

THE WILD CASCADES

SUMMER - 1988

100TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2165

To designate wilderness within Olympic National Park, Mount Rainier National Park, and North Cascades National Park Complex in the State of Washington, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 15 (legislative day, MARCH 14), 1988
Mr. EVANS (for himself and Mr. ADAMS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

A BILL

To designate wilderness within Olympic National Park, Mount Rainier National Park, and North Cascades National Park Complex in the State of Washington, and for other purposes.

- 1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives*
- 2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
- 3 That this Act may be cited as the "Washington Park Wilder-
- 4 *ness Act of 1988".*

100TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4146

To designate wilderness within Olympic National Park, Mount Rainier National Park, and North Cascades National Park Complex in the State of Washington, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 15, 1988
Mr. CHANDLER (for himself, Mr. SWIFT, and Mr. MILLER of Washington) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs

A BILL

To designate wilderness within Olympic National Park, Mount Rainier National Park, and North Cascades National Park Complex in the State of Washington, and for other purposes.

- 1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives*
- 2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
- 3 That this Act may be cited as the "Washington Park Wilder-
- 4 *ness Bill of 1988".*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

DAVE FLUHARTY

Why a Wilderness legislation for national parks and national recreation areas? Aren't these areas already fully protected? Shouldn't we spend our time and resources trying to protect old-growth forests slated for logging? These and other questions are being posed as we discuss the Washington Park Wilderness Act of 1988 with politicians, state officials, and even our friends in the environmental community. With this issue of *The Wild Cascades*, we take the opportunity to answer these important questions.

When Congress passed the Wilderness Act in September 1964 it was responding to the need to protect lands in a forever wild condition. The Wilderness Act authorized all major land management agencies to designate and manage wilderness under the same protection mandate. It provided that certain areas were automatically designated parts of the National Wilderness Preservation System. It also instructed the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior to review all eligible land within their jurisdictions and to make recommendations to Congress for areas considered suitable for wilderness designation.

Wilderness maps were prepared for National Park Service administered areas in Washington State by 1972 and there were even bills introduced into Congress to authorize these plans. However, the priority for wilderness designations in national park areas was secondary to battling for similar designations in national forest areas at that time. Furthermore, the legal wranglings over construction of High Ross Dam were in full swing and these affected the outcome of the Ross Lake National Recreation Area Wilderness Proposal. An unspoken consensus was reached among the preservation community and the National Park Service to delay consideration of wilderness in the national parks and recreation areas.

Now the time has come to take care of unfinished business. Since the early 1970s the National Park Service has managed the backcountry areas as de facto wilderness. Recent General Management Planning processes and Wilderness reviews have dusted off the old proposals and revised them to incorporate necessary changes. They are now ready to be revisited and approved by Congress.

The North Cascades Conservation Council (NCCC) is generally pleased with the proposals and urges you to voice your support for the legislation. NCCC has developed some suggested improvements in the legislation which will be presented to Congress in hearings early this summer. These are outlined elsewhere in this issue of *The Wild Cascades*.

What difference does this all make? It means that the National Park Service is prohibited from using its discretionary authority to allow road building, facility siting, and motorized recreational use of the areas included in wilderness. Thus, even with a James Watt as President, Congress would still have to agree to drop Wilderness designation to allow encroachment of these areas. An Congress is loathe to lend its approval. In the North Cascades National Park Complex this means that the final nail is being driven in the coffin of the tramway proposals, Roland Point Road, hut systems and many other schemes that would compromise the wilderness character of the Cascades.

Even the timber industry should find it possible to support this wilderness bill! Not one single tree that is not already under NPS protection is removed from the timber base. So why do I ask you to write? Because the timber industry is not likely to do so and because Congress needs to know that this is a priority issue for us. Furthermore, motorized recreation champions are all excited and are writing in opposition to this legislation even though it would not affect their existing uses one iota.

David Fisher

President

North Cascades Conservation Council



BIG BEAVER VALLEY - Wilderness not Potential Wilderness and Add to Park
Eliza Anderson

WHY WILDERNESS IN PARKS ?

In the Wilderness Act of 1964, Congress established its policy of creating a National Wilderness Preservation System, to be composed of units of federally owned lands administered by the U.S. Forest Service, the National Park Service, and other federal agencies. While a number of areas were immediately, or soon, added to the System (i.e. Glacier Peak, Goat Rocks, and Mt. Adams Wildernesses) the Secretary of the Interior was given 10 years to review every roadless area of 5,000 contiguous acres or more in the national parks, monuments, and other units of the National Park System and to recommend as to the suitability or unsuitability of designating each such area as Wilderness.

When the North Cascades National Park and Ross Lake and Lake Chelan National Recreation Areas were established in 1968, Congress called for a Wilderness Recommendation for these three units of the Complex, to be prepared and submitted to Congress in two years.

The Park Service's proposal for designation of 515,880 acres of Wilderness in the Complex was submitted to Congress in 1970 but was never acted upon. This proposal included a wilderness recommendation for lands within the two NRA's as well as the Park.

The North Cascades Conservation Council (N3C) persuaded local and national conservation organizations, as well as the National Park Service, not to promote legislative implementation of the 1970 Wilderness proposals, in any of Washington's 3 national parks, until the issue of whether Ross Dam in the North Cascades National Park Complex would be raised or not was resolved. It was considered highly probable that Big Beaver Valley would be excluded from any wilderness legislation as long as the possibility of raising Ross Dam existed. However, when Seattle and British Columbia finally signed the treaty agreement, in March 1984, that Ross Dam would not be raised, it was decided to actively pursue Wilderness legislation for all three Parks.

The 1970 recommendation for the North Cascades National Park Complex has been updated administratively every few years since 1970 with many of the concepts and developments proposed in 1970 being found no longer valid. The most recent Park Service proposal is included in the North Cascades National Park Service Complex Draft General Management Plan of October 1987 (See "Wild Cascades", Winter 1987).

Senator Dan Evans, on March 15, 1988, introduced the Washington Park Wilderness Bill, S.2165, (for himself and Senator Brock Adams) to designate Wilderness within Olympic National Park, Mount Rainier National Park, and North Cascades National Park Complex in the State of Washington. An identical companion bill HR4146 was introduced by Congressman Rod Chandler (for himself and Congressmen Al Swift and John Miller).

Senator Evans commented, when introducing this bill, that "this legislation will add over 1.7 million acres of wilderness to the Wilderness Preservation System in Washington State. For Washington State, it will virtually complete the mandate required under the 1964 Wilderness Act for designating wilderness areas on Federal land. In 1984, the Washington delegation successfully passed legislation that established wilderness on our national forest land (see "The Wild Cascades" Fall, 1984). The bill we are introducing today will accomplish the same thing for those lands administered by the National Park Service.

The importance of this bill is not in its immediate impact on the parks. All of Washington's parks were established and are managed as wilderness parks. However, the longterm impact is important. We want the national parks in Washington to remain wilderness parks. This bill would prevent development from encroaching further into the wilderness areas of the parks. It will ensure that the original purposes for which these parks will set aside in the first place will be protected.

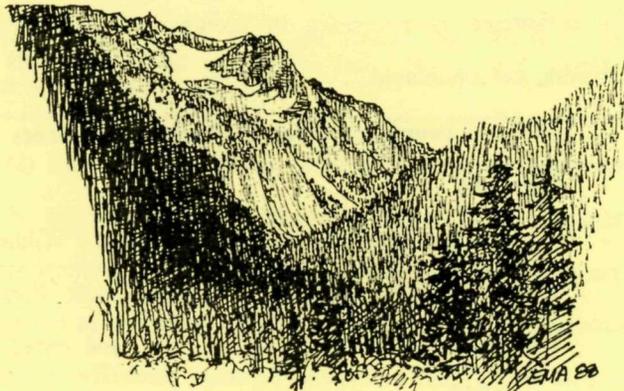
Specifically, the bill would designate 871,730 acres of wilderness and 594 acres of potential wilderness in Olympic National Park, 634,614 acres of wilderness and 5,226 acres of potential wilderness in the North Cascades National Park Complex, and 216,855 acres of wilderness in Mount Rainier National Park.

Potential wilderness designation is used for lands that are either not owned by the Federal Government but are targeted for aquisition or on which there is a nonwilderness use that the National Park Service anticipates terminating. The potential wilderness designation allows the Park Service to administratively declare the area as wilderness once it has been acquired or the nonconforming use has terminated.

I am aware that there are a number of environmental groups that have proposed larger boundary adjustments between the Forest Service and the Mount Rainier National Park and the North Cascades National Park. While we have not included those adjustments in this bill, I support the sentiment that boundaries follow logical land management lines. I am a strong believer that we should try to correct nonsensical boundaries that transect rather than follow hydrological and ecological lines. This bill does not contain any more ambitious exchanges for a number of reasons. A primary concern is that there has been little to no public review of those proposals. I urge continued public discussion of these proposals so that conflicts that may exist between national park and national forest management policies may move closer to resolution."

Senator Brock Adams also commented "In 1964 this country decided that there were some areas in this vast land which ought to be preserved, which should be exempt from the scars of human intrusion, and which need to be protected from human exploitation."

"In passing the Wilderness Act, Congress deemed it essential that areas be designated for protection and preservation in their natural condition to ensure that our growing population would not totally destroy all pristine areas. Under this legislation, these newly designated wilderness areas would fulfill the policy in that original Wilderness Act; they would secure for current and future Americans the benefit of enduring resource of wilderness."



