

THE WILD CASCADES



February - March 1971

EDITORIAL

Federal forest managers are moving ahead to implement President Nixon's June 19 order to sharply increase cutting in softwood forests. While ostensibly the order is designed to provide enough timber to meet a future housing shortage, it is actually designed to keep lumber prices stable so that lumber will not be displaced by competitive substitutes.

Faced with an order to plan for an increase in cutting of seven billion board feet annually by 1978, the Forest Service is now prepared to ask Congress for a supplemental appropriation to finance stepped-up work. The Service says cutting increases will come mainly from thinning and salvage operations and from added planting. Initially, no shortening in growing cycles is planned, nor quickened liquidation of old growth, nor any increase in the acreage allocated to timbering. Nevertheless, the Forest Service will certainly be under mounting pressure to take these added steps, particularly if the preliminary steps fail to yield the ordered increases. For its part, the Bureau of Land Management is looking at the possibility of commercial timbering on thirty million acres of marginal forest land that previously have not been regarded as capable of sustaining commercial production.

It is not clear when these agencies may put these plans into effect. The Forest Service has yet to determine how compatible increased logging is with heightened emphasis on environmental quality. While President Nixon directed that these plans be prepared in consultation with the Council on Environmental Quality, its study funds have been cut. The Council is now trying to find some other agency to study the question of environmental impact. An independent panel to study the problem, which the President promised he would appoint, has yet to be appointed, though a deadline of April 30, 1971 has already been set for a report from this panel. Meanwhile, the Forest Service has appointed an advisory panel of its own which is mainly comprised of persons associated with the lumber industry.

Representative John Saylor, who calls this a "disastrous" order, rightly accuses the lumber industry of attempting to accomplish "by executive fiat, what could not be done legislatively," referring to the ill-conceived Timber Supply Bill which the House of Representatives turned down on February 26. With the report of the Public Land Law Review Commission now also embracing most of the features of that infamous bill, conservationists face a renewed confrontation with the timber industry. They are writing to President Nixon to express their outrage at his blatant disregard for the public will. The House vote made it clear that the public does not want federal forests to be turned primarily into timber factories.

The President seems to be accepting the premise that ecology should take second place behind economics. Until he reverses his softwood order, the credibility of the President's commitment to environmental priorities will remain in doubt.

Sierra Club Bulletin

October 1970

Michael McCloskey
Executive Director
Sierra Club

COVER PHOTO: Cascades foothills in winter. Photo by Harvey Manning

Area logged c. 1910. No Douglas fir regeneration in 60 years. Typical of vast areas of unstocked lowlands, prime region for producing wood fiber, but neglected while forest industry concentrates on "mining" old-growth timber at higher, less productive elevations in the Cascades.

THE NEW YORK TIMES, SUNDAY, JUNE 7, 1970

FOREST SERVICE SCORED IN REPORT

Exploitative Interests Said
to Get Too Much Favor

By GLADWIN HILL

Special to The New York Times

LOS ANGELES, June 5—A United States Forest Service investigative team has formally lodged some sweeping complaints about the service's own policies and practices in its relation with the timber industry and other commercial interests.

Even more surprisingly, the allegations have been published, without comment, by the service itself in an apparent effort to ease alleged "pressures" from the Administration, Congress and "outside groups" that are partly blamed for the protested conditions.

The complaints include assertions that the service's operations lean too heavily in favor of exploitative interests, including mining and grazing, as opposed to conservation and recreation.

Vast Field of Control

It is also alleged that service planning and directives necessary for balanced commercial and recreational "multiple use" of the national forests are inadequate and that the service has not been vigorous enough in pushing for the money and manpower it needs to carry out its dual role of conservator and producer.

The 65-year-old Forest Service, a branch of the Department of Agriculture, manages 154 national forests and related preserves covering 187 million acres. It has 20,000 employees and takes in at least 200-million a year, mostly from timber. On the recreational

side, it chalks upward of 160 million "visitor-days" a year.

Its unusual self-criticism has been made public at a juncture when the timber industry, rebuffed twice in efforts to get a national timber management bill through Congress, reportedly is preparing a third attempt.

The measure, which conservationists have termed a "raid" on Federal tree preserves, would change existing ground rules to allow heavier cutting.

The critical report was written by a service study group that was assigned a year ago to study complaints of mismanagement of the Bitterroot National Forest, a 1,575,000-acre preserve straddling the Montana-Idaho border.

A civic organization in the Missoula, Mont., area, the Ravalli County Resource Conservation and Development Committee, complained that portions of the forest had been ravaged and scarred by excessive and ill-planned timber cutting. An opposing local organization representing timber interests complained that timber production was not getting enough attention.

'Impartial Evaluation'

The regional forester Neal M. Rahm named six Forest Service officers to make "an impartial evaluation."

Their 100-page report said that there were things wrong with the management of Bitterroot, but that in general these transcended the local situation and were faults of the Forest Service itself and of the entities to which it is answerable.

One prime exhibit in the report was a comparison, over the last eight years, of budgetary aspirations and the inevitably lesser expenditures over the whole Forest Service system.

It shows that while projected outlays for timber-sale administration and management were trimmed only 5 per cent, for

minerals only 16 per cent, and for grazing only 20 per cent, financing for roads and trails was cut 26 per cent, for recreation 55 per cent, and for land acquisition 73 per cent.

While the permitted timber cut in the Bitterroot Forest seemed reasonable, the panel reported, "the task force agrees that scenic quality has been substantially impaired in many places and that there are instances of serious local damage." The report continued:

"There is an implicit attitude among many people on the staff of the Bitterroot National Forest that resource production goals come first and that land management considerations take second place. A change of emphasis is necessary.

"It seems clear that until sound land management receives top priority in fact as well as in principle from leaders of the nation on down, the handling of public lands will always leave something to be desired."

The report said that insufficient staff meant that "some important and long-term land management decisions have had to be made by some of the least experienced personnel," and added:

"The Forest Service has been remiss in not determining how much it would cost to do a balanced job of resource management and aggressively seeking the necessary finances for the total job."

THE FOREST SERVICE IN THE SEVENTIES

There has been a great deal of comment and concern, both within and outside the Forest Service, as to the direction the Service will be taking in the coming decade on the management of natural resources. Chief Cliff recently expressed his thoughts on the subject in a message to all Forest Service personnel. We believe this message may also be of interest to those outside the Service who are concerned with Forest Service programs and policies.

A Message to Forest Service Employees from Chief Cliff:

"Many employees have recently expressed concern on the direction in which the Forest Service seems to be heading. I share this concern. Our programs are out of balance to meet public needs for the environmental 1970's and we are receiving mounting criticism from all sides. Our direction must be and is being changed.

"We recently issued our broad overall objectives in 'Framework for the Future.' Each of you has received a copy and the policies contained therein are being incorporated in our directives system. In addition, we have developed a preliminary program for the 1970's which starts to put our program back in balance and more adequately recognizes environmental needs. Copies of this program have been sent to the field and are now being reviewed.

"The Forest Service is seeking a balanced program with full concern for quality of the environment. We took seriously the President's endorsement of the findings of the Task Force on Softwood Lumber and Plywood. The Secretary of Agriculture was directed to take steps to intensify management of the National Forests to increase timber production and also to enhance the quality of the environment. The directive also covered private forest lands and forest research.

"We are under great pressures as a result of the Environmental Policy Act and the existence of the Environmental Quality Council, too. The President directed that Federal Agencies move promptly to carry out full pollution abatement on all Federal projects. We are finding that the demands placed upon us by the Environmental Policy Act are time consuming and expensive. In addition, the President, in his wilderness report to Congress, asked Interior and Agriculture to make an increased effort to speed up the establishment of wilderness areas.

"The Forest Service cannot do the things that the President has directed us to do without more money and people. Our program is out of balance now. Over the past 2 or 3 years, we have increased the amount of money that we have for timber sale administration activities, but not by sufficient amounts to do the top quality job needed. We are not adequately financed in the other areas that need it. It is becoming a serious problem.

"The American public is demanding top quality in management of natural resources and attention to the way things look. We are already involved in a number of lawsuits reflecting public awareness of our activities. The public is increasingly unhappy with us. This will continue until we get balance and quality into our program, as well as public involvement in our decisions. Until we do this, the course of public entering into our fairly routine decisions through protests, appeals and court cases will have the effect of reducing our ability to put timber on the market to help meet housing goals.

"If the Forest Service receives no increases in funding, reprogramming will be necessary, meaning a reduction in our timber sale activities, in order to have a better balance in our programs. We will undertake a major reprogramming of dollars, putting priority on maintaining quality for the commodity work we do. The public will not tolerate poor quality work. We will go as far as we can in meeting quantity goals but what we do must be on a quality basis.

