

NORTH CASCADES CONSERVATION COUNCIL

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Yvonne Prater
Editor

Patrick Goldsworthy, President

Philip Zalesky
1st Vice-President

"to secure the protection and preservation of scenic, scientific, recreational, educational, wildlife and wilderness values of the North Cascades....."

OFFICE, 3215 East 103rd, Seattle 55, Wash.—EDITOR, Route 1, Ellensburg, Washington

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CONSERVATIONISTS MEET WITH THE FOREST SERVICE

by John Warth

On May 18, nine conservation leaders met in Wenatchee with J.K. Blair, Supervisor of Wenatchee National Forest, and six other employees of the Forest Service. The conservationists were Mrs. Pauline Dyer, Mrs. Edith English, Dr. Donald Fager, Mrs. Emily Haig, Dr. William Halliday, Mrs. Marion Hessey, Mrs. Rick Mack, Mrs. Yvonne Prater and John Warth, all members of the North Cascades Conservation Council.

The Wenatchee National Forest has now completed preliminary multiple-use management plans for the districts in which are situated the Salmon La Sac country, the Stuart Range and Icicle Creek. Each ranger described the detailed overlay map prepared for his district. These were colored to show dominant uses of the lands. Transparent overlays depicted modified or secondary uses. The overlay mapping technique, earlier used for the Glacier Peak region, has now been simplified,

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standardized and improved somewhat. It was immediately noted, however, that roadside recreation zones were still confined to strips a few hundred feet wide. In all of these roadside strips, including camp grounds, there would be modified selective logging. Diseased and high risk (over ripe) trees would be removed. But it is well known that in narrow strips exposed to winds, virtually every tall tree is a high risk tree, and removing those makes still more trees unstable. Because of this, the Federation of Women's Clubs Forest along the Snoqualmie Pass highway was completely destroyed a number of years ago and its successor along the Chinook Pass highway suffered the same fate in part last winter. That the Forest Service has no real enthusiasm for selective logging was evident from private conversations in which the advantages of patch cutting were described.

Sizable sparsely timbered areas were zoned for wild life. A few areas were left uncolored on the maps because they had no known commercial values, no trails, no outstanding scenery, little or no recreation use. These blank areas were hence thought of as "wild lands." Because of the importance of the forest for water production there was little or no zoning for grazing as a dominant use. Good news was that grazing will eventually be eliminated altogether from the Salmon La Sac country.

Further evidence of the Forest Service's recognition of watershed values was that extensive areas, especially in the drier eastern portion, were zoned for water and soil. One could not help wondering if some of the timber-zoned areas farther back in the mountains might also prove to be most valuable for watershed protection, especially considering the importance of irrigation to the economy of the region. Add to this the potential recreation industry, including horse packing into remote lakes, and a stumpage value might be arrived at that would be higher (not lower as is now the case) than in more accessible stands.

Whatever the explanation might be, it was interesting to note that areas upon which conservationists had focused attention were in general given more recognition for recreation than were neglected areas. Thus the Cooper and Waptus drainages fared better than the upper Icicle, although the latter is inside the Limited Area. Everything around and above Pete Lake and all but the lower Waptus Valley would be given the equivalent of wilderness protection. However, due to its proximity to a road, the steep forested slopes that are part of the famous scene of Fish Meadows and Cathedral Rock would be thrown open to selective logging. One wonders what the final outcome of these proposals will be since their preliminary and flexible nature was repeatedly stressed. The Alpine Lakes Limited Area will be abolished rather than altered, and no further dedicated areas will be considered at this time.

The Forest Service is now negotiating to exchange several sections of railroad lands. Unfortunately such key sections as the one at the outlet of Cooper Lake will not be included due to their timber values.

In general, it could be said that recreation received fair recognition in these studies. From the many scenic photographs on the walls, and from conversations it was apparent that Forest Service employees have a genuine love for the Cascades. Nor was the importance of roadless areas overlooked. Mention was made of the heavy use of the trails in the Icicle watershed. A trail-use survey was even conducted. On a typical weekend a high lake may accommodate 20 to 25 fishermen who have come in by horse. Hence it was difficult to see any justification for the many miles of roads planned to open up these already popular areas of wilderness,—except, of course, to satisfy the lumbermen.

