

National parks

Sept/Oct 84





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Commentary

The New Parklands

Everyone is thinking about new directions, about where our country is going, about where the world should be going, and about the challenges facing parks and other conservation resources around the country.

We are not a nation that stands still; yet, we sometimes assume that the designated artificial boundaries of parks are changeless. In fact, however, parks do change because of various influences—good and bad.

Those who assume that we are through establishing national parks should look again. We are seeing new ideas for new parks every day. There are 2,000 "Olmsted Parks" nationwide, which landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted or his staff influenced; and many feel that these parks need protection. Some, including Yosemite, are already national parks. Others, such as New York City's Central Park, have been proposed.

Whether protection is achieved through the creation of national parks or through the cooperative efforts of state, local, and federal governments is a question still to be resolved. But the idea is strong and the community of interest growing.

Another creative idea is the greenline parks concept, which depends on cooperative efforts among state and local governments, local citizen groups, and federal agencies. Many are looking at unique resources, which when seen together have a unity that is not evident when viewed individually.

The Thousand Islands region of New York; the hills and valleys and cultural resources of California's Napa Valley; and the Great Mobile-Tensaw River bottomlands of Alabama—all are places that are not necessarily joined together by the touch of one person, such as Frederick Law Olmsted, but still are recognized as a unique variety of natural and cultural elements that combine to form one theme.

Greenline and Olmsted parks are

just two of many ideas. There are other parks that do not fall into any general category. The interest in these potential parks is evidence that there is still much that deserves protection and that there are many who are committed to achieving that protection.

It is imperative that we provide the mechanism at the local and state levels to protect many of these resources so that it will not be necessary for the federal government to be the only source of protection. Without state and local commitments to protecting and developing parklands and trails, wild and scenic rivers, and nature areas, the federal government serves as "the court of last resort."

What we need in our country are not only the parklands that deserve protection, but also the practices that will bring about that protection. This can include state or local legal programs; consistent and well-managed federal funding, such as the Land and Water Conservation Fund; or other federal devices that will assure support of tax incentives and other means of local action.

In providing parks for ourselves and for future generations, each generation leaves the mark of its creative spirit, its industry, and its commitment to protect what is unique about North America. We are the trustees of this great region. Our role is to recognize and support the commitment of others, to do more than was done before, to provide models and paths for the future.

Although many of our parks face grave dangers, sometimes threats can provide the impetus for invention. So it is that in the threats come the seeds of new ideas.

—Paul C. Pritchard
President

Commentary

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COVER: Grand Teton National Park, by Ed Cooper

The brief golds of a Wyoming autumn soften the Tetons' sharp features.

Established in 1919, the National Parks & Conservation Association is the only national, nonprofit, membership organization that focuses on defending, promoting, and improving our country's National Park System while educating the public about the parks.

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Photo by Tom Edwards



Great Sand Dunes, page 26

Editors' Note: Cities meld into suburbs, and malls are built where once there were only barns and pastures. Some of our parklands that were created far from fast-food strips are becoming surrounded by cities. Saguaro National Monument, on the edge of Tucson, is one such area.

In its attempt to anticipate the future and to preserve quietude and green space among the exurban bustle, Congress has created new kinds of parks, such as Cuyahoga and the Pinelands.

The very qualities that make these parks so accessible can also engender land conflicts. Although NPS plans won't always please everyone, concern for local residents and cooperative planning can create parks for millions who may never get the chance to visit the fabulous, but far-away parks that lie in true wilderness.

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Feedback

We're interested in what you have to say. Write Feedback, 1701 18th Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20009. (Letters may be edited for space considerations.)

Wilderness Exceptions

Utah's BLM lands, often consisting of areas deleted from earlier national park proposals because of local opposition, are threatened eternally with development and abuse by ORVs.

Many deserving BLM areas, including most of those pictured with the Bauman article [May/June 1984], are not within a wilderness study area and are not even considered for wilderness.

Utah politics are such that a good BLM wilderness bill, which might partially redress the historical abuse that has destroyed too much of Utah's slickrock beauty, is unlikely without the organized assistance of many conservation groups.

If the political support for a large

Utah BLM wilderness bill is not built in Utah and among Republicans in the Senate now, the historical debt that Utah owes her land will never even partially be repaid.

*David Jorgensen
Salt Lake City, Utah*

I appreciate the article "Guardians of the Inner Canyons." The national public needs to be made aware of the wilderness potential of BLM lands. However, you should have checked your facts carefully.

Dean Petaja is not "president of the Utah Wilderness Association." The UWA has two principal staff members: Dick Carter is the Coordinator and Gary Macfarlane is the Natural Resource Specialist. Dean Petaja is a member of both the volunteer board of directors and the BLM task force.

The "remote ridgetop" on page 21 is Comb Ridge, which was dropped in the initial wilderness inventory. Ruin Park, shown on page 27, also never made wilderness study area status. The beautiful aerial shot of the San Juan River and the Raplee Anticline is erroneously labeled as

being "south of Grand Gulch." The area in the photo was dropped from consideration as wilderness in 1980 and lies well to the east, upstream from the town of Mexican Hat.

*Richard Warnick
Logan, Utah*

Praise for Lady Liberty

Your magazine is terrific, even more so for the May/June 1984 issue because of the Statue of Liberty. She is gorgeous. Thanks.

*B. Rubenstein
New York, New York*

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Members Corner

This year's Fifth Annual Members Reception and Dinner will celebrate NPCA's sixty-fifth year of idealism and hard work. The staff of NPCA is grateful for the guidance and leadership of its members in helping to maintain the integrity of the National Park System. Please join NPCA in celebrating our national parks and help us toast sixty-five years of commitment at our fifth annual reception and dinner on November 15. (See ad on page 4.)

"Our National Parks"

NPCA's exhibit at the Louisiana World Exposition, "Our National Parks," is visually brilliant, and it carries the message of our parks with dignity and grace. "Our National Parks" is being managed by Dan and Olga Holcomb, and we would like to thank them for their fine efforts at the exposition.

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National Park Trust

For more information on the Trust and how it protects potential parklands, see the bind-in ad on this page and the essay on page 18.



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Photo Tips

A specialist in photography of Anasazi ruins, Jonathan A. Meyers has published in National Parks, Sierra, Solar Age, New Mexico Magazine, and a number of international publications.

"See, I told you guys it'd be easy gettin' in." Archeologist Craig Benson slapped me on the back and grinned. Following Craig, my wife and I had just crawled fifty feet across a two-foot-wide ledge with perhaps a foot of clearance above our heads. Forty feet above us was the canyon rim and 350 feet below, the canyon floor. And yes, I pushed two packs of camera gear in front of me the entire way. Our reward for that memorable climb was the chance to photograph a small, unexcavated cliff dwelling.

Traveling through the Southwest in search of Anasazi ruins and rock art can be absorbing, exciting, and—sometimes—heart-stopping. The photographic possibilities are as endless as the diversity of sites and their natural settings.

My favorite time to wander about the canyons and mesas of the Colorado Plateau is autumn. The light is exquisite, the nights are cool, the trees have begun to change color, and there are far fewer tourists to contend with.

For photographers interested in shooting Anasazi ruins, I have two basic suggestions. First, always take along the gear you think you may need. There is nothing more frustrating than standing in the middle of nowhere and thinking, "Geez, why didn't I bring my tripod with me?" Second, discover which kinds of film work best for you and stick with them. I consistently use Kodachrome 64 and Ilford FP4 black and white.

I am often asked which lenses I use. Without being facetious, all of them. Each situation is different. Several years ago we backpacked to Keet Seel at Navajo National Monument. I used a tripod in full shade with either a 28mm or a 50mm lens. By using a tripod and very slow

Shooting Desert Ruins by Jonathan A. Meyers



Photo by Jonathan A. Meyers

shutter speeds— $\frac{1}{8}$ of a second or less—I was able to obtain excellent sharpness and depth. However, when there's adequate light, most of my exposures are hand held.

That particular trip took place during the full moon, which allowed interesting possibilities for night shooting. During our second evening, the ranger escorted us to the overlook facing Keet Seel. The cliff dwelling was bathed in moonlight. Using a tripod, cable release, a 28mm lens, FP4 film, and a 21-minute exposure, I was able to capture an unusual image of the entire village and cliff face.

As a general rule, the two lenses used most often when close to or inside a pueblo or cliff dwelling are the 28mm and 35mm. These focal lengths work well when photographing, say, within the three-story-high rooms of Pueblo Bonita, the Great Kiva at Aztec, the Hovenweep towers, a sweeping view of Cliff Palace, or the multilevel rooms of Wupatki. Conversely, do not overlook using lenses with longer focal lengths for details of the ruin itself or shots from a distance that include the pueblo's surroundings.

When photographing rock art, the lenses used depend entirely upon the distance to the panel and its size. For those panels which cause one to wonder, "How on earth did those petroglyphs get up there?" a 135mm or a 200mm lens will come in handy. Small groupings of designs may only require a 50mm or an 85mm lens. In

cases where there's a large grouping of rock art and you're up close, use a wide angle. For detail shots of tiny carvings, a closeup lens or attachments are desirable.

No matter what lens is used, light is the ultimate factor. Both early morning and late afternoon light produce a wonderful variety of warm colors and long shadows. One must work quickly though, as these two times of the day seem to disappear in an instant. For a pleasing change from a directly front-lit subject, try side light or back light.

Experiment with different angles. Stoop down low and shoot upward to emphasize the height of walls or to convey the feeling of a pueblo's massiveness. Framing a shot through a window or doorway will give the viewer the sense of looking "into" the photograph. To add depth, place an object in the foreground.

For instance, set the edge of a nearby wall at either the far left or the far right side of the frame and allow the remainder of the image to move away from that point. In parks such as Chaco Canyon, photographing down into a pueblo from the canyon rim gives a "bird's-eye view" of the villages. Using a telephoto from above for detail shots provides an interesting play on shapes and patterns.

Regardless of the format used, do all of your cropping in the camera whenever possible. Shoot full frame—eliminating extraneous or distracting items—and isolate the subject. In short, cut out the clutter.

Chaco Canyon and Mesa Verde are the most widely publicized parks. Smaller but equally impressive sites include Aztec, Salmon Ruins, Lowry, Hovenweep, or the Grand Gulch.

National Park Service personnel, Bureau of Land Management rangers, archeologists, and people like myself are, at first, reluctant to reveal the locations of out-of-the-way archeological sites because of their great value and fragility. Whether visiting sites in the parks or in BLM backcountry, remember, take home excellent photographs and fond memories of your stay. Nothing more.

PUBLIC TV's
FRONTLINE
ATTACK
ON THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Park opponents use a disturbing PBS broadcast on land conflicts at Cuyahoga Valley NRA to scare nervous residents at emerging park areas, by Ed Wesely

For nearly a year, families in the Columbia River Gorge area of the Pacific Northwest and in the Delaware River Valley of the Northeast have been introduced to a morality play on videotape. Local residents of these areas watch in fascination and with mounting anger as the "bad guys" of the National Park Service (NPS) move citizens from their homes in order to create the Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area just south of Cleveland, Ohio.

"For the Good of All," the film that PBS produced for its *Frontline* program, has "polarized the community," reports Columbia Gorge Coalition member Chuck Williams. Rented and shown by local opponents of this potential national scenic area, Williams says, "it's been scaring people to death."

What scares people is not so much

Cuyahoga Valley NRA provides a respite in the heart of the Cleveland-Akron megalopolis.



National Park Service

the idea that the NPS made mistakes in its land acquisition program in the Cuyahoga Valley. They fear that in creating national park units in their locales, the NPS will ignore the law of the land, which is what "For the Good of All" contends. Many residents of the Columbia Gorge and Upper Delaware who watch the film are afraid they will lose their land to the federal government through the same sort of alleged lawbreaking.

So powerful has been the impact of this interpretation on Upper Delaware audiences that normally friendly people find themselves applauding when the death of Cuyahoga Valley Superintendent William Birdsell is described in the film.

"He's polluting the ground he's buried in," growled an angry voice at the film's first Upper Delaware showing. This and similar responses have sparked countless additional showings by groups opposed to the Upper Delaware National Scenic River, including the Coalition of Concerned Citizens, whose chairman talks of "running those socialists [the NPS] out of the valley."

Adapted from the film *For All People, For All Time* by Valley Filmworks, Inc., and produced for television by *Frontline*, "For the Good of All" was aired nationally by the Public Broadcasting System on June 6, 1983.

The late Jessica Savitch was *Frontline*'s reporter for the broadcast. According to Savitch, the program questions "whether a federal bureaucracy like the Park Service thwarted the will of Congress, ignored the law of the land, and overrode the rights of individuals."

Reinforced by dramatic visuals of aggrieved landowners, the *Frontline* thesis is that the NPS did all of these things in creating the Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area in the 1970s, disrupting the very community Congress had intended to preserve.

With its surrounding highways and suburban development, Cuyahoga Valley was conceived as an urban park, similar to Gateway NRA near New York City and Golden Gate NRA in San Francisco.

Bringing Parks to People

The Nixon administration's decision in 1971 to "bring parks to the people" seemed just the right vehicle for meeting the recreational needs of millions of people in the industrial heartland of Ohio. Creating a national recreation area (NRA) in the small Cuyahoga Valley would meet these needs, and help residents keep at bay the housing tracts and shopping malls that were devouring both rims of the Valley.

"The Cuyahoga Valley lies between Cleveland and Akron," explained Ohio Senator Howard Metzenbaum shortly before the Senate voted to approve the Cuyahoga Valley NRA in 1974.

"Four million people lie within

half-an-hour's drive. They can use the Valley in their leisure hours at a price they can afford to pay. It will be a park for Sunday outings and weekends. It will cost no more than the price of gasoline."

But would a federal recreation area for four million people—an "urban park" like Gateway NRA in New York City—unseat the growing residential community already in the Valley? At congressional hearings in 1974 few thought to address the question. In the general euphoria of creating a new park, congressmen and most residents did not fully anticipate the potential conflicts.

In order to carve out picnic areas, playfields, and hiking trails in a narrow, fifteen-mile-long valley settled with more than 700 private homes and small businesses, the NPS did have to purchase private land. It did, however, compensate residents with fair market prices and give them the option to remain in their homes after purchase.

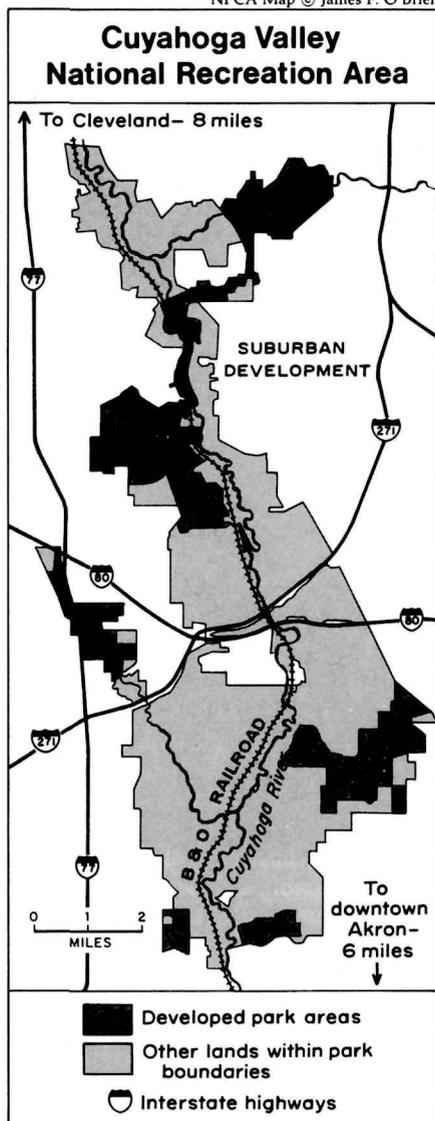
It is the land acquisition process that *Frontline* focuses on, contending that the NPS sidestepped the law in purchasing more than 300 homes. Although the majority of homeowners were willing sellers, in purchasing homes the NPS did bring hardship to some valley residents.