GOODELL CREEK -, National Park Wilderness
Eliza Anderson

WASHINGTON PARK WILDERNESS ACT OF 1988 **S. 2165 H.R. 4146**

TITLE 2—NORTH CASCADES PARK WILDERNESS

SEC. 201. DESIGNATION AND ADMINISTRATION.

(a) WILDERNESS.—In furtherance of the purposes of the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.; 78 Stat. 890), certain lands in the North Cascades National Park, Ross Lake National Recreation Area, and Lake Chelan National Recreation Area, Washington, which—

(1) comprise approximately six hundred and thirty-four thousand, six hundred and fourteen acres of wilderness, and approximately five thousand, two hundred as he deems appropriate for recreation and preservation purposes and for resource development compatible therewith. Within the Ross Lake National Recreation Area the removal and disposal of trees within power line rights-of-way is authorized as necessary to protect transmission lines, towers, and equipment.”

dred and twenty-six acres of potential wilderness additions, and

(2) are depicted on a map entitled “Wilderness Boundary, North Cascades National Park Complex, Washington”, numbered _____ and dated January 1988,

are hereby designated as wilderness and therefore as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System. Such lands shall be known as the Stephen Mather Wilderness.

N. C. C. C.

We object to the use of personal names to designate natural features. The "North Cascades Wilderness" name is consistent with the other two national park wildernesses designated in this legislation. There is potential confusion over the Mather Parkway in Mt. Rainier National Park and a "Mather Wilderness" designated in an entirely different part of the range.

(b) ADMINISTRATION.—(1) Subject to valid existing rights, the wilderness area designated under this section shall be administered by the Secretary of the Interior in accordance with the provisions of the Wilderness Act governing areas designated as wilderness, except that reference to the Secretary of Agriculture shall be deemed, where appropriate, to be a reference to the Secretary of the Interior, and any reference to the effective date of the Wilderness Act shall be deemed, where appropriate, to be a reference to the effective date of this Act.

N. P. S.

The area is administered as a Complex and the legislated differences between the NRA's and the Park will remain even with the crossing of administrative boundaries by Wilderness designation (e.g. recreation for the NRA's and preservation for the Park. Hunting will continue within the NRA's.)

Within the Wilderness proposal boundaries the only administrative facilities are snow data collection sites (11), three fire lookouts, five shelters, and two ranger cabins. Only two roads penetrate the National Park and are excluded from Wilderness along the Cascade River and the Stehekin River.

The Stehekin Valley floor, within the Lake Chelan NRA, would be excluded from Wilderness as this area has private land, roads and other activities incompatible with wilderness designation.

(2) Lands designated as potential wilderness additions shall be administered by the Secretary of the Interior insofar as practicable as wilderness until such time as said lands are designated as wilderness. Any lands designated as potential wilderness additions, upon publication in the Federal Register of a notice by the Secretary of the Interior that all uses

thereon that are inconsistent with the Wilderness Act have ceased or that non-Federal interests in land have been acquired, shall thereby be designated as wilderness and managed accordingly.

N. P. S.

The proposed Wilderness boundaries allow for the raising of Ross Lake (High Ross), the flooding and tunneling of Thunder Creek, and the construction of Copper Creek Dam. All of these proposals are tied to the treaty between the U.S. and Canada. Big Beaver and Thunder Creek Valleys would be "Potential Wilderness" and could be administratively designated when the treaty is no longer in effect (January, 2066).

N. C. C. C.

We object to the designation "potential wilderness" in the Big Beaver Valley and Thunder Creek. We do not object to the "potential wilderness" designation for the patented mining claims under consideration for purchase, as long as these are automatically designated wilderness upon the purchase of all surface and mineral rights.

There is no need to hold off placing the Big Beaver and Thunder Creek Valleys in wilderness. Since the International Treaty between Canada and the United States establishes the management direction for this portion of the Skagit drainage it is unnecessary to reserve these areas for hydroelectric facility development. The International Skagit Environmental Endowment Commission established under the Treaty is directed to protect the natural character of the upper Skagit. Wilderness designation in Big Beaver Valley is clearly within the management mandate they would endorse. Further, proposals by Washington State agencies for blasting rapids and waterfalls in the lower Big Beaver Valley for fish passage facilities would be precluded by wilderness designation.

(c) MAP AND DESCRIPTION.—As soon as practicable after the effective date of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior shall file a map of the wilderness area and a legal description of its boundaries with the Energy and Natural Resources Committee of the United States Senate, and the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee of the United States House of Representatives. Such boundaries shall be drawn no more than two hundred feet from the centerline of any paved road. Such map and legal description shall have the same force and effect as if included in this Act, except that correction of clerical and typographical errors in the map and legal description may be made. Such map and legal description of the boundaries shall be on file and available for public

inspection in the office of the Director of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, and in the office of the Superintendent of the North Cascades National Park.

N. C. C. C.

Wilderness boundaries in the vicinity of roads should be drawn no more than 100 feet from the center line of any existing primary paved road or 50 feet from the center line of any existing secondary unpaved road with exceptions for established and planned visitor and administrative facilities.

SEC. 202. INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARIES.

The Secretary of the Interior shall manage the area fifty feet south of the common boundary between Canada and the United States in a manner consistent with the International Boundary Commission and agreements between the Governments of Canada and the United States, including the cutting of vegetation along the boundary as necessary and appropriate, notwithstanding the designation of such area as wilderness.

N. P. S.

There is currently a practice of clearing 30 feet on either side of the U.S.-Canadian international boundary for "security" purposes. This practice may be curtailed in the future and should not preclude designation of wilderness along the boundary. This would be consistent with the U.S.F.S. wilderness areas along the U.S./Canadian boundary (e.g. Pasayten Wilderness).

N. C. C. C.

We object to the phrase, "including the cutting of vegetation along the boundary as necessary and appropriate". This phrase should be deleted. If necessary the International Boundary Treaty should be amended to specifically except areas included in wilderness from the vegetation cutting provisions. The 100-foot wide swath of clear-cutting along the boundary is a significant visual blight. It is absolutely inappropriate in a national park that is to be managed as a natural area. Under wilderness designation, this inappropriate use would be continued. Usually this clearing is performed with motorized equipment in violation of the intent of the Wilderness Act. There is not now, nor has there been effective surveillance of the boundary cut for customs or immigration purposes in the North Cascades. Congress has a unique opportunity to reevaluate the international boundary cutting in national parks and wilderness areas.

SEC. 203. AUTHORIZATION FOR HYDROELECTRIC PROJECTS.

Section 505 of the Act of October 2, 1968 (82 Stat. 930; 16 U.S.C. 90d-4), is amended as follows: Strike "in the recreation areas", and insert in lieu thereof "in the lands and

waters within the Skagit River Hydroelectric Project, Federal Energy and Regulatory Commission Project 553, including the proposed Copper Creek, High Ross, and Thunder Creek elements of the Project, and the Newhalem Project, Federal Energy and Regulatory Commission Project 2705, within the Ross Lake National Recreation Area, and in the lands and waters within the Lake Chelan Project, Federal Energy and Regulatory Commission Project 637, and the Company Creek small hydroelectric project at Stehekin within the Lake Chelan National Recreational Area”.

N. P. S.

Purpose of Section 203 This is to clarify the intent of the Congress concerning the continued role of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission within the Ross Lake National Recreation Area and the Lake Chelan National Recreation Area. The intent of the original legislation was to insure that in the three existing major hydroelectric projects operated by Seattle City Light (Ross Lake, Diablo Lake, and Gorge), the small hydroelectric project at Newhalem, and the three proposed additions to the Skagit River Project, (the High Ross addition, Copper Creek and Thunder Creek) would not be adversely affected by the establishment of the Ross Lake National Recreation Area. It was further intended that the two existing hydroelectric projects operated by the Chelan County Public Utility District, (Lake Chelan and the small hydroelectric project at Company Creek in Stehekin) would not be adversely affected by the establishment of the Lake Chelan National Recreation Area.

In drawing the wilderness boundaries as established in this Act, care was taken to insure that none of these above mentioned hydroelectric projects, established or proposed, are affected by this Act. While the intent of the Congress in establishing the recreation areas was to protect these existing projects there was no intent to allow consideration of additional Projects such as small hydroelectric facilities in the recreation area. The existing Skagit River (including the three proposed new elements) and the Chelan Project include all the high generating capacity potential in the recreation areas. The generalized language in the 1968 statute is vague and can lead to confusion for the wilderness and other lands within the recreation areas outside the existing projects. This serves to clarify that language and serves to protect the recreation area resources.

SEC. 204. LAND ACQUISITION FOR ADMINISTRATIVE FACILITIES.

Section 301 of the Act of October 2, 1968 (82 Stat. 927; 16 U.S.C. 90b), is hereby amended to add a new subsection as follows:

“(b) The Secretary is hereby authorized to acquire, on a willing seller basis, lands outside of the authorized boundaries

of North Cascades National Park for the purpose of construction and operation of a visitor and information center not to exceed twenty acres in fee and eighty acres in easements. The lands so acquired shall be managed as part of the park. The Secretary of the Interior is further authorized to acquire on a willing seller basis, lands for the construction of a headquarters and administrative site or sites, for the North Cascades National Park, Ross Lake National Recreation Area, and Lake Chelan National Recreation Area not to exceed ten acres.”.

N . C . C . C .