"The reprogramming would be for the National Forest System. We do not want to reduce any of our State and Private Forestry activities. We are already far behind in these programs. Nor would I reduce our research programs.

"In order to have a better balanced quality program, timber sale, roading for sales, and structural improvement items would need to be reduced. Items such as wildlife, watershed, recreation and pollution control programs would be increased.

"Our research program now reflects vigorous reprogramming in the last two years to cull out low priority activities. Our current research work concentrates on environmental activities and on measures to permit increased production of timber without degrading the environment.

"If the Forest Service receives an overall increase in funding less than we have recommended, we will allocate it in proportions that will give us a relatively balanced program. It would mitigate some of the adverse environmental problems that we are encountering.

"The Forest Service wants to be fully responsive to these various demands placed upon us. But we can no longer afford to emphasize programs that produce revenues at the expense of others. If we do, we will not be providing the proper service to the public and we will be faced with many more court cases. In my opinion, the best path is one that will provide a balanced high-quality program.

"I have every intention of carrying through to fulfillment the position of a balanced program and every hope that we can achieve it. But in a tight budget situation there may not be more money or personnel ceilings available. In that event we will need to reprogram among present activities insofar as the Administration and Congress will allow.

"Your understanding and support is also needed and would be sincerely appreciated during this critical period. If we pursue this course of action it will mean that we must continue to work as hard as possible to meet our goals for production with better balance and higher quality. Each of us has the obligation to assure our own conscience that we are working effectively and that the unit in which we serve is efficient and effective in its operation."

Forest Service
U. S. Department of Agriculture

October 1970
Washington, D. C.



Rampart Ridge

Photo by Harvey Manning

Scenic Cross-State Highway will have 'no place to stop'

As a result of federal stinginess with Forest Service recreation money, tourists may not be able to use the North Cross-State Highway for much besides enjoying a 60-mile-an-hour view when the highway opens in 1972 or 1973.

"All they'll be able to do is drive straight through," said Harold Chriswell, supervisor of the Mount Baker National Forest, at the highway's west end. "There won't be any place to stop."

SAID AN official of the Okanogan National Forest, at the highway's east end: "This is going to become the bedroom for the North Cross-State Highway. We are going to have a lot of people looking for sunshine. We're just not prepared."

By 1972, the Okanogan Forest expects to have camping space for 63 vehicles in campgrounds near the highway.

But no money has been budgeted even to plan an additional 70-vehicle Pollalie campground.

Nor is there money yet to expand parking and camping space at Rainy Pass and Granite Creek trailheads, two major take-off points for hiking or horseback riding into backcountry.

A joint state-federal information center at Early Winters, the east entrance to the

highway, won't be built for the highway's opening and probably not for several years thereafter. The Forest Service hasn't been able to come up with its share of the money.

Another worry of the Okanogan National Forest is Harts Pass Road, which branches from the highway near Early Winters. The scenic road is twisting, one-lane and hazardous in spots, Forest Service officials say. They have been unable to get money to improve it.

Within the North Cascades National Park, money is not as short. But Roger Contor, park superintendent, said: "We will have some but not all the necessary facilities along the highway in 1972."

When the highway opens, Contor said he expects to have 125 camping sites available along it, at Goodell Creek and Colonial Creek. With good luck, he might get 100 more.

But Contor pointed out that the park has special problems in providing camping space.

"We don't have enough flat ground to build campgrounds along the highway even if we had the money," Contor said.

"And there's no hope of providing parking space for everyone who would like to park. It would ruin the park."

THE PARK superintendent summed up: "If we had all the money we wanted, we could possibly meet 5 per cent of the ultimate demand for camping and parking spaces here. If we don't have the money, we'll meet maybe 2 per cent."

The Forest Service has not shortchanged the North Cross State Highway in distributing the limited recreation funds it has gotten from Washington.

A new study estimated that about \$2.5 million will be needed in a 10-year period to build facilities along the highway, Chriswell said. He expects most available money for his area to go to facilities along the highway in coming years. **And he expects other areas of the North Cascades to be starved for recreation money as a result.**

The Seattle Times

Wednesday, October 14, 1970

Forest recreation stunted by fund shortage

Wednesday, October 14, 1970 *The Seattle Times*

By **SUSAN SCHWARTZ**

Official Forest Service policy ranks recreation with other uses of Washington's national forests. But in dollars, Congress and the President treat it as a poor stepchild.

Recreational use of Washington's national forests has increased 10 to 15 per cent a year for the past five years. In the same five years, the Forest Service has reduced its yearly spending on new recreational facilities other than roads or trails.

LAST YEAR, a federal freeze on construction spending for all practical purposes eliminated building of recreational roads and trails in Washington's national forests. The freeze did not affect roads built in connection with timber sales.

This fiscal year, money for national forest roads in Washington and Oregon was boosted from \$23 million to \$40 million. All of the increase is for roads to reach commercial timber. Money to build recreational roads and trails in Washington and Oregon has been frozen at about the amount budgeted each year since 1966: \$2.8 million.

The Forest Service, like other government agencies, has been hit by inflation, rising salaries and maintenance problems from heavier use.

Its total building, operation and maintenance budget for recreational facilities other than roads and trails has increased. From fiscal

1967 to fiscal 1971, the jump was from \$3.3 million to \$4.7 million in Washington and Oregon.

But this total is less than the annual increase in recreational use of the national forests plus the nation's inflation rate. In other words, Pacific Northwest forests are getting less support for recreational activities than they did five years ago.

Philip L. Heaton, assistant regional forester in charge of recreation for Oregon's and Washington's national forests, blamed this partly on what he called the present administration's "Eastern Policy."

"There has been a trend of money going to the East as against the West," Heaton said. "They (the East) are thought to need more recreation funds because of their greater population."

Budget totals also don't show all of the Forest Service's recreation predicament, Heaton said.

FOR INSTANCE, Washington and Oregon have a little less than \$1 million a year for new construction in recreational facilities, such as campgrounds and picnic areas. That would build quite a few camping spaces, costs—even at more than \$2,000 a camping space.

But for more than two years, 80 per cent or more of this construction money has had to go toward keeping Forest Service water systems safe and sewer systems from polluting lakes and streams.

Even at that, the Forest Service isn't keeping up with its pollution problems or with stiffer state and federal standards, Heaton said.

This year it was estimated that \$18 million would be needed to bring existing Forest Service sewer and water systems up to standard in Washington and Oregon, Heaton said.

At present funding rates, this means that just making existing sewer and water systems safe and sanitary would take more than 20 years.

For three years, Congress gave the Forest Service special money to build what it called "water-related facilities." In Washington, the money went toward badly needed campgrounds on artificial lakes where the federal government built dams but didn't build what visitors needed to be able to enjoy the resulting lakes.

This year these special funds were cut off, leaving one Washington campground built, on Lake Cle Elum. Two more were planned but not built.

The details of funding for recreational roads and trails in the national forests are different. But the result is the same: The money is not there.

For about five years before fiscal 1970, Forest Service money for all roads and trails in Washington and Oregon stayed about the same.

Then in fiscal 1970, the Bureau of the Budget ordered a 75 per cent cut in construction spending. The "freeze" did not apply, though, to roads built in connection with timber sales.

In Washington, a planned spending of about \$500,000 for recreational roads and trails was cut to \$169,000. Of this, \$91,000 was to be spent on one trail: the one that was to allow special motorized "gyro - carriers" to reach the LaBohn Gap copper mine, northwest of Snoqualmie Pass. (A lawsuit by conservationists opposed to the mine has halted work on the trail, at least temporarily.)

LAST SPRING, Congress voted down the National Timber Supply Act, which would have set up a special fund to increase timber yield in the national forests, partly by building more timber roads.

Although the act was defeated, some of its purpose

was accomplished when the Forest Service's budget for road building was boosted. Then, by executive order, the boost was reserved for timber roads. None was to go toward recreational roads or trails.

One argument for the boost in road funds was a national timber "shortage," shown partly by a spurt of more than 15 per cent in timber prices. In reply, opponents pointed out that timber prices have long been stable or depressed. The spurt left the long-term rise in timber prices less than the general rise in the nation's prices.

Many Forest Service officials joined timber companies in pointing out that national-forest timber is being "wasted" because lack of roads does not allow harvest of mature timber or trees damaged by storms or pests.

OPPONENTS DON'T want many old-growth stands of timber cut and don't want roads built in areas they

hope might eventually be preserved as wilderness.

