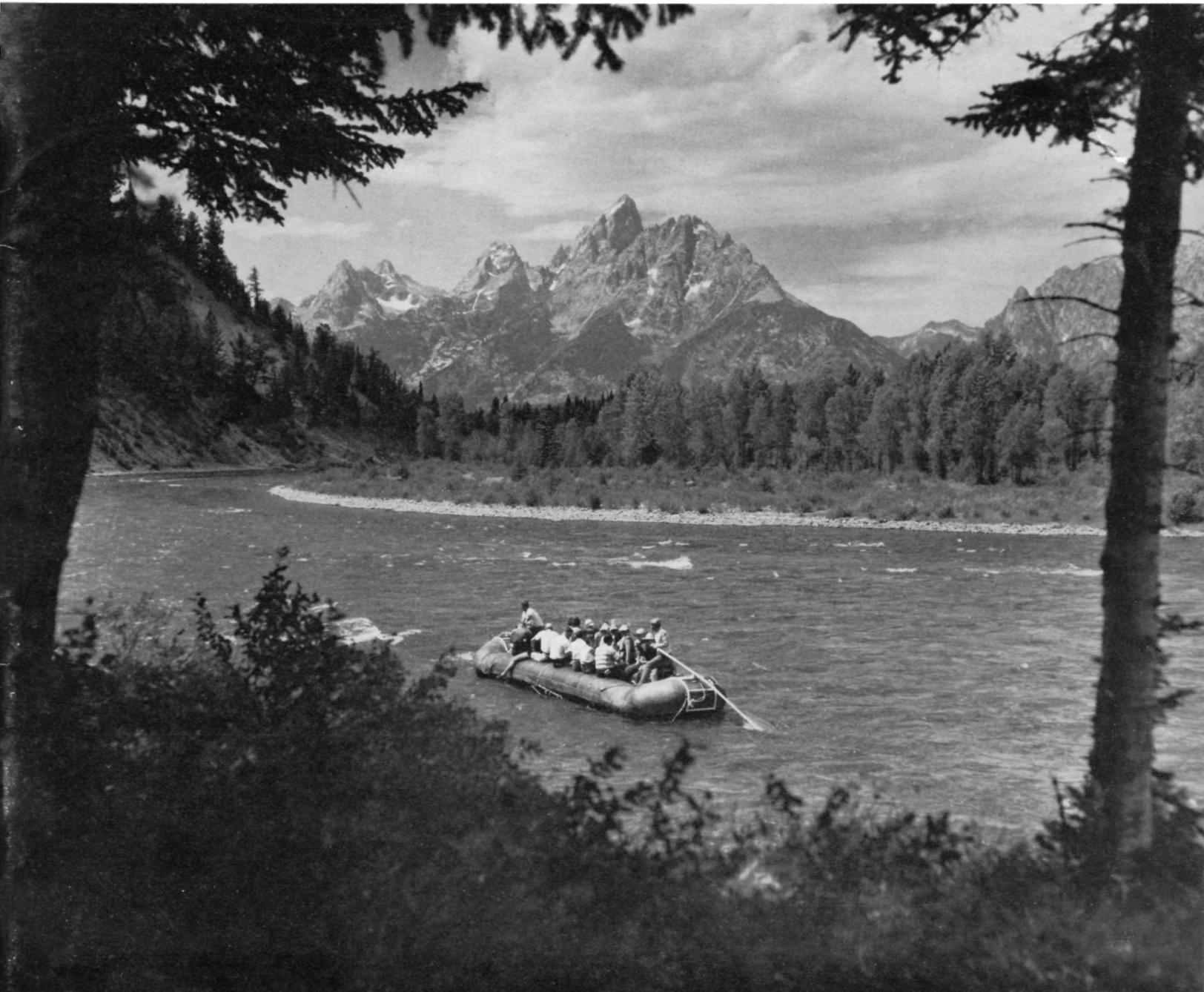


NATIONAL PARKS *Magazine*



Wyoming's Grand Teton: a national park
of many land and water trails

May 1967

Last Call for Park Wilderness!

An address by Anthony Wayne Smith, President and General Counsel, National Parks Association, to the 10th Biennial Wilderness Conference, San Francisco, California, April 7, 8, 9, 1967.

IT IS A GREAT PRIVILEGE to take part in these very important sessions. This Wilderness Conference has become a vital and well established institution in American life.

The National Parks Association is concerned primarily with the protection of the great primeval parks of America; hence it is first of all a wilderness protection organization.

Wilderness protection is a pro-people policy. People need wilderness experience for complete growth as mature persons; they also need the continuing awareness of wilderness as background of civilized life.

As the destructive impact of urbanization and so-called development upon the environment is felt more keenly, as population and mobility grow, the preservation of wilderness, whether mountain, forest, stream valley, desert, subterranean cave, estuarial, littoral, or maritime, grows greatly in importance.

Wilderness is both symbol and experience of liberty. The concern Americans feel for it reaches back through our family memories to the frontier; it was the open frontier, and beyond it the wilderness, which gave birth to our free institutions. A nation professing democratic principles must preserve its wilderness for the experience of liberty and freedom which it affords.

Wilderness in the great national parks, national forests and wildlife refuges provides a refuge for people against the traffic, the streets, and the sprawling subdivisions. It also provides refuge for the world's endangered and vanishing wildlife.

With reference to the national park system, the National Park Service Act of 1916 specifies a priority in favor of the protection of the parks in natural condition; use and visitation are to be compatible with protection.

The National Park Service Act is not a dual purpose act, protection and visitation on an equal footing; the act is primarily protective, and provides only secondarily for visitation, for otherwise visitation would be self-defeating.

And yet our public land management policies must of necessity provide not only for protection, but also for the enjoyment of the vast regions of open country which are available for that purpose.

There is no incompatibility here if planning is done in a big way. If we try to plan small, crowding both protection and visitation into the relatively small areas of our national parks, we are lost. If we plan big, putting emphasis on protection in the parks and on the dispersion of crowds into the much larger areas of our national forests, the public lands, the recreation areas, the reservoir areas, the soil conservation regions, the state and local forests and parks, and into the privately owned land on the periphery of the public holdings, there need be no difficulty.

The machinery for this comprehensive regional planning already exists. The Bureau of Land Management has a statutory mandate to develop a national recreation plan; hence of necessity component regional plans; it has authority to recommend plans to the various Bureaus; it has authority to require good planning by the States and localities receiving funds from the Government.

The President's Council on Recreation and Natural Beauty

has authority by Executive Order to draw up standards for such planning; the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation is attached to the President's Council by Executive Order; hence, the BOR is in a position in this capacity also to further a regional planning and crowd-dispersal program. The President's Council has adopted a practice of setting standards and making them binding on the various Departments by signed agreements; this procedure should be utilized in regional planning.

This approach to the protection of wilderness in the parks has the merit of great simplicity. It has widespread support among the conservation organizations; there seems to be no opposition to it. It has had considerable lip service from public officials; but unfortunately no noticeable action.

I have reported to the 35,000 members of the National Parks Association in my printed Annual Report this year that we seem to be headed for the greatest disaster in conservation history; the disaster is imminent, a matter of a few weeks or months at the best; it will occur with the final formulation of park wilderness plans as they have been prepared officially for the wilderness hearings which have taken place during the last few months with respect to the parks.

In practically all cases the official proposals for park wilderness protection, published for purposes of these hearings, have recommended relatively small wilderness areas and have made provision for visitor areas, euphemistically known as threshold areas, within which increasing crowds can be accommodated in the years ahead.

The leading conservation organizations have countered with proposals for the establishment of wilderness areas comprising essentially all present roadless areas in the parks, urging that buffer zones and facility areas, including heavy-use campgrounds, be placed outside the parks.

The National Parks Association has submitted detailed plans in hearings on the following units of the national park system: Great Smokies, Isle Royale, Pinnacles, Sequoia-Kings Canyon, Lassen Volcanic, Craters of the Moon, and Lava Beds;¹ and without reference to hearings, Yellowstone. In all
(continued on page 23)

¹ See list of studies in the March issue, page 23. Since that list was printed, studies have been completed on Lava Beds National Monument and the Moosehorn National Wildlife Refuge.

The Parks Need Your Help Now!

Only the President of the United States, burdened though he be with the cares of office, can save the trail and campfire country in the great national parks from the traffic. An Executive Order is needed directing the responsible Federal agencies to provide ample tourist accommodations and recreation facilities on public and private lands outside the parks, efficient public transportation into the parks, and firm protection for present roadless areas in the parks as wilderness. Comprehensive recreation regional plans must be developed for this purpose. You can help by writing to The President, The White House, Washington, D.C., and assuring him that you favor such comprehensive planning policies.



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Front cover photograph courtesy Grand Teton Lodge Company

The Grand Teton Lodge Company's Snake River float trip takes Grand Teton National Park visitors into the back country of Jackson Hole on the water trails. The author of the article starting on page 10 of this issue spent three summers piloting a rubber raft, like that shown on the front cover, down the Snake River in the park, lecturing on the flora, fauna, history and geology of the great preserve.

