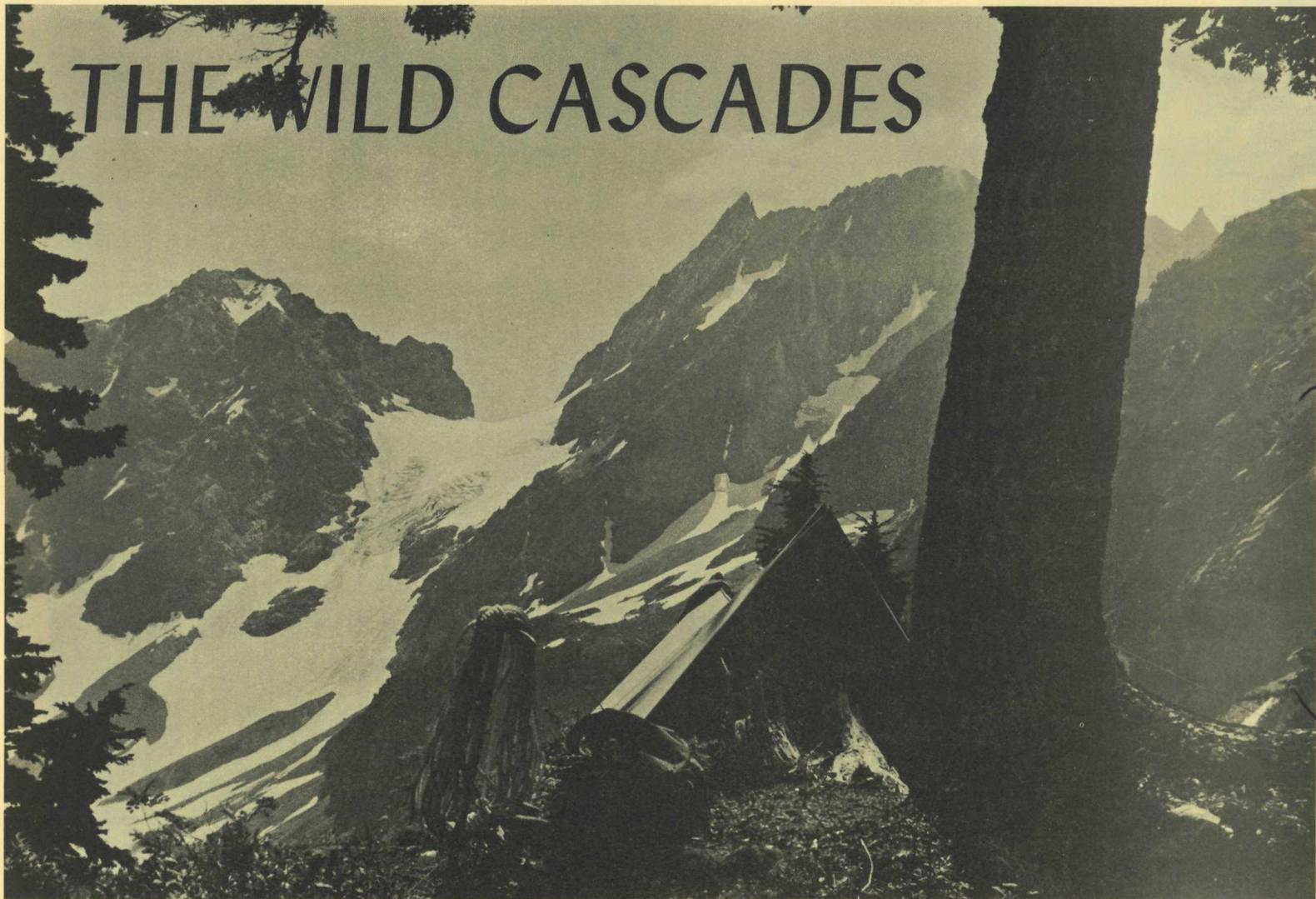
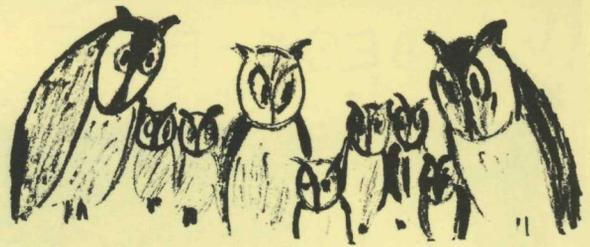


THE WILD CASCADES





THE NEW STRATEGY: SUMMER 1963

The recent loud silence from the North Cascades Conservation Council by no means signifies a lack of organizational action, but rather the reverse. Your officers, particularly President Patrick D. Goldsworthy, and your Northwest Conservation Representative, J. Michael McCloskey, have been so busy making news that they have had all too little time left over for keeping you informed.