Fickle funding has caused some awkward situations for the Forest Service. Some years ago "we had plenty of road money but no recreation money," said Harold Chriswell, supervisor of the Mount Baker National Forest.

As a result good roads were built into Baker Lake, a popular recreation area used by thousands of persons each year. But once the people get there, they find only what Chriswell called "a couple of little campgrounds."

"They just kind of mill around or camp where it isn't safe or sanitary," he said.

By contrast, in the Wentachee National Forest, there is a large and popular campground at Lake Kachess. But there has been no money to improve the narrow, twisting five-mile road to the campground, where foresters think blinding dust has caused several accidents.



NEEDED - \$55,000

A. \$50,000 to argue before the Federal Power Commission that Seattle City Light should not raise ROSS DAM.

B. \$3,000 for the lawsuit to prevent I-90 from being constructed through DENNY CR. - FRANKLIN FALLS area.

C. \$2,000 for the lawsuit to stop LA BOHN GAP mining access trail in proposed ALPINE LAKES WILDERNESS.

Please help with these legal expenses. Make contributions (show A, B, C, or no choice) with check to NORTH CASCADES CONSERVATION COUNCIL (non tax-deductible) or to NORTH CASCADES FOUNDATION (tax-deductibility pending).

September 30, 1970

President Richard M. Nixon
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

It has recently been brought to our attention that certain segments of the timber industry in the Northwest have reported to you that there will be an adverse impact if recently announced Forest Service plans for management in the North Cascades area in this State are implemented. Specifically, we understand that the industry has expressed its "shock" at the Forest Service plans on the grounds that there was no consultation with them, and further on the grounds that it will have, in their opinion, a large impact on jobs and income in the North Cascades area.

The Sierra Club, in conjunction with nearly every other conservation organization in the Northwest and the nation, has worked for nearly twenty years to secure full protection of the magnificent scenery and wilderness in the North Cascades -- easily one of the most superlative park-quality areas anywhere in this nation. A prime source of controversy during this entire period has been over what we have considered to be excessive timber cutting in some of the most scenic virgin forest valleys radiating from the central crest of the Cascade Mountains. Over our bitter protests for many years, The United States Forest Service continued the pattern of excessive logging in these highly scenic and highly controversial areas, which resulted in pressure to create a North Cascades National Park and several wildernesses in the region.

The new National Park was created in 1968 (two wildernesses, the Glacier Peak and the Pasayten, had already been in existence). However, neither the Park nor the wilderness areas included very much of these highly scenic virgin forest valleys, so essential to full protection of all the varied aspects of North Cascades scenery. Omitted from protection were such beautiful places as the lower portions of the valleys of the Cascade, Suiattle, White Chuck, and Sauk Rivers, as well as some of their highly scenic tributaries. The Congressional act establishing the Park directed the Forest Service and the Park Service to conduct joint studies for future management of the area. Thus the Forest Service action of June 19, announcing their proposed plan, was in response to a direct mandate of Congress to do just this. More importantly, the Forest Service plan was a genuine attempt to respond to the tremendously rising pressures for wilderness and scenic beauty and recreation opportunities that are occurring all over the country, and particularly in the heavily populated Puget Sound Region just to the west of this area.

We on our part felt that the Forest Service plan was still too weak; it did not firmly protect enough of the high quality land that has been proposed by conservationists for protection for nearly twenty years. But it was a substantial step in the right direction, and we welcomed it, while urging strengthening.

We are submitting this background so that it will be perfectly plain what the situation is and what our position is: what the Forest Service proposed last June is the bare minimum of what must be done if there is to be real protection of the North Cascades area, and if there is to be finally some response on the part of the Forest Service to demands other than those of the timber industry. I do not intend to mention in detail the rising controversy all over the nation that is calling into question the policies and practices of the Forest Service; I am sure you are well aware of this already. The North Cascades proposal represents a welcome retreat from the previous pattern of Forest Service operations, which emphasized timber-orientation.

Further, for your information, we believe that the figures given by the timber industry on alleged adverse economic impact of this plan are grossly exaggerated to serve their own interests. I am enclosing a copy of a study by Professor Thomas Waggener of the University of Washington. He estimates that the allowable cut, as the Forest Service proposes it, is twelve million board feet, not forty to sixty million, as estimated by the industry. He points out that a reduction in the cut by this amount represents approximately ten percent of the Mount Baker Forest cut, but only 1.4 percent of the total timber cut in the affected counties.

Professor Waggener points out that the total loss of jobs in the timber industry, state-wide, is ninety at the most -- not six hundred, as the industry has alleged. He points out that the loss in income is at most \$675,000 -- not 4.8 million dollars, as the industry has alleged. He estimates the loss to counties of road and school receipts at \$117,000 -- not \$480,000, as the industry alleges.

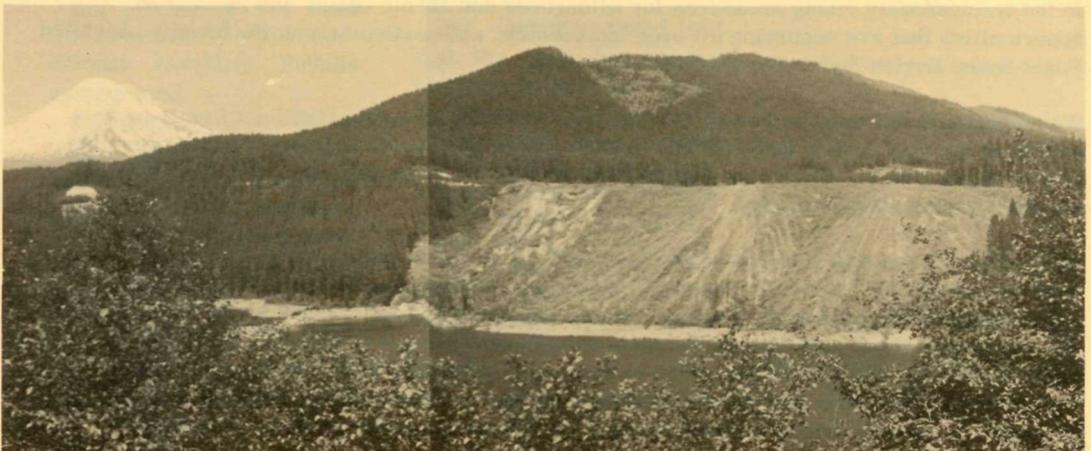
In sum, Professor Waggener demonstrates conclusively that the industry estimates of "loss" to the local economy are grossly exaggerated, and they do not take into account either trends within the industry itself -- which are towards more automation and gradual decline -- nor the benefits and gains to arise from managing the area for its true recreation potential, as the Forest Service plans attempt to do. If this is done, there should be an offsetting of any "loss" and indeed, there should be a gain to the local area.

I trust all this information can be brought to your attention before any final decisions are made on the part of your administration concerning the Forest Service plan. The North Cascades is indeed a magnificently beautiful resource: logging has destroyed much of it, but there is still a chance to manage some small portions for other values. We would like at this time to extend a cordial invitation to you to visit this area at any time of your choosing, and we would be happy to show you what management for values other than logging can really mean.

Very truly yours,

Brock Evans, Northwest Representative

BE:sea



Scenic resource management in the Mt. St. Helens area: North arm of the Swift Reservoir in June, 1970, from Swift Reservoir Overlook. Who owns this land? Photo by Dr. W. R. Halliday

3 TO 2 AGAINST HIGH ROSS DAM

The Washington State Ecological Commission held hearings in Seattle's Eames Theater on April 16 and in Mt. Vernon's Moose Hall on April 17. Testimony was accepted relevant to the proposal of the City of Seattle to raise the height of ROSS DAM. The Commission heard 109 registered witnesses; 40 for HIGH ROSS DAM and 65 against the raising. Statements were presented for 12 hours, of which 6-1/4 hours was used by the proponents of HIGH ROSS DAM and 5-1/2 hours by the opponents. The witnesses were heard by the Director of the Washington State Department of Ecology, John Biggs (formerly our opponent over the creation of a North Cascades National Park, when he was Director of the State Game Department, but now our supporter in opposing HIGH ROSS DAM) and the seven Commission members: Chairman Arpad Masley - Surgeon; Harold W. Heacock - nuclear engineer for Douglas United Nuclear at Hanford; Sam Kinville - Washington State Labor Council; John McGregor - feed lot owner; Professor Gordon H. Orians - University of Washington, Department of Zoology; Mrs. Ann Widditsch - a conservationist representing the public; and Charles S. Sargent - a Boeing Company engineer, representing industry.