The Association and the Magazine

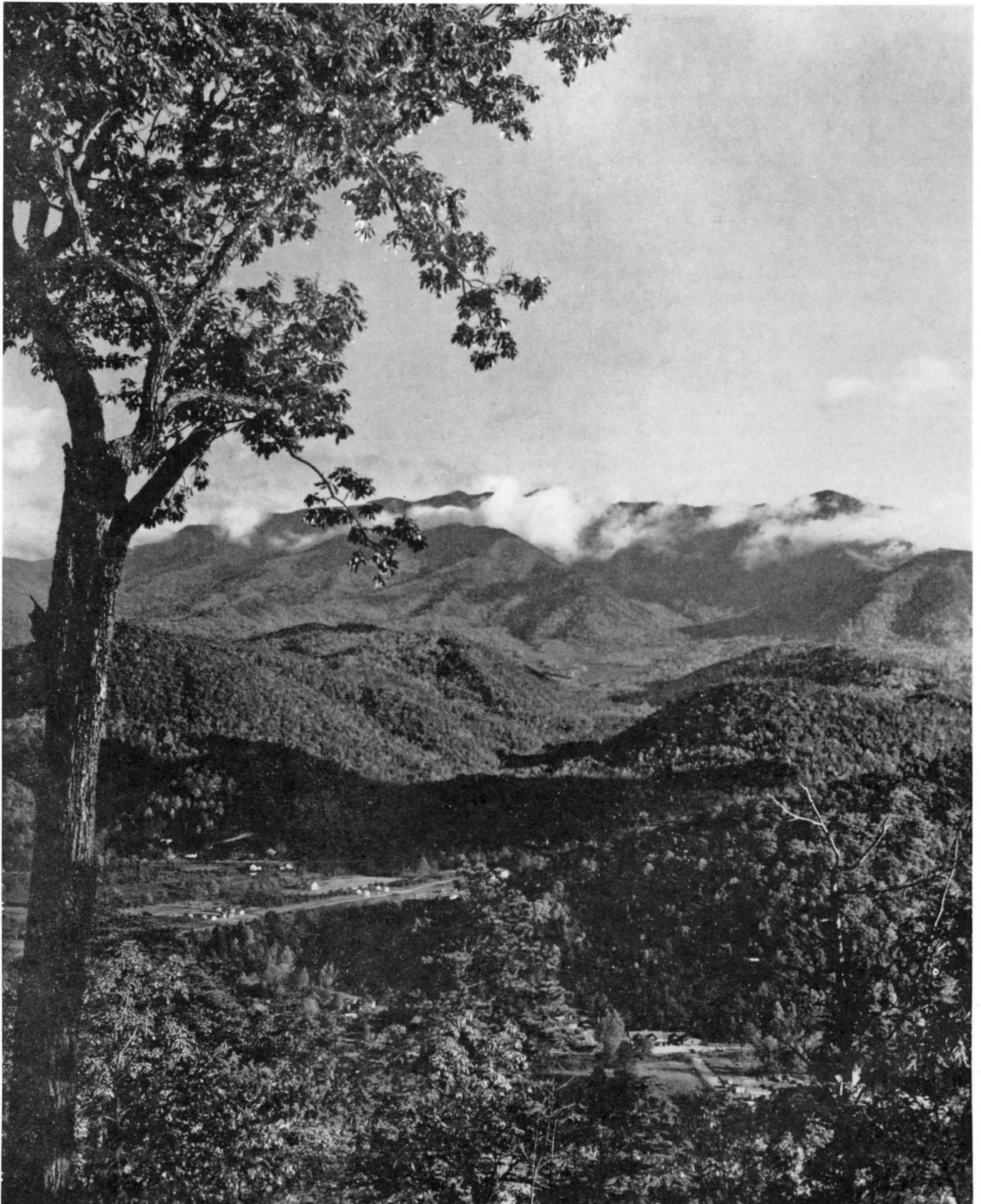
The National Parks Association is a completely independent, private, non-profit, public-service organization, educational and scientific in character, with over 32,000 members throughout the United States and abroad. It was established in 1919 by Stephen T. Mather, the first Director of the National Park Service. It publishes the monthly *National Parks Magazine*, received by all members.

The responsibilities of the Association relate primarily to the protection of the great national parks and monuments of America, in which it endeavors to cooperate with the Service, while functioning also as a constructive critic; and secondarily to the protection and restoration of the natural environment generally.

Dues are \$6.50 annual, \$10.50 supporting, \$20 sustaining, \$35 contributing, \$200 life with no further dues, and \$1000 patron with no further dues. Contributions and bequests are also needed. Dues in excess of \$6.50 and contributions are deductible for Federal taxable income, and gifts and bequests are deductible for Federal gift and estate tax purposes. As an organization receiving such gifts, the Association is precluded by law and regulations from advocating or opposing legislation to any substantial extent; insofar as our authors may touch on legislation, they write as individuals.

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NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION, 1300 NEW HAMPSHIRE AVENUE, N. W., WASHINGTON, D. C. 20036



Photograph by Paul Moore, Tennessee Conservation Department

Great Smoky Mountains National Park in North Carolina and Tennessee is one of the great wilderness parks which has undergone a relatively high degree of development. It already has 367 miles of roads, with more planned; 395 buildings, and 185,000 feet of water and sewer line.

The National Park Experience

By Darwin Lambert

THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE continues its efforts to reconcile park preservation with the apparent wishes of the majority of citizens. "Parks are for people," the Director wrote in a picture-story of present and future parklands. He declared he was thereby reaffirming his belief in the Congressional mandate, which is given in the basic law of 1916 as "to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein, and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations."

Parks are for people, of course—but in what way? There are growing indications that the deeper desires of the majority might not be quite as they appear on the surface, that sociological and psychological study could refine the definition of the national park function in our society, and thereby help overcome difficulties which are being compounded through well-meant but possibly mistaken attitudes and policies.

There seem to be too many people for the parks—so many, in fact, that the people do not always find the "enjoyment" and the parks do not always remain "unimpaired." The best course is not at all clear, and the remedies administered are frequently stopgaps and disguised anticipations of defeat by the population explosion. Let us make a try for fresh understanding by glancing first at the parks, then at the people.

In size, interest and visitation the central body of the 41,500-square-mile national park system continues to be the forty-or-so large and splendid nature preserves. Construction intended to facilitate enjoyment—and, it is alleged, to minimize human wear and tear—has marked nearly all of them. Great Smoky Mountains, now receiving six and a half million visits a year, has 367 miles of road, 395 buildings, 185,000 feet of water and sewer lines, nearly 1500 developed campsites, and so on. Bumper-to-bumper traffic on its main scenic road suffers jams that last for hours.

Yellowstone, developed similarly and with what might be called towns in addition, has worsening traffic congestion as visits climb above two million a year. People elbow each other for glimpses of the famous geysers or to drop lines into the water from Fishing Bridge while being assailed by the angry whine of powerboats. The population of Yosemite Valley rises to urban density despite construction of a thousand campsites elsewhere in that park to help scatter the crowds. In other Sierra parks, concentrated camp-

ground development and use threaten the health of the giant sequoias. Here in the system officials see a need to move facilities from congested areas, but can seldom carry out such expensive projects promptly.

A billion-dollar package called Mission 66 "improved" the parks between 1956 and 1966. Nearly 4500 miles of roads, for example, were built or rebuilt. Facilities and services were made far more efficient. Yet congestion continues to increase, and the Service has launched a new round of improvement and expansion called "Parkscape U.S.A."

Administrators say hopefully that little impairment results from improvements, that even in Yellowstone with its volume visitation "the area thus 'spoiled' amounts to only 5 percent of the park." Yet any spoiling would seem to violate the mandate—and the degree of impairment is usually far greater than area involved. Ecologists find access routes and service complexes occupying and wearing out, for example, lowlands and passes which are keys to winter survival of certain animals, thus affecting patterns of life in entire parks.

WE, THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, meanwhile, have increased to 198 million and appear likely to reach 350 million by the year 2000 (despite a slight slip in the national birth-rate). Growing leisure and mobility multiply our vacation questing far faster than our numbers build up. Modern circumstances, moreover, separate us from the natural earth, push us into what psychiatrists and sociologists are now recognizing as extreme situations for *Homo sapiens*, generating frantic wishes (largely unconscious) to find terra firma under the froth of accelerating change. Many of us flee the cities to become suburbanites or exurbanites, but still are unsatisfied. Nearly all of us are driven into a frenzy of recreation which may or may not release our extreme pressures—depending, apparently, on factors not yet understood.

While interviewing campers during a recent summer, I often found huddles like defensive circles of covered wagons, even when separate sites remained vacant nearby. Novice campers (the majority almost everywhere) usually hesitated over this question: "What other recreation do you enjoy while camping?" Many men finally said "fishing," and displayed poles and lures. A wife at Clearwater in Alaska inadvertently helped me see beneath the surface. "George!" she scolded, "You know you haven't fished once in the whole three weeks!"

Extending the question thereafter, I found large numbers engaged only in wishful fishing, longing to imitate experienced outdoorsmen whom they admired—or in wishful nature study, hiking, canoeing, or whatever. They spent hours discussing the wilderness, but seldom more than dipped a toe into it. Vaguely fearful of the unknown earth, they were yet pulled from campground to campground, receiving some nameless nourishment in merely teasing quantities, not knowing how to step up the flow, or what, in fact, produced it. In their restlessness they represented increasing millions, longing more and more strongly for something they did not know how to obtain, supposing they had to generate it through some unfamiliar form of activity, not suspecting it was ready in the wild country waiting only to be received.

My interviewing, amateurishly redirected toward clarifying the not-quite-conscious mystery, led me to this hypothesis (which applies both to those who have found satisfying channels of nature experience and the increasing numbers who have not): *The more detached we become from the natural earth the more we seek, though often blindly, a renewal of contact, because earth and its plants and animals represent our source, the reality without which man lacks firm orientation and moves toward absurdity and despair.* Time and again I seemed to find this hidden purpose under both negative and positive reasons for the uncomfortable pilgrimages into the primitive—under wishes to escape from noise, air pollution and crowds, under misfiring plans to fish, photograph wildlife, explore forests. Our pursuit of happiness in this nuclear-electronic-megalopolitan era is more and more a quest for the natural earth; and finding such an earth, somehow, may be the secret of sanity in an overcrowded world. Dr. Karl Menninger wrote in *The Vital Balance* (1963): “Psychiatrists plead for wilderness areas, not for the preservation of beauty but for the preservation of mental health.”

DURING CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE in 1872, the proposed Yellowstone National Park was called prophetically “a great breathing place for the national lungs.” The national park keystone has always been preservation of such breathing places, setting apart as somehow sacred and invaluable the outstanding natural wonders and beauties of our heritage with space around them to confer freedom and perspective. Theodore Roosevelt said at Grand Canyon, in 1903: “Leave it as it is. You cannot improve on it. The ages have been at work on it and man can only mar it.”

But in 1936 Franklin Roosevelt dedicated Shenandoah National Park “to the present and succeeding generations of America for the recreation and for the re-creation which we shall find here.” The great people-purpose was beginning to emerge more clearly, building the dilemma which has now become crucial. An Interior Department park and recreation study, published in 1941, declared that the parks are to guard the factors which “refresh mind and spirit,” that “physical recreation is permissible only to the extent that it does not impair those qualities.”

Park superintendents in those days prepared messages along these lines for visitors: “This is one of our great family of national parks preserved in their natural state. We believe in the highest use of the values inherent in the



National Park Service photograph

“Our great national parks generate feelings of adventure.” A cross-country skier sets out to capture adventure in Mount Rainier Park.

park itself without resort to artificial aids. This is recreation in its highest sense—to revive the spirit and lighten the stress of our modern world. We have no swimming, boating, ski-lifts, or golf courses, for these would call for what the park does not naturally possess.”

Preservation has since lost further ground to recreation—in response to what we, the people, have supposed we wanted. But is recreation, as the word is used today, what we really want? Or all we want? Let us analyze briefly the varied demands we make upon parks:

Surprising numbers of park visits are but slightly related to park features, and might be called *incidental*. A Western highway engineer once told me: “Even a highway temporarily dead-ended in the desert shows a traffic count. We drive it because it’s there.” Another sizable segment visits the parks largely because they are famous, each park we “do” becoming a sort of trophy adding to status.

The fad-phrase now is outdoor recreation, which means mostly “play and amusement” according to the current dictionaries. The Service distinguishes nature parks, history parks, and recreation parks, but the distinction blurs and the *playground image* grows, bidding for dominance. We are led to expect fun-type activity in which we can participate with other people.

Most park visitors continue, however, to expect *esthetic experience*. We carry cameras for scenic photography. Increasing numbers plan, and sometimes produce, paintings of scenic landscapes. Tape recordings of bird songs and other wild sounds are gaining in popularity.

In 1858, Henry David Thoreau suggested national preserves to keep parts of God-given America from being “civilized off the face of the earth.” Such preserves would be used not for “sport or food, but for inspiration.” John Muir considered the parks, first of all, as temples for worship. In this unpredictable era of the “death of God” and shrinking expression of respect and awe, the majesty of natural earth provides settings for the *shrine impulse* so deeply ingrained, still, in us all, an impulse toward the glorious unknown combined with love for the land.