Everyone appreciated the great amount of work that must have gone into the overlay maps. Nevertheless conservationists have always been aware of the limitations of this approach to public land evaluation. Would such a close scrutiny ever reveal that any area taken as a unit (lowlands as well as uplands) had social and scientific

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values that transcended possible commodity resource values? Imagine the same method applied to Yellowstone, Yosemite, etc. Just as in art, steel tapes and slide rules can't separate the scenic masterpieces from the run-of-the-mill scenery. Artists judge art; scenery specialists should judge scenery. It is now known that studies of national forests for the Outdoor Recreation Resources Commission will be made by Forest Service personnel themselves. There will still be an urgent need for an independent, professional study of these areas as a whole to determine what superlative scenic, scientific and wilderness values exist and how best they can be protected. Economic studies have yet to be made to determine benefits as against losses that can be expected from the various possible forms of management.

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FOREST CONSERVATION PLAN STIRS INTEREST LOCALLY AND NATIONALLY

Our nation's forest areas are receiving a lot of attention these days as the various agencies move to study the resources that are to provide recreation and commodities for ourselves and future generations.

The National Park Service is improving their Park System through the Mission 66 study; the Forest Service is now working with the Outdoor Recreation Resources Commission; the Wilderness Bill is receiving attention in Congress now and just recently, and Secretary Benson of the Agriculture Department has proposed a Forest Conservation Plan.

This plan is receiving quite a bit of support in the Northwest by individuals who have gone on record in the various Senate hearings as being against the Wilderness Bill.

In a quote from the May 27 issue of the Ellensburg Record: "W. D. Hagenstein, Portland, Oregon, executive vice president of the Industrial Forestry Association, told a House Agriculture subcommittee his organization is particularly interested in several items in the program."

"Those items, he said, include access roads, proposed allowable cuts of timber, additional recreational facilities, protection against insects and disease, fire protection, management plans, land exchanges and research."

"W. D. Bromley, executive secretary of the American Pulpwood Association, New York, said management practices should encourage full development of forestry resources."

Another supporter of the Forest Conservation Plan is Congressman Catherine May representing the Fourth District in eastern Washington. A statement issued by Mrs. May recently in the Yakima Herald:

"What is done in the next 10 or 15 years will determine whether this great public estate (our forests) contributes its fair share of the needs and necessities of our people by the end of the century...."

"Mrs. May declared, "Last year the national forests of my state had cash receipts of nearly 16 million dollars. It will be larger this year. Returns to the Treasury could be very much larger if we build the necessary timber access roads and do the other things outlined in Secretary Benson's proposed program."

"Mrs. May is a member of the subcommittee on forests of the House Agriculture Committee, which will hold hearings May 14-15 on the proposed program of the agriculture secretary. The program sets up long-range objectives looking to the year 2,000. It also outlines interim action concerned with what needs to be done in the next 10 to 15 years to mesh with the long-range objectives and meet current demands."

"The report is the result of several years of study on the part of the Forest Service and follows up the less comprehensive reports dealing with development of recreational resources and with timber needs and resources."

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Catherine May received so many letters asking her what she felt about the Wilderness Bill and urging her to support it that on Thursday, May 7, her regular column of comments on her work in Washington was devoted to discussing the Wilderness Bill and following are some interesting comments from that article:

"Because I have had so many letters from our district expressing an interest in the Wilderness Bill and asking for more information about it, I have decided to devote my newsletter to this subject...."