"In the early days, the Corps of Engineers [working for the NPS land office] did buy a lot of homes, perhaps more than they needed," said Representative John F. Seiberling, who—as the district's congressman—has been a major supporter of the NRA.

Yet, in watching the film, many viewers are led to see NPS mistakes not as an overzealous attempt to create a new park, but as a conspiracy against valley residents and Public Law 93-555, which established the area. This interpretation comes from distortions of fact in the film:

- "For the Good of All" implies that the NPS ignored the law in purchasing private property. It also downplays the fact that homeowners who sell their land to the government can remain in their homes for as long as they wish.
- The film omits background material about Cuyahoga Valley fam-

NPCA Map © James F. O'Brien



The three-day 1983 National Folk Festival drew 60,000 people to Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area for concerts, craft exhibits, and old-time picking and strumming. The festival was held on the site of the former Tonkin farm, directly across from what was once a junkyard. The festival is part of the National Park Service's plan to create a park "for all people."

ilies—material important to any factual presentation.

- The film misrepresents the setting of the Cuyahoga Valley by concentrating on the sparsely settled, pastoral landscapes rather than presenting a balanced view of the whole exurban environment.

Truth and the Law

It is the question of legality, seemingly documented by reams of evidence, that has made "For the Good of All" so useful to NPS opponents at Columbia Gorge and on the Upper Delaware National Scenic River.

"Sure, Congress wrote a good law for the Upper Delaware," say groups who play the videotape up and down the Delaware River Valley. "It does say the Park Service can only buy 1,450 acres of land [in a 79,000-acre river corridor]. But the Park Service broke the law at Cuyahoga, and they'll do the same thing here."

Frontline's misreading of the law leads audiences to this view. In the film, Jessica Savitch states that "scenic easement was cheaper than fee purchase. It would have preserved the community and was clearly what Congress intended." Under an easement arrangement, a landowner "could keep his house and become a part of the park if he promised not to make any changes to his property."

The film does seem to clarify this point by adding, "The law said fee title purchase [complete acquisition by the government] should be used only in special circumstances." Unfortunately, these circumstances are never explained.

Frontline's discussion is supported in the film by a visual of the written law itself. What is not shown is a



National Park Service

paragraph at the bottom—Section 2 (c)—that contradicts what *Frontline* has just been saying. The omitted section is a provision that gives the NPS authority to buy private land in fee wherever "such acquisition is necessary to fulfill the purposes of this Act."

Frontline never tells the viewer about this section. Nor does it report that in 1980, and again in 1982, federal courts in Ohio ruled that the language in Section 2 (c) gives the Secretary of Interior "wide discretion" in deciding what land to purchase in fee to fulfill the purposes of the Act.

Citing this paragraph and its language, U.S. district court judges William K. Thomas (in 1980) and John M. Manos (in 1982) dismissed suits of local landowners who charged the NPS had acted illegally in buying land in fee at Cuyahoga. The judges' rulings held that the NPS had not ignored the law nor overridden the rights of individuals in buying land in the Cuyahoga Valley. Yet, *Frontline* cites neither of these significant legal opinions. (This past June, the Supreme Court refused to hear appeal arguments on the 1982 decision.)

Indeed, the Act makes clear that Cuyahoga Valley NRA is meant to be an urban park. The park's values will be preserved and protected "for public use and enjoyment," and for "the maintenance of needed recre-

ational open space necessary to the urban environment." There is not a word in the Act's statement of purpose about private use and enjoyment or about "preserving the community." *Frontline* makes two other erroneous allegations.

Frontline: "The park superintendent was supposed to draw up a detailed plan of land acquisition and make it available to the public according to the congressional act that created the park." But he didn't do this says Savitch, so "the public was kept in the dark . . . deprived of their legal right to know the intentions of the Park Service."

Although the law requires the Secretary to develop and transmit to Congress a detailed plan including the park's annual acquisition program, Congress said nothing about submitting the plan to the public. As Judge Thomas noted in 1980: "Significantly, this language indicates the final master plan is prepared for the benefit of Congress."

It might have been desirable to submit a detailed land acquisition plan to all of the concerned residents; but, contrary to *Frontline's* allegation, it was not required by the congressional act that created the park. With the establishment of the park, however, the NPS did hold eighteen public hearings on the master plan. *Frontline* did not report this fact.



Ed Wesely



National Park Service



Sheridan Steele

The park includes modern development and historic structures. Clockwise, from left: Burrell Tonkin's junkyard was considered an eyesore, and the NPS restored the site after buying his land; one of the highways that bridges the park, with the B&O Railroad tracks below; the historic "Bender Barn," whose owner sells his farm's produce to Cuyahoga Valley NRA visitors.

The Institute of Liberty also asked, "If you had a choice to make over again, what option would you choose now?" Only 15 percent of those who had sold and moved away indicated they would "arrange a scenic easement." The rest said they would still sell their land.

"Had we interviewed 'pleased sellers' we would have diverted attention away from an acknowledged minority," wrote NBC television producer James Gannon to the *Akron Beacon Journal* in January 1980. Since Gannon had just broadcast a program on "Prime Time Sunday" critical of the NPS and Birdsell, his comment is striking.

Was an entire "small community" pitted against a "large federal bureaucracy," as *Frontline* implies? Or was it "an acknowledged minority"? Since *Frontline* only puts the park's local opponents on the screen, the viewer never gets a balanced view by hearing from those—possibly a majority—who were "willing sellers."

"Before the park," says *Frontline*, "Leonard Stein-Sapir had hoped his children would grow up here." But with Stein-Sapir, one of five valley families highlighted in the film, salient facts are kept off-camera, just as they were in the discussion of the law that created the park.

According to land records, the S&F Trading Company—in which Stein-Sapir was part owner—ac-

Frontline: "What they were trying to create was a wilderness park where every tree and flower and animal would be protected by federal law."

For anyone who has seen the real Cuyahoga Valley—and not just the idealized, pastoral scene presented by *Frontline*—this assertion does not fit the facts. Cuyahoga Valley NRA includes the pastoral scenes shown in the television program; but the park is also crisscrossed by huge power lines, a railroad, and interstate freeways. The Cuyahoga Valley does not qualify as a wilderness under anyone's definition, nor was the National Park Service instructed to create one.

William Birdsell, the much-maligned superintendent, stated the matter accurately during a segment of the movie: "The law is very clear. It says that we are to establish a national recreation area to meet the needs of urban recreation in the metropolitan area."

Profit and Loss

While the pain and sense of loss of some Cuyahoga families—including those portrayed by *Frontline*—were very real, the film presents a highly selective picture.

In a 1979 questionnaire, administered in the Cuyahoga Valley by the Institute of Liberty and Community of Concord in Vermont, residents were asked, "If you have conveyed fee title of your property to the federal government, did you do so, in part, because you felt threatened with condemnation?" A startling 68 percent answered "no."

In a 1978 interview, Birdsell contended that "the majority of people for our first two years of land acquisition were people who came to us and offered their property for sale, and were anxious for us to purchase their property as soon as possible." In addition, 55 percent of the people who sold their residences to the federal government opted to retain use of these properties.

quired 72.2 acres of land in the Cuyahoga Valley at approximately the time the park was authorized. S&F Trading then effected a paper subdivision of 66.95 acres of undeveloped land—divided into eleven parcels. In November 1978, the subdivided land was sold to the government for a profit in excess of \$100,000.

The stories of Bob Lindley and Burrell Tonkin are similarly truncated in "For the Good of All." Lindley, who is shown milking a cow and who is taken by many viewers to be a working dairy farmer, actually had only eight acres of land.

Since, like some other valley residents, he worked at an Akron factory, the land appraiser was probably correct in classifying his farming as a hobby. *Frontline*, however, never mentions that farming was not Lindley's livelihood.

One of the most sympathetic persons in the movie is Burrell Tonkin, who "before the park . . . was the local handyman." Tonkin was that; but mainly, he repaired Volkswagens, and had a junkyard that even some neighbors considered an eyesore. It might have added a touch of reality if *Frontline* had shown the junkyard, however messy, and other reminders of Tonkin's auto repair business.

The Wilds of Exurbia

Cuyahoga Valley NRA does have meadows, rocky trails, and stands of trees scattered throughout its boundaries. The area also has reminders of a less bucolic world: power lines, mined-out quarries, two interstate highways bridging the valley, a large sewer plant at the park's southern boundary, and encroaching suburban subdevelopments.

Little of the development that encroaches into the NRA was captured by the film's cameras, which had eyes mainly for the vestiges of rural America left in the valley. In fact, part of the park's story was a successful effort by the NPS—and especially by Birdsell—to block additional high-voltage power lines from gaining right-of-way through the valley.

Even newspaper reporter Peter Almond, a strong NPS critic who appears in that role in the film, wrote in a 1980 newspaper article that the NPS had kept developers out, which he called a "major achievement."

The Power to Persuade

"The problem with it is that it's a public television film," complained Columbia Gorge resident Chuck Williams. "That gives it standing and credibility with people who'd normally shrug it off if it appeared on commercial television.

"It must be true if it's a public television documentary.' That's the response of everyone. It's shown constantly out here. And it's used as evidence that the feds will violate the law even if the law's written to preserve the community."

On the Upper Delaware National Scenic River, where Congress truly wrote a law to "preserve the community," and where the NPS has been trying to cooperate with local governments in developing a management plan, the movie has been used to buttress arguments that "it's all a smoke screen. They'll buy you out anyhow."

Used in this fashion, "For the Good of All" has helped enlist hundreds of residents in a movement to deauthorize the scenic river. So far, approximately 2,000 local residents have signed petitions requesting Congress to repeal the law that authorizes the Upper Delaware park area.

Two filmmakers "documented" the story of the Cuyahoga Valley, Jessica Savitch informs us in the film's introduction, and maybe that word is the key to winning our trust. As a public television offering, the film's allegations gain legitimacy in the public eye. Whatever the reason, the film's power to move audiences and turn them against the NPS has been demonstrated at dozens of local showings.

Viewers come away with the clear impression that the NPS illegally forced people to move out of Cuyahoga Valley. Yet, the courts have repeatedly ruled that NPS actions were consistent with the law.

NPS opponents across the country

are using the film—and its one-sided views—as a scare tactic, stirring up misapprehensions and violence among local residents. Unfortunately, this flawed perception of the Cuyahoga Valley NRA will be used again and again to thwart federal land-protection efforts by painting the NPS as a cadre of devious law-breakers.

Ed Wesely is a reporter for the Narrowsburg, New York, River Reporter and is the author of a book on water conservation. A former teacher at Hood College in Maryland, Wesely served on the advisory council of the C&O Canal National Historical Park and still serves as director of the Potomac River Trails Council.



Cuyahoga Valley NRA. Photo by the National Park Service

Crackdown on SHARD THIEVES

From petroglyphs to kivas, priceless remnants of the ancient Anasazi have been obliterated by vandals and pilfered by black-market profiteers, by Scott S. Warren

Scrambling up the talus slope, I could just make out a masonry wall secreted in the cave above. I knew this particular alcove in Utah's Glen Canyon National Recreation Area contained a well-preserved, virtually undocumented Anasazi cliff dwelling. I reached the cave and found the wall I had glimpsed from below. But that was all that remained. The rest of this once-extensive dwelling lay scattered in heaps of rubble on the floor.

In April of 1980, Superintendent Peter Parry of Arches National Park, Park Resource Manager Tom Wylie, and two visiting officials from Washington, D.C., stopped along U.S. Highway 191 to inspect one of the park's premier archeological features, the Moab Panel—a collection of pictographs that is a kind of Rosetta Stone of the Southwest. What they found was disturbing. Vandals had taken wire brushes, abrasive chemicals, and chisels to the panel, nearly destroying its painted images.

These are but two of many incidents that are symptomatic of a rapidly growing problem facing our national parks and public lands: the theft and senseless destruction of archeological resources.

Reasons behind the looting and vandalizing of archeological sites are many. While acts of wanton destruction may be attributed to anti-government sentiment, money is the motivation for the theft of artifacts. Decorated Anasazi pots and other



Photo by Scott S. Warren

BLM Patrol Archeologist Bill Haase examines freshly broken pottery at the site of an illegal dig. Artifacts are often destroyed by pothunters in their haste.

relics command high prices from collectors. Pothunters, or "moki poachers" as these folks are referred to in parts of southern Utah, usually resort to actual digging in ruins, sometimes with backhoes and other heavy equipment.

Such wholesale destruction of sites means more than the loss of valuable relics. We lose irretrievable scientific data, including ancient human burial sites that could have revealed the cultural secrets of our mysterious predecessors.

Archeologists are concerned about the extent of the destruction. For them, the loss of the smallest pot shard or the largest kiva can have a disastrous effect on study of the cul-

ture as a whole. Their discipline depends to a large degree on long-term, painstaking, and cumulative accretion of detailed data over a wide area, not just from one site.

New Mexico State Archeologist Curt Schaafsma, recently elected president of the American Society for Conservation Archeology, explains why each site is so important. He says, "The sites themselves are the archives of archeology—like historical documents, they must be studied and handled carefully in order to uncover historical knowledge in which the public has an interest."

In essence, until documented, the sites are like a vast library of valuable, unread books. After study, they become primary references for further research.

Sadly, the problem of archeological site damage cannot be blamed solely on a handful of disgruntled locals or professional thieves. Rock art panels are often the targets of bullets and graffiti writers. Unthinking tourists have stripped sites clean of surface artifacts. And amateur collectors have amassed large collections for their private use.

In a study conducted by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in southwestern Colorado, it was dis-

Opposite: vandalized in 1980, the ghostly figures of the Moab Panel at Arches have been partially restored at a cost of nearly \$8,000. The cost to archeological study is immeasurable.





Photo by Jonathan A. Meyers

covered that some residents make picnic outings of collecting artifacts on public lands. One site is even named "Easter Ruin" because of its popularity on Easter weekend.

The looting of archeological sites has been a worldwide problem for thousands of years. In the American Southwest it began with the earliest European explorers who traveled through the area.

Discoveries of these prehistoric ruins were mentioned in the journals of several expeditions. It was not until the late 1880s, though, that any heavy impact was felt. This came in the wake of Richard Wetherill's discovery of Cliff Palace in what is now Mesa Verde National Park.

The Wetherills and others were quick to realize the commercial value of prehistoric artifacts; it was not long before they were making regular trips into the Four Corners region in search of relics. Much of what they collected was sold to private individuals and museums throughout the country. The states of Colorado and Utah even hired these early-day pothunters to amass collections for exhibition at the 1893 World's Fair in Chicago.

During the last two decades of the nineteenth century many of the Southwest's major archeological sites suffered greatly. In addition to the toll taken by commercial collectors, a heavy impact was inflicted by tourists intent on seeing the area's prehistoric cliff dwellings. The

Wetherills alone registered nearly one thousand visitors on trips into the Mesa Verde and Hovenweep areas. Like many of today's tourists, those of the nineteenth century often carried home pieces of the sites they visited.

Concern for the Southwest's rapidly diminishing archeological resources was late in coming. It was not until after most of the region's major sites had been badly pilfered that the scientific community noted the drain on archeological data. Finally, in 1906, this concern was formulated into law. After much debate by lawmakers, the Antiquities Act was signed by President Theodore Roosevelt. This act was the federal government's first attempt to protect archeological resources on public lands.

In addition to making it illegal to disturb or remove artifacts from federal lands without permission, the Antiquities Act also provides the President with the power to establish national monuments. Whereas only Congress can establish national parks, the Antiquities Act allows national monuments to be created quickly, by presidential proclamation, thus granting added safeguards to many of the larger sites. Shortly after passage of the act, such national monuments as Chaco Canyon in New Mexico, Yucca House in Colorado, and Hovenweep in Colorado and Utah were established.



