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WILDERNESS RECORD

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CALIFORNIA WILDERNESS COALITION

ISSN 0194-3030

Vol. 19, No. 2

2655 Portage Bay East, Suite 5 Davis, CA 95616

February, 1994



Bullfrog Lake in Sequoia-Kings Canyon Wilderness was named (erroneously) for the mountain yellow-legged frogs that flourished there. Like many High Sierra lakes, Bullfrog Lake today has plenty of fish but no frogs. Photo by Phil Farrell

Film stunt in Inyos has conservationists seeing red

By Lucy Rosenau

Cars fell on the Inyos in November. To be precise, ten red Cadillacs were dropped by parachute from a helicopter—the mundane reality behind an action sequence that will eventually appear in a Hollywood movie. By any standards except movie-making ones, it was a mind-boggling juxtaposition: red Caddies landing in the rugged and wild Inyo Mountains that form the west wall of Saline Valley.

If it was a strange venue for red Cadillacs, it was a still-stranger venue for dropping red Cadillacs: The filming and the dropping were taking place in a small pocket of wild land sandwiched between two wilderness study areas near the Saline Dunes (see map on page 6), a pocket that will become part of the Inyo Mountains Wilderness when the California Desert Protection Act is passed.

It was also, as things panned out, illegal. On the last day of filming, the last red Cadillac landed outside the target zone, inside Inyo Mountains Wilderness Study Area. Intentionally or not, the movie company had violated its permit, and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), which had monitored the filming, responded with a misdemeanor criminal citation.

Desert Survivors attorney Doug Karl believes that the BLM could have saved itself considerable embarrassment (there has been extensive press coverage of the fiasco) if it had sought public input before making a decision on the movie company's request. "It's common sense," says Karl, that "in an area as pristine as the Inyo-Saline region, you shouldn't be allowed to drop red Cadillac Allantés."

When Desert Survivors learned that the BLM had
continued on page 6

The high cost of High Sierra trout

The trout in your frying pan represents a whopping loss of native biodiversity

By Roland Knapp

A sidebar in the January 1994 *Wilderness Record* described how the transfer of golden trout in the late 1800s from Mulkey Creek to the previously fishless Cottonwood Creek and Cottonwood Lakes has had the effect of preserving this strain of golden trout. Although not entirely true, the story gives the unfortunate (albeit unintentional) impression that transferring fish to fishless waters outside their native range is a beneficial activity. Nothing could be further from the truth. While there are rare examples of fish transfers that have aided in preserving a species or subspecies of fish, the result of all such transfers is the elimination of most of the native fauna found in fishless lakes and streams.

One of the best examples of the far-reaching effects of introduced trout on native biota comes from the Sierra Nevada. Historically, almost all of the thousands of streams and lakes above 8,000 feet in this mountain range were fishless. When the glaciers receded at the end of the Pleistocene, they left behind lake and stream-filled hanging valleys separated from lower elevation waters by falls that prevented the upstream migration of trout native to lower elevation waters. These fishless lakes and streams

could hardly have been considered barren, however. They teemed with amphibians such as the mountain yellow-legged frog (*Rana muscosa*), large zooplankton, and bottom-dwelling aquatic invertebrates such as caddisflies, mayflies, amphipods, and water beetles, all of which thrived in the absence of predatory trout.

When Joseph Grinnell surveyed the vertebrate fauna of the Yosemite region between 1914 and 1916, he found the mountain yellow-legged frog to be a particularly common inhabitant of lakes and streams. In his *Animal Life of the Yosemite* he wrote, "The Yellow-legged frog is the commonest amphibian in most parts of the Yosemite section . . . This frog is the species most likely to come to the attention of fishermen and others who may walk along the banks of Sierran streams and lakes." From the records of Grinnell and other early explorers and naturalists, it appears that mountain yellow-legged frogs were found in nearly all bodies of water between 8,000 and 12,000 feet.

In the 1870s, the California Department of Fish and Game, sportsmen's groups, the Sierra Club, and members of the public began introducing non-native trout into the Sierra Nevada's fishless waters. Brook trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*) came from their native waters in the eastern

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Appropriations needed for Castle Peak and the North Fork American.....6

Coalition news

Monthly Report

Frequent visitors to the CWC's office know when we have hired a new employee: My messy portion of the room shows some semblance of order. Even if Lora Leerskov, our new membership and development associate, is not around, they know someone new has arrived.

Not that we lure new staff into this environment under false pretenses. We interview candidates in our natural habitat, among the piles of paper and sagging bookshelves. However, we do use the east end of the office where Lucy's clean desk and uncluttered floor allow a group to gather.

It wasn't just the new face that led to the cleanup. After four months of deliberating, I finally purchased a color scanner with the funds donated by friends for my birthday. It needed a home next to the Macintosh LC, the office's artificial brain. The only logical solution was for the Mac and me to swap desks—a formidable undertaking.

Fortunately, neighbors Jon and Peggy Watterson offered the services of their son Nick, home for the holidays from his studies at Colorado State. Nick and I accomplished the task in an afternoon and in the process consolidated my paper mounds to three tall stacks.

Buoyed by that achievement, Nick and I took on one of our two walls of drooping bookshelves. Despite their construction from 3/4-inch plywood, the weight of a hundred square feet of Forest Service documents threatened inevitable collapse. While a minor earthquake might have brought the shelves down, I was more afraid an avalanche of documents might be triggered by just a sonic boom.

