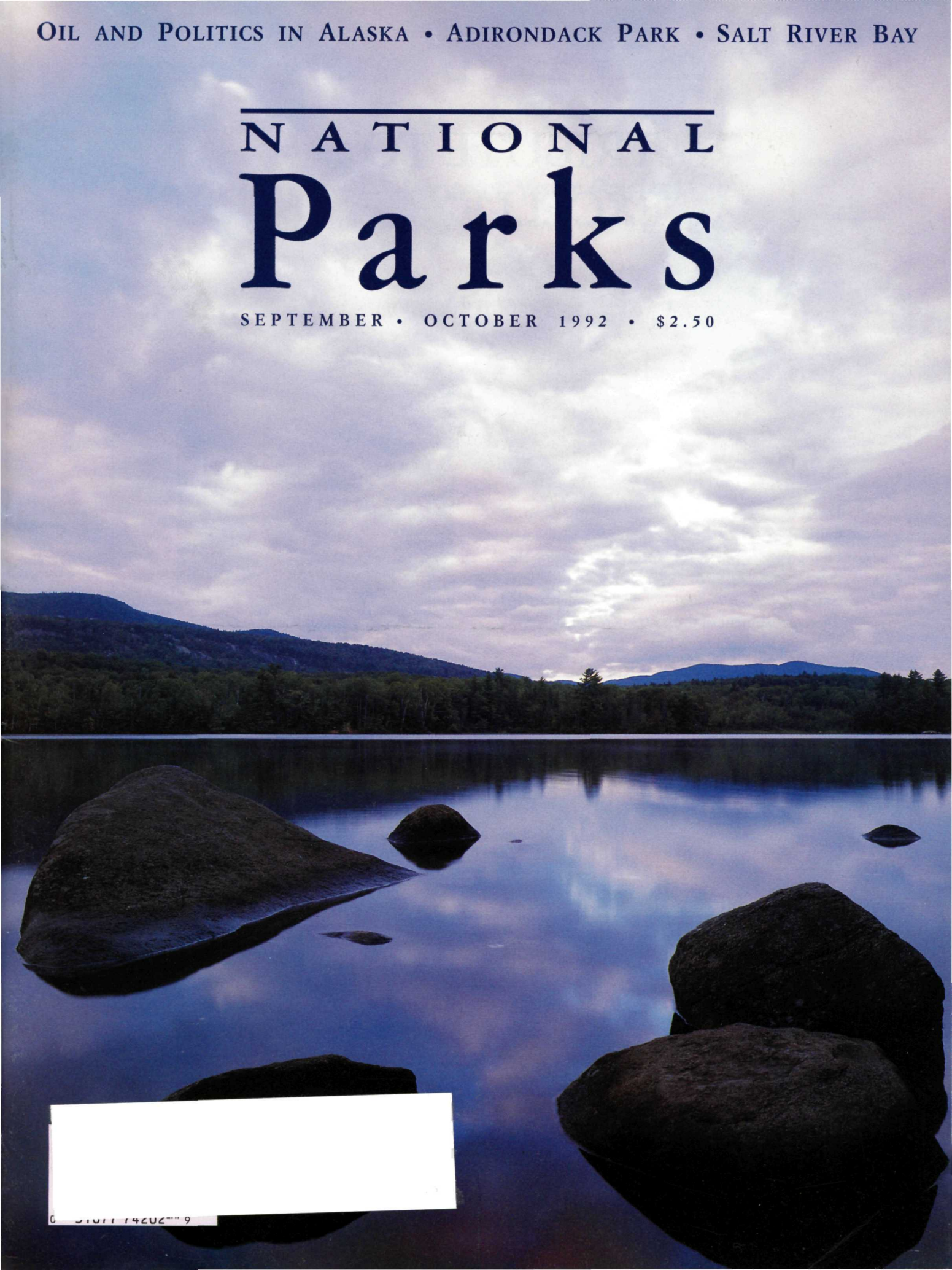
OIL AND POLITICS IN ALASKA • ADIRONDACK PARK • SALT RIVER BAY

NATIONAL Parks

SEPTEMBER • OCTOBER 1992 • $2.50



TRIBUTE TO EXCELLENCE

Marjory Stoneman Douglas Award

Presented by NPCA and the Faultless Starch/Bon Ami Co., this award recognizes outstanding efforts resulting in protection of a unit or a proposed unit of the National Park System. The award is named in honor of Marjory Stoneman Douglas, who devoted many years to preserving the fragile ecosystem of the Florida Everglades.

Isaac C. "Ike" Eastvold, the 1991 recipient, is founder and president of Friends of the Albuquerque Petroglyphs, a group dedicated to preventing the destruction of ancient rock art on a 17-mile-long escarpment near Albuquerque. His leadership led to the establishment of the 7,669-acre Petroglyph National Monument in June 1990.

Isaac C. "Ike" Eastvold

Stephen Tyng Mather Award

The Stephen Tyng Mather Award, named for the first director of the National Park Service, is presented by NPCA and the Faultless Starch/Bon Ami Co. in recognition of a Park Service employee who has risked his or her job or career for the principles and practices of good stewardship.

The 1991 recipient is **Christine L. Shaver**, chief of the Policy, Planning, and Permit Review Branch of NPS's Air Quality Division. Over the past several years, she has taken direct action to remedy sources of air pollution affecting national parks—most notably the Grand Canyon, where she helped secure emission limitations on a nearby power plant.

Christine L. Shaver

The Faultless Starch/Bon Ami Company wishes to congratulate the recipients of these awards and thank them for the excellent contribution they have made to the protection of our environment.

The Faultless Starch/Bon Ami Company has actively supported the efforts of organizations such as NPCA for more than 100 years and will continue to work toward the goal of preserving our natural resources for future generations.

GARY RANDORF

Moose in Adirondack Park, p. 36

EDITOR'S NOTE

Wondering why *National Parks* features a state park in this issue? We admit it's unusual, but then so is New York's Adirondack Park. At just under 6 million acres, the park is larger than any national park in the lower 48 and is undoubtedly a national treasure, regardless of what entity owns or manages it. And as the Adirondack Park celebrates its centennial this year, it faces many of the same problems and challenges confronted by our national parks. Developers are closing in on the park's boundaries, the "wise use" movement is pushing for abolishment of land-use controls on the private holdings, and funds for state acquisition of new parcels are not being appropriated. Like the national parks, the Adirondack Park is in trouble and needs our help.

NATIONAL PARKS

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NATIONAL Parks

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Vol. 66, No. 9–10
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Paul C. Pritchard, Publisher

OUTLOOK

FEATURES

DEPARTMENTS

Cover: *Adirondack Park, New York, by Carr Clifton. The 6-million-acre Adirondack Park is a mosaic of mountains, lakes, and forests.*

Established in 1919, the National Parks and 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.

Life memberships are $1,000. Annual memberships: $250 Guarantor, $100 Supporter, $50 Defender, $35 Contributor, $25 Active, $22 Library, and $18 Student. Of membership dues, $7 covers a one-year subscription to *National Parks.* Dues and donations are deductible from federal taxable incomes; gifts and bequests are deductible for federal gift and estate tax purposes. Mail membership dues, contributions, and correspondence to NPCA, 1776 Mass. Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20036. When changing address, please allow six weeks' advance notice and send address label from your latest issue plus your new address.

An Open Letter

DEAR PRESIDENT BUSH AND GOVERNOR CLINTON:

In my travels across the country, I have found that there is a growing frustration reflected in the spirit of the American people. This frustration stems from the fact that conflict management—with all the public confrontation, costly and time-consuming lawsuits, and general lack of progress—is assumed to be the only way to achieve results that are in the nation's best interest.

The environment is a good case in point. The health of our planet is a concern that all of us—from all economic strata, ethnic origins, regions of the country—share equally. Yet there seems to be more and more conflict about the importance and the relevance of the environment as part of economic, social, and even defense policy.

During the past few years, environmental degradation has been cast as the price we must pay for economic growth; environmental well-being is seen as a frivolous benefit that should be enjoyed only when we can spare the funds. The conflict occurs when we must choose between jobs and the environment.

But Americans don't want to have to make that choice—they want both and believe that public leaders should find the way to protect both. As Kenny Loggins sings on my daughter's radio, *"It's been too many years of taking now/Isn't it time to stop somehow?/Air that's too angry to breathe/Water our children can't drink.../Do you care enough/Where's your Conviction of the Heart?"*

During this important period in which you will outline your positions on the issues this nation faces, I urge you to see the environment not as a source of conflict but as a part of the solution to conflict. Go beyond one-dimensional thinking that concludes we have to have jobs or a healthy environment, and one at the expense of the other.

I believe that the alternative to the "crisis management" way America does things now is formulation of a good business plan. No one can borrow from an investor or carry out a successful enterprise without one.

We as a nation have a proven track record in the art and science of managing the environment but need a plan to achieve success. Such a business plan would require a clear voice from the nation's leader that the environment is part of the path to a productive nation and an efficient economy. America needs a leader who views the environment as a vital element of our quality of life, be it clear air to breathe, clean water to drink, or national parks to enjoy.

We wish you well in your efforts and look forward to assisting you in any way possible in renewing America's commitment to the environment—its "conviction of the heart."

Sincerely,

"Winter Colors: Ring-Necked Pheasant"
In full color on fine china;
rimmed in 22-karat gold
Shown smaller than actual
diameter of 8½ inches

The regal pheasant in an award-winning portrait... a Bradford Exchange recommendation

The golden remains of the wheat harvest rise above the pristine white drifts on this frosty winter morning. This is the realm of the regal ring-necked pheasant, who strides across the fields in all his feathered glory.

"Winter Colors: Ring-Necked Pheasant" re-creates the award-winning art of Darrell Bush on a fine-china collector's plate. And, like exceptional plates that command hundreds of dollars on the plate market, "Winter Colors: Ring-Necked Pheasant" appears to have what it takes to go up in value once the edition closes.

Not every plate goes up in value; some go down. But the edition of "Winter Colors: Ring-Necked Pheasant" is strictly limited to a maximum of 150 firing days, and demand is expected to be strong. So, if you wish to obtain this plate at the $39.50 issue price, the time to act is now. To order your plate – fully backed by our 365-day unconditional guarantee – send no money now, simply complete and mail the coupon at right.

 PHB-524

Order Form for "Winter Colors: Ring-Necked Pheasant"

The Bradford Exchange
9345 Milwaukee Avenue
Chicago, IL 60648

Please respond by: October 31, 1992

Please enter my order for "Winter Colors: Ring-Necked Pheasant." I understand I need SEND NO MONEY NOW. I will be billed $39.50* when my plate is shipped. *Limit: one plate per customer.*

X _____
Signature

_____ (____)
Name (Please Print) Telephone

_____
Address

_____
City State Zip

*Plus a total of $3.49 postage and handling, and sales tax where applicable.
The plate price in Canada is $44.50. Pending credit approval. 7511-E26391

LETTERS

Desert Shield

For the first time in my life, I am compelled to write how impressed I am with a cover of a magazine. The May/June 1992 issue is stunning. As one who greatly respects the desert, I appreciate your support by providing information about the desert to the many who have not been able to experience it. We can't do enough at this time to protect and preserve the desert, though your article helps tremendously. Thank you.

Sheila Anglese
Stockton, CA

I am grateful for your courageous stand on Senate bill 21 to protect wildlife in our national parks. It must be passed without the Marlenee amendment, which would allow hunting in the proposed Mojave National Monument and open the door to the desecration of wildlife in others.

Non-hunters represent more than 90 percent of this country's population. Most citizens are not aware that the 10 percent hunting minority, together with the notorious National Rifle Association, has maneuvered hunting and trapping privileges in more than half of this nation's federal wildlife refuges. Sport hunters kill trophy animals, the prime breeding stock—not the sick and weak, as do natural predators. They are the worst kind of wildlife managers. It's time for those of us who prefer our wildlife alive and our environment safe to raise our voices and get out our pens to write to our senators.

Chris Anderlik
Empire, MI

Write On

One feature of your magazine that I always look for is the "Readers can send letters to..." section at the end of your articles dealing with important issues. Writing to officials and legislators is vitally important, and the timing of such correspondence can significantly affect the impact of a letter. For this reason, I have assumed that, when you don't include this comment after an article, the timing isn't right. I strongly encourage you to include your letters comment on every article where you feel we [readers] can have an impact.

Glen Simmonds
Hampstead, NC

When we suggest that readers write to their members of Congress, the Interior Department, etc., we do so because those are the cases in which we think letters would be the most timely and important. The idea is to channel our members' efforts in what we believe will be the most effective way. However, if any topic discussed in the magazine motivates you, please write. It certainly can't hurt, and it may well help.

—the Editors

Support System

We need to keep strong support in the park system through our park rangers. More is being asked of them, but there is less support monetarily. Parks will not survive without adequate staffing.

Laura McGowan
Albuquerque, NM

Write: Letters, NPCA, 1776 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20036. Please include address and phone for verification. Or call 1-900-835-6344. Callers will be charged 89 cents a minute. Instructions will be given at the time of call. All calls and letters may be edited for length and clarity.

Corrections

In the May/June 1992 issue, the article "America's Rainforests" should have stated that moss thrives in the rainforest as the ecosystem develops; that Glacier Bay's forest has fewer decaying trees than other Southeast Alaska forests; and that pigs were brought centuries ago to Hawaii by Polynesians.

Individually numbered by hand with 24 karat gold.

Plate shown smaller than actual size of 8" (20.32 cm) in diameter.

HEIRLOOM · THE FRANKLIN MINT · RECOMMENDATION

International Wildlife Coalition presents an original work in fine porcelain by award-winning artist Ed Bierly.

A sun-drenched glade in the forest. A mother doe lovingly nuzzles her fawns. A tender moment seen only by those who understand that man is merely a guest here, for these woods belong to the animals. No organization understands this better than the International Wildlife Coalition; no artist expresses it more beautifully than Ed Bierly.