Photo by Scott S. Warren

Left: linked by a prehistoric road to other Chaco outliers, Kin Bineola is no less important than the central ruins at Chaco Canyon. Outlying sites, however, are more vulnerable to pilferage. Above: Anasazi pottery is displayed in a shop in the Four Corners region.

The impact of the Antiquities Act on the looting of sites is not fully known. Although illegal digging still occurred, any lawful digging for commercial gain was halted. Not until the mid-1970s did the act's shortcomings become apparent.

At this time, during an economic recession, illegal artifact-collecting took a dramatic upturn. As a result, the federal government began prosecuting individuals under the Antiquities Act. Unfortunately, defendants argued successfully that many of the act's provisions were unconstitutionally vague.

In addition, lax penalties—a maximum fine of only \$500 and a sentence of not more than 90 days in jail—provided little deterrent to pothunters who could get thousands of dollars for a single pot. After destruction of the Moab Panel and several other cases of flagrant violation of the law came to light, public outcry brought pressure for more protection of sites. Consequently, a new and tougher act was passed, the Archeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) of 1979.

Designed and written by a coalition of lawyers and archeologists, ARPA was well researched. This act classifies violations as felonies, setting fines of up to \$100,000 and sentences of up to 5 years. It prescribes rewards of up to \$500 for informants and it includes a forfeiture clause.

Borrowed from poaching laws, this clause authorizes the confisca-



Photo by Dewitt Jones

In some cases, rock hounds and outdoor photographers have provided the only documentation of remote Anasazi sites. Above: near Canyonlands, explorer Kent Frost discovered an unusual ceremonial cloak made of parrot feathers.

tion of vehicles and other equipment associated with the crime. In addition, a monetary value can be assessed on any damage done to the site and to possible archeological studies. This assessment can then be charged to the defendant.

To ensure its effectiveness, ARPA directed the departments of Interior, Agriculture, and Defense and the Tennessee Valley Authority—the agencies charged with enforcing the act—to conduct hearings nationwide and receive comments on the act's particulars. From this information, a set of final regulations, regulations that are uniform for all agencies involved, was formulated. In February 1984 ARPA's final provisions were passed into law.

Prior to these final regulations, ARPA proved to be too vague under the weight of court procedures. In one case involving the removal of artifacts from the midden (refuse deposits) of the Turkey Pen site in Grand Gulch, Utah, the defendant's lawyer successfully argued that the midden was not defined by ARPA as an archeological resource.

In another case involving the digging of artifacts from the Chimney Rock Archeological Area in the San Juan National Forest of southwestern Colorado during 1980 and 1981, the defense contended that the charges should be dismissed because the government had not yet adopted the final regulations as stipulated by ARPA. This case is still pending.

Although it is generally felt that ARPA will prove to be a strong and constitutionally sound law, the main problem that public land administrators have faced in the past still exists. That is, their agencies lack the necessary funds to enforce cultural resource protection. In this era of budget cuts, the manpower to monitor archeological sites falls far short of the levels needed to protect the resource. In some cases, responsible rock hounds, students of archeology, and intrepid outdoor photographers have provided the only documentation of remote sites.

During the summer of 1983 several holes were dug and artifacts were removed from one of Hovenweep National Monument's remote sites. The crime went unnoticed until October of the same year. The fact that the incident occurred at some unknown point in a four-month period is attributable to a lack of regular patrols.

Then-acting Area Supervisor Bob Hart points out, "In a small monument such as Hovenweep, there is always a trade-off between protecting the resources and serving the public." With only Hart and one other ranger on assignment during that time period, the resources lost out.

While similar situations exist in other national parks and monuments, the problem is especially critical where other public lands are concerned. In reference to the Chimney Rock incident, Archeologist Robert York, of the San Juan National Forest, said that there are no funds allocated for regular patrols of the archeological area. "We were tipped off by an informant about what was going on up there," he added.

Covering much of the southwest corner of Colorado is the BLM's 217,000-acre San Juan Resource Area. Within its boundaries are some 7,000 known archeological sites, many of which are large Hovenweep-style and Pueblo-style dwellings. Access to these ruins is not restricted by law, and any veil of security provided by their remote location is being eradicated by an in-

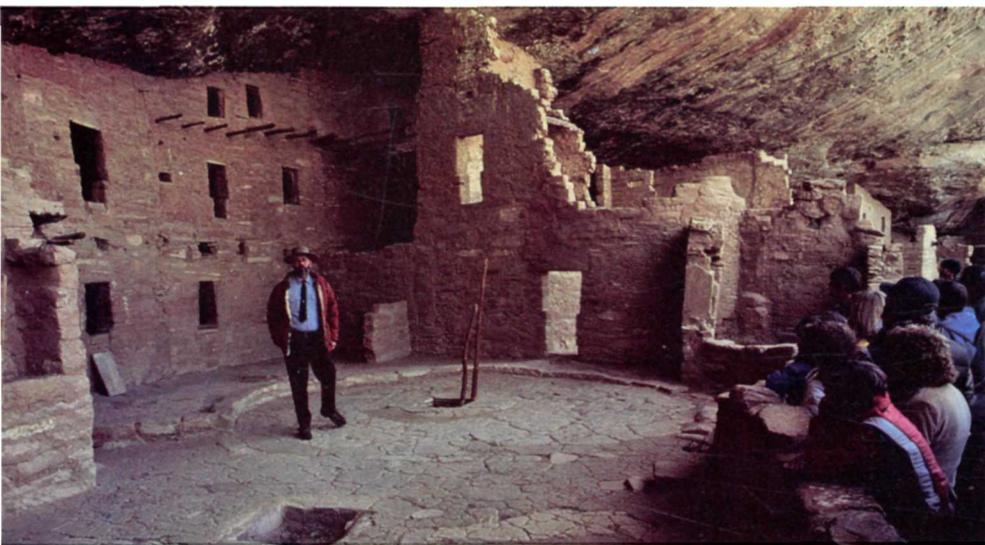


Photo by Scott S. Warren

Left: at Mesa Verde, park interpreters educate visitors about the ruins. Below: a worker stabilizes the towers at Hovenweep; more remote sites are still vulnerable to vandalism.



Photo by Jonathan A. Meyers

flux of intensive energy development activities.

New roads and jeep trails are continually being created by ongoing oil and gas exploration in the region. Protection for the area's numerous archeological sites is considerably less than adequate. At present, there is only one full-time employee assigned to the task, Patrol Archeologist Bill Haase.

The problems Haase faces are many. Not only is he responsible for covering more than 200,000 acres, but he also has no authority to arrest, detain, or even cite suspects. Unlike other federal land administrators in the state of Colorado, the BLM has to rely on local law enforcement officials for fulfilling these duties.

In addition, pothunters are usually well organized, often using lookouts and two-way radios to warn of trouble. Many pothunters may even be considered dangerous. Any efforts short of helicopter patrols or regular surveillance of individual sites seem to have little effect on artifact collecting in the area.

In addition, Mark Michael of the Archeological Conservancy remarks, "One of the ironic side effects of ARPA is that strict enforcement of the law on public lands has shifted pot-hunting to private lands, often with owner permission. These are areas where ARPA does not apply, yet the loss to archeological study can be great."

Yet another law, the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, amended in 1980, mandates protection and study of archeological sites on public and private lands across the country. It is only through cooperation of the landowner in documentation and placement of a site on the National Register of Historical Places, however, that valuable information can be gleaned from sites on private land.

Commenting on the law's stipulations, archeologist Curt Schaafsma says, "We can't compete with private landholders for a pot, but we have an interest in and responsibility to study that pot for the knowledge it may provide to the public."

In light of the dramatic increase in archeological vandalism over the last decade, the need for further measures of protection is painfully obvious. Funds must be made available for additional patrol personnel and adequate law enforcement training. Convictions of looters must be vigorously pursued by the government, and the courts should respond with tougher sentences for those found guilty. State and local governments could also take a more active role in the protection of archeological resources.

Improving our law enforcement system is but one step toward solving the problem of archeological vandalism and looting. Any long-

term solution must include educating the public about America's antiquities and the importance of safeguarding them.

Fortunately, public education has already begun. Signs have been erected in the field warning would-be thieves of the penalties. Other signs inform the public about the local archeology. Visitor centers and museums are being built, offering more complete interpretations of these resources. In addition, educational programs for the public schools are being developed.

Hovenweep National Monument is currently providing a hands-on experience for visiting students. The children are given the opportunity to participate in many activities once practiced by the monument's former inhabitants, such as grinding corn with a metate. It is hoped that such a program will create a sense of respect for the Anasazi and their remains.

Our nation's antiquities are finite in number. Protecting them is our only chance of keeping them, not only for research purposes but for the appreciation of future generations as well. In this age of access to backcountry areas, we can no longer leave protection to chance or depend on the remote locations of Anasazi sites to keep their mysteries inviolate.

Scott S. Warren is a freelance writer and photographer living in Colorado.

The national parks reveal America's ancient peoples, by Deirdre McNulty

DISCOVERY AMONG THE RUINS

The remnants of past civilizations are obvious in national parks such as Mesa Verde, but many park visitors do not realize that archeological sites and artifacts can be found in 98 percent of the units of the National Park System.

Through carbon dating, dendrochronology, and other techniques, NPS archeologists have pieced together portraits of civilizations that lived in North America thousands of years ago. For instance, by examining ancient ornamental beads, archeologists not only can visualize a highly decorated people, but also can discern that certain beads represented varying levels of authority within the group.

Here we mention just a few of the fascinating places that offer a view of America's ancient peoples.

Russell Cave

Located in the hill country of northern Alabama, Russell Cave was a center for nomadic bands of prehistoric tribal people. Carbon dating gives evidence that these Archaic Period Indians first occupied Russell Cave about 8,000 years ago. The cave was used as shelter, freeing the Indians from having to build shelters and enabling them to hunt more.

NPS interpretive programs on the Russell Cave Indians include demonstrations on grinding corn, the preparation of tools, and use of the atlatl (throwing stick). The cave itself contains several burial sites; however, entrance into cave passages, except at the archeological exhibit, is allowed only with written permission from the superintendent.

For more information, write: Superintendent, Russell Cave National Monument, Bridgeport, AL 35740.

Ocmulgee

Archeologists have evidence that Ocmulgee, in Georgia, was first inhabited by man some 11,000 years

ago. Fluted stone spear points and other weapons indicate that the Indians of this rich forest area were hunters and gatherers.

Archeologists have also dug up evidence of a more recent civilization—the pottery pieces they have found date back to 2000 B.C.

In addition, Ocmulgee contains part of a reconstructed public building that the NPS calls "Earthlodge." This structure, used for ceremonial purposes, dates back to 1016 A.D.

Ocmulgee National Monument offers walking and driving tours that feature demonstrations of prehistoric Indian crafts as well as other archeological information.

For more information, write: Superintendent, Ocmulgee National Monument, Box 4186, Macon, GA 31208.

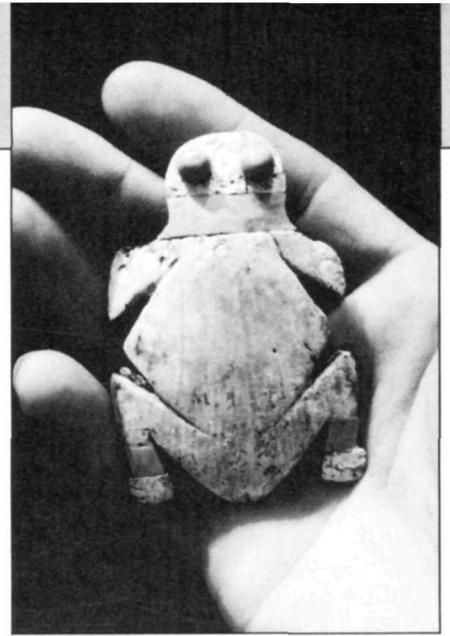
Mound City Group

Mound City, near Chillicothe, Ohio, is representative of village life of the Hopewell people, who lived in the area approximately 1,400 years ago. This national monument consists of twenty-three burial mounds in a thirteen-acre area. Archeologists termed them "Hopewell" after Mordecai Hopewell, whose farm yielded obsidian blades, shells, copper breastplates, and other artifacts when it was excavated in 1981.

There is a walking tour at Mound City, which includes ancient burial grounds, artifacts, and a variety of exhibits about how the people lived. Archeologists have found beads more than 5,000 years old; and a charnel house reveals that the Hopewells cremated their dead.

Archeologists have also found stone pipes carved in the shapes of animals. Apparently, the Hopewells believed that the smoke provided some sort of communication with the spirit world.

For more information, write: Superintendent, Mound City Group



Shell frog figure, by Dewitt Jones

National Monument, 16062 State Route 104, Chillicothe, OH 45601.

Tonto

Tonto National Monument in Arizona offers a glimpse into the lives of the Salado Indians. The Salado, whose name is derived from the Spanish word for salty, were a Pueblo Indian people who lived in the Tonto Basin area between 1100 A.D. and 1400 A.D.

In the cliff dwellings of the Upper Ruin, which consists of about forty rooms, archeologists have examined the remains of textiles, pottery, and charred baskets and have determined that one of the rooms burned while still occupied.

Two sections of the national monument provide a variety of opportunities for exploration. The Lower Ruin offers an easy, self-guided walk; and a strenuous, three-mile walk leads to the Upper Ruin.

The tour of the Lower Ruin will guide you to jojoba and cactus plants, which the Salado used in ingenious ways to ensure survival in a harsh desert climate.

For information, write: Superintendent, Tonto National Monument, Box 707, Roosevelt, AZ 85545.

For more information about parks with archeological sites, contact the National Park Service, Department of Interior, Public Information Office, Washington, D.C. 20240.

Deirdre McNulty is on the staff of National Parks.

Private Help for Public Land

Although each of our national parks displays its own singular qualities, a common problem—quite unnoticed by park visitors—pervades many units of the National Park System. Virgin Islands National Park, Custer Battlefield National Monument, Grand Teton National Park, and 181 other units of the system all contain private property within their boundaries. At the present time, close to 3.5 million acres of the national parks remain in private ownership.

Much of this land is beyond National Park Service (NPS) administrative and regulatory control. Within some parks private landowners can build homes, log trees, subdivide property, and carry out any number of other activities inconsistent with the parklands that surround their property.

The presence of this private land within park boundaries, combined with shrinking congressional funding for land acquisition, and the Interior Department's deliberate slowdown in land acquisition make land and resource protection a complex and difficult task.

Although under certain circumstances the federal government has the constitutional right to buy out private landowners and protect such lands through eminent domain proceedings, for years the Interior Department has shown great reluctance to use this approach. The reluctance has left a discernible gap in National

Park Service resource protection capabilities.

There is an opportunity for private efforts to aid NPS land acquisition, and NPCA has created just such a program—the National Park Trust.

Under current NPS policy, land acquisition plans are created for each unit. With good planning and congressional cooperation, in most cases the NPS has money on hand to purchase private lands as they are placed on the market or when they are threatened. But in some situations, the NPS is unable to purchase land either because it has expended its land acquisition budget or because a parcel unexpectedly has come on the market and no funds had been allocated for that parcel in the park plan.

When the NPS is unable to purchase private property, the landowner comes under increased pressure either to sell on the private market or to develop the property in order to see a financial return. Even if the NPS wants to buy a certain property,

the landowner may wait up to three years before the NPS is able to make a purchase.

What can be done to protect these private lands when the NPS is unable to act quickly enough to prevent the land from being sold or misused? When the landowner is willing to sell, a partial answer lies in using a "land trust."

A land trust is a private, non-profit organization working to conserve land. Through private funding and contributions, a land trust acquires title to land—or an interest in land, such as a scenic easement. Most trusts base their land-conservation programs on specific criteria: agricultural land, open space, or wetlands, to name just a few.