We took advantage of a quiet weekend to fill our building's hallways with yards of forest plans, environmental impact statements, and other heavy tomes. Using skills Nick acquired on a summer job with Ridge Builders Group (a Coalition business member), the shelves were rebuilt, faced with molding, and painted. The CWC's office is now a safer and more attractive place.

Lora, meanwhile, has taken on her job with enthusiasm. In addition to keeping up with our

members—sending out renewals, selling T-shirts, responding to letters, and processing donations—she is responsible for putting the CWC on a firmer financial base. New to fundraising, she is seeking advice from current and past Coalition board members.

We began by having lunch with Catherine Fox, a fundraiser for the Sierra Club. Catherine counseled us on grant writing and membership acquisition before steering us on to Bruce Hamilton. Our chat with long-time CWC member Bruce, now conservation director for the Club, sent us to Patty McCleary. Patty shared ideas for obtaining funds granted by Recreational Equipment, Inc., better known as REI. REI has been generous to the environmental community, and the CWC has benefited in the past from their donations.

Then it was off to the Wilderness Society to see Jay Watson, head of their California office. Jay had lots of ideas for foundations that might fund Coalition activities and for joint projects with the Society. Board member Nobby Riedy stuck his head in the door to check on the progress of our spring fundraising event, another task assigned to Lora.

Finally it was back to Oakland for dinner with Bill Waid, a board member who raises money for Save the Bay Association. Billy had dozens of suggestions for fundraising and keeping our members happy.

Everywhere we went, Lora was greeted with "It's about time the CWC found someone to do this," a recognition of my total neglect of this necessary aspect of running a non-profit organization. I am happy too, since I often feel guilty about not bringing in enough money to properly fund the Coalition's ambitious agenda.

Time will tell. I hope to be able to report to you soon that we have the financial might to expand our activities to preserve the wildlands of California.

By Jim Eaton

Attention northwestern Californians:

The California Wilderness Coalition, in cooperation with the Wildlands Project, will be developing wilderness recovery proposals for the entire Golden State, from the Modoc Plateau to the Colorado Desert (yes, even the Central Valley). Our goal is to develop sound, scientifically credible, yet revolutionary proposals as part of the Wildlands Project's recovery strategy for North America.

To begin, the CWC would like to hear from activists working to preserve northwest California wildlands, those areas north of San Francisco Bay and west of the Central Valley and Cascade Range. Whether you are an activist or scientist, if you're devoted to preserving wilderness in this region, please call Ryan Henson at (916) 758-0380.



Lora Leerskov, the CWC's new membership and development associate, is learning her way around the office—no small feat—in record time.

The sorry case of the missing roadless areas

The U.S. Forest Service has long been reluctant to recognize the value, and on occasion, even the existence of its roadless wildlands. This bureaucratic prejudice dominated the agency's second Roadless Area Review and Evaluation (RARE II) process in the late 1970s, when the Forest Service greatly underestimated the extent of the national forest system's roadless acreage.

Recently released Forest Service documents have been rife with faulty acreage figures for the unprotected wildlands of California, Oregon, and Washington—partly attributable, no doubt, to the confusion created by the release of President Clinton's forest reform plan. A particularly gross example is a document stating the Mendocino National Forest contains approximately 30,000 acres of roadless lands. In fact, the RARE II study identified over 142,000 roadless acres in the forest, and conservationists maintain that study missed at least 60,000 acres of wildlands.

Regrettably, the erroneous figure has been cited uncritically by many conservation groups, including—you guessed it—the California Wilderness Coalition in a chart in the December 1993 WR. Needless to say, the CWC and the other groups involved regret this mistake. In order to avoid such errors in the future, we encourage wildland defenders to approach every Forest Service document with careful skepticism, especially documents about threatened roadless areas, and to contact local activists to check the veracity of agency claims. After all, checking your sources means never having to say you're sorry.

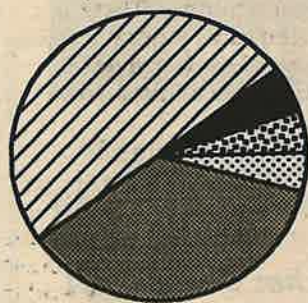
Wilderness Trivia Quiz Question:

For what unlikely hero was the General Sherman sequoia previously named?

Answer on page 7

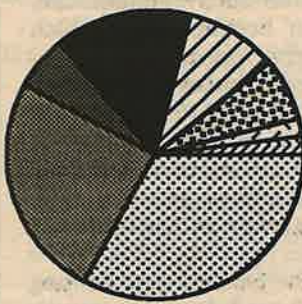
1993 Budget

Income



- New Members
- Renewals
- Donations
- Groups
- Sponsors
- Retail

Expenses



- Wilderness Record
- Issues
- Wilderness Alerts
- Office
- Member Services
- Fundraising
- Retail
- Media & Other

The CWC's 1993 income was roughly \$44,000, about the same as 1992. 1993 expenses look to be around \$43,000 (figures are still coming in), so for once we're in the black—or at least the gray!

Endangered species

Yellow-legged frogs vs. trout: a cutthroat competition

continued from page 1

United States, brown trout (*Salmo trutta*) from Europe, rainbow trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) from streams and rivers draining into the Pacific Ocean, golden trout (*O. mykiss aguabonita*) from the South Fork Kern River, and cutthroat trout (*O. clarki*) from the Great Basin and Rocky Mountains. Norman Clyde, the famous Sierran mountaineer, single-handedly introduced brook trout into hundreds of lakes. In the 1940s, the Department of Fish and Game assumed complete responsibility for fish stocking and continues this practice today, although most current fish stocking involves the introduction of trout to augment existing non-native populations and not trout introductions into fishless waters. A survey conducted in 1991 by scientists from the University of California showed that as a result of over a century of fish stocking, nearly 70 percent of the lakes in the Sierra Nevada now contain non-native trout.