Now all the wonder of woodland life is portrayed by that award-winning artist in his collector plate, "Happy Hour." Crafted of fine porcelain, hand-numbered and bordered with *24 karat gold,* this superb collector plate bears the artist's signature mark on its reverse side.

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A Limited Edition Collector Plate.
Hand-Numbered and Bordered in 24 Karat Gold.

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Franklin Center, PA 19091-0001

Please mail by October 31, 1992.

Please enter my order for Happy Hour by Ed Bierly. I need SEND NO MONEY NOW. I will be billed $29.50* when my plate is shipped. *Limit: one plate per collector.*

**Plus my state sales tax and $2.95 for shipping and handling.*

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MR/MRS/MISS _____
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N • P • C • A
NEWS

New Evidence Out in Yellowstone Probe

Last fall a former National Park Service regional director charged the administration had altered behind the scenes a major NPS plan concerning Yellowstone National Park. Documents were released in late July that add support to those allegations.

The congressional subcommittee investigating the case has obtained internal Department of Interior memos that contradict Interior officials' denials of involvement. The subcommittee is also examining the involuntary transfer of the NPS official, former Rocky Mountain Regional Director Lorraine Mintzmyer.

"This is not a new story," NPCA President Paul Pritchard said at an NPCA press conference July 22, the day after the documents were featured on the news program *Dateline NBC*. "We believe this is a long-term issue that has affected and infected the National Park Service...the intrusion on good management by politics."

The House of Representatives subcommittee on civil service held a September 1991 hearing at which Mintzmyer appeared under subpoena and testified there had been extensive behind-the-scenes political interference in the NPS *Vision for the Future* plan.

The plan was a landmark cooperation between NPS and the Forest Service, which manages six national forests surrounding Yellowstone. Its goal was to allow for economic uses of the area but still "maintain ecosystem integrity."

A draft, released in August 1990, was criticized by Yellowstone-area legislators and commodity groups. Representatives of the groups and Sen. Alan Simpson (R-Wyo.) met October 4, 1990, with S. Scott Sewell, then Interior's deputy assistant secretary for fish, wildlife, and parks, about the plan. Sewell is now head of Interior's Minerals Management Service.

In September 1991, a final version of the plan was released. It had been cut from 60 to 11 pages, and recommendations were weakened or deleted.

LARRY ULRICH

Documents released this summer suggest the administration altered a plan meant to protect Yellowstone's hot springs and other wonders.

Mintzmyer testified that Sewell told her on October 5, 1990, that he had talked to White House Chief of Staff John Sununu. "He stated that Mr. Sununu told him...the Vision document was a 'disaster' and must be rewritten," Mintzmyer said. "Mr. Sewell made it clear he 'had been delegated by the department' to retain the appearance the document was the product of professional and scientific efforts...but that the reality would be that the document would be revised based on these strictly political concerns...that it was he who would ultimately control and revise all content." The White House and Interior have said Sununu and Sewell had no such conversation.

According to a June letter from the subcommittee to Secretary of the Interior Manuel Lujan, Sewell has asserted under oath that he first saw the revisions to the draft in June 1991 and that he made only two changes, stiffening air quality standards and shifting public meetings on the plan to the park area.

But the subcommittee said it had "uncovered striking inconsistencies" between his statements and other evidence. It cites several documents suggesting Sewell took a lead role in revising the plan as early as the fall of 1990.

A note written November 14, 1990, by an Interior official states that she and others had revised the document "to incorporate comments received so far, and in response to Scott's meeting

with Sens. Simpson, [Malcolm] Wallop [R-Wyo.], and commodities groups. Scott is now reviewing this."

Sewell met with Forest Service officials January 31, 1991, on the plan, according to another memo. The cover of one Interior Department copy of the plan bears the note, "returned with Sewell changes 3/20/91." A May 28, 1991, Forest Service computer message describes Sewell as "their [the Park Service's] Dept. contact" for the document.

The subcommittee asked Lujan for an explanation of the inconsistencies and for copies of the plan to which the memos refer but which Interior has not provided. The letter was signed by subcommittee chair Rep. Gerry Sikorski (D-Minn.) and Rep. Constance Morella (R-Md.).

Sikorski has accused Interior of hindering the investigation. "However, we firmly believe that in the long run it will be impossible for the department to cover all of its written and verbal trails and the truth will win out," he said.

At the press conference, Mintzmyer's lawyer, Carl Hartmann, stated that the evidence indicates "a very sophisticated operation...to take this document out and to cover up." Park Service Director James Ridenour, who attended, said Hartmann was "way out of line, way off base."

Interior spokesman Bob Walker called the release of documents to the media "trial by press release." He said, "It's a little difficult sometimes to go back and vacuum up every piece of paper...but we've certainly made a good faith effort."

Mintzmyer and Howard Chapman, former NPS western regional director, appeared at the press conference and called for making the Park Service an independent agency. They also recommended reform of the Senior Executive Service to make upper-level NPS personnel less vulnerable to political pressure. Pritchard called independence "crucial...in getting the Park Service out from under the immense pressures that work against it in Interior."

A week later, Rep. Bruce Vento (D-Minn.), chair of the House subcommittee on national parks, introduced a bill to give the National Park Service a much greater degree of autonomy without completely severing it from Interior.

Park May Be Opened to Commercial Fishing

Members of Congress from Alaska are campaigning this year to open Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve to commercial and subsistence fishing and to a major increase in cruise ship traffic.

While the cruise ship measure seems to be stalled for now, the other provisions are moving forward. NPCA is fighting against their passage. "National parks are not for extractive, consumptive, commercial uses," said Mary Grisco, NPCA Alaska regional director.

At present, illegal commercial fishing takes place in the park, as does subsistence gathering and fishing. The Park Service has proposed regulations banning subsistence fishing, as well as barring commercial fishing in the 9 percent of the park's waters designated as wilderness. It would sanction commercial fishing in the rest until 1998, while it carries out studies on the effects. The regulations are held up in the administration's regulatory moratorium.

NPS is also working on a plan, due out in draft form in November, to manage cruise ship traffic in the bay. There has been a long-running debate over the effects of cruise ship and other boat traffic on the endangered humpback whales that feed in Glacier Bay.

ART WOLFE

The effects of cruise ship and other boat traffic on humpback whales are unclear.

Humpback numbers have risen from 1,200 to 2,500 in the North Pacific since 1970, good news but still a far cry from the 16,000 of a century ago. When whales disappeared from Glacier Bay during the summer of 1978, the Park Service responded by limiting cruise

NEWSUPDATE

▲ **Rulings.** Two Supreme Court decisions this summer put new obstacles in the way of environmental protection. In June the Court restricted citizens' ability to sue the federal government to enforce environmental laws. Plaintiffs now must show that they themselves suffer concrete harm from non-enforcement of the laws. The Court ruled in July that governments must compensate property owners if land-use laws enacted for conservation purposes strip their land of all profitable uses. The ruling was a partial victory for groups who want property owners to be paid for any reduction conservation laws create in their land's profitability.

▲ **Fault.** In July the National Park Service exempted Rock Creek Park in Washington, D.C., from NPS regulations. The Park Service sanctioned commercial advertising during professional tennis tournaments held at a stadium within the park. NPCA, which opposes the increasing commercialization of Rock Creek Park, is calling for legislation banning advertising from national parks.

▲ **Award.** Every year the Public Lands Foundation selects a Bureau of Land Management employee for its Outstanding Public Lands Professional Award. Send nominations for the 1992 award to Ed Zaidlicz, 724 Park Lane, Billings, MT 95192.

ship numbers. Whales began returning the next year, and the restrictions were eased in 1987 and again in 1989.

Ships now visit the park in greater numbers than ever. Whale numbers have been declining since 1988. It is unclear to what extent the two are related.

The bills introduced by Rep. Don Young (R-Alaska) and Sen. Frank Murkowski (R-Alaska) mandate an increase of approximately 70 percent in cruise ship numbers. Because of opposition within Congress, these provisions were later dropped. Young turned his cruise ship measure into a separate bill, approved by the House subcommittee on merchant marine and fisheries in June but not likely to go farther.

The other parts of Young's and Murkowski's bills, to legalize commercial and subsistence fishing in the non-wilderness areas of the park, remain.

The bills leave subsistence fishing and gathering open to all residents of the general area. NPCA believes if subsistence is permitted, the provision should be far less sweeping, limited to Native Alaskans of the nearby village of Hoonah, who have traditionally made use of the bay's fish and plant life.

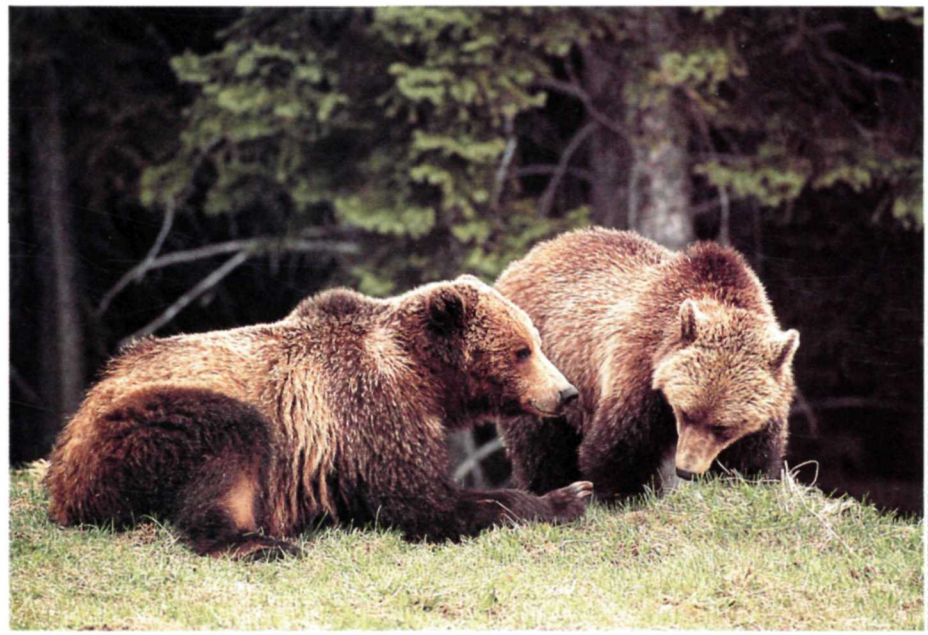
"Congress should not legislate a decision on fishing and boat traffic in Glacier Bay when studies on those very issues are still under way," Grisco said.

✍ *Write to your senators (U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510) and representatives (U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515), asking them to oppose the bills.*

Glacier Faces Surge In Nearby Logging

The Forest Service and the state of Montana are proposing a dramatic increase in logging on the border of Glacier National Park.

Ten separate timber sales are pending on the west side of Glacier, eight in the Flathead National Forest and two on state land. All are within five miles of the park; some are as close as a mile. The sales are not large individually, but the cumulative effect is cause for alarm.



THOMAS KITCHIN/TOM STACK AND ASSOCIATES

Increased logging near Glacier could fragment habitat for grizzlies (above, courting).

"It's the sudden drive to market every possible stick of timber that we're concerned about and that could have a disastrous effect on the wildlife of Glacier," said Dale Crane, NPCA Pacific Northwest regional director.

Perhaps no area in the contiguous United States has a greater variety of large mammals in greater numbers than Glacier. The park is home to the largest population of grizzly bears in the lower 48 states, as well as wolves, black bears, mountain lions, lynx, moose, elk, bighorn sheep, mountain goats, and deer. The adjacent Flathead Wild and Scenic River, the national forest, and the nearby Great Bear Wilderness also provide important habitat for these animals.

"Our number one concern is the road density associated with timber harvest activity," said the park's Brace Hayden. There are already many roads throughout the Flathead from previous logging, as well as existing and proposed roads on state and private land. When roads are built into an area to reach timber and haul it away, its value as wildlife habitat is diminished for the long term.

"Roads don't just go away," Hayden said, even when the Forest Service closes them to public use after finishing work in an area. Off-road vehicle riders and poachers often get around the gates that are set up to block passage. Studies show that bears, especially females with cubs, tend to avoid even unused roads.

The result is a shrinkage and fragmentation of wildlife habitat. The proposed timber sales could splinter bear territory, cutting off important passages between the park and adjacent wildlands, as well as interfere with elk, moose, and deer migration routes. "We are very concerned about any damage to that linkage," Hayden said.

Erosion from road building and logging could affect rivers and streams. Biologists suspect these activities, especially road building, are a major reason for high sediment levels in some streams near the park. The result has been fewer places to spawn for the bull trout, under consideration for threatened or endangered species status. Bull trout, which can weigh as much as 20 pounds, swim up the Flathead River and spawn in tributary streams in the park and the national forest.

NPCA and NPS are particularly concerned about a proposed sale along the forest's Coal Creek, already affected by logging. "More logging may well tip the balance to the extent that this prime spawning area will be eliminated," Crane wrote the Forest Service.

Most serious of all, the Forest Service has not examined what the cumulative results would be of allowing log-

ging and road construction in so many areas near the park at once. Both NPCA and NPS are urging it to do so.

The Park Service and Forest Service have had a long history of cooperation to preserve the Glacier area, but Crane expressed concern that this cooperation may now be disintegrating.

The regional forester for the area, John Mumma, resigned after being transferred to a low-ranking desk job in Washington, D.C., last year. He appeared at the same hearing in September 1991 as former NPS regional director Lorraine Mintzmyer (see page 8) to present evidence that he had been demoted for limiting timber sales to comply with environmental laws.

"The Forest Service in this region faces tremendous pressure to 'get the cut out,'" Crane said. "We are urging them to find a better balance between logging and wildlife protection despite the pressure and to halt these destructive sales."

✍ *Write to David F. Jolly, Regional Forester, U.S. Forest Service, Box 7669, Missoula, MT 59807, and your members of Congress.*

Park Bills Pending Before Congress

Between now and the end of its legislative session in October, Congress will decide the fate of several measures of great importance to national parks.