To partly remedy the information gap, let us first of all bring you up to date on the revised North Cascades Conservation Council publication program. The last previous issue of Wild Cascades was March-April 1963. This issue is May-June-July. The next will be August-September then October-November, and so on. There are two reasons for changing to a bimonthly schedule (with this one transitional trimonthly issue to avoid future summer vacation and Christmas holiday conflicts). First, we can serve you with a better publication if our crew of volunteers, and our treasury, is not haunted by monthly deadlines. Second, the improved quality of Wild Cascades requires more production time, and thus reduces its "hot news" immediacy -- an immediacy we propose to regain with brief, mimeographed newsletters issued as needed directly from the President's desk. Through this combination of a bimonthly Wild Cascades and occasional newsletters, we hope to keep you better informed in the future than ever before in the past.

Such an improvement in communication is essential in the months and years ahead, what with the rapidly changing situation, particularly in regard to the proposed North Cascades National Park. (We are not, in any sense, giving short shift to our other proposals: Cougar Lakes Wilderness Area, Alpine Lakes Wilderness Area, North Cascades Wilderness Area, additions to the existing Glacier Peak Wilderness Area, etc.; for the moment, though, the Park occupies center stage.)

As you know, the North Cascades Conservation Council has long sought an official study of the national park potential of the North Cascades, and has gathered many thousands of signatures on petitions supporting Congressman Thomas M. Pelly's bills requesting that the Forest Service of the Department of Agriculture allow the Park Service of the Department of the Interior to make such a study of National Forest lands in the North Cascades.

After following that avenue as far as seemed fruitful, strategy was changed, and there was being drawn up, this past winter, a bill intended to be introduced into Congress this spring for creation of a North Cascades National Park. Then, suddenly, came word that the "Treaty of the Potomac" had resulted in an agreement between the Departments of Agriculture and Interior to carry out a joint study of the North Cascades.

That interdepartmental team is now engaged in its study. We don't know what the results will be, and we don't know whether we'll agree with the recommendations. However, we decided to postpone public release of the park proposal in order to allow the study team a fair chance to do its work in an objective atmosphere.

Unfortunately, the Hon. Jack Westland, Representative from the 19th Century, has seen fit to denounce our park proposal as a secret and sinister plot hatched in dark conspiracy with such ultraliberal fanatics as President Kennedy. --Well, we will have more to say in the future about Through the Looking Glass with Hon. Jack.

For now, suffice to say that though we do not wish to embarrass the study team, we do feel the you must know the facts of the matter, and therefore be able to point out to your friends and neighbors the misstatements emanating from the Hon. Jacks of the world.

The following pages are, therefore, devoted to an outline of the North Cascades National Park proposal as it stands at this moment. It goes without saying that this proposal is subject to change in the light of your comments, which are very much desired -- as are those of the study team, and those of the Hon. Jack, too.

PROPOSAL
for
A NORTH CASCADES
NATIONAL PARK

SPRING 1963



1963 NORTH CASCADES NATIONAL PARK PROPOSAL

from a prospectus prepared by J. Michael McCloskey
for the North Cascades Conservation Council

Historical Background

A North Cascades National Park was first proposed by the Mazamas in 1906, and following that the first director of the National Park Service, Stephen Mather, planned an investigation of the park potential of the area in 1916. The next year the writer Mary Roberts Rinehart endorsed the idea of such a park in the *Cosmopolitan* magazine serialized account of a trip she made into the area. In 1919, the Yakima and Spokane Chambers of Commerce called for the creation of a national park in the region. In the 1920's, The Mountaineers focused attention on the need for preserving the North Cascades, and in 1929 Willard Van Name called again for the creation of a North Cascades National Park in his famous book the Vanishing Forest Reserves. In June of 1937, the director of the Park Service, Arno Cammerer, appointed a special committee headed by O. A. Tomlinson, the Superintendent of Mt. Rainier National Park, to further investigate the national park potential of the area. In November of 1937, the committee reported back that "the area is unquestionably of national park caliber, is more valuable used as such than for any other use now ascertainable, and should receive park status under the National Park Service as the agency set up for providing highest conservational use and protection." Though the area the committee studied covered more than twice the area now proposed for park status, their assessment of the significance of the area remains valid for the core of that area now under consideration. In its report the committee said such a North Cascades Park "will outrank in its scenic, recreational, and wildlife values, any existing national park and any other possibility for such a park within the United States."

