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WILDERNESS RECORD

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CALIFORNIA WILDERNESS COALITION

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No. 3

State Wilderness System Triples in Size

On April 9th, the State Parks and Recreation Commission tripled the size of the State Wilderness System by designating a number of wilderness proposals within Anza-Borrego Desert and Cuyamaca Rancho State Parks.

The new wilderness areas at Anza-Borrego total 240,040 acres in eleven units. Two areas with 13,210 acres were designated at Cuyamaca. Both parks are within San Diego County.

At the Borrego Springs hearing, CWC Executive Director Jim Eaton told park commissioners that the proposals provide a good balance between the needs for preservation and the requirements for management of the areas. "Future generations will thank you for your foresight in assuring the perpetuation of our natural heritage in these State Wilderness areas," Eaton concluded.

Also testifying in favor of the proposals were Mary Swedell for the Desert Protective Council, Byron Lindlay of the Mountain Defense League, Lucille Petterson, and Harriet Allen. Dr. Bernard Shanks brought forth his knowledge on desert

wilderness while representing Huey Johnson with the Resources Agency's backing of the proposals. Especially strong support came from Bud Getty, the State Parks wilderness program coordinator who formerly was the Area Manager at Anza-Borrego.

At the hearing, State Parks Director Peter Dangermond expressed the department's full support for the wilderness proposals and held up a thick sheaf of letters and telegrams from throughout California expressing public support for wilderness. No one testified against wilderness at the hearing.

Several of the roadless areas were visible from the hearing location in Borrego Springs. Most of the commissioners toured the wilderness proposals the previous day.

State law allows the State Parks and Recreation Commission to designate state wilderness areas in units of the State Parks System. The legislature also can establish wilderness areas in parks as well as other lands owned by the State.

Just the names of the units at Anza Borrego

indicate the variety of terrain represented in these new state wilderness areas: the Grapevine, Granite, Vallecito, and Jacumba mountains; Whale Peak and Pinyon Ridge; Smoke Tree and Carrizo canyons; and Agua Caliente, Desert Oasis, and Carrizo Badlands. Recreational access is good with road corridors left in some of the units which range in size from 82,000 to 4,500 acres.

This is bighorn sheep country. Nearly two-thirds of the United States population of Peninsular bighorn is found in and around the State Park. If for no other reason, wilderness designation for these lands is crucial for the future of these magnificent animals.

Mountain lions live in the park, along with kit fox, ringtails, raccoons, badgers, desert tortoises, golden eagles, mountain quail, a new species of gecko, and four different rattlesnakes. Hundreds of fan palms and elephant trees may be found, along with scores of rare, endangered, and threatened species of plants.

The East and West Mesa units at Cuyamaca Rancho comprise one of the most

scenic mountain landscapes in the state complete with rare plants, numerous Native American sites, and wilderness animals like the mountain lion, bobcat, golden eagle, and peregrine falcon.

This fall the commission will consider state wilderness

proposals for units in the Santa Cruz area and Henry Coe State Park. Other wilderness proposals await action, along with needed emergency protection of the Sinkhole Wilderness State Park.



Wild badlands of Anza-Borrego Desert State Park

Photo by Jim Eaton

Bills to Ban Mining in Wilderness Moving Ahead

House Interior Passes Bill

On June 24th the House Interior Committee approved H.R. 6542, the Seiberling-Lujan bill to prohibit mineral leasing in wilderness areas. The bipartisan bill was cosponsored by five Democrats and five Republicans and passed on a 34-7 vote.

The opposition to the bill, led by Alaska's Don Young, offered weakening amendments including a proposal to allow seismic exploration, allowing oil companies to bomb wilderness areas. These weakening amendments were defeated. All California members of the Interior Committee, except Rep. Don Clausen, voted against the seismic amendment. Clausen later changed his vote; his staff said he didn't realize his constituents felt that strongly about the issue.

Rep. Hendon of North Carolina tried to amend the bill by adding national release language similar to that in Senator Hayakawa's S. 841, but chairman Morris Udall ruled the proposed amendment not germane.

Unlike Rep. Phillip Burton's H.R. 5282, this bill does not protect Bureau of Land Management Wilderness Study Areas, nor does it

apply to hardrock (metals and uranium) mining. With those exceptions, the Seiberling-Lujan measure does the following:

- immediately closes designated wilderness areas to all forms of mineral leasing;
- closes RARE II wilderness proposals to leasing until Congress determines otherwise or for one generation of forest planning;
- closes congressionally designated Forest Service wilderness study areas for the duration of their protection in the law that designated them;
- closes RARE II further planning areas until a wilderness/non-wilderness decision is made by the Forest Service. If the recommendation is wilderness, it would receive protection; if allocated to non-wilderness, it would be protected an additional year; and
- prohibits seismic studies involving explosives in designated wilderness.

The bill now goes to the floor for a vote by the whole House of Representatives. The earliest this could happen is the week of July 19th. No action has yet begun in the Senate.

- Jim Eaton, John Hooper, and Russ Shay

Hearing Update

Congressional hearings in California during April showed that the public is strongly behind the preservation of wilderness. The Subcommittee on Public Lands and National Parks of the House Interior Committee solicited the views of citizens on mining in wilderness at hearings in Santa Ana and San Francisco.

Opening the first hearing, Congressman Jerry Patterson said, "The public has always been supportive of past Congressional initiatives to maintain and enhance our national wilderness system. If the public attitude has changed, I would like to hear it directly from the people."

If anything, the hearings showed public support for wilderness stronger than ever. Of 132 citizens who testified, 131 spoke on behalf of protecting our wilderness and roadless areas.

The issues before the subcommittee were the James Watt bill, H.R. 5603 (known to conservationists as the "wilderness destruction act") and H.R. 5282, Rep. Phillip Burton's proposal to ban oil and gas leasing in existing and proposed wilderness areas.

Speaking at the Santa

Ana hearing, CWC Executive Director Jim Eaton expressed concern that Watt and others were picturing wilderness supporters as "extremists." "The real extremists are those who cannot look at open space without seeing subdivisions, those who cannot look at a tree without counting board feet, and those who cannot tolerate opinions other than their own," Eaton said.

"The Congress, indeed the entire Nation," Eaton concluded, "should not relegate the public trust to the robber barons, who through an accident of history, find themselves in a position to steal the country's natural riches."

Speakers represented scores of organizations, and individuals of various ages, races, and physical ability spoke out in favor of wilderness. Elected officials supporting a ban on mineral leasing in wilderness included Senator Alan Cranston, Huey Johnson of the California Resources Agency, several county supervisors, and the mayor of Laguna Beach.

Among the organizations represented were the Sierra Club, various Audubon Chapters, Friends of the

Earth, Natural Resources Defense Council, Desert Protective Council, California Native Plant Society, the Wilderness Society, Greenpeace, and the Ecology Center of Southern California. Many smaller groups gave excellent testimony, including the Citizen's Committee to Save Our Public Lands, Trinity Wilderness Coalition, Tuolumne River Preservation Trust, Committee for Green Foothills, Amigos de Bolsa Chica, and the Juaneno Tribal Council.

Besides the threats to wilderness from mining, speakers emphasized the need for the passage of the Burton-Cranston California Wilderness Bill. Experts on other problems facing our wildlands spoke about fisheries, logging, off-road vehicles, and water developments. CWC Director Steve Evans had a detailed statement of the 90 plus small hydro projects proposed for existing National and State Wild Rivers, Wilderness Areas, and National Forest and BLM roadless areas. "Development of small hydro is no less threat to our nation's wilderness than the leasing and extraction of minerals," Evans told the Committee.

The only person to speak out against wilderness was Ray Hunter of the California Mining Association.

Coalition Report

By Jim Eaton

Needless to say, your May-June issue of the *Wilderness Record* is coming to you late. Aside from the normal unexpected delays, most of the problem stems from my inability to build a house and efficiently run the Coalition at the same time.

I am working part time for the CWC this summer (translate: evening and weekends) while getting a house built here in Davis. Other factors confusing things are a host of new members, BLM wilderness studies and hearings, and a three-foot high stack of unanswered mail. Even local CWC Directors are busy; Bob Schneider is the contractor on my house (and has his time occupied teaching me how to hammer, saw, and paint), and Wendy Cohen is trying to finish her Master's thesis and find a job to pay for this home. Current theory is that things will

begin to return to normal after Wendy and I get married this September.