One is the Old Faithful Protection Act, sponsored by Rep. Pat Williams (D-Mont.). It seeks to prevent damage to Yellowstone's geothermal features from drilling or pumping of underground hot water near the park. Tapping this geothermal energy could disrupt the fragile "plumbing" that powers Yellowstone's famous geysers and hot springs.

"If there's one image that represents the national parks, it's the geysers of Yellowstone," said Elizabeth Fayad, NPCA staff attorney. "If we don't assure their protection, what do we protect?" NPCA has fought repeatedly over the years to improve safeguards for the geysers.

Williams' bill, passed by the House of Representatives in November, would ban geothermal development in the Corwin Springs area north of the park. Its underground connections to Yellowstone have been studied by the U.S. Geological Survey and the National Park Service. The bill also calls for an NPS study to assess the risk from geothermal development in other areas. It freezes such development on private lands within 15 miles of Yellowstone until the study is completed and permanently bans it on federal lands in the same area.

NPCA and other groups that championed the House bill are unenthusiastic about a version that came out of the Senate Energy Committee this summer. That version does not include the Corwin Springs ban, gives states the final say in regulating private geothermal development, and overall does not guarantee the same level of protection.

The act's passage became urgent in April when a previous Corwin Springs ban expired. In June the Church Universal and Triumphant (CUT), a religious group housed on the northern edge of Yellowstone, began pumping water from a geothermal well on its land until ordered to stop by the state of Montana. There is real concern that pumping on the church property could affect Mammoth Hot Springs on the other side of the park border.

NPCA and other conservation

MARKUP

Key Park Legislation

Bill	Purpose	Status
Old Faithful Protection Act H.R. 3359	Ban geothermal drilling within 15 miles of Yellowstone National Park until more thorough study is completed on the effect drilling could have on Yellowstone's geysers and other geothermal features. NPCA supports the House-passed version.	H.R. 3359 passed the House in November 1991. The Senate Energy Committee approved in July a much weaker version, which awaits a full Senate vote. If it is passed, a House-Senate conference to craft a compromise bill will be needed.
Elwha dams H.R. 4844 S. 2527	Set up a committee to examine the fate of two aging dams that block salmon and trout runs on Olympic's Elwha River. NPCA supports with amendments to strengthen the bills.	H.R. 4844 is before House subcommittees on fisheries and wildlife, water and power, and energy and power. S. 2527 is before the Senate Energy Committee.
Glacier Bay H.R. 3418 S. 1624	Open Glacier Bay National Park to commercial and subsistence fishing, to be regulated by the state of Alaska, without waiting for the National Park Service to complete study and planning on boat traffic in Glacier Bay. NPCA opposes both bills.	H.R. 3418 was approved by the House Merchant Marine Committee in July. It must also clear the House Interior Committee before it can go to the full House. S. 1624 was approved by the Senate Energy Committee in August.
Concessions reform S. 1755	Increase concessions fees and return them to the park system; prevent overcommercialization of parks; increase competition for contracts; reform possessory interest. NPCA supports.	S. 1755 is before the Senate Energy Committee.
California desert H.R. 2929	Create Mojave National Monument, expand Death Valley and Joshua Tree national monuments and redesignate them as national parks, and establish 4.1 million acres of Bureau of Land Management wilderness areas; allow hunting in Mojave NM. NPCA supports without the hunting amendment.	H.R. 2929 passed the House in November 1991 and is now before the Senate Energy Committee.

NPCA is currently working on more than 70 bills.

groups are urging the removal of two aging dams from the Elwha River in Olympic National Park. The dams supply power to a Port Angeles, Washington, pulp and paper mill. For most of the century, they have blocked the Elwha's once-fabulous runs of salmon and trout and caused serious erosion.

Bills introduced by Sen. Brock Adams (D-Wash.) and Rep. Al Swift (D-Wash.) would have the Interior Department purchase the dams and create a committee to decide their future. NPCA believes the bills need stronger guarantees that the dams will be removed unless there are compelling environmental reasons not to do so. Conservationists also want to be represented on the committee.

The House and Senate appropriations bills contain some victories for NPCA. The House bill takes on an 1866 law that allows state or local governments to obtain rights-of-way across federal lands if they can prove a road or footpath existed there at one time. In Alaska and Utah, local governments are moving under the law to build roads across national parks and other federal lands.

The bill puts a one-year moratorium on processing these right-of-way claims. Conservationists hope the measure will be retained when the House and Senate bills are merged.

The House and Senate bills both order the Park Service to reconsider development plans at Crater Lake National Park in Oregon. The plans include a new 60-room hotel on the rim of the lake and a 70,000-square-foot administrative building, both for the use of the park concessioner. NPCA opposes the project as damaging to Crater Lake and wasteful; estimates of the total cost have soared to $92 million.

NPCA's efforts to reshape the concessions system as a whole got a boost this summer when more than 800 of its members sent letters to their members of Congress calling for passage of S. 1755, a reform bill before the Senate.

✍ *Write to your members of Congress about these issues at the U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510 and the U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515.*

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Drilling Means Risk For Lechuguilla Cave

An energy company has applied to drill for oil and gas just outside Carlsbad Caverns National Park in New Mexico. NPCA and the National Park Service believe that drilling in this area would put the park's world-famous Lechuguilla Cave in serious jeopardy. A Bureau of Land Management (BLM) study of the proposal was due to come out just after this magazine went to press.

Russ Butcher, NPCA Pacific Southwest regional director, said, "Even if BLM proposes to require an extraordinary level of monitoring and environmental safeguards, there is simply no way that they can guarantee against accidents." NPCA is urging BLM to deny the company permission to drill.

When explorers cleared the rubble plugging Lechuguilla Cave's entrance in 1986 and lowered themselves in, what they found was one of the most remarkable caves ever discovered, with huge chambers and lakes as well as formations never seen in any other cave.

So far, explorations have revealed Lechuguilla to be the deepest cave in the United States and the fourth-longest. Its full extent is believed to be much greater, and the cave almost certainly extends beyond the park boundaries.

The Yates Energy Corporation has applied for permission to drill on a site less than half a mile from the park boundary and less than two miles from the entrance to the cave.

Butcher and the Park Service are concerned that, even with precautions, drilling could penetrate Lechuguilla, releasing flows of oil, natural gas, or both into the cave. Oil would pollute the cave's waters and surfaces, which are pristine after millennia of isolation from the outside world. Oil leaks could also damage the cave's formations.

Natural gas poses an even greater risk. Gas by its nature spreads quickly, and its movement through Lechuguilla could be accelerated by the cave's internal winds, which have been clocked at 65 miles per hour. Visitors, scientists, and Park Service employees would be at risk of injury or asphyxiation. A

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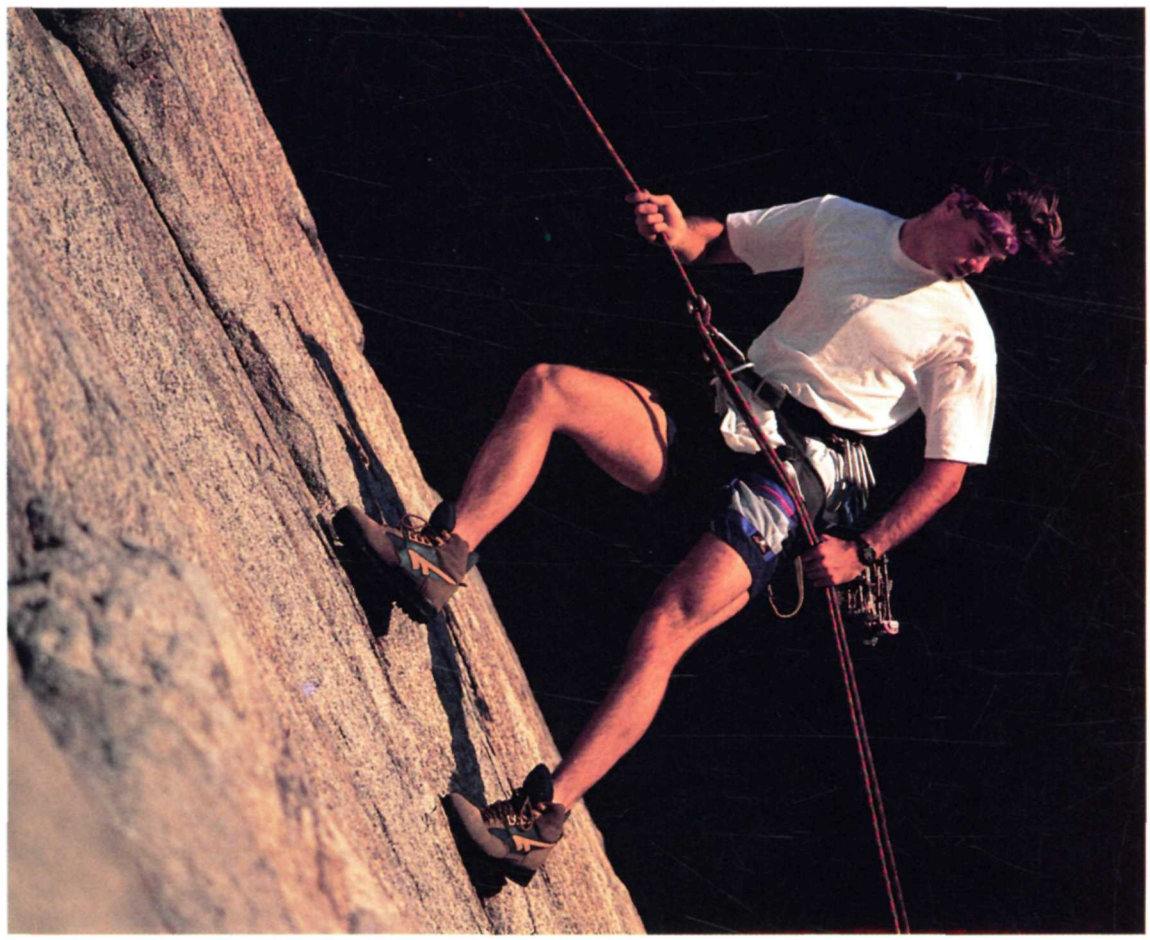

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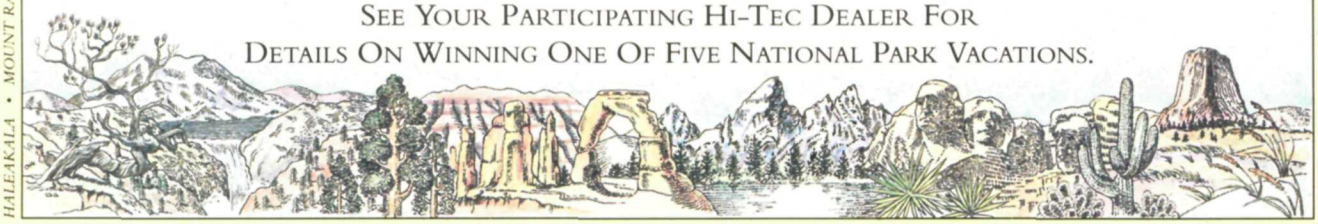

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natural gas explosion would mean an even greater risk of injury or death and would also severely damage the cave.

✍ *BLM was expected to have copies of the draft environmental impact statement by late August and will be accepting public comment. Write to Joe Incardine at the BLM New Mexico State Office, Box 27115, Santa Fe, NM 87502.*

Landfill Threatens Smokies Black Bears

NPCA and a local chapter of the Izaak Walton League of America have filed an appeal to protect black bears from a proposed landfill near Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

In July Haywood County, North Carolina, received a permit from the state to build a 104-acre landfill between the park, less than three miles away, and Pisgah National Forest, which includes the Harmon Den Bear Sanctuary. NPCA is appealing the permit before the Office of Administrative Hearings of the state of North Carolina.

The National Park Service, the U.S. Forest Service, and the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission have all expressed concern about the landfill site because the area serves the bears as a corridor between the park and forest.

The park's Bob Miller said, "An increase in garbage will cause the bears to lose their fear of humans. They will cross people's yards to seek out food in the dump." Miller believes the landfill will cause bear-human conflicts to increase, which may result in people being injured, bears being shot, or both.

If bears that are relocated because they frequent the dump continue to return to the area, they may be shot by authorities. The White Oak landfill site is near the remote Cataloochee area of the park, where NPS has historically relocated bears with a record of seeking out garbage.

Charles Teague, a local activist opposing the White Oak dump, fears the landfill will increase automobile accidents involving bears on nearby Interstate 40. "The bears have noses that will carry them across a four-lane interstate to reach the landfill, which can kill not only bears but people as well."

The county said the garbage will be compressed and wrapped in plastic to prevent odor and leaking. "I don't think it's possible to prevent the odor with plastic when truckloads of garbage are passing through the area," Miller said.

"If the bears were not there, it would still be the wrong place for a landfill," said Don Barger, NPCA southeast regional director. The dump site is at the bottom of a valley where three streams and more than 20 springs flow.

The permit goes against state regulations, which require 50-foot buffers between landfills and streams. Plans for the landfill—the stream and spring water would be channeled through a culvert underneath the dump—eliminate the buffer altogether.

"They've stretched laws to put this landfill here," Barger said. "The landfill is located in a small community where people are completely dependent on groundwater. If the water is contaminated they could lose their wells. Without water these people would have to move."

The permit does not require the county to submit a plan for managing contaminated water from the culvert until two years after operation of the dump begins. Along with contamination of drinking water, pollution of the nearby Pigeon River is a concern.

Utah Backs Off From Drilling In Parks

The state of Utah has backed down from its proposal this spring to drill and excavate in state-owned sections of four national parks.

At the same time, Congress is considering a state-federal exchange for land Utah owns within national parks, national forests, and Indian reservations. NPCA and other conservation groups, which support such an exchange, pressured the state to back down from its development threats.