Our great national parks generate feelings of *adventure*. People far away are happy to know such places exist “unspoiled,” to hear them described by lecturers, to see them portrayed. Their dream is often associated with pack-

trains or prolonged backpack trips, and the parks are, in fact, still used for such adventures, enlivening participants with the challenge of untamed earth.

John Muir saw the parks not only as temples but as laboratories. When Stephen Mather, whom Muir influenced, became the first director of the National Park Service, an educational and interpretive program was launched to reveal park meanings—what Freeman Tilden has called “the revelation of a larger truth that lies behind any statement of fact.” Nature observation and study continue important to countless visitors, with or without the aid of park naturalists, and the parks are sometimes called *living museums*.

Essential to maximum value as laboratories and museums, and perhaps for shrine and esthetic purposes and for adventure, is the function of the parks as inviolable *sanctuaries* for natural life. Satisfaction for millions, whether or not they ever see for themselves, arises from knowledge that myriad forms of life are here protected.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE areas counted 130 million visitors in 1966, nearly six times the count of twenty years before. It is good in a way that so many come, but massing dilutes or prevents the differing experiences sought by each, tending to force all into a conforming mold and mood which is the opposite, surely, of what the parks should do for us nowadays. The worsening dilemma could be solved by population (birth) control and abandonment of the “growth mania” in favor of harmony between civilization and environment.¹ But this dream is far from coming true, and the need is now as well as in the next century. Quick cures such as enforced rationing of park visits, or setting entrance fees so high as to keep most of us out, are being proposed. But the parks, after all, belong to the people.

Methods of more-or-less voluntary dispersal are the most recommended remedies. The Service is pushing more road mileage and other “improvements” in existing parks—which means, of course, less unimpaired natural country, less wilderness protection through the ten-year reappraisal required by 1964 law. Also being pushed are additions to the park system—a helpful drive, although possible new units are not large or numerous enough to deflect the stubborn rise in visitation per unit.

A more fundamental dispersal recommendation sees all Federal and state land in the region of any given national park as an outdoor-recreation unit. It would inaugurate inter-agency regional planning and administrative coordination to spread vacation and weekend loads region-wide. A declared policy of developmental forbearance on public lands would bring private lands into the pattern as sites for lodging, camping and fun facilities which could operate as businesses.² Related ideas would substitute, insofar as feasible, public transportation (perhaps quiet electric buses) for private cars, thus cutting congestion, and would so arrange park roads as to eliminate through traffic not particularly concerned with the park itself. The pleasure of people in certain cities over exclusion of motor traffic from former streets (which become malls) suggests that exclusion of automobiles from the most attractive

areas of parks might be welcomed by the general public.

Any remedy requires public support to be lastingly effective, and I believe mobilization of such support requires general acceptance of a more precise definition of *the national park experience*. It requires answers to such questions as these: What is the best use of the parks? What forms of outdoor experience can be enjoyed equally well outside the parks? What activities and developments are inappropriate in the nature parks because of irreconcilability with the best use of these parks? In isolating the essence of the national park experience we must consider the background of the park concept, the needs of the people which the parks are uniquely suited to satisfy and which cannot be satisfied as well elsewhere.

Having spent several years working my way through an array of such questions, I suggest that *the key national park experience is one in which unique or outstandingly majestic or significant aspects of nature—scenery, animals, plants, earth features and phenomena—are so powerfully dominant as to dwarf or exclude man and his works*. The experience involves, depending upon your preferred language, a strong feeling of kinship with the American earth, of oneness with nature, or a moving appreciation of the works of God. It is a penetration through and beyond ephemeral fashion into contact with the eternal. It is reception of a healing current that counteracts the worsening strain of human crowding and the race for material rewards. It is a step toward breadth and maturity and integration of self and world.

It is in the words of a popular song: “On a clear day—you can see who you are . . . part of every mountain, sea and star.” It was in the mind of Anne Morrow Lindberg as she discussed the wilds of East Africa (*Life*, October 21, 1966): “For a brief period one seems to escape the limits of one’s own species, the prison-bounds of a human body, as if one had shed a skin and become another creature with other senses and powers. . . . Immersion in wilderness

Nature observation and study continue important to countless park visitors of all ages, and the great national parks are sometimes called living museums. The naturalist and youngsters below are in Acadia National Park on the rugged coast of northeastern Maine.

National Park Service photograph



life, like immersion in the sea, may return civilized man to a basic element from which he sprang and with which he has now lost contact. Joined again in this primal current, he may find that 'life is as much a force in the universe as electricity or gravitational pull, and the presence of life sustains life'. It was in the thoughts of Joy Adamson when she wrote (*McCall's*, January 1967): "The greater our separation from nature, the greater our need to recapture it."

Such expressions in popular media encourage my belief that now as never before the kinship of man with nature needs to be, and can be, brought from the obscure fringes of the mind into full consciousness where it can guide human fulfillment while also protecting the parks. The need is not, as some suppose, confined to a minority but is universal and especially urgent in this era of speeding transition to we know not what. John Muir wrote: "There is a love of wild nature in everybody, an ancient mother-love ever showing itself whether recognized or no."

The true national park experience resembles music in setting the senses to vibrating—not beautiful scenery alone, nor sight and sound alone, but also the fragrance of the wild, the touch of pure air, of sunshine and rain. Such far-out seekers for new meaning as Buckminster Fuller and Marshall McLuhan have found the sensory base of life anesthetized by twentieth-century technology. But the wild can reawaken us and reorient us.³ We learn to find, as did John Muir, the very summits of sensation—the flashing of sun leaves and flowers, the reverberations of storms, the mighty lift of lofty peaks, the splendid sweep of tall cliffs, the myriad voices of water, the strange yet somehow familiar behavior of animals, the shifting yet returning cycles of the seasons, the meaningful kaleidoscope of the process of earth—so bright and strong as to release the imagination and melt down the rigid walls within us, clearing the way for fresh and fundamental insights (a function too many of us in this age of alienation have begun to expect of drugs).

We differ in the channels we follow, despite the identity of life within us. One man told me, "I commune with nature best with a fishing rod or camera in hand." Others commune best while walking, or riding horses, or skiing cross-country, some in solitude, some in small groups for exchange of feelings and thoughts with others, some while receiving natural history facts from a naturalist. But as we ponder the problem of overcrowding we realize that active recreation for its own sake is distracting static and interference where the natural earth is the spotlighted feature, appropriate though it is to recreation areas. Less emphasis on highways, accommodations, and fun might significantly reduce playground and incidental visits to the nature parks.

Wide acceptance of some such definition as I suggest for

the national park experience would not, by itself alone, solve the parks-people dilemma. But as most of us agreed again that respect and wonder, perhaps mixed with awe, are the feelings most appropriate to the great parks, public attitudes would shift in the direction of inspirational enjoyment. Proposals fundamental enough to accomplish needed dispersal, but blocked now, would gain feasibility. More people would voluntarily find their sports-type recreation, their highly developed campgrounds, their luxury lodging and dining outside the nature parks. The changing attitude would affect planning and development, administration and interpretation, which would in turn further build our efficiency in finding the most appropriate places for whatever variety of experience we seek at any given time.

THIS SOUNDS LIKE A DREAM, and I do not expect it to come true simply because I have written this article. My hope is to stimulate thinking which might lead to socio-psychological studies of the parks-people dilemma—as at least one nongovernmental socio-ecological study is now weighing the impact of improvements and of the visiting millions upon the natural life of the parks.

The studies should somehow penetrate surface rationalizations of park visitors to determine deeper desires and needs. I believe the studies should be international in scope, encompassing the customs, say, of the Japanese in relation to their nature-shrines, of Europeans toward what remains of their natural earth, of visitors to the great wild-animal reserves of Africa. The head of a college psychology department, to whom preliminary thinking was presented, said: "Consulting psychologists should do the job, in much the same manner as has been done successfully for industry."

It is not important whether the studies confirm, or correct my ideas—which are on trial thus far even in my own mind. The important things are that the parks-people dilemma be competently and imaginatively studied in all its ramifications, and that deeper and surer understanding be brought to bear in working out the ways our great parks can best serve the people. ■

¹Detailed discussions are to be found in past issues of *National Parks Magazine* as follows: "Parks—or More People," William H. Draper, Jr., April 1966; "Let's Outgrow the Growth Mania," Darwin Lambert, April 1965; "Population and Food," February 1965.

²Regional planning discussions are to be found in past issues of *National Parks Magazine* as follows: "A Family Approach to Regional Planning," Dorothy Stanley Moore, September 1965; "A Look Toward the Future in the TVA-Great Smokies Region," March 1965; "A Yellowstone Regional Plan," Anthony Wayne Smith, January 1965. A series of wilderness plans for parks (with recreation-plan suggestions for surrounding regions) was started in the August 1966 issue and is continuing.

³See "National Parks and Natural History," R. Dalton Muir, *National Parks Magazine*, January 1965.

SENTINEL OF THE SWAMP

BY CARL H. GILES

Photograph by the author

ABOUT A HUNDRED MILES NORTH OF Memphis, an ancient cypress soars 130 feet above a small Tennessee swamp. Its huge gnarled knees sprawl into the watery lands near the banks of the Obion River not far from the community of Sharon. This bald cypress is, so far as presently known, the biggest tree east of the Rocky Mountains; west of the Rockies there are, of course, several species that easily exceed the Tennessee cypress in girth, including both the mountain and coastal *Sequoias*

and at least one species of cedar.

Measured two feet above ground level the hollow-trunked giant has a circumference of 68 feet. In middle Florida there is a bald cypress with a girth of 42 feet, while in northwestern Ohio there is a sycamore which also measures 42 feet in circumference.

Forestry people have estimated the age of the cypress at more than 1300 years. Although shallow water usually laps around the hollow base of the tree, one may easily wade into its interior,

which is spacious enough to accommodate two automobiles. Although some residents of the surrounding cotton and soybean farming area had known about the huge tree for many years, it was not brought to the attention of Tennessee foresters until 1950. Because of its condition, the tree has little or no timber value, and thus apparently escaped the lumberman's axe. Recently, the tree and 12 acres surrounding it were brought into the protection of Tennessee's state park system. ■

Near Sharon, Tennessee, is a bald cypress with a girth of 68 feet, thought to be a record measurement for trees in the East.



Trails of the Grand Teton

By Laverne C. Huser

GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK IN Wyoming, with its mountain scenery and its mountain-man history, its abundant wildlife and profusion of wildflowers, may rank second among national parks in number of visitors each year; but it ranks second to none in the grandeur of its back country. Roughly two and a half million people visited the park during each of the past two years, but only one in twenty saw any kind of back country, and only one in 250 explored the true back country.

What is back country? Is it merely an area that you can not drive to? Or is it that country accessible only to the rugged individualist willing to hike or ride a horse miles into the wilderness? To me, back country means both the country that must be reached by trail—even if that trail is only a mile from the nearest superhighway—and the country that cannot be reached even by horse, that lies out of the sight and mind of civilization.