One of the best-known groups of this kind is the Nature Conservancy, which focuses its efforts on "ecologically significant" lands—an almost boundless category whose opportunities for conservation are limited mainly by available funds. The National Park Trust focuses its activities

*Close to 3.5 million acres of the
National Park System remain in private hands.
Much of this land is outside the control of
the National Park Service.*

on the national parks and areas deemed worthy of inclusion into the National Park System.

But private involvement in parkland acquisition raises an interesting question: Does the National Park Trust duplicate the job of the National Park Service? No. Although both work to preserve natural and cultural "na-

The Trust does not duplicate NPS efforts in purchasing land, but acts as a private-sector partner.

tionally significant" areas, there are basic distinctions in the way each goes about the job of land conservation.

Congress has given the NPS a mandate to protect the nation's parklands "for the benefit of future generations," but the agency must work within defined parameters. The NPS must instigate resource studies, establish land acquisition plans, and acquire the identified areas. The agency has a duty to protect these lands in perpetuity.

No matter how much private conservation support is available to it, the NPS should

never abdicate these duties. The stewardship of our national parks is a tremendous task and the NPS is best equipped and prepared to accept that responsibility.

The National Park Trust is more flexible and its activities are limited in duration. Its resources can be mobilized to meet those land acquisition needs that escape NPS planning. The Trust can temporarily secure property—either by employing preservation techniques such as "options to purchase" or by purchasing property outright—until the property can come under NPS management.

The Trust can also work in areas that are off limits to the NPS. For instance, land outside of established park boundaries may be worthy of inclusion in the park. Until Congress authorizes a boundary revision, the Trust can secure the property for the NPS. This same approach can be expanded to areas of national significance that have not been designated as national parklands, such as the tallgrass prairie in Oklahoma.

The idea and motivation of the Trust is not to duplicate the efforts of the National Park Service, but to complement those efforts by acting as a private sector partner. In fact, the Trust seeks the advice and support of the National Park Service and the Interior Department to make sure protection goals are reached in the most efficient and least costly manner.

As the National Park Trust enters its second year of operation, several projects have been initiated. The Trust's first acquisition, an inholding in the Gates of the Arctic National Park, will be given to the NPS in the near future. The Trust is also working on land acquisitions in park areas such as the New River Gorge National River, the Rio Grande Wild and Scenic River, and Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument. Currently, the Trust has started a cooperative effort with the Nature Conservancy to secure a portion of the tallgrass prairie in Oklahoma for the creation of a new unit of the National Park System.

The results may be months or years away, but the National Park Trust is well on its way to becoming a viable land conservation entity. Ultimately, the Trust enhances National Parks and Conservation Association's ability to work for the betterment of the National Park System and the preservation of our heritage.

Robert Pierce, an attorney, is administrator of NPCA's National Park Trust.

You can help shape the work of the National Park Trust and contribute directly to resource protection. Please become an active Trust supporter and a partner in parkland protection. See page 5; and for more information, write National Park Trust, Box A, 1701 18th St., NW, Washington, D.C. 20009.

The People and the Pinelands

In the vast, quiet flatlands of New Jersey's pine barrens, an experiment in cooperative management is setting precedents for the NPS, by Jim Jubak

Only the crackle of the fire tower radio interrupts the whispers from the ocean of pines surrounding Apple Pie Hill. Turn in any direction. The tower drifts on an evergreen sea that gently ripples to the horizon. The white of a single sand road, the red of one barn, the sparkle of three lakes reminds you that this is indeed land, the pine barrens of southern New Jersey.

Descend under that pine-scented canopy and walk slowly along the sand road to Martha, one of the abandoned towns that hides in the pines. The laurel and the stagger-bush splash whites and pinks against the brown trunks of the pitch pines. White cedars raise bleached columns from the tea-brown water of a bog. Almost hidden by the grass, sundews and pitcher plants tempt gluttonous insects into their sweet-smelling traps. In a slowly drying wet spot, a patch of small pink orchids—grass pinks—rewards the eye.

A paddle bangs against an aluminum canoe on the Oswego River, breaking in on any romantic wilderness reverie. Since the days of the Lenni Lenape Indians, men and women have used the Pinelands, reshaping its plant and animal communities, extracting its resources, making a living from pinecone gathering, hunting, cranberry growing, and glass-making.

Most of the pine barrens have

been cut once, twice, and yet again to feed cedar to the sawmills or to make charcoal for the iron industry that thrived here until the 1850s. Cranberry growers have dammed rivers and streams to create reservoirs for their fields. It was here that Elizabeth White first domesticated the commercial blueberry.

Until 1978, the pine barrens were defined by soil, water, an unusual mix of plant life, and the human culture that had adapted to this environment. In that year, Public Law 95-625 added a legislative definition. Approximately 1.1 million acres of pine barrens, covering much of southern New Jersey between the Atlantic coast and the Delaware River, became known as the Pinelands National Reserve.

The law attempted to do more than just protect a unique natural area lying less than a hundred miles from New York and Philadelphia. The Pinelands Reserve would be the first test of the "greenline park" concept in the National Park System. Under direction of a carefully written plan, the federal government would have a limited advisory role.

The state would take the lead. Relatively few of the total acres would be purchased. Instead, a system of land-use regulations and public/private cooperation in planning new development would offer various degrees of protection to the sensitive natural resources of the area. Such resources range from the

17-trillion-gallon aquifer of pure water under the pines to rare plant and animal communities to historic towns.

At the same time, the plan would attempt to allow the traditional uses of the land, primarily agricultural, to continue. Growth would be channeled to areas outside the core protection area, which is already under development. Most private land would continue in private ownership. The state would add about 70,000 acres to those already included in Wharton, Lebanon, Bass River, and Penn State forests—relatively few acres to purchase out of an area of a million acres.

The fifteen-member New Jersey Pinelands Commission has drawn the task of applying the plan and balancing all the competing uses and visions in the pine barrens. It's not an easy job, says Michele Byers, special projects coordinator for the New Jersey Conservation Foundation.

"They're in a tight spot. They've got the developers yelling at them; they've got the environmentalists yelling at them. And the politicians hear from everybody and then yell at them." Almost everybody who lives in these pine and oak forests has a different sense of why this landscape is so special and what its

Traditional agriculture is protected in the Pinelands Reserve. Opposite: at harvest time, workers skim cranberries from the flooded fields.



future should be. Conservationists are keeping a close watch on the Reserve wondering whether the Pinelands plan will work and whether the lessons learned here can be applied elsewhere.

Carl Anderson, a naturalist at the Rancocas Nature Center in Mount Holly, recounts a cautionary tale. "I had some people down here from Pennsylvania last week, and they are really concerned that I was showing them all this lush vegetation. They thought all of the Pinelands was six feet tall, and there I was showing them orchids."

The people surrounding Anderson as he speaks, more naturalists from Pennsylvania, nod sagely. But they still look relieved when Anderson promises them a tour of the Plains, a vast forest of stunted four- to six-foot pines on the eastern side of the pine barrens, after lunch.

The Plains, one of the most studied areas of the Pinelands, are perhaps the best example of why the entire pine barrens area fascinates scientists. Here, plant and animal species are pushed to their limits.

More than 800 species of plants grow in the Pinelands. The cool depths of the cedar swamps enable fourteen species of plants to grow farther south here than anywhere else. Another 109 southern species reach the northern limits of their range here.

Although rainfall averages close to forty-eight inches a year, the extremely porous soil drains quickly. The surface is very dry, except where the vast Cohansey Aquifer intersects the surface to form a bog. Soils are poor in minerals, especially nitrogen. Insect-eating plants, relatively common here, are one of nature's attempts to remedy this shortage.



Photo by William W. Hawkins

Both the soil and the water in the slow-running rivers, bogs, and streams are extremely acid. Few fish live in the Pinelands, and several species of acid-tolerant frogs, such as the pine barrens tree frog, thrive here, possibly because of less competition from other species. The acid soils are also responsible for the dominance of shrubs of the acid-loving heath family—blueberries, laurels, staggerbush.

Water in the Pinelands is dark with dissolved organic material and tannic acid. "Essentially what you have is tea," Anderson points out. "It takes a little getting used to when you can't even see your feet."

Fire rules this ecology. Frequent fires sweep the forests, giving the advantage to species able to survive the flames. Bracken fern, for example, regenerates from its root stocks after fire. Pitch pine, the dominant pine in the mixed pine-oak forests, will regenerate from either side buds or root stocks after a fire. "When fire has been suppressed, oaks tend to replace pines," says Anderson. Which raises a tough question for managing the Pinelands: If you want to preserve this area as pine barrens, how do you do it?

A framed photograph of a fire patrol crew dominates one wall in Buzby's general store and restaurant in Chatsworth, the self-proclaimed capital of the Pinelands. With a population of about 500, the town claims about a quarter of 96-square-

mile Woodland Township's population. The summer blueberry harvest has just started down the road at the Lee Brothers Farm.

Steve Lee returned to the Pinelands in 1949, after an absence of twenty years, to start a blueberry and cranberry farm. "We're small growers and don't want to get any bigger," he says. With his sons Steve and Abbot, Lee cultivates about 100 acres of berries on a farm of 1,100 acres.

The Lees record 7,000 pick-your-own customers on the computerized mailing list they maintain. When the season is in full swing—early varieties ripened around June 27th this year—400 to 500 people a day will stand in the fields. A large sign in the packing shed admonishes them to roll the berries off the bush between thumb and fingers rather than plucking them off. The picker gets less stem that way.

The blueberries may be ripe, but already the Lees are working at their main crop, cranberries. In the flat, boggy fields across the road, the six-inch-tall cranberry plants are in bloom. During the fall harvest, the earthen dikes that enclose the fields will hold in floodwaters used to float the acres of berries to waiting trucks. In early summer, though, the dikes perform a different function. The planters set out beehives on the raised earth to encourage pollination, and thus, maximum fruiting.

Lee shows with pride the mechan-

ical cranberry picker invented by his son, Abbot. With labor becoming more expensive and stiffer regulations on migrant labor, growers like the Lees are making more use of machines. Lee claims his mechanical blueberry sorter does a better job than the hands now working his fields. "But that guy out there," gesturing to the bus belonging to the day labor contractor, "he's been coming here for twenty years."

But it's not only farming that's changing, and Lee doesn't like some of what he sees in the Pinelands. "We used to get real conservationists down here," he says. "Now they're only interested in seeing how fast they can go" down the rivers. Vandalism, overcrowding on the rivers, and a lack of sanitary facilities trouble him. "They automatically assume it's state land," Lee comments bitterly.

The crazy quilt of state parks and private land makes the confusion understandable, but Lee can't fathom the attitude of people who become hostile when informed they're on private land or who refuse to clean up after themselves at canoe landings.

"How much land should the state own?" he asks, voicing a common local belief in the existence of a state plan to greatly expand its holdings. He might be less opposed to state land ownership if he saw better management on state lands now, with adequate restrooms, garbage

Left: the narrow ribbons of streams that thread the Pinelands attract increasing numbers of canoeists each year. The preserve was set up to balance recreational uses with development and traditional uses. Below: the Pine Barrens tree frog is one of a number of rare species endemic to this area and protected within the reserve.

cans, and signs. "How do you educate people?" he laments.

One of the things that makes the Pinelands Reserve so different from a national park or monument is that visitors won't see a national park ranger or an NPS visitor center. And the million-acre land reserve is by no means entirely open to the public. Preservation of this area was intended to save a way of life and to encourage continuation of a somewhat self-contained local economy as much as to protect a delicate ecosystem and a recreational resource. So far, the state lands in the reserve, and their staff, are carrying much of the burden of interpretation to the public. Private nature reserves and interpretive centers also help carry the load.

"It's not the Grand Canyon. It's not awesome. The uniqueness here is subtle. You have to understand water chemistry and the plant and animal communities—and how many people can do that?" Michele Byers asks. "One thing the [Pinelands] commission has been real weak in is education." And with that Byers is out of her chair. "Do you like plants?"

Byers has had to learn new skills to drive on the soft sand roads near Whitesbog, a historic cranberry vil-

lage near part of Lebanon State Forest. To go around a turn, "you sort of just fall," she notes. The first stop: a large patch of grass pinks mixed with sundews. A little farther down the road, growing as they seem inclined to do in a patch of recently disturbed soil, are a few rare Pickering's morning glories.

But as much as Byers likes plants, she really warms to her subject when the conversation comes round to the history of Whitesbog and the cranberry industry.

Half the buildings in Whitesbog have tumbled into decay. The packing house, the sorting house, and the barrel factory have suffered from vandalism. The state rents out the rest of the village to keep the workers' and owners' houses occupied.

Byers herself lives in the house built by Elizabeth White, the blueberry grower, in 1920. "She built it so that she could watch over her cranberry fields from the second floor," Byers observes. Once the towns of Whitesbog, Florence, and Rome were home to more than 300 workers and family members. Now, many of the fields have gone back to cedar and pine. In others the patterns of the fields, some one hundred years old, are giving way to the modernizing impulse of White's de-

Photo by William W. Hawkins





Photo by Joseph Czarniecki, Courtesy of Library of Congress

Left: the reserve protects traditional and historical villages including Batsto, a restored 19th century industrial town in Wharton State Forest.

scendants, still among the largest growers in the area.

Byers seems ambivalent about the growers. Fascinated by the industry herself, she criticizes the growers' lack of interest in preserving their own history. To her the current generation of farmers isn't to be romanticized. They rearrange the land, flooding some acres, turning others into monocrop cultures of cranberry plants, and often tearing the sod off the land to build dikes around their reservoirs.

Byers has become involved in an effort to turn Whitesbog into a center for the interpretation of the berry industries and Pinelands ecology. Both Byers and Anderson note that the lack of a central interpretive center makes it harder for visitors to appreciate the Pinelands. "I doubt that you could name another natural reserve so close to so many people with essentially zero interpretation," Anderson challenges.

This may change, however. A coalition of the Pinelands Commission, the State Department of Environmental Protection, and the NPS is currently working on ways to develop interpretation for the region.

"It's the last large open space area in the eastern megalopolis," says Bob Bembridge, a staff member at the New Jersey Pinelands Commission. But the pine barrens aren't a wilderness. "There are towns in the pine barrens," explains Byers. "People think it's one big national park.

God, there's even a McDonald's in the pine barrens."

The plan administered by the Pinelands Commission attempts to balance many of these uses. The commission works to control development, guiding it away from the less developed core of the Pinelands, and yet the traditional residents of the pine barrens and the traditional Pinelands towns are still to be allowed limited growth.

Agricultural lands are to be kept in agricultural uses, yet farmers such as Steve Lee complain that restrictions on land use are driving up their property taxes. Restrictions on septic tanks and landfills are designed to protect the pure underground waters of the Cohansey Aquifer, yet Byers believes that the commission lacks the enforcement staff to apply the law.

Byers and Anderson both say that despite strong prohibitions, wetlands continue to be filled or drained and illegal septic systems installed. Lee adds another warning. He believes that development outside the pine barrens—shopping centers and subdivisions in the headwaters of Pinelands rivers—has lowered the water table. "The rivers run dryer in the summer now," he says.

If you drive past the canoe put-in on Harrisville Lake during one of those summer days, you can witness both the newest threat to the pines and the greatest hope of its salvation. Throngs of people have tram-

pled vegetation on the shoreline down to bare earth. The small parking lot and the shoulders of the road overflow with aluminum canoes, life jackets, and beer coolers. The rudimentary sanitary facilities have been completely overwhelmed by the crowds. A trio of dirt bikes promises unexpected clamor on even the most isolated backroads.

The greatest threat here is that the new competition of dirt bikers, silence-loving hikers and birders, family campers, and vandalism-fearing farmers will just add to the longstanding discord between developers and preservationists, newcomers and old residents that has made the Pinelands plan controversial.