All of us trust that you loyal members will understand if some of the Coalition's leadership is preoccupied with personal matters this summer. Once we get our lives back in order, we'll work twice as hard on wilderness as before. Besides, since my commute from house to office is only about 200 yards, I'll have more time to work on CWC issues.

Speaking of loyal members, the response to our recent fund appeal was most gratifying. A significant portion of our membership responded with their generous donations, keeping the California Wilderness Coalition in working capital. Thanks again for your support.

A special thank you is due to Clarence Heller of Atherton who became our

latest patron member.

We also would like to welcome the Hibbert Lumber Company of Davis as our newest sponsor member (it's a great place to buy supplies when you're building a house). By the way, any members who want to ask local businesses to become CWC sponsors have our blessing. It's only \$30. a year for a sponsor membership.

Two new groups are added to our roles: Conservation Call and the Conejo Valley Audubon. We'll tell you more about these organizations in a later issue of the *Record*.

Finally, for those of you who are wondering why your letter has yet to be answered: hang in there! Once we get this *Wilderness Record* in the , we promise to catch up on correspondence. When you get back from your latest backpacking trip, check your box for CWC mail.

Update

CWC Appeals Geothermal Plans

The California Wilderness Coalition has joined with the Sierra Club in appealing geothermal leasing on the Lassen, Klamath, and Shasta-Trinity national forests. The Lassen appeal was joined as well by the National Parks and Conservation Association.

The CWC is concerned about plans to lease within the Thousand Lakes Wilderness, proposed additions to the Lassen Volcanic National Park and Thousand Lakes wildernesses, the proposed Castle Crags, Mt. Shasta, and Timbered Crater

wilderness areas, and the Girard roadless area (McCloud River).

Julie E. McDonald, attorney for the appellants, has submitted detailed statements of reason why the conservation groups oppose the Forest Service plans. A response from the Forest Service prompted McDonald to state that she is "very frustrated because the Regional Office refuses to address the specifics of the appeal." The appeal is before the Chief of the Forest Service in Washington, D.C.

CWC Loses BLM Protests

The California Wilderness Coalition's lost a battle to require the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to study twelve California roadless areas for possible wilderness designation.

The CWC's protest of the BLM decision not to study these lands was rejected by the Interior Board of Land Appeals after a three year battle. All the areas in question were less than 5,000 acres of BLM land, but all were adjacent to RARE II roadless areas managed by the U.S. Forest Service. Also, each of these RARE II lands had been recommended for nonwilderness status by the Forest Service.

The administrative judges

deciding this appeal ruled that since each of the BLM areas under protest were less than 5,000 acres in size, the BLM acted correctly in not identifying these lands as Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs). The judges did not agree with the CWC's belief that roadless areas managed by more than one agency should be studied as a whole.

It appears that the BLM is carrying this principle forward with WSAs now under study. A recent BLM recommendation for the Ventana Contiguous WSA is as "unsuitable", even though the WSA is adjacent to the 161,394-acre Ventana Wilderness managed by the Forest Service.

Reader's Opinion

Dear Editor:

A short note to express my appreciation of the very commendable efforts you and the staff of the *Wilderness Record* are making. I find your newsletter very informative and comprehensive. I've been reading it and responding to your alerts for over a year now. Given your limited resources, your accomplishments are all the more noteworthy.

Three cheers for the California Wilderness Coalition.

-Bill Thielen
Palo Alto

Dear Editor:

I've been meaning to write and congratulate you on getting an office printer-computer for the *Wilderness Record* and doing to job in your office, instead of having it typeset commercially. Also, this enables you to provide us members with more copies at less cost. I even like the printer type better -- it's easier to read. In addition, the last two issues of the *Wilderness Record* were truly impressive!

Clifton R. Merritt
Executive Director
American Wilderness Alliance
Denver

Dear Editor:

Thank you for all of your helpful information and time. I appreciated it!

Enclosed is my membership pledge for the Wilderness Coalition. I'd like to help in anyway I can, perhaps I could help write those articles on wilderness management we talked about.

Once again, thank you!

Heather Bovat
Davis

Kern Conference Set

South Sierra 3 will be the wilderness event of the fall for people interested in the Southern Sierra. The conference will be held in Kernville on October 22, 23, and 24.

Coordinators Mike Henstra and Bob Barnes promise an educational, exciting, and fun weekend for all. If the past two gatherings are any indication, South Sierra 3 will be a great conference. Send your preregistration check in today!

To help encourage you to act soon, those signing up prior to October 1st will get one free ticket to the Grand Prize drawing to be held at the conference. The lucky winner will get a free 3-day, 2-night raft trip down the Kern River from the Forks of the Kern, one of the wildest and most challenging rivers in California. This fantastic prize has been generously donated by Chuck Richards' Whitewater, Inc., of Lake Isabella.

As with the previous conferences, many other gifts (including delicious dinners at local restaurants) will be raffled off throughout the

meeting. An art auction will be a feature of the Saturday evening program.

Mike and Bob report that the emphasis of South Sierra 3 will be on the lands of the Kern Valley and the Kern Plateau. Special attention will be given to the wild lands and waters of Sequoia National Forest, Sequoia National Park, and nearby Bureau of Land Management areas.

The gathering will begin on Friday evening, October 22nd, at the Kernville School. No meals will be provided, and participants must arrange their own accommodations. There are numerous eating facilities nearby, however, and beautiful campsites are available along the Kern River.

If you wish to preregister (and get a chance at that raft trip down the Kern, send your name, address, telephone number, and a check for \$5.00 made out to the Kern Plateau Association, to:

South Sierra 3
c/o Kern Valley
Wildlife Association
P.O. Box 2180
Lake Isabella, CA 93240

Thank You!

The Board of Directors of the California Wilderness Coalition would like to thank the following members and organizations for responding to our special funding appeal with their generous donations:

Byron Anderson
Keith Axelson
Mrs. Virginia F. Bacher
Clarence Baker
Arthur and Sidney Barnes
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Lake Tahoe Audubon
Society
San Francisco Travel
Service
Sierra Association for
Environment
Siskiyou Forestry
Consultants

National Forest Primitive Areas and Wildernesses in California, 1931-1981

By Luis G. Ireland

At the present time there are twenty-four national forest wildernesses in California. Nineteen of these were first given administrative protection as primitive areas in 1931 or 1932. Two others were first protected by administrative designation as wild areas in 1963. Three have been established as new entities since the passage of the Wilderness Act of 1964. The acreage of most of the original primitive areas has been increased by administrative or legislative action, but a few areas have been significantly diminished (e.g., Yolla Bolly-Middle Eel and Marble Mountain).

In the state of Nevada there is one national forest wilderness, the Jarbridge. According to the sources cited in notes 2 and 5 below, this wilderness was designated

administratively as a wild area in 1958 and contains 64,667 acres.

It is clear that the opponents of wilderness preservation have been very deceitfully overstating the growth of the wilderness preservation system in California. For decades they have sought, with considerable success, to convince politicians and the public that preservationists have been cleverly and ruthlessly "locking up" more and more stands of prime timber, the best undeveloped downhill ski sites, untold riches in minerals and energy sources, venerable and vital off-road vehicle routes, and countless other unspecified treasures.

Actually, conservationists have made only very modest gains for their cause of

wilderness preservation in California and Nevada. With more than twenty million acres of national forest land in California, the increase in designated areas since 1932 has been rather small (about a half million acres, bringing the total to a little less than two and a half million acres), and the resources involved (timber, ski area sites, mineral and energy sources, etc.) are minimal; even the mileage of off-road vehicle routes eliminated by wilderness protection is a very small fraction of the mileage lost to timber harvesting and access roads. In Nevada, with more than four million acres of national forest land, there is still only one wilderness, of less than sixty-five thousand acres. Indeed, conservationists have some reason to feel

disappointed and to question the strategy they have been following for many years in these two states.