Utah owns a total of 81,000 acres of scattered square-mile sections of land within Arches and Capitol Reef national

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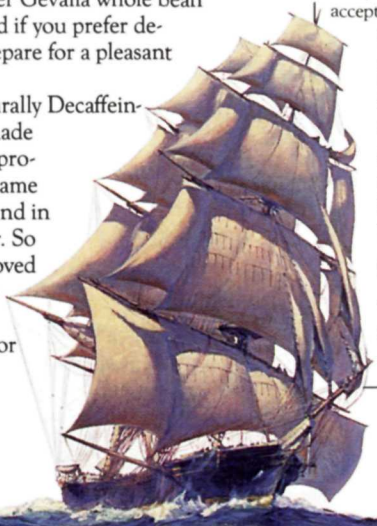

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parks, Dinosaur National Monument, and Glen Canyon National Recreation Area. It owns another 76,000 acres within national forests in the state and close to 40,000 within Indian reservations. These "school trust" lands were granted to Utah at statehood to generate revenue for its public schools.

As national parks and other federal holdings were established, they in some cases enveloped the school trust lands. This situation, along with Utah's contention that it must manage school trust lands to "maximize" revenue, creates conflict between the use of state lands and stewardship of federal lands.

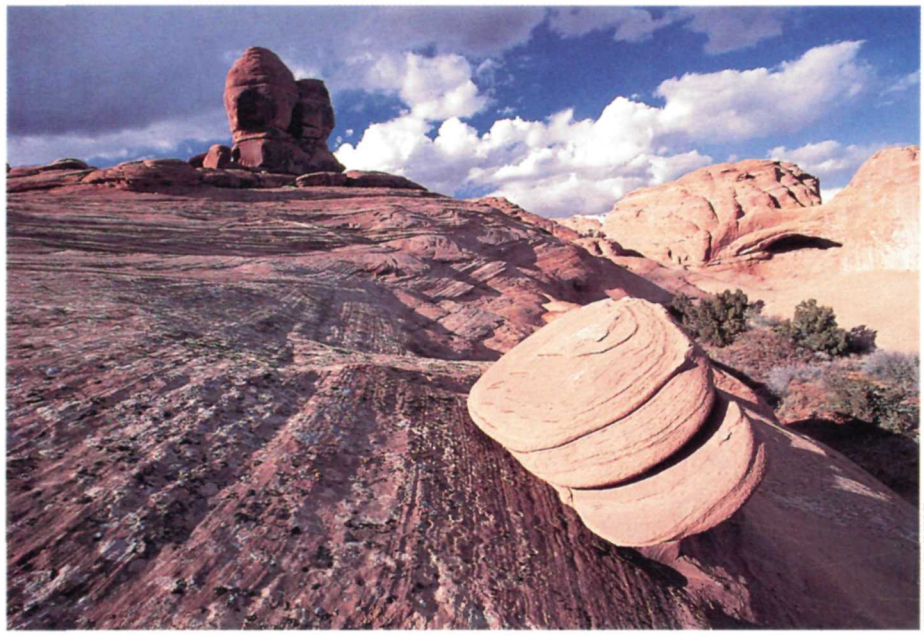
The legislation now before Congress is meant to resolve such conflicts. In exchange for its inholdings, the state of Utah would acquire federal mineral interests as well as some lands in less environmentally sensitive areas.

While NPCA and other conservation groups have proposed ways to fine-tune the legislation, they strongly support the exchange. "Without question, removing state inholdings from Utah's national parks is in the best interest of the parks as well as the state of Utah," said Terri Martin, NPCA Rocky Mountain regional director.

A state proposal jeopardized the exchange legislation this spring. Utah proposed sending crews into state sections of Arches and other national parks to drill test wells for drinking water. The crews would also dig pits to test the feasibility of installing sewer systems. The goal was to assess the land's potential for restaurants, resorts, or other commercial development.

NPCA criticized the proposal as "outrageous," and Utah backed down. "The state seemed to think it had to make death threats or swing a club to bring the land exchange about," Martin said. "Fortunately, it changed its mind."

The proposal resembled another plan put forward by the state in 1989. Utah announced plans to sell its holdings in the parks that year for commercial or mineral development unless Congress turned over to it, in exchange for the inholdings, large areas of parkland along the shoreline of Lake Powell in Glen Canyon National Recreation Area. The state proposed to develop these areas as recreational resorts. After the plan provoked an avalanche of opposition from Utah citizens, however, the state withdrew it.



STEPHEN TRIMBLE

Utah dropped plans to dig and drill in areas such as Eye of the Whale Arch in Arches NP.

Meanwhile, in a remarkable display of cooperation, the current land exchange legislation is moving forward with support from the state, conservationists, and members of both parties in Congress. Reps. Wayne Owens (D-Utah) and James Hansen (R-Utah) have introduced three bills, H.R. 5181, H.R. 4769, and H.R. 4770, in the House of Representatives. Sen. Jake Garn (R-Utah) has introduced a Senate version, S. 2577. NPCA testified in favor of the land exchange idea at hearings this summer. If legislation is passed, this environmental issue, unlike many others, will end in a way that pleases all sides.

Park Expanded to Protect Ancient Sites

An Ohio area of ancient earthworks and burial mounds will be preserved as the new Hopewell Culture National Historical Park, established this spring.

Some of the sites were already under National Park Service stewardship as the smaller Mound City Group National Monument. Others were unprotected, including one being mined for gravel. All date from a period between 200 B.C. and A.D. 500, when a culture known as the Hopewell flourished in southern and central Ohio.

NPCA has worked along with The Archaeological Conservancy for preservation of the unprotected Hopewell mounds and earthworks for much of the last decade. It recommended expansion of the park in the 1988 NPCA *National Park System Plan*.

"The expansion protects some of the most important Hopewell sites," said Bruce Craig, NPCA cultural resources program manager. "Since the park now includes much more than the Mound City sites, the new name reflects its broader scope." The expansion adds a total of 762 acres to the 270-acre park.

The Hopewell were the most notable civilization of their time in the eastern United States. Among their accomplishments was the construction of enormous embankments in the shape of circles, octagons, and other geometric forms, occupying hundreds of acres of land.

The park was established in 1923 to preserve a square earthwork and the group of 23 burial mounds enclosed within it. The expansion adds to the park four new areas of larger earthworks. These sites also contain burial mounds, including some of the largest,

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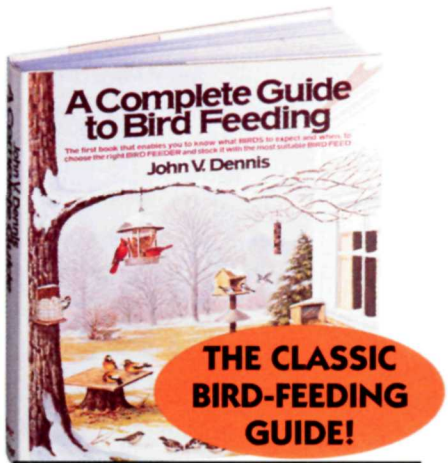

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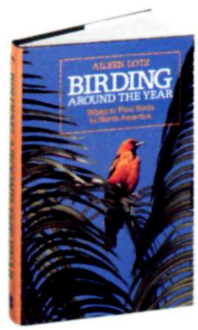

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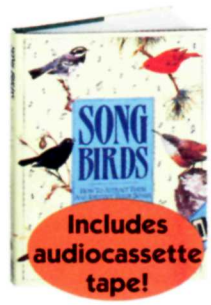

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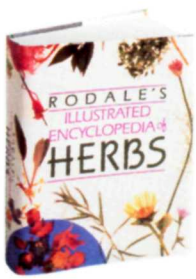

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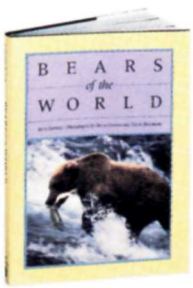

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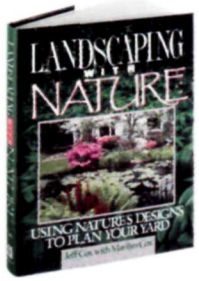

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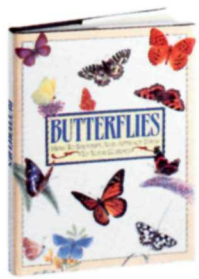

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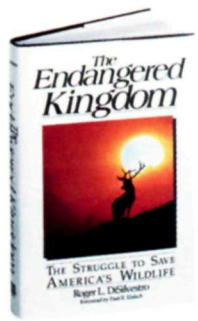

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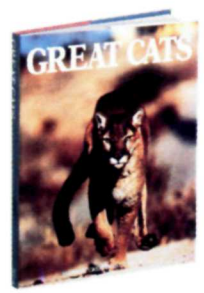

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rich in the artifacts the Hopewell buried along with their dead.

Little is known about the daily life of the Hopewell. One of the new areas, the Hopeton Earthworks, contains village and camp sites that could provide valuable information.

Currently, 200 acres of the Hopeton site belong to a gravel-mining company that has already mined 40 acres and is likely to mine more in the near future. In this case, the usual years-long delay by Congress between the designation of parkland and the appropriation of funds for its purchase could prove disastrous. NPCA is urging Congress to make purchase of the land a priority.

"We know that the village sites are there and that's what the gravel company is chewing up," said Robert Peterson, a ranger at Hopewell.

The legislation to expand the park was introduced last year by Sen. Howard Metzenbaum (D-Ohio). It passed the Senate last September, then the House in May, and was signed into law by President Bush later that month.

Judge Issues Ruling in Zion Theater Lawsuit

Plans for a giant-screen theater on the doorstep of Zion National Park in Utah may have been dealt a setback by the ruling issued in a lawsuit filed by NPCA and other conservation groups.

The Fifth District Court for the state of Utah has ruled that the town of Springdale cannot approve the theater unless the building plans comply with the town's zoning ordinance.

The ordinance limits building heights throughout the town to 35 feet and requires that development near Zion be "aesthetically compatible" with the park. The proposed theater would include a screen 55 feet high and 70 feet wide. "Frankly, we think it will be hard to compress a 55-foot-high screen into a 35-foot-high building," said Terri Martin, NPCA Rocky Mountain regional director.

NPCA has been fighting the theater complex for nearly two years, arguing that the development would be a blight on the beauty of Zion. The theater complex would stand directly in front of the sweeping arc of red sandstone cliffs that greets visitors as they enter the park from Springdale.

The project would also include nearly 200 parking spaces and 12,000 square feet of retail space. The developers have dropped plans for an 80-room motel but have said the motel could be added to the project later.

NPCA has argued that the project should be located elsewhere in Springdale. It filed a lawsuit joined by other conservation groups when the town council issued a conditional use permit for the proposed 55-foot-high building.

While Judge J. Philip Eves rejected NPCA's motion to void the permit, he ruled that specific building plans had yet to be approved for the project and that these would have to conform to the town ordinance.

"The developers say they will come back soon with specific plans," said Martin. "What this probably signals is round two of the fight."

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The Mather Society involves dedicated members and friends of NPCA who, by their annual general contribution of $1,000 or more, continue to ensure the thoughtful stewardship of our National Park System through their leadership and activism. We gratefully acknowledge these individuals, whose support enables us to continue the fine tradition of Stephen Tyng Mather, the first director of the National Park Service and one of the founders of NPCA. Donors since July 1, 1991:

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REGIONAL REPORT

News Briefs from NPCA's Regional Offices

ALASKA

Mary Grisco, Regional Director

NPCA is calling for the Air Force to stop jet flights over Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve in Alaska. Reportedly, pilots regularly violate restrictions put on them to protect endangered peregrine falcons, which nest along the rivers. Pilots are required to stay at least a mile away from the rivers and to fly no lower than 1,500 feet, but federal biologists say they have seen supersonic jets flying at 300 feet directly above the rivers.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST

Dale Crane, Regional Director

The Cameron Group, a timber company, has committed to cleaning up a Washington creek to aid the beleaguered Skagit River. Uncontrolled logging on the banks of the Skagit, designated a wild and scenic river in 1978, has clogged it with silt and decimated its fish population. By restoring Finney Creek, a tributary of the Skagit, Cameron will undo damage done by a previous logging company.

The company was encouraged to take this step by Max McYoung, an NPCA Parkwatcher, and Dale Crane. This is not McYoung's first success on behalf of the Skagit. This year he won the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*'s Jefferson Award and a Giraffe Project Commendation for his tireless efforts to bring the plight of the Skagit to public attention.

◆

NPCA is fighting attempts by Sen. Slade Gorton (R-Wash.) to halt Park Service land purchases in the Stehekin Valley section of Lake Chelan National Recreation Area in Washington. When Congress included the valley within the park, it gave the Park Service permission to purchase land there from willing sellers, which it has done. Gorton also wants the Park Service to sell off land it already owns in the valley. "I must assume this is a move by Sen. Gorton to put land on the market for the purpose of subdivision development," Crane said.

PACIFIC SOUTHWEST

Russ Butcher, Regional Director

Developers expressed a desire in February for 74 acres of Petroglyph National Monument in New Mexico. While NPCA and Congress protested, Secretary of the Interior Manuel Lujan seemed to like the idea. But a Park Service archaeological survey revealed thousands of artifacts just on the first 19 acres of the site, and the developers withdrew their plans. Albuquerque, however, is moving ahead on a highway project cutting through the monument, despite a lawsuit by opponents of the project including NPCA (see "News," May/June 1992 and July/August 1991). Concerned readers can write to Mayor Louis Saavedra, Box 1293, Albuquerque, NM 87103 or New Mexico's Sen. Pete Domenici, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510, both of whom favor the highway plan.

◆

NPCA has urged Yosemite National Park to remove golf and tennis courts and otherwise reduce the sprawl of development in congested Yosemite Valley. The park has just released its concession services plan, which addresses such issues. For copies, write to the NPS Western Regional Office, 600 Harrison Street #600, San Francisco, CA 94107.