But the presence of people is also a saving grace. Berry pickers keep the blueberry farms in business. Tourists may provide the impetus for restoring Whitesbog. There, they may learn about the natural and human history of the cranberry industry, as Byers dreams. Exposed to the unique landscape of the pines, weekend visitors could form the political constituency to win the battles that lie ahead.

James Stasz, the naturalist at Batsto, the restored nineteenth-century bog-iron town in Wharton State Forest, offers a comforting perspective. "People like to think of the pines as backward. But this is a region of firsts. Harrisville was the first all-gas-lit town. We had the nation's first iron industry. And now we have the first federal/state/local natural preserve."

The sea of pines stirs, whispering rumors of a change across the flat barrens. Changes are coming to the Pinelands, and what becomes of this lowland province depends on a deft human hand in shaping the future.

Jim Jubak, formerly an editor at National Parks, fell out of a canoe in the pine barrens for the first time at the age of thirteen.

Partnerships for Protection, by Michael S. Batcher

The Pinelands Reserve is more than a landscape whose boundaries are defined by federal law. It is a set of new ideas for protection of a national resource through regional land use planning—a coordinated effort for approving new housing and industry, and balancing development with preservation. The methods employed must be as complex as the landscape. Preservation takes many forms and involves many partners in this one-million-acre reserve.

The federal law that set up the pinelands reserve, Section 502 of P.L. 95-625, and its companion state act called for establishment of a 15-member Pinelands Commission with state, local, and federal representation. This commission oversees implementation of a Comprehensive Management Plan, the tool that regulates new growth in 900,000 of the 1,100,000 acres in the reserve.

The Secretary of the Interior appoints a federal member of the Commission, who assists state and local governments in carrying out their responsibilities through the Mid-Atlantic Regional Office of the National Park Service. The NPS monitors the state's work on the Comprehensive Management Plan, administers land acquisition grants, coordinates federal agencies' activities in the region, and provides staff support to the Commission.

The Commission is involved in land planning and the review of applications for development. Under the Comprehensive Management Plan (CMP), counties and municipalities are required to "conform" their master plans and zoning ordinances to the standards of the CMP and ultimately implement the CMP through their own review procedures. As of this date, 37 of the 52 towns and four of the seven counties have completed the conformance process. The Commission has assisted in this process by undertaking planning studies dealing with water quality, the development of a wetlands impact model, the economic impacts of the CMP on land values and town revenues, and managing cultural resources, among others.

Since 1981, the Commission has reviewed approximately 4,000 applications for development. The kinds of applications include residential developments

ranging from single-family dwellings to developments of several thousand units, as well as commercial and industrial developments, mining operations, forestry activities, and government-sponsored projects. Most of the applications that the Commission has reviewed have been approved already by local municipalities. If a locally approved plan does not conform with the overall CMP, however, the Commission may call up the application and modify or overturn the local decision. This authority rarely has been needed.

Once a town has brought its own plans and ordinances into conformance with the CMP, it then becomes a primary actor in implementing standards of the regional plan. Many of the towns are not prepared to undertake all the activities that this requires. Inspecting a wetlands to document endangered species or archeological relics requires expertise that few towns have readily available to them. So, many towns still depend on the Commission to assist them in the review of proposed applications to assure compliance with the CMP.

About 200,000 acres of the Pinelands region is in the coastal zone, under the jurisdiction of the Division of Coastal Resources (DCR) within the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. Under the state act, DCR is required to implement the Pinelands plan in the coastal zone. There are, however, a number of differences between how the plan is implemented in the coastal zone and in the 900,000 acres under the Commission's jurisdiction.

For instance, DCR can only review permits for developments of more than twenty-five units. Developers in the coastal zone have skillfully avoided review by DCR by constructing twenty-four units at a time.

After three years, the Commission and the Division of Coastal Resources have yet to resolve how the CMP will be implemented to assure adequate protection for the coastal zone.

In 1982, the National Park Service gathered together the various federal agencies with programs in the reserve to reestablish the Federal Coordination Committee. This committee was intended to foster coordination between

agencies to keep their various programs consistent with the CMP. However, problems of coordination must be dealt with case by case.

For instance, last year the issue of alternative septic systems arose. The Plan sets standards for house lot sizes so that septic systems will not impair water quality in the Pinelands. A lot can be smaller if the house is equipped with an alternative septic system that keeps pollution levels sufficiently low. However, federal standards used by both the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Farmers Home Administration prevent those agencies from providing subsidies, such as mortgage insurance for low-income development, for houses equipped with such alternative systems.

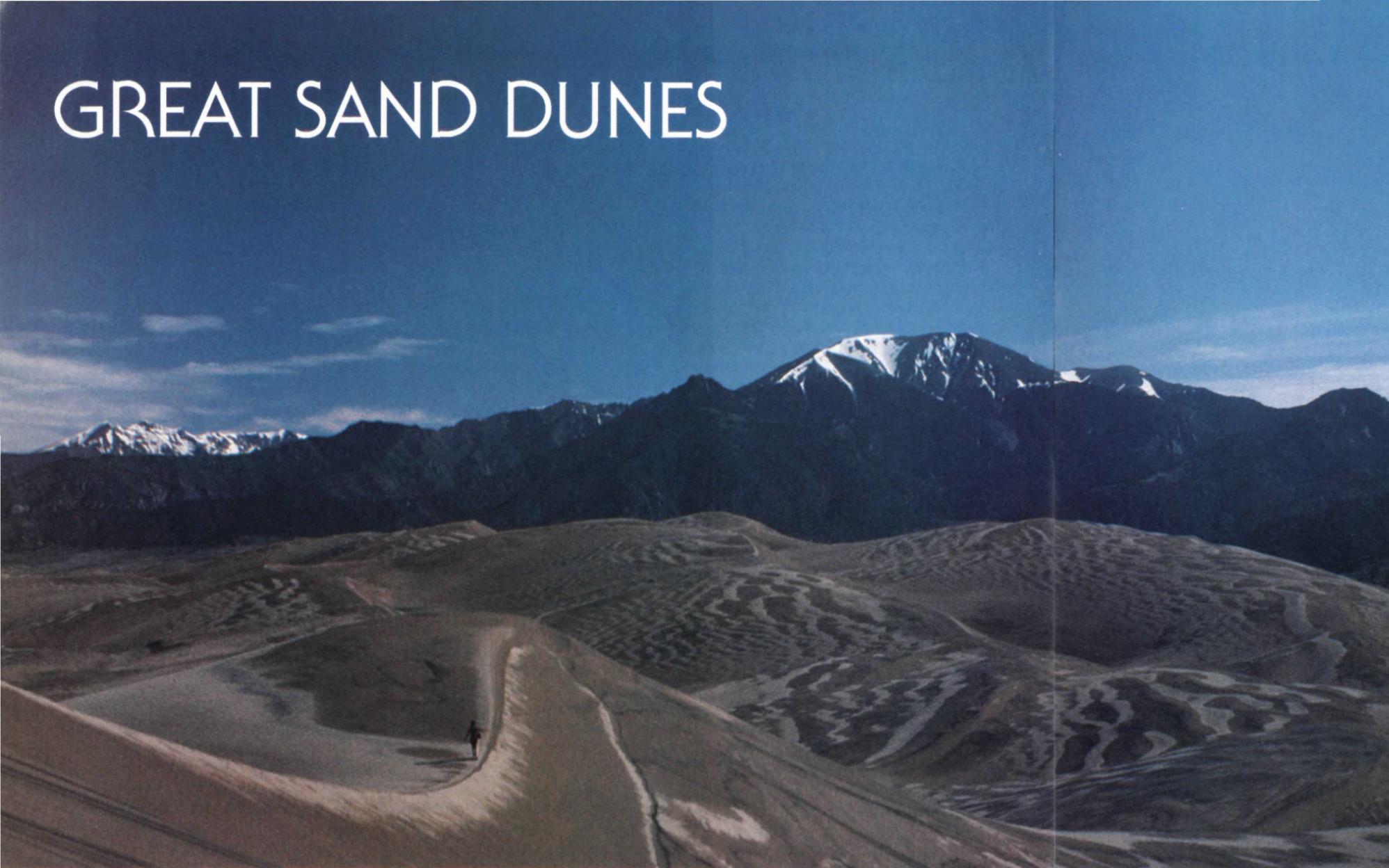
These standards may be waived on a case-by-case basis or to meet local or regional needs. Yet, neither HUD nor Farmers Home has been willing to take this route, mostly because those agencies feel that such systems may lower the resale value of the property—an important consideration for those agencies providing the subsidies. The agencies are also concerned that such systems may result in management problems and higher home-maintenance costs.

The National Park Service and the Commission have encouraged HUD and Farmers Home to modify their programs to support CMP standards, but NPS has no real power to assure such consistency. Instead, the best that NPS can do is to "open a dialogue" with such agencies—an often frustrating activity that may or may not have a concrete result.

Managing such a large, complex area often comes down to managing a set of complex partnerships. The important lesson to learn is that the management of resources involves the management of people and partnerships that affect those resources. By understanding that, we can use what has been learned in the Pinelands to help conserve other landscapes across the country.

Michael S. Batcher is a planner with the Mid-Atlantic Regional Office of the NPS who has been working on the Pinelands program since 1982. He is a contributor to NPCA's book Greenline Parks.

GREAT SAND DUNES



Photos by Tom Edwards

From the grand sweep of curving dunes to patterns in the sand, Great Sand Dunes National Monument preserves an extraordinary landscape in the shadow of Colorado's Sangre de Cristo Mountains.



Above: the Sangre de Cristo Mountains rule the changeable weather patterns in the dunes. This hiker climbed to the top of the highest dune in bright sunshine, only to be chased from the peak in a matter of minutes by a surprise thunderstorm. As he made his way down, he was hit by 40 mph gusts, driving rain, and hail. By the time he reached the valley, it was bathed again in bright sunlight.



Established by presidential proclamation in 1932, Great Sand Dunes National Monument encompasses almost 40,000 acres of massive sand dunes deposited over thousands of years. Rising up to 700 feet from the floor of the San Luis Valley, the dunes were formed by sand and volcanic material, which were washed down from surrounding mountain ranges and then picked up and shaped by the wind. The Sangre de Cristos acted as a trap, stopping both wind and sand just below its lofty flanks.

After storms and shifts in the prevailing winds, new shapes and patterns are revealed in the sand. But the constant southwesterly winds continue to nudge the dunes, which are among the highest in the United States, toward Mendano Creek and the Sangre de Cristo Range at the eastern edge of the park.

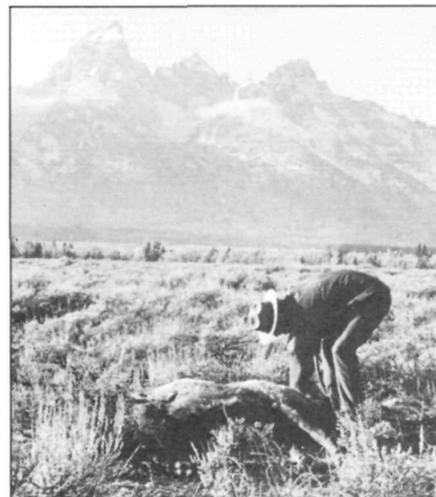
Above: While mule deer rarely venture onto the dunes, they thrive in the piñon-juniper woodland between the dunes and the mountains. Left: The tracks of a giant sand-treader camel cricket are slowly covered by a tiny avalanche. The camel cricket lives nowhere else in the world, and little is known about its habits.



Only one national park allows a public hunt,
and despite objections . . .

The ELK HUNT goes on at GRAND TETON

by Pinckney Wood



Ranger with dead elk, photo by Alan Atchison

The hunters wait on the flats east of the Snake River. It is another cold and bleak November day in the high mountain country of northwestern Wyoming. The elk have finally begun to submit to their instinctive imperative to migrate, and have been moving southward from their summer range in the high mountains toward their winter range and the sagebrush flats of Jackson Hole.

They congregate on the west banks of the river in Grand Teton National Park, reluctant to cross. Even though the far banks are also within the park, the elk have learned that danger lies in store. Watching the animals with field glasses, and cruising the roads in their four-wheel-drive vehicles, the hunters become frustrated. The west bank, at least, is off limits to them.

Finally, when the elk can resist no longer, they enter the water and swim the river. When they have crossed, they continue their southward migration, stamping crisscrossed trails in the snow. Some are still reluctant to venture farther, knowing what awaits them on the flats; so, they linger in stands of lodgepole pine, waiting for night.

The winter quiet is broken by the sound of gunfire. Before the elk season is all over in late December, ap-

proximately 1,700 of the northern Jackson Hole herd will be killed and another 200 crippled while migrating south from Yellowstone National Park and the slopes of the Tetons.

Approximately 600 of those elk are killed annually while they are still within the boundaries of Grand Teton National Park. With this one exception, our lawmakers have wisely set aside parklands to be kept in trust as showcases of special natural features, and as inviolate sanctuaries for the animals that live there.

In the unique case of Grand Teton National Park, public elk hunting is permitted in as much as 47 percent of the park. Currently, hunting occurs on about 65,000 acres—or 21 percent of the park—especially in the “hay fields” of Mormon Row.

Park visitors at this time of year could be witnessing spectacular daytime elk migrations, but instead they encounter the entrails of gutted elk along the roadsides. Besides infringing on others’ enjoyment of the park and interfering with the natural behavior of elk and other wildlife, the elk hunters have accidentally damaged property, killed horses, and narrowly missed wounding people because of careless shooting. Some have killed more than the permitted limit of one elk, and others have

poached moose, deer, pronghorn antelope, coyote, bison, and other mammals and birds.

In 1950, Congress enacted Public Law 81-787, which provided for the enlargement of Grand Teton National Park, and prescribes the public hunt as the means to reduce the elk population whenever the National Park Service and the Wyoming Game and Fish Department agree that reduction is necessary. Of course, the hunt has been deemed necessary every year since then, except for 1959 and 1960 when elk numbers were critically low.

Legitimizing a public elk hunt and cattle grazing in the park were conceded as necessary political expedients for enlarging the park. In 1950, both were part of the traditional flavor of Jackson Hole, and powerful Wyoming politicians lobbied to maintain grazing and the hunt.

At that time, the local economy may have been somewhat dependent on such activities. Today, the economic importance of the park hunt has declined compared to the amount of money brought into the area by the millions who come to visit the park and to ski each year. And, even though public hunting is considered by some to be the most feasible way to control the Grand Teton elk population, the NPS has not allowed hunting as an appropriate management tool in any other national park.

Opposite: elk hunting is a time-honored activity in the West, but national parks—including Grand Teton—should remain sacrosanct havens for wildlife.

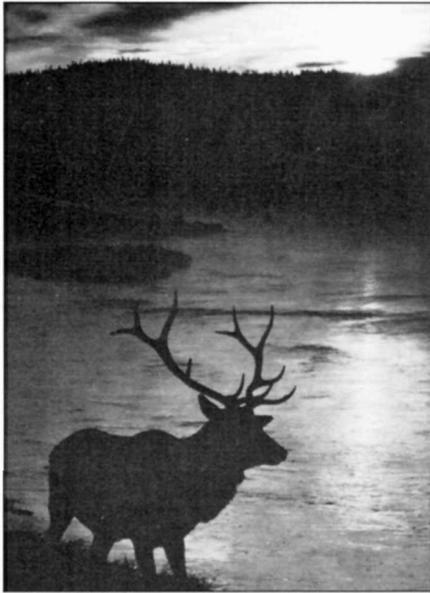


Photo by Erwin and Peggy Bauer

Knowing what lies in store for them, elk often pause before entering the areas designated for the public elk hunt in Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming.

Hunters sometimes stalk elk from the side of the road; and the hunt has been likened to "shooting fish in a barrel" as the herd crosses sections of the national park that are bare of any protective stands of trees.