Although the stocking of non-native trout into fishless Sierran lakes and streams is generally viewed as a beneficial action resulting in greatly enhanced fishing opportunities, increasing evidence suggests that these opportunities have come at a tremendous biological cost. The impacts of predation by non-native trout on native biota were noticed as early as 1924, when Joseph Grinnell wrote, "It is a commonly repeated observation, that [mountain yellow-legged] frogs, in tadpole form at least, do not occur in lakes which are stocked with trout. Adult frogs are sometimes found around the margins of such lakes and they occur in numbers along the streams inhabited by trout, but the advent of fish in a lake sooner or later nearly or quite eliminates the frogs." When Grinnell visited the then-fishless Young Lakes in Yosemite National Park, he estimated that there were over 2,000 adult mountain yellow-legged frogs present. A visitor to Young Lakes today will find a large population of trout but not a single mountain yellow-legged frog. Hikers and anglers would have to walk along a lot of streams and lakes before encountering this once-common species. Since trout readily prey on both tadpoles and adult frogs and since introduced trout now occupy 70 percent of the lakes in the Sierra Nevada, only 30 percent of the lakes remain as potential mountain yellow-legged frog habitat. The decline of the mountain yellow-legged frog is so severe that its listing under the Endangered Species Act is seen as inevitable by many herpetologists.

Although there are five species of frogs and toads in the high elevation Sierra Nevada, characteristics of the mountain yellow-legged frog's life history make this species particularly vulnerable to trout introductions.

While other frogs and toads have a tadpole stage that lasts for a few weeks or months during the summer, tadpoles of the mountain yellow-legged frog require at least one year before metamorphosis to the adult stage. Tadpoles in some high-elevation populations may require up to three years before metamorphosis. As a result, unlike tadpoles of other frog and toad species which can utilize shallow fishless ponds, mountain yellow-legged frog tadpoles are restricted to relatively deep lakes that do not freeze solid in winter—lakes that are now likely to contain trout. In addition, unlike other frog and toad species that overwinter on land, adult mountain yellow-legged frogs overwinter underwater, a trait that restricts them primarily to these same lakes.

In addition to the loss of frogs resulting directly from predation by non-native trout, there is increasing evidence that trout may also have indirect negative effects on frogs. Recent research conducted in Sequoia and Kings

Canyon national parks shows that mountain yellow-legged frog populations are smaller and significantly more isolated from one another today than they were prior to trout introductions. A basin in Kings Canyon National Park with more than twenty lakes that historically each contained frogs and no fish, for example, now has only a single lake that still harbors frogs, the only fishless lake remaining in the basin. Because small populations are more likely than large populations to go extinct as a result of random fluctuations in population size, the few frog populations that remain are at an increased risk of extinction even in fishless lakes. In addition, the current isolation of frog populations greatly reduces the chance of recolonization after a local extinction.

Fish also carry a fungus, *Saprolegnia ferax*, known to kill amphibian eggs. This fungus is particularly common on trout raised in hatcheries, and once transported into an area by the stocking of fish, the fungus may spread into fishless waters. Mortality of amphibian eggs caused by *Saprolegnia* was initially described for western toads in Oregon, but this fungus was recently discovered on mountain yellow-legged frog egg clusters in the Sierra Nevada.

Ample evidence exists that the impact of trout extends far beyond frogs. Zooplankton communities in fishless lakes are dominated by large-bodied species. The introduction of trout into such lakes results in the rapid elimination of these species and their replacement by smaller-bodied forms. Once lost from a lake, large-bodied species may not be able to recolonize even if fish are removed because of their limited ability to disperse. Large benthic invertebrates such as caddisflies, mayflies, amphipods, and water beetles are also eliminated by trout. Many of these aquatic invertebrates have a terrestrial stage that provides an important food source to insectivorous birds, and their elimination by the introduction of trout may impact bird populations.

While it is clear that the introduction of non-native trout has had far-reaching consequences for the native aquatic biota of the Sierra Nevada, it is not nearly so obvious how the problem can be corrected. The tremendous pressure by recreationists and tourism-dependent communities to maintain non-native trout fisheries in the Sierra Nevada has resulted in an unwillingness by the National Park Service and U. S. Forest Service to address the impacts of non-native trout on aquatic biota. As a consequence, these agencies characteristically have adopted inconsistent policies for non-native terrestrial and non-native aquatic species. Though the eradication of non-native terrestrial species like tamarisk is generally a priority, the agencies tolerate and even encourage the presence of non-native trout. It will take major campaigns by wilderness and biodiversity activists to pressure the Park Service and Forest Service to eliminate their bias toward non-native trout and to make the eradication of at least some populations of non-native trout a priority.

If political and bureaucratic barriers can be surmounted, biological ones remain. Once trout are introduced to lakes and streams, they are extremely difficult to remove. Eradication typically requires the repeated application of toxins such as rotenone to bodies of water. Done correctly, such treatments appear to cause only short-term harm to the native aquatic biota, but gaining permission to use toxins in national parks and wilderness areas may still be problematic, particularly if treatments are needed over a large area.