At noon of the first day we asked "Electric" John Nelson, Superintendent of Lighting for Seattle City Light, for his comments on the hearings. He said "Up until today we have not heard from the public. These hearings will correct that." After the hearings were over he was quoted by the Vancouver Province as saying "Yesterday was not a good hearing. It was just a soapbox on which people stood to make speeches."

Seattle City Light defended its proposal with 7 attorneys and consultants: Arthur Lane, Seattle Assistant Corporation Council; Richard White, special counsel for City Light; Dr. Herschel F. Jones, economic consultant; Dr. Grant Sharpe, professor of outdoor recreation at University of Washington; Fred Slaney, engineer and principal consultant in B. C., Wayne Bishop, City Light engineer; Cassel L. Bradeen, Director of Power Management for City Light.

"Electric" John's hitherto unheard of "public" which spoke out in support of his favorite HIGH ROSS DAM project was made up of ---11 representatives from industry; Executive Consultant to the President of Ideal Cement Co., speaking for Industrial Energy Users Committee; Seattle Area Industrial Council; Executive Director Washington P. U. D. Association; Association of Washington Business; General Manager Northwest Public Power Association; President Electrical League of Pacific Northwest; National Electrical Contractors Association; Vice President Utility Management Puget Sound Power and Light; Skagit Valley Building Trades Council; Bendix Corporation; Ross Lake Resort ---3 representatives from agriculture: Washington State Grange; Board of Supervisors Skagit Soil and Water Conservation District; Skagit County Agricultural Coordinating Council ---3 representatives from labor: Joint Council of Teamsters; Electrical Womens Round Table; International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers ---7 public officials and agency representatives: two former Seattle Mayors, Braman and Clinton; Bonneville Power Administration; Area Coordinator for Industrial Development Division Washington State Department Commerce and Economic Development; Utilities Committee Chairman, Cooley, of Seattle City Council; Mayor Sedro Woolley; President Port of Skagit County ---2 Chambers of Commerce: for Seattle and Mt. Vernon and ---7 individuals.

The North Cascades Conservation Council led the opposition to the construction of HIGH ROSS DAM with a panel of 10 experts: Thomas H. L. Brucker and Richard Aramburu, attorneys for N. C. C. C.; Mrs. Margaret Miller, a biology teacher and Joseph W. Miller, both ecological field consultants to the National Park Service and experts on Big Beaver Valley; Dr. Jerry Franklin, U. S. Forest Service Principal Ecologist for Research Natural Areas; Dr. Dale W. Cole, Associate Professor of forest soils and environmental ecology; Brock Evans, Northwest

Conservation Representative for Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs; Harvey H. Manning, author and editor of numerous books on the North Cascades and an experienced recreation expert; John Knowles, Canadian civil engineer with N. C. C. C. engineering consultants T. Ingledow and Associates; Dr. Mary Eysenbach, Professor of Economics, University of Washington.

The conservationists' "public" which supported the N. C. C. C. opposition to HIGH ROSS DAM consisted of ---5 representatives from national and international organizations: National Audubon Society; Sierra Club; Wilderness Society; National Parks and Conservation Association; Friends of the Earth ---11 representatives from Canadian organizations: Trustee of National and Provincial Parks Association of Canada (also President of environmental consultant company); Chilliwack Action Group; British Columbia Wildlife Federation; Run Out Skagit Spoilers; Totem Fly Fishing Club; two rod and gun clubs; Society for Pollution and Environmental Control; Federation of B. C. Naturalists; Alpine Club of Canada; Environmental Systems Community Association; Sierra Club of British Columbia ---4 representatives from Canadian agencies and officials; David Brousson, Member Legislative Assembly; William L. Hartley, member B. C. legislature; Fish and Wildlife Branch B. C. Game Department; Zoology professor University of B. C. ---3 representatives of U. S. public agencies and officials: Seattle City Councilman Tim Hill; Mayor Wes Uhlman; Washington State Game Department ---11 representatives from local organizations: Seattle Audubon Society; Northwest Regional Council of Flyfishing Clubs; President The Mountaineers; Seattle Chapter Northwest Steelheaders; Olympic Park Associates; Executive Secretary Washington Environmental Council; Skagit Environmental Council; President North Cascades Conservation Council; Cascadians; North Cascades Audubon Society; Skagit Alpine Club ---8 students and 2 teachers from: Kellogg Jr. High, Sedro Woolley H. S., North Seattle Community College, Huxley College student body, University of B. C. student body and Washington Youth for the Environment (coalition of 31 high schools) ---1 industry spokesman and 10 individuals.

Four neutral witnesses appeared from Washington State Department of Fisheries, Mt. Vernon Junior Chamber of Commerce, and two from the National Park Service. One of the latter, Bennet T. Gale, quoted a statement by former Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall, "The basic reasons supporting a national recreation area are to permit future raising of Ross Lake. . ." (Ed. Perhaps a few letters to Interior Secretary Rogers Morton might straighten out this twisted reason!)

The price of good stewardship

Invited or not, official or unofficial, the B.C. government has made its representation to the Washington State Ecology Commission hearings on flooding the Skagit Valley.

Conservation Minister Ken Kiernan's pretence of ignorance doesn't hold water any more than Dr. James Hatter's remark that there was nothing to be said.

Mr. Kiernan's suggestion that B.C. held off "to reserve our position for the future" is complete nonsense.

The position is clear, the representation implicit. Only the reason remains mysterious.

The government signed the deal which now appears to so many Canadians to have been a ghastly mistake. No amount of blame-casting on previous governments can excuse the terms of that contract. Even if it were desirable from B.C.'s viewpoint to flood the valley, the economic benefits negotiated by this government in 1967 were pitifully inadequate.

What other benefits the government has subsequently negotiated, and with

whom, are unknown, but there is none of any apparent value to the general public. The government certainly isn't telling.

Its attitude, in remaining ostensibly aloof from the hearings, has served only to impress some Americans that it has no objection to the flooding and feels amply rewarded for the inundation of the B.C. side of the valley by enlargement of the Ross Dam.

But the government has done its bit. Its files were thrown open to the hired consultants of Seattle City Light, which has been lobbying so hard to put down environmentalists south of the border.

It might even be wondered if some of the government's speech writers hadn't been loaned to Seattle City Light in view of remarks made about opposition MLAs who appeared at the hearings, in language so reminiscent of the B.C. legislature.

The amenability of the B.C. government certainly impressed one advocate of the project who solemnly informed the hearings what "good stewards" of natural resources Messrs. Kiernan,

Williston & Co. have been. Perhaps, after all, it was just as well that the good stewards were not present in person to substantiate this.

While all this was going on, however, and while the good stewards were sitting home minding their resources, some other Canadians—representatives of that other government of Canada located east of the Rockies — were meeting U.S. federal officials in Washington, D.C., to express their concern about the Skagit flooding.

Now that we know which side the B.C. government takes, although not why, even greater responsibility must fall upon the federal government to put a case to the Americans, and to protect the Canadian public interest.

As it happens, whatever their outcome, the Washington State hearings are subsidiary to forthcoming U.S. federal power commission decisions on the project. In the interval we must hope that Ottawa will intervene with a force which it has not always previously exhibited in dealings with the Americans on natural resource issues.

City Light presents case for addition to Ross Dam

By **BOB LANE**

With their opponents waiting quietly in the audience, City Light representatives today began building their case for construction of an addition to Ross Dam in the city's Skagit River hydro-electric project.

In a hearing before the state Ecological Commission, City Light stressed the need of the public and of industry for more power and said that increased use of Ross Lake for public recreation would be compatible with development of the new North Cascades National Park and related recreational areas.

Arthur Lane, an assistant corporation counsel representing City Light, said that the high Ross project first was devised in the 1920s but that no other method of generating power that would be more economical or less polluting has been devised.

LANE DESCRIBED the successful tour City Light sponsors annually of the Skagit project and said the popularity of the program disproves the statement that people won't make the effort to get out of their car and enjoy the mountain scenery.

Lane said City Light will spend \$700,000 in providing new recreation facilities after Ross Lake is raised 122½ feet. He said he believed the new facilities would result in substantially increased use of the Ross area.

Dr. Herschel F. Jones, an economist and consultant, described in detail the reliance of the city upon electrical energy.

"Our electrical requirements are growing," Jones said. "Seattle must increase its capacity to meet the growth of its loads. Raising Ross Dam will increase the supply of power needed. It will do it at less cost than any possible alternative.

"**THE IMPACT** on the environment of raising Ross Dam is probably less than the impact of other practical hydro-electric alternatives and much less than the practical alternative of thermal generating plans."

Jones said that any attempt to restrict the growth of electrical generation or to raise its cost "will have the most serious effect on lower-income households."