Trails are thus the key to back country, and in Grand Teton Park there are many trails—nearly two hundred miles of hiking and riding trails maintained by the Park Service plus the natural game trails, the water trails of the lakes and streams, and such secondary trails as the more adventure-some outdoorsmen maintain by use.

During the four summers that I spent in Grand Teton Park floating the Snake River, hiking Teton trails, and climbing Teton peaks, I found three kinds of back country: the valley back country that includes those parts of Jackson Hole—on the valley floor itself—that must be reached by trails; the canyon back country, the east-facing mountain canyons of the Teton Range that can be seen from Jackson Hole, but which must be reached by trail; and the mountain back country that lies behind the for-

midable fortress of Teton peaks visible from Jackson Hole.

Back country to many people seems to mean mountains, but the valley of Jackson Hole itself has much back country. Pilgrim Creek, north of the Colter Bay Road, is exciting back country full of wildlife and wildflowers. I followed a great horned owl into the woods one day as I was birding along the clear-flowing creek in early summer. Losing the owl, I began to pick my way back to the stream, but could not move without stepping on a calypso orchid—this delicate little fairy slipper was everywhere.

The open meadows bordering Pilgrim Creek, habitat of bear and coyote, ground squirrel and gopher, turn bright with lupine, paintbrush, scarlet gilia, and balsamroot during July and August. Pilgrim Mountain, clothed in aspen and chokecherry, with a summer kaleidoscope of wildflowers, has no trail to its summit, but you can follow game trails for a fine view of Jackson Lake and the Teton peaks beyond.

Into the Wild Country

Trails lead north along Pilgrim Creek into the wilderness area of the Teton National Forest, one of the wildest areas in the United States outside Alaska. On high open meadows and in the heavy timber of the lower slopes of the Yellowstone Plateau the great herds of elk graze in the summer season, and the grizzly bear roams as in the days before the white man.

Some of the piedmont lakes, lying at the mouths of the mountain canyons, are back country, especially Leigh Lake. The lakes accessible from Jackson Lake Lodge, Emma Matilda and Two Ocean, and from Colter Bay, Swan Lake and Cygnet Pond, have their back country elements, too: here beaver build lodges and dig canal systems, trumpeter swan nest, and moose

browse. Here, too, I have heard elk bugle and loon cry; have seen aspen turn and geese fly south; have smelled the overpowering aroma of wildflowers after a thunderstorm.

Perhaps the most heavily traveled back-country trail in the valley is the Snake River, the same trail that the Doane Expedition followed nearly a hundred years ago through the same country that Jackson and Sublette trapped a half-century before that.

What Doane, Sublette, and Jackson experienced in Jackson Hole long ago, the twentieth-century visitor to the park cannot expect to feel: but, floating the Snake River, modern man can perhaps relive the lives of the mountain men vicariously.

As a boatman for three summers on the Snake River Float Trip, I have seen much that the mountain men might have seen. A herd of elk crosses the river, cows abandoning their calves to the swift water, calves crying in fright like seagulls as nervous mothers, safely ashore, watch from the aspen-covered ridge, waiting to sort and collect their calves half a mile downstream where they are swept ashore on a gravel bar. A family of otter stares for a moment, then disappears into the swirling water to hide under the bank. A coyote, at the river for a drink and a bath, rolls in the grass like a young puppy, drying in the morning sun.

All this is back country, but the mountains certainly have their back country, too, perhaps of a more spectacular kind: the steep, glaciated canyons facing east, and for the most part, visible from Jackson Hole; and the broad basins of the west that reveal the sedimentary cap which once covered the whole fault block from which the Teton Range was carved.

The uplift that created this metamorphic masterpiece tilted the block leaving the east face precipitous but the

top sloping gradually to the west. Thus, the erosive forces that began sculpturing the block worked more profoundly on the eastern edge. So deeply did the east-flowing streams cut into the metamorphic core that in at least one place—Cascade Canyon—they sliced right through the range to drain the back slopes of the peaks facing Jackson Hole. Consequently, the watershed is some three to five miles west of the high peaks in many places, and Cascade Canyon drains the western aspect of the range from the South Teton north to the St. John's Group.

Several hanging canyons mark the eastern slope of the range, and all of the canyons fall in a series of glacier-cut steps. Waterfalls Canyon in the northern part of the range faces upper Jackson Lake. It has no trail, but Wilderness Falls at the head of the cirque between Doane Peak (named for the explorer) and Ranger Peak, can be reached from the western shores of Jackson Lake by bushwhacking four

or five miles across talus slopes bordering Waterfalls Creek and climbing the steep screes adjacent to Columbine Cascades on the same stream. A lake above the headwall feeds the falls, and is itself fed by the perpetual snows of the upper cirque.

I feel that the importance of certain park regulations should be stressed at this point. For any off-trail hiking you must register with the ranger at Jenny Lake Ranger Station. Technically, if a hiker is off the trail he is considered a climber. The climber is required to check with the ranger upon return so that park personnel will know "who is where," in case of emergency.

Anyone planning an overnight excursion into the back country is required to obtain a campfire permit from any park ranger. All back-country campers are asked to restrict their fires to established campsites and to carry out all non-burnable trash. Hikers are also warned of snow conditions in the early season, and in the high

country throughout the summer. For some trips the rangers require hikers to wear lug-soled boots, and in some cases to carry ice axes.

Several miles south of the trail-less Waterfalls Canyon lies Indian Paintbrush Canyon. Facing northwest, this canyon angles into the heart of the range behind Rockchuck Peak, its stream flowing into Leigh Lake. As its name implies, Indian Paintbrush Canyon abounds in wildflowers, especially the Indian paintbrush, which grows here in huge clumps of bright red-orange.

The trail into the canyon climbs the slopes west of String Lake, which can be reached by car, then heads into the canyon as it crosses the forested moraines above Leigh Lake, giving the hiker an excellent view of the southern aspect of Mt. Moran, 12,594 feet high.

The lower trail climbs gradually through forests of Douglas fir and Englemann spruce. Here I have seen bear and plenty of moose—five on one

Sunset Lake in Alaska Basin of the Targhee National Forest is a favorite campsite for hikers on the loop trips in the southern part of Grand Teton National Park. It can be reached by the Cascade Canyon Trail (south fork) or by either of the trails branching off the Death Canyon Trail. Just visible in the notch is the summit of the Grand Teton.

National Park Service photograph



occasion in the clearing just below the first major glacial step.

Stunted alpine fir dominates the floral picture in the upper canyon; marmots and pika replace the bear and moose in the animal world. Tiny alpine wildflowers chase the melting snowfields that leave a number of unnamed lakes in the highest reaches of the canyon. Holly Lake lies in a small side cirque at an elevation of 9,400 feet, a delightful overnight campsite.

The trail heading south from the outlet of String Lake gives access to Hanging Canyon in the St. John's Group, which lies just across Jenny Lake from the viewpoints along Jenny Lake Road. Hanging Canyon is an excellent example of the geologic phenomenon known as a hanging canyon. As a valley glacier carves great U-shaped canyons, tributary valleys occupied by smaller glaciers are less deeply eroded than the main valley, and are left hanging above the main valley—in this case, Jackson Hole. Waterfalls frequently mark hanging canyons because only by falling over the lip of the hanging canyon can water from the upper cirque reach the valley floor.

Three lakes lie in this narrow canyon cut into the St. John's Group: Arrowhead, lowest and smallest; Ramshead, a little higher and a little larger; the Lake of the Crags, highest and largest, nestled into the upper cirque and nudged by the walls of the canyon into an hourglass shape. Above Lake of the Crags, Rock of Ages lifts its hoary head to nearly 11,000 feet.

Away from the Crowds

This is climbers' country, but its scenic aspects make it a worth-while hike for park visitors who want to get away from the crowded trails and the world below. Since this canyon is reached by a secondary trail—that is, one not maintained by the Park Service—be sure to register with the ranger at Jenny Lake Ranger Station.

Still farther south is the Amphitheater Lake Trail, approached from Lupine Meadows by car to the very foot of Teewinot. This trail has a branch that leads into Garnet Canyon, which forks around the Middle Teton, serving as an approach to the standard climbs on all three Tetons as well as to numerous climbs on the minor peaks in the area.

The main trail, switching back 19 times, tops out in a unique cirque cut into what was once a subsidiary ridge of the Grand Teton.

The Amphitheater Lake Trail ends at the notch overlooking Glacier Gulch, but a secondary trail leads through the notch, traverses the north face of Disappointment Peak, and leads onto the Teton Glacier, largest in the park. Registration for mountaineering is required for travel beyond the notch.

I have seldom traveled this trail without seeing grouse, and the sun-baked slopes across which the lower trail begins its switchback course supports abundant summer wildflowers: scarlet gilia, balsamroot, yarrow, stonecrop, fleabane, wild geranium.

A Geological Feature

Avalanche Canyon, another of the trail-less canyons facing east, is probably the least traveled of the U-shaped canyons that can be seen from the valley floor. At the head of this isolated canyon lies an ancient sedimentary layer exposed in a steep cliff known as The Wall, which can be seen from several vantage points in Jackson Hole. This rugged canyon can perhaps best be reached by hiking up the south fork of Cascade Canyon in the mountain back country and crossing into the head of the canyon over the saddle between the South Teton and The Wall.

Shoshoko Falls, formerly called Twin Falls, marks the stream's path down the lowest headwall as it drains Lake Taminah. Difficult route-finding along the northern bench suggests that the southern angle of the headwall offers the easier and safer route of ascent.

Above the lake, route finding difficulties again confront the hiker, but in my opinion the north bank of the stream is the easier course. Just below Snowdrift Lake, which lies in the highest cirque below The Wall, is the park's unique waterfall, a series of fountains flowing out of seemingly solid rock.

The whole upper basin of Avalanche Canyon, at an elevation of more than 10,000 feet, is alpine country. At the base of the limestone wall there is nothing but scree and snow for several hundred yards, with only an occasional globeflower late in the summer to break the gray monotony. A little lower,

around the lake itself, the aromatic alpine fir, stunted by the severe climatic conditions, grows in scrubby profusion. Its dense branches offer protection from icy winds that whip down the canyon at night, providing campsites in the most inaccessible part of the park. (Remember to get a campsite permit from a park ranger for any back-country fires.)

Exploring Southern Trails

In the southern part of the range, several interesting trails branch off the main trail that leaves the White Grass Ranger Station. About a mile from the parking area at the station, the trail tops the Phelps Lake Moraine, then switches back and forks just west of the lake. The left fork leads up Open Canyon across Mt. Hunt Divide (9,700 feet), home of the few remaining bighorn sheep in the park. Then it drops into Granite Canyon and climbs again to Marion Lake, which lies on a shelf near the head of the canyon. Here at 9,250 feet, is a delightful campsite in an area so isolated that few people ever hike the nearly twelve miles (one way) it takes to get there. Another high-country trail leads back to the head of Death Canyon, so that you can make a loop trip of it, and a Forest Service trail leads down Fox Creek into Targhee National Forest.