Despite these difficulties, restoration of at least some



Adult mountain yellow-legged frog, named for the bright yellow color of its underside. Photo by Roland Knapp

of the lakes and streams in the Sierra Nevada to their former fishless condition is imperative if we are to conserve viable populations of aquatic species. This applies particularly to the mountain yellow-legged frog because it is endemic only to the Sierra Nevada and a few localities in the mountains of southern California. At the very least, consideration should be given to removing trout from a series of interconnected lakes in key watersheds throughout the Sierra Nevada. Once trout are eliminated, mountain yellow-legged frogs should be transported from the nearest remaining frog population. Although frogs in these aquatic reserves would still be separated by trout from frogs in nearby watersheds, having several lakes in each reserve would greatly increase the chance of population persistence over the typical current situation in which frogs are isolated in a single lake.

Although the removal of trout from some Sierra Nevada waters may raise the hackles of anglers and wilderness outfitters who depend on these populations for their recreation or livelihood, it should be apparent that the removal of trout from even 5 percent of the Sierra's more than 3,000 lakes (a very optimistic goal) would have minimal impacts on these user groups. These impacts could be eliminated altogether if user groups worked with the Park Service and Forest Service to design reserves that avoid popular fishing areas and focus instead on waters supporting only marginal fisheries.

The introduction of non-native fish into fishless waters exacts a heavy price on native aquatic biota. In the Sierra Nevada, research on this problem is still in an early stage, but it is clear that restoration of some waters to their former fishless condition will be necessary to conserve even a fraction of these aquatic ecosystems. By working now to restore some Sierra Nevada lakes and streams to a fishless condition, we will not only be acting to head off the crises that typically ensue after the listing of a species under the Endangered Species Act, we will also be restoring an essential component of their wilderness quality.

Roland Knapp is a research biologist with the University of California's Sierra Nevada Aquatic Research Laboratory. He currently spends his summers studying trout and frogs in the Sierra Nevada.

Nearly 70 percent of Sierra lakes now contain non-native trout, and the listing of the mountain yellow-legged frog under the Endangered Species Act is seen as inevitable by many herpetologists.

1964-1994: 30 years

A year for celebration . . .

1994 is an important year for lovers of wilderness. On September 3 we'll celebrate the 30th anniversary of the signing of the Wilderness Act, the legislation that created the world's first National Wilderness Preservation System and protected some of California's most beautiful places as wilderness. 1994 is also the tenth anniversary of the California Wilderness Act, the bill that contributed the most wilderness acres and the most wilderness areas to our state.

In all, 17 bills, state and federal, have been enacted establishing or enlarging our 65 federal and state wilderness areas. In this total are the single-issue bills, like the one that established Lava Beds Wilderness in 1972, and the

omnibus bills of 1976 and 1978. Some passed easily, like the Desolation bill. Others were controversial, none perhaps more so than the 1984 California Wilderness Act.

Contrary to the protestations of wilderness foes, California's wilderness areas have not brought economic ruin to the state. Rather, wilderness and the recreationists who love it can be an economic boon.

If there are lessons in this history, we need to learn them because the misunderstandings and fears and enemies of wilderness persist. That has never been more apparent than in the long struggle to pass the California Desert Protection Act, a struggle that could culminate with the bill's passage in 1994.

In this anniversary year, Congress has the opportunity to enact legislation that will at once commemorate the wilderness bills of the past and inspire the wilderness bills of the future. By any measure—number of acres protected, wilderness areas established, obstacles overcome—the California Desert Protection Act is a worthy successor to the original Wilderness Act. What makes the desert bill so important, though, is also what distinguishes it from all the wilderness legislation that precedes it in California: The desert bill, like no bill before, protects wilderness as a way of protecting California's biological diversity.

continued on facing page

Wilderness Act
September 3
Establishes:
National Wilderness
Preservation System,
the first in the world.

**Land & Water
Conservation
Fund Act**
Establishes annual
source of money
for the purchase
of private lands,
including wilder-
ness inholdings.

P. L. 90-271
March 21
Designates San
Rafael Wilderness.
P. L. 90-318
May 24
Designates San
Gabriel Wilder-
ness.

**National
Environmental
Policy Act**
January 1
Requires federal
agencies to assess
and make public
the environmental
impacts of
proposed projects.

**California
Wilderness Act**
September 23
Establishes:
State Wilderness
System.

P. L. 93-632
January 3
Designates Agua
Tibia and
Emigrant
wildernesses.

Public Law 94-544
October 18
Designates Point Reyes
Wilderness.
Public Law 94-557
October 19
Designates Kaiser
Wilderness.

1964 65 68 69 70 72 1974 75 76 77

Designates:
Caribou, Cucamonga,
Dome Land, Hoover,
John Muir, Marble
Mountain, Minarets,
Mokelumne, San
Gorgonio, San Jacinto,
South Warner, Thousand
Lakes, and Yolla Bolly-
Middle Eel wildernesses.
Requires:
Forest Service, National
Park Service, and Fish
and Wildlife Service to
inventory potential
wilderness areas.

**Wild & Scenic
Rivers Act**
Establishes:
National Wild &
Scenic River
System.
Designates:
Middle Fork
Feather,
California's first
wild-and-scenic
river.
Desert Solitaire
published.

P. L. 91-58
August 18
Designates
Ventana Wilder-
ness
P. L. 91-82
October 10
Designates
Desolation
Wilderness.

P. L. 92-493
October 13
Designates Lava
Beds Wilder-
ness.
P. L. 92-510
October 19
Designates
Lassen Volcanic
Wilderness.
**Roadless Area
Review and
Evaluation
(RARE I)**
completed by
Forest Service.

*The Monkey
Wrench Gang*
published.