The Secretary of Interior already has the authorization to purchase , from willing sellers, in these two areas and can use these lands for park purposes. The specific inclusion of this authorization is superfluous. The North Cascades Conservation Council has long supported the concept that park administrative and othe facilities should be located outside of the park areas wherever possible. It is our understanding that the National Park Service is now proposing to use the undeveloped Goodell Creek area within the Park Complex for administrative areas and visitor center. This is inappropriate, given the availability of adequate land outside the Park for these purposes. and the fact that this will not serve the Cascade River visitors. The site originally planned at Marblemount would serve visitors to both the Cascade River Valley as well as the upper Skagit River area and would be superior. Delaying the decision pending the funding would be desirable.

SEC. 205. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are hereby authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of the Interior such sums as may be necessary to complete the land acquisitions authorized pursuant to section 204 of this Act.

SEC. 206. MINERAL RESOURCE USE IN RECREATION AREAS.

Section 402(b) of the Act of October 2, 1968 (82 Stat. 928; 16 U.S.C. 90c-1), is hereby revised as follows: Strike the subsection in its entirety and insert in lieu thereof:

“SEC. 402. (b) The lands within the recreation areas, subject to valid existing rights, are hereby withdrawn from all forms of appropriation or disposal under the public land laws, including location, entry, and patent under the United

States mining laws, and disposition under the United State mineral leasing laws: *Provided, however,* That within the Lake Chelan National Recreation Area, sand, rock, and gravel may be made available for lease to the residents of Stehekin for local use so long as such leasing and disposal does not have significant adverse effects on the administration of the National Recreation Area.”.

N. P. S.

Purpose of Section 206 Through Administrative Action all of the Lake Chelan National Recreation Area and most of the Ross Lake National Recreation Area are now closed to mineral leasing. The language of this section serves to formalize that policy and further it by closing all lands in both national recreation areas to leasing. Mineral leasing would not be compatible with the wilderness and recreation resources of the national recreation areas. Valid existing rights are protected. There has been no interest in leasing in recent years. Sand, rock and gravel are saleable minerals, open to lease in Lake Chelan NRA and of interest to the Stehekin residents for local use. The provision in Section 8 would permit that continued use.

N. C. C. C.

This is a radical change for the law prevailing now in units of the National Park System. Given the present policy of the National Park Service to permit and promote development in the Stehekin Valley, the bill if enacted in its present form, can only result in further building and additional disturbance of streambeds and other sensitive areas beyond the excessive practices now endorsed by the Park Service. The provisions within Section 206 must be stricken from the measure before it is passed.

SEC. 207. RENEWABLE NATURAL RESOURCE USE IN RECREATION AREAS.

Section 402(a) of the Act of October 2, 1968 (82 Stat. 928; 16 U.S.C. 90c-1), is hereby revised as follows: Strike the subsection in its entirety and insert in lieu thereof:

“SEC. 402. (a) The Secretary shall administer the recreation areas in a manner which in his judgment will best provide for (1) public outdoor recreation benefits, and (2) conservation of scenic, scientific, historic, and other values contributing to public enjoyment. Within the Lake Chelan National Recreation Area such management, utilization, and disposal of renewable natural resources and the continuation of existing uses and developments as will promote, or are compatible

with, or do not significantly impair public recreation and conservation of the scenic, historic, or other values contributing to public enjoyment, is authorized. In administering the recreation areas, the Secretary may utilize such statutory authorities pertaining to the administration of the National Park System, and such statutory authorities otherwise available to him for the conservation and management of natural resources as he deems appropriate for recreation and preservation purposes and for resource development compatible therewith. Within the Ross Lake National Recreation Area the removal and disposal of trees within power line rights-of-way is authorized as necessary to protect transmission lines, towers, and equipment."

N. P. S.

Purpose of Section 207 This is to further protect the resources of the Ross Lake National Recreation Area while allowing existing uses at Lake Chelan, such as the cutting of firewood in Stehekin, to continue. The unique location of Stehekin and its isolation make the continuing program of firewood management, e.g., the rotational removal of limited wood for use by residents appropriate. Those conditions do not exist at Ross Lake. This section would serve to close all lands in Ross Lake National Recreation Area to timber harvest and other consumptive uses. The need by Seattle City Light to clear power line rights-of-way are to be protected.

N. C. C. C.

This provision further encourages destructive cutting of green trees for firewood and potentially other purposes as well in the small and sensitive Stehekin Valley. A similar, existing provision has been interpreted by the National Park Service to allow clearcutting for firewood, a policy which is now being challenged. The provisions within Section 207 must be stricken from the measure.

Sections 206 and 207 of the legislation contain passages that can be termed Park Service "house cleaning", a cynical move to appease those who view federally protected land in the Stehekin Valley as their private store of raw materials. The provisions, if enacted, would represent a legislative end-run around public debate as well as legal challenge of Park Service policy. The Park Service must be made aware of the priceless value of the Stehekin Valley and finally accept it as of equal importance to the rest of the National Park Complex. It is shocking that the Park Service seeks an Act of Congress to validate its shirking responsibility to protect land under its stewardship.

NEW WILDERNESS BOUNDARIES

N.P.S. / N.C.C.C.

1A to 1B and 2A to 2B: The boundary would follow the international U.S. Canada Boundary. There is currently a practice of clearing 30 feet on either side of the international boundary for "security" purposes. This practice may be curtailed in the future and should not preclude designation of wilderness along the boundary. This would be consistent with the U.S.F.S. wilderness areas along the U.S.-Canadian boundary (e.g. Pasayten Wilderness).

1B to 1C and 2C to 2D: The boundary would follow the 1800 foot contour above Ross Lake. The existing high pool is 1600 feet and the proposed High Ross would raise the lake level 125 feet to 1725 feet. This would leave a corridor of 75 feet for trail or campground construction should High Ross inundate existing facilities. This would also prohibit the construction of any road to Roland Point.

N. C. C. C.

The wilderness boundary should be located at the high water level of 1725 feet with set backs for developed campsites but not for trails

1C to 1D: The boundary would follow the 1800 foot contour around Big Beaver Valley to accommodate High Ross and would continue on the south side of Big Beaver Valley to just east of Pierce Creek, then up to 2290 feet and continue on that contour. Note: Potential Wilderness is below the 1800 foot contour.

N. C. C. C.

The entire Big Beaver Valley, down to the high water level of 1725 feet, should be designated full wilderness status, not "potential wilderness".

1D to 1E: The boundary would follow the 2290 foot contour to stay above developments associated with Ross Lake Resort and the Seattle City Light Ross Dam Project. At Sourdough Creek, drop from 2290 feet down to 1640 feet.

1E to 1F: The boundary would follow the 1640 foot contour west from Sourdough Creek above valley. This will stay out of the Seattle City Light Project and above the power line corridor.

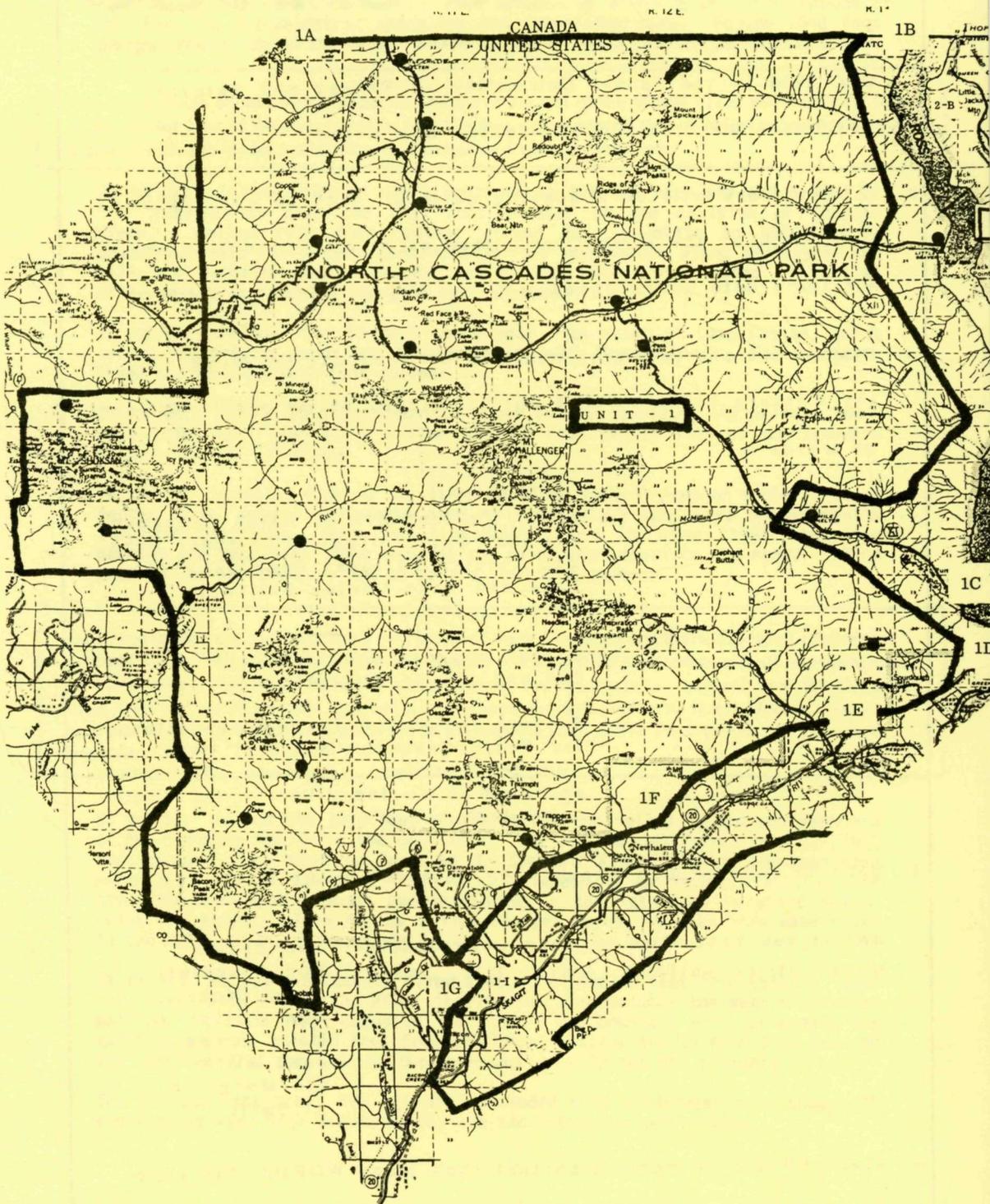
1F to 1G: This line is an azimuth from the contour east of Goodell Creek to the 2455 foot contour on the western NRA boundary. At the point where the wilderness boundary intersects the existing Thornton Lakes Road, the road will be blocked and a small parking area and turn-around constructed. The location of the Wilderness boundary along this azimuth would effectively eliminate the construction of the Thornton and Damnation Small Hydroelectric Proposals.