The accompanying table summarizes the development of the national forest wilderness preservation system in California. The acreages provided are, as far as can be determined, the gross acreages (i.e., including private inholdings). Minor discrepancies from one year to another may be due to recalculation of acreage, exclusion of private inholdings, or clerical errors. Major changes are accounted for by administrative reclassification of primitive areas to wild areas or wilderness areas before the passage of the Wilderness Act of 1964 or by legislation since passage of the act.

NATIONAL FOREST WILDERNESSES AND PRIMITIVE AREAS IN CALIFORNIA

Name of Area ¹	Date First Designated ²	Acreage in 1932 ³	Acreage in 1940 ⁴	Acreage in 1958 ⁵	Acreage in 1970 ⁶	Acreage in 1979 ^{6, 12}
Agua Tibia	1931	25,913	35,116	34,533	25,995	15,934
Caribou (originally Caribou Butte Peak)	1931	16,442	16,442	16,403	19,080	18,825 (19,080)
Cucamonga	1931	5,000	5,000	5,984	9,022	8,500 (9,022)
Desolation (originally Desolation Valley)	1931	41,380	41,380	40,700	63,121	63,475
Dome Land	1963	-	-	-	62,121	62,695
Emigrant (originally Emigrant Basin)	1931	98,044	98,043	97,020	97,020	111,496 ⁷
Golden Trout	1978	-	-	-	-	306,000
High Sierra Primitive Area ⁸	1931	761,790	826,601	393,899 ⁸	10,247 ⁸	11,656 ⁸
Hoover	1931	20,540	20,540	42,800	42,779	47,937
John Muir ⁸	1931	-	-	-	503,258 ⁸	483,155 ⁸
Kaiser	1976	-	-	-	-	22,500
Marble Mountain (originally Marble Mountains)	1931	237,527	237,527	212,551	213,363	214,390 (214,543)
Minarets (originally Mr. Dana-Minarets)	1931	82,181	82,376	82,181	109,484	102,040 (102,038)
Mokelumne	1963	-	-	-	50,400	50,165
Salmon-Trinity Alps Primitive Area	1932	196,420	280,260	220,999	223,340	287,337 (291,406) ⁹
San Gabriel (originally Devil Canyon-Bear Canyon)	1932	(missing) ¹⁰	36,200	36,200	36,137	36,215 (36,137)
San Geronio	1931	20,000	20,000 ¹¹	33,309	34,644	35,255 (32,718)
San Jacinto	1931	33,291	33,291	16,646	20,564	21,951 (21,955)
San Rafael	1932	(missing) ¹⁰	74,990	74,160	142,722	149,170 (142,918)
Santa Lucia	1978	-	-	-	-	21,250
South Warner (originally South Warners)	1931	70,682	70,682	68,242	68,507	68,540 (69,547)
Thousand Lakes (originally Thousand Lake Valley)	1931	16,335	16,335	15,695	15,695	16,355 (16,335)
Ventana	1931	45,520	55,884	52,894	95,152	159,065
Yolla Bolly-Middle Eel (originally Middle Eel-Yolla Bolly)	1931	143,386	143,426	107,155	108,451	113,030
		1,925,638 ¹⁰			2,426,057 ¹²	

- NOTES
1. The names of several primitive areas were changed when they were reclassified as wilderness areas or wild areas (before the Wilderness Act of 1964) or as wildernesses (after the Wilderness Act).
 2. According to *Search for Solitude*, USDA Forest Service, June 1970, pages 12-16, for areas designated before 1970. (The 1931 and 1932 dates are confirmed by the source cited in note 5.)
 3. According to "National Forests of California" (a map with visitor information printed on the back), USDA Forest Service, California Region, 1932, column 19.
 4. According to *The Living Wilderness*, Vol. 5, No. 5 (July 1940), page 7.
 5. According to the table on pages 54-57 of "National Wilderness Preservation Act, Hearing before the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, United States Senate, Eighty-fifth Congress, Second Session, on S. 4028, July 23, 1958.
 6. According to "Wilderness on the National Forests in California" (a leaflet), USDA Forest Service, Region 5, May 1979. If the acreage given on the map accompanying the RARE II Final Environmental Statement (January 1979) is different, it is given here in parentheses.
 7. Includes 6,100 acres of the original primitive area, recommended for addition to the wilderness in RARE II; present acreage 105,345, according to the table on the RARE II map.
 8. Most of the original High Sierra Primitive Area became part of Kings Canyon National Park and the John Muir Wilderness.
 9. Acreage of the administratively endorsed wilderness proposal for reclassification of the primitive area, as of 1979.
 10. Because Devils Canyon-Bear Canyon (later named San Gabriel) and San Rafael were not listed in the 1932 source, even though other sources indicate their existence in that year, the acreage given in the 1940 source has been used in determining the total protected in 1932.
 11. The San Geronio Wild Area embraced "some 35,000 acres (29,000 acres of Government land and 6,000 acres of alienated land)" in 1942, according to a 1942 visitor map of the San Bernardino National Forest.
 12. The acreage given in parentheses has been used in computing the total acreage for 1979. The figures for 1979 were still valid as of March 1, 1982.

Luis G. Ireland has been active for decades in wilderness preservation in northern Calif.

Wild and Woolly

MOOSE POWER: Two so-called moose hunters, while cruising across an Alaskan lake in a motor-powered canoe, came across a bull moose swimming in the lake. The men lassoed the moose, figuring to shoot him upon reaching the shore. But as they got into shallow water, the moose stood up, spilling men and gear in the process, and then ambled off with the canoe. After a day of searching, the pair found their now battered canoe two miles from the lake. One for the moose.

- Oregon Wildlife

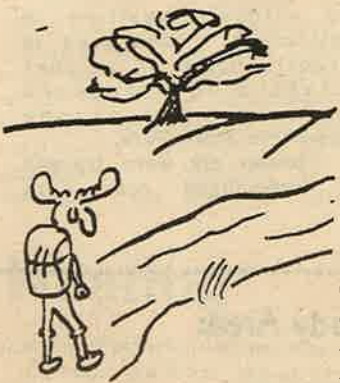
REDS IN AUDUBON: John Crowell, assistant secretary of agriculture in charge of the U.S. Forest Service, told the *Albuquerque Journal*, "I think the bulk of the people who belong to the Sierra

Club and the Audubon Society are people who have a genuine concern about the treatment of our natural resources. On the other hand, I'm sure the organizations are infiltrated by people who have very strong ideas about socialism and even communism."

- Albuquerque Journal

BURIED WISDOM: W. Mitchell, former mayor of Crested Butte, testifying at a public meeting on the draft environmental impact statement for the proposed Mt. Emmons molybdenum mine, said he "did not agree that burying archeological sites under tailings is a benefit to future generations."

- High Country News



Mark J. Palmer

THE CURIO CAPER: Senator Malcolm Wallop (R-WY) told the Conference on National Park Concessioners, "In many cases, your shops and lodges will turn out to be the only contact a vacationing family will have to base its judgments on the 'quality' of a national park."

- High Country News

New Forestry Guide

A new Citizens' Guide to Forest Planning has just been made available by CHEC, the publishers of Forest Planning magazine. The Citizens' Guide is designed to help people understand the national forest planning process and prepare their own citizens' alternatives.

"The Citizens' Guide provides a detailed comparison of the current planning process with the process proposed by the Reagan Administration," says Randal O'Toole, the Director of CHEC. "It also has an answer to the timber-dominated process proposed by the Administration: Citizens' Alternatives based on economics and FORPLAN."

The Citizens' Guide encourages people to ask

forest planners to make certain low-cost computer runs which will help develop citizens' alternatives. These alternatives, suggests the Citizens' Guide, should focus on the low values of national forest timber and the high values of multiple use resources.

The Citizens' Guide to Forest Planning is available for \$3.00 from CHEC, P.O. Box 3479, Eugene, OR 97413. It also will be given free for each subscription to Forest Planning (\$10.00 for individuals and non-profit groups, \$15.00 for libraries and agencies, and \$20.00 for commercial organizations). Everyone involved in national forest planning should have a copy of The Citizens' Guide to Forest Planning.

BLM Wilderness Studies Moving Fast

BULLETIN

The Bureau of Land Management is opposing wilderness designation for both the Cedar Roughs and Rocky Creek-Cache Creek Wilderness Study Areas west of Sacramento. A public hearing is scheduled from 7 PM to 10 PM on August 2nd, at 292 West Beamer Street, Woodland, California.