Public Law 94-567
October 20
Designates Joshua Tree,
Pinnacles, and Point
Reyes wildernesses.
**Federal Land Policy
& Management Act**
October 21
Requires Bureau of Land
Management to
inventory its lands for
their wilderness
potential and preserve
their wilderness quality.

**Clean Air Act
Amendment**
August 7
Assigns Class I or
II air quality
standards to
wilderness.



Banner and Ritter peaks in the Ansel Adams Wilderness typify the "rock and ice" of early wilderness areas, places of heart-stopping beauty but precious little life.

The wilderness bills of the future will protect wilderness areas that are less spectacular in their scenery but more spectacular in their biological diversity.

Photo by Tim Palmer

Before '64

Wilderness protection did not begin with the 1964 Wilderness Act. Rather, the signing of the Act represented the fruition of a movement that began more than 100 years ago. Here are some of the milestones on the trail to 1964 and wilderness.

- 1892 The Sierra Club is founded.
- 1890 Yosemite National Park, California's first, is established.
- 1893 Trabuco Canyon Reserve, precursor to the Cleveland National Forest, is established.
- 1897 Congress establishes the National Forest System.
- 1916 Congress establishes the National Park System.
- 1924 The Forest Service establishes the Gila Wilderness in New Mexico.
- 1935 The Wilderness Society is founded.
- 1949 Aldo Leopold's *Sand County Almanac* is published.

of protecting wilderness

... and preservation

The wilderness areas protected by the 1964 Act are for the most part notable for their barrenness; they have been variously praised and scorned as "rock and ice" playgrounds. The desert, by contrast, is both less barren and more fun than anyone would have guessed in 1964. We came late to the desert because it was less-obviously wilderness, and we encountered there a foreign and forbidding world. In time, we learned to see the beauty in the stark vastness. We discovered landscapes as dramatic as any in the Sierra, creatures as wild, threats as grave.

The desert bill marks a transition. No longer will we save recreational wonderlands if it means leaving ecological wonderlands unprotected. The wilderness bills of the

future will protect wilderness areas that are less spectacular in their scenery but more spectacular in their biological diversity. It won't be easy. Unlike the recreationists who achieved wilderness protection for the rock-and-ice landscape of the Sierra, the constituency for the state's remaining wildlands is singularly disenfranchised. Sage grouse don't vote, and chaparral elicits little passion.

Everything we have learned about biological diversity and political agility from every battle for every wilderness bill will be needed in the years to come. 1994 can be a watershed year for California wilderness—not just the year we pass the desert bill, important though that is, but also the year we look beyond the desert bill and our old vision

of wilderness. In 2014 we will celebrate a triple anniversary: the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act, the 30th anniversary of the California Wilderness Act, and the 20th anniversary of the California Desert Protection Act. The one word all those bills have in common is "act." Act we must if we want the California of 2014 and the wilderness of 2014 to be more abundant and more diverse than it is today.

In the coming months, the *Wilderness Record* will feature articles and alerts encouraging you to Make 1994 a Watershed Year for wilderness. You'll find this month's below.

California Wilderness Act September 28

Designates: Bucks Lake, Carson-Iceberg, Castle Crags, Chanchelulla, Dick Smith, Dinkey Lakes, Granite Chief, Hauser, Ishi, Jennie Lakes, Machesna Mountain, Monarch, Mt. Shasta, North Fork, Pine Creek, Russian, San Joaquin, San Mateo Canyon, Santa Rosa, Sequoia-Kings Canyon, Sheep Mountain, Siskiyou, Snow Mountain, South Sierra, Trinity Alps, and Yosemite wildernesses.

Gasquet-Orleans Road Construction blocked on First Amendment grounds. The sacred area was later permanently protected in the Siskiyou Wilderness.

State Parks Commission November 5 Designates West Waddell Wilderness in Big Basin State Park.

Endangered American Wilderness Act February 24 Designates: Golden Trout and Santa Lucia wildernesses. Enlarges: Ventana Wilderness.

Northern Spotted Owl listed as threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act, P. L. 101-539 November 8 Enlarges Ventana Wilderness.

Condor Range & Rivers Act June 19 Designates: Chumash, Garcia, Matilija, Sespe, and Silver Peak wildernesses.

State Parks Commission May 10 Designates Henry Coe State Wilderness.

The Big Outside published.

78 81 82 83 1984 85 89 90 92 1994

State Parks Commission October 9 Designates Boney Mountain Wilderness in Point Mugu State Park.

California v. Block, a decision rejecting the Forest Service's second inadequate inventory of its roadless lands (RARE II), is upheld.

Enlarges: Caribou, Cucamonga, Dome Land, Emigrant, John Muir, Marble Mountain, Minarets, Mokelumne, Red Buttes, San Geronio, San Jacinto, San Rafael, South Warner, Ventana, and Yolla Bolly-Middle Eel wildernesses. **Renames:** Minarets and San Joaquin wildernesses as Ansel Adams Wilderness.

Public Law 99-68 July 19 Renames Point Reyes Wilderness as Philip Burton Wilderness.

Enlarges: San Rafael and Ventana wildernesses.

Sources:

103 Wilderness Laws: Milestones and Management Direction in Wilderness Legislation, 1964-1987, Browning, Hendee, and Roggenbuck, University of Idaho, 1988. *Wilderness Management*, Hendee, Stankey, and Lucas, North American Press, 1990. The Wilderness Society.