This year the elk number 7,000—far below the ten-year average. With no reasonable justification—which the law requires—a 1984 hunt has been scheduled and 450 elk will be killed in the park.

Once declared a legitimate park activity, the elk hunt became an entrenched annual event. This is especially true because the Wyoming Game and Fish Department has a large share of the administrative responsibilities for conducting the park hunt.

Each year, the Game and Fish Department accepts applications for the public hunt and selects names at random from a computer list. The number of hunters chosen—thus, the number of elk to be killed—is based on counts of the elk herd made the preceding winter and summer. But the state agency has no set formula for arriving at the number of elk to be culled.

Wyoming Game and Fish is mainly responsible for determining the number of elk to be killed even though this agency views hunting as recreation and a source of operational revenues. It is not especially

concerned with the NPS priority of preserving park animal populations in a natural condition.

The position of the Wyoming Game and Fish Department is exemplified by their scheduling of the 1983 hunt. During the preceding winter, 6,800 elk were counted on the National Elk Refuge, which adjoins Grand Teton. The herd was expected to increase to 8,000.

Although the average winter elk population over the past 71 years has been approximately 7,500, the most recent ten-year statistics show an average of 8,300 elk on the winter range; so the 1983 herd was actually smaller than it has been in recent years. The park hunt was scheduled, however, despite the low numbers.

This year, the elk number less than 7,000. This figure is far below the ten-year average. With no reasonable justification—which the law requires—a 1984 hunt has been scheduled and 450 elk will be killed in the park.

Is culling of the herd truly necessary? The agencies involved determine the answer on a yearly basis, but ultimate authority for continuing the hunt or not lies with Congress. If it sees a need, Congress can amend the law and bring Grand Teton into line with general NPS policy by stopping the public hunt.

The 1950 law that sanctions the hunt does require that the necessity for any hunt be determined by scientific field studies. But the NPS admits to a lack of organized and pertinent current data that would help them determine whether or not a public hunt is the best way to manage the elk population. Essentially, the program maintains a herd of constant size using traditional game



Photo by Richard J. Murphy



Photo by David A. Stump

Although the "hay fields" area is the most popular with elk hunters, almost 25 percent of the park is available to them during the hunt.

Below: the Wyoming Game and Fish Department uses a lottery system to select the hunters who will be awarded special elk permits.

management methods, such as the hunt and supplemental feeding.

In the summer, feeding is not a problem because the elk have access to abundant forage in the high country. But winter forage is typically more difficult to obtain, especially so with increasing development cutting off the elk's range in the Jackson Hole area. Now the herd is limited to a winter range less than one-third the size it had a century ago when the elk numbered 20,000 to 25,000.

Little by little, cattle grazing and the expansion of Jackson Hole communities consumed much of the elk's natural range, leading to the mixed blessings of another management policy: supplemental feeding.

In 1909, development in the town of Jackson prevented the elk from reaching much of their winter range. During that especially hard winter, hundreds of elk starved to death. In reaction to this massive die-off, a supplemental winter feeding program was begun in 1912 and continues to this day.

Since its inception, the supplemental feeding program has occurred every year but nine—when the winters were mild and natural forage was readily available to the elk. The feeding program is not essential every winter, however; but it does help maintain excessive numbers to be culled in the park hunt. This policy raises the question: is

supplemental feeding in any way subsidizing the public hunt?

Also, winter feeding engenders another set of problems. The feedgrounds promote the spread of disease and interfere with the elk's natural behavior. Bison have discovered the bonanza, and are creating problems. Being larger, more aggressive animals, the bison can successfully compete with the elk for the food. The Wyoming Game and Fish Department, the National Elk Refuge, and the National Park Service are considering plans to "control" the bison as well.

Since the turn of the century, the

expansion of human activities in the Jackson Hole area has resulted in extensive manipulation of the elk herds. Although some form of elk management may be required, winter feeding and the public hunt within Grand Teton National Park are highly questionable solutions.

The hunt, especially, has little scientific validity. Hunters cripple elk, kill other animals, and endanger visitors. Olaus Murie, the great naturalist, offered a solution in his definitive book *The Elk of North America*: "They'd be better off if they gave 'em range and then just let 'em rustle."

No other national park allows a public hunt. Grand Teton should be no exception to this rule.

Pinckney Wood, a mountaineer and science teacher from New Orleans, has visited the Tetons almost every summer since 1968.



Photo by Richard J. Murphy

Environmental Choices

Alexis de Tocqueville remarked in his book *Democracy in America*, "In politics everything is in turmoil, contested, and uncertain."

His words ring especially true in a presidential election year when the air is full of the sound and fury of candidates' speeches and media battles. What often gets lost in this noise is consideration for the future, and scrutiny of past performance.

Voters should consider not just the candidates, but also the kinds of people they are likely to appoint as advisors, cabinet officials, and agency officials. The 1980 presidential election made clear that a president can dramatically change the direction and policies of government through such appointments.

We should also remember, as the turmoil of the presidential election

swirls around us and media coverage heats up, that we Americans will be electing some 470 members of Congress this year. The work done in congressional committees and subcommittees is critical in determining conservation policies. The success or failure of the next president's environmental policies will depend to a large extent on Congress and its ability to forge a consensus on a number of major issues, such as authorization of an acid rain control program.

From all indications, the next Congress will be little changed from the present, in which the House is controlled by the Democrats and the Senate by the Republicans. A divided Congress has made consensus difficult, and it has left a number of major conservation bills unresolved. More than likely, these bills will be carried over to the Ninety-ninth Congress.

One example of such a bill is the Park Protection Act, which passed the House in autumn of 1982 but died at the close of the Ninety-seventh Congress. It was reintroduced in the Ninety-eighth and passed the House again, by an overwhelming margin.

To enact the Park Protection Act, which protects the integrity of our parklands and critical, adjacent federal areas, requires that the Senate pass a companion bill or a compatible bill. In order to pass, more support from the Senate is necessary than has been evinced during this session of Congress.

Politics requires us to judge slowly and to pay attention to an accretion of details. Politicians should be evaluated over a period of time rather than on one particular vote or one particular issue.

The consistency of a candidate's performance is the key; and consistency can be judged by voting

Administration Record : REAGAN

Supported the Barrier Islands Bill, which eliminates federal subsidies for private developers of undeveloped barrier islands.

Supported the Wetlands Protection Act, which provides money from the Land and Water Conservation Fund for wetlands protection.

Established the Park Restoration and Improvement Program (PRIP), to repair and renovate roads, buildings, and other structures in the National Park System.

Appointed agency and cabinet officials—Anne Burford, James Watt, and others—whose partisan, nonconsensual approach to environmental issues caused the large-scale sale of the nation's coal reserves at bargain rates, demoralization of the National Park Service, and fraud and mismanagement within the EPA.

Halted all new parkland acquisition by requesting only enough funds to pay land claims decided by the courts. The Administration has used the budget to boost funds for resource development while cutting funds for wildlife, recreation, soil, and water protection.

Opposed the Park Protection Act, which requires federal agencies to coordinate policies for public lands adjacent to parks to avoid threats to park resources. The Administration supported Rep. James Hansen's (R-Utah) proposal to delete the bill's essential review clause.

Has balked at considering an acid rain control program; and has endorsed eleven principles for amending the Clean Air Act, which represented an across-the-board destruction of the Act.

Supported the Alaska Sport-hunting Bill, which would allow sport-hunting on millions of acres of national parkland in Alaska.

records and key committee work that supports environmental goals. The committees pivotal to national park issues are the House Interior Subcommittee on Public Lands and National Parks, the Senate Energy Committee, and the Interior Appropriations subcommittees of both the House of Representatives and the Senate.

The same yardstick should be used to measure the records of the presidential candidates. In addition to presenting a brief look at the environmental records of the two candidates, we have highlighted major legislation to watch for and support in the next Congress, as well as suggesting additional sources of information.

New Congress to Face Urgent Park Issues

Congress is divided over how to deal with acid rain, control and clean up toxic wastes, and adequately protect park resources. The Administration has fueled divisiveness over these issues by backing negative legislation, such as the Alaska Sport-hunting Bill, and by its failure to offer a constructive agenda for acid rain control and other problems. Obstruction and delays on the part of some members of Congress have stalled the reauthorization of the Clean Air Act, relegated the twice-passed House Park Protection Act to limbo in the Senate Energy Committee, and inhibited a compromise between two amendments to the Geothermal Steam Act that deal with energy development adjacent to the parks. Breaking this environmental gridlock will demand that the next administration and Congress develop collective, long-range solutions to these problems.

Senate Record : **MONDALE**

Supported passage of the original Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, and the Toxic Substances Control Act; opposed efforts to delay air-quality protections for pristine areas in the national parks and elsewhere.

•
Introduced legislation to establish Voyageurs National Park and St. Croix Wild Scenic River; led the fight to establish the Minnesota Valley Wildlife Refuge.

•
Voted to ban strip-mining in national forests and new mining permits in Glacier Bay National Park; and voted to limit overgrazing on public lands.

•
Voted against President Ford's nomination of Stanley Hathaway for Interior Secretary. Mondale has been extremely critical of such antienvironmental appointments, such as former Secretary Watt.

•
Supported routing a natural gas pipeline through the Arctic Wildlife Range.

•
Voted against a Senate amendment to restrict coastal energy development.

•
Has a mixed record on dam appropriations and supported appropriation for the Lincoln-Dickey Dam in Maine.

Further Information on Candidate Records

League of Conservation Voters: *Profile of the presidential candidates and a record of the House of Representatives' votes on major environmental issues.* 320 4th St. NE, Washington, D.C. 20002.

U.S. Chamber of Commerce: *Endorsement report on major races and probusiness candidates.* 1615 H St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20062.

Americans for Democratic Action: *Detailed report on Mondale's record and a record of Senate votes on major*

issues. 1411 K St. NW, Suite 850, Washington, D.C. 20005.

Environmental and Energy Study Institute: *Weekly digest of energy and environmental issues presently before Congress.* 218 D St. SE, Washington, D.C. 20003.

As a nonprofit, environmental organization, NPCA supports regulations and legislation that safeguard our national parks. We do not support specific candidates. For more information, contact the organizations listed above.

NPCA Report

NPCA Blasts Rifle Club Move to Hunt in Parks

On June 28, NPCA held a press conference with other national conservation organizations in response to the National Rifle Association's (NRA) lawsuit against the Department of Interior.

The NRA has sued the Department of Interior and Assistant Secretary G. Ray Arnett to overturn National Park Service standing regulations banning hunting and trapping in certain park units. NPCA strongly supports these regulations, which would end unauthorized hunting in two national recreation areas and unauthorized trapping in eleven park areas.

The NRA suit could open almost 300 out of 334 National Park System areas to hunting and trapping, making it one of the most far-reaching of the recent threats to the entire National Park System.

This danger to the parks in conjunction with Assistant Secretary Arnett's attempts to block the new NPS regulations, has prompted NPCA to take legal action. In cooperation with Defenders of Wild-

life, Sierra Club, the Humane Society of the United States, and the Wilderness Society, NPCA has intervened in the lawsuit on behalf of the national parks to insure Interior's good-faith defense of park policies.

In announcing the intervention at the press conference, NPCA President Paul Pritchard said, "The NRA lawsuit attacks the intent of Congress when it established the National Park Service—that unless specifically provided by law, wildlife is to be preserved for future generations."

Pritchard also pointed out, "If this policy were reversed, it could have international implications because the National Park System and its policies set the standard for parks around the world."

According to NRA spokesperson Rob Wilson, "Hunting and trapping should be allowed in park areas unless Congress specifically prohibits it."

NPCA and the other conservation organizations believe that the terms of the suit undermine the intent of the 1916 National Park Service Organic Act "... to conserve the scenery and natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein."

Because the NRA suit contends that hunting and trapping should be allowed in areas where it is not spe-

cifically forbidden by Congress, the suit would jeopardize twenty-four national parks, all national monuments, and all national historic parks—as well as other park areas. The enabling acts of parks such as Bryce Canyon, Kings Canyon, and North Cascades do not specifically prohibit hunting and trapping; and they would be open to hunting by the NRA's proposal.

Assistant Secretary Arnett concurs with NRA's philosophy toward hunting and trapping in the parks. He has said that the new NPS regulations not only ignore hunting as a compatible use in some parks, but also the regulations preclude the use of hunting and trapping as a tool "to manage and manipulate wildlife."

While Arnett did his best to delay implementation of these regulations, two other threats to park wildlife were being promoted as legislation: the Alaska sport-hunting bill and Representative William Emerson's (R-Mo.) bill to allow trapping in those eleven park units where it now occurs as an unauthorized activity. The Administration supports both bills.

Although the NRA's Rob Wilson contends that the NRA suit is an attempt to focus on a finite grey area of the NPS regulations, the success of this suit would have larger implications for the national parks. It would not only undermine the NPS mandate, but the suit would also violate some fundamental principles.

As Pritchard said, "There is a right to sanctuary for wildlife as well as for human beings."

—Kimber Craine

Left to right: Ron Tipton (Wilderness Society), John Grandy (Humane Society), Paul Pritchard (NPCA), and Allen Smith (Defenders of Wildlife) answer media questions on rifle club's suit to hunt park wildlife.



T. Destry Jarvis

Wildlife in Parks Act Gets NPCA's Support at Hearings

On June 27, 1984, the Senate Environmental Pollution Subcommittee held hearings on the Wildlife and the Parks Act. Sponsored by Senator John Chafee (R-R.I.), the bill would protect wildlife threatened by actions of federal agencies within national park boundaries or on adjacent lands.

Because wildlife is not constrained by park boundaries, the advantage of the legislation is that protection

does not stop at those boundaries. Instead, Senator Chafee's bill protects wildlife within complete ecosystems, including federal lands adjacent to national parks.

The bill would prohibit the government from spending money on activities that threaten wildlife in parks and on "contiguous or ecologically related" federal lands adjacent to national parks larger than 5,000 acres.

Opposition to the bill came from developers and private groups, such as the National Inholders Association. Their concern was the effect of the bill on private lands both within and beyond park boundaries. Senator Chafee clearly stated, however, that the legislation would not affect activities on adjacent private lands. Concern was also expressed about possible conflicts with the multiple-use concept.