Gordon Tongue, an executive of the Ideal Cement Co., spoke in support of high

electrical energy could lead to temporary closures of manufacturing operations or brownouts which would cause hardship for the thousands of persons, he added.

Tongue is former chairman of the state Ecological Commission.

OPPONENTS from British Columbia and the Puget Sound area were in the audience. The North Cascades Conservation Council was expected to direct the organized opposition to the City Light project.

Eight witnesses will speak in behalf of 16 conservation organizations represented by the council, Dr. Patrick D. Goldsworthy, council president, said.

The hearing ran through the afternoon in the Eames theater and will resume at 9 a. m. tomorrow in the Moose Hall at Mount Vernon.

Ross for the Industrial Energy Users Committee, a group representing major Seattle-area manufacturers.

Tongue said that shortages of natural gas "stress the urgent need for more electrical energy."

He said that the additional power from high Ross will help industry be more self-sufficient. A shortage of

Seattle Times, March 16, 1971

U.S. Aide Says Ross Dam Plan Study Needed

By **MIKE CONANT**

An international study of the impact of City Light's proposed High Ross Dam is a mandate to recommend measures to protect the environment, a U.S. State Department official said yesterday.

William Johnson, chief of the State Department's Office of Canadian Affairs, said the pending report of the International Joint Commission is significant in efforts by the governments of Canada and the U.S. to solve the controversy over High Ross Dam.

Johnson reached by The Post-Intelligencer in Washington, D.C., said:

"The findings of the International Joint Commission will be advisory — not mandatory. But certainly

the report will be considered of importance by both governments."

Johnson said the study of the environmental impact of dam construction on Canadian plant and wildlife is needed because ecology was not considered an issue in 1942 when the International Joint Commission approved the flooding caused by the project.

Environmentalists in Canada and the U.S. have objected to City Light's plan to raise Ross Dam 122 feet because it would inundate approximately 8,320 acres of forest land along the Upper Skagit River in Washington State and British Columbia.

The U.S. State Department and the Canadian Department of External Affairs asked on April 7 that

the International Joint Commission — comprised of three representatives from each of Canada and the U.S. — conduct the study of environmental effects in Canada from raising Ross Dam.

The two State Departments gave the IJC six months to complete a report which would become part of the record of the U.S. Federal Power Commission Light's application to elevate the dam.

Early reports of the International Joint Commission study said the IJC was directed not to come up with a report that would be inconsistent with existing agreements between City Light and the province of British Columbia, which apparently would preclude altering any of City Light's

construction plans.

Johnson said he believed the special IJC study is a "mandate to recommend measures that can be taken to protect the environment."

The proposed High Ross Dam became an international issue only after 1967 when the government of British Columbia agreed to City Light's proposal to pay for Canadian acreage which would be inundated.

Under the agreement, British Columbia would receive about \$35,000 each year for 99 years, or about \$5.50 per acre flooded each year.

Some members of the British Columbia's Liberal Party have attacked the province's Social Credit government over the agreement.

Seattle Post-Intelligencer, April 15, 1971

State can't halt High Ross Dam plans

By **BOB LANE**
Times Staff Reporter

MOUNT VERNON — Although the state Ecological Commission has devoted two long days to hearing arguments about High Ross Dam, neither it nor the Department of Ecology nor the state has any authority to stop the \$46.5 million City Light project.

The commission finished its Ross hearings here yesterday and now will review and sort all of the contradictory testimony it heard to develop a position which John Biggs, department director, may use in intervening in the city's case before the Federal Power Commission.

IN APPEARING before the F. P. C. Biggs' department, even as a representative of the state, will be only one of many testifying. The state may choose to argue against High Ross, but the F. P. C. has ignored state arguments in other power cases and awarded construction licenses.

Biggs also asked the commission to conduct the hearings so his department could gather opinion and information to help it decide what to do about renewing state licenses issued to City Light in the 1920s for the Ross project.

Representatives of the state and City Light apparently agree in believing that a refusal to renew the licenses would have no effect on Seattle's project and new construction.

THE LEGAL AND legislative battle that developed when Tacoma City Light announced plans to dam the Cowlitz River apparently established the precedent that would apply to the Skagit. Despite opposition by the Fisheries Department and state legislation that would have blocked the dam, Tacoma won construction licenses—after the Supreme Court ruled the federal government had jurisdiction over a navigable stream.

About 60 persons testified in Mount Vernon yesterday, while several hundred listened, with most of the opposition coming from British Columbia residents who chartered a bus to Mount Vernon.

CITY LIGHT officials opened the session, as they did in Seattle Tuesday, stressing the need of the city and the region for the 272,000 kilowatts of peaking power that would be generated by raising the level of the lake 122½ feet.

Wayne Bishop, City Light engineer, said that drawdown after the lake is raised will be only half what it is today. The utility will use no more water than it does now, with the extra power created because there will be more head or pressure behind water channeled into the turbine-generators.

Bishop said at maximum drawdown now about 7,700 acres of lake bottom are exposed. With High Ross, only 3,700 acres would be exposed. Other engineers said City Light will do a better job of removing stumps.

REPRESENTATIVES of Skagit County communities, chambers of commerce, farm organizations and labor unions urged approval of the High Ross project.

John W. Ellis, a vice president of Puget Sound Power & Light Co., endorsed the City Light proposal. He said it is important to have some generation in Western Washington because a major natural catastrophe possibly could knock out cross-Cascade transmission lines.

The longer the (transmission) line, the greater the risk," **Ellis** said. High Ross provides insurance against such risk."

David Brousson, a British Columbia legislator, said Ca-

nadians have never said City Light did not negotiate in good faith for payment to compensate for land to be flooded in the Skagit Valley in British Columbia.

"I have said," **Brousson** added, that B. C. negotiators either were skinned alive or were very stupid."

CITY LIGHT will pay British Columbia about \$55,000 a year or about \$5.50 an acre. **Brousson** said a proper price might be at least \$500,000 a year.

Dozens of Canadians argued against additional flooding of the Skagit Valley in the province. They expressed concern — and anger — about losing a "truly unique" trout-fishing stream, a pleasant river valley, beautiful scenery and an outstanding recreation area.

Others were fearful that the flooding would kill deer, small mammals and other wildlife now accustomed to living and feeding along the river.

The state Game Department joined the opponents. **John Douglas** of the department's environmental-management division said increasing the level of Ross Lake would eliminate a "significant part" of the spawning streams in which lake fish spawn.

Seattle Times, March 18, 1971

State commission mum on Ross Dam

The state Ecological Commission, which met yesterday in Olympia to talk about City Light's High Ross Dam, will not announce its position on the controversial \$46.5 million proposal until the Federal Power Commission is ready to conduct hearings on the project.

The F. P. C. has not scheduled hearings on City Light's request for an amendment to its Skagit project license and probably will not schedule them until later in the year. Commission members con-

ducted a hearing in Seattle and Mount Vernon March 16 and 17. John Biggs, director of the Department of Ecology, had asked the commission for advice on which he could base the state's position before the F. P. C.

Observers believe the commission will be unable to deliver a unanimous opinion to Biggs and that majority and minority reports will be submitted.

Commission members noted that the two-day hearing produced conflicting testimo-

ny. They also said that some studies that may provide answers to the conflicts are being conducted.

The commission formed several subgroups to analyze and summarize information on several points discussed during the hearing, including the impact on the natural environment, economic arguments and the state of the Northwest power crisis.

Staff members reported the commission is considering a tour of the Ross Lake area.

WHEN NOISE ANNOYS

Could a toot on a flute pollute?
 No, but the putt-putt of a motor scooter
 Could be a polluter;
 For pollution can mean whatever harms
 mental poise:
 Or to state it very briefly: Noise!

Time was when civilization's sounds were
 wearable;
 The clip-clop of a horse is, after all,
 bearable.
 No snorting big diesels agitated the night
 Of Jolyon, James, and Swithin Forsyte;
 Jet noise never deafened, "up up and
 away,"
 The ladylike heroine of Charlotte Bronte.

Today's outboard motor with speed-
 demon roar
 Is hardly as quiet as the oarlocks of yore,
 And the electronic beat of ear-splitting
 Rock

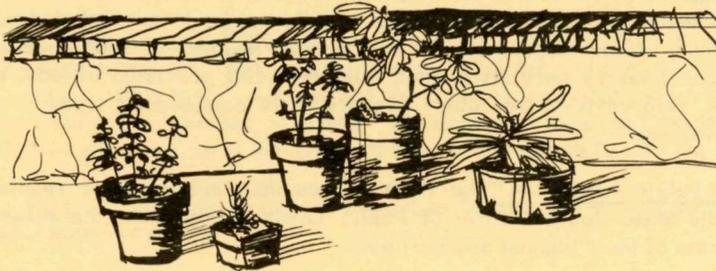
Is annoyinger, even than morn's crowing
 cock.