There has been a rapid acceleration in the wilderness study process for public lands in California administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). While BLM is required by Congress to report on the suitability of wilderness study areas (WSAs) by 1991, the process in California will be finished in four years.

Outside of the completed California Desert wilderness studies, 97 WSAs with a total

of 1.2 million acres are scheduled for study by 1985. Another 134 areas with 3.4 million acres have been found to be nonsuitable for wilderness as a result of preliminary studies.

The accompanying chart lists those areas under review this year. The BLM already has made suitability recommendations for two-thirds of these areas which are now in the middle of public comment periods and public hearings.

Interested persons should contact the offices listed with the various study areas and ask that their names be put on wilderness study mailing lists. Let the California Wilderness Coalition know of your interest by returning the "Adopt a Wilderness Study Area" blank below. Two articles on this page report on BLM studies out for

review; write letters supporting wilderness by the deadlines given.

Many of these wilderness study areas are relatively unknown to conservationists. You can be a real pioneer by learning more about an area, visiting it, and getting public support for its preservation. Many areas represent ecosystems not currently in our National Wilderness Preservation System. While some people may not find the recreational experience to their liking, other wilderness values may make an area worthy of wilderness designation, such as rare plants, wildlife habitat, or archaeological values.

These WSA represent California's last frontier. Yet decisions on the future of many of these areas are being made this summer. Your help is needed now to assure future generations of their wilderness heritage.

1982 WSA Study Schedule

Plan Name	List of WSA's	WSA Acreage	Contact
S. Sierra	CA-010-022 Sheep Ridge	4,905	District Manager 800 Truxtun Ave. Room 311 Bakersfield, CA 93301 (805) 861-4191
	CA-010-023 Milk Rch/Case Mtn.	5,742	
	CA-010-026 Owens Peak	22,560	
	CA-010-046 Piute-Cypress	3,578	
Coast	CA-040-301A Panoche Hills N.	6,677	
	CA-040-301B Panoche Hills S.	11,267	
	CA-040-303 Pinnacles Wilderness	5,838	
	CA-040-308 Ventana Wilderness Contiguous	640	
Coast Valley	CA-010-042 Caliente	19,018	
Sierra	CA-040-203 Merced River	12,835	
Clear Lake	CA-050-317 Rocky Cr./Cache Cr.	33,582	District Manager 555 Leslie St. Ukiah, CA 95482
	CA-050-331 Cedar Roughs	7,183	
Western Counties	CA-060-002 Aqua Tibia	360	District Manager 1695 Spruce St. Riverside, CA 92507 (714) 787-1465
	CA-060-020G Beauty Mtn. G	11,342	
	CA-060-021A Combs Peak A	71	
	CA-060-027C Hauser Mtn. C	5,489	
	CA-060-028 Western Otay Mt.	5,751	
	CA-060-029 S. Otay Mtn.	7,941	
Redding	CA-030-201 Timber Crater	17,542	District Manager 355 Hemstead Dr. Redding, CA 96001 (916) 246-5325
	CA-030-203 Lava	11,632	
	CA-030-501 Yolla Bolly	604	
Alturas	CA-020-103 Pit River Cyn.	11,575	District Manager P.O. Box 1090 Susanville, CA 96130 (916) 257-5385
	CA-020-211 Tule Mtn.	16,950	
	CA-020-708 S. Warner Contig.	4,330	

Several Western San Diego County WSAs Recommended for Wilderness

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is proposing that 17,774 acres of 30,883 acres of roadless lands in western Riverside and San Diego counties be recommended for wilderness designation.

The proposed action recommends wilderness designation for the Agua Tibia Wilderness Study Area (WSA), the eastern portions of the Beauty Mountain and Western Otay Mountain WSAs, and part of the Southern Otay Mountain WSA. Areas recommended as nonsuitable include Hauser Mountain WSA and the remainders of the Western and Southern Otay Mountain WSAs and Beauty Mountain WSA.

A public hearing is scheduled for July 7, 1982 in Escondido. Written comment will be accepted until August 9th. The California Wilderness Coalition will issue a wilderness alert to its members who have returned a questionnaire indicating an

interest in southern California areas.

While conservationists generally are pleased with the suitable recommendations of the BLM, there is some concern over the nonsuitable proposal for the Hauser Mountain WSA. The suitable and nonsuitable recommendations follow:

Agua Tibia WSA

The BLM is recommending the entire 360-acre Agua Tibia WSA as suitable for wilderness designation. This small area is a logical extension of the Agua Tibia Wilderness Area in the Cleveland National Forest. Dominant features include Peachanga Creek which traverses through the southwest corner of this WSA and a steep break along the northern boundary overlooking the Paula Valley.

Beauty Mountain WSA

As part of the Peninsular

Range geomorphic province, this area is rugged enough to make it almost inaccessible to a person on foot. This WSA contains typical dense chaparral sage scrub vegetation and three rare plants. The BLM is recommending as suitable 6,190 of 11,343 acres.

Hauser Mountain WSA

None of this 9,489-acre WSA is recommended as suitable for wilderness designation although six rare plants are found within or near it. Three of four possible routes for the Pacific Crest Trail pass through the WSA.

Western and Southern Otay Mountain WSAs

As part of the San Ysidro Mountains block of the Peninsular Range geomorphic province, these areas range in elevation from approximately 400 feet to 3,400 feet next to a peak named Otay Mountain. The BLM is

recommending as suitable 5,615 of 5,751 acres in the Western Otay Mountain WSA, and 5,609 of 7,941 acres in the Southern Otay Mountain WSA. Nature studies and photography of rare plants are the principal uses for the areas. Since the southern area abuts the Mexican border, the BLM warns that "solitude and the visitor's

safety would be diminished during period of intense smuggling and illegal entry into the U.S."

Where to Write

Your written comments may be sent by August 9th to the Area Manager, El Centro Resource Area, 333 South Waterman Avenue, El Centro, CA 92243.

Roosevelt Elk Moved to King Range

In early March, the California Department of Fish and Game, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Prairie Creek State Park, and the California Conservation Corps cooperated on the transplant of a seed herd of Roosevelt

elk to the King Range National Conservation Area in southern Humboldt County. Elk were last seen in the King Range 80 years ago.

Most of the King Range is a BLM Wilderness Study Area that includes some of

the wildest coastline in California. This area is directly north of another outstanding proposed wilderness, Sinkyone Wilderness State Park.

Sixteen elk were trapped or tranquilized near Fern

Canyon in Prairie Creek State Park. Temperatures, heart rates, respiratory rates, blood samples, ear tags, and radio collars were all part of processing the animals prior to their 130-mile trip south. Despite plans to the

contrary, the transport trailer arrived at the King Range well after dark. Some of the animals had to be released immediately because one of the cows had fallen enroute, was trampled, and needed attention. The remainder were held in the trailer overnight because the biologists were concerned that the elk would be unfamiliar with the area and might charge the fence and injure themselves.

The relocation effort will be monitored to ensure a successful transplant. A small trailer has been placed outside the fenced enclosure, and BLM employees and volunteers are staying nearby to prevent unnecessary disturbance to the animals.

Plans are to introduce additional elk each year, possibly as soon as this fall until a stable herd is established. The Department of Fish and Game also is interested in possible hunts of

How To Adopt A BLM Wilderness Study Area:

Fill out this form and return it to Jim Eaton, California Wilderness Coalition, P.O. Box 429, Davis, CA 95617.

() I want to adopt a WSA. Please send me the name and number of an area.

() I am interested in adopting _____ WSA, # _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

The state coordinator will send you a WSA name and number, and the address for the appropriate BLM District Office to write for information on your adopted area.

It's easy to adopt a BLM Wilderness Study Area. Just clip the form (or just write a note) to the CWC and we'll get you started - no experience at all is necessary!



Central Valley WSAs Receive Poor Treatment from BLM

By Wendy Cohen

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has released their preliminary wilderness recommendations for the Central California Study Areas on the Bakersfield District. A total of ten Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs) comprising 95,049 acres are under study; the BLM is recommending only portions of two areas totaling 16,630 acres as suitable for wilderness designation.