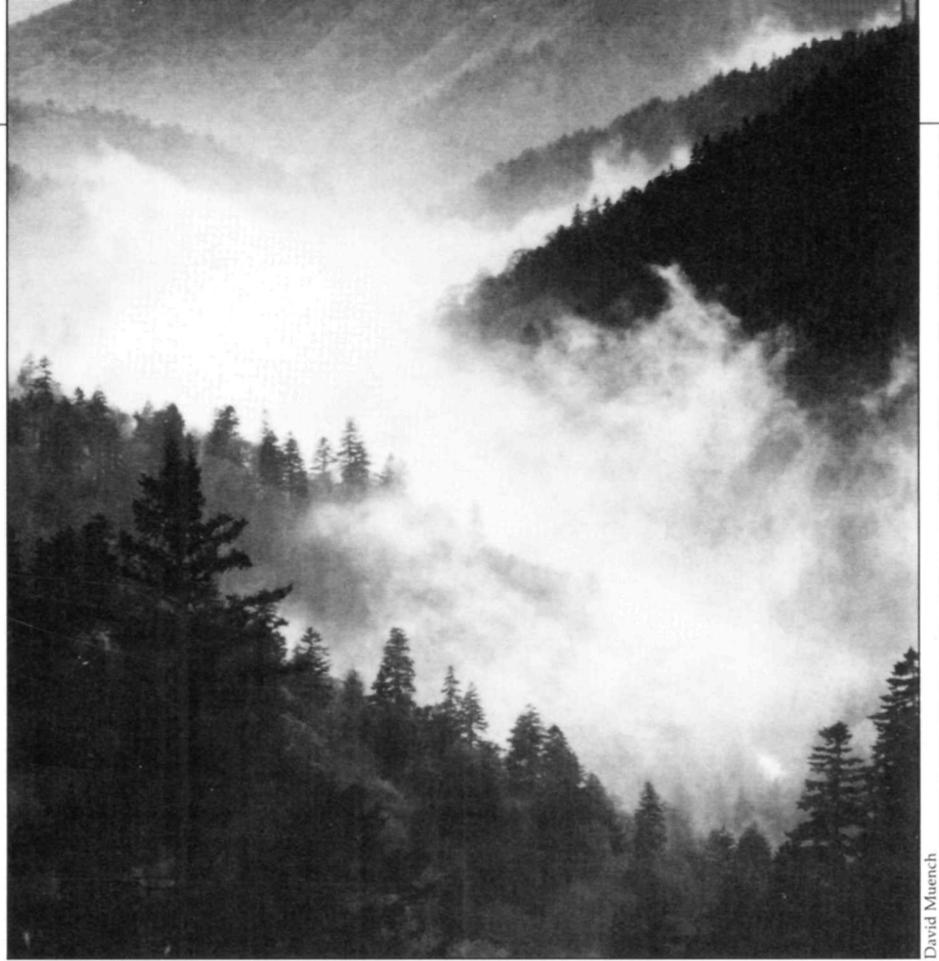
Support for the proposed amendment was strong. NPCA and other environmental groups stressed the importance of federal consistency. This consistency would be achieved by requiring that other federal agencies do not carry out any new activities, such as oil and gas leasing, that are detrimental to park wildlife. Funding for most detrimental new activities will be denied. A biannual "State of the Parks" report would also be required.

Environmentalists testifying at the hearing did suggest alterations to the bill. For example, all environmental groups felt the bill should address cultural and other natural resources as well as wildlife.

NPCA President Paul Pritchard voiced a common sentiment: "It is time we all realize that no park can survive as an island. The integrity of many of our parks' resources is seriously threatened by a myriad of inconsistent federal programs and policies both within and beyond park boundaries."

Chafee's strong commitment to the bill was evident at the hearing. But, because of the brief time left in this Congress and because of the Reagan Administration's opposition to the bill, its chances for passage are uncertain.

—Sonya Zabudoff, NPCA intern



David Muench

Great Smoky Mountains Celebrates Fiftieth Anniversary

Great Smoky Mountains National Park—the most visited park in the system—celebrates its fiftieth birthday this year. Capping a season full of parades, concerts, wildflower festivals, and other special events, will be the November "Man in the Biosphere Conference." The four days of workshops and meetings will explore how people can best preserve and protect those areas of the world that represent the finest, most untouched of nature's many types of ecosystems. NPCA President Paul Pritchard will deliver one of the opening addresses; and the University of Maryland researchers who have been conducting NPCA's carrying capacity study will present their findings.

NPS Acquiring Two Canyons For Santa Monica Mountains

A thaw has occurred in the Administration's opposition to parkland acquisition for Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area.

Recently, the National Park Service began procedures to acquire Zuma and Trancas canyons for Santa Monica Mountains. The agency's ultimate goal is to acquire the complete ecosystems of these two canyons, from steep chaparral slopes to coastal inlets.

During former Secretary Watt's tenure, Santa Monica Mountains headed the list of park system areas opposed by the Interior Department.

Consequently, only a small portion of the 150,000 acres authorized by Congress has been acquired.

This national recreation area's rugged coastal mountains and rocky shores lie within greater Los Angeles and offer the metropolitan area's ten million people a chance to escape to nature in less than an hour. But time is running out as L.A.'s urban sprawl gobbles up more of the Santa Monica Mountains each year.

The National Park Service's move to acquire Zuma and Trancas canyons is a positive step toward securing the future of Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area.

House Adds Funds to LWCF, Bans Some OCS Leasing

On June 19 the House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee marked up the Fiscal Year 1985 budget. With a few exceptions, the subcommittee increased funding levels requested by the Administration.

The subcommittee's most important decision was to provide \$304 million for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), an amount well above the \$167 million requested by the Administration. The LWCF is the major source of funds for parkland acquisition.

Other programs that received increases included historic preservation, rivers and trails, and national landmarks. The Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Program, however, received no funding at all.

This appropriations bill also in-

cludes bans on leasing certain areas of the outer continental shelf off the coasts of Alaska, California, and Massachusetts.

Cougar in Park Study Killed by State Trapper

In June, a New Mexico trapper working for the state killed a mother cougar and her two kits. Two of the cougars had been radio-collared for a National Park Service (NPS) study at Carlsbad Caverns National Park. The killing outraged environmentalists and caused NPS Regional Director Robert Kerr to contact state officials and elicit a promise that state-authorized trappers would not kill any more of the radio-collared cougars.

The unusual aspect of the killing is that the trapper zeroed in on one of the animals' radio-collar frequen-

cies in order to track them down. This highly questionable means of hunting could have ominous implications for other cougars in the Carlsbad Caverns study and for radio-collared animals across the country.

As part of the two-year study of cougar habits and territory, seventeen animals were collared. All but seven have been killed outside park boundaries or have wandered too far afield for the NPS to track by radio.

The state trapper's kill was especially upsetting because it was the first time radio tracking had been used to hunt down cougars and it is unclear how the trapper obtained the radio frequency code. Also, each cougar killed skews the results of the study.

The study, which will continue for an extra year, was initiated because nearby ranchers claimed that park cougars were killing their sheep. Plans had been in the works to hunt down the cougars within park boundaries, but NPCA and other environmentalists successfully worked to block that move.

Park Service and BLM Wrangle Over Grazing Authority

Cattle grazing still takes place in approximately twenty-five units of the National Park System and the effects of this activity at Dinosaur National Monument (below) are obvious. Grazing regulations published by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) earlier this year give ranchers much greater leeway than they had before. The National Park Service (NPS) believes it has the authority it needs to protect its lands from grazing depredations—except at Glen Canyon National Recreation Area. Glen Canyon has become the issue in a territorial conflict between the two Interior Department agencies. The BLM wants to spread out grazing at Glen Canyon and construct water sources; the NPS is holding firm on protections for this area and for other parklands that permit grazing. If the dispute cannot be settled between these agencies, top Interior officials will have the final say.



National Park Service/Barry Ingber

"Ski Yellowstone" Plans Add to Grizzly Threats

Plans for Ski Yellowstone map the 2,900-acre resort's boundaries only twelve miles from the west entrance of Yellowstone National Park. New information on the resort's threat to Yellowstone's grizzly population has prompted the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to conduct an updated study to determine whether Ski Yellowstone would jeopardize critical grizzly habitat.

Bob Anderson, executive director of the Greater Yellowstone Coalition, said, "If the public wants to see grizzly in the greater Yellowstone area, more consideration would have to go to the grizzly than to the ski area."

NPCA concurs. The resort would be too close for comfort, considering the shaky existence of the 200 grizzlies that live in the greater Yellowstone ecosystem.

According to the developers' plans, the resort would draw 3,000 to 6,000 people and would be sited on

News Update

ORVs at Gulf Islands.

In June, Superintendent Frank Pridemore announced that the Perdido Key section of Gulf Islands National Seashore will remain closed indefinitely to off-road vehicles in order to protect the beach. Since August 1981, when the seashore was reopened to ORVs, studies show that the beach width has been reduced by 30 to 60 percent along most of the key and a full 80 to 90 percent near its eastern end.

Redwoods Bypass. In late June a ground-breaking ceremony marked the beginning of construction for the Redwoods park bypass. The twelve-mile, four-lane highway will route logging trucks around the towering groves of trees of Redwoods National Park in northern California. The new highway, which is expected to open in 1989, will substantially reduce traffic accidents that occur between high-speed trucks and the slower-paced vehicles of tourists.

Park Contracts in Question. The House supplemental appropriations bill, which was approved July 2, restricts the National Park Service from accepting any new bids on park jobs from outside contractors until January 30, 1985. NPCA believes A-76—the outside contracting pro-

gram—could unwittingly damage park resources. In addition, the House Appropriations Committee agreed that no FY '85 money can be used to propose additional contracting studies because money for the A-76 program was not requested. Interest is building in Congress to introduce legislation that would ban agencies such as the NPS from the A-76 program.

Bluebird Dam Purchase. Rocky Mountain National Park and the city of Longmont, Colorado, have agreed on a purchase price for the three city dams that lie within Rocky Mountain. The park has offered \$1.9 million to buy out Bluebird, Pear, and Sandbeach dams; and next year's federal budget is expected to include the majority of money needed. Upon final agreement by the National Park Service, all three dams will be breached and the areas will be restored to their natural states.

Black Canyon Add. The Senate Energy Committee approved the bill to enlarge Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument in Colorado. This bill, approved on June 27, would add 6,700 acres to the monument in order to protect the canyon's scenic vistas from a planned vacation home development. H.R. 3825, which was passed recently by the House, is also the bill being considered by the Senate. Congress has to come up with the necessary funds to buy the land or construction will resume this autumn.

1,800 acres of national forest land and 1,100 acres of private land. The plans also call for 493 condominiums, 600 hotel rooms, and 224 private homes, as well as the ski area itself.

Because the grizzly is listed as threatened on the endangered species list, there should be no construction on federal land—in this case, the Gallatin National Forest—that would jeopardize critical grizzly habitat.

In 1977, the area was studied in conjunction with the Ski Yellowstone project and no evidence of grizzly habitation was found. So, the Forest Service gave the project a finding of "no jeopardy."

In January 1984, Wayne Brewster, a Fish and Wildlife endangered species field supervisor, reviewed the 1977 study and again issued a finding of "no jeopardy."

New information documents the existence of four male and three female radio-collared grizzlies in the area, however, and these findings

created a compelling need for a new study. The study is due out this autumn; and then Brewster must decide whether or not the proposed resort would endanger the grizzly according to guidelines laid down by the Endangered Species Act.

Some of the points in the previous "no jeopardy" finding were based on the assumption that the resort's winter visitor use would not overlap with grizzly use of the area. But environmentalist groups are skeptical of that conclusion for two reasons.

First, a complex of Ski Yellowstone's size points to a four-season resort, rather than an area merely for winter use. Second, even if it were only a winter-season resort, conflicts could still arise in the late winter between recreationists, such as snowmobilers and crosscountry skiers, and bears that are just emerging from their dens.

The U.S. Forest Service has already issued a special-use permit, allowing the ski area developers to

construct the resort on federal land. The agency might well resist rescinding that permit even if Brewster decides Ski Yellowstone would jeopardize the grizzly.

If the Forest Service stands by the special-use permit, the agency intends to restrict visitor use of Forest Service lands adjacent to Ski Yellowstone in order to reduce human-grizzly encounters. Restrictions have not always eliminated these confrontations. In addition, the restrictions would be borne by the general public and not by Ski Yellowstone visitors.

As the Yellowstone Coalition's Anderson said, "The general public could be paying for Ski Yellowstone by a loss of their privileges on adjacent public lands."

Not to mention the threats to the grizzly.

To protest further degradation of Yellowstone grizzly habitat, write Forest Supervisor Robert Breazeale, Gallatin National Forest, P.O. Box 130, Bozeman, Montana 59715.

NPS Alaska Rules Ignore Need to Phase Out Cabins

Representative John Seiberling (D-Ohio), chairman of the House Subcommittee on Public Lands and National Parks, held oversight hearings in late June on implementation of the 1980 Alaska Lands Act.

Seiberling scheduled the hearings in order to apply pressure on the Administration to uphold the intent of the act. He and others are disturbed by lax implementation of the act and by some of the National Park Service's proposed regulations concerning parklands in Alaska.

During the three days of hearings, representatives from environmental groups, industry, Alaska native councils, and other organizations testified before the subcommittee. Representative Don Young (R-Alaska) added to an already heated atmosphere by trading opposing viewpoints with Representative Seiberling. Interior Secretary William Clark also attended the hearings, but was noncommittal in his responses to specific issues.

In his testimony, T. Destry Jarvis, NPCA vice president for conservation policy, raised several concerns about how the NPS was carrying out the intentions of the Alaska Lands Act. Jarvis especially objected to the inappropriateness and illegality of the proposed cabin regulations. He stated:

"The draft cabin regulations are so outrageously bad in numerous respects that they constitute the single

strongest adverse threat to primitive parklands in Alaska."

The proposed regulations would give cabin occupants—many of whom originally built their cabins in trespass—some of the same property rights that private property owners have on inholdings in national parks of the Lower Forty-eight. The regulations also would encourage more trapping in the national parks of Alaska and would facilitate construction of new cabins by concessioners, trappers, and miners. Further, the regulations would make it extremely difficult to phase out private cabins in these parks.

Jarvis also said that "unless proposed cabin regulations are radically altered, cabin occupancy, construction, and use in national parks will become an open-ended blight on the integrity of these national treasures."

NPCA's other concerns include

- general management plans that are behind schedule and, in some cases, fail to address problems;
- the memorandum of understanding between the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the NPS, which gives management of park wildlife to the state agency;
- a proposition by the Alaska Land Use Council that would allow mining to proceed indefinitely in the Kantishna Hills and Dunkle areas of Denali National Park; and,
- the proposed transportation corridor across Cape Krusenstern National Monument.

—Susan Chaffin, NPCA intern

These cabins in Wrangell-St. Elias National Park, Alaska, were built "in trespass" during the 1960s by a commercial hunting guide.



National Park Service

Mounting Evidence Confirms Extent of Acid Rain Damage

This year is a banner year for acid rain research but not for acid rain control. In June, three major reports were released that all point to the need for greater acid rain controls.

Acid Rain in the South, published by the National Clean Air Coalition and the Friends of the Earth Foundation, analyzed more than 140 scientific studies. The report found that acid rain is a threat to human and natural resources. The same pattern of acidification that has led to major resource damage in the Northeast is present in the South.

"Southern rainfall is already as acid as in the North and natural buffers, which prevent most damage, are being exhausted at a rate that surprised researchers," the report concluded.

The Congressional Office of Technology Assessment released *Acid Rain and Transported Air Pollutants: Implications for Public Policy*, which concludes that "acid rain, ozone, and fine particles, such as airborne sulfate, are endangering U.S. resources. These air pollutants have harmed lakes and streams, lowered crop yields, damaged manmade materials, decreased visibility, and may be threatening forests and even human health."

The third annual report from the *National Acid Precipitation Assessment Program* confirmed startling news. The report of this interagency group, which unites twelve federal agencies, details the decline of some species of trees and plants during the last twenty to thirty years. "Extensive dieback and decline of red spruce has occurred in some high-elevation forests of New England, resulting in up to 60 percent mortality in some stands."

The report also put to rest the debate over the relationship between emissions and deposition. It is now agreed that a 50 percent decrease in sulfur dioxide emissions will result in a 50 percent reduction in deposition of sulfur compounds, which cause acid rain damage.

These reports add to the volumes of information on the causes and ef-

fects of acid rain. Reports by both the National Academy of Sciences and the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy agree that action to reduce emissions is needed now. President Reagan's own science panel warned if we "wait until the scientific knowledge is definitive, the accumulated deposition and damaged environment may reach the point of 'irreversibility.'"

President Reagan turns a deaf ear to his advisors, asking only for more research, and continues to resist any action to control acid rain. The EPA also fails to use its existing authority to enforce clean-air regulations.

Several environmental groups and a coalition of northeastern states, including New York, have sued EPA Administrator William Ruckelshaus for his failure to enforce laws governing interstate pollution.

Although the lawsuit will not solve all acid rain problems, environmentalists say it is a necessary response to the Reagan Administration's lack of interest in combating acid rain.

Congress Tackles Dozens Of State Wilderness Bills

The recent resolution by Congress of a five-year controversy over wilderness has set loose a flood of state wilderness bills in the House and Senate. If these bills are passed, the present administration could sign into law more wilderness than any other in recent history.

