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Roadless No More?

Salvage logging threatens roadless havens in northwest California

By Tim McKay

The specter of the summer forest fires of 1987 and 1988 has come in focus again with the Forest Service's release of two draft environmental impact statements (EISs) for large salvage timber sales. Roads and logging would alter the Penney Ridge Roadless Area, next to the Yolla Bolly-Middle Eel Wilderness, and the Johnson Roadless Area next to the Marble Mountain Wilderness. Three additional salvage logging EISs are expected to be released this winter—an aggregate of tens of thousands of acres of logging and road building proposed for the Klamath and Trinity River watersheds of northwest California.

Johnson Roadless Area

The draft EIS for the King-Titus Fire Recovery Project grew out of a 1988 lawsuit filed by the Northcoast Environmental Center (NEC) that challenged a Forest Service plan to conduct eight contiguous fire sales without a complete analysis of their cumulative impacts, as required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

Attempting to minimize the stated effects of a large project by breaking it into smaller parts has been repeatedly rejected by the courts and is referred to as "segmenting" a project. Collectively the sales would have allowed logging of more than 100 million board feet of timber and construction of more than 30 miles of roads.

The King-Titus settlement agreement between the NEC and the Klamath National Forest requires the Forest Service to assess the cumulative impacts of all proposed logging in the Ukonom Creek and Elk Creek watersheds (essentially the Klamath River sub-watersheds that are on the western slope of the Marble Mountains Wilderness Area).

A preliminary review of the King-Titus draft EIS by NEC legal counsel indicates that the Forest Service has failed to live up to the agreement by not assessing the effects of logging that was underway at the time the suit was filed. Such logging was allowed to proceed as part of the settlement agreement.

More than 40 million board feet of timber has already been logged in this area under contracts issued prior to the settlement. The Forest Service's preferred alternative in the DEIS would allow the sale of another 50 million board feet of timber and the construction of 15 more miles of roads. Approximately 12,000 acres of the Johnson Roadless Area is included in the salvage plan. Many of the cultural, wildlife, fisheries, and outdoor recreation values that are threatened by massive defores-



Brewer, or weeping spruce, can be found in northwest California mountain ranges.

Photo by John Hart

tation throughout the entire Pacific Northwest are also threatened by the salvage sales proposed here—and the sales have been planned prior to any forest plans being adopted to protect those values over time.

Comments are due on the King-Titus draft EIS by January 3, 1990 and should be mailed to: Forest Supervisor, 1312 Fairlane Rd., Yreka CA 96097. People can request a copy of the document from the same address.

Penney Ridge Roadless Area

In the headwaters of the South Fork of the Trinity River and on the north slope of the Yolla Bolly-Middle Eel Wilderness, the Shasta-Trinity National Forest would like

to log in an 8,000-acre area. The preferred alternative in the draft EIS for the proposed Penney Ridge salvage sale would allow cutting more than 23 million board feet of timber and building or rebuilding almost seven miles of roads—almost half of which are in the roadless area next to the wilderness. In total, almost 2,000 acres would be clearcut. Environmentalists are supporting the report's "no action" alternative.

This area is at the edge of what may be the largest stand of old-growth Douglas-fir remaining in California, perhaps as large as 30,000 acres. Pressure to road and log continued on page 5

BLM foregoes Cahto Wilderness

Wilderness was the path not taken in the Bureau of Land Management's Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for its Arcata Planning Area, which includes 125,000 acres of public land in northwestern California.

Released in September, the plan has been protested by environmentalists, who object to the plan's failure to fully consider the wilderness potential of the Thatcher Ridge and Eden Valley Wilderness Study Area (WSA) and the Cahto Peak/Elkhorn Ridge/Brush Mountain proposed wilderness area.

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COALITION PAGE

Monthly Report

Before we proceed any further, you should read the letters to the editor below. I seem to have gotten myself into hot water this month.

Let's do the easy one first. While I appreciate Mike Olwyler's thanks for my attending meetings of Forest Service managers, I'm sure my fan mail will increase next month if I don't say something about not having *any* problems with Forest Service management of wilderness.

I do have some issues to raise. I am tired of visiting designated wilderness areas cropped to the quick, stomped into quaking bogs, and polluted by the fecal matter of cows. I'm upset with wilderness boundaries being made obscenely obvious by clearcutting and roads. I am furious with the destruction of *de facto* wilderness by logging, roading, mining, and off-road vehicles.

Mike's point is well taken, however. I do have a lot of respect for wilderness rangers and the job they are asked to do with little money and limited tools. On the whole, I think most of these rangers really believe in wilderness and are doing a great job. And I admit that too often we forget to express our appreciation when someone does something we like.

That point was reiterated last week when I spoke to a group of Forest Service engineers in Reno (what do you call a bunch of engineers, a corps?). After giving them hell for the evils of logging and road construction, I did admit during the questioning period that there were a few things they did of which I approve. Afterwards, I was told that a number of engineers, stung by my initial remarks, felt a little better when I acknowledged the good things they sometimes do. They could accept our disagreements as long as I admitted that they are not 100 percent evil.

