of their predators and son on.

The complexity of ecological interrelationships is such that major new factors, such as the expansion of "primitive" human populations starting around 12,000 year BP, may well have delivered the "coup de grace" to the majority of the interesting Pleistocene megafauna.

(Note: a great reference on this subject is *Pleistocene Mammals of North America* by Bjorn Kurten and Elaine Anderson, Columbia University Press, 1980.)

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PURPOSES OF THE CALIFORNIA WILDERNESS COALITION

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

Kern Audubon Society

CWC Member Spotlight

As a service to California Wilderness Coalition member groups, the *Wilderness Record* will commence publishing articles on individual member groups with this issue. It is hoped that these articles will strengthen the Coalition by providing organizations with wide

exposure and the readership of CWC an exposure to the philosophy, goals, and techniques of the featured group. CWC is developing a group questionnaire to assist in gathering information for this series of articles. As, always, CWC desires and encourages articles submitted by

member groups promoting their wilderness preservation efforts. The *Wilderness Record* is printed to provide member groups with information on wilderness related activities throughout California. Since you are the CWC, please use the *Record* as a vehicle to spread your message.

Ecology Center of Southern California

The Ecology Center of Southern California, founded in 1972 by Ms. Nancy Sue Pearlman, is a project of Educational Communications, Inc., a non-profit, tax-deductible organization. The center staff is voluntary and programs are funded solely on membership donations and contributions. The ECSC publishes *The Compendium Newsletter*, an excellent potpourri of environmental issues and concerns. A weekly radio show, "Environmental Directions," and weekly newspaper articles are other activities of this vital Los Angeles based organization. The Ecology Center of Southern California serves as a regional conservation group dedicated to improving the quality of the environment at the local, state, national, and international levels on air and water quality, land use planning, energy, resources, wildlife, pollution, aesthetics and ethics,

transportation, wilderness, park area preservation (desert/mountain/coast), environmental impact analysis, solid waste, population, and urban problems. The Center's publication, *Directory of Environmental Organizations*, is a comprehensive listing of virtually every organization involved in environmental issues.

The Ecology Center of Southern California is an important member of the California Wilderness Coalition in the Los Angeles metropolitan area. The Center's director, Nancy Pearlman, has an in-depth knowledge of the Los Angeles area's relationship to environmental issues. As a member of the California Wilderness Coalition's Advisory Committee, Ms. Pearlman provides a vital link with politically powerful Los Angeles area governmental representatives. Among the issues of mutual concern for CWC

and the ECSC are the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area; wilderness proposals for the Los Angeles area which are included in the Burton Wilderness Bill, HR 4083; and the California Desert preservation effort.

Membership in the Ecology Center of Southern California is \$15 per year (\$10 student/low income) and the 1981 *Directory of Environmental Organizations* is an additional \$15.00 donation. Make checks payable to the Ecology Center of Southern California (dues and donations are tax-deductible through Educational Communications, Inc.) Your check is your receipt. The newsletter is published six times per year.

The Ecology Center of Southern California, P.O. Box 35473, Los Angeles, CA 90035 Phone: (213) 559-9160. Key contacts: Nancy Pearlman, Executive Director, and Elaine Stansfield.

The California Wilderness Coalition wishes to welcome as a member group the 300+ member Kern Audubon Society, a chapter of the 400,000+ member National Audubon Society. The Bakersfield area society is active in wilderness issues including the California Wilderness Bill (HR 4083), North Fork Kern River Wild & Scenic River Study, California desert preservation, South Fork Kern River protection, Mono Lake, and the Desert

Tortoise Preserve.

Kern Audubon sponsors monthly programs from September through May, averages two field trips per month, sponsors five Audubon Wildlife films per year, and publishes a monthly newsletter called "Audubon's Warbler." In addition, Kern Audubon's conservation committee has become increasingly active, as has National Audubon, in wilderness issues over the years.

Kern Audubon has a

three page report of their activities, from which this article is synthesized, available from their conservation chairperson, Irene Heath.

Membership in Kern Audubon is accomplished by making out a \$20 check to National Audubon Society and mailing it to the Kern Audubon Society, P.O. Box 3581, Bakersfield, CA 93305. Key contact: Irene Heath, Conservation Chairperson (at above address) Phone: (805) 871-0272.