Weldon Heald explained the basis of this assessment in a 1949 book on The Cascades, in giving a summary description of the area. He said it "is packed solidly with hundreds of square miles of soaring peaks massed together in lines, groups, and knots. They rise steeply thousands of feet from narrow valleys clothed in a jungle-like growth of huge evergreens and tangled underbrush. . . . Hundreds of glaciers mantle the summits, hang high in cirques under rocky ridges, and stream down the mountain sides into the valleys. There are probably twice - possibly three times - as many glaciers in this one area as in all the other ranges of the United States put together. . . . And hidden away among these twisted, convoluted mountains are enough lakes, meadows, waterfalls, alpine basins, and sweeping panoramas to keep the lover of the outdoors busy for a lifetime."

Impressed by these evaluations, the Park Service looked at the area again in a 1946 survey of possible new parks. Bills to authorize detailed studies of the park potential of the area were introduced by Washington Congressmen in the 86th and 87th Congresses.

General Provisions And Acreages

The area designated as a public park is divided into two divisions with different names. The larger division on the west will be known as the North Cascades National Park and will be managed in the manner of most national parks. The smaller division on the east will be known as the Chelan National Mountain Recreation Area and will be managed in the same manner as the larger division with one exception. That exception is that the hunting of deer and other game animals will be permitted within its boundaries.

The boundaries were chosen in terms of four main criteria. The first criterion used was: the inclusion of the national features desirable for a viable and logical national park. The application of this criterion involved consideration of which scenic features merited inclusion in terms of national park standards (1936 statement of the Director of the National Park Service; "National Parks are spacious land areas, distinguished by scenic beauty or natural wonders, so out-

continued on the next page

standingly superior in quality to average examples of their several types as to be distinctly national in importance and interest, justifying their preservation in an unimpaired state as part of a national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of all the people for all time."), the provision of sufficient utility space and of access corridors, the selection of boundaries which would be easily administrable and evaluating the potential worth of scenic areas that had been subjected to past disturbance by man.

The second criterion used was: the extension of national park protection to areas of significant scenic value that might otherwise be subject to future impairment.

The third criterion used was: the minimization of conflicts with alternative commodity resources where that could be done in keeping with the first two criteria.

The fourth criterion used was: the choice of boundary lines that would be workable (i. e. should be readily recognizable on the ground, should follow topographical features where possible, should be capable of precise legal description, and should tend to minimize management problems stemming from abutting jurisdictions).

The scenic entity now proposed for park status consists of 1,308,186 acres, 458,505 acres within the Glacier Peak Wilderness Area and 849,681 acres in the added areas. This park would be the seventh largest unit in the national park system and the fourth largest national park (behind Yellowstone, Mt. McKinley, and Everglades). It would be less than half the size, though, of the largest unit in the system (Katmai National Monument), but nearly half again as large as the largest unit presently in Washington state, Olympic National Park (896,599 acres).

The proposed park would be located in five counties: Whatcom (49,526 acres), Skagit (273,519 acres), Snohomish (283,764 acres), Chelan (643,429 acres), and Okanogan (57,948 acres). The acreage for the park would be taken from four national forests: Mt. Baker (590,214 acres), Snoqualmie (16,595 acres), Wenatchee (administered areas) (643,429 acres), and Okanogan (administered areas) (57,948 acres). Thus 606,809 acres of the park would be on the west slope and 701,377 acres on the east slope.

As a result of the creation of the park, the percentage of reserved land in each county would be as follows: 34.9% in Whatcom County (now 31.2%); 24.7% in Skagit County (now 6.8%); 23.9% in Snohomish County (now 9.5%); 41.1% in Chelan County (now 22.5%); and 12.7% in Okanogan County (now 10.5%).