Make 1994 a Watershed Year

When the California Desert Protection Act is debated by the full Senate this year, the debate will involve two irreconcilable visions of the desert. One is the vision of the original desert bill; a vision of the fragile desert protected in a web of wilderness areas and national parks. Opposing that is a vision of protecting the status quo; in that vision, cattle will continue to graze, hunters will have free rein, and wilderness areas will be as few and as far between as possible.

The debate is expected to focus on competing visions for Mojave National Park and especially on three issues: whether or not to allow hunting in Mojave National Park, whether or not to allow grazing to continue in perpetuity in the park, and whether or not to include the 276,000 acres of wildlands around Lanfair Valley in the park.

You can ensure that your vision for the desert is part of that debate by writing to:

The Hon. Dianne Feinstein 331 Hart Senate Office Bldg. Washington, DC 20510
The Hon. Barbara Boxer 112 Hart Senate Office Bldg. Washington, DC 20510.

Beyond '94

If you thought the battle for the desert bill was tough, wait till you see what's next. California's remaining wildlands are little-known, little-loved, and scattered all over the map. Many of these wild areas are protected, temporarily, by the Bureau of Land Management as wilderness study areas, but other areas, pockets of public land that were never inventoried as potential wilderness, are at constant risk.

Statewide wilderness legislation encompassing all these wildlands—legislation designed, in Aldo Leopold's immortal phrase, to save all the pieces—is the answer. By saving these wildlands, we will also be taking a large step toward saving California's biological diversity. For what all these otherwise disparate areas have in common is their indispensability to California's plants and animals.

Another Leopoldian effort will be launched on behalf of the state's wild rivers. Friends of the River

has identified more than 100 rivers in California that need protection under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Many of these rivers qualify as a wet sort of wilderness, and many others would serve as corridors linking wilderness and its wildlife to other public lands.

Those kinds of links are important, because we are learning that nature needs room to roam, room to experiment, and room to grow. The most far-sighted heirs to Leopold, Abbey, and Muir envision a California where wildness is rampant, not relegated to pockets. Joining together under the mantle of the Wildlands Project, they are charting a new California that harkens to a much older California, a land where wilderness abounds, linked in a grand and living system, and cities are relegated to the pockets.



Wilderness news

Appropriations needed—one last time—for Castle Peak and North Fork American

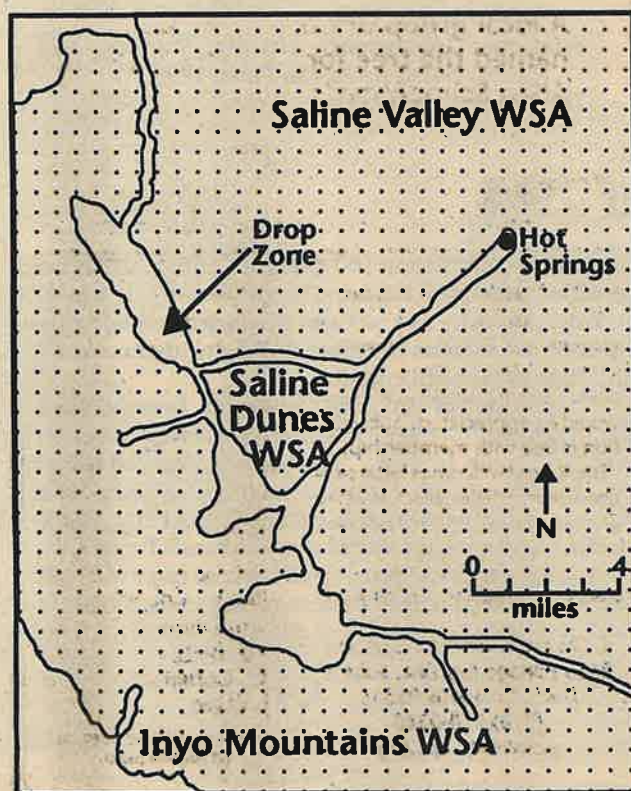
By John K. Moore

Development of private lands could all too easily destroy the wildness and recreation values of two favorite Sierra Nevada areas: Castle Peak and the North Fork American River. Every year the environmental campaign for Land and Water Conservation Fund appropriations for the central Sierra saves a little more land—the remaining lands in Hope Valley will soon be purchased—but the campaign isn't over yet. Support from lovers of Sierra Nevada wildlands is essential to getting more appropriations and saving more land.

All but a thousand of the 6,000 available acres of private land in the Castle Peak Roadless Area just north of Donner Summit have been purchased, but Castle Peak, the dominant landmark, is not yet safe in the public domain. Only a million dollars is needed to buy Castle Peak and part of its northeast slope. Saving these lands will keep the viewsheds of the Pacific Crest Trail and Warren Lake Trail unspoiled. Winter skiers and summer hikers will continue to enjoy pristine views of Castle Peak.

Twenty miles of the wild-and-scenic North Fork American River and its rugged 3,000-foot-deep canyon in Tahoe National Forest will be in imminent danger of devastating development if no money is appropriated in 1994. The option of keeping these lands undeveloped and off the market will expire in March 1995. The partnership of land speculators which owns the lands along the river is interested only in the quickest possible return on its investment. If the option expires unexercised, the riverside lands will be logged wherever logging is feasible, and the lands sold. Logging and other development would devastate the pure waters of the North Fork and the wildlife of the canyon.

To learn how you can help gain congressional funding for Castle Peak and the North Fork American River, contact John K. Moore at 5125 8th Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95820.



New and improved appeal regs issued by Forest Service

So you want to appeal a timber sale. Good for you! But before you settle down at the keyboard, there are a few things you need to know.