By Jim Eaton

[By the way, my trusty steed for the past 14 years, *El Trucko*, passed the quarter million-mile mark on the way to Reno and is being honorarily retired from service. It also was being referred to as *Christine* due to its recent propensity to sound its horn at will and perform minor repairs on itself.]

Now, about Galen's letter. Yeah, it was unfair of me to lump his article together with the utterances of Forest Service spokespeople, reporters, and some politicians. I did not mean to imply that he was the source of much of what I attempted to refute in my story. I'm sorry.

But I, too, got my statistics from the National Park Service and the National Forest Service. And some of my conclusions differ from Galen's, even though I think we are looking at the same data.

But I promise to research this further, and if Galen is willing I'll get together with him and see if we can reach common ground on this subject.

Uncle Jim's Wilderness Trivia Quiz Question:

How many designated wilderness areas in California contain the names of Catholic saints?

(See page 5 for answer.)



Letters

Lies & statistics

Dear Editor:

Today I received in the mail a complimentary copy of your newsletter along with a request to join the coalition. On the front page, the first sentence of the first article begins with a personal attack on the credibility of my story on the John Muir Trail in the April 1989 *National Geographic* magazine. When the dust settles, I believe this will be your loss, not mine. Not only will I not join your coalition, but also I stand firmly behind the facts in my article that a *National Geographic* research staff carefully verified before publication.

Let's say, just for the sake of argument, that all your numbers are right and all mine are wrong. You're still wrong. Why? Because your first paragraph lumps my article in the *National Geographic* with this question: "People no longer go in the wilderness like they used to. True or false?"

My article never addressed this broad question. I confined my observations only to the John Muir Trail and its environs. I quoted statistics from the National Park Service and the National Forest Service on visitor use in the back country over various years. Contrary to Jim Eaton's assertions, these figures were adjusted for wilderness permit compliance.

I completely agree with his conclusion that we don't know if overall use of wild areas in California is going up or down. I have no idea what's going on in California as a whole, and I've never made any kind of statement to the contrary. Since my article only addressed a region that has had permits required for entry since 1972 with frequent monitorings of compliance, it doesn't feel good to have my work at the top of your list of "lies, damned lies, and statistics." Unfortunately, words are used more often than statistics to tell lies, and I'm sorry I have to challenge your words here. They mar both the extremely enjoyable time that I had as a speaker for your California Wilderness Conference, and the effectiveness of your organization.

Sincerely,
Galen Rowell

[Note: There was no intent to cast aspersions on Mr. Rowell's integrity or to malign his interesting and informative article in *National Geographic*. The intent of the article was to question the information being used to justify statements of declining backcountry use being made by agency personnel, politicians, and writers. If our rhetoric was harsh and unjust, we apologize.]

Letters

Forest Service wants equal time

Dear Editor,

The goal of the California Wilderness Coalition is to promote wilderness through education regarding its use, preservation and scientific research, and encouraging public interest in its preservation and expansion.

The Forest Service is working toward these goals too!

While the *Wilderness Record* identifies problems and conflicts, only a few articles are written on the positive things that dedicated wilderness managers, rangers, and trail crews accomplish and problems they deal with. Like the overuse of campsites, lack of sufficient public education to minimize impacts, the extra unpaid hours that wilderness crews put in because they care, and the construction of the Piute Bridge in the John Muir Wilderness using no motorized equipment!

We were pleased that Jim Eaton, attending the Wilderness Management Meeting in Sacramento, California, on May 24/26, 1988, cited no obvious and major faults with the way the Forest Service was applying its basic management of wilderness and the concern it showed for wilderness preservation. It has been great to see Jim at so many of the Forest Service/National Park

Service management meetings.

We do need help to accomplish our management goals, and so, I would challenge you and your readers to find a place at the side of a wilderness ranger or trail crew worker, roll up your sleeves and help out. Or take on a research project needed for a wilderness manager to make better decisions. Or find a volunteer who is willing to issue wilderness visitor permits at a remote station.

The National Recreation Strategy can be a vehicle and guideline to this end. The same goals are in our vision and we can help attain them together for the benefit of wilderness and future generations! That would give the *Wilderness Record* another positive article to write.

Sincerely,
Michael Olwyler
Wilderness Area Supervisor
Ansel Adams Wilderness

[Note: Coincidentally, we are planning an article on the Sierra National Forest's "Trailshots" program for the January, 1990 WR.]

Upper Klamath River flowing toward wild & scenic status

But turbulence expected from Salt Caves diversion plan

By Steve Evans

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has released a draft Wild and Scenic River Study for a 20-mile stretch of the upper Klamath River, which straddles the Oregon-California border. The study concluded that 15 miles of the upper Klamath would be a "worthy addition" to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System—a designation that would protect the river's recreational, scenic, fish, wildlife, historic, and cultural values. The five-mile stretch above the J. C. Boyle powerhouse was not found suitable for Wild and Scenic status.

The rugged and remote canyon of the upper Klamath provides a wide variety of recreational opportunities including hiking, camping, fishing, hunting, and world class whitewater boating. The river is one of the finest rainbow trout streams in Oregon and Northern California. An area of great cultural significance to Native Americans, the canyon also provides important habitat for a wide variety of plants and wildlife (including four endangered species).