The main Death Canyon Trail that climbs the narrow defile from the fork just west of Phelps Lake goes first through heavy forests of cottonwood and Englemann spruce, then switches back along ledges of Precambrian crystalline rock—gneisses, schists, and pegmatites, deeply folded, faulted, and fractured. Above the first major step, the trail levels off in the meadows around the Death Canyon Ranger Station. Here the trail forks again, the left branch leading to the head of the south fork of the canyon as it curves around to join the Open-Granite Canyon Trail at Fox Creek Pass. From this pass another park trail leads across the Death Canyon Shelf, over the Sheep Steps, and drops into Alaska Basin in Targhee National Forest.

But this is the long way around if you are going to Alaska Basin. The right hand fork at the ranger cabin leads, in a series of gruelling switchbacks, to a 10,500-foot pass near the

base of Buck Mountain. From this trail you can look across Death Canyon into Rimrock Lake, nestled into a pocket on the north face of Prospect Mountain, and from the Phelps Lake Overlook you can see most of the southern part of Jackson Hole.

A little higher along the ridge, where alpine fir and whitebark pine thin to tundra vegetation, you can look down into Stewart Draw and see the southern aspect of the peaks that form the southern wall of Avalanche Canyon. Just above this point, the trail reaches an elevation of 10,800 feet, less than 500 vertical feet below the summit of Static Peak, which is easily climbed by scrambling up the rocks along the trail. Do not forget to sign out for the "climb" at Jenny Lake Ranger Station.

Alaska Basin, which lies outside the park boundaries in Targhee National Forest, is readily approached from either fork of the Death Canyon Trail, but since Alaska Basin is part of what

I consider the true back country, I would like to approach it through the aorta of the western back country, Cascade Canyon.

Cascade Creek, which forks sharply about five miles from its entry into Jenny Lake, drains the entire west side of the Teton Peaks from the South Teton to the St. John's Group, thus giving access to most of the mountain back country in the park. The trail in Cascade Canyon, which follows the creek closely for most of its course, leads into Alaska Basin and Avalanche Canyon via the south fork, and to Lake Solitude and over Indian Paintbrush Divide via the north fork. Approaches to several climbing routes on the high Teton peaks initiate from Cascade Canyon, including those that lead to the saddle between Symmetry Spire and Ice Point, and those that lead into Dartmouth Basin and Valhalla Canyon.

The lowest portion of the trail in Cascade Canyon is no doubt the most

heavily traveled in the park, for it is the one leading to Hidden Falls just a half-mile from the shores of Jenny Lake. Several hundred people a day may hike this stretch; a few more may go on the few hundred yards to Inspiration Point for a fine view of Jackson Hole and the hills beyond; but most of the trail in the upper canyon is less heavily traveled.

Once the trail works its way into the canyon proper above Inspiration Point, it follows the stream closely through heavy timber marked by winter avalanche paths. Deep purple phacelia lines the trail in early summer, to be replaced by wild raspberries that ripen as autumn approaches. The trail climbs gently beneath towering peaks—Mt. Owen and Teewinot on the left, the St. John's Group on the right—to the fork just above the stream fork.

The north fork leads gradually up the glaciated canyon to Lake Solitude, which belies its name since it probably

The Wall, an ancient sedimentary formation at the head of Avalanche Canyon, can be seen from several vantage points in Jackson Hole. Snowdrift Lake, lower left, at an elevation of 10,000 feet, is fed by the perpetual snows of this upper cirque. This spectacular canyon has no trails, but can be reached by way of the South Fork of Cascade Canyon, a ten-mile trip.

National Park Service photograph





receives more visitors than any other mountain lake in the park. A few visitors camp at the lake to enjoy the alpinglow on the Grand Teton and Mt. Owen at sunset, or to explore the area further. It makes a convenient overnight stopping place on a loop trip that includes Indian Paintbrush Canyon, and it is a good base camp for a side trip to Peterson Glacier and the milky-green Mica Lake at its base. Campers are required to use the minimum camping facilities being installed to reduce the impact of visitor use on

the fragile vegetation around Lake Solitude.

If you follow the south fork of the trail from the junction about five miles up the canyon from Jenny Lake, you will pass through alternating forests and meadows, climbing bench after bench in the glacial staircase that leads to Hurricane Pass at 10,350 feet, and ultimately to Alaska Basin. Just as the trail begins its switchback climb to the pass itself, it passes an interesting feature known as Schoolroom Glacier, a small live glacier, even though it is not

so marked on official maps of the park.

Just north of Hurricane Pass, along the watershed ridge that marks the boundary between Grand Teton National Park and Targhee National Forest, Table Mountain rises to 11,101 feet. This is the peak that has dominated your hike throughout the south fork of Cascade Canyon—it can even be seen from the Indian Paintbrush Divide, miles to the north, and from a few places in the valley of Jackson Hole.

Over the lupine-covered hump from Hurricane Pass lies Alaska Basin, actually a double canyon with a lower, narrower canyon incised in the broad upper basin. It is big country; it is back country. Here you may roam for days without seeing another human being. It is country to tax the legs and lungs, the heart and hamstrings, the very soul of man. It is high country full of wildflowers: Parry's primrose lines the tiny streams that gurgle through the broken rock and tundra grass; Lewis monkeyflower paints a pink pattern in the marshy meadows; sky-blue lupine makes a flower lake on the rolling hills.

Sunset Lake on the bench of the upper basin is an excellent campsite, but the Basin Lakes in the lower canyon are more out-of-the-way. Both sites are natural overnight stops on the loop trips that traverse Alaska Basin: either the 22-mile loop via Death Canyon and the South Fork of Cascade Canyon or the longer (nearly 40 miles) trip that includes the Marion Lake loop. The entire loop taking in Marion Lake, Alaska Basin, both forks of Cascade Canyon, and Indian Paintbrush Canyon involves well over 50 miles of trail through the Teton back country.

What is back country? Is it back-to-nature country? Is it the country "beyond"? Is it where people are not? Is it solitude and peace of mind? Whatever it is, you can surely find it in Grand Teton National Park. Here is wildlife as the mountain men knew it; here are wildflowers that defy the eye, mountains that were old long before the first man came into being.

Antoine de St. Exupery says in *The Little Prince* that "What is essential is invisible to the eye, one sees truly only with the heart." Even the heart sees more clearly in the Teton back country, and the soul has room to expand. ■

Private Park for Rockhounds

By Alma L. Jones

ONE NEED NOT BE A ROCK-HOUND to enjoy Agate Beach, within a private park, on the north shore of Washington's Olympic Peninsula, but the chances are that you will be an enthusiast before it is time to leave. For example, my husband had always thought that a rock was just a stone, and it was a little surprising to see him on the beach furtively shining agates on the seat of his pants.

We had only three days for camping, but could have kept busy for months. From Seattle it is an easy drive and a scenic ferry ride across Puget Sound to the Hood Canal floating bridge and the Olympic Peninsula. Agate and Crescent Beaches are tucked into the shore fifteen miles west of Port Angeles. The managers of this private park did not object when we arrived at midnight, after a late start from home. They told us that the welcome mat is out twenty-four hours a day, every day of the year.

A little fishing and a lot of rock hunting was all I had in mind. Having been there before for only a few hours at a time, we did not realize that

there were underwater caves along the shore to be explored, trails in all directions through the woods, and numerous wild animals to be seen.

There are several hundred acres in the parks with a mile-long beach, rocks, tidal pools, and towering forests above and behind. Stubborn fir trees cling to the hard clay banks, refusing to join the satin gray driftwood on the beaches below. To stand at the base of a great tree whose girth the arms cannot encircle and to look straight up to a distant top keeps humans in proportion. They seem too small, by comparison, to have big problems.

Wildflowers hold fast to niches in the cliffs hung above the ocean, while rhododendrons and roses fill the spaces under the trees. From a hill three hundred feet above the water we watched the sun set beyond Vancouver Island in the distance. As the light waned in the grove, a doe nudged her young off to bed and a rabbit turned its back to eat in privacy.

One need not chop wood for a fire unless for exercise, and our biggest chore was the inspection of each piece

of driftwood to see if we wanted it for our collection. Orbicular jasper, agate, and other rock specimens had to be sorted and some taken back to the beach for the next collector. The tumbling action of waves on these rocks gives them a shine usually achieved only by barrel polishing.

Boating is easy with the good facilities at this private park. The water is shallow at Crescent Beach, but there is no problem in launching a boat with the launcher that transports craft in and out of the water. Sturdy, family-type boats can be rented at the dock, and bait can be bought at all times. Salmon, halibut, lingcod, sea bass and flounders make fishing interesting, and landlubbers can fish from the shore. For such an unspoiled area there are ample facilities—gasoline, ice, moorage, lights and sewer hook-ups, large camping and picnic area, rest rooms, showers, and laundry. There is also a gift shop featuring handicrafts of local origin. Skin-divers may inspect sunken hulls of wrecked ships of long ago, and swimming is safe for children.

We thought the entrance fee and camping charge very nominal, and wondered whether if we were the owners we would be as unselfish in sharing with others the beauty of the place.

It is hard to believe that this site was a busy town in 1889, with logging operations, hotel, newspaper offices, weather station, post office, and school house. After the best trees were gone, this land was left to take care of itself; and this it did, the new growth covering old scars. Those of us who want a change from city living may pitch tents in the sheltered natural beauty of these two beaches and their adjoining woods along the Strait of Juan de Fuca, and breathe deeply of the clean fresh air. ■

Not far from Port Angeles in Washington State is Agate Beach, where visitors may enjoy rock-hunting along a scenic shoreline.