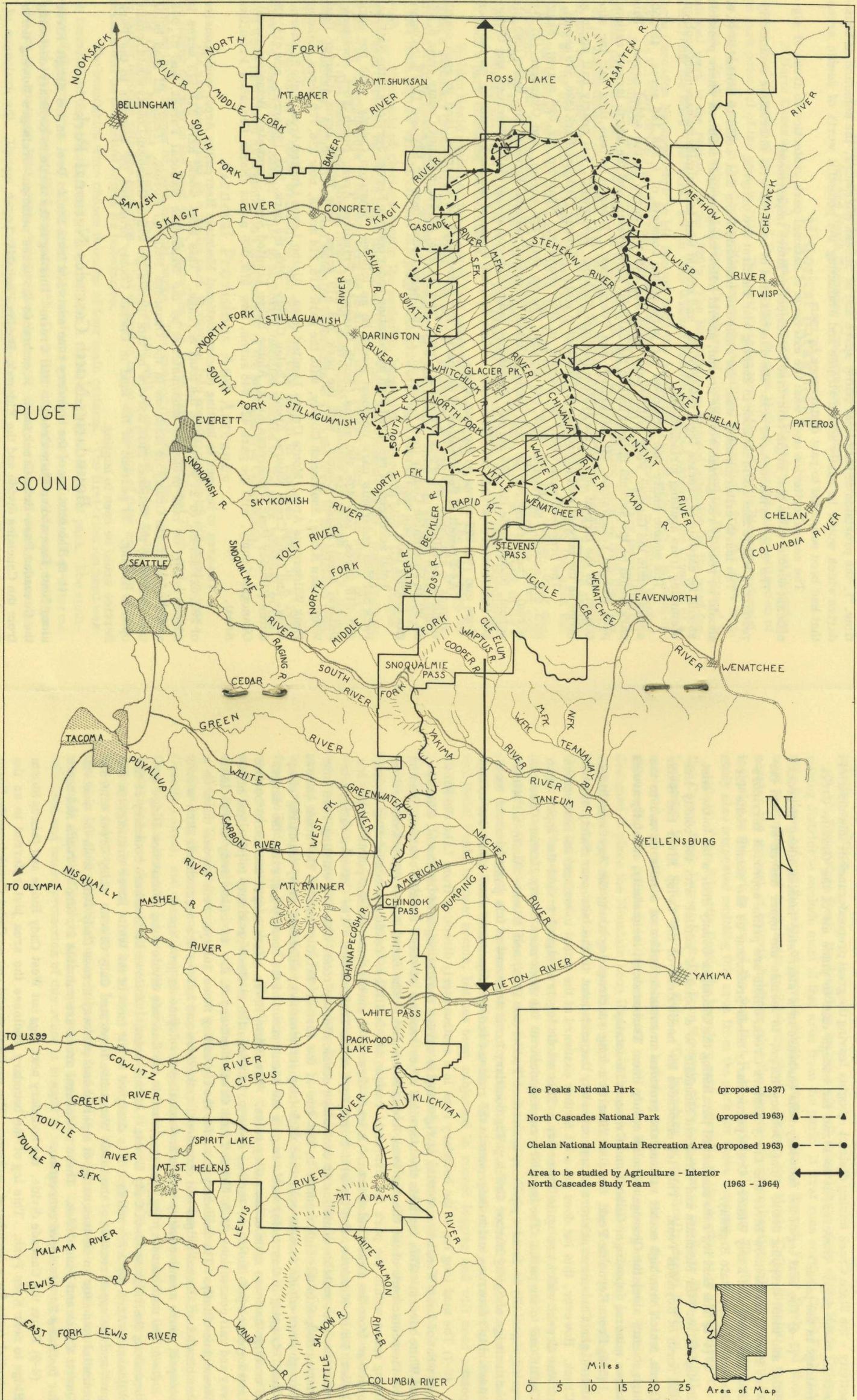
Total acreages of reserved land by counties under both the Forest Service and the National Park Service under this park proposal would be as follows: Whatcom County, with the park 478,016 acres, now 428,490 acres (North Cascades Primitive Area, North Fork Nooksack Natural Area); Skagit County, with the park 273,519 acres, now 76,320 acres (Glacier Peak Wilderness Area); Snohomish County, with the park 318,114 acres, now 126,770 acres (Glacier Peak Wilderness Area, Monte Cristo Limited Area, Alpine Lakes Limited Area, Lake 22 Natural Area, and Long Creek Natural Area); Chelan County, with the park, 763,189 acres, now 418,739 acres (Glacier Peak Wilderness Area, Alpine Lakes Limited Area, Tumwater Botanical Area); Okanogan County, with the park 427,948 acres, now 370,000 acres (North Cascades Primitive Area).

