



WILDERNESS RECORD

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CALIFORNIA WILDERNESS COALITION

Vol. 8

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March-April, 1983

No. 2

Wilderness Bill Passes House

H.R. 1437, the California Wilderness Act, swept through the House of Representatives by a vote of 297 to 96 on April 12. The overwhelming vote for passage came after several closer votes on amendments to weaken the bill.

This bill designates 2.4 million acres of Forest Service land as wilderness in 57 areas, as well as wilderness areas in Yosemite and Kings Canyon - Sequoia national parks. The proposed Siskiyou wilderness is 190,000 acres (the previous Congress approved a 100,000-acre wilderness with an additional 90,000 acres of study areas), and Mill Creek, Bucks Lake, Echo-Carson (Dardanelles), and Machesna Mountain are new this year.

Jubilant by environmentalists was dampened, though, by the sudden death of Rep. Phillip L. Burton, the bill's author, three days earlier. Burton's legislative skills had moved the California Wilderness Act through two previous Congresses, and led to optimism that the bill will be signed into law this year.

The arena is now the U.S. Senate, where Senator Alan Cranston already has introduced a similar bill. S.5. Senator Pete Wilson has stated that he feels a compromise bill can pass the Senate, although it is believed that Wilson feels the current measures contain too much wilderness.

Although both Republicans and Democrats paid tribute to Burton during the debate on the California Wilderness Bill, several Republicans fought hard to weaken the bill. Weakening amendments proposed by Rep. Norman Shumway (R-Stockton) were defeated on voice and roll call votes.

Rep. Jerry Lewis (R-San Bernardino) complained about Inyo County lands being included, but Rep. John Seiberling (D-Ohio) pointed out that the lands Lewis objected to were forty miles north

of lands in the wilderness bill.

Shumway offered an amendment to delete Dillon Creek from the proposed Siskiyou Wilderness, Woolly Creek from the Marble Mountain Additions, and most of the proposed Mokelumne Wilderness Additions. His proposal was defeated on a voice vote.

The next amendment was offered by Rep. Robert Walker, a Pennsylvania Republican. The Walker amendment would have allowed the Secretary of Agriculture to waive any part of the law which he determined would cause unemployment. The proposal was defeated by a vote of 121 to 272.

Rep. Chip Pashayan (R-Fresno) then attempted to take the Monache Meadow Study Area out of the bill. He succeeded only in changing the

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Monache Meadows Study Area in the South Sierra

- Photo by Tim Sherburn



Phillip L.
Burton
1927-1983

Rep. Burton Dies

Rep. Phillip L. Burton (D-San Francisco) died suddenly on April 10. He was 56.

Burton was well known for his efforts to preserve national parks and wilderness areas throughout the Nation. He was the author of the California Wilderness Act which overwhelmingly passed the House of Representatives two days after his death.

Rep. Ronald V. Dellums (D-Berkeley) said, "In the realm of domestic legislation he was one of the most effective champions in enhancing the environment and preserving the natural wonders of the country he so loved...He was in the forefront of every major struggle for the expansion of human dignity and equal opportunity."

At a memorial service in the Great Meadow at the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Sister Margaret Cafferty said:

"Phil's constituency was not limited by an accident of geogra-

phy. Phil's district was gerrymandered into that of the coal miners of Appalachia, the longshoremen of San Francisco.

"My Irish instincts tell me that as the Lord greeted him, He might have said, 'Welcome Phil, I owe you a few.'"

San Francisco Mayor Diane Feinstein added,

"If there are politics in Heaven, we can be sure Phil Burton is already running hard. Wherever Phil is, he is twisting spiritual arms. And if Heaven can be reapportioned, he is the man who can do it."

A delegation of 110 members of Congress and 40 state legislators attended the service.

"So long and farewell, Phil," said House Speaker Thomas "Tip" O'Neill. "No man has served his country better than you."

Burton's widow Sala later announced that she would seek election to her husband's seat in a special election this June.

Coalition Report

By Jim Eaton

Conservationists were shocked and saddened at hearing of the death of Phil Burton. He had become our miracle worker, using his legislative magic to shepherd our park and wilderness proposals through the Congress. He will never be replaced.

When I think of politicians who have had a major impact on preserving our wild places, three come to mind. Teddy Roosevelt used his presidential power to establish many of our national forests, Lyndon Johnson signed the Wilderness Act and numerous park bills, and Jimmy Carter worked to save Alaska. I am sure that when historians look back at the twentieth century, Phil Burton will be remembered as well for the mark he has left on our Nation's park and wilderness heritage.

It is heartening that there has been no great wringing of hands with "all is lost without Burton." There is no doubt that our work will be much harder without Phil, and that some wild areas will be lost in the short run. But our wilderness movement is stronger than any one person, even someone as great as Phil Burton.

Burton will not be remembered for his writings like John Muir, but those of us who were touched by him will never forget. Goodbye, Phil, and thank you.

Roland Hauck also left us this year, still young at heart at age 80. Roland was an inspiration to senior citizens everywhere; it's never too late to get involved. His fight to save creeks may not

have been as dramatic as our wild river campaigns, but it was just as important. Some of my early memories are of exploring a creek in Vallejo with its tadpoles and newts. Was this the start of my environmental conscience?

Thank you, too, Roland, for inspiring us to broaden our goals and hang in there for the duration.

Unless this is the first copy of the *Record* you've seen, you must have noticed our new format and type. We hope you like it.

The *Wilderness Record* is now entirely produced in our office, with the exception of headlines and printing. This is saving us even more time and money than before. We think the type and wider columns are easier to read, but we'd like to know what you think.