The sticking point in the wilderness controversy had been the amount of time allowed before an area could be reconsidered for wilderness designation. Almost immediately after the agreement was reached, a flurry of bills was reported by the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee. A number of other state wilderness bills—including Alabama, Florida, Pennsylvania, Texas, Tennessee, and Utah—are awaiting committee action at this writing.

Almost half the states, from Virginia to California, have wilderness bills currently pending in Congress. NPCA is particularly interested in

Decision on Nuke Dump At Canyonlands Close

The day is drawing close for a decision on the site of a high-level nuclear waste dump, and Canyonlands is high in the running. The dump, whose wastes will remain hazardous to humans for thousands of years, will hold its radioactive burden in vast underground caverns.

If the Utah site is chosen, the dump would lie less than one mile from the boundary of Canyonlands National Park; and its associated drilling, excavating, roads, and a haul railroad would spread over the landscape. The Department of Energy (DOE) is scheduled to issue its draft environmental assessments on all nine potential sites in mid-September. Of the nine sites, DOE will nominate five; Canyonlands is likely to be one of those nominated.

Environmentalists had hoped that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission would have required stricter scientific site selection guidelines. The Commission agreed to the DOE's less-than-strict guidelines, however, and site selection continues.

According to law, by January 1, 1985, the DOE must recommend three of the nominated sites for the next phase—a massive program to test geologic and environmental suitability. A crucial concern at Canyonlands is whether or not radioactive waste could leak from the underground caverns into the Colorado River, only eleven miles away.

As part of the four- to seven-year test program, the DOE would excavate two 3,000-foot-deep shafts,

those bills that would designate wilderness in and adjacent to units of the National Park System.

In late June, President Reagan signed into law the Oregon wilderness bill, which contains two large areas adjacent to Crater Lake National Park. An even greater victory was the signing of the Washington wilderness bill on July 3. This bill contains wilderness areas adjacent to Olympic, Mount Rainier, and North Cascades national parks as well as other areas in the state.



O.F. Oldendorph

If the nuke dump is built, a mile-square industrial complex would crowd the rock formations of Canyonlands.

forty 2,500-foot-deep boreholes, and about 800 shallower boreholes. The number of construction workers needed could people a fair-sized town. Later, if Canyonlands is finally confirmed as *the* site, a mile-square industrial complex, heavy equipment, and all-night floodlights would create a view to shatter any sense of solitude and wonder in Canyonlands National Park.

This is the public's last chance to demand that the Canyonlands site be dropped from consideration. Comments are essential. Send comments to Secretary of Energy Donald Hodel, Forrestal Bldg., Independence Ave., Washington, D.C. 20585—and send copies to your senators and representative.

Passage of the California wilderness bill would designate 1.8 million acres of national forest wilderness in California, and an additional 1.4 million acres inside Yosemite and Sequoia/Kings Canyon national parks. Although the California bill was passed by the House in early 1983, it has not been acted on by the Senate. A recent compromise between California senators Alan Cranston and Pete Wilson may pave the way for passage of this bill in the Senate.



National Park Service

Lincoln's death bed, in Peterson House, is part of the National Park Service's enormous museum-quality collection.

Museum Group Focuses Interest on Millions of Park Artifacts

It has been said that the National Park Service's collection of artifacts is second only to that of the Smithsonian Institution. Yet, these millions of historic and prehistoric objects have not received the kind of protections that should be accorded a collection of this size.

Although the NPS has a wealth of museum-quality possessions, the notion of promoting museum accreditation and maintaining a true curatorial staff has been a low priority. A June 10 meeting of the American Association of Museums (AAM)

may change that status and afford greater recognition and protections for the historical and archeological remnants of our past.

At the meeting, Chief NPS Curator Ann Hitchcock organized a group to pursue the following:

- draw more park employees into the AAM—and thus increase their professional status—by broadening the AAM's focus to include more national park-related issues;
- work to accredit museums within national park areas;
- establish a network so that park

curators can share potential problems with museum professionals across the country;

- promote and present NPS museum-quality collections for the education and pleasure of park visitors.

Laura Beaty, NPCA's coordinator for cultural resource programs, attended the AAM meeting and encouraged the formation of the park-interest group. She said the parks need a way of building a strong and educated constituency for the millions of artifacts in the NPS collection.

Beaty also pointed out that although greater recognition for these cultural resources is needed, the idea is not new. In 1924, the AAM established a parks committee, which led to the building of museums in Yosemite, Grand Canyon, and Yellowstone national parks. Although the earlier committee was abolished in 1970, NPCA believes this reincarnation will once again focus needed attention on objects of our heritage.

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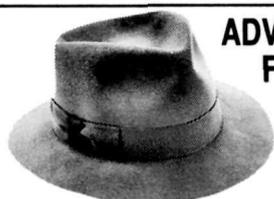
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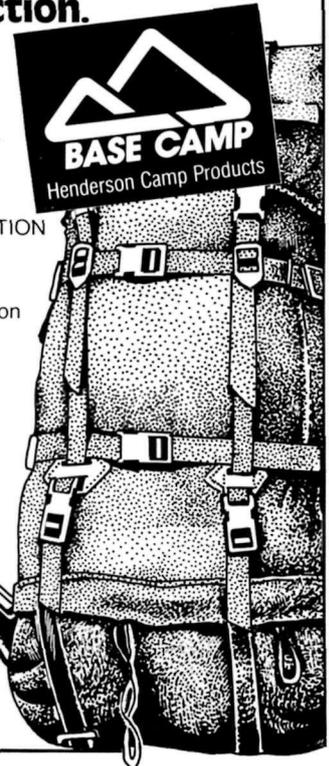
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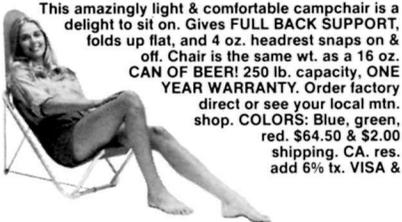


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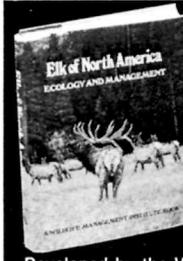
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The Latest Word

HOUSE RELEASES PARK SERVICE FROM CONTRACTING MORASS

The House
Interior
Committee

has made substantial progress in clearing up the controversy over the park contracting program. On July 31, the full committee approved an amendment that exempts the National Park Service, the Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Bureau of Land Management from the A-76 program to contract out work to nongovernmental firms. Outside firms may not consider resource protection as their foremost goal in getting the job done; and they could harm park wildlife, historic structures, and the like.

Representative Beverly Byron (D-Md.) sponsored this amendment to the Volunteers in the Parks bill. The advantage in this amendment is that the Volunteers bill has already passed the Senate.

On the same day, representatives Richard Cheney (R-Wyo.), John Seiberling (D-Ohio), Pat Williams (D-Mont.), and Jim Moody (D-Wis.) introduced a House bill that would effect the same exemptions as Byron's amendment. An identical bill was introduced in the Senate by Senator Max Baucus (D-Mont.).

NPS DISCOVERY PROVIDES CLUE TO BATTLE OF NEW ORLEANS

Recent discoveries at
Chalmette

National Historical Park--the site of the Battle of New Orleans--reveal a battlefield different from the present reconstruction. During a preliminary test excavation for a new visitor center, National Park Service (NPS) archeologist Tom Birke-dal found the remains of the Rodriguez House, which was assumed to be buried in the mud of the Mississippi River.

Until this discovery, the NPS had based its mid-1960s reconstruction of the battlefield on the assumption that the river had consumed 500 feet of the battle site.

"What makes the discovery so exciting," says Linda Canzerelli, manager of the Chalmette unit, which is part of Jean Lafitte National Historical Park, "is that the Rodriguez House is the benchmark on all the old maps. From this [discovery] we

can now accurately place all of Jackson's gun batteries."

One of these batteries--gun battery three--was also discovered near the house with part of its wooden rampart still intact. The new positions of these batteries challenge the long-held opinion that General Andrew Jackson's defense of New Orleans and his victory over crack British troops was a haphazard operation. Instead, Jackson's placement of his guns demonstrates a disciplined military strategy.

The NPS does not plan to alter its present reconstruction of the battlefield, but it will add new wayside markers indicating the actual locations of the batteries. No decision has been made as to how much of the Rodriguez House will be restored beyond marking the corner points of the foundation.

--Kimber Craine

NPCA HELPS LAUNCH ACID RAIN CONTROL DRIVE

NPCA and several
other environ-
mental organiza-

tions have launched a major drive to mobilize public pressure for acid rain control legislation. Public opinion supports action to stop the pollution that causes acid rain, but citizens must send a more direct message to their senators and representatives.

The "Stop Acid Rain" postcards that NPCA and others are distributing will be delivered to Congress and to the President. They are the best way to voice your opposition to the acid rain that threatens our lakes, forests, and visibility all across the country. Public pressure can cut through the congressional stalemate and the President's opposition to acid rain controls.

To get involved in this vital effort, write NPCA Stop Acid Rain Campaign, 1701 18th St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20009. We can send you postcards, suggestions for distributing them, and a description of other Stop Acid Rain materials.

GRAVE OPENING PROMPTS NPS TO PURCHASE LAND AT MANASSAS

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Manassas National Battlefield Park is the most important historical site within the park's 1980 boundary expansion. But the

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farm has not been acquired, and park officials are afraid that if the 312-acre site is not purchased soon, more and more invaluable objects will be taken by artifact hunters.

To avoid any more destruction, the park has recommended a Declaration of Taking--an immediate acquisition of the parcel, which requires the approval of the Interior Department and congressional committees. The majority of heirs are willing to sell the farm, which has been in agricultural use and has been owned by the same family since 1890. The purchase price is the main bone of contention.

Declarations of Taking are not often used by the National Park Service, but the Brawner Farm meets the requirements. The site is in immediate danger from artifact hunters. Because no one lives on the land and, thus, no one manages it, people with metal detectors have carried off many historical objects.

The Civil War's Second Battle of Manassas began at the Brawner Farm and Park Superintendent Rolland Swain said, "The farm remains much as it was at the time of the battle."

Swain also said, "We decided to initiate the most rapid acquisition we could," after the park learned of a grave robbing on the farm. Someone with a metal detector picked up a reading from the metal buttons on a body in a shallow grave. Apparently the soldier had been from the Confederacy because the metal buttons, which are quite valuable, indicated his affiliation with the Virginia Military Institute.

Also found on the farm were a number of friction primers. These were used to fire the cannons and were dropped beside each gun during the height of battle. Because a cooperative person pointed out the location of the primers and the cannons, park managers are now able to determine the exact positions of this line of fire during the critical third day of the August 1862 battle.

PLAN FOR RECREATION PANEL
MOVES CLOSER TO APPROVAL

On August 2,
the House
Subcommittee

on National Parks and Public Lands held its third and final hearing on the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission

(ORRRC). Several people representing governors across the country testified at this third hearing. Like those testifying at previous hearings, the governors' representatives generally favored creating a new outdoor recreation commission.

The Senate has already passed its version of the bill, and now ORRRC awaits markup by the House subcommittee.

FAA HOLDS UP A SOLUTION
FOR OVERFLIGHT PROBLEMS

The National
Park Service
(NPS) and the

Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) had drafted a memorandum of understanding to reduce airplane flight disturbances over national parks. Although the memorandum only establishes guidelines instead of mandatory restrictions, it would help reduce disruptions--sonic booms, near-collisions, disturbances to visitors--caused by overflights. That agreement has hit a snag.

Interior Secretary William Clark signed the memorandum and sent it to the FAA. The FAA, however, has decided that it now wants to modify the language of the memo. Secretary Clark's office is unhappy with this unnecessary hold up.

The Interior Department reportedly has requested that the FAA either sign off on the memorandum or reject it, rather than delay the agreement. NPCA sees this inter-agency skirmish as yet another example of the need for cooperation among government agencies in protecting park resources.

The memorandum includes guidelines for pilots; advises a 2,000-foot flight-free airspace over parks; and recommends training NPS rangers to identify aircraft and altitude designations in order to spot offenders.

HOUSE AND SENATE TACKLE
NPS FUNDING FOR 1985

The National
Park Service
(NPS) budget for

1985 has begun to take shape in Congress. In late June, the House Appropriations Committee passed its version of the budget, making significant additions to the Administration's funding for the NPS.

The committee added \$75 million for state Land and Water Conservation Fund monies--on top of the \$30 million already added for NPS acquisitions in the 1984

supplemental appropriations bill.

Two significant amendments were also added to the committee's budget proposal. One requires that all A-76 studies of private contracting be justified in a budget document and approved before money is spent. The second forbids any further exchanges of national park and wildlife refuge lands in Alaska unless specifically authorized by the Alaska Lands Act.

The Senate Appropriations Committee's initial action on the House proposal cut about \$25 million from the acquisition fund. The most notable project affected by this cut would be Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area (NRA), which receives no funding by the Senate.

The Senate also eliminated certain construction projects favored by the House and replaced them with Senate-backed projects, such as the plan to pave Burr Trail through Glen Canyon NRA and Capitol Reef National Park.

In addition, the Senate deleted House language that limits the use of A-76 and forbids exchanges of Alaska parklands unless specifically authorized. But, as of this writing, substitute A-76 language is being considered for possible addition on the Senate floor.

The next step is for the House and Senate committees to work out the final details of the 1985 NPS budget in conference. --Kimber Craine

<u>CAPE HATTERAS JETTY PLAN</u>	The Army
<u>NEARS HOUSE, SENATE FLOORS</u>	Corps of Engineers

will take over lands from Cape Hatteras National Seashore and Pea Island Wildlife Refuge for a \$100-million jetty project if bills now nearing House and Senate floors are not stopped. Besides the ecological damage and aesthetic degradation caused by these two mile-long jetties at Oregon Inlet, the costs in maintaining this fifty-year project could reach as much as \$600 million.

Project proponents claim the jetties would provide massive economic benefits. Yet, in 1982 the Assistant Secretary of the Army agreed with an analysis that found fundamental errors in the project's economic justification. The new economic analysis has been due since March 1983.

Jetty backers also argue that the current channel at Oregon Inlet is unsafe, citing the eight or nine deaths that have occurred during the past fifteen years. When a comprehensive review of Coast Guard records was conducted, however, a researcher found that human error and defective equipment were major causes of the deaths.

In addition to all the evidence against building the jetties, channel clearing with a modern hopper dredge has produced excellent results. Use of this new equipment could obviate the need for the questionable jetty project and would save the U.S. taxpayer a lot of money.

<u>TAR SANDS PLAN WOULD SPREAD DEVELOPMENT OVER UTAH LANDS</u>	The Environmental Impact
--	--------------------------

Statement (EIS) for a tar sands proposal has just been released, and the plans would affect at least two park units in Utah. If approved, the plan could violate the law for air standards in both Glen Canyon National Recreation Area and Canyonlands National Park.

Basically, a number of companies want to convert oil and gas leases to tar sands leases. They plan to use a steam-injection process to extract tar sands, a potentially marketable fossil fuel.

Approximately one-half of the proposed 66,040-acre site is in Glen Canyon NRA and two-thirds of the remaining acreage is in a BLM wilderness study area. Part of the site would lie only three miles from the Maze in Canyonlands.

According to the EIS, full-scale production would include 1,000 production wells and 940 steam-injection wells. New wells would be dug as old ones dried up during the 160-year life of the project. Ancillary facilities would include a steam turbine, coking facilities, a sulphur recovery plant, and a water treatment plant, among others. In addition, the Flint Trail, which provides access to the Maze, would be paved and the EIS notes that bridges may be built over major canyons.

Voice opposition to the tar sands plan, and write Robert Kasperek, NPS, Rocky Mountain Region, Box 25287, Denver, Colorado 80225. Comments are due to the NPS by October 16.

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