The area to be open to hunting (Chelan National Mountain Recreation Area) would consist of 269,521 acres, or 21 percent of the total acreage. This area would have 211,573 acres in Chelan county on land presently administered by the Wenatchee National Forest, and 57,948 acres in Okanogan County on land now in the Okanogan National Forest. Thus, all land being transferred to the National Park Service by this legislation within Okanogan County would remain open to hunting. 33 percent of the land in Chelan County proposed for transfer to the Park Service would be open to hunting.

Boundaries-North Cascades National Park

(1-2) The first leg of the boundary runs eastward from Diablo Dam on the Skagit River along Ross Dam and up Ruby Creek to Mill Creek. This leg is the northern boundary enclosing the Cascades Pass-Ruby Creek unit. It embraces the three principal drainages flowing north from the Cascades divide and the Eldorado-Boston Peak-Mt. Logan massif, the drainages of Thunder Creek, Panther Creek, and Granite Creek. All have high recreational value as access corridors.

1963 NORTH CASCADES NATIONAL PARK PROPOSAL



1937 CASCADES ICE PEAKS NATIONAL PARK PROPOSAL

Ice Peaks National Park	(proposed 1937)	———
North Cascades National Park	(proposed 1963)	▲ - - - ▲
Chelan National Mountain Recreation Area	(proposed 1963)	● - - - ●
Area to be studied by Agriculture - Interior North Cascades Study Team	(1963 - 1964)	↔

Miles
0 5 10 15 20 25

Area of Map

(2-3) The next leg of the boundary, in a clockwise direction, is the southeasterly running leg connecting the Mill Creek confluence with the Cascade divide. The leg stops the eastward extension of the park on the north at a point where an area with a considerable history of mining activity - the Slate Creek mining district - begins leaving the great preponderance of this district outside of the park. However, it does run far enough east to place all of the Granite Creek drainage in the park.

(3-4) The next leg of the boundary runs eastward in a stair-step fashion along Hancock Ridge and then, dropping down, along Delancy Ridge, to include the upper halves of both the West Fork of the Methow River and Early Winters Creek. Both are prime approach corridors from the east, and Early Winters Creek particularly needs protection as the scenic route for the North Cross State Highway.

(4-5) The next leg runs southward paralleling the Okanogan County line, a bit to the east through Silver Star Mountain and Crescent Mountain to a point of joinder with the county line just north of Reynolds Peak. This leg embraces the headwaters of the Twisp River and South Creek, which have high scenic values, and provides an eastside buffer of a mile or two to the high country along the Okanogan-Chelan county line. The boundary, incidentally, carefully avoids known mineral deposits on Gilbert and Crescent Mountains.

(5-6) From Reynolds Peak, the line runs in a long southeast leg along the Sawtooth Ridge above Lake Chelan's east shore to approximately the mid-point in the lake near Safety Harbor Creek. However, this leg does dip a bit further eastward at the outset to enclose the headwaters of War Creek, which are quite attractive. This whole leg is designed to add the upper Lake Chelan unit to the park. The boundary running down to the lake near Safety Harbor Creek is routed especially to avoid a pipeline, a stand of Ponderosa Pine, and Miners Basin, all within the drainage of Safety Harbor Creek. The boundary turns westward at this point to avoid these commodity resources and in deference to the road net and developements which penetrate to this point.

(6-7) The next long leg of the boundary runs in a southwesterly direction from Lake Chelan to just west of Lake Wenatchee, cutting at right angles across the drainages of the Entiat, Chiwawa, and White rivers. This leg adds the unspoiled upper reaches of these stream courses, leading into the scenic core of the Glacier Peak Area, to the park. The Entiat River will provide prime living space within the park for overnight camps and facilities, readily accomodating visitor overflow from the Lake Chelan area. It leads directly to such scenic climax points as the Ice Lakes, Entiat Meadows, and the wild North Fork of the Entiat River. The Chiwawa valley provides the most suitable route for an east-slope scenic display road, with the existing road now running deep into the high country to the site of the former Trinity mine. The route passes through semi-alpine forests sprinkled with frequent meadows, affording many appealing camp sites. Logging in this valley would impair the scenic mood of the country and raise the danger of eroding the loose soils of the valley sides. The White River offers ample attractive bottom land for developed facilities, such as resorts, in a location in close proximity to principal highway and rail connections (U.S. Route 2 and Great Northern R. R., 11 miles away at the Lake Wenatchee cutoff). The boundary line, for the leg adding these valleys, runs across them on a combination of lateral ridges and occasional creeklines and follows the approximate line where steeper, more scenic country begins and existing developments grow sparse.