Ironically, the draft Wild and Scenic study has been released on the heels of another draft report, published by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), which calls for the construction of an additional hydroelectric

Concerned citizens have the opportunity to express their support for National Wild and Scenic River designation of the magnificent upper Klamath. Wild and Scenic status would prohibit any new dams or diversions, effectively killing the needless and destructive Salt Caves project. But the river must be designated Wild and Scenic before FERC grants a power license for the Salt Caves project, or it may be too late to protect the river's free flowing values.

The BLM is soliciting public comments on the Wild and Scenic study until December 31, 1989. **Your letter is critical to underscore strong public support for Wild and Scenic designation of the upper Klamath and opposition to further hydroelectric development.** Please write a letter today and be sure to make the following points:

1) **Support National Wild and Scenic River designation** of the 15-mile stretch of the upper Klamath River from J.C. Boyle powerhouse to Copco Reservoir, including five miles of the river in California.

2) **Urge the BLM to make a recommendation immediately to Congress** so that the upper Klamath can be protected before FERC approves the Salt Caves project.

3) **Oppose the Salt Caves project** and any other hydroelectric development that FERC may be considering for this section of the river. Ask the BLM to deny any use permits for future hydroelectric projects.

Send letters to Steve Sherman, Klamath Falls Resource Area, Bureau of Land Management, 2795 Anderson Avenue, Building 25, Klamath Falls, OR 97603. The deadline for comments is December 31, 1989.

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



Hells Corner Bend rapid (Class V) on the upper Klamath River. Photo by Wilderness Adventures

project on the much-dammed upper river. The proposed Salt Caves project would divert up to 80 percent of the river flow, greatly reducing opportunities for whitewater recreation and degrading the canyon's natural environment.

FERC has cynically dubbed its preferred project the "no dam" alternative, because the water would be diverted directly from the existing J.C. Boyle powerhouse, foregoing the need to build a new diversion dam. Nevertheless, most of this last free-flowing stretch of the upper Klamath would be adversely impacted by the so-called "no dam" project.

An unenthusiastic reception

Sequoia NF to be sued over TV tower

Imagine your favorite wilderness view. Now superimpose on the image a 500-foot-tall TV tower.

To prevent such a haunting possibility from becoming reality in the southern Sierra Nevada, the National Parks and Recreation Association (NPRA) intends to sue Sequoia National Forest.

The Forest Service has approved the construction of a tower near the boundary between Sequoia National Park and Sequoia National Forest, near Big Baldy peak. The tower would be visible from five designated wilderness areas—two in national parks and three in national forests—and an official "scenic highway" (Generals).

Attorney Deborah Reames of the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund explains that the lawsuit is based on the inadequacy of the environmental assessment (EA) for the tower. The document disregards the National Environmental Policy Act in a number of ways, she asserts. "The EA is truly inadequate with respect to its assessment of visual impacts," Reames says. She also claims that the Forest Service failed to meet requirements to notify the public of the EA through the *Federal Register* and to notify affected national organizations, such as the NPRA.

(For a longer article, see the July/August 1989 WR.)

Washington Watch

Senate declines Cason nomination

Environmentalists won a resounding victory on November 17 when the U.S. Senate rejected President Bush's nomination of James E. Cason as Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, in charge of the U.S. Forest Service, among other things.

Cason's nomination was strongly opposed by the Sierra Club and other environmental groups, who accused the 35-year old employee of the Interior Department of favoring business interests over those of taxpayers and conservation.

Cason has also been accused of suppressing a report on the northern spotted owl that might have slowed timber cutting and of putting pressure on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service against designating the owl as an endangered species.

"They need to send somebody with a demonstrated commitment to the public interest on the environment," said Senator Patrick Leahy (D-VT), who chairs the Senate Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee.

The committee approved Cason's nomination several weeks ago on a vote of 12-7, but Senate leadership chose not to call a full Senate vote since concerns raised during the conference hearings did not settle. Nearly all the Senate Democrats and several Republicans were expected to vote no. Senator Pete Wilson, California's only committee member, did not attend hearings on Cason's background and voted in favor of his nomination.

Congress approves funds for wilderness land purchases

Congress came through this year for preserving wilderness sanctity at the Carson-Iceberg Wilderness, Carson Pass, lands adjacent to the Mokelumne Wilderness, and roadless lands near Castle Peak in the Tahoe National Forest. In late September a House-Senate Conference Committee approved funding for the Forest Service to purchase private lands in these areas.

John Moore of the Sierra Club Mother Lode Chapter said that although the funding was "far less than was asked (\$5 million rather than \$16 million)...even getting that much money is success," especially in an era of tight budgets.

According to Moore, the appropriation for the lands along the Pacific Crest Trail (Carson Pass and Castle Peak) was an important precedent as the first monies allocated specifically for preserving views along the three-state-long trail.

More lands to save

Moore and others have already begun the campaign to get additional money in 1990. Their targets are additional lands on the ridges and summits of the Castle Peak area and around the dozens of lakes in the Grouse Lakes roadless area.

Moore warns that these private lands "could be subdivided and lost to public use at any time—and their owners have recently put them on the market."