2D to 2A: From the 1640 foot contour at the south end of the Hozomeen Road, at full pool, to the top of Jackass Mountain to the 2290 foot contour. Follow 2290 foot contour to International Boundary. This will avoid the developments in Hozomeen.

3A to 3B: From the NRA boundary at Alma Creek follow the 1640 foot contour to accommodate Copper Creek Dam Proposal.

N. C. C. C.

The entire watersheds of Alma and Copper Creeks should be included in wilderness.



WHAT YOU CAN DO

1. On June 28th there will be a hearing on S. 2165 in Washington D. C. held by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and chaired by Senator Dan Evans.
2. In July there will be a hearing on H. R. 4146 in Washington D. C. held by the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs (date unannounced).
3. Please write a letter immediatly or send an "Opiniongram" via Western Union (\$7.95 1st 20 words, \$2.00 each additional 20 words).
4. Please say that you (a) support wilderness in North Cascades National Park, Olympic National Park, Mt. Rainier National Park and Ross Lake and Lake Chelan National Recreation Areas .
 - (b) oppose and request deletion of Sections 206 and 207 of Title II .
 - (c) Support the N. C. C. C. recomendations for North Cascades National Park Complex changes, additions, deletions, and studies as described in the "Wild Cascades" - Summer 1988.
5. Send to Senator Dan Evans, 702 Hart Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20510

and if you have time to your Congressman: Don Bonker
House Office Building, Wash. D. C. 20515 Rod Chandler
Norm Dicks
Tom Foley
Mike Lowry
John Miller
Sid Morrison
Al Swift
6. Since SPEED is more important than many WORDS this time

PLEASE WRITE OR PHONE TODAY !

3C to 3D: Follow 1640 foot contour to the National Park boundary. Follow boundary northeasterly to the intersection of the 1640 foot contour on eastside of Newhalem Creek. This area omitted by Wilderness will accommodate the Newhalem hydroelectric operation and associated road. Follow 1640 foot contour around above the Skagit River to the intersection with Colonial Creek.

N. C. C. C.

The Wilderness should follow along the southern shores of the Skagit River and within 50 feet of the center line of secondary roads and 100 feet of the center line of primary roads and the highway with set backs for existing and developed visitor facilities.

3D to 3E: Follow Colonial creek upstream to the NRA boundary and around to its intersection with the 2455 foot contour on the eastside of Thunder Creek. Follow 2455 foot contour around Ruby Mountain to NRA/U.S.F.S. boundary. This will permit continued pullout development along Highway 20 and will not prohibit trail construction on Ruby Mountain. Note: Potential Wilderness area is below the 2455 foot contour.

3F to 3G: Follow line 50 feet above mean high water of Lake Chelan, going around any private lands until intersection with Hazard Creek. Follow Hazard Creek upstream to 1640 foot contour.

3G to 3H: Follow 1640 foot contour above valley, avoiding any private lands to a point that intersects a line 50 feet from center line of the Stehekin Valley road at Highbridge.

3H to 3I: Follow a line up the Stehekin River Road 50 feet on either side of center line, around Cottonwood camp at the end of the road, excluding the developed campsites. When this line falls within the River itself, the line becomes the mean high water mark on the river edge opposite the road. Follow back to the NRA boundary and up to the 1640 foot contour.

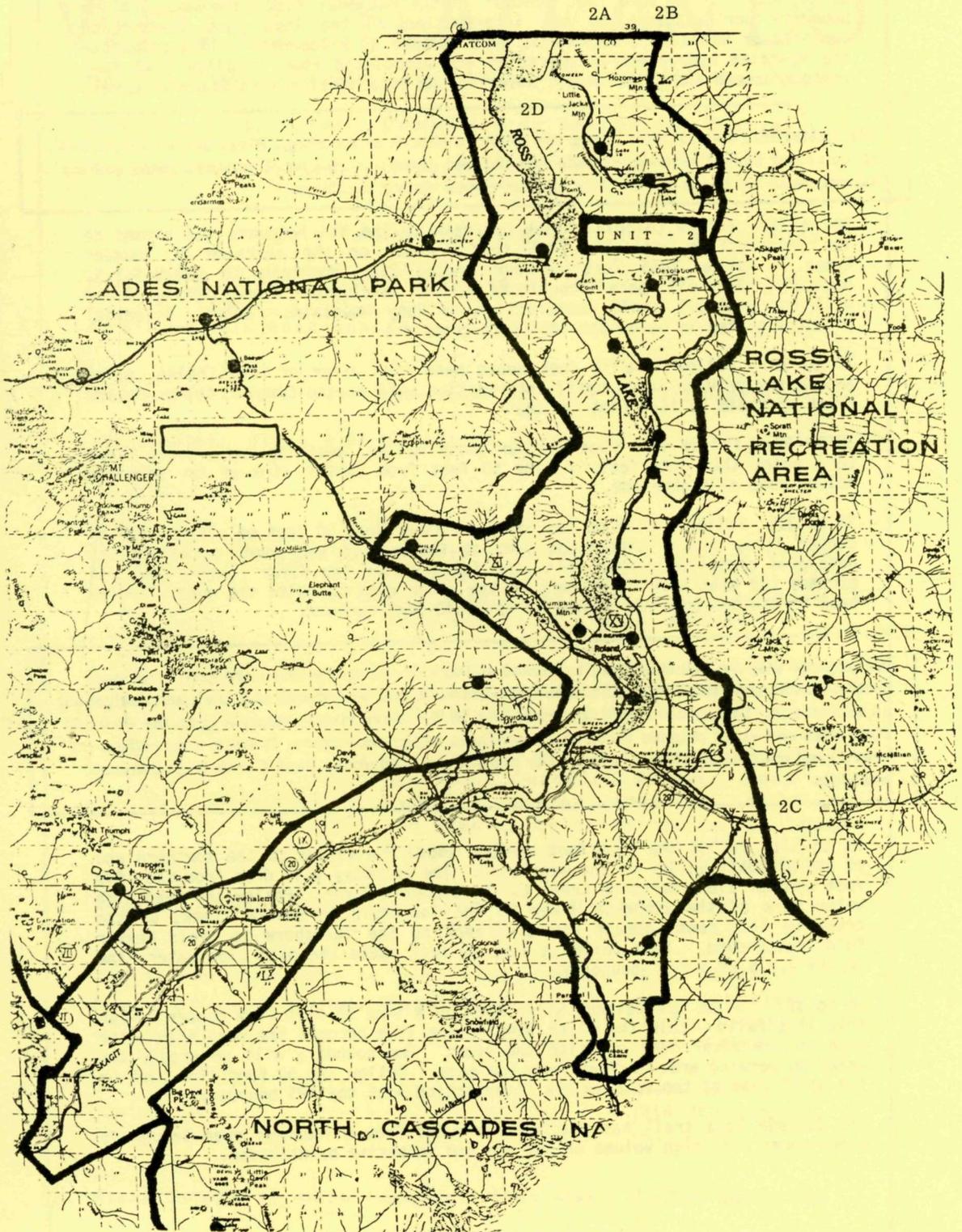
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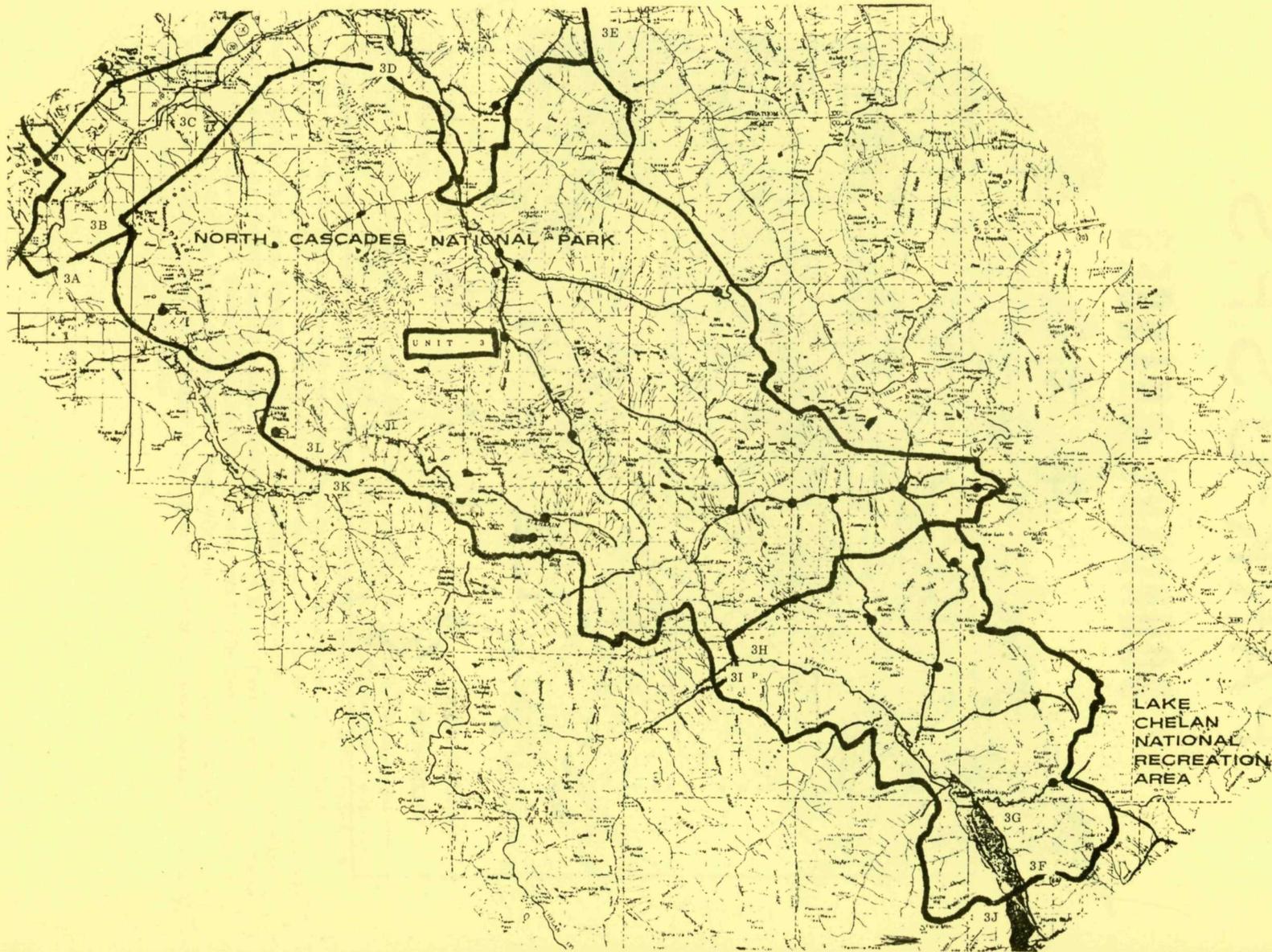
We propose that the Stehekin Road be closed at Park Creek where there are good road-end facilities. The road from Park Creek to Cottonwood should be reduced to a trail and designated as wilderness. This would result in a reduction in the heavy visitor impacts upon the Cascade Pass area and would provide more of a wilderness experience there. It would also reduce the heavy road maintenance costs incurred to protect the road above Park Creek from constant washouts.