Two of our Davis volunteers, Marcia Cary and Anne Kinney, worked hard on this issue to develop the new format. I hope you appreciate their final product as much as I do.

We continue to work toward the goal of a monthly *Wilderness Record*. This new process is a major step. We also have submitted grants to get us up and running -- we really need a person to concentrate just on the *Record* as I am unable to do so. If we do get some money for a full or part-time editor, we'll be searching for someone to fill this role.

This month we would like to welcome our newest member group, the Wilderness Society. Welcome back.

Wild & Woolly

NO WARTS EITHER: Frogs don't freeze in freezing weather because they synthesize alcoholic anti-freeze in their body fluids with the onset of winter temperatures. William Schmid, a zoologist at the University of Minnesota, found three species that produce glycerol, which enables them to hibernate beneath leaves in very cold weather.

- Wildlife Digest

HEAVY WATER: According to the Environmental Protection Department of the State of Maine, one inch of rain falling on one acre of land weighs 220,000 pounds, and the raindrops strike the ground at about 20 miles per hour.

When a shower starts, the raindrops pack the soil surface to

the extent that 98 percent of the subsequent rainfall runs off. The report underscores the value of forests by pointing out that the amount of sediment washed off one acre of cleared land may be 20,000 to 40,000 times as much as that washed off an acre in a wooded area.

- Wildlife Review

OKRA POWER: The Agriculture Research Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture reports that okra can be used as a "caffeine-free coffee substitute, an oilseed for margarine, a high-protein meal for baking, fiber to make paper, and a biomass burned for fuel."

-High Country News

Reader's Opinion

Editor's Note:

Last issue we printed a letter from Cress Kearny objecting to our printing "An Environmental Strategy for the 80's" by Earth First!'s Dave Foreman. Now, for the other side of the coin...

Dear CWC:

The letter by Cress Kearny attacking Dave Foreman's article, "An Environmental Strategy for the 80's," exemplifies an obsequious, compromising attitude that is limiting the success of the environmental movement today.

While disregarding the fact that the purpose of this article is to call for the fruition of a greater spectrum of opinions within the environmental movement, Cress dwells on what he calls Foreman's "violence" and "hatred." I fail to read violence and hatred into the article, but rather an appropriate sense of urgency over the staggering losses to natural diversity and environmental integrity that conservationists are quietly beginning to take as inevitable because of the impotency of their present strategies to stop the massive scale of destruction.

Maybe an organization like Earth First! intimidates Cress because the challenge presented by it call for personal sacrifice and non-violent direct action exceeds his level of commitment to conservation. But Foreman is not asking the less radical members of the conservation community to go beyond their personal limits, only that they look at the historical perspective of what has already been sacrificed to the "industrial beast" before being too quick to pay it further homage in the name of "reasonableness."

-Greg Marskell
Long Beach

gy for the 80's" by Earth First!'s Dave Foreman. Now, for the other side of the coin...

Editor:

Having read the Jan-Feb *Wilderness Record* I was shocked and mad that you could print such a poor letter in Reader's Opinion. We don't need that kind of stuff in the *Record*. It was poorly written, and obviously the person does not know Dave or of his many years of devotion to saving wildlands. Surely you have better letters to print. Do we really need such poor tasting comments in the *Record*. Is this the kind of thing that's to unite us in our fight to preserve wilderness? I don't believe it is. Lets work with each other toward our common goal, not against each other against our common goal.

-Steve Zachary
Ukiah

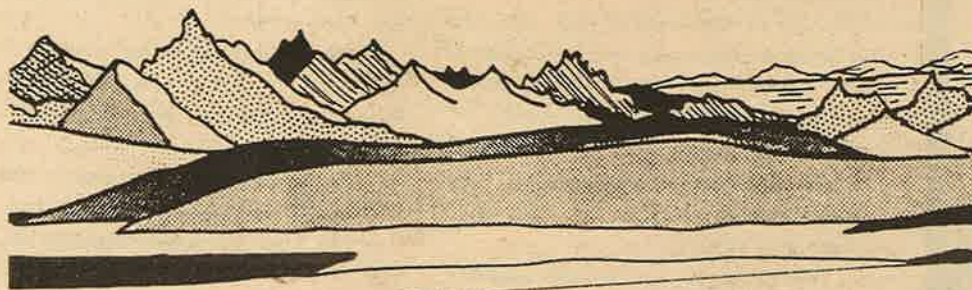
Dear Editor:

Re: Cress Kearny's letter about me and my "Environmental Strategy for the 80's." "Hatred", "poison", "conniving", "posturing", "filled with myself", "unreasonable", "violent" - well, yes, I suppose all that's true. But "just plain bad writing." Gee, that hurts.

-Dave Foreman
Ely, Nevada

Notice to Readers

The *Wilderness Record* encourages reader response and comment. We hope you will feel free to express yourself concerning wilderness issues of interest to you or in response to articles and opinions appearing in the *Record*. The Editor reserves the right to condense or edit any letter received.



Roland Hauck Passes Away

Roland Hauck, the founder of CWC member group Save Our Creek Committees of America, died last January at the age of 80.

Friends of the River's Mark Dubois recently recalled Roland's impact on the waterway conservation movement:

"Roland was a remarkable human being and a truly inspired leader of the environmental movement in California. We will sorely miss

his humor, his gentle but persistent dedication, and his creative spirit. All of us who knew Roland are fortunate to have come into contact with this truly great man. Roland was always concerned that creeks were not a high enough priority among water activists. Roland inspired many water activists during the last decade, and that influence will guarantee that his work shall continue."