Kern Valley Wildlife Association

Founded in the early 1960's as The South Fork Fish & Game Association, the recently renamed Kern Valley Wildlife Association is a vital California Wilderness Coalition member at the southern extreme of the Sierra Nevada. KVWA supports local wilderness projects and cooperates with other local environmental groups such as the Kern Plateau Association and Kern River Valley Audubon Society. KVWA was an important voice in the successful

Golden Trout Wilderness effort. Currently the Association is involved in the California Wilderness Bill (HR 4083) and wild & scenic river status for the North Fork Kern River. Other activities include trail restoration and improvement, wildlife work, Desert Tortoise Preserve support, Mono Lake, South Fork Kern River preservation (both Nature Conservancy and Army Corps of Engineers), and the extensive Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

lands in the Walker Pass area. For a complete list of field trips, activities, or to join write:

Kern Valley Wildlife Association
P.O. Box 951
Weldon, CA 93283

Individual: \$3.00 Family: \$5.00 Business or Organization: \$10.00
Key contacts: President, Mike Henstra, Rt. 1, Box 264, Lake Isabella, CA 93240 (714) 378-2976 Secretary, Mary Noren, P.O. Box 1028, Wofford Heights, CA 93285 (714) 376-6736

CWC Member Groups

Our newest group members:

Kern Audubon Society
c/o Eleanor R. Smith
612 S. Chester
Bakersfield, CA 93304

Pasadena Audubon Society
730 Arden Rd.
Pasadena, CA 91106

Placer County Conservation Task Force
c/o Helen Wauters
10425 Dillon Circle
Newcastle, CA 95658
CWC Member Groups:

American Alpine Club

Bay Chapter, Sierra Club

Butte Environmental Council

California Native Plant Society

Citizens to Save Our Public Lands

Citizens for Mojave National Park

Concerned Citizens of Calaveras County

Defenders of Wildlife

Desert Protective Council

Earth Ecology Club

Ecology Center of So. California

Environmental Center of San Luis Obispo County

Friends of Plumas Wilderness

Friends of the Earth

Friends of the River

Friends of the River Foundation

Golden Gate Environmental Law Society

Granite Chief Task Force Greenpeace

Ishi Task Force

Island Foundation

Kern Plateau Association
Kern Valley Wildlife Association
Knapsack Section, Bay Chapter, Sierra Club

Lake Tahoe Audubon Society

Loma Prieta Chapter, Sierra Club

Mendocino Environment Center

Mono Lake Committee

Mt. Shasta Audubon Society

Mt. Shasta Resources Council

NCRCC Sierra Club

Northcoast Environmental Center
Northeast Californians for Wilderness

Northstate Wilderness Committee

Orange County Sierra Singles
Pasadena Audubon Society

Placer County Conservation Task Force

The Red Mountain Association

Salmon Trollers Marketing Association

San Francisco Ecology Center

San Joaquin Institute for Environmental Action

San Joaquin Wilderness Association

Sierra Association for Environment

Sierra Treks

Sinkyone Council

Siskiyou Mountains Resource Council

Sonoma County Ecology Center

South Fork Trinity Watershed Association

South Fork Watershed Association

Trinity Alps Group

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(408) 253-1913

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4018 Rice St.
Lihue, Hawaii 96766

The Alpine Supply Co.
130 G Street
Davis, CA 95616
(916) 756-2241

Baldwin's Forestry Services
P.O. Box 22
Douglas City, CA 96024

Daybell Nursery
55 N.E. Street
Porterville, CA 93257
(209) 781-5126

Echo, The Wilderness Co.
6505 Telegraph Ave.
Oakland, CA 94609
(415) 658-5075

Earth Integral, Inc.
2655 Portage Bay Ave.
Davis, CA 95616
(916) 756-9300

Four Seasons Sports
410 Redwood
Oakland, CA 94619

Yes Electric
22 Claus Circle
Fairfax, CA 94930
(415) 456-7433

The Mountain Shop, Inc.
228 Grant Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94108
(415) 362-8477

The Naturalist
219 E Street
Davis, CA 95616
(916) 758-2323

The North Face
1234 Fifth Street
Berkeley, CA 94710
(415) 548-1371

San Francisco Travel Service
728 Montgomery St.
San Francisco, CA 94111
(415) 991-6640

Bob Schneider, Contractor
Solar Homes
2402 Westemess Road
Davis, CA 95616
(916) 758-4315

Siskiyou Forestry Consultants
P.O. Box 241
Arcata, CA 95521

Ski Hut
1615 University Ave.
Berkeley, CA 94704
(415) 843-6505

Solano Ski Sport
1215 Tabor Ave.
Fairfield, CA 94533
(707) 422-1705

Wilderness Press
2440 Bancroft Way
Berkeley, CA 94704
(415) 843-8080

Wildflower Farms Native Plant Nursery
1831 Terrace Place
Delano, CA 93215

Zoo-Ink Screen Print
2415 Third St., No. 270
San Francisco, CA 94107
(415) 863-1207

California Wilderness Coalition P.O. Box 429, Davis, CA 95616

ANNUAL DUES:†

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

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

Zip: _____

Individual	\$ 10
Low-income individual	5
Patron	500
Non-profit organization	30
Sponsor (business)	30

† tax deductible