So government officials are measuring
 the decibel
 To see which sounds harm and which are
 repressible.
 They would give the environment a right
 welcome rest
 From the jack-hammer blast and the
 horn-blowing pest,
 From the trash can that clatters (and the
 TV that natters?)
 And the thundery boom which shatters
 glass
 When the SST makes a transonic pass.

But how to encourage quiet? 'Tis not yet
 wholly clear.
 If the President said: "Lower noises,"
 instead of "lower voices,"
 Could anyone hear?

Reprinted from The Christian Science Monitor

FIGHT HIGH ROSS WITH FLOWER POWER !



Coming up in the first week of May is Joe and Margaret Miller's

FOURTH ANNUAL CONSERVATION GARDEN SALE!

Again this year the proceeds of all sales will be donated to the conservation organization of your choice - provided you don't choose more than N3C, Seattle Audubon Society, or Puget Sound Group of the Sierra Club. The Miller's specialty is rare and unusual rhododendrons of the kind you never see in the supermarket 99 cent sales, but the prices are even less than at the supermarkets. Dates: May 1 through 7. Place: the Millers' garden at 15405 SE 9th Street, Bellevue, WA 98007. For information on available plants, call SH 6-2257.

Here's your opportunity to make a painless contribution to the North Cascades Conservation Council's treasury while at the same time beautifying your own yard for the pleasure of your neighbors and yourself. If you don't have a yard, the Millers have lots of desirable plants for containers. Come to the garden Sale and help the Conservation Cause.

THE FWOC RESOLVES

At its annual meeting for 1970, held in August, the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs adopted 61 resolutions to guide its efforts for the year ahead. Following are abbreviated summaries of those resolutions especially pertinent to the North Cascades.

2. Forest Legislation. -- "The FWOC resolves:

1. That any forestry legislation aimed at increased timber cutting on public forests must also be accompanied by a substantial limitation on log and lumber exports from all forests, public and private.
2. That any forestry legislation aimed at increasing timber supply include the following measures, to be directed at private forest lands: (a) Cutting of timber for commercial purposes to be limited by sustained yield principles; (b) Forestry standards to be set at the national level; (c) Required reforestation of sites primarily valuable for commercial timber after all commercial cutting; (d) Provisions for technical advice and tax and financial incentives to private forest land owners who engage in commercial cutting.
3. That any forestry legislation aimed at increasing cutting on public lands include the following measures: (a) Exclusion of de facto wilderness areas until there has been full Congressional review of the suitability of such areas for inclusion in the wilderness system; (b) Exclusion of areas of primary importance for wildlife, recreation, forage, watershed, or soil maintenance, from commercial timber production if such would impair those values.
4. The Congress of the U. S. should appropriate funds without reference to volume of timber sold, to enable the USFS to manage National Forest lands (not included in legal or de facto wilderness) without dependence on commercial logging, in such a manner as to achieve the greatest values peculiar to each site, including provision of food, cover or both for wildlife, reforestation for future production of commercial timber, and protection of scenic values."

5. Washington Public Lands. -- "The FWOC urges that legislation or regulations be enacted requiring the State Commissioner of Public Lands to determine the values of State-owned lands in terms of their highest and best uses."

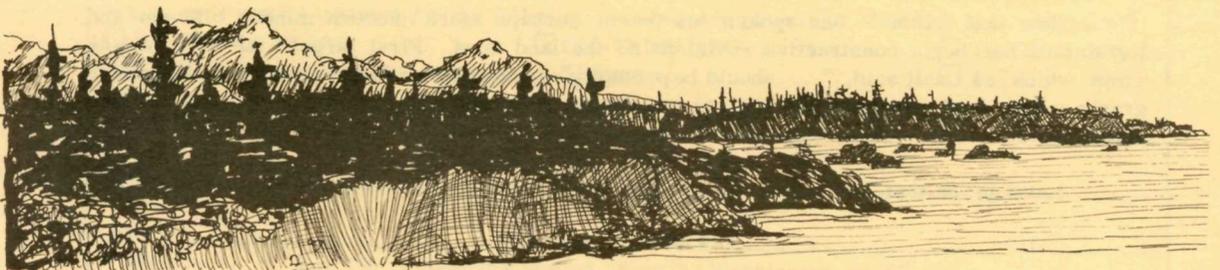
9. North Cascades Pipeline. -- "The FWOC opposes the construction of a pipeline and associated facilities to carry oil or refined products directly from Puget Sound to eastern markets via the Cascades."

10. Enclaves in National Park Wilderness. -- "The FWOC believes that such developments cause great impacts on the surrounding areas visually and by increasing visitor use; and they therefore detract greatly from the wilderness experience which travelers in the area expect and enjoy."

11. Skagit Wild and Scenic River. -- "The FWOC resolves that portions of the Skagit River in Washington State should be classified a scenic or recreation river, depending on the characteristics of the river, under terms of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, PL 90-542."

13. Salmo-Priest Wilderness. -- "The FWOC supports the classification of approximately 40,000 acres of roadless country in the Kaniksu and Colville National Forests in the Salmo River, Slate Creek, and Priest River drainages as a unit of the National Wilderness Preservation System."

16. Condominiums in National Forests. -- "The FWOC resolves that the United States Forest Service should grant permits for construction of privately owned structures only where they are truly public structures needed for support of other recreation facilities."
17. Wilderness Management. -- "The FWOC urges:
(1) That the Secretaries of Agriculture and the Interior apply the broadest definition of wilderness contained in the Wilderness Act in proposing classification of new areas; (2) That the Secretaries of Agriculture and the Interior apply such strict principles of wilderness management allowed by the Wilderness Act as may be necessary to protect the quality of wilderness, without unnecessary discouragement of the use of wilderness."
44. Park User Impact. -- "The FWOC resolves that conservation and outdoor organizations should assume the leadership in cooperating with public land management agencies at national, state, and county levels by voluntarily reducing impact on park lands in the following ways:
1. Limit the size of parties to relate directly to the ability of the land area to restore itself ecologically during periods of non-use.
2. Use gas stoves instead of burning wood in areas with scarce dead timber.
3. Use pack animals as little as possible.
4. Pack out all garbage and containers and strictly observe sound sanitary practices.
5. Shift camp sites and stay out of over-used sites to allow recuperation of the land and vegetation.
6. Avoid use of small state and county parks on weekends and holiday periods."
45. National Family Planning. -- "The FWOC strongly endorses the passage of a national mass family planning act similar in principle to S. 2108 of the 91st Congress."
50. The Supersonic Transport. -- "The FWOC opposes any further expenditures of public funds for the supersonic transport."
51. Pollution Resulting from Aircraft Operations. -- "The FWOC recommends immediate action to require the use of low-pollution aircraft engines and to require careful control of fueling and fuel dumping procedures."
52. Utility Advertising. -- "The FWOC requests that all public utility commissions and legislative or executive bodies prohibit private and public power companies from all advertising and promotion that encourages additional power consumption through the multiplicity of electrical appliances, such as second and third air conditioners and TV sets, unnecessary powered devices such as knives and toothbrushes, and new industry with heavy power requirements."
53. Wood Product Promotion. -- "While the FWOC is assured that timber reserves are adequate for domestic needs, the FWOC does conclude that, under the circumstances, all public and private endeavors which are engaged in the search for new uses for wood should be abolished except for endeavors to find uses for wood currently wasted, and all advertising and promotion to encourage use of wood and wood products, especially redwood, should cease immediately. A well-funded federal research agency should be established to develop suitable substitutes for forest products in home construction."



NEWS & VIEWS

of the north cascades

From Our Correspondents at the Front

In a recent issue of the Wild Cascades the 21-foot fluctuation in the level of Lake Chelan was mentioned, and the fact that the 25-year license permitting this raising and lowering has only a few years to run. Our assumption was we had plenty of time to think about the matter at leisure.

However, we now learn the Chelan PUD can apply for renewal of the license 3-5 years before expiration date. This means it may apply to the Federal Power Commission as early as May 1971. We therefore must prepare to convince the FPC that Lake Chelan has other values than power production.

Lovers of Lake Chelan -- get ready!

* * * * *

Probably we should at least note in these pages that the Public Land Law Review Commission, established by Congress in 1965, chaired by Wayne Aspinall, the Congressman from the 19th century, released its report last summer and held hearings last fall, culminating 5 years' work and the expenditure of \$7,000,000 in public funds.