The preliminary recommendations which are described in the draft environmental impact statement are open for public comment until July 22, 1982. A public hearing was held on June 22nd in Fresno.

Members of the California Wilderness Coalition with a Wilderness Activists Questionnaire on file will be receiving a wilderness alert on this issue in early July.

The BLM is charged with studying the WSAs for their wilderness qualities. Lands with high wilderness potential are supposed to be recommended to Congress as suitable for wilderness designation. Congress then makes the final decision on whether or not an area actually is designated.

The BLM has subverted this process by making pre-judgements about the best use of an area and using faulty reasoning to prevent most of the WSAs from being recommended as suitable. An area should not be given a nonsuitable recommendation because of "high probability for mineral development" or "probable continuation of ORV (off road vehicle) trespass." Congress can decide if mineral development, ORV use, or any other use of an area outweighs its wilderness values.

Only portions of the Pinnacles Wilderness Contiguous and Owens Peak WSAs were recommended as suitable for wilderness by the BLM. Descriptions of these two areas and the other eight WSAs deemed nonsuitable follow:

Pinnacles Wilderness Contiguous WSA

The BLM recommends 2,200 acres of the 5,838 roadless acres as suitable. This area is within the watershed of the existing wilderness at Pinnacles National Monument and will round out the Monument boundaries. This is a good example of a fair compromise with part of the area declared suitable and part unsuitable.

Owens Peak WSA

Only 14,430 acres of the

22,560-acre WSA is proposed as suitable as wilderness by BLM. Deleting some 8,000 acres from the suitable recommendation to allow for a gravel pit and Christmas tree harvesting seems unjustified. The Pacific Crest Trail crosses the WSA, which contains the Monache deer herd winter range.

Merced River WSA

This 12,835-acre area should be recommended as suitable due to its outstanding wilderness features such as numerous canyons, rugged mountains, and historical and archaeological sites. The Merced River itself provides opportunities for primitive recreation in a spectacular canyon. The BLM nonsuitable proposal because of a large number of mining claims is not acceptable, especially since mining is allowed in Wilderness Areas.

Panoche Hills North and South WSAs

These areas contain high wilderness values including several rare, threatened, or endangered species (i.e., San Joaquin kit fox, blunt-nosed leopard lizard, giant kangaroo rat, and others), significant paleontological resources, and California steppe ecosystem which is not represented in the National Wilderness Preservation System (NWPS). Although there is a seasonal ORV closure in these areas, BLM says it cannot provide a good wilderness experience because it cannot control ORV trespass. If the BLM is unable to manage its lands properly, perhaps the lands should be turned over to the State for State wilderness protection.

Sheep Ridge and Milk Ranch/Case Mtn. WSAs

These areas were recommended as nonsuitable due to their small size. However, both are adjacent to areas of Sequoia National Park which are part of a wilderness bill passed by the House of Representatives in 1981 (action on the bill is still pending in the Senate). The Milk Ranch/Case Mtn. WSA contains winter range for the Mineral King deer herd and, more importantly, contains several "big tree" redwood groves (*Sequoiadendron giganteum*). The BLM has plans to log competing trees in these groves which undoubtedly would do damage to the redwoods. Sierra redwoods presently are unrepresented in the NWPS.

Piute Cypress WSA

The area is recommended as nonsuitable because of

degradation of wilderness values by mining and ORVs, among other reasons. However, the area contains the largest Piute Cypress grove in existence and an ecosystem of juniper-pinyon woodland which is not represented in the NWPS. Although the Piute Cypress grove is designated a BLM Natural Area and is a U.S. Forest Service Botanical Area, protection is likely to be inadequate if the rest of the area is being degraded.

Caliente Mtn. WSA

This area contains feeding

range for the California condor and American peregrine falcon but was recommended as nonsuitable because of a heavy demand for vehicular access for hunting and rockhounding. It is incredible that the BLM can be so short-sighted as to recommend further endangering the precarious survival of these magnificent species for short-term recreational activities.

Ventana Wilderness Contiguous WSA

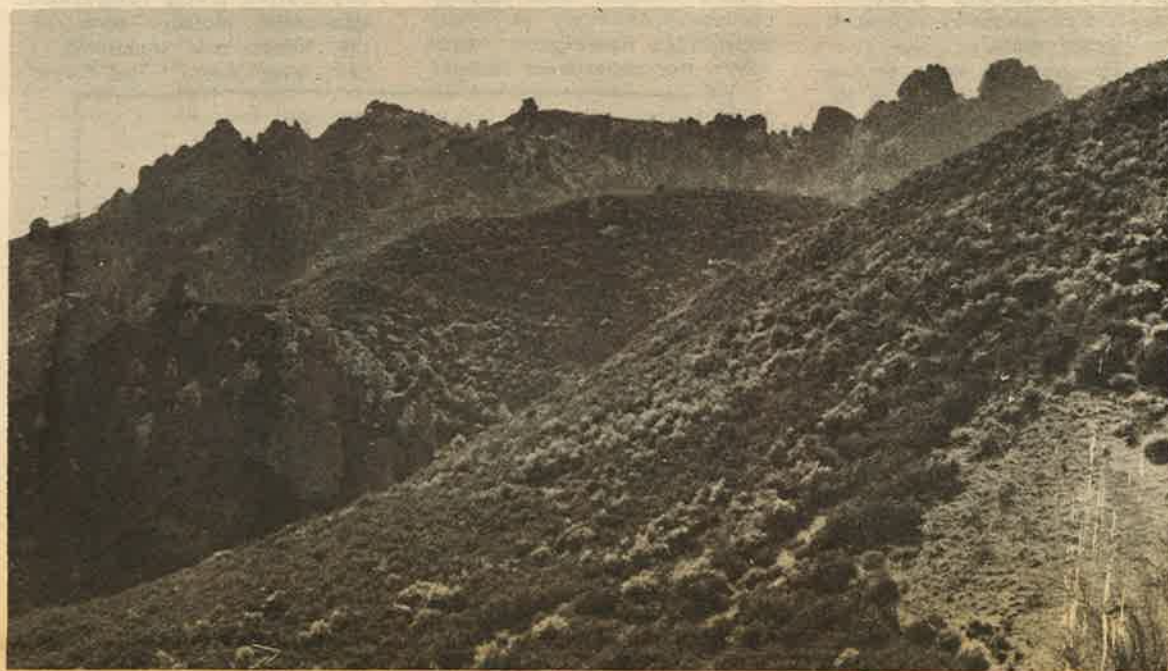
This 680-acre WSA is contiguous with the

161,394-acre Ventana Wilderness. The BLM feels that wilderness designation of this small area would not enhance management of the adjacent wilderness.

Where to Write

Comments on the wilderness proposals may be sent by July 22nd to Garold W. Lamb, Acting District Manager, Bakersfield District, 800 Truxton Avenue, Room 302, Bakersfield, CA 93301.

Wendy Cohen serves as treasurer on the CWC Board of Directors.



Pinnacles Wilderness - BLM land would round out the wilderness boundaries of the national monument.

Photo by Archie Douglas

Wilderness Additions to Pinnacles National Monument

Mark J. Palmer

Inland from the Salinas Valley, the rugged Pinnacles National Monument straddles the boundary of Monterey and San Benito counties and the equally invisible geological fault system which long ago created the Pinnacles Formation. The jumbled heights of volcanic rock, a lure to rock climbers from all over the state, dominates the area. But the surrounding chapparel-clothed ridges and valleys form the biological base of this park unit.

Pinnacles, established in 1908 by Presidential proclamation, was laid out along sectional lines, cutting across viewsheds, watersheds, and other ecological (with the emphasis on logical) boundaries. Gradually, the National Park Service has

enlarged the boundaries of Pinnacles NM through purchase of private lands. Most of the Pinnacles backcountry was further designated Wilderness in 1978. Now the Bureau of Land Management is studying several parcels of BLM land bordering the Pinnacles for possible inclusion as wilderness. Park and BLM planners are now looking at several options for these BLM Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs). Conservationists should use this opportunity to visit the Pinnacles and participate in the planning of the wilderness additions.