(7-8) The next boundary leg runs westward to the Cascade divide along Wenatchee Ridge and then along the ridge south of Cady Creek. At mid-point, it follows the southern boundary of the Wilderness Area for a few miles. It is designed to put most of the White River drainage in the park and the upper reaches of the Little Wenatchee River and Cady Creek. Cady Creek offers a potential route for an eastern outlet of a peripheral parkway across Cady Pass from the west via Quartz Creek and Pass Creek. These peripheral areas are valuable for display roads and again for facilities for developed recreation.

(8-9) From the Cascade divide, the boundary next jogs out West Cady Ridge and then up Storm Ridge to near Kyes Peak. This leg of the boundary encloses the area just referred to as the potential route for a peripheral parkway. The parkway would run up Cadet Creek from the North

continued on the next page

Fork of the Sauk River and then across Curry Gap (3950 feet) and down Quratz Creek and east along Pass Creek to Cady Pass (4450 feet). The route across Curry Gap would provide spectacular views of the Monte Cristo Peaks and icefields. The parkway runs through country still in pristine condition.

(9-10) From Kyes Peak, the boundary makes a circuit around three sides of the Monte Cristo mining district to exclude most of that area from the park. It first runs north to Cadet Peak and then follows around the edge of private mining patents, running through Foggy Peak, and then west two miles, and back south to Silvertip Peak. Though the Monte Cristo district is most scenic, the amount of private holdings plus the degree of mineralization militate against its inclusion in the park in view of the fact that it is a peripheral area. The 1937 Park Service study also suggested omitting this area from the park for these reasons.

(10-11) From Silvertip Peak, the boundary runs generally to the northwest in a leg along the Del Campo Peak-Vesper Peak-Big Four Mountain ridge to a point on the South Fork of the Stillaguamish River just west of Big Four. The boundary is specifically drawn however, along surveyed section lines marking the exterior boundary of the Mt. Baker National Forest along this route. The boundary is drawn to miss most of the Silvertip mining district. This leg is designed to place the Mountain Loop Highway in the park as an outstanding display parkway, with a number of opportunities for important peripheral facilities as at Big Four. It is recognized, however, that some considerable restocking of cut-over sections in the area, as along Elliot Creek, will be required.

(11-12) The next boundary leg runs north four miles and east five miles to the Sauk River to place an integral part of the scenery for the Mountain Loop Highway within the park, the Stillaguamish Peak, Dickerman Mountain, and Falls Creek complex. This area abuts the loop highway on the west and north and invites visitation from the highway. This boundary leg also places the North Fork of the Sauk River well within the park. This area, particularly around Sloan Peak and Bedal Peak, is most scenic, but has been subjected to recent logging and will need rehabilitation.

(12-13) The next boundary leg jogs northeast around Pugh Mountain to the Whitechuck River. The boundary is designed to extend protection to the east side of Pugh Mountain and to Pugh Creek, which have not yet been logged, but is designed to exclude the Whitechuck valley itself west of Pugh Creek, as unneeded for a viable park.

(13-14) From the Whitechuck River, the boundary runs due north for fifteen miles along surveyed section lines. As the boundary direction runs at right angles to the direction of the drainage systems, somewhat arbitrary boundary lines must be chosen. The line chosen is designed to protect the entire drainages of Buck Creek and Lime Creek, flowing into the Suiattle River, and to provide an adequate setting for recreational use of Meadow Mountain, with the route up it from the Whitechuck River. These drainages and the Meadow Mountain area all have significant scenic and recreational values. The Buck Creek drainage is particularly outstanding, dead-ending against the Snowking Mountain-Mt. Buckindy massif. However, much of the valley floor of the Suiattle itself has been cut over some and will need rehabilitation.