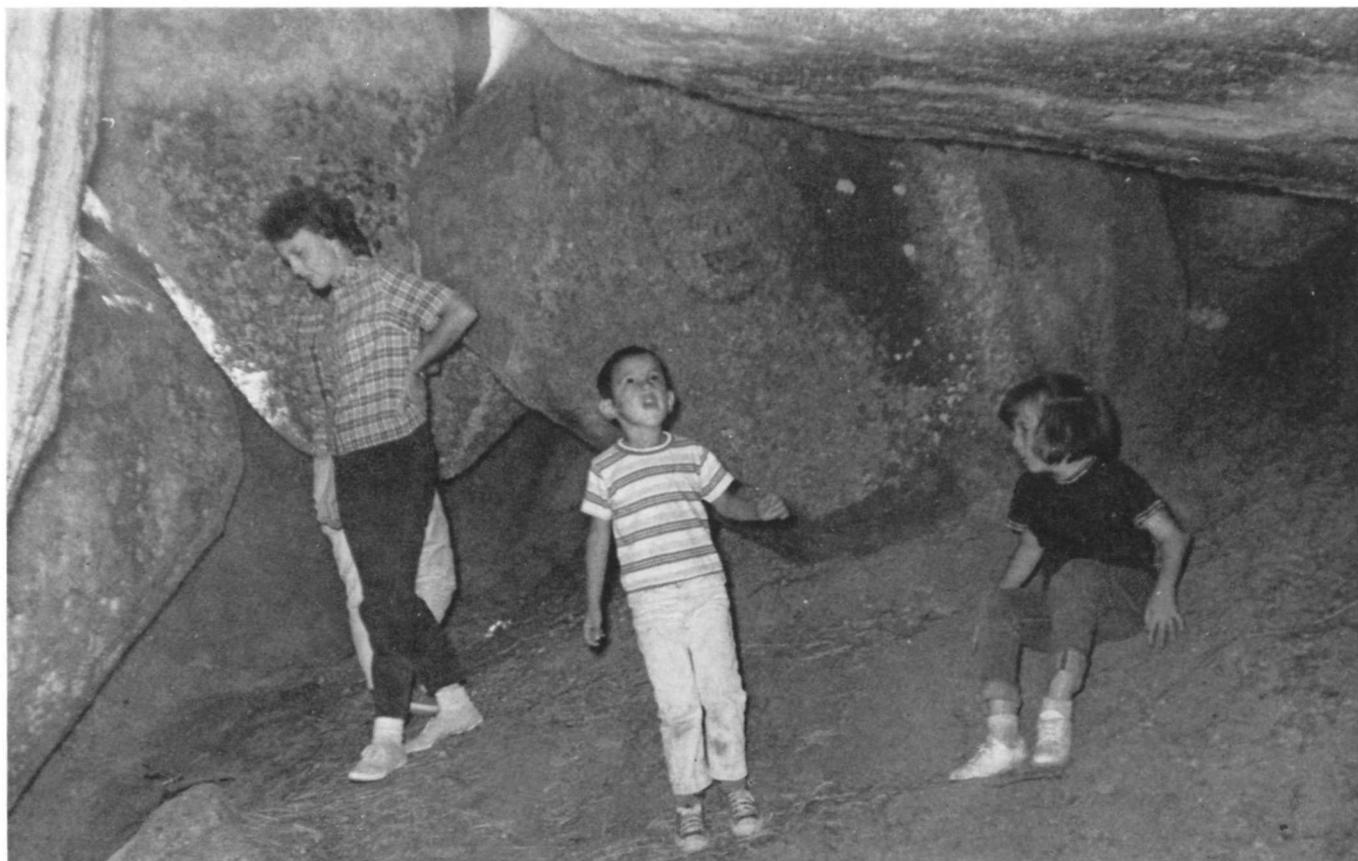




Photographs by the author



Sure evidence of permanent prehistoric Indian campsite is presence of bedrock mortars, at left above, in Kings Canyon National Park. On the under-side of granite projection in adjacent cave was painted a tomahawk, upper right, handle of which is 10½ inches long. On south wall of same cave is mammal painting 12 inches long from nose to tip of tail. Rump end of figure is partially obscured by lichen overgrowth. Below, a picture originally taken for family interest only; after development it revealed large face in background, nearly invisible in natural light but revealed by brilliance of flash-bulb.



A Pictograph Cave in Kings Canyon National Park

By Charles William Stouffer

FOR MORE THAN TWO THOUSAND years families have camped on the same meadow in today's King's Canyon National Park in the High Sierra of central California. Where now we camp for pleasure, prehistoric nomadic people camped during the summer months to hunt and fish an existence.

In the campground now called Azalea the ancient people created bed-rock mortars in which they ground acorns brought from the foothills. Here, too, they brought deer to prepare hides and smoke meat for winter use.

It is interesting to note that there is no record of pictographs, or rock paintings, in this area. There are some fine examples of the art in Sequoia National Park and a few in Kings Canyon proper, but none are popularly associated with Kings Canyon Park itself. Pictographs do, however, exist in the park. This is not surprising, for there is no reason to believe that primitive peoples would leave their art in one camp area and not in another.

Let us travel back in time to a period long before the coming of man into the mighty Sierra Nevada—perhaps as far back as a million years. One day there was a small earthquake that cast a few large granite boulders from the face of a cliff and dropped them at the edge of a small streambed. The loosely-piled stones formed a natural room and enclosed a spring, which partially floored the room with a pool.

It was not a large room, being only about twenty feet square, with openings that admitted air and rays of sunlight but kept out the rain and snow. Then, one summer several thousand years ago, a hunting party of bronze-skinned men came upon the little grotto. They entered the cave from the east, and per-

haps it was they who, on the south wall of the cave, made two paintings. One is probably a bear and the other, perhaps, represents the moon. On one of the west walls of the grotto they painted an elaborate circular figure which might represent the sun, and on another wall the large face of a man. On the under surface of the north wall, six feet up from the floor, they painted a tomahawk. On other surfaces they painted other figures, which may only be seen today dimly, when the sun is at just the right angle in the sky.

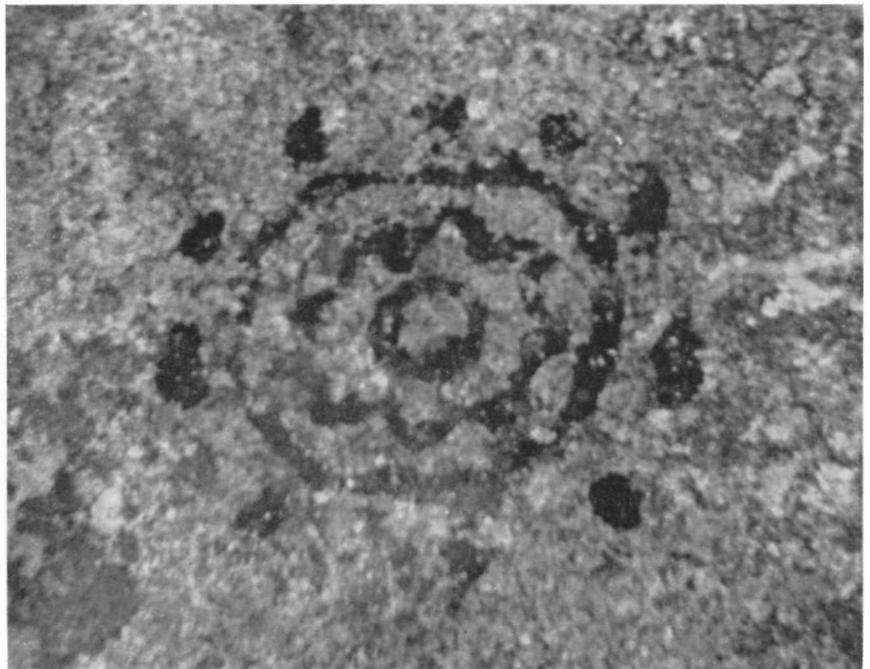
After many generations the bronze men left the mountains glens and forests and disappeared. Then, in recent times, white-skinned men invaded the Sierra, and through the efforts of a few of them, and with great difficulty,

some areas in these mountains were set aside so that their natural beauty might remain for all time, and so that the men and women to come would be able to see the land as it was even before the first of the white men came.

Still the grotto kept its secret hidden. Men who search for such things found many paintings to the south, in Sequoia National Park, and to the north, in the great Kings Canyon; but they recorded no rock paintings or pictographs in Kings Canyon Park.

If you emulate the example of the ancients and camp in this high meadow, you can follow the same streambed on about a fifteen-minute walk and, if you know where to look can enter this aged room and wonder at the meanings of its little-known paintings. ■

"On one of the west walls . . . they painted an elaborate circular figure which might represent the sun . . ."



The Great Swamp of New Jersey: Jetports and "Progress"

Several years ago the Great Swamp of New Jersey was being viewed as a site for a jet airport. The swamp, rich in scenic, plant, and animal interests, was saved from development then by conservationists and local residents, and part of it was incorporated into the national wildlife refuge system. But recently there has been more talk of the Great Swamp as a jetport site.

In February the Fish and Wildlife Service held a public hearing on its plans for Wilderness in the Great Swamp Refuge. Presented here is a statement submitted for the hearing record on that occasion by Theodore M. Edison of West Orange, New Jersey, in which the author asks some disturbing questions about a philosophy which the conservationist Darwin Lambert has called "the perpetual growth mania."

THREE YEARS AGO, Public Service Electric and Gas Company distributed throughout the nation handsome sets of picture postcards in an effort to bring more business and industry to New Jersey. The picture showed an awe-inspiring expanse of port facilities and other examples of modern developments, as well as several beautiful views of farm country and wild areas. To induce employers to come here, it was pointed out that "New Jersey is a beautiful state and one that offers the industrialist and his employees and visitors many opportunities to enjoy the great outdoors." It was further stated that "Few other states can boast of such a desirable diversification and balance in land utilization."

Political and business leaders are continually taking part in similar sales campaigns that stress the importance of economic growth. However, statements like those just quoted make me wonder why so much effort should be spent on trying to expand the very developments that may soon destroy the diversity and balance that are said to make the state attractive. It is argued that more industry will be needed to provide jobs for the rapidly increasing population, but it seems to me that we cannot follow the "more, more" policy much longer without "progressing" toward serious blight.

Projections indicate that if every bit of vacant land within fifty miles of New York City were to be developed to the maximum permitted under

present zoning, there would not be enough room to take care of the increased population expected there in less than thirty years. Even if we sacrifice most of our remaining farms and wildlands to supply the added millions of people with water and other essentials up to the year 2000, what will we do when the population doubles *again* in a few more years? Unless there is a general awakening to the urgent need of reducing the rate of population growth immediately, I fear that there will be rapid deterioration in our environment, and that the present generation may live to see us reach the point of disaster. We already face serious problems with smog, water supply, waste disposal, traffic strangulation, and many forms of social frictions and cost inflations that result from crowding, and I predict that these problems will mount with amazing speed as we run out of the relatively open spaces into which we have been expanding.

If we need another jetport now, we will probably need several more a few years hence, but present difficulties in finding a site show that it will be virtually impossible to meet the later demand. If we are going to be forced to find alternatives to more jetports anyway, why not concentrate on such alternatives *now*, instead of ruining our best remaining rural and natural areas to get only inadequate results? As certain problems of traffic congestion, noise, and smog production can probably best be solved by reviving

and improving mass rail transportation, there would seem to be good reason to eliminate subsidies to at least the more dubious airports and highways that are helping to defeat the railroads. If rail services are allowed to deteriorate to the point of abandonment, revivals may become almost prohibitively difficult and expensive.

It has been implied that just a few selfish people with estates near the Great Swamp are blocking the selection of that swamp as a jetport site, but I feel that that is far from the case. The public outcry against loss of the swamp has been very widespread. And when it comes to selfishness I doubt that those concerned with aviation are in a good position to throw many stones. For example, one airline, in its current T.V. advertising of new direct flights to Lima, Peru, wonders how long Peru can survive the American tourist. It comes right out and says that it is making it much easier for tourists to get there and much harder for Peru to stay unspoiled, and then quite logically concludes with the advice that travelers should go early. It is nice to know that if jets succeed in eliminating the last shreds of tranquility here, it may still be (temporarily) possible for people with enough time and money to escape in those jets from our own rat race to help spoil a remote place. And we can make even faster progress in that direction if we can just get the great majority of Americans (who seldom or never fly) to put up with shattering sonic booms. ■

News and Commentary

A Redwoods National Park

Much in the public mind today is the question of a major new national park in the coast redwood country of northern California. For decades conservationists have advocated some form of protection for all of the so-called monumental groves at the very least; hopefully, for some entire watersheds which still contain outstanding old-growth redwoods. The past several years have seen various proposals by both conservationists and the National Park Service for a national park in the region.