He encourages people to write to their congressional representatives, asking them to support generous appropriations from the Land and Water Conservation Fund for Pacific Crest Trail lands at Castle Peak and Grouse Lakes. Send letters to your lawmakers at: U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515 and U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510.

BLM's Arcata Area plan

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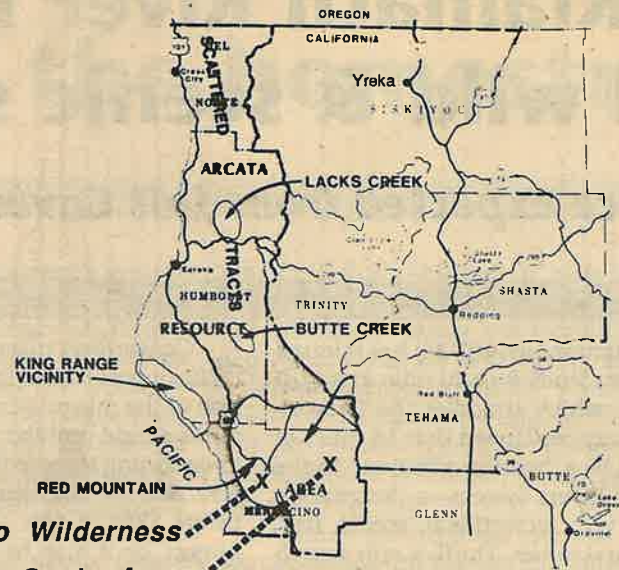
BLM did not recommend wilderness designation for these, the only potential wilderness areas in the plan.

The groups filing protests, which include the Mendocino Environmental Center and North Group of the Redwood Chapter of the Sierra Club, also note its lack of information on spotted owl and other sensitive species and old-growth forests. Susie Van Kirk of the North Group protested that the plan did not consider the June 1989 siting of a pair of spotted owls at Elkhorn Ridge.

The plan and EIS were also protested by Friends of the River, who requested that the BLM assess the area's rivers for Wild &

Scenic designation, as required by the Wild & Scenic River Act and BLM guidelines.

The Bureau of Land Management says responses to the protests may be forthcoming as early as February 1990.



proposed Cahto Wilderness

Thatcher Ridge/Eden Valley Wilderness Study Areas

Bureau of Land Management lands in the Arcata Planning Area

Bound for the ballot:

California Wildlife Protection Act

The signatures are in for the California Wildlife Protection Act, a proposed ballot initiative that would outlaw mountain lion sport hunting and establish a fund for preserving wildlife habitat.

With 671,000 signatures collected—nearly twice the number required—by 5,000 volunteers, the initiative is expected to be placed on the June 1990 ballot after review by the Secretary of State.

"The strength of our supporters and the comparative ease with which the signatures were obtained would indicate wide public support" for the initiative, said Assemblyman Lloyd Connelly (D-Sacramento).



According to Gerald Meral of the Planning and Conservation League, the \$30 million for habitat would come from state funds already earmarked for wildlife and the unallocated Cigarette & Tobacco Pro-

duction Surtax Fund (established by a ballot initiative passed last June). Half of the money would go to northern California and half to the southern part of the state for purchasing habitat for endangered species, mountain lions, deer, and native oak woodland, riparian, aquatic, and wetland ecosystems.

While outlawing mountain lion hunting for sport, the measure would maintain present laws that allow the cats to be killed if they attack domestic stock or pets, or if they are dangerous to humans. The National Rifle Association is expected to oppose the ban.

The hunting of lions was approved by the California Fish and Game Commission

in 1987; the state contends that the cats are not endangered. Agency studies and evaluations of the cumulative impact of a hunt are disputed by the Mountain Lion Protection League, whose position was upheld in October by a state appeals court.

The court ruled that Fish & Game officials did not comply with environmental requirements when they established regulations for sport hunting of the lions. Fish & Game "chose to circulate a document that simply swept the serious criticisms of this project under the rug," wrote Justice Zerne Haning.

Forest & Wildlife Protection Act

A coalition of forest activists and community leaders called Forests Forever has submitted the Forest and Wildlife Protection Initiative and Bond Act to the Attorney General's office, the first step toward putting the measure on the November 1990 California ballot.

Forests Forever will need about half a million dollars to gather the 600,000 signatures necessary to qualify the initiative for the ballot.

If approved by the state's voters, the act will provide permanent protection for California's remaining stands of ancient old-growth forests on private land and the endangered wildlife that depend on them. The voter initiative would also require that all private logging operations be operated on a sustained yield basis.

"We have to act now," said Robert Sutherland, one of the authors of the

proposed initiative. "Less than five percent of the original forest remains, and a lot of wildlife and plant species are going to extinction in the next few years if they don't get this protection."



Provisions of the Forest and Wildlife Protection Initiative include:

- Protection for the remaining old-growth forests on private land. A bond issue would be provided to gradually buy the most significant of what still stands.
- Maintenance of habitat for wildlife threatened with extinction.
- Requirement for all logging to be done on a sustained yield basis—or, as Forests Forever explains, "replacing the historic boom-and-bust cycles that have seen entire regions opened to logging, stripped of their trees, and then abandoned for decades." The law would set the maximum harvest level at 60 percent of each tree species.
- A ban on strip logging or clearcutting and other logging practice reforms.
- Elimination of corporate domination of the State Board of Forestry by preventing conflicts of interest and providing that the Board be composed of members

representing a variety of interests.