A package of new appeal regulations, published in the November 4, 1993 Federal Register, are now in effect for all records of decision signed after January 3. For the most part, the new regulations increase citizen access to the appeal process; emergency exclusions, for instance, which formerly allowed the Forest Service to exempt salvage sales from public review, no longer exist. But a new requirement that citizens must have "standing" in order to appeal agency decisions could, depending on how it is implemented and interpreted, shut some activists out of the process.

Let's start at the beginning. You want to appeal a timber sale. Under the new regulations, to appeal you must have participated in the planning process that led to the contested decision. You can acquire this standing—the right to appeal—by submitting comments on the environmental review of the proposed sale or during the scoping that precedes the review. The necessity of establishing standing makes it more important than ever that you get on, and stay on, agency mailing lists to receive scoping notices and other documents. In theory, anyone who has ever expressed interest in a particular area should receive all these documents, but the experience of the California Wilderness Coalition suggests that periodic reminders may be necessary.

If you have standing, you have 45 days from the date of the decision to appeal. The "mailbox rule," which counts a timely postmark as compliance with the deadline, is still in effect for comments and appeals. When in a draft version of the new appeal regulations the Forest Service proposed to revoke the mailbox rule and notify the public of planned timber sales through newspaper announcements instead of individual mailings, many activists saw the changes as a threat to their involvement in the planning process (see article in May 1993 WR). The retention of the mailbox rule and the establishment of a mandatory 30-day comment period for environmental assessments are two encouraging signs for environmentalists who had feared the agency was trying to reduce the number of timber sale appeals by shutting citizens out of the loop.

Instead, forest supervisors are out of the loop. The recipient of your appeal will probably be the regional forester and not, as had been the case, a forest supervisor.

Under the new regulations, there is only one level of appeal available to you: either the regional forester for decisions made by district rangers and forest supervisors or Chief Jack Ward Thomas for decisions made by regional foresters.

Once you've filed your appeal, you will be invited within 15 days to meet with the Forest Service official who made the decision you are contesting to see if your appeal can be resolved simply. The offer of a meeting is required by the new regulations, but the obligation is one-sided; if you prefer not to participate, your appeal will not be jeopardized. The Wilderness Society's Mike Anderson says it is probably a good idea to accept the offer even if your position is not negotiable because the meeting can be an opportunity to develop a relationship with agency officials, a relationship that may help you when the next timber sale comes along.

Whether or not you agree to meet, the Forest Service has 45 days to reach a decision on your appeal. While the agency considers the merits of your appeal, the project you are appealing, be it a timber sale, ski development, or grazing allotment, is automatically stayed; you no longer have to request a stay as part of your appeal.

Of all the changes adopted by the Forest Service, the most significant for wilderness advocates is the elimination of the emergency exemption. This was also the most unexpected; unlike the other changes, which had their genesis in a rider Congress attached to the Interior Department's appropriations bill for fiscal year 1993, the elimination of the emergency exemption was not mandated by Congress. In the past, the Forest Service could authorize "salvage" sales, sales of what the agency claimed were dead or dying trees, free from public scrutiny and appeals because they were routinely classified as emergency exclusions, Anderson says. Salvage sales now can be appealed. In contrast to other timber sales, however, salvage sales can be implemented during the appeal period or while an appeal is pending, but only with the Chief's approval.

Anderson thinks the new regulations are a "big improvement, assuming that the Forest Service doesn't abuse its limited discretion on the standing requirement." Anderson is presently rewriting the Wilderness Society handbook on appeals, which he hopes will be available by spring. If you need more information in the meantime, contact Sue Danner, regional appeals manager for the Forest Service, at (415) 705-2553.

Caddie lands in the Inyos

continued from page 1

approved filming in an area that will soon become wilderness, the conservation group filed an administrative appeal and requested a stay from the Interior Board of Land Appeals. The stay was denied, so the movie company was allowed to proceed while the appeal was pending.

In the aftermath, with the Cadillac removed from the wilderness study area, the film crew gone, and the site restored, the BLM and conservation groups are left to clean up the mess. The BLM is pursuing its case against Interscope Communications, the company that dropped the car. Unless it is settled first, the case will be heard by the federal magistrate in Bishop this spring.

The agency also is reviewing its permit process for filming, a national review that was already underway when the violation occurred. The California Wilderness Coalition's executive director, Jim Eaton, hopes that review will result in higher fees for companies that want to film on BLM lands. Presently, movie companies are required to post a bond, to pay the cost of environmental review and monitoring, and to pay an additional fee based on the number of people who are on site during filming.

For *Terminal Velocity*, the star vehicle for actor Charlie Sheen that Interscope is filming, the use fee was \$600 a day.

Eaton thinks that figure is ridiculously low. "When you compare what the movie company spent—consider the cost of even one new Cadillac—it's clear that the company got a hell of a bargain."

But the economics of the BLM decision are less important to conservationists than the environmental implications. Kari thinks the BLM chose to interpret an absence of regulatory prohibitions against filming next to a wilderness study area as an injunction, under the agency's multiple-use mandate, to allow filming. The BLM, Kari contends, had the discretion, but not the courage, to say no.

As part of its environmental review, the BLM rejected two other pockets before agreeing to the site near Saline Dunes. The rejected sites were judged too small to safely accommodate the filming, but the mile-wide Inyo-Saline pocket was not.

It is now abundantly clear that the BLM was wrong.