BLM Wilderness Hearing

Pit River and Tule Mtn.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has released a draft plan for the Alturas Resource Area in Modoc and Lassen counties. Of two Wilderness Study Areas (WSA) and one former (pre-Watt) WSA, only a small Pit River Wilderness is proposed.

The plan proposes selling 22,694 acres of public land and exchanging 8,000 additional acres.

A public hearing on the wilderness study of the areas will be held from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on May 23, 1983, at the Lion's Hall, Highway 299, McArthur, California.

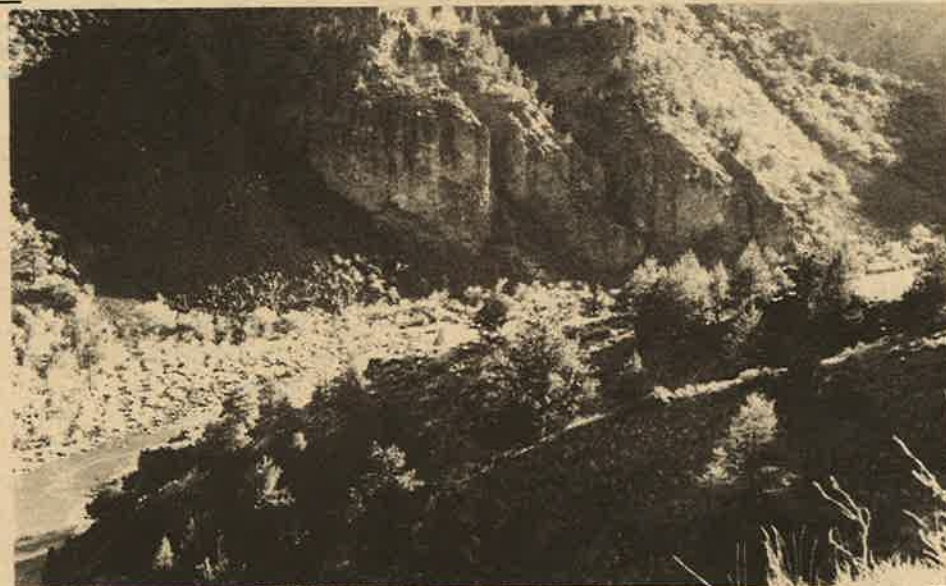
The public hearing was to have been a joint hearing with two WSAs from the Draft North Central California plan prepared by the Redding Resource Area of the Ukiah District. Neither the 18,690-acre Timbered Crater WSA nor the 11,632-acre Lava WSA is being recommended as suitable for wilderness. Timbered Crater is proposed for wilderness in the legislation currently before Congress. The plan, however, is not going to be released in time for the May 23 public hearing.

The two areas under considera-

tion in this plan are the 11,675-acre Pit River Canyon WSA and the 16,950-acre Tule Mountain WSA. The South Warner Wilderness Contiguous WSA, nine scattered parcels totaling 4,000 acres next to existing Forest Service wilderness was eliminated by Interior Secretary James Watt last December. Of the 32,625 acres of roadless land in the planning unit, BLM is recommending just 5,880 acres of the Pit River area as suitable for wilderness.

The Pit River Canyon WSA, between Nubieber and Little Valley, contains no private inholdings. The approximately 11 miles of the Pit River in the WSA support native and sport fisheries in the deep canyon. There is highly varied vegetation and topography found here, including rolling annual grassland, talus slopes, and rimrock with ponderosa and Jeffrey pine, juniper, oak, and mahogany. The riparian settings support dense streamside -Carex-, sweet clover, willow, oak, and ash.

The Tule Mountain WSA ranges in elevation from 4,900 feet to 7,098 feet. At the top of Tule Mountain are 105 acres of white



BLM's Pit River Canyon - Photo by Northeast Californians for Wilderness

fir and Jeffrey pine. BLM considers this forest in an "overstocked" condition and that wilderness designation would result in a loss of 151 acres of commercial timberland. Mineral potential is low, but BLM suggests that basalt found at the top of Tule Mountain could be used as a decorative stone called flat rock or lava moss rock. The agency also is concerned about the "decadent" browse and dense young juniper.

The former South Warner WSA is adjacent to the South Warner Wilderness managed by the Forest Service. This area was eliminated by Interior Secretary James Watt last

December in a sweeping decision to remove from study all WSAs smaller than 5,000 acres. These lands are adjacent to 69,547 acres of existing wilderness.

Comments on this plan and the WSAs are due July 14, 1983. The California Wilderness Coalition will be issuing a Wilderness Alert on this issue. Copies of the plan may be requested from:

Richard J. Drehobl
Alturas Resource Area Manager
Bureau of Land Management
Centerville Road, P.O. Box 771
Alturas, California 96101
(916) 233-4666

Red Mtn. Study Underway

The public's last chance to effectively influence whether Red Mountain in northern Mendocino County will become a wilderness area or a potential strip mine will come in the next few weeks, thanks to Secretary James Watt's Interior Department.

In a surprise move, Watt's headquarters in Washington, D.C., moved up the decision date on the Red Mountain Wilderness Study Area from 1985 to early 1983. Much of the site is covered by mining claims owned by Hanna Mining Co., a giant multi-national corporation.

"It seems they want to be sure the fate of Red Mountain is sealed while the present administration is still in power," said Herb Roth, spokesman for a group of area residents that had been supporting the wilderness designation. "Unfortunately, this action puts an end to the people's chance to speak up, and with precious little notice. Most people who learn how special Red Mountain is get excited about the possibility of its becoming the only federally protection wilderness in Mendocino County."