- Enacts an enforceable state policy banning the export of whole, unprocessed logs to other countries and requests that Congress also prohibit exports.

- Provides bond funds for a program of employment for any workers who may be displaced due to acquisition of a forest.

"The stakes are enormous," said John Lewallen, one of the authors of the proposed initiative; "The forest cleans the air, moderates weather, filters and stores water, and delights its visitors. It provides shelter for fish and wildlife, and produces wood for building our houses. But the forest cannot speak for itself."

To find out more or to volunteer to gather signatures, contact Forests Forever at (707) 462-2370.



Some 1,000 supporters were at the Barstow hearing. Photo by Vicky Hoover

Yellow steals the show at Barstow

By Vicky Hoover

Hark, Hark, Mojave Park!

If the first California Desert Congressional field hearing in Bishop on October 28 was at best a tie between opposing sides, the second hearing, in Barstow on November 11, saw the forces of desert preservation vehemently victorious.

Chanting, cheering, and waving signs and banners, 800 to 1,000 yellow-donned advocates of the California Desert Protection Act (S. 11 and H.R. 780) crowded the street in front of Barstow's District Community Center and helped fill the auditorium.

The earlier reported "thousands" of off-road vehicle advocates opposed to desert protection did not materialize in Barstow. Before the hearing, the opposition crowd—also about 1,000 people—was led by actor Roy Rogers in a rally in a nearby park. The Barstow police closed off the section of Barstow Road near the hearing to allow paraders in the carnival-like proceedings to demonstrate in the street without interference from vehicle traffic.

Meanwhile, supporters of the Cranston-Levine desert preservation bills pressed close to the auditorium entrance, to surge into the building as soon as doors were open to the public. The room was not big enough to admit all the interested spectators on both sides of the issue; the overflow crowd milled around outside listening to the testimony of witnesses piped outside on a loudspeaker system.

The event was the second in a series of three field hearings being held in California by the House of Representatives Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Lands to allow local residents a chance to speak their minds about what should be done with the fragile, still undeveloped areas of the California desert. The desert is increasingly threatened by population and recreation pressure from southern California. In Barstow 150 witnesses spoke for up to three minutes each, with proponents and opponents of the California Desert

Protection Act about equally represented.

Levine is the Champion

Subcommittee member Rep. Mel Levine (D-CA), who introduced the bill in the House, chaired the Barstow hearing. He was flanked on the podium by Reps. Jim Hansen (R-UT), Larry Craig (R-ID), Jerry Lewis, and Al McCandless (both R-CA).

Although surrounded by opposing Congressmen, Chairman Levine firmly held his own, remained rigidly impartial, and did not even protest when an off-road vehicle user, identifying himself as a Sierra Club member, brazenly alleged that in spite of the Club's "official policy" endorsing H.R. 780, the majority of individual Sierra Club members was against the bill! (Even some people wearing the orange stickers that said, "NO Need for H.R. 780" were seen smiling at this preposterous statement.)

At the end of the testimony, Levine urged opponents of his bill to read or otherwise become familiar with its provisions regarding access and other topics of interest; he expressed concern that some of their testimony indicated a misunderstanding of what the bill says.

Generally heeding the chairman's directive to avoid applause during the hearing, environmentalists waved yellow ribbons after individual testimony. At the close of the hearing, however, desert activists vigorously chanted, "Thanks, Mel, thanks."

While some supporters of the California Desert Protection Act journeyed to Barstow from all over California and Nevada, most of the environmentalists present were from three Sierra Club Chapters: San Geronio (the local chapter), San Diego, and Kern Kaweah.

Significance of the Hearing

After the hearing, Elden Hughes, a director of the California Desert Protection

Roadless no more?

continued from page 1

the area is pervasive on all edges of the unprotected area which provides clean water for the wild and scenic river that is home for six species of salmon and steelhead.

The comment deadline for the Penney Ridge DEIS is January 9, 1990. Write to Shasta-Trinity National Forest Supervisor Robert Tyrrel at 2400 Washington Avenue, Redding, CA 96001 or call (916) 246-5222 to get your DEIS or to comment.

Siskiyou Roadless Area

The Klamath National Forest's Happy Camp Ranger District will soon release two more draft EISs—for forests in the Klamath

River watershed west of the Marble Mountains Wilderness and adjacent to the Siskiyou Wilderness.

The Baldy EIS will be for areas in the Clear Creek watershed that were affected by the 1987 fires—including over 9,000 acres of the Siskiyou Roadless Area. Dillon Creek EIS will propose the logging of the last large unroaded watershed—over 34,000 acres—on the Klamath National Forest.