3I to 3J: Follow the 1640 foot contour above the valley to the southern end of the Stehekin Valley on the west side. The boundary will drop from the 1640 foot contour along Margerum Creek to the Stehekin River. Follow the mean high water mark of the Stehekin River to the lakeshore to Devore Creek, up the creek to 1250 foot contour and then back to the lakeshore to avoid Weaver Point campground. Then follow a line 50 feet above the mean high water line to the N.P.S./U.S.F.S. boundary.

3K to 3L: Follow the Cascade River Road on a line 50 feet from center. When this line falls within the River itself, the line becomes the mean high water mark on the river edge opposite the road. The boundary will go around the existing parking area 50 feet from the edge. Follow the 50 foot line back on the north side of the road to the intersection with the NPS boundary.

The Cascade Pass trail has not been excluded from wilderness even though it experiences very high volume of day use and intensive maintenance.

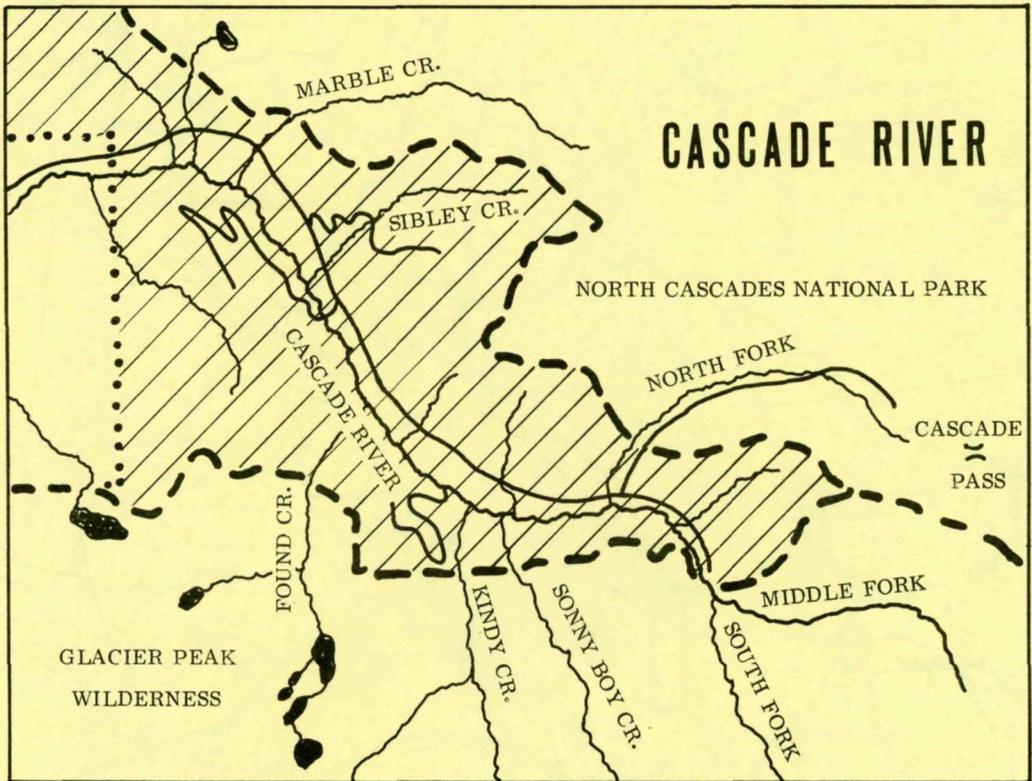


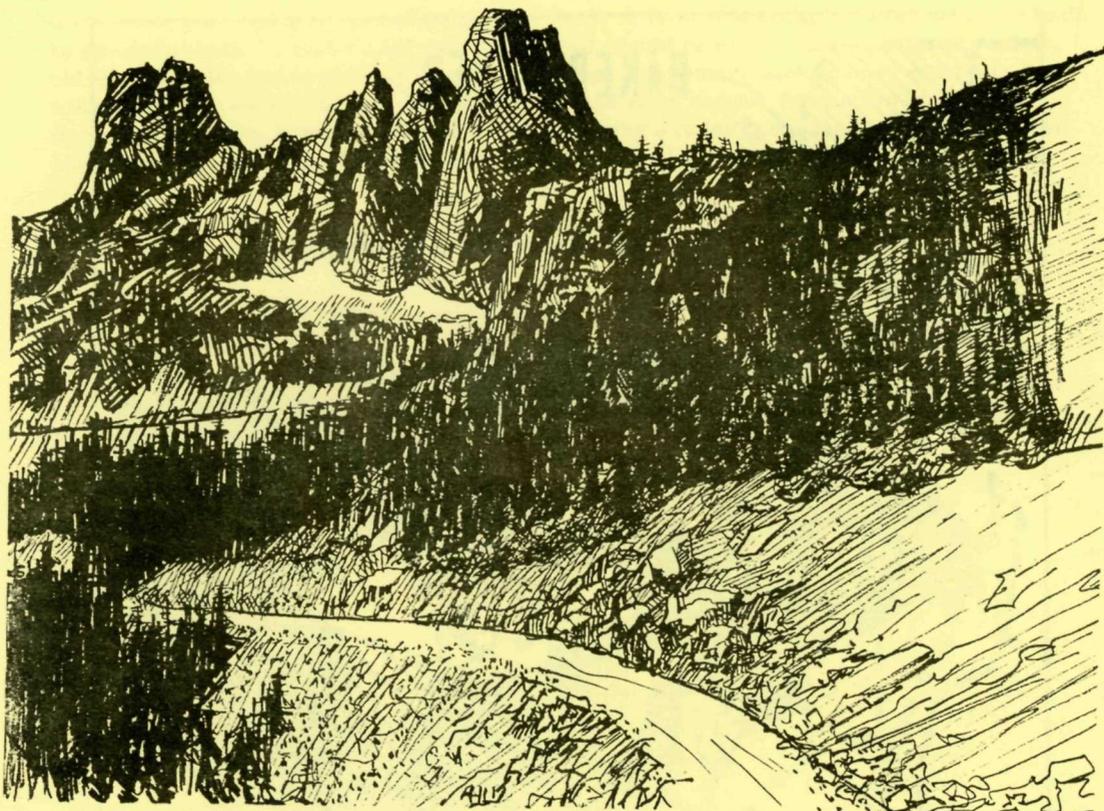


PARK-U.S.F.S.