One logical option for these areas is to incorporate the viewsheds and watersheds of the BLM lands as Wilderness, and manage these lands as if they were part of the monument. While such an option would only place a small amount of the potential lands in Wilderness designation (the balance of the WSAs would then be managed as ordinary BLM land), the boundaries established by such an option make sense from an ecological and management standpoint. For example, stray livestock and hunters occasionally enter the Monument, necessitating fencing along the border. But such fencing is extremely expensive and difficult to maintain if it follows the rugged borders of the Monument that currently exist. By locating such

fencing along ridgelines (being careful to screen the fence from view inside the Monument), considerable costs can be saved, and the fence would be less strained by contours and more accessible for repairs.

BLM plans to prepare a draft Environmental Statement on 10 regional WSAs (including the Pinnacles) by late May. A public hearing is scheduled for sometime in June. Public input on this BLM Wilderness study is important because final recommendations will be made to Congress this fall.

The unique Pinnacles area, the only National Park unit which preserves the inland Coast Range chapparel community, should be managed, insofar as possible, as a natural ecological unit. Rounding out the Monument boundaries by appropriate management of surrounding BLM Wilderness lands should enhance this marvelous park.

Comments can be sent to: Area Manager, Bureau of Land Management, P.O. Box 365, Hollister, CA 95023. The Sierra Club San Francisco Bay Chapter Wilderness Subcommittee, which has "adopted" the Pinnacles as a project, can be contacted for more information at 6014 College Avenue, Oakland, CA 94618; (415) 658-7470.

Mark J. Palmer is a Regional Vice-President of the Sierra Club and a Bay Chapter activist.

Few Attend Wilderness Hearing

Only a handful of citizens attended the June 22nd Fresno hearing on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) potential wilderness areas. Ten wilderness study areas (WSAs) are currently under study in California's Central Valley (see accompanying article), but BLM is recommending only portions of two of them.

During the afternoon session of the hearing, Fresno conservationists Marshall Smith and George Whitmore spoke in favor of wilderness

designation of the Pinnacles and Panoche Hills WSAs. Lee Wilson traveled from the coast to speak on behalf of the Caliente Mtn area, and a representative of the National Park Service expressed the agency's desire that the Sheep Ridge and Milk Ranch/Case Mtn. WSAs, adjacent to proposed park wilderness, be recommended as suitable for wilderness designation. Three ranchers spoke against the BLM's proposal to recommend as suitable 2,200 acres of roadless lands adjacent to the

existing Pinnacles Wilderness.

Even fewer people testified at the evening session. Three Bay Area residents, Alan Carlton, Mark Palmer, and Jeff Sawers, spoke for the Pinnacles and Panoche Hills WSAs. A single motorcyclist expressed his desire to open up the Panoche Hills to off road vehicles to spur vehicle sales in the Fresno area.

Although the turnout for the hearing was sparse, citizens have until July 22nd to submit their written comments.

Tearing the Wings Off Butterflies

By Mark J. Palmer

We are all cowards, in our own way. We have failed the snail darter, and, I fear, we may fail the butterflies. How often have I heard good, hard-core conservationists moan, "Well, you can rally the public around a bald eagle or a buffalo, but how can you rally the public around an obscure insect?" How indeed? Big mammals and birds are easy; small insignificant insects, plants, mollusks, and fish are impossible, so the argument goes. The public, whoever that is, has a hard time grasping the importance of saving something normally swatted or poisoned or ripped up by the roots.

I'm not so sure we've really done all that well by buffaloes and eagles, frankly. We've rallied public opinion, but has that opinion been translated into public policy in a way that truly safeguards the existence of those species? Not yet. The buffalo is a museum piece, shot and fenced in the name of "wildlife management" throughout its range (except in Yellowstone National Park, much to the consternation of some nearby ranching interests). The bald eagle continues to decline, a victim of obscene logging practices, continued pesticide contamination, and the habit of some gun hunters to shoot anything that flies.

Yes, we've rallied the public, but perhaps something deeper than demonstrations, postage stamps, and homilies about endangered species is needed. Perhaps we have won in a few cases - the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service falls all over itself pointing to whooping cranes - without truly impressing on the American people the loss we are experiencing. Irreversible loss. Genetic loss. The final and ultimate loss of nature.

Which brings me to the Santa Cruz long-toed salamander (*Ambystoma macradactylum croceum* for you Latin/binomial nomenclature addicts). After

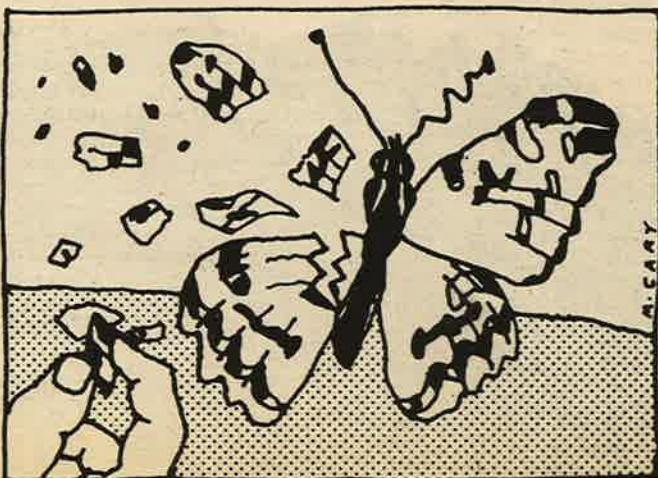
all, how could we save such an insignificant beast as a salamander, especially in Santa Cruz County, California? A trailer park development, of all curses, threatened the last relatively pristine breeding pond of this unique subspecies; its closest relative was hundreds of miles away. Even the university professors and graduate students opined, "Well, you can rally the public around a bald eagle or a buffalo, but how can you..."

G. Ray Arnett, in those days director of the California Department of Fish and Game for then-Governor Ronald Reagan, was blasted by conservationists in State legislative hearings. Why didn't the department defend

Chairs were brought into the hallways outside the chamber to accommodate the overflow crowd. Hundreds attended and dozens testified. Amidst cheering, the board voted to delay the trailer park pending a compromise.

Eventually, the land was purchased by Fish and Game as an Ecological Reserve. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service also has purchased Santa Cruz long-toed salamander habitat. With care, the salamander will survive.

So what? I say, let them - and all that lives with them - live! For the habitat of the Santa Cruz long-toed salamander includes some of the finest oak woodlands I have ever seen. The forest



the salamander? Shaken, Arnett kept calling our hero the "Santa Cruz three-toed salamander" - to this day, I'm sure he thinks that's the correct name. At that time, the State Fish and Game Department had limited its attention to non-controversial endangered species, refusing to list the Southern sea otter, tule elk, gray whale (or any other whale species), or California mountain lion as rare species. Suddenly, one nondescript species they had listed, an obscure salamander, was making headlines.

To make a long story short, we filled a hearing room of the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors with salamander lovers.

throng with woodrat nests, and I've spotted great horned owls in lichen-draped trees; so many different species will benefit from this island of wilderness in the midst of a real estate/clowndom boom. The salamander, a rubbery, slimy gift of God, has at least made possible the survival of a vestige of primitive Santa Cruz. All the investment profits in the world, on the other hand, couldn't build a walking, breathing salamander. As John Muir said of trees, any fool can kill one.

I'm told I'm the world's greatest expert on the San Francisco salt marsh harvest mouse, because I can say its name without stumbling all

over the words. Like the SC salamander, the SF salt marsh harvest mouse is a federally and state-recognized endangered species, its only known habitat the fragile wetlands of San Francisco Bay. Eighty percent of these wetlands have been buried in permanent land-fill and further covered with houses and highways.

When Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E), the people who brought you Diablo Canyon Nuclear As Yet Unpaid For Because It Ain't Safe Power Plant, decided to build a coal-fired power plant within gross-polluting distance of Suisun Marsh, the marsh mouse was found extant on the building site. PG&E tried to prove the mouse was everywhere. After all, the snail darter couldn't hold up Tellico Dam. I remember being chastised at the public hearings; surely such an insignificant creature couldn't halt Progress with a capital P (G&E)?

But, do we really need electricity so desperately that a red-bellied rodent must be destroyed in the process? To what level of greed have we sunk?