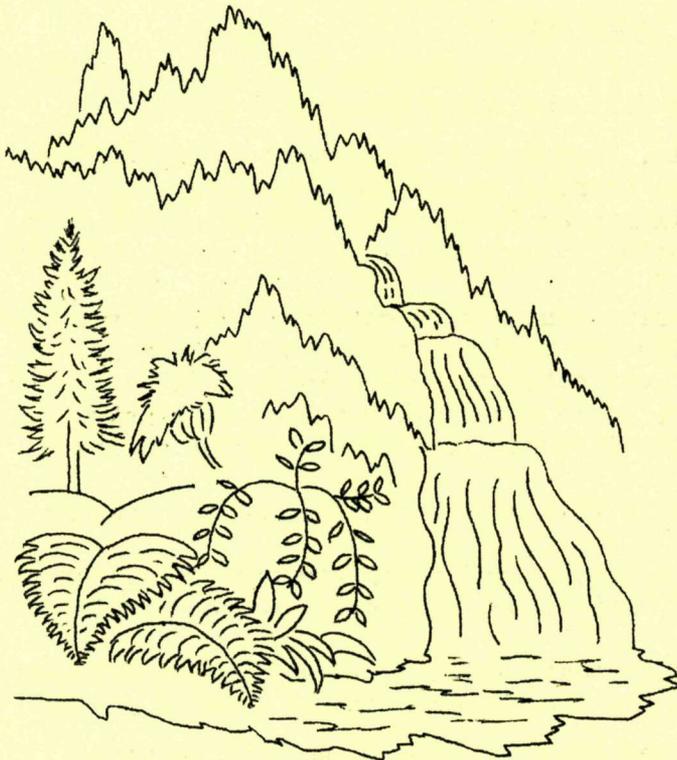
"I think that this is a subject so widespread in its interest and so controversial in its content that I would urge service clubs, women's organizations and other groups throughout our area to make it a subject for study and discussion, if at all possible."

"After receipt of reports from the Departments of Agriculture and Interior and the Budget Bureau, the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs committee is expected to vote on whether to send the bill to the floor late this month or possibly in June. A revision in the bill being discussed would require Congressional approval before any area goes into the Wilderness System, and with this revision there may be about a 50-50 chance of the Senate committee approving the Wilderness Bill this year. There seems to be a better than 50-50 chance of the full Senate passing the bill if it gets to the floor..."

"All this adds up to no more than an outside chance that the Wilderness Bill can get through Congress in 1959. It will probably stay alive through 1960."

It has been noted that Secretary Benson's proposal mentions the word wilderness in one short paragraph of the plan and very vaguely at that. It would seem that the "Timber is a Crop" philosophy has great personality appeal with our land managers. We are constantly reminded that we must be mindful of the "local economy when we dare suggest not logging an area because of its outstanding scenic value. We're kidding ourselves if we think that this is in the interest "of the greatest good for the greatest number in the long run." The record of some timber interests in perpetuating the timber supply is disgraceful and I am thinking of one area in particular that lies along the Mowich Lake road entrance to Mt. Rainier National Park. Research and scientific knowledge of land uses is given a back seat while we

merrily roll along gobbling up and draining our land of its resources—with the thought that future generations will have developed substitutes for the things we take for granted.



The need for timber access roads into non-controversial forest areas is obvious and if answered properly will concentrate logging efforts where they belong. Crystal Mountain ski development will relieve the pressures to build ski developments in Mt. Rainier National Park. Similarly, access into most of our roadless National Forests should spare the superlative scenic and recreational areas in the small remaining areas.

The deathknell on wilderness may be sounding with the advent of Benson's measure. It outlines no firm support for wilderness nor does it mention the Wilderness Bill. It also sounds like one of those confusing moves that are sometimes made to sidetrack the public's attention from the Wilderness Bill. We'd better keep our eyes and ears open on this one—the Forest Conservation Plan.

THE NORTH CASCADES CONSERVATION COUNCIL, PEOPLE, AND THE NORTH CASCADES

by William R. Halliday, M.D.

In the May issue of N3C NEWS, North Cascades Conservation Council members were urged to write Representative Thomas M. Pelly, supporting him for supporting us. This is fine, and it should also be noted that Representative Don Magnuson has also proposed specific steps which are wholly in accord with our hopes. He, too, merits our support.

In this article, however, it was intimated that requesting a National Park Service study of the North Cascades "takes courage in the state of Washington."

Frankly, I disagree. I believe that Representatives Pelly and Magnuson have recognized even better than many of us the tremendous and ever-increasing body of sentiment for protection of our most precious scenic gems, not only in Washington but everywhere throughout America. Conservationists are riding the crest of the future, and the smarter politicians have recognized it. Look at Oregon, where many political experts of the old, spend-and-elect school are wholly at a loss to understand the repeated re-election of men who theoretically shouldn't have a chance in a state which traditionally belongs to the other party. They overlook the fact that the voters know who is truly concerned with the preservation of the beauties of the Northwest.