BOUNDARY CHANGES

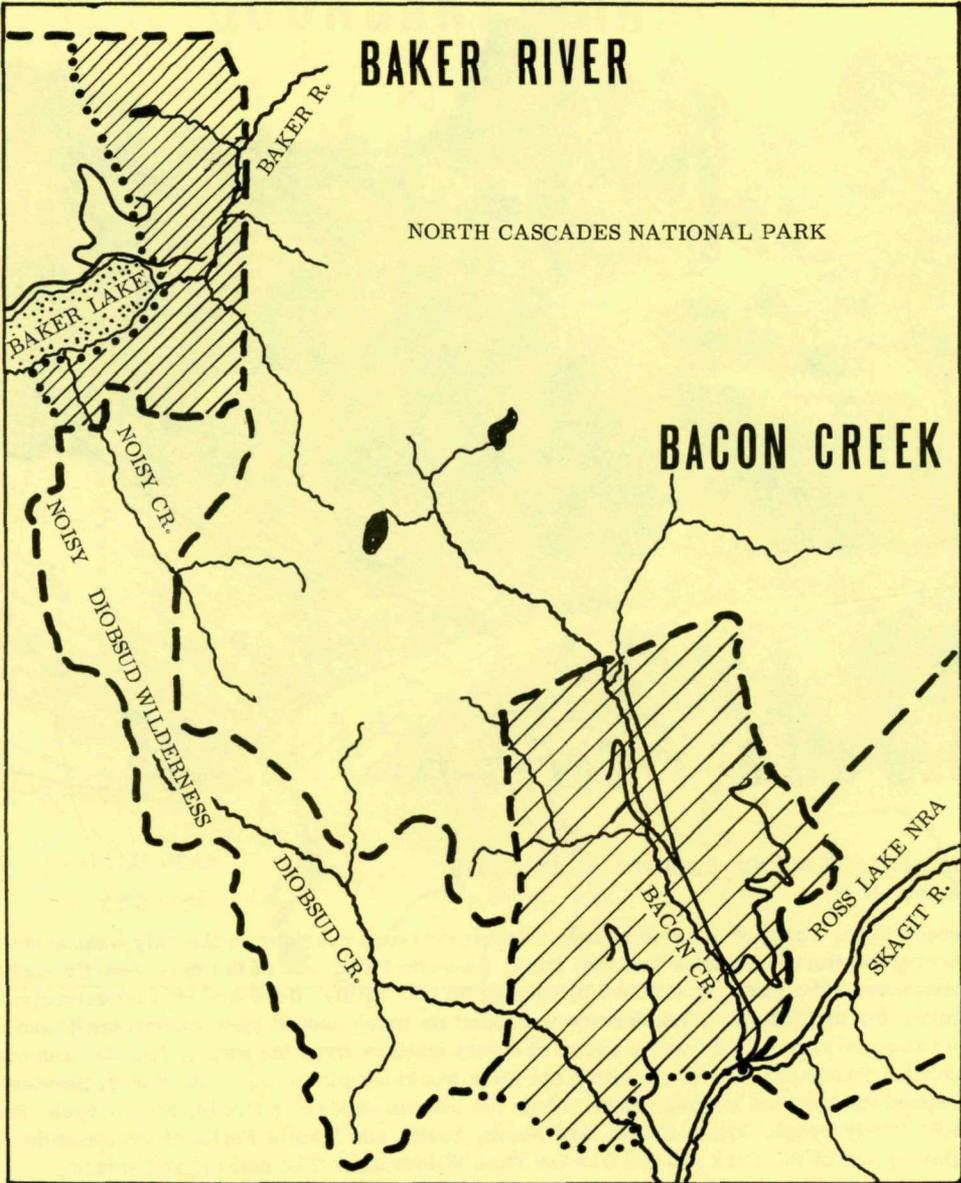
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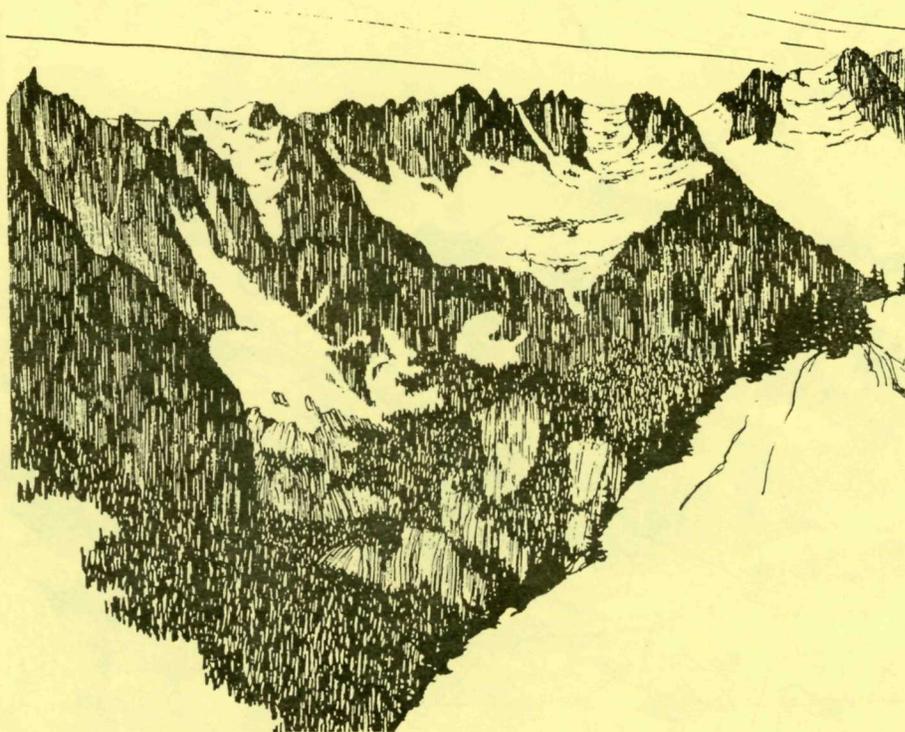


NORTH CASCADES SCENIC HIGHWAY - Add to Park
Eliza Anderson

The Cascade River Valley is a 12-mile major visitor entrance corridor to the only west side road entering the North Cascades National Park. Cascade Pass, one of the most heavily visited scenic climaxes in the Park, is reached by driving up this valley. Here are located extensive opportunities for the National Park Service to expand its much needed recreational trail and roadside campsite needs. This would serve to divert visitors from the small, fragile, and over-used Cascades Pass area. Inclusion within the Park would terminate the U.S. Forest Service's plan to expand its clearcut logging program into the forests of Marble Creek, Sibly Creek, Sonny Boy Creek, Kindy Creek, Found Creek, and North, South, and Middle Forks of the Cascade River, flowing out of the Park and the Glacier Peak Wilderness. The natural and scenic resources of the Valley should be dedicated to the appreciation of the nation's visitors to the Park not to the consumption of local sawmills.



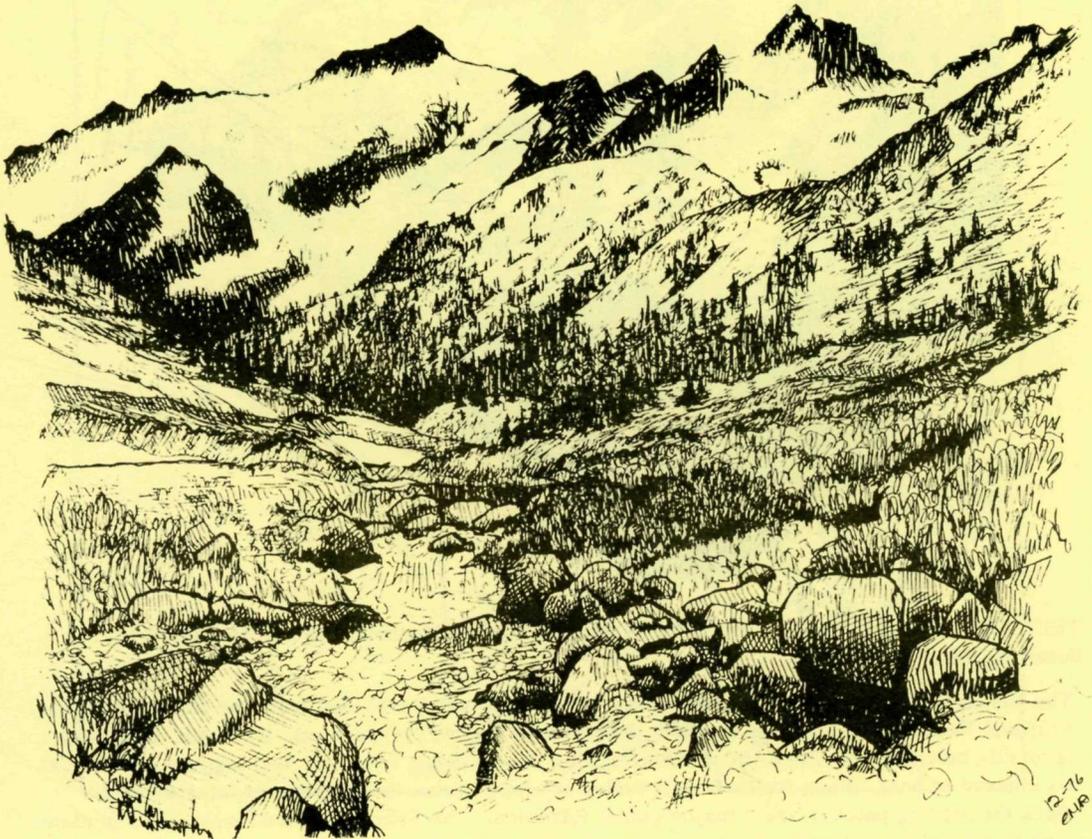
The Baker River Valley above Baker Lake provides a major trail entrance into the Wilderness back-country of the North Cascades National Park. A Park roadend lakeshore campsite should be developed here. A Baker Lake east shore trail should be built to the magnificent, unique, old-growth cedar forest of Noisy Creek. Here begins a primary back country route into the wilderness high country of Mts. Hagen, Bacon, and Blum and the Park's two largest lakes, Burdeen and Green. Purchase of Scott Paper Company's Noisy Creek land between the Baker Lake shore and the Noisy-Diobsud Wilderness is critical and should be funded by Congress.