◆

As rock climbing has surged in popularity, NPCA has grown concerned about the effects of some climber practices, such as drilling bolts into cliff faces, on heavily-used parks. Yosemite, a climbing mecca, is now studying the best way to manage the sport. The park is accepting public comment at Box 557, Yosemite, CA 95389.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN

Terri Martin, Regional Director

Instead of buying gravel from outside the park for road projects, Grand Teton National Park has in the past mined for it within the park, a practice protested by NPCA. NPCA criticized plans released by the park this spring which continued to focus on sources of gravel within the park. Grand Teton has now agreed to buy gravel from outside the park for an upcoming project and to reexamine outside sources for the future.

◆

An oil company will not be able to drill near Hovenweep National Monument in Utah, the Bureau of Land Management has decided. The company applied for an extension of its lease, but BLM ruled it had not shown the required "due care and diligence." NPCA was concerned about the effect of drilling and road construction on the scenic setting and natural quiet of Hovenweep's ancient Indian ruins. It strongly supported BLM's decision, which was made despite pressure from the oil company.

SOUTHEAST

Don Barger, Regional Director

NPCA and other members of the Shenandoah National Park Coalition are planning an event titled "Discover Shenandoah" on October 12, from 4 to 7 p.m., at the Byrd Visitor Center in the park's Big Meadows. The program will include entertainment, educational activities, and presentations about the history and significance of the park.

◆

After three years of public input and study, Antietam National Battlefield in Maryland has issued a plan for the park's next 20 years. NPCA applauds the plan, issued in July, which will restore the battlefield to its original appearance and preserve its pristine setting.

How Green is Your Candidate?

National Parks *compares Bush and Clinton on environmental issues.*

Compiled by Associate Editor Linda M. Rancourt

On November 3, we will choose a president who will for the next four years shape the nation's policies. The president has the ability to improve or degrade the quality of the environment and the laws governing our public lands. *National Parks* offers a guide to the presidential candidates using information provided by news sources; the League of Conservation Voters (LCV), the nonpartisan political action arm of the environmental movement; and *Voting Green,* an environmental guide to making political choices written by Jeremy Rifkin and Carol Grunewald Rifkin.

Public lands, including the national parks, are increasingly under assault from commercial interests. Oil drilling, mining, logging, and grazing on federal lands adjacent to national parks affect the wildlife and natural resources the parks were established to protect.

Four years ago, George Bush campaigned for president on a number of promises. He pledged to emulate the passion and dedication to our public lands displayed by Teddy Roosevelt and to earn the title of Environmental President. These promises became strained and finally broke after a succession of actions including President Bush's move to redefine wetlands, shrinking by half the number of acres protected by this designation.

Arkansas Gov. Bill Clinton has promised to do better than President Bush. Although Clinton has acquiesced to Arkansas's timber and animal agriculture businesses on issues that affect the quality of water, his personal leanings seem to favor a strong environmental policy. And Clinton strengthened his environmental standing by selecting as his running mate Sen. Al Gore (D-Tenn.), who received the highest rating in *Voting Green* for his Senate record.

Bush promised to be the Environmental President, and Clinton has promised to do better.

George Bush

President Bush has received failing or just above passing grades for his environmental record. The League of Conservation Voters has given Bush a D for his overall environmental policies, as did the Rifkins in *Voting Green*. Last year, *National Parks* asked a panel of experts to rate Bush's actions with regard to the national parks, and they gave him an overall grade of D+. (See Nov./Dec. '91, page 18.) President Bush essentially continued the Reagan administration's environmental doctrine, placing the interests of business over those of the environment. Vice President Quayle's Council on Competitiveness has worked to undermine any regulation perceived as a hindrance to business.

According to *The New York Times,* "as the recession hangs on and the election nears, the Bush administration has followed a pattern of altering environmental laws and regulations to open more federal land and the nation's natural resources to development." This effort has been aided by Bush's regulatory moratorium in which existing environmental rules are under review and others are being rewritten to reduce their cost to business. Even so, the Bush administration has at least two actions in its favor: promoting the preservation of Civil War battlefields and early support for the Clean Air Act.

"Without his support, the Clean Air Act would not have passed Congress. However, while Bush gave support to the bill, he simultaneously worked to weaken it. He threatened to have GOP senators filibuster to prevent the act's consideration until many weakening changes were made," says LCV. Smog, auto, and air toxics control programs were diluted at the administration's insistence, and he consistently opposed the specific provisions needed to reduce smog in the most afflicted cities.

The same year the Clean Air Act was under consideration, the Bush administration joined with automobile companies to block a bill that would have reduced energy use by improving automobile fuel efficiency 40 percent by the year 2001. LCV says that this measure would have saved 2.8 million barrels of oil per day—one million barrels a day more than the U.S. imports from the Persian Gulf.

Even though his national energy plan calls for increased use of fossil fuels, Bush, under pressure from other industrialized nations, agreed to support research to limit greenhouse gases, says LCV. Bush also threatened to veto any energy plan that did not include opening the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in Alaska to oil drilling.

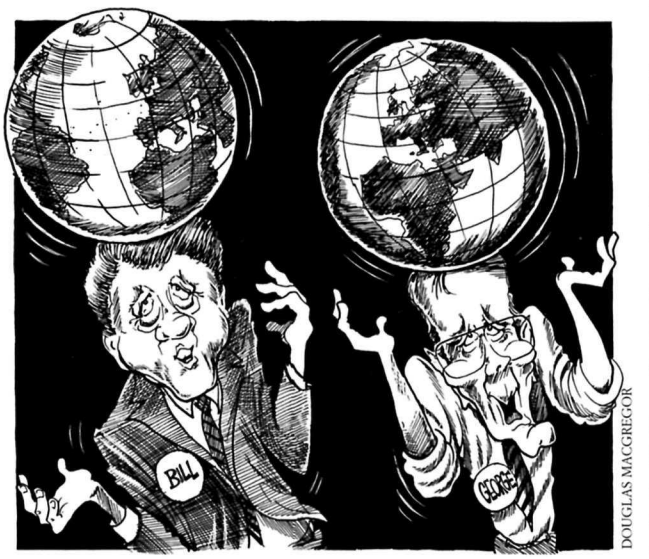
The Endangered Species Act has been a special target for the Bush ad-

ministration. Secretary of the Interior Manuel Lujan has said that he believes the act is too protective, and he has questioned the idea of "saving every subspecies," according to *Time*.

Bush's appointments have been mixed. Although William Reilly's appointment as director of the Environmental Protection Agency was hailed, the choice of Scott Sewell, a former real estate developer in Louisiana, as acting assistant secretary for fish, wildlife, and parks was seen as a disaster.

The Bush administration, says LCV, has essentially continued the destructive policies of the Reagan administration in federal forests. Bush's administration has requested logging levels in remnant ancient forests of the Pacific Northwest at levels too high to sustain and protect wildlife, recreation, and scenic beauty. Only when forced to do so by litigation or by its own scientific reports has the administration scaled back excessive logging.

The administration supports continued subsidies to livestock interests which use western public lands for grazing and opposes the introduction of fair-market pricing. Bush's low grade reflects "a mixed picture of success, inaction, and failure," says LCV.



The world hangs in the balance.

Bill Clinton

Governor Clinton also received mixed reviews from the League of Conservation Voters. Most of his black marks were because of his appointments to both state positions and task force committees established to study environmental problems. Clinton's appointments to task forces often included a greater number of representatives from the industry being studied than conservation groups.

However, Clinton was given credit by LCV for being "better late than never" when it came to environmental issues. Clinton's recent efforts—including an ambitious, pro-environment legislative package—demonstrate a commitment to addressing conservation challenges, says LCV. Included in this package were stipulations to plant more trees; to maintain, as a minimum, the current level of forested land; and to increase the state's forested acreage.

During Clinton's tenure, the Arkansas Forestry Commission has reforested more than 130,000 acres of state land. In addition, 24 areas have been added to the Arkansas System of Natural Areas, three state parks and four wildlife management areas have been established, and more than 30 tracts of land have been added to the state's park system, according to LCV. Clinton also has a record for issuing stiff fines against people who violate hazardous waste disposal laws.

The state ranks tenth in the country for its air and water purity, and Clinton's clean water program is partly responsible for the fact that 83 percent of the state's lakes, rivers, and streams are now open to swimming, compared with 53 percent before he took office.

During his 12 years as governor, Clinton has chosen not to push for state regulations that would halt environmentally damaging practices of two of the state's leading employers: animal agriculture and timber industries.

Arkansas has a $2.7-billion animal agriculture industry, the nation's eighth largest. The chickens, turkeys, hogs, cows, and steers in the state generate as much organic waste, according to some estimates, as that produced by 40 million people, says *The New York Times*. Fecal bacteria from this waste has washed into some streams and ponds, causing increased nitrate and decreased oxygen levels.

A committee formed to study the problem was asked to recommend ways that farmers could be encouraged to change their waste disposal practices voluntarily. The committee is scheduled to finish its work in September.

Environmentalists point to Arkansas's timber industry to show that voluntary regulation does not work. The timber industry is allowed to set its own harvest limits.

Clearcutting has clogged some streams with silt and eliminated the state's hardwoods. In some areas, this practice has created single-species forests, drawing criticism from both environmentalists and sport hunting groups.

Clinton also has been faulted for not aggressively pursuing regulations to control pollution generated by paper mills.

The Democratic platform calls for using less energy and reducing reliance on foreign oil; strengthening efforts to prevent air and water pollution; and pushing for incentives that reward conservation, prevent pollution, and encourage recycling. Clinton has called for a national policy that does not "sacrifice environmental protection to get economic growth." During the primary campaign in Oregon, Clinton, quoted by the Associated Press, said, "I have enormous sympathy for the loggers and mill workers, but I don't agree that the way to solve this problem is to repeal the Endangered Species Act."

As the election draws near, President Bush has dropped any pretense of holding to his 1988 promise to be the Environmental President and has worked to undermine laws protecting federal lands and the nation's natural resources.

Just as Vice President Quayle has become the standard-bearer for Bush's environmental policy, Sen. Gore seems likely to serve as Clinton's.

PERSISTENT POISON

THREE YEARS AFTER THE *EXXON VALDEZ* SPILL, OIL AND POLITICS STILL TAINT NATIONAL PARKS IN ALASKA.

BY JEFFREY R. RICHARDSON

In late March 1989, the grizzly bears of Katmai National Park and Preserve in Alaska were just emerging from hibernation. The first salmon runs were weeks away, so the lean and hungry bears began combing the park's rugged tidal zone for shellfish and other morsels. It was at this critical time that the *Exxon Valdez* collided with Bligh Reef, ruptured its hull, and hemorrhaged 11 million gallons of thick crude oil into Prince William Sound. The spill, the worst in U.S. history, eventually coated nearly 400 miles of national park beaches.

Within weeks of the accident, the oil—blown by the wind and carried by the current—had traveled more than 1,000 miles to Katmai's beaches, poisoning the bears' coastal larder. Some of the bears inevitably ingested oil with their food. And a yearling cub was found dead some time after the spill with a high concentration of petroleum hydrocarbons in its bile.

Katmai has one of the highest concentrations of grizzly bears in the world, a fact that prompted Congress to pass legislation in 1980 establishing the area as a national park, in part to protect the animals. Yet more than three years after the spill—and despite massive clean-up efforts—oil remains on the beaches or under the surface at Katmai, as well as Kenai Fjords National Park and Aniakchak National Monument. It contaminates mussels, clams, and other invertebrates, important sources of food for many animals including bears and sea otters. Ingestion of contaminated prey may be related to ongoing declines in otter and bird populations. And Dr. Gail Irvine, a marine ecologist with the National Park Service, says there is evidence to suggest that failed reproduction among Katmai bears is linked to oiling.

KEN GRAHAM

A worker holds the carcass of a seabird. Researchers estimate as many as 435,000 birds were killed by the oil spill.

Park officials are convinced that the harm to the grizzly population is serious, but assessing the damage has been difficult. Vital research has been compromised by a lack of funding, despite millions of dollars flowing to other state and federal agencies for spill-related studies and restoration projects.

In 1991 a settlement of lawsuits by the state and federal governments against Exxon made $900 million available over the next ten years for ongoing damage assessment and restoration. Out of a 1992 allocation of about $16 million, the Park Service has received only $51,000 for its part of a cooperative study on oiled mussel beds in Prince William Sound and the Gulf of Alaska. This project element is all that survives of four proposals that were submitted to the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council, the body charged with administering the settlement money. The Park Service projects totaled about $5 million

Crude oil from the *Exxon Valdez* coated nearly 400 miles of national park coastline in Alaska including Kenai Fjords, right.

and included a study of coastal zone resources, a public education program, an archaeological study, and research on bears.

Marine ecologist Irvine notes the bear research is so important that the Park Service has been funding field studies on its own. But the whole purpose of the settlement money was to relieve resource agencies of the strain of paying for oil-related tasks out of budgets intended for other purposes. The Park Service already suffers from a $2-billion backlog of maintenance and repair costs and can ill afford to sacrifice interpretive or other programs to pay for research and damage assessments.

"It's our responsibility to keep up with what's happening on these beaches, whatever it may be," says Anne Castellina, superintendent of Kenai Fjords National Park. "That's why I was hired, why we were all hired, to monitor those resources and protect this park. That's why this is such a terrible incident. We're taking money from other parts of the park budget to keep [research] going."

Castellina says she is concerned about the health of a number of creatures that make Kenai Fjords their home. Primarily she is worried about the persistence of oil in mussel beds and the long-term effects on fish and eagles. "There are some disturbing trends, but we don't have any conclusions. There seems to be a decrease in nesting pairs of eagles, but we don't know what to attribute that to. It may take several years to find out," says Castellina.

In addition to damage to natural resources, at least 35 archaeological sites were affected by the *Valdez* spill, and many of these were in national parks. Ted Birkedal, cultural resources chief for the Alaska region of the National Park Service, says that both Kenai Fjords and Katmai hold a wealth of information about Alaska's history and may contain significant clues about the aboriginal settlement of the whole continent. Growing evidence of pilfering at valuable archaeological sites has come with the increased knowledge of the sites' whereabouts.

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EBERHARD BRUNNER

Grizzly bears become exposed to oil while foraging for mussels and other shellfish, which continue to be contaminated.