These areas all contain undiseased stands of the rare Port Orford cedar, spotted owls, and rare mammals like the pine martin and the fisher. Clear Creek is proposed for wild and scenic river status as a stream important for its salmon and steelhead and its rugged whitewater boating opportunities. To request copies of the full draft EISs for Dillon Creek and Baldy/Clear Creek contact District Ranger George Harper, P.O. Box 377, Happy Camp, CA 96039, or call Judy Hahn at (916) 493-2243 as soon as possible.

Note: Wildlife corridor alert

The July/August *Wilderness Record* featured an article on the concept of preserving biodiversity landscape linkages between wilderness preserves in the Klamath Province. The river canyons of Dillon and Ukonom Creeks were proposed as the ideal link between the Siskiyou and Marble Mountain wilderness areas.



Ukonom Creek

Also adjacent to the Marble Mountain Wilderness but on the Ukonom Ranger District of the Klamath National Forest is the Black Panther salvage area. The Black Panther area in the southern half of the Ukonom Creek watershed is also to be considered for addition to the federal wild and scenic river system.

The Forest Service would cut up to 30 million board feet of timber, collectively, and the effects of those actions combined with more road-building needs to be analyzed for the impacts on peregrine falcon, spotted owls, osprey, elk, pine martin, and fisher.

Contact District Ranger Alice Forbes at the Ukonom Ranger District, Orleans, CA 95556 or call (916) 627-3291 to get your name on the list to receive this important draft EIS.

Tim McKay works with the Northcoast Environmental Center in Arcata, California.

Wilderness Trivia Quiz Answer

from page 2

Seven—San Gabriel, San Geronio, San Jacinto, San Mateo, San Rafael, Santa Lucia, and Santa Rosa wilderness areas

Wilderness Act History Series

Path to Preservation—the homestretch

By Roderick Nash

Reprinted from *Wilderness magazine*, Summer 1984, © The Wilderness Society

Parts I through III traced the wilderness movement from pioneer times, when, as Nash put it, "The consequent struggle against wildness, in nature and in mankind, had given Americans a mission since the first European contact with the New World."

By the mid-20th century thoughtful Americans began to question this attitude and forge a path toward preservation of the wild land that was disappearing so rapidly.

This final chapter of Roderick Nash's overview of wilderness preservation begins in 1955 with the preparation of an "extremely idealistic" wilderness bill.

The first step was to prepare a bill for introduction to Congress. In the winter of 1955, Zahniser wrote a draft wilderness bill and refined it after consultation with George Marshall of The Wilderness Society, the Sierra Club's David Brower, and other conservation leaders including Charles Callison and Stewart Brandborg. "I am not a bill drafter," Zahniser complained. "I would much prefer to state all this in iambic rhyming couplets or even in a sequence of sonnets." But much of the language Zahniser used in his opening statement of policy and definition remained essentially unchanged from the 1955 drafts to the final version of 1964. In those nine years, no one was able to improve on Zahniser's definition of wilderness as "an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man...."

As introduced into the Senate on June 7, 1956 by Hubert Humphrey of Minnesota and into the House four days later by Pennsylvania's John Saylor, the first wilderness bill was extremely idealistic. It proposed immediate designation of 163 wilderness areas in the national parks, national forests, national wildlife refuges, and Indian reservations. All commercial activities, including mining and hydropower development, were to be banned. Additions to the wilderness system could be made by executive order of the president or by the Secretary of Agriculture or Interior. Presumably these federal officers would act upon the recommendations of a National Wilderness Preservation Council composed largely of citizen preservationists. Clearly, what Zahniser had in mind was quick-and-easy wilderness designation similar to



the process President Theodore Roosevelt and Chief Forester Gifford Pinchot had used to set aside millions of acres of national forest early in the century. But it was equally clear that there would be opposition to this version of the bill. Commercial interests were understandably opposed. A spokesman for the forest products industry called it "an attack on the integrity of the forestry profession." A representative of a mining company remarked that "the Soviet Union, the enemy of the free world, would be delighted with the passage of such legislation."

The National Park Service and the U.S. Forest Service also resented the import of the Humphrey-Saylor bill. The National Wilderness Preservation Council seemed to them a burdensome citizen watchdog and direct challenge to their expertise in land management. Wilderness, moreover, was only one of many uses embraced in the mission of these agencies. Even though Zahniser's proposal did not actually take their land, it did encumber their freedom in management decisions.

Congress lavished more time and effort on the wilderness bill than on any other measure in American conser-

vation history. From 1957 to 1964 there were eighteen hearings on the proposal, collecting over 6,000 pages of testimony. The bill itself was modified, marked up, rewritten, and resubmitted sixty-six different times. One reason for the extraordinary delay was the feeling that a permanent wilderness preservation system would be too rigid and inflexible. The resource industries used the old argument that millions of acres of potentially valuable land would be "locked up" for the benefit of a small, elite minority of wilderness lovers. Colorado Congressman Wayne Aspinall, the powerful chairman of the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, delayed the progress of the bill through Congress for years. Reminded at one point that the *New York Times* had come out in favor of a wilderness system, Aspinall replied, dryly, that not too many of his western Colorado constituents read that paper.