(14-15) The next boundary leg loops westward to embrace upper Illabot Creek, flowing west off Snowking Mountain, and the lake complex north of the creek (Jordan Lakes, Falls Lakes, and Granite Lakes), and then it swings back to the Cascade River just downstream from Marble Creek. This boundary leg includes just a little more of upper Illabot Creek than the present Wilderness Area does and a few more lakes, and then it places all of the Cascade River drainage within present national forest boundaries within the park. Though the Cascade River drainage has been subjected to considerable logging in the past, its scenic potential is so incalculable that it is felt that rehabilitation is fully warranted and that the prospects for rapid regeneration are good. Marble Creek is such a spectacular approach route to the Eldorado massif that rehabilitation and future protection of this route is thought to be unquestionably warranted also.

(15-16) The final leg of the boundary runs from the Cascade River out along Teebone Ridge through Little Devil Peak, and then runs across upper Newhalem Creek to Colonial Peak and Pyramid Creek, and then down to the Skagit River, back to the point of beginning at Diablo Dam. This final leg provides a proper protective setting for the scenery around Eldorado Mountain and includes Snowfield and Colonial Peaks too. Upper Newhalem Creek is a fine approach corridor to these mountains from the north and deserves rehabilitation and protection (it has been logged some recently).

Boundaries- Chelan National Mountain Recreation Area

The boundary of the Chelan National Mountain Recreation Area, where hunting is to be allowed, was chosen with four primary considerations in mind. First, it was recognized that the east side deer herds migrate in and out of the proposed park area seasonally from summer to winter pastures and then back again. Second, it was recognized that a certain periodic reduction in deer herds is necessary to protect orchardists in winter foraging areas along east side river bottoms from excessive damages from browsing deer. Third, it was recognized that a well established sports hunting industry exists in this east side area, with Okanogan and Chelan counties having the highest annual deer kills of any two contiguous counties in Washington state (13,480 deer in 1961). The provision of a recreation zone where such hunting would be permitted to continue was suggested by the Leopold Report (Wildlife Management in the National Parks) recently submitted to the Secretary of the Interior. That report pointed out that "...portions of several proposed parks are so firmly established as traditional hunting grounds that impending closure of hunting may preclude public acceptance of park status. In such cases it may be necessary to designate core areas as national parks in every sense of the word, establishing protective buffer zones in the form of national recreation areas where hunting is permitted." As a fourth consideration, it was recognized that most hunting within the proposed park area in these two counties is done within the proximity of a few miles of a present roadway.

With these considerations in mind, an east side hunting area has been designed which should secure an adequate annual deer harvest, under varying yearly migration patterns, and which should affect a minimum change in present hunting practices. However, most of the September high hunt area, south of the North Cascades Primitive Area, will be eliminated, though some will remain at the south in the Entiat Mts. Moreover, the Alpine Lakes high hunt area to the south will still remain. In addition, one small Mountain Goat hunting unit will be eliminated, Goat Area No. 21-Stehekin River Area (25 permits). Also portions of units 1, 7, and 8 will be eliminated, though much of them will remain.

The hunting area boundaries designated include all of Okanogan County, which is within the park, and then include the east bank of the Lake Chelan drainage from a point, a little south of the town of Stehekin, southward. Moreover, upper Boulder Creek, above Stehekin, is included for hunters crossing over from the Twisp River on the east. The Stehekin valley and the town of Stehekin are excluded from the hunting area to minimize conflicts with fall park visitors in this more intensively occupied area. The Railroad Creek valley, with the Lutheran Holden Village, is excluded for the same reason. The interior hunting boundary then runs from the east bank of Lake Chelan (17) southwest along a line just north of Domke Lake to the Chelan Mountains (18). Thus the west bank of Lake Chelan south of Domke Lake is open to hunting. Then the boundary runs eastward along the Chelan Mountain crest to Phelps Ridge (19) and then down the ridge to Trinity and from there then down the Chiwawa River to the exterior boundary, near the Rock Creek Guard Station (20). Thus, the entire drainage of the Entiat River will be open to hunting, as well as the east side of the Chiwawa drainage, including Rock Creek and Phelps Creek. The west side of the Chiwawa River is closed to hunting to minimize conflicts with hikers entering the Napeequa valley from the east via Little Giant Pass and with those going into Shaefer Lake.

for National Park ????