THUNDER CREEK VALLEY - Wilderness not Potential Wilderness and Add to Park
Susan Marsh

The Bacon Creek and lower Diobsud Creek watersheds were excluded from the North Cascades National Park in 1968 because the U. S. Forest Service had logged them. However, they very naturally belong in the Park. No further logging should occur here and past logging scars must be allowed to heal. When Bacon Creek Valley is viewed from the wilderness interior of the Park the logging patches are a major visual intrusion. The Forest Service, even now, is planning to expand this visually degrading impact. Inclusion within the Park would halt this as well as providing an opportunity to utilize the existing logging roads for much needed recreational visitor access and accomodation off the heavily used North Cascades Highway.

The North Cascades Scenic Highway unit of the Okanogan National Forest should be added to the North Cascades National Park. It is a logical extension of the National Park Service management of the western portion of the North Cascades Highway. The entire corridor, crossing the Cascades at Washington Pass and Rainy Pass, from Bacon Creek on the west to Early Winters on the east then would be designated the North Cascades Parkway. Legislation to add the Granite Creek section to the Park was introduced shortly after the Park's creation. This should be the counterpart of a future Mather Memorial Parkway located to the east and west of the Cascade crest at Chinook Pass. Eventually the Cedar Creek drainage, south of the Highway and the Golden Horn area, north of the Highway, should be added to the Park.



CASCADE RIVER VALLEY - Add to Park
Eliza Anderson

SAVE NOISY CREEK

Frank William Ancock

Friends of Noisy Creek

In an isolated part of Whatcom County stands the remnants of a ecosystem that once dominated western Washington. This virgin old-growth coniferous forest is located along Noisy Creek, on the eastern shore of Baker Lake. Noisy Creek is a scenic half mile boat trip directly across Baker Lake from the boat launch.

Native Americans first visited Noisy Creek because it flowed directly into the original Baker Lake, which was teeming with Sockeye salmon and provided an important source of food. Baker Lake is famous for fighting salmon and trout. The modern history of Noisy Creek begins in the late 1800's with considerable prospecting for gold several miles up the creek. No mines ever resulted from all this prospecting, just many broken dreams.

In 1925, the Puget Power Company changed forever the free flowing Baker River when they constructed the 285-foot high Lower Baker Dam to form the 2,250 acre Shannon Lake. From 1896 to its final closing in 1941 the Baker Lake Hatchery operated just west of Noisy Creek at Silver Creek. There was at the same site, a U.S. Forest Service Ranger Station until 1959. The number of the Sockeye salmon returning to the Baker Lake hatchery dropped from an all time high in 1924 of 14,558 to 895 in 1928. In 1959 Puget Power Company finished the 312-foot high Upper Baker Dam, creating the 10 mile long, 5,000 acre, Baker Lake out of the old lake of 750 acres and parts of the Baker River canyon.

The climate of Noisy Creek is typical of lowland western Washington, with mild, wet winters and cool, dry summers. The Cascade Mountain Range forms a barrier to the movement of maritime and continental air masses and intercepts 100 inches of precipitation each year.

On a rocky beach near a bald eagle roost and 100 yards east of the mouth of Noisy Creek is the beginning of the U.S. Forest Service Noisy Creek Trail 609. Looking to the west, one sees the lofty peak of Mt. Baker towering 10,000 feet above Baker Lake. The trail is one mile long, beginning at the lake shore at an elevation of 724 feet and rising to 1,420 feet. It ends at an awe-inspiring waterfall. During a casual walk you will see ten species of trees from the trail, and observe a shift of the species dominance from Douglas fir to western red cedar. One-third of a mile from the lake, protected by the valley stands tall and strong an eleven-foot diameter Douglas fir that symbolizes this majestic valley and trail.

The geology of Noisy Creek is mostly metamorphic, made up of greenschist and phyllite. Soils range from silty sand to sandy silt and derived from glacial till. They are classified as having severe erosion potential. This constitutes a real danger to plant and animal life if logging occurs within the basin of Noisy Creek.

The Noisy Creek watershed is a relatively intact, virgin old-growth coniferous forest. The creek drains the six mile long watershed, falling quickly from 7,066 feet elevation at Bacon Peak to 724 feet at Baker Lake. Except for the last mile of Noisy Creek, all this drainage is either in the North Cascades National Park or the Noisy-Diobsud Wilderness. These designations provide five sixths of the watershed with protection from development. The lush green, low elevation coniferous forest on Noisy Creek is dominated by 350 to 1,000 year old Douglas fir, western hemlock, western red cedar and Pacific silver fir. The uniqueness of this virgin ecosystem is first seen in the openness of the forest floor. Photosynthesis is taking place in the canopy 100 feet or more above the ground. This ancient forest is carpeted with

maiden hair and sword ferns, beneath trees that tower 200 feet into the sky. This type of lowland ecosystem is very rare, no more than 5% of the original lowland forest of western Washington remains intact and much of that is far more inaccessible than the Noisy Creek valley.

The Noisy Creek valley is important to the North Cascades National Park because it provides wildlife with badly needed low elevations, winter and spring habitat. In particular, Noisy Creek provides a year round home for the endangered northern spotted owl, common loon, pileated woodpecker, osprey, bald eagle and the always active, American dipper. It is home to the masked shrew, northern flying squirrel, marten, cougar, black bear and mountain goat; and probably both the endangered gray wolf and grizzly bear.

Baker Lake is also a rarity in Washington State, its shores are not lined with summer homes or luxury condominiums. Except for a small amount of land owned by the Scott Paper Company and Puget Power Company, Baker Lake belongs to the American people, with the U.S. Forest Service acting as their trustees. The recreational potential of Baker Lake is great. Population centers of both Seattle and Vancouver are within a three hour drive. The eastern shore of Baker Lake is still a relatively unique virgin forest community.

Fifty years ago 8,4000 people traveled up the Baker Lake Highway. The current estimate by the U.S. Forest Service is 130,000 annual visitors in the Baker Lake Basin. We can only guess how many people will visit Baker Lake fifty years from now. As civilization becomes more complex, many of us feel the need for a recreational experience in one of the wild corners of the state, such as the Noisy Creek valley, where one can walk silently on a deep moss carpet and see reclining forest giants feeding new generations of life. Here is a wild land, a repository for genes embracing millions of years of nature's investments in diversity!. A place for us to sit in awe and admiration and experience western Washington at its best.

In the summer of 1987, a group of local wilderness enthusiasts and people who love to fish and hunt formed the "Friends of Noisy Creek" to help protect this watershed from the Scott Paper Company's plan to clearcut a portion of the valley. The purpose of the Friends of Noisy Creek organization is to assist in finding a political solution to the problems created by private ownership of this land, before the unique nature and best public value of this forest is destroyed. Intermittently, for the past 20 years, the U.S. Forest Service has tried to arrange a land exchange with Scott Paper for their entire holding of 629 acres located between Silver Creek and Noisy Creek. This would place all of the eastern shore of Baker Lake under federal ownership and allow more adequate protection of wildlife habitat. It would also simplify the rebuilding of the U.S. Forest Service East Bank Trail 610, which will make Noisy Creek accessible by trail. A practical solution would be for the U.S. Forest Service and Scott Paper to enter into an agreement for federal acquisition of this property with compensation for Scott coming from the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund. This was done in a comparable situation, in 1984, by the federal government and the Weyerhaeuser Company to preserve a virgin cedar stand on Long Island in Willapa Bay, Washington.

We believe that the legacy of this ancient forest should be saved for the benefit of future generations. Our forefathers walked in forest cathedrals of giant cedar and fir trees, they found a special spirit in these woods and without such a legacy the common bond between our generation will be forever lost. We believe that this opportunity to complete the preservation of an intact low elevation western Washington forest, along with the special life forms found with Noisy Creek Basin, should not be squandered.

For more information or to arrange for a boat trip to Noisy Creek, contact the Friends of Noisy Creek at P.O.Box 5805, Bellingham, Washington 98227.

PARK-N.R.A.

BOUNDARY CHANGES

N.C.C.C.

Internal National Park Service boundary changes to transfer administration of portions of Ross Lake National Recreation Area to that of the North Cascades National Park should be made now that Ross Dam will no longer be raised.

West of Ross Lake the Park boundary should be located at the high-water level of Ross Lake, thus placing Big Beaver, Little Beaver, Silver, Noname, Artic, and Skymo Creeks entirely within the Park.

East of Ross Lake the present boundary between Ross Lake National Recreation Area and the Pasayten Wilderness should be retained.