Fortunately for marsh mice, and for other species that benefit from productive wetlands, we have not sunk quite far enough to sacrifice marshes for electric toothbrushes and neon liquor store signs. Per capita electricity use in California had dropped, interest rates were high, and environmental interests and local residents took exception to buried marshlands and coal-smoked skies. PG&E, at least for a time, has dropped plans for its Collinsville Power Plant on the shores of Suisun Marsh.

The Endangered Species Act is a landmark environmental law, passed with widespread popular support. As I have suggested, not all is well with the act. The legal framework is excellent, but the spirit for enforcement and attainment of its goals is

lacking.

Unfortunately, like so many good 1970s environmental laws, the Endangered Species Act is threatened with the very same extinction it was meant to prevent. Then-governor of California Ronald Reagan is now president; his former director of Fish and Game G. Ray Arnett is now Undersecretary of Interior for Parks and Wildlife, directly in charge of wildlife programs - including endangered species.

The attack on the Endangered Species Act will be ruthless in 1982. The act must be reauthorized by Congress or perish like the passenger pigeon, or worse yet, emerge like a castrated buffalo, deprived of all meaningful protections for endangered species.

Ray Arnett and Ronald Reagan and James Watt already are plotting to gut the Endangered Species Act, to rip the heart out of this landmark conservation law, like adolescent schoolboys tearing the wings off butterflies.

We've been cowards to allow economic considerations ever to overwhelm the obligation we have to ensure the perpetuation of life - all life. The boys who destroy butterflies must be stopped; the boys who bury marsh mice under coal plants must be stopped; the boys who park their trailers on the backs of salamanders must realize that sadistic ignorance, even in the name of Reaganomics, will ultimately endanger humanity for so many reasons and unreasons. Like our best intentions toward the bald eagle and the buffalo, our best intentions towards our own species may be damn precious cowardly.

Unless we can learn the lessons of ecology from butterflies and eagles and salamanders and buffaloes. The great and the small must co-exist.

Mark J. Palmer is a Regional Vice-President of the Sierra Club and a Bay Chapter activist.

New Grand Canyon Book

It's high time for this book to show up. Kim Crumbo's short volume with the long title, *A River Runner's Guide to the History of the Grand Canyon*, neatly fills a bothersome gap in the fairly long list of paperback Grand Canyon "histories" that are small enough and cheap enough to be carried on the most celebrated of all whitewater voyages.

Neither a natural history of plants and animals nor a geologic history stacking up the eons, the text, true to its brief introduction, "recounts a sampling of humanity's encounter with the wild Colorado River in Grand Canyon...with the hope that an awareness of words, emotions, and actions of earlier river people will enhance the modern voyager's Canyon experience." In 63 pages of print and 26 pages of maps, a "sampling" is all we can reasonably expect.

The Guide American Wilderness Alliance, 4260 E. Evans #8, Denver, CO 80222; \$4.95; Johnson Books

Publisher) will be useful for settling some arguments and stimulating others. River guides (the flesh and blood kind), having absorbed it, will be looked up to for seeming to have more knowledge than they actually may have. As a ready reference, it will quickly straighten out many often-confused facts, figures, and dates: How did Powell begin a second expedition in 1871 and abandon it in 1872, still more than 150 miles short of its planned destination? How far did the honeymooning Hydes get into the Canyon before they disappeared? Was Bert Loper really 80 years old when he died in the river in 1949? How long did John D. Lee actually operate Lee's Ferry, and why? (A special "amen" to Kim Crumbo, by the way, for spelling Lee's Ferry correctly -- something government writers and mappers seem unable to do.)

Those of us who fancy ourselves authorities on the subject may derive some pleasure from nitpicking

through Crumbo's tidy layout. There are a few typographical errors which we can expect to be fixed in the next printing; I was taken aback by some of the spellings (can I have been wrong all these years?) and still take issue with such flouting of tradition as saying Sockdolager when one means Sockdologer -- and I confess to a personal bias against exhausting the dictionary for ways to avoid calling Indians Indians. I wish Kim would not play the Reclamation Bureau's game of referring to "Marble Canyon" as if there were such a thing or place quite apart from the Grand Canyon.

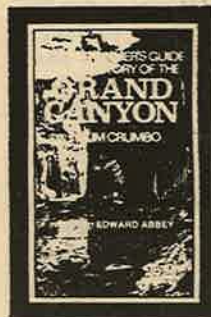
This is fascinating as well as informative stuff nevertheless. In order to be brief, the author has to be selective; what he selected makes mighty good reading, whether you care most about the remarkable exploit of Cardenas in 1540 or the "fact" that you could track John Waltenberg by following his trail of tobacco spit. There are nice changes of

CANYON

fairly important ones, are treated with the severest brevity, leaving space for leisurely, detailed accounts of less-well-known incidents rich with humor, pathos, or daring. The mile-by-mile format, with wide page margins utilized to tell you where you are and which of the maps to consult, works beautifully as you proceed down the river; in camp each evening, a reading aloud of the sections relating to earlier human experience along the day's route should be fun for everyone.

Edward Abbey's forward is inspiration and admonishment at the same time. I would have found an index useful, but the rich bibliography goes a long way toward making up for it and provides a hint of the amount of research that went into this modest tome. Whether you have run the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon, hope to, or wouldn't do it on a bet, you should enjoy this book; and if the Grand Canyon voyage is on your agenda, you need it for sure.

Martin Lister



A
RIVER
RUNNER'S
GUIDE
to the History
of the
GRAND
CANYON
Kim Crumbo
Forward by
Edward Abbey

Anyone who has run the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon, is planning a trip or is an armchair traveler will find the experience enriched by this unusual and exciting account of those who have been there before: Indians, explorers, scientists, pioneer river runners, miners and hermits.

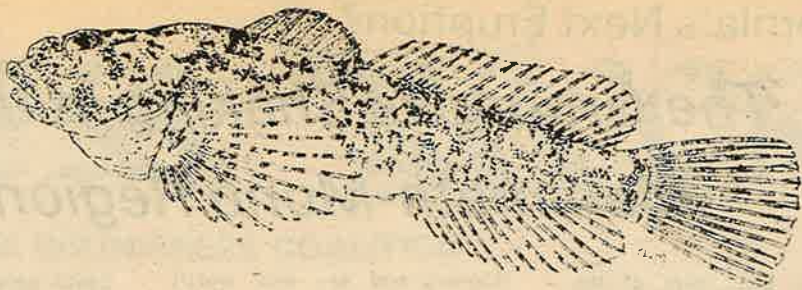
Crumbo writes from long familiarity and a profound love for this formidable, yet fragile river and the grandest of all its canyons.

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Wilderness Wildlife

Freshwater Sculpins



Pit Sculpin

By Dennis Coules

At least eight species of freshwater sculpins occur in California, all within the genus *Cottus*. Another member of the sculpin family is the staghorn sculpin, a primarily marine species which regularly spends its juvenile stage in coastal streams. Numerous other sculpins live in our offshore waters for part of the life cycle.

The sculpin is a small and rather odd-looking fish with a large head and mouth, and expanded, fanlike pectoral fins. The coloration is usually mottled brown in freshwater species. The body, which is scaleless, may be smooth or prickly. Sculpins are specialized for bottom-dwelling, and are most frequently found in rocky habitats.

Sculpins rather resemble the unrelated "darters" (including the snail darter) which occupy similar habitats east of the Rockies.

SCULPINS WIDESPREAD IN CALIFORNIA

True freshwater sculpins occur as far south as the Ventura River in this state. Some of the larger coastal streams may contain up to three species of freshwater sculpins. Most common there are the prickly, ruffle, and coast range sculpins.

The Paiute sculpin is the only family member occupying the Lahontan System, and may be quite abundant in Lake Tahoe and Sagehen Creek.

The most widespread species in interior streams

draining towards the Central Valley are the riffle sculpin and prickly sculpin.

The marbled sculpin is common only in the Klamath and Pit drainages, while the reticulate sculpin, abundant in Oregon and Washington, is found in California in only a few streams that drain north into the Rogue River.

The Pit sculpin occupies the upper Pit River and tributaries where it apparently evolved from the very similar riffle sculpin after being isolated by falls and rapids in the middle stretches of the river.

The rough sculpin has the most restricted distribution of all California species, being found only in Hat Creek, Fall River, and a small portion of the Pit River above and below Burney Creek. It is listed as "rare" by the California Department of Fish and Game.