The Red Mountain Wilderness Study Area, just northeast of Leggett, contains 6,173 acres and is under the jurisdiction of Interior's Bureau of Land Management (BLM). A "wilderness suitability study" is now being conducted by the Ukiah District Office of BLM. The findings and recommendations of that office will be forwarded to the BLM's state director, thence to Washington, D.C., and ultimately to Congress for action. The Ukiah office will decide: all wilderness, no wilderness, or partial wilderness. It is here at the local level that public input will be most effective.

Mining is not allowed in wilderness areas unless valid claims exist prior to 1984. According to Roth, Hanna's claims have never been validated and thus wilderness designation should protect the mountain from strip mining.

Should the decision be for no wilderness, the land would return to its previous "multiple use" status, which would allow the mountain to be stripped of its low-grade nickel ore.

According to the BLM, Hanna, of Cleveland, Ohio, owns or con-

trols more than 13 square miles around Red Mountain and Little Red Mountain, about 40 percent of it in the form of mining claims on federally administered land.

A BLM mining engineer, Harry Moritz, estimated the deposit, some 50 million tons of soil averaging less than one percent nickel, is worth more than \$1 billion. He envisioned a future mining operation employing some 40 workers. They would strip and process the ore-bearing soil to bedrock at a rate of some 5,000 tons a day.

"It was the discovery of Hanna's holdings that sparked the organization of our Red Mountain Association in 1976," Roth said. "Hanna and the BLM have maintained all along that the bulldozers couldn't move in until an economically feasible method to process these laterite ores could be developed.

"Well, another company, Cal Nickel, is pushing to begin its own mine, using just such a new process on Gasquet Mountain, up in Del Norte County, right now."

Some scientists argue that the same rare soils that bear the nickel make Red Mountain all the more valuable in its natural state. Dr. Hans Jenny, professor emeritus at the University of California, says

the red soils are "an important educational resource for the study of how soils form and develop."

Botanists have identified three species of plants that exist on the Red Mountains and nowhere else on earth. The mountain also is verified habitat for one federally listed rare and endangered plant species, an endangered bird, and many threatened bird and mammal species.

"It seems to us the area's solitude, its potential for non-vehicular recreation, and its importance in maintaining the quality of water in the Eel River, for the salmon, steelhead, and human residents who use it, make Red Mountain an excellent candidate for preservation," Roth said.

"We believe that most of the local folks, even the loggers, since there's no real timber potential up there, would support and benefit from a wilderness area at Red Mountain. Wilderness areas bring tourists; mines bring pollution."

Those who wish to offer their opinions on the wilderness designation should write the District Manager, Bureau of Land Management, 555 Leslie St., Ukiah, CA 95482.

The Red Mountain Association may be contacted at P.O. Box 86, Leggett, CA 95455.

California Wilderness Bill Survives Committee Intact

By Tim Mahoney

After a grueling three and a half hour session marked by six quorum call votes, on March 16 the House Interior Committee voted 26-15 to report the California Wilderness Bill to the full House.

Thanks to the efforts of the late Rep. Phillip Burton and many other members of the California delegation, the Interior Committee defeated nine gutting amendments by Rep. Don Young (R-AK) which he offered primarily on behalf of Rep. Norman Shumway (R-CA), who testified against the bill. Representative Charles Pashayan's (R-CA) amendment to delete 8,000 acres of wilderness and 50,000 acres of Wilderness Study Areas also was defeated by voice vote.

After Rep. Young was defeated

14-26 in an attempt to substitute the Reagan administration's meager wilderness recommendations in place of the 2.3 million-acre Burton bill, he announced that he would offer 196 amendments to the bill in an attempt to tie up the committee and prevent the bill from moving. With each amendment, he demanded a quorum call.

Under committee rules, fourteen members must be present to mark up amendments to a bill, and 22 members must be present to report the bill to the floor. Since many members must attend other committee meetings simultaneously or conduct business on the floor, they place their "proxy" in the hands of a colleague. On Wednesday, many members were on the

House floor debating the nuclear freeze resolution. Young's allies boycotted the Interior meeting, forcing Democratic members to make repeated trips to the committee to establish the necessary quorum.

After his defeat on the Reagan substitute, Young offered an amendment to delete the Caples Creek Wilderness in the Sierra; this was defeated 14-26. Next, he offered an amendment to delete the Bucks Lake Wilderness, the only wilderness area proposed in the Plumas National Forest; this time the vote was 14-27.

At this point, 13 Democrats began to stay in their seats, thus maintaining the quorum. Young's amendments to 1) delete 11,000 acres of forested land from the Mt. Shasta Wilderness, 2) delete the Russian Peak Wilderness, and 3) delete most of the Mokelumne Wilderness additions, all lost on voice votes, since Young was the only Congressman present who opposed these areas.

Next, Young moved that the Granite Chief Wilderness be deleted. Because Granite Chief is a particularly popular area, Burton asked for a recorded vote. Young then voted against his own amendment so that the Republicans would not be recorded against Granite Chief. Hence, the amendment was

defeated 0-41.

At this point, Burton offered all of Young's other motions, which had been printed and distributed, in block (one amendment). By voting down this amendment, which included all other wilderness deletions in Shumway's district, Burton disposed of a dozen proposals, preventing Young from offering them again.