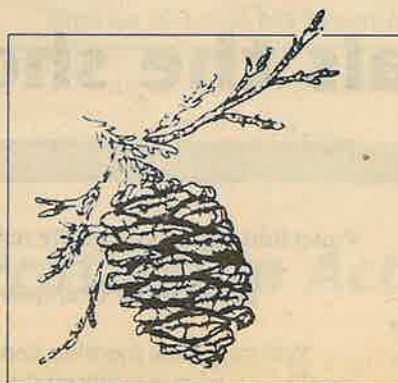
In defense of the bill, preservationists pointed out that they were only interested in protecting about two percent of the nation outside Alaska. In the middle of the 20th century this did not seem to them an excessive commitment. Surely, they felt, two percent of the American people favored the idea. One supporter put it this way: "If the year were 1857 instead of 1957, I'd definitely say no." But given the almost total dominance of civilization, he was compelled to say "yes" to legislated wilderness. Everyone agreed that the real issue was whether wilderness was to have a future on this planet. As David Brower said in a 1958 hearing on the bill, "the wilderness we have now is all...men will ever have."

The report of the congressionally-appointed Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission (ORRRC) in 1962 added momentum to the push for a wilderness act. The principal author of the wilderness volume, James P. Gilligan, undertook an inventory of the nation's remaining wilderness using essentially the same criteria as the Greeley-Kneipp survey of 1927. Gilligan found that the rate of loss of wilderness over these thirty-five years was greater than one million acres annually. To borrow a favorite metaphor of Bob Marshall, the American wilderness was melting away like a snowbank in an August sun. Reflecting on this fact, Wallace Stegner wrote his famous "geography of hope" letter to Gilligan's ORRRC staff. Eschewing shallower definitions of recreation, Stegner defended wilderness as an idea essential to American culture. Others employed the ecological concepts of Aldo Leopold. "No man who reads Leopold with an open mind," David Brower told a Senate committee in 1961, "will ever again, with clear conscience, be able to step up and testify against the wilderness bill." In the early 1960s, public pressure for an act increased. In 1962, congressmen received more mail on wilderness than any other single issue.

But in the brass-tacks world of Capitol Hill it was compromise rather than conscience that finally led to victory. Unquestionably, Zahniser's early versions of the wilderness bill were too optimistic. Neither the land-managing bureaus nor Congress liked the idea of a council of citizen preservationists recommending wilderness areas to the president for permanent protection by executive order. So the key compromise, hammered out in 1963 by

Senator Clinton Anderson of New Mexico, an old friend and admirer of Aldo Leopold, made every component of the wilderness system not established by the act itself dependent on an act of Congress, after an inventory and review of potential additions. This meant hearings, floor debate, and a chance for opponents of wilderness preservationists to state their case. It also meant a much longer road to the completion of the nationwide system Zahniser envisioned.

Another compromise, essential to the passage of the act, concerned prospecting and mining. The first drafts of the wilderness bill banned these completely. But Representative Aspinall, speaking for a strong western lobby, insisted on a clause opening even designated wilderness areas within the system to prospecting and mineral development for 20 years. Not until January 1, 1984 would the National Wilderness Preservation System be off limits to prospectors, although valid claims in wilderness could still continue to be mined after that date. Hydropower interests inspired yet another loophole. The Wilderness Act empowered the president to authorize water development in na-



tional forest components of the system if, in his judgment, the best interests of the nation would be served. A final compromise reduced the "instant" wilderness (established by the 1964 act) to 54 areas (9.1 million acres), already managed for wilderness values by the U.S. Forest Service. An additional 5.4 million acres of national forest "primitive" areas would have to undergo full congressional review. In this regard, they would be no different than national park and wildlife refuge components of the system. Howard Zahniser's early hope for a quick-and-easy wilderness system of some 60 million acres had not materialized. The inventory and review process would demand constant pressure from preservationist but Zahniser, for one, was not depressed by the detours Congress mandated. Of the complex wilderness review procedures, he said, "Let's not call them problems, let's call them opportunities."

In its revised and weakened form, the wilderness bill passed the Senate on April 9, 1963 by a vote of 73 to 12. The House vote on July 30, 1964 was an overwhelming 373 to 1. On September 3, 1964 Lyndon Johnson's signature created the National Wilderness Preservation System. Howard Zahniser would have enjoyed attending the signing ceremony that capped 15 years of effort, but the president instead handed the pen to Mrs. Howard Zahniser. The constant advocate of legislated wilderness had died in his sleep on May 5, 1964, just two days after testifying at the final hearing on the wilderness bill. Zahniser was only 58. Friends knew his health had been weak for years. The National Wilderness Preservation System was his final battle and his personal legacy. Zahniser seemed to sense this in a statement written shortly before his death: "The wilderness that has come to us from the eternity of the past we have the boldness to project into the eternity of the future."

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

Guest view

Wilderness advocates need new tools

By Randal O'Toole

The Wilderness Act was a great achievement for environmentalists. But the future outlook for more wilderness is dim. Millions of acres of national forest roadless lands deserve wilderness status, but are likely to be logged unless environmentalists are willing to adopt new tools for wilderness preservation.

The current tool—that of drawing a line around an area and convincing Congress to call it 'wilderness'—was proposed because its authors believed that the Forest Service was only interested in cutting down trees.