Although freshwater sculpins are most often associated with flowing waters, they also may be found in lakes, sloughs, and estuaries. The prickly sculpin even has adapted very successfully to the warmwater Millerton Reservoir.

SEASONAL CYCLES

Upstream or downstream seasonal migrations occur in some species or populations of freshwater sculpins. These are usually related to spawning.

Spawning behavior varies among the species, but usually occurs in the spring or early summer. Male

sculpins of most species construct nests under rocks or trash. The eggs are attached to the ceiling of the nest, where the male guards them until they hatch. Males may spawn with more than one female, which are chased away afterwards. In the case of the prickly and coast range sculpins, juveniles are swept downstream to pools or estuaries (prickly sculpins are common in the Sacramento - San Joaquin Delta in spring) where they carry on a planktonic lifestyle. After a few weeks they settle to the bottom and begin moving upstream. Fry of most other freshwater sculpins assume their benthic (bottom-dwelling) existence immediately after leaving the nest or very soon thereafter.

Paiute sculpin fry in Sagehen Creek begin a benthic lifestyle immediately after hatching, but exhibit a pattern of swimming off the bottom and into the current when the yolk is totally absorbed and about two weeks later. This appears to be a dispersal mechanism.

VORACIOUS PREDATORS

Sculpins feed on just about any animal matter of appropriate size. Insect larvae and nymphs of mayflies, stoneflies, caddisflies, and blackflies top the list in most habitats. Snails, crustaceans and small fish (including other sculpins) also may be eaten. Detritus and algae may occasionally be important constituents of the diet, especially in

lake-dwelling populations. Some trout or salmon eggs may be eaten, but these are usually only those that were not properly buried during spawning. Sculpins are themselves utilized as food by trout.

Most sculpins are immobile and cryptic during the day, emerging to forage at night. Sculpins may actively search for prey, or as is more common, wait in ambush.

CONSERVATION STATUS

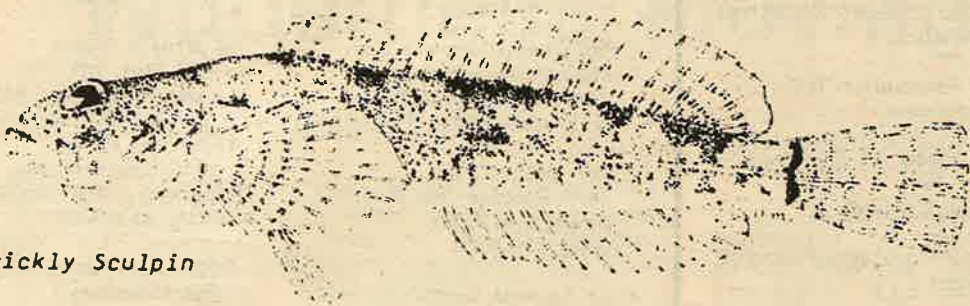
Most of our sculpin species, with the exception of the rough sculpin, are common to abundant in their remaining native habitats.

Many populations have no doubt succumbed to reduced flow levels, conversion of stream habitat to stagnant reservoirs, and pollution. However, sculpins probably will be with us into the foreseeable future.

FURTHER READING

By far the best overall reference on sculpins and all other freshwater fish of California is *Inland Fishes of California* by Peter Moyle (UC Press 1976), from which these illustrations are borrowed.

Dennis Coules is the Coalition's consultant for wildlife and desert issues.



Prickly Sculpin

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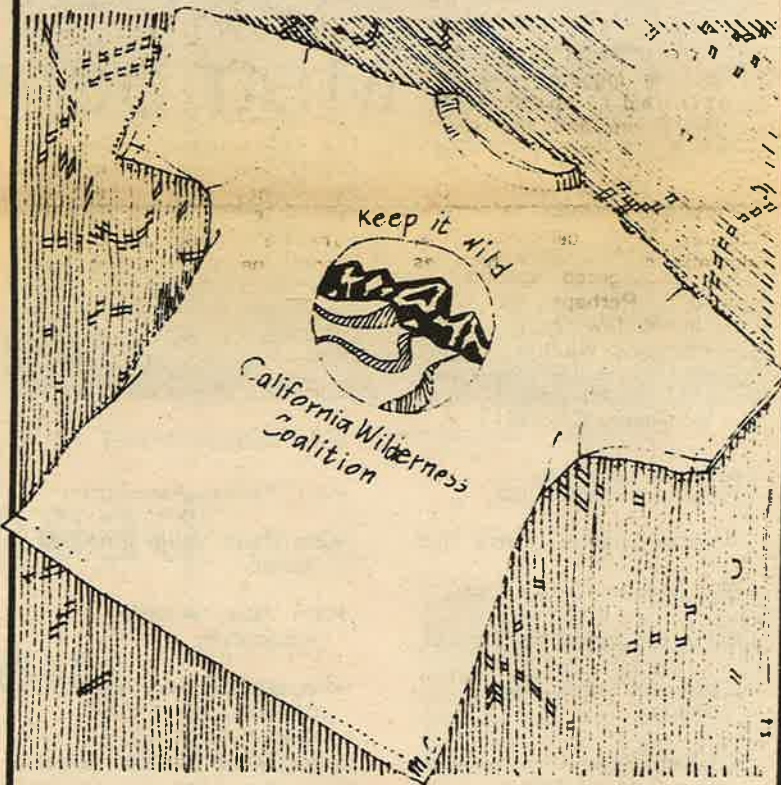
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Book Review

California's Next Eruption?

The Ground Is Shaking in the Mammoth-Mono Region

In the last issue of the *Wilderness Record* we wrote about recent seismic activity in the Mono Lake region that might be leading to a volcanic eruption. Now there is a book out on this fascinating subject.

Earthquakes and Young Volcanoes along the Eastern Sierra Nevada is the latest selection from Genny Smith books. This paperback book is written by geologists C. Dean Rinehart and Ward C. Smith, but it is written for those without a degree in earth sciences. Although some jargon slips through, many descriptions are like this one regarding the movement of crustal plates: "they move in various directions; and whenever they crunch together, all hell breaks loose as they grind and jerk against each other or thrust one under another."

There are four basic parts to the book. The first is a general introduction to earthquakes and volcanoes, followed by chapters on the Mammoth Lakes earthquakes of 1980, the Long Pine earthquake of 1872, and Inyo and Mono Craters.

The black-and-white photographs are absolutely

stunning and are well worth the price of the book alone. Numerous clear aerial and ground photos show the fascinating geologic features of the Mammoth-Mono region.

The greatest earthquakes along the Eastern Sierra Front during this century struck the village of Mammoth Lakes, California in late May, 1980. Four of them measured magnitude 6 or greater. Between May 25 and August 1st, 600 quakes greater than magnitude 3 jolted Mammoth again and again. The last day of September, 1981, severe earthquakes again shook the Mammoth region. The two largest measured 5.9 and 5.2. Numerous black-and-white photos showing the damage, rockfalls, and surface ruptures graphically illustrate the results of these temblors.

Ninety miles south of Mammoth and a century before, an earthquake one hundred times greater demolished the small town of Lone Pine, killed ten percent of its people, and injured many more. It triggered huge rockfalls in Yosemite Valley, cracked brick walls 300 miles away, and rattled most of the western states. Rinehart and

Smith bring this event to life with their descriptions and photos, maps of the faults, and reproductions of newspapers of the time.

North of Mammoth, in a zone extending 25 miles from Mammoth Mountain northward to Negit Island in Mono Lake, at least twenty volcanic eruptions have occurred in the last two thousand years. Boiling springs and steam vents abound, and new ones appear every few years. Will this be the site of the next volcanic eruption in the lower forty-eight states? As the authors note, "no one is willing to forecast the details of Mono Craters' future eruptions, but there is no reluctance at all to predict at the very least a general continuation of volcanism similar to that in the recent past."

Earthquakes and Young Volcanoes along the Eastern Sierra Nevada has a list price of \$5.95 (paper) and contains 64 pages, illustrated with maps, diagrams, and 30 photographs. The publisher is William Kaufmann, Inc., 95 First Street, Los Altos, CA 94022.

- Jim Eaton

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