In face of the continuing quorum and Burton's new technique, Young offered only two more amendments -- to delete the Blue Creek and Eight Mile portions of the Siskiyou Wilderness in Rep. Douglas Bosco's (D-CA) district. Both lost by voice votes.

Throughout this entire series of maneuvers, representatives Burton, Jerry Patterson (D-CA), and Richard Lehman (D-CA) stayed in the committee. Representatives Robert Lagomarsino (R-CA) and Pashayan boycotted the meeting and had their proxies vote against the bill.

Final passage of the bill, which required a quorum of 22, was ultimately achieved when some of its Republican opponents returned to the meeting rather than delay the vote further.

Tim Mahoney is a Washington, D.C. Representative of the Sierra Club. Reprinted from the National News Report.

Interior Committee Vote

Key: Capital Y or N = pro-wilderness vote
p = vote by proxy; member not present.

- Votes: 1 = Young "substitute" to delete text of H.R. 1437 and insert Reagan administration wilderness recommendations for a net loss of 1.2 million acres of wilderness
2 = Young amendment (on behalf of Shumway) to delete Caples Creek
3 = Young amendment (on behalf of Shumway) to delete the 30,000-acre Dillon Creek drainage from the Siskiyou Wilderness.
4 = Young amendment (on behalf of Shumway) to delete Bucks Lake.
5 = Young amendment (on behalf of Shumway) to delete Granite Chief.
6 = Burton motion to report H.R. 1437 to the full House.

	1	2	3	4	5	6
Burton (D-CA)	N	N	N	N	N	Y
Coehlo (D-CA)	Np	Np	Np	Np	Np	Yp
Lagomarsino (R-CA)	yp	yp	yp	yp	Np	Yp
Lehman (D-CA)	N	N	N	N	N	Y
Pashayan (R-CA)	y	yp	yp	yp	Np	np
Patterson (D-CA)	N	N	N	N	N	Y
Final Vote	14y	14y	14y	14y	0y	26y
	26n	26n	26n	27n	41n	15n

House Passes Wilderness Bill

Cont. from Page 1

name of the area to that of a "Planning Area." This area will be studied as a potential addition to the proposed South Sierra Wilderness.

Shumway's major effort was to substitute a much smaller wilderness bill for that under consideration. His proposal, apparently the Reagan administration plan, would have reduced the wilderness in H.R. 1437 by over one million acres. This amendment lost on a vote of 136 to 257.

This was the key vote, and all California Republicans except Ed

Zschau (R-Palo Alto) voted with Shumway.

The vote for final passage was 297 to 96. Eleven Democrats and 85 Republicans voted against the bill, but 75 Republicans voted for it. California Republicans voting against the bill were Badham, Bosco, Chappie, Dannemeyer, Drier, Lewis, McCandless, Moorhead, Packard, Pashayan, Shumway, and Thomas. The only Democrat in the state to vote no was the north coast's Doug Bosco.

The voting record for California's Representatives on the three roll call votes is shown at right.

House Floor Wilderness Vote

Key: Capital Y or N = pro-wilderness vote

- Votes: 1 = Walker amendment to allow the Secretary of Agriculture to waive any part of the law which he determined would cause unemployment
2 = Shumway "substitute" to delete text of H.R. 1437 and insert Reagan administration wilderness recommendations for a net loss of 1.2 million acres
3 = Vote for final passage of H.R. 1437

	1	2	3	Dymally	N	N	Y	McCandless	y	y	n
Anderson	N	N	Y	Edwards	N	N	Y	Mineta	N	N	Y
Badham	N	y	n	Fazio	N	N	Y	Miller	N	N	Y
Bates	N	N	Y	Fielder	N	y	Y	Moorhead	y	y	n
Beilenson	N	N	Y	Hawkins	N	N	Y	Packard	y	y	n
Berman	N	N	Y	Hunter	y	y	Y	Panetta	N	N	Y
Bosco	N	N	n	Lagomarsino	N	y	Y	Pashayan	y	y	n
Boxer	N	N	Y	Lantos	N	N	Y	Patterson	N	N	Y
Brown	N	N	Y	Lehman	N	N	Y	Roybal	N	N	Y
Chappie	y	y	n	Levine	N	N	Y	Shumway	y	y	n
Coehlo	N	N	Y	Lewis	y	y	n	Stark	N	N	Y
Dannemeyer	y	y	n	Lowery	y	y	Y	Thomas	y	y	n
Dellums	N	N	Y	Lungren	y	y	n	Torres	N	N	Y
Dixon	N	N	Y	Martinez	N	N	Y	Waxman	N	N	Y
Dreier	y	y	n	Matsui	N	N	Y	Zschau	N	N	Y

Judge Waivers on G-O Road

By Tim McKay

The judge in the Gasquet-Orleans (G-O) Road trial has told the Forest Service the evidence suggests the finishing the controversial timber road through the Siskiyou high country would interfere with the religious rights of a "substantial number of Indians."

That, plus Judge Stanley Weigel's statement that the burden of

proof is on the Forest Service to show "overriding" public interest in completing the last stretch, prompted growing optimism about the case after final arguments were presented late last month.

The judge has ordered construction efforts to be halted until May 14, and a decision is due by then.

Klamath Forest Plan Delayed

The public review period for the Klamath National Forest Land Management Plan has been extended sixty days in order to ensure sufficient time for the public to review and make comment on the Forest's new Resource Management Plan. The public review period will now close on May 31, 1983.

Forest officials made the decision to extend the time period in response to the large number of requests from interested people from all over the United States to review the new documents.

Information sessions slated

for mid and late March also have been postponed and will be rescheduled later for the month of May.