FLASH! North Cascades Mountains Study Team Plans Announced

On March 5, 1963, the Secretaries of Agriculture and the Interior jointly appointed a study team to explore, in an objective manner, all the resource potentials of the Federal lands in the North Cascade Mountains of Washington and to recommend the form of management and administration that appears to be in the public interest. (see Wild Cascades)

The area of study will comprise all of the Federal lands in the North Cascade Mountains of Washington extending from the Canadian border south to State Route No. 5, which is the principal highway between Kosmos, Washington and Yakima, Washington via White Pass.

The directive from the two Secretaries emphasized that this study is to consider all the resources of the North Cascade Mountains of Washington State. It will not be a study merely of the recreation potential, nor a study of historical and jurisdictional conflicts between Federal agencies. This undertaking will be on a much broader basis.

Each of the studies will review not only the resource as found within the basic study area but likewise its effect on an adjacent area or zone of influence.

It is not intended that these resource studies will include recommendations as to agency jurisdictions or other major policy issues. However, the studies may include technical recommendations on policy and management as they might fit into the framework of the study.

The resource studies to be undertaken are as follows: (1) Regional Economy, (2) Water and Power, (3) Recreation, (4) Timber, (5) Minerals and Geology, (6) Fish & Wildlife, (7) Forage. The target date set for completion of the individual resource study reports is January 1, 1964.

The study team will make a field inspection of the study area during the period July 14-27, 1963. Field officials of the Forest Service and National Park Service are jointly engaged in working out the details of this field inspection.

Interested groups and individuals will be advised through the various news sources as to the time, date, and location of the field meetings, which will be scheduled in the fall of 1963. The study team will welcome thoughts and ideas of any concerned persons or groups prior to the field meetings.

Because of the complex issues involved, there has been no deadline imposed on the study team for a report. However, it is hoped that a report may be completed and submitted to the Secretaries of Agriculture and the Interior not later than January, 1965.

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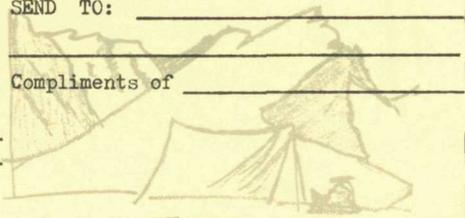
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Published bi monthly, subscription price: \$2 year.

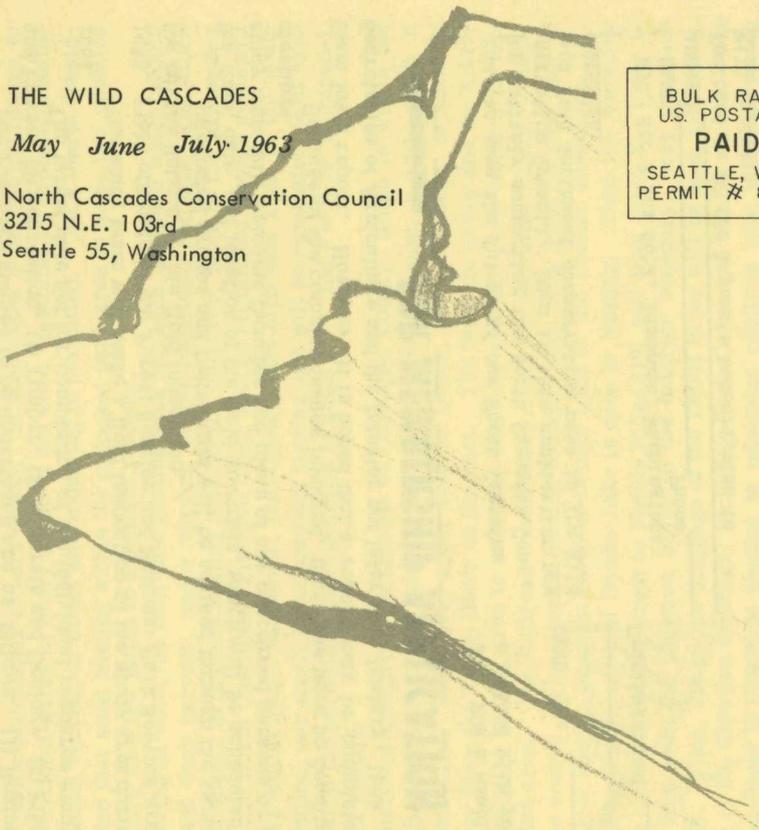


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