The proposals have recently centered over two possibilities: a modest park in Del Norte County, a substantial part of which would be comprised of existing state redwoods parks; and a larger park in the Redwood Creek watershed of Humboldt County. However, a third and more comprehensive proposal has been advanced by the National Parks Association which would comprise both the above areas, connected by a strip of beautiful California coastline; in addition, a Red-

woods National Forest would be established on suitable lands of the two redwood national forest purchase units established in 1938 but never clothed with lands. The south purchase unit, since abandoned, would be re-established under the Association's plan.

During the third week in April the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee's Subcommittee on Parks and Recreation held a public hearing in Washington on the question of a redwoods park and, on invitation, Association President A. W. Smith submitted his views in the matter.

Creation of a major new national park in the coast redwoods region would very definitely be in the public interest, Smith said in a statement which was presented to the subcommittee in his behalf by Mr. C. Edward Behre, consulting forester to the Association. The statement then outlined the picture of a major redwoods park and a redwoods national forest, and explored their economic impact on the region. It was pointed out, in answer to

objections that have been raised to a park on account of cost, that private individuals and the State of California have already invested some quarter billion dollars in coast redwoods protection, and that it would not be unreasonable to think that the United States, with its immense financial resources, might at the very least match that sum.

As for the often-heard argument that a large park in the region would damage a lumber-based economy, Mr. Smith pointed out that it would be the cutting out of existing stands of timber that would finally cause economic dislocations, and that the net effect of a great park would be growth and expansion of the present redwood communities; that sound, long-term management of NPA's proposed redwood national forest would actually be the best approach to economic prosperity in the region. Such a forest, he said, would provide a broader and more diversified product base for a stabilized wood-products industry, and would afford in addition recreational opportunities of the first magnitude.

(continued on page 20)

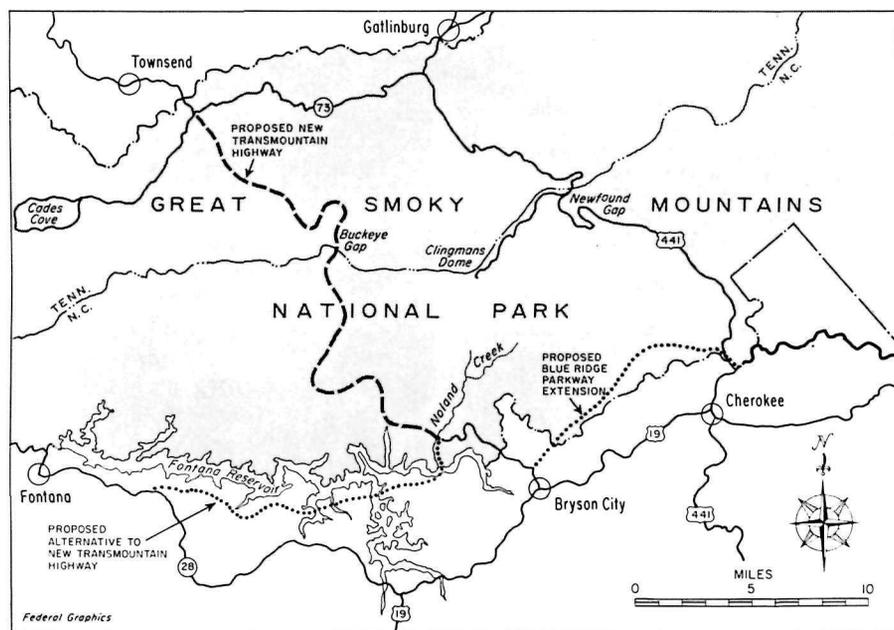
A Proposed Alternative to the Great Smokies Transmountain Road

Conservationists all over the country have been strongly opposing Park Service plans to construct an additional transmountain highway across the backbone of the Great Smokies in Great Smokies National Park, from Bryson City, North Carolina to Townsend, Tennessee as an alternative

to a route along the north shore of Fontana Reservoir, to which project the Service says it was committed by agreement with North Carolina nearly 25 years ago. Construction on this road, which has involved deep cutting and filling, has proceeded as far as Noland Creek.

The Carolina Mountain Club, based in Asheville, North Carolina, has recently published a two-part alternative road proposal which it feels would eliminate the need for either the in-park Bryson City-Fontana road or the new transmountain road. It suggests an extension of the Blue Ridge Parkway from north of Cherokee to Bryson City, and a scenic route from the present head of the Bryson City-Fontana road at Noland Creek, to lead out of the park, across Fontana Reservoir by bridge, and thus along the south shore of the reservoir to a junction with existing Route 28 east of Fontana. In this manner, more transmountain traffic would be funneled through the Bryson City region. The plan is also supported by the Smoky Mountains Hiking Club, headquartered in Knoxville.

NPA has felt that the by-pass of the parkway around Cherokee ought to involve the least possible intrusion into the park, and that the parkway ought to be brought back to Route 19 out of the park with improvement of Route 19 to Bryson City. In connection with the alternative the Association would foresee a large, well-planned recreation region on private land around Bryson City, developed by private enterprise.



Wild Rivers Hearing

Current proposals for establishment of a wild or scenic rivers system in the United States are definitely in the public interest, and great numbers of Americans are more and more strongly in favor of such protection. This was the keynote of a statement submitted on invitation by NPA President A. W. Smith at recent Senate hearings on the proposed wild rivers system. Presentation was made on behalf of Mr. Smith by Paul Tilden, editor of the Magazine.

Specifically, however, President Smith felt that the broad condemnation powers conferred by the measures currently being considered are over-strong, and that safeguards against dam-building on the proposed wild rivers are weak. People have come to fear the powers of eminent

domain because of its sweeping use by Federal, State and local governments for big road and big dam programs, it was stated; the ambitious lands acquisition provisions of the wild rivers measures may therefore meet with widespread resistance. A well-defined system for the acquisition of "covenants" running with the land, with minimal protection and access easements, should be substituted for broad powers to condemn in fee simple and to acquire unlimited authority under the caption of scenic easements. Provision should also be made, Mr. Smith said, for acquisition in fee simple in cases where the owner demanded it, prices to be determined by condemnation proceedings.

The adoption of covenant and easement acquisition as against fee simple acqui-

sition of land by eminent domain would provide a fair-minded method for establishment of a comprehensive wild or scenic rivers program, Mr. Smith said.

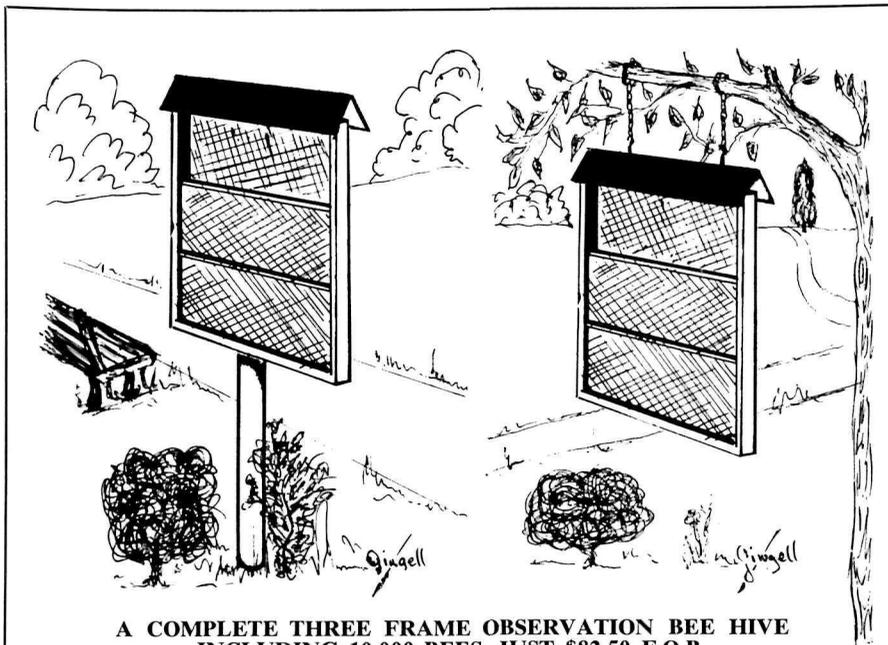
An Enlightened Policy

The Northern States Power Company of Minneapolis has adopted rules to protect the American bald eagle on 30,000 acres of river land owned by the company along the St. Croix River in Minnesota and Wisconsin. Regulations adopted by the company include: showing all known nests and their buffer zones on maps used in management of the lands; limiting activities within 130 feet of any known active nest; establishing a 660-foot buffer zone around known active nest trees; saving old-growth pine trees in the buffer zones; prohibiting foot trails or other developments that would make nest sites more accessible to humans; providing special management consideration for areas which might be active nest areas, and exercising extra precaution in using pesticides near known nest sites along waterways.

A Wilderness Plan for the Moosehorn Refuge

During mid-April the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife held public hearings in Calais, Maine, on its planning for legal wilderness in the Moosehorn National Wildlife Refuge in Washington County, not far from Calais. The Bureau proposes to designate one of the two units of the refuge—the Edmunds Unit—along with two small adjacent islands, totalling a little more than 5200 acres, as wilderness.

In attendance at the hearing was Dr. Walter S. Boardman, who presented this Association's wilderness plan for the refuge. Dr. Boardman is Conservation Consultant to the Association. In summary, the Association noted with approval the Bureau's plan to designate the Edmunds Unit and its two islands as wilderness, and its plan to place a



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portion of the unit under management of the Maine State Park Commission as part of a state park. Combination of the park and wilderness area would, the Association testified, provide a varied program of outdoor recreational activities. The Association said, however, that the second refuge unit—the Baring Unit—ought also to be included in the wilderness preservation system as possessing both wilderness qualities and opportunities for public nature observation of a more exacting sort than is available in the Edmunds Unit. Nearby motels and restaurants in the vicinity of Calais would be available for people preferring not to camp out; both units would continue as wildlife habitat as intended when they were established. Wilderness as a public attraction would be of greater benefit to the economy of Washington County than the small amount of timber that might be harvested under the present arrangement, the Association said.

Cumberland Gap Park Wilderness Hearing Announced

The National Park Service review of parks and monuments for legal wilderness continues with a public hearing on Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, located in the far western tip of Virginia and adjoining portions of Kentucky and Tennessee. The Service is proposing 8980 acres of the park as Wilderness out of a total acreage of 20,190.

The public hearing on Cumberland Gap will begin at 9 a.m. on June 8, at the Middlesboro Junior High School Building in Middlesboro, Kentucky; it will continue on June 9, at 9 a.m., at the Ewing Elementary School, in Ewing, Virginia. A map of the proposed wilderness, with other information, may be obtained from the Superintendent, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Box 840, Middlesboro, Kentucky 40965, or the

Regional Director, National Park Service, Federal Building, Box 10008, 400 North Eighth Street, Richmond, Virginia 23240.