The Plan calls for the development of numerous popular roadless areas: part of the Trinity Alps, Siskiyou, Red Buttes, Russian Peak, and Marble Mountain Wilderness additions. None of the more than 460,000 acres of roadless land is recommended for wilderness by the Forest Service.

The California Wilderness Coalition issued a Wilderness Alert in February. Copies are available upon request.

G-O Road Blockade Imminent

By Dennis Coules

As the snow melts in the Siskiyou high country this spring, the bulldozers will be on their way to pave the last remaining segment of the Gasquet-Orleans (G-O) Road. This will cut the unprotected Siskiyou wilderness in two, menacing the hauntingly wild Blue Creek watershed. The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) already has planned over 200 miles of logging roads and extensive clearcuts for the Blue Creek area.

Even before construction is to begin on the G-O Road, a similar road will be slashed through the Kalmiopsis wildland to the north. The USFS's Bald Mountain Road will run just north of the protected Kalmiopsis Wilderness of Oregon, cutting off thousands of acres of roadless lands that have long been proposed for wilderness designation.

Barring unexpected and unlikely judicial or legislative relief, the only chance to avert these monumental wilderness defeats rests with continuing, non-violent blockades of the construction sites which are being organized by national Earth First! and local environmentalists.

Direct action to stop the Bald Mountain Road, which will be accessible to land-mangling machinery earlier than the G-O site, will set a precedent for the G-O Road blockade. The Bald Mountain

Road blockade is scheduled to begin in mid-April.

The G-O Road is still being considered in a federal trial in which the issues of violation of First Amendment rights of Native Americans using the area for religious purposes and adequacy of the USFS environmental impact statement are being considered. However, the USFS already has awarded a \$2,074,000 construction contract to the Wisner Construction Company of Prineville, Oregon.

The blockades will be organized around "affinity groups" that will be responsible for appearing on a given date. It is probable that blockaders will be arrested; thus affinity groups will have at least two members to provide witnesses of police action.

Earth First! leaders stress that to be successful, the blockaders must remain absolutely non-violent, with no monkey-wrenching by participants or other affiliated individuals. It is hoped that adequate publicity for the efforts of the first blockaders will create the snowball publicity needed for an effective, continual action and to provoke legislation or an administrative decision to terminate construction. Thus Earth

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

The 60-mile-long road would cut the Siskiyou wilderness in half so that inland forests could be cut and sent to the mills of Crescent City and southern Oregon.

The Forest Service says this would boost the region's faltering economy -- although Del Norte County Planning Director Ernest Perry, called as a Forest Service witness, testified that he didn't know if the road would have any effect on the Del Norte economy.

Despite appeals and suits, the Forest Service has mapped, clear-cut, and paved from both ends until only the six-mile Chimney rock section at the crest of the Siskiyou remains uncompleted.

A contract has been let for \$2 million to an Oregon firm to finish the job.

The plaintiffs include the Northwest Indian Cemetery Protective Association, the Sierra Club, California Trout, and the Siskiyou

Mountains Resource Council. They called Native Americans, anthropologists, earth scientists, a forester, and an economist to the stand to make their case that the project would degrade a number of multiple use values such as fisheries and wilderness in addition to ruining Native American holy grounds.

The proposed road and associated logging has spawned efforts to have Congress protect the land as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System. It also has led to several protest demonstrations, including two in San Francisco during March, and to plans for a last-ditch blockade of the proposed construction site by Earth First! and other groups.

Tim McKay is the coordinator of the Northcoast Environmental Center in Arcata.

Book Review

The Klamath Knot

The Klamath Knot, "Explorations of Myth and Evolution," by David Rains Wallace. Sierra Club Books, San Francisco, \$14.95 hardbound.

David Rains Wallace has penned a timely saga about the Klamath Mountains, the remote region of northwestern California and southwestern Oregon with the wildest and most controversial roadless areas in the West. The book is not a hard-core preservation pitch, however, but rather a naturalist's view of an incredibly complex assemblage of unusual rocks, plants, and animals.

Wallace leads us through the

book Wallace tells of his experiences in the Klamaths and offers his own theories of how things came to be.

Wallace treats evolution as the myth of our time. I was bothered by this at first until I realized that he was not using the word to mean that evolution is not founded upon fact, but rather that evolution is becoming our "traditional" story explaining ancient times and natural events.

My only reservation in recommending The Klamath Knot is some will find the book ponderous. You do not whip through this book, in fact, you are likely to reread it



Graphic by Karin Wikström from The Klamath Knot

Siskiyou, Trinity Alps, Yolla Bollys, Red Buttes, Marble Mountain, and Russian Peak wildlands that are such a major part of the California Wilderness Bill now before Congress.

The theme of The Klamath Knot is the evolutionary history of the region, from the formation of the Klamath Mountains, through the development of plants and animals in the area, to the human element, including speculation about Sasquatch -- Bigfoot. Throughout the

as soon as you finish. There is so much information, insights, and poetry in Wallace's writing that you have no desire to race through the book.

If you have been to any of the Klamath's wild places, you will enjoy seeing through Wallace's eyes the complex biotic community you saw mostly as scenery. If you haven't been there, after reading The Klamath Knot you will be hiking there soon.

Review by Jim Eaton

It's Now or Never for the Tuolumne River

By Richard Roos-Collins

During this session, Congress will decide which stretch of the Tuolumne River should be preserved in a natural state. That decision will resolve a century-long controversy about the appropriate degree of development of this river, which runs from Mount Lyell in Yosemite National Park down to the San Joaquin River.