Although officials with the trustee council acknowledge that the Park Service has legitimate claims to the settlement money, only one of the agency's proposals was funded compared with 29 for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. A total of 92 projects was funded out of this year's settlement allotment. Most focused on research or restoration work to be conducted in Prince William Sound.

NPS officials are trying to determine why their proposals have fared so badly. They worry that failure to secure funds for simple resource monitoring may signal even tougher going for more elaborate resource protection strategies now being designed for the 1993 season. There are a number of theories about the lack of responsiveness to Park Service concerns. One suggests an uncaring attitude and a lack of leadership from Washington, D.C. Another more sinister theory suggests that high-level De-

About 350 cleaned otters were held in pens before release. As a direct result of the spill, more than 2,500 sea otters died.

partment of Interior officials are punishing the Park Service for perceived violations of protocol in the early days of the oil spill.

At that intense, emotionally raw time, officials at Interior predicted the spill would be contained in Prince William Sound—a prediction that proved to be deadly wrong. Boyd Evison—then Alaska regional director for the Park Service—and members of his staff took steps to prepare their units for the oil onslaught. They enlisted strong support from top NPS managers in Washington, D.C., and from Congress.

"We're always going to be in the path [of anything that comes out of Prince William Sound] with the Alaska current," says Castellina. "But there was the outright belief, even before the oil left Prince William Sound, that the Park Service was overreacting."

Much of the skepticism about the alarms being sounded by NPS came from Vern Wiggins, assistant to the Interior Secretary for Alaska. Wiggins, then a recent appointee, is noted for his long-standing pro-development, anti-park sympathies. This reputation has earned for him the nickname of "Prince of Darkness" from at least one congressional staffer in Washington, D.C.

Evison agrees with others that the influence of Wiggins is partly to blame for the problems the Park Service is having in securing adequate funding for oil spill damage. "The severity of [the funding decision] surprises me, that it's

KEN GRAHAM

Rescue workers used detergent to clean oil from spill victims. Some 2,000 oil-coated birds were able to be saved after the spill.

so blatant. But I'm not surprised that it's unbalanced," says Evison, who received NPCA's Mather Award in 1990 for his actions regarding the spill. Evison is now deputy director of the Rocky Mountain Region. Although Evison says his transfer was not spill-related, he asserts his demotion was. This sort of action, he says, is meant to teach others "a lesson about going up against the system. Every time something like this happens, NPS leadership is a little less willing to go out on the line."

Although politics may be to blame for some of the roadblocks to funding, another problem is the method used to collect data to document damage. Federal attorneys, relying on the authorities and criteria of key pollution statutes—such as the Clean Water Act, Comprehensive Environmental Response, and Compensation and Liability Act—urged agencies to collect data that would allow the government to prove measurable, compensable damage. Dan Hamson, chief of oil spill coordination for NPS in the Alaska region, explained that this guidance meant the damage assessment of some resources—such as those with measurable economic value, or those where oiling was most evident—received priority for research and evaluation. Furthermore, says Cordell Roy, NPS damage assessment coordinator for the Alaska region, "There was tremendous pressure to keep down the cost of doing the damage assessment."

The combined result of these factors was that park resources received scant attention in the assessment process. Of the $100 million spent on damage studies, virtually none was specifically targeted for resources in Katmai or Kenai Fjords, Roy says.

Researchers estimate that between 375,000 and 435,000 birds were killed by the spill. Most were common murres, black and white seabirds that nest in large colonies. And although many of these birds were retrieved from Katmai beaches, Hamson says, the damage report did not distinguish between birds found in the parks and those found elsewhere. Therefore, the condition of seabird populations that the park was in part created to protect remains largely unknown. Without this information, NPS officials have had a difficult time presenting claims for restoration. And even though criteria for restoration projects clearly include further research and ongoing damage assessment, this area of funding does not appear to be in favor.

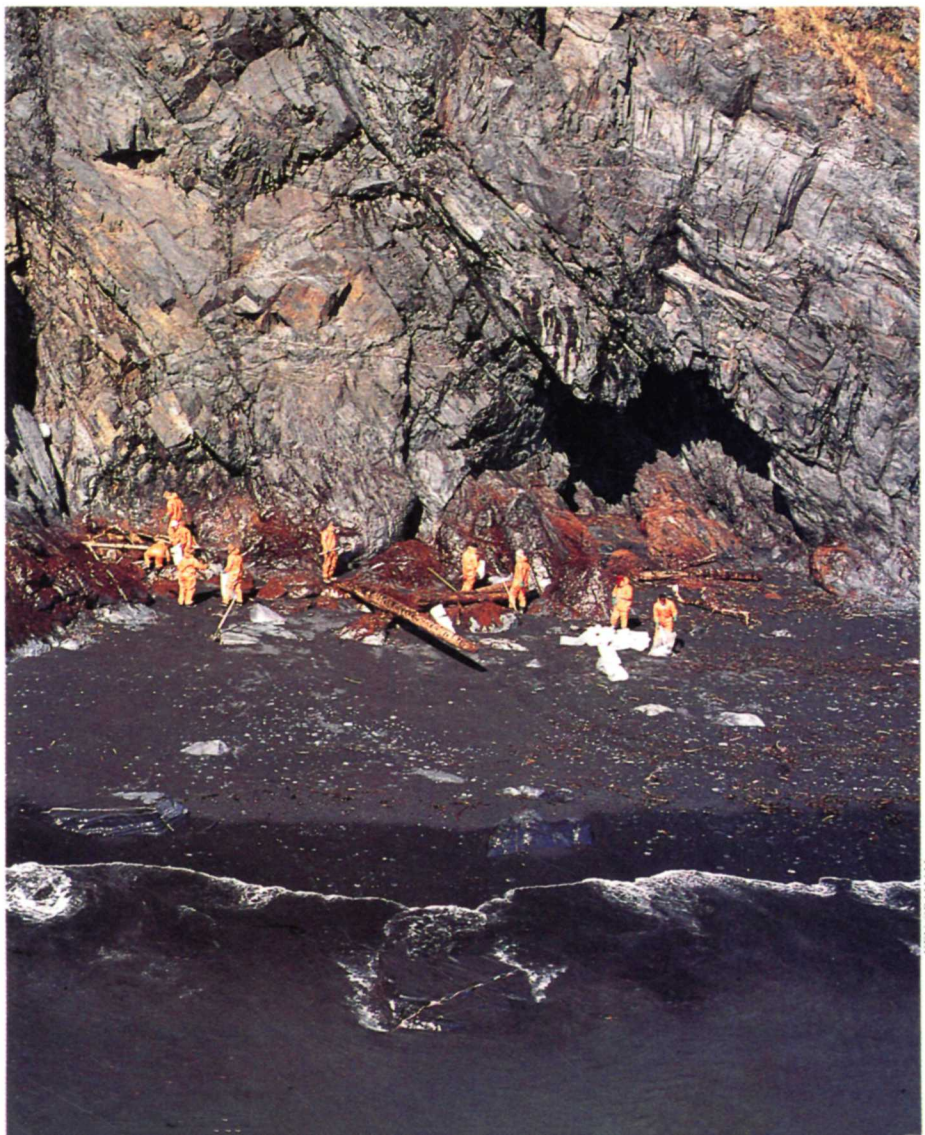
A number of other factors hinder Park Service restoration proposals. These include the inevitable clash—sometimes mild, sometimes intense—of different state and federal resource management philosophies; a focus on Prince William Sound, based on the assumption that this was the area of greatest injury; a bias toward economic resource restoration; the failure of the Park Service historically to assert its interests effectively in cooperative forums; a small staff within the Park Service with limited resources devoted to oil spill work; and the sheer bureaucratic complexity of managing the court-approved settlement.

Six representatives from the state and the federal governments serve on the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council. Interior Secretary Manuel Lujan, one of the federal trustees, represents NPS, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs. His designee in Alaska is Curt McVee, a former BLM director for the state. After his retirement from BLM, McVee represented mining interests for a time before assuming duties as head of the Federal Subsistence Board, coordinating subsistence hunting policies on all federal lands in the state (see *National Parks* March/April 1992).

Trustee deliberations are supported by information provided by the Restoration Team (RT), consisting of seven state and federal resource managers. Funding proposals are debated in detail by the Restoration Team. Any funding proposal receiving two objections dies at this level, although there are provisions for reconsideration before the trustee council. If the proposal survives and moves on to the trustees, it must gain unanimous approval to receive funding.

This complex deliberation structure may be inhibiting prompt and fair con-

JOHN HYDE



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Black oystercatchers and other animals that feed on shellfish are in danger of ingesting oil, which continues to taint the shoreline. Below, workers remove oiled gravel, driftwood, and carcasses from a beach.

sideration of Park Service proposals, says John M. Morehead, NPS regional director for Alaska. "It's very difficult for agency staff to get their priorities through the whole chain of filters to the trustee council. There are just too many decision-making steps between the agency staff and the council staff. The fact that council recommendations have to be unanimous is a very tough organizational mandate," says Morehead.

Park Service officials have been especially frustrated by a series of memos issued by McVee and his deputy, Pamela Bergmann, intended to clarify the chain of command and communications among Interior bureaus, the Interior trustee, the trustee council, and non-Interior agencies. Some of the memos, they say, have been virtual "gag orders." Park Service officials also complain that representatives of some state agencies have given the process a political flavor by lobbying for trustee and Restoration Team support for their projects, and that peer review for some proposals has not been adequate.

McVee acknowledges the trustee process is slow, but he feels the pace and quality of decisions will improve now that some initial groundwork has been laid. He says he is not aware of overt politicking among agencies and says he abhors the very notion.

"It's gone slower than I'd anticipated. It's a committee operation; that takes time," says McVee. The ultimate mission for everyone is restoration of spill-damaged resources, says McVee, adding that guidance memos issued since he assumed the Interior seat on the council last fall have served to streamline, not stifle, communication among Interior agencies and others.

McVee suggests that the Park Service mission, which emphasizes noninterference with natural processes of parklands, may be contributing to an assumption or perception on the part of others that the Park Service will take

KEN GRAHAM

a low profile. "This limits how deeply it can be involved in restoration activities, in contrast with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, which actively provides for protection and production of fish resources."

McVee says the natural tendency to focus first on Prince William Sound, where beaches and wildlife were most heavily oiled, will give way to a more comprehensive approach to restoration as trustees simplify decision-making. He says the trustees' evaluation criteria provide ample room for passive projects suited to Park Service philosophy as well as for the ongoing research considered essential by Morehead and his staff. McVee denies that Park Service proposals have been targeted for rejection, noting that the same evaluation criteria are applied equally to all submitting agencies. Included among the other agencies submitting requests are the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and the state Department of Environmental Conservation.

"The Park Service has some legitimate projects [such as] evaluation of coastal habitat, and I've encouraged them to resubmit. I can see that oil spill money should go into that effort at some point," says McVee.

One way or another, Morehead is determined to boost the approval rating for his agency's proposals. "My concern is that our priorities are not funded yet. If they aren't funded through settlement money, then we intend to work through the system to get them funded through the normal budget process."

He insists that further delay puts significant park resources at risk. "Time is of the essence; every year we lose is critical. [If we can't conduct these studies], we may negate the data we've already collected."

For the Park Service, the imperative to overcome its difficulties in the oil spill arena will increase rather than diminish with time. Intentions for 1993 include pushing for studies and for a more active restoration strategy. Castellina says the highest priority is placed on acquiring Native-owned land within Kenai Fjords National Park to provide a higher degree of protection to lands affected by the spill.

"What we're talking about is an opportunity to restore lands to the park in perpetuity, and at the same time benefit Native groups who have been affected. It's a way of helping to make things whole," Castellina says.

Although such strategies are permitted by the restoration framework drawn up by the trustee council, Alaska Gov.

More study is needed to determine whether the oil spill has contributed to a decline in Alaska's sea lion population.

Walter J. Hickel vetoed a state plan to buy land because he believed the proposal did not qualify for oil-spill money.

If there is hope for the national parks, perhaps it lies in overcoming some of the insularity and the naivete that have marked NPS in the past. Cordell Roy sounds a warning about the need to learn from the oil spill experience. He suggests that NPS's inability to get restoration funds is indicative of a much greater problem within the agency.

Mary Grisco, NPCA's Alaska Regional Director, agrees but goes one step further. Grisco says the Park Service lacks the leadership and political strength to adequately represent its interests. "The amount of political interference in NPS affairs in Alaska is appalling," she says. "What happened with the *Exxon Valdez* spill is an example of what can happen when politics gets in the way of intelligent decision-making. What the Park Service needs is strong leadership at the top level and less interference from the Department of the Interior and Congress."

Jeffrey R. Richardson lives in Alaska and writes about natural resource issues.

CAROL LEE

TREASURE ISLAND

Salt River Bay, St. Croix, a new national park unit, preserves natural and historical riches.

By Roland Wauer

The view of Salt River Bay from St. Croix's Kirkegaard Hill is spectacular. The sparkling blue waters are set off by the dark green mangroves that line the shore and dominate Sugar and Triton bays. The salt pond at Sugar Bay—full from recent rains—contains a variety of herons, egrets, and shorebirds, as well as a wintering osprey that has taken up residence.

Overhead, high above the bay waters, a magnificent frigatebird circles. A common species here, the bird got its name from early-day sailors who compared its swift and bold behavior to a frigate, a quick, maneuverable warship. The bird sailed east on its great wings beyond the bay toward Christiansted Harbor.

It was in this bay nearly 500 years earlier that 17 Spanish ships, under the command of Admiral Christopher Columbus, lay at anchor beyond the submerged reef. It is doubtful that Columbus or any of the crew who joined the explorer's second voyage could foresee the significance of that November day in 1493. But one thing is certain, this site—a recent addition to the National Park System—is one of the most remarkable natural and archaeological areas in the Caribbean.

Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve is considered by some to be a biological lifeboat for the Virgin Islands. Little more than a speck in the Caribbean Sea, the 912-acre park—600 acres of water and 312 acres of land—is a microcosm of the diverse natural and cultural history of the West Indies. The Salt River Bay area contains upland forest, freshwater wetlands, mangroves, a salt pond, and an estuary with sea grass beds, coral reefs, and one of the world's few underwater limestone canyons. The area also contains evidence of Indian as well as French, Spanish, British, and Dutch occupations and represents the competitive struggle among the colonial

ROLAND WAUER

LITHOGRAPH BY THEODOR DEBRY, 1631

The first documented hostile encounter between Spaniards and West Indians occurred at Salt River Bay, an area with great cultural and natural wealth. The pre-Columbian head, above, was found near Christiansted National Historic Site, St. Croix. The queen angelfish, far right, is one of the creatures found around the coral reef not far off the island's shore.

powers to control the New World.

Extensive pre-Columbian burial grounds, which include remains that date between 665 and 1015, are found within the park. At the time of Columbus' arrival, three distinct ethnic groups inhabited the West Indies, two of which were represented on St. Croix. Each had emigrated from South America, moving from island to island through the Lesser Antilles. Tainos arrived on St. Croix by about A.D. 600. Prior to the Tainos' arrival, two other groups had inhabited the island: a pre-ceramic people and a pottery-making people called *Igneri*—a Taino word for those who came before. The Tainos were a stable agricultural society and established small villages along the coast where they could farm the flatlands. This existence was shattered with the arrival of the Caribs, who began to move through the Lesser Antilles during the 14th century, eventually arriving at St. Croix less than 100 years before Columbus. The Island-Caribs, as they are called by archaeologists, killed off the Taino males, enslaved the women and the children, and developed a complex blend of Carib-Taino culture.

National Park Service archaeologist John Erenhard describes the Salt River Bay site as "a fantastic resource base." The new park's most significant ruin is a ceremonial plaza, built in the 1200s or 1300s, on which the Taino Indians played a ritual game similar to soccer. The park also includes the site of a major Indian village, Columbus' landing place, and the walls of a 17th-century fort. A National Park Service study states: "Salt River Bay has long been recognized as an area with important cultural resources. Excavations of village middens [refuse heaps], ball court features, and burials have provided evidence for the interpretation of Caribbean life prior to European settlement. Such sites have significance because European exploration almost immediately eliminated ancient lifeways."

Five hundred years after Columbus' first voyage, Congress turned its attention to Salt River Bay, in part because the site provides the only true U.S. link to the explorer's journeys. Although Columbus also visited Puerto Rico, a U.S. commonwealth, the actual landing site there is unknown. The Salt River location received adequate documentation by the explorer's crew because of an incident believed to be the first hostile encounter recorded between the Spanish and the natives of the New World. That incident, almost as important as the "discovery" voyage itself, serves as the symbolic turning point in the decline of the native West Indians.

On the morning of November 14, 1493, resident Carib Indians watched as 17 Spanish ships anchored just beyond the entrance to Salt River Bay. They had previously seen nothing larger than their own seagoing canoes. Imagine their astonishment when two dozen or more soldiers, with orders to find fresh water and to investigate a village that could be seen on the western side of the bay, landed on shore. By the time the soldiers arrived at the beach, the village had been vacated except for a few Taino Indian slaves, whom the Spanish took back to the ship. From these slaves, the Spaniards learned that the Caribs called the island *Cibuquiera*, or the Stony Land, and the Tainos' term for it was *Ayay*, or The River.

While en route to the ships with the Tainos and some booty taken from the village, the Spanish encountered a canoe carrying six Caribs, four men and two women. A fight ensued, and two men, one Spaniard and one Carib, later died from the wounds received during the exchange. The surviving Indians were captured. The incident was documented by four Spaniards including Columbus, who named the battle site *Cabo de las Flechas*, or Cape of the Arrows, and the

STEPHEN FRINK/WATERHOUSE INC.

island *Santa Cruz*, or Holy Cross. (It was the later French term for Holy Cross, St. Croix, that stuck.)

Following that encounter, many events become firsts, symbolic of the changes that would occur over the next 500 years. Along with the first skirmish, those events included a treaty, soon broken; rebellion against the Spanish; and an eventual decree from the king of Spain to exterminate all Caribs, a term that by that time the Spanish used to refer to all recalcitrant West Indians. By the mid-1500s, the Caribs who survived the skirmishes and confrontations deserted Cibuquiera and moved southeastward to other islands. Today about 3,000 Caribs, the last remnant of the original peoples, live on a reservation on Dominica.

By the late 1500s, St. Croix was virtually uninhabited. From that point, competition among the European colonial powers was played out on the islands, and Salt River Bay became a centerpiece for European colonization. During the 1600s, the Spanish, English, Dutch, and French fought continuously over the island. A triangular earthen fortress, constructed on part of the Carib village site, was begun by the British in 1641, completed by the Dutch the following year, and seized in 1650 by the French, who abandoned the island in 1696 but held it until 1733. The remains of this structure, which is now severely eroded, represent the only one of its kind remaining in the West Indies and may be the only one left in North America. Explicit details of that fortification and adjacent village were taken from a map developed by Spanish spies who had infiltrated the area in preparation for an attack that later failed.

By the late 1660s, settlement of St. Croix was concentrated on the eastern end of the island near what was later to become Christiansted. But for the next 200 years, Salt River continued to play an important role as a port for the export of sugar, rum, and molasses. The Danish West India and Guinea Company bought the island from France in 1733. To control smugglers who were trying to avoid paying custom duties, the Danes built a small gun battery below the earlier fort and a customs house along the Sugar Bay shoreline. Remnants of all these structures still exist within the newly designated national park. The Danish colony flourished for 150 years before suffering economic decline. Denmark sold the Virgin Islands in 1917 to the United States, which bought them for strategic military reasons.

Salt River Bay's natural resources are as impressive as its cultural and historical aspects. The area's ecosystem supports 28 federally or locally endangered animals and plants, such as green and hawksbill turtles and Vahl's boxwood and swamp fern. A total of 110 species of birds has been recorded at Salt River Bay. Twenty-six species, more than half the number that breeds on St. Croix, nest at Salt River Bay. Other birds rely upon the area to roost or feed. Among those to be found here are great and snowy egrets, great blue and tricolored herons, West Indian whistling and ruddy ducks, clapper rail, Caribbean coot, least tern, piping plover, and white-crowned pigeon. Familiar North American songbirds, such as warblers and vireos, also depend on Salt River Bay as a stopover during migration. Many of these birds stay in the Caribbean from October through March and depend upon healthy mangroves and hillside forests for their survival.

The diversity of wildlife is due in part to a chain of relatively intact natural habitats, from upland forest to marine corals. Most similar systems in the Caribbean are missing important links, which development has either degraded or eliminated. But here on St. Croix, inland slopes contain thorn woodland habitat on their crests, and deciduous

DAVE B. FLEETHAM/TOM STACK&ASSOC.

Salt River Bay's ecosystem supports 28 federally or locally endangered plants and animals, including the green sea turtle.

forests grow on cooler hillsides and within a few canyon bottoms. Rainwater flows from these forests and slopes into Salt River, once a significant and continuous stream, but which now flows only occasionally. The Salt River floodplain still contains adequate moisture to support a freshwater marsh of cattails, sedges, and grasses. Huge swamp ferns, rivaling any Boston fern on the continent, grow under the canopy of the outer mangroves.

Below the marsh, a forest begins that is made up of stands of buttonwoods, white, black, and red mangroves. At the edge of the estuary, great tangles of red mangrove roots support algae and form spectacular nursery areas for St. Croix's abundant fish, shellfish, and crustaceans. A system of fresh to brackish to salt water flora and fauna filters out pollutants so that the estuary beyond is enriched with nontoxic nutrients on which the young marine life depends.

As the flow continues seaward, it passes over sea grass beds and their abundant marine life, nourishing these valuable habitats. The flow continues past the capes toward the coral gardens and reefs. These habitats support a diverse collection of marine life and provide valuable spawning and nursery areas for many species of fish and crustaceans. Beyond the barrier reef, the submarine canyon forms a long north-south trench, whose steep walls are covered with a variety of deep-water corals and sponges. The canyon eventually drops more than 12,000 feet into a deep gorge that separates the Puerto Rican Bank and the northern Virgin Islands of St. Thomas and St. John from the southern Virgin Island of St. Croix.

According to geologist Dennis Hubbard, of St. Croix's West Indies Laboratory, the "estuary and submarine canyon are part of a submerged valley that formed hundreds of thousands of years ago...and is among the most intensely studied areas of the sea floor in the world." Since 1978, Fairleigh Dickinson University's National Undersea Research Center has employed an underwater laboratory near the mouth of the submarine canyon. More than 600 scientists have lived within this laboratory, called Aquarius, for one- or two-week periods.

Because of Salt River's wealth of natural and cultural resources, Salt River Bay was declared a national historic landmark in 1960 and a natural landmark in 1980. It is the only site to receive both designations.

In 1985 the Virgin Islands-Columbus Jubilee Committee became one of the first groups to suggest that Salt River Bay be declared a national park. Although Salt River would seem a likely choice for national park status, the designation evolved only after a long battle and a number of skirmishes. And the fight may not be over. President Bush has signed the park's enabling legislation into law, but the House of Representatives reneged this year on the

LARRY LIPSKY/TOM STACK & ASSOC.

ROLAND WAUER

CAROL LEE

Great blue herons and swamp ferns are among the species found at Salt River Bay, one of the newest national park sites.

The stands of red, black, and white mangroves at Salt River Bay are among the largest in the Virgin Islands.

funding necessary to establish and staff the site.

Despite this setback, the plan to establish a park and to preserve this remarkable site has come a long way. Just five years ago, the Allen-Williams Corporation proposed developing a $100-million resort, complete with a 288-room hotel, 300 condos, and a 125-slip marina on 74 acres of Cape of the Arrows. Approved by St. Croix's Coastal Zone Management Committee, the project would have required razing the mangrove swamps, blasting through the coral reef, and dredging the bay, which would have destroyed a good portion of the sea grass beds. In 1988 NPCA joined in a lawsuit filed by the St. Croix Environmental Association challenging the permits to develop the site.

NPCA was one of the first national conservation groups to campaign for park status for Salt River Bay. Laura Loomis, NPCA's deputy director of conservation programs, traveled to St. Croix in 1986 in an attempt to build grassroots support for the park. By early 1989, several other national conservation organizations had entered the fray. Joining NPCA and the St. Croix group were the National Wildlife Federation, the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund, and The Nature Conservancy—which in 1971 had bought 12.7 acres of mangroves in Triton Bay.

Both Del. Ron de Lugo (D) and Virdin Brown, president of the Virgin Islands senate, worked to build support for making Salt River Bay a national park. Public approval of the idea began to build in 1989 when the local population realized that access to a popular beach would be curtailed if the private development were allowed to go through. On May 10, 1989, the Salt River Park alternatives developed by NPS were presented to the public at an open meeting on St. Croix; 300 people attended. Of 30 groups or individuals to testify, only one person favored a hotel over a park. And the testimony overwhelmingly supported the largest unit possible, about 1,000 acres. The strong public support for the park is reflected in the enabling legislation, which calls for cooperative management with the Virgin Islands government.

De Lugo introduced the House of Representatives bill in July 1991, and Sen. Bennett Johnston (D-La.) introduced the companion Senate bill.

President Bush signed the bill into law in February of this year. NPCA President Paul C. Pritchard said of setting aside the 912-acre park, "There could be no better way of marking the 500th anniversary of the Columbian expeditions than preserving one of the last unspoiled areas in the West Indies."

Roland Wauer was principal author of NPS's Alternatives for Salt River. *He is a past contributor to* National Parks.

An Embattled Wilderness

New York's Adirondack Park enters its second century confronted by mounting development pressures.

By Richard Beamish

On a road map, the Adirondack Park is usually delineated with a jagged blue line that circles most of northern New York State between Albany and the Canadian border. The park encompasses nearly 6 million acres, an area as large as Vermont—or the size of Yellowstone, Yosemite, Grand Canyon, Glacier, and Great Smoky Mountains national parks combined.

From almost any mountaintop in the Adirondack Park, the region appears to be a seamless mosaic of lakes, streams, wetlands, forests, and mountains extending to the farthest horizons. It includes State Forest Preserve and private forestland belonging to the likes of International Paper Company, which owns more than 200,000 Adirondack acres, or to Cornelius Vanderbilt Whitney, whose lake-strewn "park within a park" contains 51,000 acres. The view from some summits takes in the great valleys around the edges of the park—the St. Lawrence to the north, Hudson and Mohawk to the south, Lake Champlain to the east—including farmhouses and pastureland. From on high, you may see a settlement or two—Lake Placid, for example, or Saranac Lake Village, once a world-famous cure center for tuberculosis patients and still, with all of 6,000 inhabitants, the largest village in the park.