They were wrong. The Forest Service logs roadless areas because it gets a double budgetary reward when it loses money on timber sales.

Congress is more generous with timber money than with money for recreation or wildlife, so the Forest Service gets lots of tax dollars for selling trees. And laws like the Knutson-Vandenberg Act allow the Forest Service to keep an unlimited share of timber receipts.

Timber sale appropriations are close to \$500 million per year, while timber receipts add over \$300 million per year to national forest budgets. By comparison, annual recreation, wildlife, and watershed appropriations total less than \$300 million, and recreation fees add only about \$30 million per year to forest budgets. This is because national forests cannot legally charge for most recreation, including wilderness recreation. Under this budgetary system, forest managers would much rather sell timber below cost than protect wilderness.

Budgetary tools can protect wilderness by putting forest managers on our side. These tools require new laws, and these laws may be easier to pass than wilderness bills because they will also save taxpayers billions of dollars.

Three major tools deserve consideration:

First, fund timber management out of a fixed percentage of the net timber income produced by each forest. Then, money-losing timber sales will reduce, not increase, forest budgets and managers will avoid developing roadless areas where sales lose money.

Second, allow the Forest Service to charge recreation fees and give forest managers the same percentage of those fees as they get from timber. The Forest Service estimates that, if it were legally allowed to collect recreation fees, its recreation income would outweigh its timber income by four to one. Managers would want to leave some areas undeveloped because recreation is more valuable than timber.

Third, require the Forest Service to sell conservation easements to anyone willing to outbid developers for an area. Wilderness and wild river use fees could be dedicated to such conservation easements, creating a fund of several hundred million dollars per year.

Can these tools help save ancient forests? Yes, although other tools will be needed as well. User fees and conservation easements will not save every area that deserves protection, but that does not mean we should completely discard these tools.

Instead, we should use the right tool for the job. A screwdriver is a terrible tool for driving a nail, yet no one would use a hammer to turn a screw. In the same way, wilderness advocates can use budgetary tools to save most roadless areas and rely on the traditional political tools for the ones that remain.

Randal O'Toole is a forest economist with Cascade Holistic Resource Economic Consultants (CHEC) in Eugene, Oregon.

CALENDAR

December 20 DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS (extended) on the proposed listing of the northern spotted owl as a threatened species. Send written comments to: Listing Coordinator, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, 1002 N.E. Holladay St., Portland, OR 97232.

December 31 DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS on the upper Klamath draft Wild and Scenic River study. Send to: Steve Sherman, Klamath Falls Resource Area, Bureau of Land Management, 2795 Anderson Avenue, Building 25, Klamath Falls, OR 97603. (See article on page 3.)

January 3 DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS on the King-Titus salvage timber sale draft Environmental Impact Statement. Send to: Forest Supervisor, Klamath National Forest, 1312 Fairlane Road, Yreka, CA 96097. (See article beginning on page 1.)

January 9 DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS on the Penney Ridge salvage timber sale draft Environmental Impact Statement. Send to: Robert Tyrrel, Forest Supervisor, Shasta-Trinity National Forest, 2400 Washington Avenue, Redding, CA 96001, (916) 246-5222. (See article beginning on page 1.)

January 11 DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS on the proposed listing of the desert tortoise as an endangered species. Send to: Listing Coordinator, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, 1002 N.E. Holladay St., Portland, OR 97232.



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The animal design that Outreach Coordinator Nancy (left) is wearing is by Bay Area cartoonist Phil Frank (of Farley fame); it comes in beige and light gray for \$12. Conference Coordinator Jeanette (right) is wearing our official conference shirt; it has no less than six colors and comes in yellow, light green, and peach for \$15. All the shirts are 100 percent double knit cotton. To order, use the form on page 8. Please add \$1.50 postage and 75 cents for each additional shirt.



**California
Wilderness
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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.

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The Wilderness Record

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The *Record* welcomes letters-to-the-editor, articles, black & white photos, drawings, book reviews, poetry, etc. on California wilderness and related subjects. We reserve the right to edit all work. Please address all correspondence to:

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Coalition Member Groups

Focus: Desert Survivors

In 1978 Jim Morrison and Doug Kari set out in shorts and t-shirts with a gallon of water to hike from the floor of the Saline Valley to snow-covered Key-not Peak—a 10,000-foot climb. The two somehow accomplished this feat and lived to start an organization that they couldn't help but name Desert Survivors.

Desert Survivors organizes hikes (more reasonable ones than the founding expedition) into remote desert environs such as the Old Woman, Turtle, and Inyo Mountains, and the Saline Valley Range.

The group is also the foremost watchdog of Bureau of Land Management (BLM) California desert Wilderness Study Areas; since 1985 they've submitted comments on virtually all management actions taken on these seven million acres of public land. And the volunteers have been remarkably successful—in the six or so times they've filed administrative appeals of

planned BLM actions, they've either won in the Interior Bureau of Land Appeals ruling, or the BLM has backed down.

To join the Desert Survivors and receive their quarterly newsletter and notices of their hikes, send \$10 to Desert Survivors, P.O. Box 20991, Oakland, CA 94620-0991.



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