Senator Alan Cranston has introduced a bill, S. 142, which would designate 83 miles, including 27 miles outside Yosemite, as

a National Wild and Scenic River. The bill's supporters are in a race against time. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission is meanwhile processing applications by San Francisco and two irrigation districts for hydroelectric development which would flood or dry up that now-unprotected stretch outside Yosemite.

Early in this century, John Muir led the environmental community in one of its first campaigns -- to save Hetch Hetchy

Valley from San Francisco's plan for water storage. That battle was lost; through special permit, two dams were built in Yosemite. Later three more were added downstream. Today, the Tuolumne is put to work -- providing irrigation supply for some of the most fertile farmland in the world, and residential water supply for San Francisco and nearby towns, while also generating nearly 2 percent of California's electrical supply.

Yet the Tuolumne still has a primitive character. The canyon outside Yosemite, the stretch which is up for grabs, is accessible by only a few dirt roads. It is a haven for wildlife, such as otter and mountain lions. It is an angler's paradise. The Tuolumne has three times more trout, acre for acre, than the best-stocked lake in the state. A tributary, the Clavey River, is specially managed by the State as a Wild Trout Stream. Finally, even veteran boaters are thrilled by the whitewater, called one of the big ten drops in the country. On a patriotic note, US Navy SEAL teams, specialists in river warfare, have trained there.

Senator Pete Wilson holds the

decisive vote on the future of the river. As California's member in the majority party in the Senate,



Trailless Section of the Tuolumne River Canyon - Photo by Will Sanderson



Tuolumne River
- Photo by Will Sanderson

he must be persuaded to support the bill. If S. 142 fails, then the Federal Energy Commission will approve hydroelectric development.

Other interesting facts about the Tuolumne River:

- * The Departments of Interior and Agriculture already have determined that the Tuolumne is "outstandingly remarkable," and qualified for the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

- * The river park would be cheap. With the exception of a few scattered parcels of private land, the canyon already is Federal property. No land would be bought. According to the Interior and Agriculture Departments, annual maintenance of the park would cost less than \$100,000.

- * S. 142 strikes a fair balance between development and preservation of wilderness.

- * New development is opposed by many Tuolumne County businessmen, including the local Chamber of Commerce, the Highway 120 Association, and the local chapter of the Western Mining Council. S. 142 is supported by diverse interests, including the San Francisco Planning and Urban Research (an association of businessmen), the City of San Jose, native plant groups, boaters, and anglers.

For more information, write or call:

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Bldg. C, Fort Mason Center
San Francisco, CA 94123
(415) 441-8778

Richard Roos-Collins is part of Friends of the River's San Francisco staff.

Wild Rivers Decision Appealed

By Marc Francis

The battle to save four wild North Coast rivers continued with the March 3, 1983 filing of an appeal of a recent court decision removing the rivers from the National Wild and Scenic Rivers system.

U.S. District Court Judge Harold Ingram recently ruled in favor of timber and water development interests in their suit to nullify the action of then-Interior Secretary Cecil Andrus in designating portions of the Eel, Klamath, Smith, and Trinity Rivers as Wild and Scenic.

Andrus acted in the last moments of the Carter administration to protect the rivers, virtually the last free-flowing rivers in California.

Timber and water interests want to log the areas, build hydro-electric dams, and divert the water from the rivers to central and southern California. They sued to invalidate Andrus' decision on the grounds that impact studies on the Wild and Scenic designation were inadequate.

In spite of Judge Ingram's decision the rivers still have a small measure of protection. They remain part of California's Wild and Scenic system, but must be redesignated by the new legislature, a very iffy proposition given the recent changes in that body's composition and the recent shift by Assembly Speaker Willie L. Brown Jr. (D-SF) toward a pro-water-development position.

The appeal of Ingram's ruling was filed by the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF). EDF is in a rather awkward position in the suit, according to Patty Wells, an attorney working on the case. Wells explained that until recently, EDF, the Department of the Interior, and the State of California had been on the same side in defending Wild and Scenic status, but that now it appears EDF will have to go it alone. Governor George Deukmejian is not expected to join in the appeal of Judge Ingram's ruling, and no one can predict what Secretary of the In-

terior James Watt will do. Watt previously stood in support of Andrus' action as a means of preventing a precedent-setting nullification of such an action by the Secretary. There is no indication that Governor Deukmejian has already decided against participating in the appeal, and that seems to fit with his fast-growing reputation as an enemy of the environment.

EDF lawyer Wells said the immediate legal key to the situation is a motion to stay judgement, which should already be filed by the time this article appears in print. Judge Ingram has made his decision known, but has not signed the order. The motion to stay asks that he refrain from doing so while the EDF appeal is pursued. The motion could have the effect of providing an additional 18 months protection for the rivers while conservationists regroup.

Marc Francis is an Executive Committee member of the San Francisco Bay Chapter, Sierra Club.