If we permit ourselves to be fooled by the immutable monotone of those who would commercialize our dedicated areas, and actually come to believe that we ARE only the tiny minority that they say that we are, it will postpone for many years the things that are just around the corner if we fight just a little harder. We may be a small spearhead, but there is a tremendous body of public opinion which we have not even attempted to utilize, yet which remains immovable despite the strenuous efforts of the commercial opposition. Time is on THEIR side. We must not be hoodwinked. This is no time for fear, but the time for bold, vigorous and decisive action. (Ed. HAVE YOU WRITTEN YOUR CARD OR LETTER TO PELLY YET???)

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WHAT THE SEATTLE TIMES FORGOT

First, let's look at a few paragraphs lifted from the Tuesday, April 2 issue of the Seattle Times; concerning the Wilderness Bill and the hearing held in Seattle.

"Needless, and in our view undesirable, legislation to further a worthwhile cause has been the subject of a congressional hearing in Seattle this week.

"We refer to the proposed National Wilderness Preservation Act which has been revived in the 86th Congress in a form essentially the same, with only minor revisions, as the similar measure introduced last year."

"Thinking on questions of forest conservation in this country invariably trends toward two, often emotional, extremes. On the one hand are those who are apt to place undue emphasis on the economic uses of our national forest lands. At the other extreme are those who, if they had their way, would never allow a tree to be hewn down or a dead fern to be removed. The public interest lies in a moderate course between the two extremes."

"We do not foresee much danger that this bill will be enacted at the present session of Congress. It should not be.

"The existing procedures for the establishment and administration of wilderness areas by the Forest Service and Secretary of Agriculture will never be acceptable to everyone.

"But they are far more in the public interest, which is to say in the interest of the majority of the American people, than the procedures proposed in this measure."

Now, what the Times evidently forgot was that the Wilderness Bill hearing "received strong support in a hostile region" and that "over 400 letters and wires were received at Seattle by the Congressional Committee. This exceeded the Bend

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hearing count where letters were overwhelmingly in favor of the bill 90 to 1." (quoted from John Osseward's article in the April N3C NEWS.)

* * * * *

TRAIL TRIPS FOR THE SUMMER

STEVENS PASS HIGHWAY — Drive 60 miles from Seattle to Index

1 - Lake Blanca: (1 day trip) Turn north off the highway and drive for 15 miles on Garland Hot Springs road. Take trail about 2 miles beyond the Hot Springs and hike 3 miles over a ridge into Lake Blanca nested close under the peaks of the Monte Cristo Range.

2 - Miller River Trail: (2 day trip) Drive 12 miles further up the highway and turn south at the concrete bridge across Skyknomish River. Continue 5 miles south along Miller River road past the Miller River campground to the West Fork campground. Hike 6 and 10 miles into Lake Dorothy and Bear, Deer and Snoqualmie Lakes.

3 - 4 - Foss River Trails: (2 day trip) Drive two miles beyond Skykomish and turn south off the highway for about 5 miles to East Fork trail and hike into the isolated enchanting Necklace Valley, or continue 2 miles further on the road to West Fork trail and hike 7 miles passing Trout, Copper, Heart, and Angeline Lakes.

SNOQUALMIE PASS HIGHWAY - Drive 80 miles from Seattle to Cle Elum then 16 miles north via Roslyn to Salmon La Sac Campground.

5 - Cooper Lake - Waptus Lake loop: (3 or 4 day trip) Hike 4 miles to Cooper Lake, 5 miles further to Pete Lake, then 5 miles over Polallie Ridge to Waptus Lake and 8 miles back to the campground.

6 - Icicle Creek Headwaters: (2 and 3 day trips) Many alpine lakes can be reached close under the crest of the Cascades. Trails leave the forest road south of Leavenworth.