Actually, the definitive, wordless comment on the PLLRC was made at the North Cascades hearings, held at a time when Aspinall (who like Our Gal Sunday comes "from a little mining town in the West") was just hoisting his rickety bones into the saddle. An opponent of the proposed National Park complained it was premature to talk about any more National Parks or Wilderness Areas, that everybody ought to sit on their hands until that good old boy, the ancient Wayne, finished his job. The chairman of the hearings, Senator Henry M. Jackson, smiled wide as if he'd heard a very funny joke but was too polite to laugh out loud.

Lord knows the archaic public land laws need a major overhaul. But putting Aspinall in charge was like assigning the fox to reorganize the chicken ranch.

The 342-page report of the PLLRC may be purchased from the Government Printing Office, and is well worth reading, since it will be referred to as The Bible by all the foxes from now on, and doubtless will be the basis of proposals for new legislation.

The commission's efforts will be remembered as a last-ditch attempt to defend the privileges of the past. As Stewart Udall commented when the report was released, "In short, one more commission has come and gone, briefly tilting at history."

Now that Aspinall has spoken his piece, perhaps more modern-minded citizens and legislators can begin constructive revisions of the land laws. First target: the 1872 Mining Laws, which, as Udall said, "...should be promptly replaced by a mineral-leasing system which grants public-land managers the right to say where, how, and when mining operations can take place."

Let's get on that.

* * * * *

A few months back some of our agents waylaid a dirty miner while his helicopter was taking on gas and beer, and queried him about various activities of the diggers. We cannot vouch for the accuracy of his comments, but pass them on for what they may be worth:

Thunder Creek. Small lenses of ore. "Nothing there."

La Bohn Gap. The old shaft was pumped free of water in 1966 to allow a look at the underground ore. "Nice specimens to carry home in your pockets, but that's about the extent of it. Would make a small but profitable mine if it were located within a couple hundred feet of a highway."

Miners Ridge. In 1964 Bear Creek Mining, the exploration arm of Kennecott, concluded an open pit was not feasible -- slopes too steep, in a climax avalanche zone. Kennecott officials later decided otherwise. "That's because they've never tried to dig a hole in the snow." The ore body should be "put on the shelf" until technology allows in situ bacterial leaching, which has been done in a dozen places so far, though never on a large ore body. Some 30 percent of the copper production of Kennecott's Bigham, Utah mine now comes from leaching of old dumps.

Buckindy. Kennecott investigated anomalies in the 1950's, found nothing, gave it up.

Lyman Basin. Nothing.

Trinity. A small company moved in during 1970 to reopen the old mines, and claims to have "a couple million tons of ore." These small companies are the ones you have to watch out for, especially if you're a mine-stock investor or environmentalist.

Mineral Creek -- Lake Kachess -- Park Lake. Phelps Dodge found nothing in 1962. Cougar Development was in for a look, and left. (Editor's note: Agents who visited the quaint artifacts of the 1920's-era mine and mill in the fall of 1970 report finding fresh claim markers high on the mountainside, all the way to the ridge of Three Queens.)

North Fork Teanaway - De Roux Creek. The whole area around here is essentially one big mess of low-grade nickel ore, and the government is hot for nickel right now. However, the ore is unusual, and currently there is no method for treating it. Chemical tests and metallurgic research are underway by a number of firms. Westland and another Canadian outfit and two American Companies have claims in the area. If they figure how to handle the ore -- look out.

Cascade Pass. Valumines is fooling around as before in a continuation of the Thunder Creek belt. Same story -- nothing.

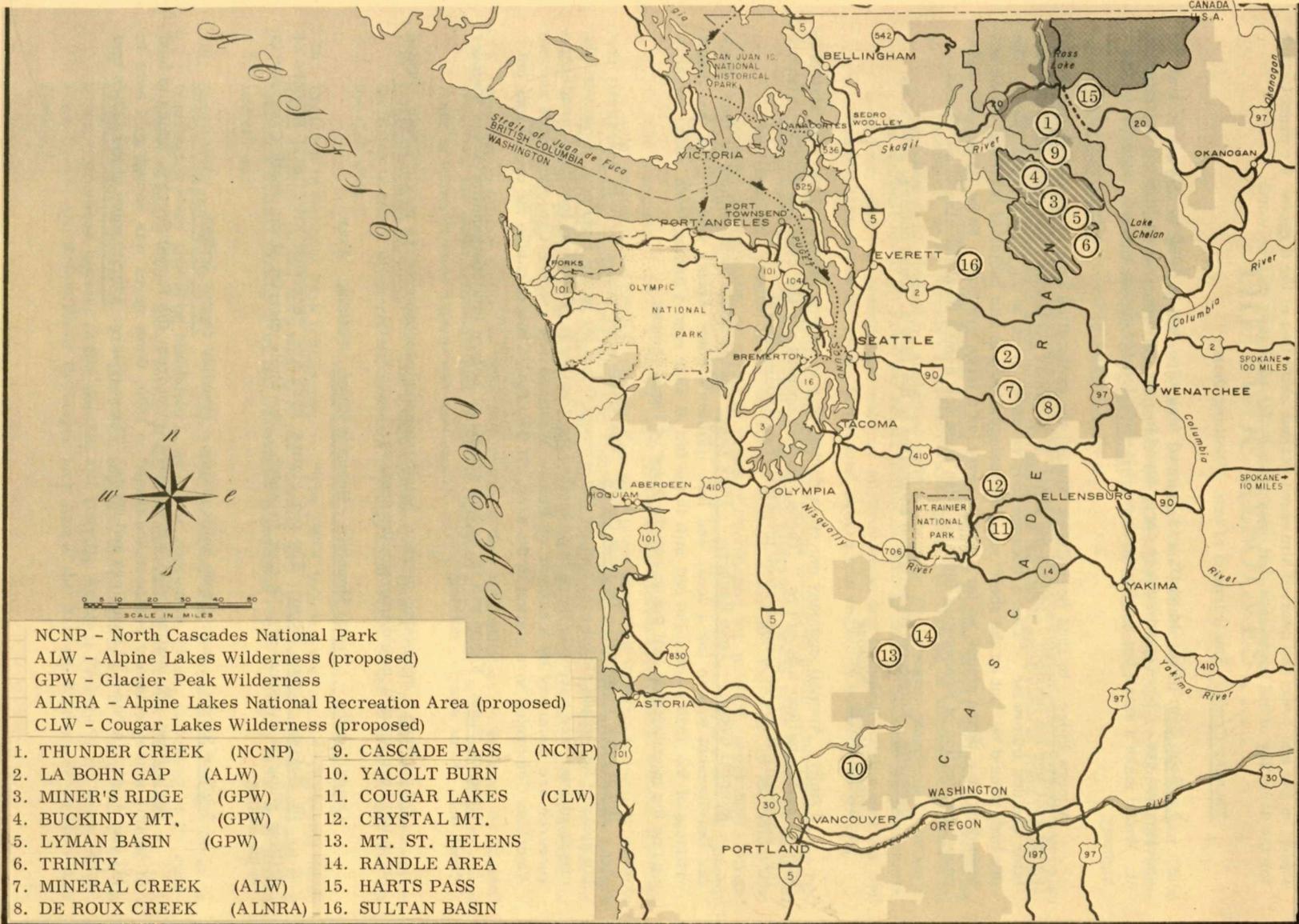
Yacolt Burn. Promising terrain, being intensively prospected by major firms. "Open pit mines here actually would improve the scenery."

Cougar Lakes - Crystal Mountain - Bumping River. Nothing. Ever.

St. Helens - Green River. The old claims here are receiving attention. Rumors of drilling going on by somebody. A spot to watch. The whole district of the South Cascades is rejuvenating.

South of Randle. Bear Creek holds claims. Possible copper bodies.

Harts Pass. No matter what you've heard, even from the Forest Service, which is fond of quoting mining-company prospectuses issued in 1900, there never was enough gold here to fill your teeth. A bunch of swindlers and idiots. The very large Azurite mine of the 1930's was a bust.



Sultan Basin - Vesper Peak. The Canadian outfit has pushed a 1/2-mile exploratory drift into the side of Vesper, but won't release any information. Speculation there is a large body of low-grade ore. If so, the actual mine doubtless would tunnel in from the South Fork Stillaguamish River, from the vicinity of the old Sunrise claim.