The Pika

Denizen of California's Alpine Wilderness Areas

By Mike McWherter

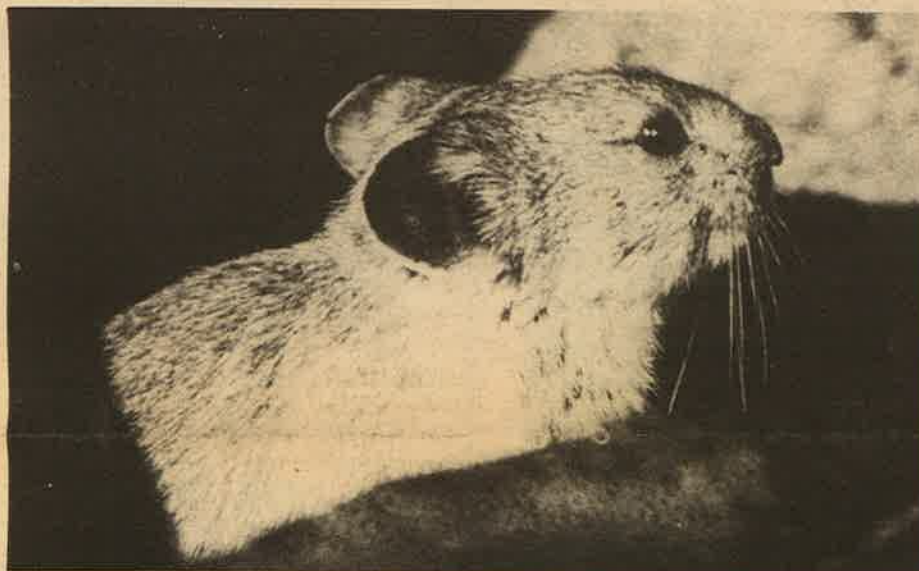
It was an autumn morning in the John Muir Wilderness of the High Sierra. Lodgepole pines rimmed a meadow of backlit golden grass. In the crisp air a breeze rippled across a small lake. From a nearby talus slope came a sharp high-pitched whistle sound, "chek-ah." I looked in the direction of the mountain slide where the noise had come and saw nothing. Then another "chek-ah." This time a little furry head popped up from the rock pile and into the sunshine. It was a pika. He had become curious about the intruder in his world and was sounding an alarm.

The pika is an alpine dweller preferring to make his home in piles of granite talus and mountain slides. Much of his habitat in California is in the alpine wilderness areas of Yosemite, Sequoia, and Kings Canyon national parks. But pikas are found world-wide, and there are sixteen known species. Their range covers the western North American regions from southwestern Alberta and southern British Columbia to northern New Mexico and the Sierra Nevada. The pika also is found in the European Alps and Himalayas. In the Himalayan area of Ladak it has been seen at 16,000 feet.

The little pika I saw that time is of the species princeps. He and other pikas of the world are in the family Ochotona. Ochotona princeps is found throughout all the high regions of the Sierra. Princeps resembles a guinea pig, appearing round and plump, with a body length of 6 to 8 1/2 inches, and weighing 4 to 6 1/2 ounces. The pika is of the same order as rabbits, Lagomorpha, and is a close relative of the cottontail. Possibly because of this resemblance the pika is called the cony, which is a misnomer,

because the cony is a European rabbit. Another North American pika variety is the collared pika (Ochotona collaris). It ranges from southern Alaska through the southern part of the Yukon Territory and into the northwestern corner of British Columbia and into the Makenzie Territory. His name derives from a greyish patch on the nape and shoulders.

The North American pikas, like their neighbors, the bighorn sheep and marmots, trace their origin to the Pleistocene epoch or Ice Age. It was a time of alternate stages



Pika of the Sierra Nevada

- Photo by Mike McWherter

of hot, dry climates, and of cold, wet climates. During the cold periods large parts of the northern half of the North American continent were submerged under vast sheets of snow and ice. Water locked up in the glaciers exposed a land bridge across the Bering Straits, allowing the pika to cross from the Asian continent.

I moved a little closer to the pika hiding in the mountain slide and sat down to watch him. The pika sensed that I was no immediate threat and scampered to the

top of a rock where he stopped to get a better view of me. Apparently he decided it was safe to continue his busymment.

He raced down to the fringe of a nearby meadow. Quickly he gathered some grass ends in his mouth. With the same haste he returned to his hiding place in the rocks and momentarily disappeared. Soon he popped his head up, whistled another "Chek-ah," and was off for another mouthful of meadow grass. A few more trips must have convinced him that enough work had been done for the morning, as he

remained in his talus hiding place and did not pop up again. I walked over to where he had vanished and peered into his hiding place. I did not find the little pika but discovered where he was taking the meadow grass. Within the shelter of the rock pile, he had stacked the grass on top of other vegetation, the whole site a little pile of drying hay. The pika had been gathering meadow grass to add to his store of food which was to last him through the long winter months ahead.

Pikas do not hibernate but remain active throughout the winter. They nibble on their haystacks when the world above is covered in deep snow.

During forays to the edge of meadows, pikas must be alert for their mortal enemies the weasel and marten. The weasel's slender body enables it to seek the pika in rock crevices. Fortunately for the pika, winter snows drive the marten down into the forested regions. But the weasel remains behind. His coat turns white, making is difficult to see. Unless the winter is dry, a mantle of snow will cover the pika's home. He will be protected from the weasel and also insulated from fierce wind-storms above. While the pika is safe in his rock home, consuming his winter store, his neighbor the marmot will be in hibernation using up a reserve of fat put on during the summer and autumn months. His larger neighbor, the bighorn, will have followed the snowline to lower elevations where green food can be found.

Next time while in California's alpine wilderness areas, scan the talus slopes and mountain slides. Listen for the sound of the pika. If you hear him, take a moment to watch. There is a good chance that he will pop out of his rock home and, sensing no harm, will continue with his busymment. If it is fall watch him gather his winter store. You may even discover his hay pile. For during the brief spell of summer and autumn in alpine wilderness the pika must make hay while the sun shines.

Mike McWherter is a professional photographer and author who lives in Oxnard.

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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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