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WILDERNESS CARDS AND MOVIES

These Postcards For Sale For Whatever You'll Pay \$.50, \$1.00, \$5.00?
Your contribution can help **SAVE YOUR CASCADES!**

It is public land belongs to you, your children, their children. It has a wilderness grandeur unsurpassed in our greatest parks. It is now needlessly threatened. To help rescue this superb part of America:

- 1: Use all you can of these natural-color Cascades post card sets. Contribute all you can. All excess will go toward Northern Cascade preservation.
- 2: Mail the cards freely to friends- in and out of government, and enlist their help.
- 3: Join an organization that is helping you insure that this scenic resource is spared for the future.

"This great country is only as safe as people knowing about it want it to be." Wilderness Cards from the Sierra Club (a non-profit organization) are distributed by the North Cascades Conservation Council (Seattle) and other cooperating organizations who are conserving our scenic resources.

Thus reads one of the 12 display posters we are using to promote the distribution of 8 regular and 2 jumbo size post cards. We have several thousand of each postcard for sale. Drop a card to the office to ORDER CARDS FOR YOURSELF or TO SELL TO OTHERS. (Suggest donations of at least 50 cents for the set of 10 cards) Send donations to Charles Hessey, Star Route, Naches, Washington.

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Have you seen GLACIER PEAK HOLIDAY, our most recent film purchase? This movie(16mm, color, magnetic sound track) was filmed by Charles Hessey and will be appreciated by all who have enjoyed the first film we acquired, WILDERNESS ALPS OF STEHEKIN. Arrange with Joe Miller, 15405 S.E. 9th, Bellevue, Wash. to show either or both in your community. * * * * *

"RECREATION BOOM WILL JAM FORESTS"

(Friday, April 10th issue of a Redding, California newspaper)

"Fresno--(AP)--The demand for forest recreation in California in 1965 will be near twice that in 1955, says the dean of the University of California school of forestry.

"Dean J. Vaux told the San Joaquin Valley council of the state chamber of commerce yesterday that "natural solitude will be hard pressed to survive such an onslaught."

"To solve the problem by enlarging the available area of wilderness we would need almost 4 million additional acres of wilderness," he said. "We do not have available land to meet the demand."

VAUX URGED MORE CAREFUL MANAGEMENT OF FOREST VEGETATION AND TIGHTER REGULATIONS FOR PEOPLE WHO USE THE PRIMITIVE AREAS.

* * * * *

"PULP MAY TRAVEL BY PIPELINE"

(June 2, Yakima Morning Herald): (AP- New York) "Pulpwood to be made into newsprint may some day travel directly from the forests to the paper mills through pipelines, if an experiment by the Pulp and Paper Research Institute of Canada proves feasible.

"The Newsprint Information Committee says tests are underway in which pulpwood, reduced to one inch chips, is powered through a pipeline 500 feet long and eight inches in diameter."

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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Mrs. Howard Zahniser, Hyattsville, Md.; Mrs. Robert Frenkel, Berkeley, Calif.; Mrs. Charles Zalesky, Seattle; Mrs. Bertram Dick, Champagne, Ill.; Mrs. Edward M. Ornitz; New Haven, Conn.; G. J. Burmeister, Seattle; Peter Bause, Jr., Seattle; Mrs. John Haas, Mercer Island, Wn.; Harry Kasten, New York, N. Y.; Ralph Earle, M.D., Vinalhaven, Maine; Miss Elsie Stoller, Kelso, Wn.; Mrs. Hall Taylor, New York, N. Y.; Mr. and Mrs. Richard McCorkle, Seattle; Mr. Julian Robarge, Seattle; and Jack Haller, Seattle.

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To: Membership Chairman, John Anderson, 3530 W. Laurelhurst Drive, Seattle 5, Wash.
Please renew my membership in the North Cascades Conservation Council for the fiscal year ending March 1, 1960. Enclosed find dues for Associate (\$1.00) _____
Regular (\$2.00) _____, Contributing (\$5.00 or more) _____, Spouse (\$.50) _____
Life (\$25.00) _____ membership.

Member's Name _____ Signature _____
Address _____ Date _____

In addition, I suggest membership forms and literature be sent to the following individual(s) who I believe would be interested in supporting our organization.