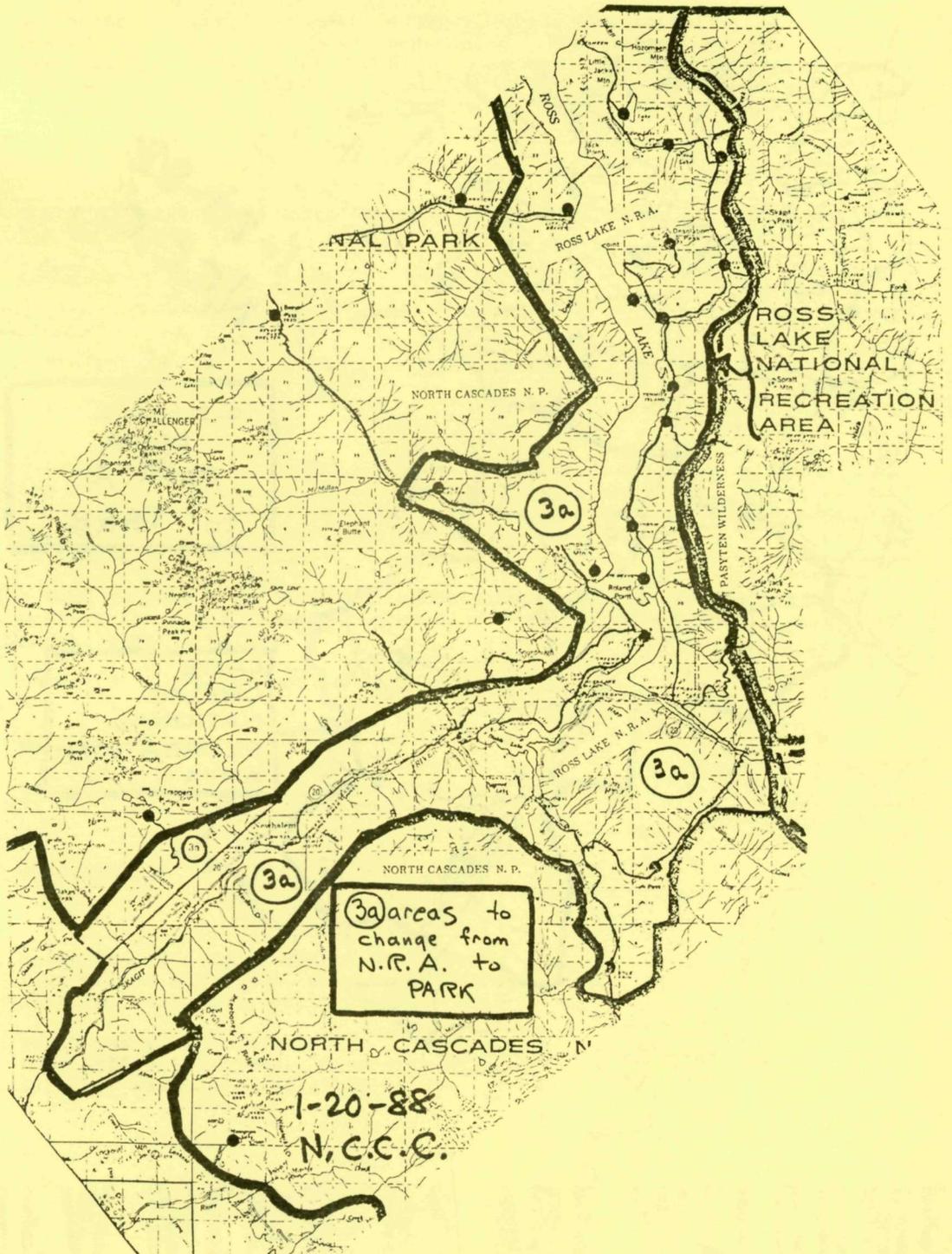
South of Ross Lake and south and east of Diablo Lake the Park boundary would be located at the high-water levels of Diablo and Ross Lakes, thus placing Ruby Mtn. and Thunder and Panther Creeks, along with this section of the North Cascades Highway, entirely within the Park.

South of Gorge Lake and Skagit River the Park boundary should be located at the high-water level of Gorge Lake and along the banks of the Skagit River, thus including Pyramid, Ladder, Newhalem, Alma, and Copper Creeks entirely within the Park.

North of Diablo and Gorge Lakes and Skagit River the boundary of the Park would be located to include most of Damnation and Thornton Creeks within the Park and otherwise retain the present Park/National Recreation Area boundary.

Redesignation of Lake Chelan National Recreation Area as North Cascades National Park.

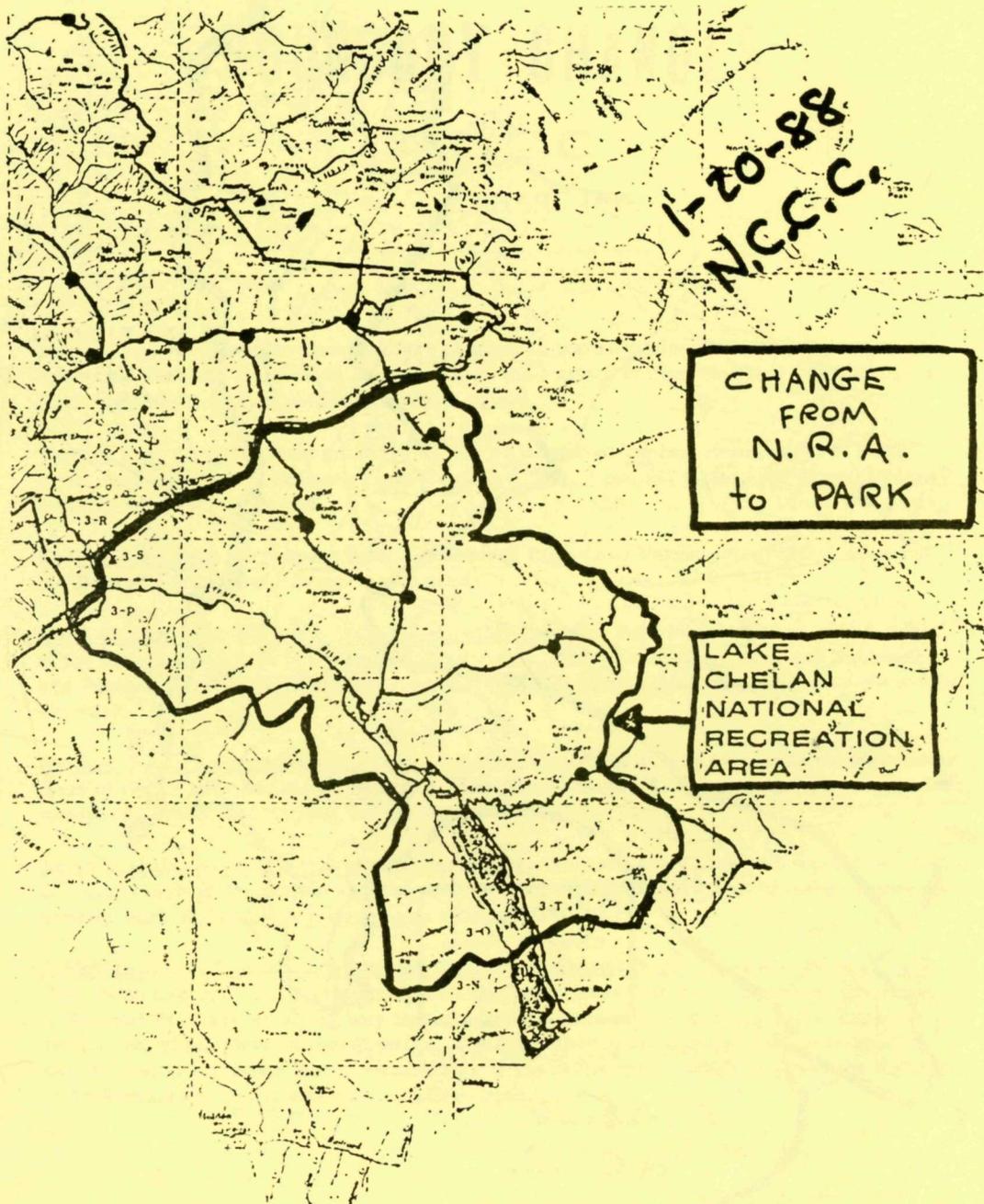
The North Cascades Conservation Council firmly believes that the management guidelines of a National Park will go a long way toward clarifying and resolving many of the management issues that have arisen in recent years. The Council is convinced that this redesignation can be done in a manner that is satisfactory to residents and property owners, the National Park Service and to our and other similar organizations.



1-20-88
N.C.C.C.

CHANGE
FROM
N. R. A.
to PARK

LAKE
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HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP?

The North Cascades Conservation Council needs your support. It is a non-profit, non-taxdeductible corporation. Membership in the Council includes subscription to The Wild Cascades magazine. This lively and informative publication is a must for anyone who wishes to know what is going on in Washington's North Cascades.

I wish to support the North Cascades Conservation Council. Enclosed is \$ for membership for _____ years.

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The North Cascades Foundation supports the non-legislative activities of the Council including legal and educational expenses. The Internal Revenue Service has ruled that any contributions to this non-profit Foundation are tax deductible under 501 (C) (3).

I wish to make a tax-deductible contribution to the Foundation to help protect the North Cascades' scenic, scientific, educational, wildlife, and wilderness values.

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