Book reviews

Good tips make good trips

Sierra South: 100 Back-country Trips in California's Sierra

By Thomas Winnett, Jason Winnett, Kathy Morey, and Lyn Haber, Wilderness Press, Berkeley, 1993, 314 pp., \$14.95.

Do rainy winter days spent indoors have you yearning for a wilderness experience? If so, there is a new guidebook available (actually the sixth and most recent edition of an old guidebook) for the Sierra Nevada, one of the largest and most beautiful wilderness regions in the lower 48. *Sierra South: 100 Back-country Trips in California's Sierra* covers some of the range's most spectacular terrain, from Mono Creek northwest of Bishop down to the southern end of Sequoia National Park, including the popular Mt. Whitney region. (The companion volume, *Sierra North*, describes trips from Mono Creek north to Lake Tahoe.)

The authors hiked every trail, and the trips listed in this volume were chosen for their scenic attraction, wilderness character, and recreational possibilities. An easily followed hike summary, which includes mileage, best season, names of topographical maps covering the area, degree of difficulty, and highlights, is useful for narrowing down where to go. Each summary is followed by a day-by-day account of what the backpacker can expect to see en route. This last section enables the hiker to visualize the terrain and degree of vegetation cover; provides tips on places to stop for a refreshing swim; lists wildflower, bird, and animal species commonly encountered in the area; and is loaded with interesting geological and historical information. Potential campsites are identified, and there's up-to-date information on fishing. Some trip descriptions are randomly interrupted by the authors' criticisms of Park Service or Forest Service management decisions, but most wilderness enthusiasts will agree with the arguments.

Trips range from easy, short overnight excursions to rugged two-week-long trans-Sierra crossings. The reader, who likes solitude can get a good idea of how traveled a region is (assuming, of course, that everyone else planning

a trip using this guide isn't also seeking solitude). The book's enticing, thorough, accurate, and well-written descriptions may cause a lot of people with backpacking in their blood to turn off the TV and head for the hills.

Sierra South also contains short sections devoted to giardia, bear-proofing your food, and avoiding lightning, though the section on what to do in a thunderstorm could be somewhat confusing. A listing of wilderness locations of bear-proof food boxes is provided, and the book identifies regions where bears have been a problem. I appreciated the inclusion of a short section on the basics of low-impact camping.

Backpackers of all abilities and experience levels should find *Sierra South* to be full of useful information. This guidebook will enable the novice to envision numerous suitable trip possibilities and will provide the seasoned backpack veteran with new ideas and inspiration.

—Eric Knapp

Eating Hearty in the Wilderness with Absolutely No Cleanup

By Bern Kreissman, Bear Claw, Davis, 1994, 130 pp., \$9.95.

Like a 19th century monograph, Bern Kreissman's book has a positively Victorian subtitle: *A Backpackers Guide to Good Food and "Leave No Trace Camping" with Numerous Tips on Backcountry Economy including Occasional Nostalgic Glances at Backpacking History and An Exposition of the Eleventh Essential*. Simply put, it's Bern telling you how he backpacks.

The raison d'être for the book is to introduce no-cleanup cooking using the BakePacker heat exchanger. This aluminum grid is inserted in a pot, an inch of water is added, and food is cooked in a plastic bag over the boiling water. Dinner is served from the plastic pouch; there's no scraping, scrubbing, or cleaning. In addition to cooking standard meals, the BakePacker is said to bake cakes, muffins, and quickbreads.

Kreissman offers numerous ideas for meals. He admits this is not a gourmet wilderness dining guide, which is to be expected of someone who suggests leaving Tang residue in your cup to "enhance" the coffee or tea to follow.

CWC T-shirts

Stan (l.) likes our six-tone landscape shirt now available in jade and fuchsia as well as the ever-popular light blue and pale green for \$15. Drew wears a design by Bay Area cartoonist Phil Frank; it comes in beige or light gray for \$12. All shirts are 100 percent double-knit cotton. To order, use the form on the back page.

As the subtitle suggests, there's lots more. Novice hikers will find useful tips, and experienced backpackers may be tempted to try no-mess cooking. Either way, it's a handy guide at a great price.

—Jim Eaton



**California
Wilderness
Coalition**

Purposes of the California Wilderness Coalition

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

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DATES TO REMEMBER

February 10-11 CONFERENCE on the state and federal Endangered Species Acts in Sacramento. The deadline to enroll in this University Extension conference on the laws and regulations protecting endangered species is February 1, but it may be possible to enroll after that date. To find out, call Angie Rodan at the University of California Extension, (916) 757-8889.

February 14 COMMENT DEADLINE for people who want to have input into a supplemental environmental impact statement that will analyze ways of implementing the general management plan for Yosemite National Park. Send comments to: Superintendent Michael V. Finley, Yosemite National Park, P. O. Box 577, Yosemite, CA 95389.

March 15 SCOPING DEADLINE for proposals for how the site of Lassen Volcanic National Park's former downhill ski area should be used. Send comments to: Lassen Volcanic National Park, P.O. Box 100, Mineral, CA 96063-0100.

Wilderness Trivia Answer:

A local group of Communists had named the tree for Karl Marx. (From Allan Schoenherr's *Natural History of California*)

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The Wilderness Record

The *Wilderness Record* is the monthly publication of the California Wilderness Coalition. Articles may be reprinted; credit would be appreciated. Subscription is free with membership.

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

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Printed by the Davis Enterprise
on recycled paper.

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"I'm as much an environmentalist as anybody in the world."

—Charles Hurwitz, owner of Maxxam and Pacific Lumber, quoted in the Winter 1993-1994 Issue of *Earth Island Journal*.

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