Mining companies. Bear Creek (Kennecott) is in the Okanogan, as well as south of Randle and on Miners Ridge. Anaconda was here in the 1950's in force, hit or miss since. Was up on the Nooksack a while. Has Spokane office. Copper Range, a Canadian company, is in and out of the Cascades -- in now with exploration crew. American Smelting and Refining, Phelps Dodge are a couple other majors which have been around from time to time.

* * * * *

Speaking of Harts Pass, and Barron Basin, and stock promoters, following is a news story from the 5 February issue of Western Mining News. Anyone who knows the route of the North Cross State Highway, and the location of the property of Western Gold Mining, will be mystified. Presumably the promoters of Western Gold hope potential investors won't be up on their geography.

"HIGHWAY TO AID WESTERN GOLD

"Completion of the North Cross State Highway this year would afford year-around access to the property of Western Gold Mining, Inc., officials said this week.

"They said the firm's mining claims in the Slate Creek Mining District west of Hart's Pass in the Cascade Mountains have been accessible only during summer months.

"The highway will halve the distance to the Tacoma smelter, they said. It will also enable low-cost electric power from Ross Dam to replace higher-cost power from the company's diesel generator.

"Officials said the company has more than \$100,000 cash against current liabilities of about \$5,000. Buildings and equipment, including a 150-ton mill, are valued at more than \$231,000.

"Western Gold shares were accepted for trading on the Spokane Stock Exchange last week."

Remember, you read it in the miners' own newspaper, and you have the word of the company officials, so it must be true. But how a highway over Washington Pass is going to open up Hart's Pass (much less Barron Basin) remains to be explained.

-----cut here-----

NORTH CASCADES CONSERVATION COUNCIL
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

- Please send me more information about your organization.
- Please send me a list of ways I can volunteer to help.
- I have informed myself of the purposes of your organization (back of this form) and wish to support them by applying for the following membership (check for indicated amt. enclosed)*:
- REGULAR \$2/year CONTRIBUTING \$5/year PATRON \$10/yr.
- FAMILY (spouse or other dependent) \$1/year LIFE \$50

NAME _____

STREET _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

* Mail to: P. O. Box 156, University Station, Seattle, Washington 98105.

We pass along a report we haven't been able to check as of this writing. Northwest Passage, the admirable "underground" ecology-oriented newspaper published in Bellingham, reported in a recent issue that "... The Duval Corporation of Vancouver, a mining exploration company, has found copper in another ridge a little south of Miners Ridge. This one is more profitable to mine. Of course, this is all a corporate secret, and you won't know anything till it is too late to stop them."

* * * * *

Mining in the Pacific Northwest: A Complete Review of the Mineral Resources of Washington and British Columbia, edited by L. K. Hodges, Seattle, 1897, the Seattle Post-Intelligencer. Facsimile reproduction, SJS 134, Shorey Book Store, \$30.

Space does not allow a proper, full review of this mine of fascinating history -- we'd end up quoting pages and pages verbatim. Suffice to say any traveler of the Cascades, any conservationist, will be so enraptured as to gladly ruin his eyesight reading the minute type, studying the dozens of maps of mining districts which show the locations and names of thousands of claims, sites of towns, routes of roads and trails then existing, names of the peaks and passes then current.

Note the date -- 1897. The Cascades mining boom had been underway just about exactly one decade, and was at its height. Next year, the Klondike.

The descriptions of individual mining districts are jam-packed with details on the history of the prospecting and discovery, the number of people at work, the ore values, the methods of transportation. By use of the text and maps, contemporary hikers can find the names of many of the diggings they stumble across in the hills (the garbage heap, the rusted tools, the square of rotten logs and litter of shakes marking the cabin site, the hole in the ground) and sometimes even the name of the man or men who worked in the wilds 75 years ago. The authors tell how to get to Cascade Pass, the routes by railroad, Columbia River steamship, and stagecoach to Lake Chelan, "the Switzerland of America" as they call it, and dozens of other districts. Mining and drilling techniques are discussed, and procedures in staking claims.

To "see" what the Cascades were like in that busy summer of 1897, when more people lived in our mountains than at any time since, when expectations were high that the Cascades would shortly be one of the richest mining areas in the world, get to the library and read the book. Actually, you'll want to fork over the \$30 to buy your own copy from Shoreys Book Store.

* * * * *

-----cut here-----

THE NORTH CASCADES CONSERVATION COUNCIL

is a nonprofit, civic, conservation corporation, formed for the PURPOSES of securing the protection and preservation of SCENIC, SCIENTIFIC, RECREATIONAL, EDUCATIONAL, WILDLIFE and WILDERNESS VALUES of the NORTH CASCADES.

The Council is working to have established an: ALPINE LAKES WILDERNESS
COUGAR LAKES WILDERNESS

to stop: HIGH ROSS DAM in North Cascades National Park Complex
KENNECOTT COPPER MINE in Glacier Peak Wilderness
COUGAR DEVELOPMENT MINE in proposed Alpine Lakes Wilderness

to save: DENNY CREEK - FRANKLIN FALLS FROM I-90

Ever since Devereaux Butcher's National Wildland News ceased publication after a brief, noble experiment in the early 1960's, conservationists have felt the need for a single publication that comprehensively covers all the fronts, all over the nation, continent, and world.

With the advent in December 1970 of Not Man Apart, the need is met. This tabloid monthly newspaper of some 32 pages carries in-depth articles and reviews and also long and short news items. Many photographs, too. A staff of columnists is being recruited to report regularly on individual areas -- the first such column began in the March 1971 issue, covering the Pacific Northwest, interestingly enough, and written by the editor of the Wild Cascades, with the assistance of "stringers" in five states and three provinces plus the Yukon Territory.

Though Not Man Apart does not compete with or replace any existing publications, it complements them all. Subscription is through membership in Friends of the Earth, at \$15 a year for regular members, \$5 for student members, \$25 on up for supporting, contributing, and sustaining members. Write to: Friends of the Earth, 451 Pacific Avenue, San Francisco, California. 94133.

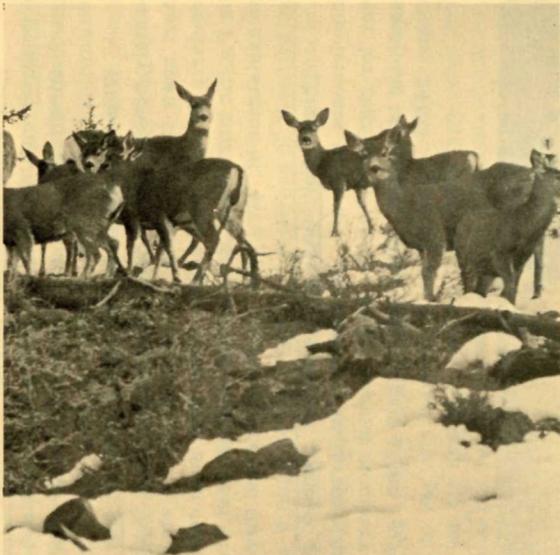
* * * * *



Lake Chelan from above Stehekin, looking south toward Railroad Creek and the Chelan Mountains.
Photo by John Warth

The financial hurdle to Kennecott's plans for a Miner's Ridge copper mine in the Glacier Peak Wilderness gets higher. The Tacoma smelter (once built and owned by Kennecott and now owned by American Smelting and Refining Co.) is being rightfully forced to reduce its air-polluting sulfur dioxide discharge by 90% within 5 years. Since this will require at least a \$50,000,000 installation the smelter's operation costs will rise correspondingly (or they complain that they might "get out of the business") and since this is where the Glacier Peak - Miner's Ridge ore would be smelted, Kennecott's operating costs will also have to rise. Kennecott has said that the costs of production of the Glacier Peak mine are rising faster than the price of copper. This cost-price divergence will be made even greater with the added smelter costs. Cheers for the Washington State Department of Ecology and the Puget Sound Air Pollution Control Agency who, by controlling air pollution, are helping us fight Kennecott's planned scenic pollution!

* * * * *



THE WILD CASCADES

February - March 1971

North Cascades Conservation Council
3215 Northeast 103rd Street
Seattle, Washington 98125

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SEATTLE, WASH.
PERMIT #8602

NORTH CASCADES CONSERVATION COUNCIL

Founded 1957

PRESIDENT: Patrick D. Goldsworthy ART DIRECTOR: Camille Reed
EDITOR: The Wild Cascades STAFF ARTIST: Eliza Anderson
Harvey H. Manning STAFF CARTOGRAPHER: Steve Hodge
Route 4, Box 6652
Issaquah, Washington 98027
Published bimonthly 50¢ a copy
Subscription price. \$5 a year

URGENT NOTICES
\$\$\$ NEEDED -----PAGE 8
FLOWER POWER GARDEN SALE
---PAGE 15