Interested persons may present their views on the matter personally if they notify the park superintendent of their intention by June 6; or they may submit their views for the hearing record within 30 days of the conclusion of the hearing.

Endangered Species List

Several years ago the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife compiled a list of American animals—mammals, birds, reptiles and fishes—which it considered, on the grounds of a preliminary study, to be either rare or actually threatened with extinction. The Bureau noted that many of the entries on this preliminary list were tentative, since in some cases little was known as to exact numbers and life histories; further, that the definition of the terms "rare" or "endangered" was sometimes difficult in itself. Now the Bureau has published a definitive list which includes 14 mammals, 36 birds, 6 reptiles and amphibians, and 22 fishes.



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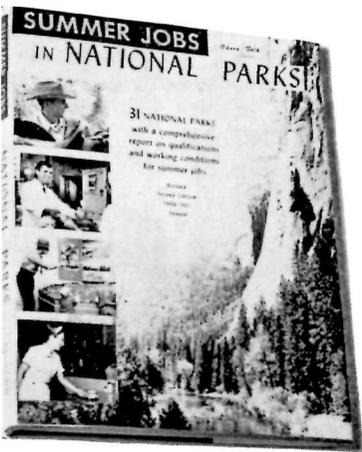
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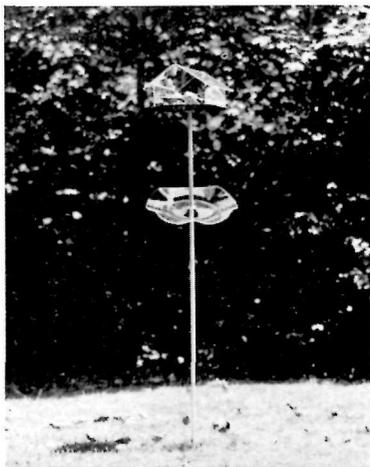


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THE CONSERVATION DOCKET

WE CONTINUE IN THE DOCKET THE TABULATION of new park and conservation bills which have been introduced into House and Senate as of this mid-April writing. As usual, "S." indicates a Senate bill and "H.R." a House bill; the entry is followed by the name of the committee to which the bill was referred.

S. 1095, providing for establishment of a William Howard Taft National Historic Site in Ohio. Rules and Administration.

S. 1113, to authorize a Dinosaur Trail National Monument in Texas. Interior and Insular Affairs.

S. 1121, to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to classify those forest lands known as the Lincoln Back Country and other forest lands in Montana (about 240,500 acres) as Wilderness. Agriculture and Forestry.

S. 1161, to establish a John Fitzgerald Kennedy National Historic Site in Massachusetts. Interior and Insular Affairs.

S. 1187, to reclassify Cedar Breaks National Monument as a national park. Interior and Insular Affairs.

S. 1192, to establish the Sleeping Bear National Lakeshore in Michigan. Interior and Insular Affairs.

S. 1267, to establish the Sawtooth National Recreation Area in Idaho. Interior and Insular Affairs.

S. 1321, to establish the North Cascades National Park and Ross Lake National Recreation Area, designate the Pasayten Wilderness and modify the existing Glacier Peak Wilderness in Washington State. Interior and Insular Affairs.

S. 1370, to authorize a Redwood National Park in California. This is the Administration's redwood park bill, based on lands in Del Norte County, and would limit the size of the park to not more than 45,200 acres. Interior and Insular Affairs.

H. R. 4865, to establish a nationwide system of trails. Interior and Insular Affairs.

H. R. 5605, to establish the Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument in Colorado. Interior and Insular Affairs.

H. R. 5161, to designate the San Rafael Wilderness in California. Interior and Insular Affairs.

H. R. 6138, to prevent importation of endangered species of wildlife into the United States, and to prevent interstate shipment of reptiles, amphibians and other wildlife taken contrary to law. Judiciary.

H. R. 6731, to amend the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act to provide more effective protection of national fish and wildlife resources from projects licensed by Federal agencies. Would require studies on the effect of proposed construction of dams, powerplants, and other waterworks on wildlife prior to issuance of licenses to construct. Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

H. R. 6689, to amend the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act to include among its receipts those received by the Government

from the Potash Leasing Acts of 1927 and 1948 and the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act of 1953. Interior and Insular Affairs.

H. R. 6777, to authorize a program of research, development, and demonstration projects for electrically powered vehicles. Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

H. R. 7020, to establish the Buffalo Nation River in Arkansas. Interior and Insular Affairs.

H. R. 7742, to authorize a Redwood National Park and Seashore and a King Range National Conservation Area in California. Interior and Insular Affairs.

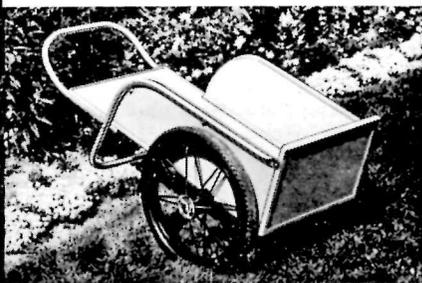
H. R. 7744, to amend the Clean Air Act by broadening it and expanding its authority in air pollution research. Interstate and Foreign Commerce.

H. R. 7864, to authorize an official in the Interior Department to administer programs for reclamation and conservation of strip-mined lands. Interior and Insular Affairs.

H. R. 7941, to establish and develop the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park. Interior and Insular Affairs.

H. R. 8425, to establish a national policy and program with respect to wild predatory mammals. Would establish a national policy of recognizing that the coyote, cougar, lynx, bobcat, all species of bears and other large predators are animals of interest and value, and would create the position of mammal control agent in Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife regional offices; the agents would work with farmers and ranchers in preventing predator depredation. The bill also provides that poison may not be used in predator control. Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

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Last Call For Park Wilderness!

continued from page 2

these cases we have prepared maps showing the large surrounding regions into which crowds could be dispersed, and have suggested efficient ways of doing so. We have also shown that well-planned privately operated vacation businesses could be encouraged in specified communities in the vicinity; such resorts would be encouraged by assurances from the Government against over-development in the parks.

We have suggested referral stations on incoming highways to help people with advice and reservations to find campgrounds in the national forests or on private land instead of the crowded hearts of parks like Yosemite and Yellowstone.

We have suggested the use of public conveyances from resorts outside the parks into the parks, replacing the private car, and small walk-in minibuses in central areas in the parks like Giant Forest or the Geyser areas; again, to protect people against the traffic and the parking lots.

The disaster consists in the fact that the parks are about to be subdivided into small wilderness areas and large facility areas. Such subdivision would in our judgment violate the policies of the National Park Service Act; if done on a

theory of justification by that act, it would constitute, in effect, an administrative amendment of that act, and an administrative revision of a century of public policy governing the parks. The Wilderness Act of 1964 would have been used as the instrument of such amendment and revision; this was most certainly not the intention of the authors of the Wilderness Act.

What is needed is a modicum of courage and strength in the Executive Branch of the Government. The solutions for the problem of protection on the one hand and visitation and enjoyment on the other are available; they are not complicated; they are self-explanatory. A strange paralysis hangs over the agencies responsible to the American people for the protection of the trail and campfire country which more and more Americans value more and more highly.

It ought not to be necessary for the President of the United States, burdened as he is with other crucial responsibilities, to take a hand here and get the proper executive policies applied; but the present hesitation and irresolution mean a drift toward catastrophe. The President may well have to step in, take a strong hand, and get things moving vigorously in the right direction. ◆ ◆

Reviews

THE AHWAHNEECHES: A STORY OF THE YOSEMITE INDIANS. By John W. Bingham. End-Kian Publishing Company, Lodi, California. 1966. 46 pages in paper cover, illustrated. Price not listed, write publisher.

John Bingham, retired national park ranger, has drawn on many sources and many people, not the least of whom are living members of the Yosemite band of American Indians, to compile a story and reference volume in which, for the main part, white visitors to Yosemite National Park and the Awani (or Ahwahnee)—the great Yosemite Valley of California—will have little reason to feel pride. Bingham traces the course of events, as they concerned both whites and Yosemiteites, through the arrival of the former in the region, inspired by thoughts of gold, into the present when, ironically enough, the magnificent Awani and its monumental surroundings have been preserved by the white man as a bit of "original America." —P.M.T.

JOHN BURROUGHS' AMERICA: SELECTIONS FROM THE WRITINGS OF THE HUDSON RIVER NATURALIST. Edited by Farida A. Wiley, with a foreword by Julian Burroughs; illustrated by Francis L. Jaques. The Devin-Adair Company, 1967. 304 pages, \$5.00.

A new printing of a fine book that has been out of print for a number of years, sponsored by the John Burroughs Memorial Association, Inc., headquartered at the American Museum of Natural

History and directed by a group of distinguished Americans that includes many names widely known in the preservation and general conservation fields.

NORTHWEST MOUNTAINEERING. By Edward A. Rossit. The Caxton Printers, Ltd., Caldwell, Idaho. 1965. 206 pages, illustrated, \$5.50.

An instruction book for beginning and intermediate climbers, and a regional guidebook to Northwestern climbing mountains.

For the Camping Season

MILLIONS OF AMERICANS are beginning to think now about summer camping trips, and if the past several summers may serve as criteria they might perhaps also think about alternative campsites in case primary targets have hung out the SORRY, FILLED UP shingle. So far as the national parks and monuments are concerned, large-scale adoption of this Association's recreation regional planning could alleviate the situation, at least for the readily foreseeable future. However, for people who must decide now where they are going there are a number of excellent aids to campground finding—publications that list the many thousands of national park, forest, and private sites, along with the facilities that may be expected. Among the best of these are Camping Maps, U.S.A., Camping Maps, Canada, Private Campgrounds, U.S.A. & Overnight Trailer Parks; specific information concerning these publications may be obtained from Camping Maps, U.S.A., Box 2034, Palos Verdes Peninsula, California 90274.

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Photograph by Gene Ahrens

High country in Yosemite National Park; Vernal Fall and Nevada Fall at the right.

IN THE PICTURE ABOVE, the camera sees only a bit of unspoiled America—the high country of Yosemite Park. It is a majestic scene, and yet, in reality, Yosemite is a troubled park; troubled, as are many of the other great park units, by the overwhelming weight of visitor use that not only obliterates natural land but constantly increases the pressures for development where there should be no development. Today, it is widely recognized that the basis of park management troubles rest, finally, on the ever-increasing expansion of human population.

Several years ago the National Parks Association recognized that the natural country of the parks will eventually only be saved by a shift in the direction of recreation-minded America toward the public and private lands that surround most of the great parks and monuments—a shift that will entail adoption by Federal land-administration agencies of the Association's concept of regional planning for the parks. The Association is constantly working with public and private agencies in furtherance of its regional planning idea, and you can help in this work by contributing to the Association's general funds over and above regular dues. Such contributions are deductible for Federal income taxation, while gifts and bequests, also most welcome, are deductible for Federal gift and estate tax purposes.

National Parks Association

1300 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20036