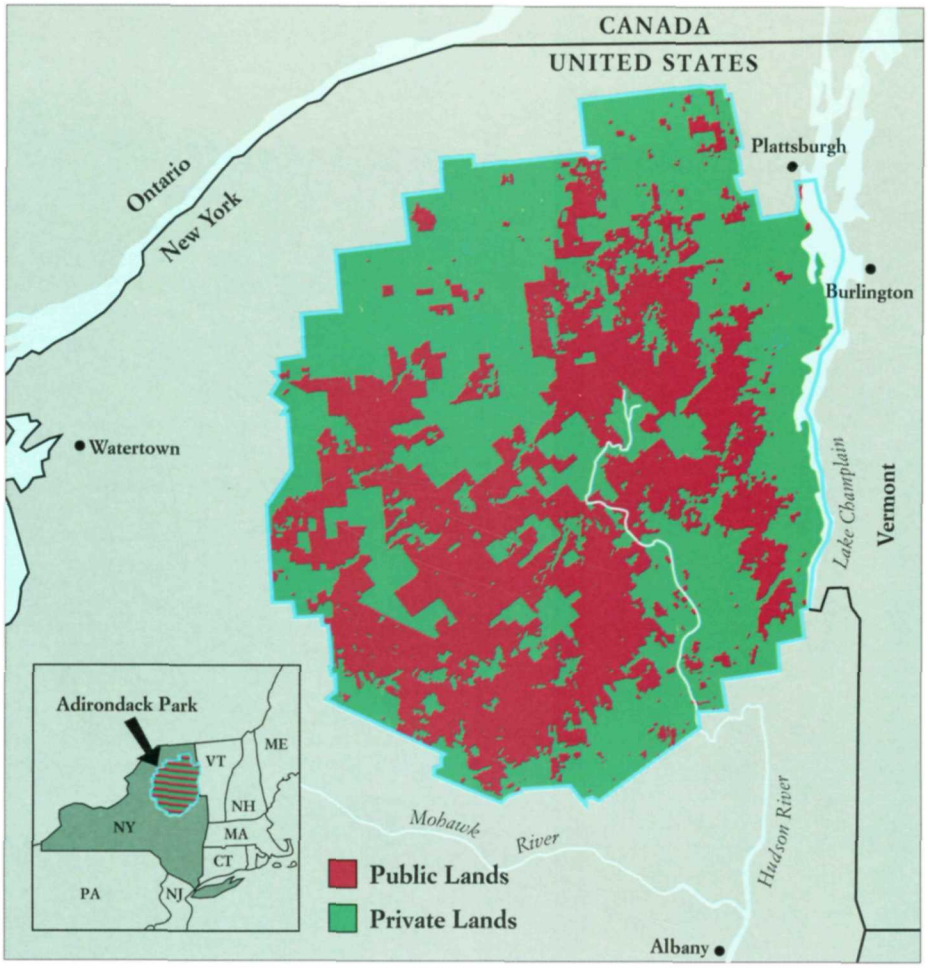
Apart from the occasional village or farm, there's a sense of all-encompassing wildness, the illusion that these woods and mountains go on forever. But on a map showing ownership patterns, the region's mixture of public and private holdings resembles an impossibly complicated jigsaw puzzle. It is this mixture that makes the Adirondack Park one of the most vulnerable parks in the lower 48 states. As development pressures on the private lakes and landscapes increase, the park as a whole is increasingly threatened.

Yet there is much to celebrate this centennial year as the Adirondack Park prepares for its second century. While many parts of the world have become more crowded and artificial, the park has become more natural. It is one of the great success stories of ecosystem renewal.

When the state legislature created the Adirondack Park in 1892, much of the region had been reduced to a cemetery of charred stumps and mudflats, a forlorn landscape ravaged by 50 years

CARR CLIFTON

Early autumn transforms the forests surrounding Heart Lake in the Adirondack Park's "high peaks" area.



TOM MANN

of clear-cutting. By 1892, only about 5 percent of the original timber remained.

Today, the forests have largely grown back and much of the original wildlife has returned. The state has restored bald eagles and peregrine falcons and is currently releasing lynx airlifted down from the Yukon. Moose have recently wandered back on their own from Canada and northern New England. Loons, martens, and fishers are doing well. Ravens have rebounded—their croaking and cavorting once again enliven the woods and waterways. Beavers, extirpated by the beginning of this century, are busy everywhere. Some of the best trout fishing in the Northeast can be found in the fast-flowing streams of the Adirondacks.

Best of all, if you don't mind black flies in the spring and 30-below temperatures in the winter, and if you can figure out some way to earn a living, you can reside here among all this natural beauty, as 130,000 people now do. Employment has been traditionally tourist-and-wood-related, with local and state government providing other jobs. These days, however, real estate appears to be the growth industry in the Adirondacks. For better or worse, it's an increasingly fertile field for speculators, subdividers, builders, lawyers, bankers, insurance agents, surveyors, and various vacation-home services.

For a century, this patchwork park of public and private lands has been a model showing how we can manage a region of surpassing ecological value in which people live and earn a livelihood in peaceful coexistence with their natural surroundings.

The model began to take shape on that day in 1892 when the legislature, alarmed by the rapid loss of the state's watershed forests, drew that line around much of northern New York and called it the Adirondack Park. Generations before the word "ecology" became a household word, this boundary defined a world-class ecosystem containing the headwaters of five major river systems. In drawing its line, the legislature also created America's first and foremost "greenline park"—a park that some property rights advocates and real-estate operators continue to insist is no park at all.

In 1894, New Yorkers made more conservation history. They amended the state's constitution to permanently preserve the public parcels in the park as the State Forest Preserve. No trees could be cut, and no land could be sold, leased, or developed—it had to remain "forever wild." This amendment represents the most rigorous protection of wilderness the country has ever known. It also served as an inspiration for the National Wilderness Preservation Act, which came into being 80 years later.

When the legislature established the Adirondack Park, it was expected that all land within the blue line would eventually be owned by the public. Though that didn't happen, the Forest Preserve has been expanded, along with the larger park itself, over the years.

In the 1920s, four decades before Lady Bird Johnson sought to beautify our national highways, New York State banned off-site advertising in the Adirondacks outside the incorporated villages. Thus thousands of miles of scenic highways and backroads would remain forever free of billboards. Even today, the roadside scenery throughout the Adirondack Park amazes and delights visitors with its lack of signs and other commercial "improvements."

In the 1960s, the region lost much of its protective isolation. A new interstate highway, I-87, halved the driving time from New York and Montreal. What had been an exhausting nine-hour haul from Manhattan to Lake Placid was now closer to five hours. The drive from the Big City to the Big Lake—beautiful Lake George in the southern Adirondacks—could now be accomplished between breakfast and lunch. Suddenly, this park of mostly private tracts was ripe for development.

At about that time, Horizon Corporation, a big-league subdivider then cutting a swath through the American Southwest, purchased 24,000 acres in

GARY RANDORF

ART WOLFE

the northern Adirondacks at bargain-basement prices and announced plans to build 10,000 vacation homes there. A half-dozen other plans surfaced for ambitious residential developments.

At about the same time, Laurance Rockefeller—whose brother, Nelson, was then governor of New York—released a landmark report in 1967 that proposed an Adirondack Mountains National Park. It would consist of 1.7 million acres of the existing state park. The remaining 4 million acres, however, would continue as before, with no protection for the private lakes and landscapes other than the billboard ban of 1924.

The outcry was instantaneous. Nobody, it seemed, wanted a national park. But the proposal served a vital purpose: it focused public attention on ominous new trends in the Adirondacks, and it stimulated widespread concern about the park's future.

Nelson Rockefeller promptly set up his own "Study Commission on the Future of the Adirondacks." Two years later, in 1970, his commission reported.

"Some areas of the country have managed to escape the destructive hand of man," the commission said, "but even these sanctuaries are now subject to the unrelenting pressures of an increasingly urbanized society. The Adirondack Park has long been such a sanctuary. Whether it continues to be one depends on the foresight and resolve of all New Yorkers."

DOMINIQUE BRAUD/TOM STACK & ASSOC.

Much of the Adirondacks' original wildlife, including moose (top) and loons (above), is once again doing well. The state is currently reintroducing the Canadian lynx (top right) to the park.

For most of the park's existence, the commission found, the relationship between public and private holdings had been mostly "harmonious and complementary." But the "profitability of subdivision and second-home development" was now a cause for concern. "Seasonal residences have an important place in the Adirondack Park," the report concluded, "but without adequate land-use controls, subdividing will destroy the park."

"If the Adirondacks are to be saved, time is of the essence," stressed Harold K. Hochschild, the industrialist and Adirondack historian who chaired the commission.

The commission called for the creation of an Adirondack Park Agency (APA) to regulate development on the private lands that adjoin and surround the hundreds of parcels of Forest Preserve. Within months, the new agency came into being and went to work on a parkwide zoning plan.

Two years later, in 1973, the state legislature approved the plan. As he signed it into law, Governor Rockefeller proclaimed: "The Adirondacks are preserved forever!" Another milestone had been reached in American conservation, though the governor's optimism proved to be premature.

Never before had so large an area been subject to such environmentally sensitive controls. The plan was based on an inventory and mapping of natural factors, including soils, slopes, wetlands, elevation, climate, vegetation, wildlife habitat. Aesthetic considerations—the need to preserve the region's exquisite natural beauty—figured prominently. Existing uses were factored in. Proximity of private to public land was carefully noted and "carrying capacity" determined. Finally, limits were set on future building densities, and a permit system was established for projects that could have a "regional impact."

Local governments retained control over most land uses. With APA assistance, the park's towns and villages were encouraged to establish local plans that meshed with the regional scheme.

In its early years, the new agency

met with clamorous resistance from developers and home-rule advocates. These opponents skillfully exploited the suspicion and discontent, fostered by the APA's complicated (and nearly incomprehensible) regulations, among an independent-minded populace unaccustomed to land-use controls of any kind and resentful of government interference at any level. By the end of the decade, however, the anti-APA sentiments began to subside as it became clear that the new rules didn't affect most people at all.

CARR CLIFTON

The Adirondacks' deciduous trees are predominantly beech, birch, and maple—resulting in vivid autumn foliage.

Now it was time for the conservationists to fret. Although much better than nothing, the APA was not, as Governor Rockefeller had predicted, saving the Adirondack Park.

As the building boom of the 1980s gathered momentum, forested shorelines were giving way to lakeview condominiums and cottages. Seeping septic tanks were polluting lakes and causing algae blooms. Elaborate boathouses, satellite dishes, suburban-style lawns, and lakeside airplane hangars were transforming pristine waterways. Chalets were appearing on hillsides and ridges. New houses sprouted in the foreground of spectacular roadside vistas. Even with the APA's supposedly stringent density controls, which prescribed a limit of 15 new houses per square mile for more than half the private land, Adirondack backcountry was being carved into 50-acre "wilderness ranchettes."

Then, in the late 1980s, Henry Lassiter discovered the Adirondacks. A high-rolling land speculator from Atlanta, Georgia, Lassiter purchased 90,000 acres of Adirondack forests for approximately $200 per acre. The land had previously belonged to Diamond International, a timber company acquired by a French conglomerate that was now liquidating Diamond's northeast holdings.

Conservationists were outraged. For the entire year that the Diamond lands were on the market, the state had failed to make a realistic offer. Now the property appeared to be lost—and destined for development. In response to the uproar, Gov. Mario Cuomo quickly purchased (at a big mark-up) the most critical of Lassiter's new holdings. To calm the conservationists, Cuomo also set up a Commission on the Adirondack Park in the 21st Century. Identify the problems, he instructed the new study team, and come up with some solutions.

The governor got more than he bargained for. The commission, chaired by Peter A.A. Berle, president of the National Audubon Society, concluded that the park was threatened as never before. "The pace of land sales and the breakup of large parcels suggest that the final shape of the Adirondack Park will be determined before this century is over," the commission reported.

It called for stronger development controls on shorelines, roadsides, and backcountry; a temporary moratorium on construction in the most sensitive areas; enactment of "existing use zoning" that would ban residential development on half the private lands (with tax breaks and a system of "transferable development rights" proposed for affected landowners); and an all-out campaign of land and easement purchases that would, among other things, result eventually in a 400,000-acre Bob Marshall Great Wilderness. This would be the largest single tract of protected wilderness east of the Mississippi River, with enough lakes and streams for a new public canoe area and enough range for timber wolves.

The response was swift and vigorous. Robert F. Flacke, the dissenting member of Cuomo's commission, denounced the report, even before it was released, as an extremist pipe dream. "I cannot subscribe to a vision of the Adirondack Park as a mainly wilderness area where environmental considerations must come before economic needs of the people," he stated. "The commission envisions a park where there are no residents, no commercial activities, no local governments. But people happen to live and work in the park. We need to balance resource preservation with the needs of the people."

Flacke, a Lake George businessman and resort owner, also serves on the board of Finch-Pruyn, a paper company that owns 154,000 acres of Adirondack real estate, including some of the finest undisturbed lakes in the park. Flacke would soon become a key organizer and strategist for the opposition.

Conservationists countered that there would be ample room for development—for at least three times the current number of houses, for example. The object was not to stop development, they insisted, but to ensure that

CARL HEILMAN

The Adirondack Park's many wetlands attract myriad creatures such as this red eft, photographed near Brant Lake.

future development did not destroy the park.

Such arguments were drowned out in the ensuing uproar as real-estate and home-rule interests seized the initiative. Various "grassroots" groups emerged throughout the Adirondacks with such names as Blue Line Council, Adirondack Solidarity Alliance, Adirondack Fairness Coalition, and Adirondack Citizens Council. Some were directly linked to the national "wise use movement," which seeks to open public lands to full-scale private exploitation and which deplores the kind of development controls the APA—and the Cuomo commission—stand for.

Though their tone and tactics varied, from shouting and gun-waving to calls for moderation, balance, and multiple use, the rash of new Adirondack groups shared similar goals for the park: no more regulations, no more public land, and greater representation for pro-development interests on the APA's governing board. The property rights advocates held motorcade demonstrations that blocked Interstate 87, packed public meetings and shouted down speakers, monopolized the local press, and lobbied hard in Albany.

Stunned by the backlash, Cuomo distanced himself from his commission. Later in 1990, the state's voters narrowly defeated an environmental bond act that would have provided a new infusion of funds for land acquisition in the Adirondacks. ("If the bond act passes," the opponents had claimed, "the state may use its power of eminent domain to take away your land.")

"There's no development crisis in the Adirondacks," says Frederick H. Monroe, who sums up the opposition's case. Monroe is a town supervisor, a founder of the Adirondack Fairness Coalition, and a lawyer who represents developers before the APA. "On the private land, building applications are way down," he says. "And the public land—almost 3 million acres of it—can't be developed at all." The crisis, says Monroe, is a fabrication of the radical environmentalists.

On the other hand, Robert C. Glennon, the APA's executive director, sees disaster looming. "The scheme of the present zoning law guarantees the ultimate destruction of the Adirondack Park and anoints us to preside over it," he says. "It's that simple."

Recently, a number of national conservation leaders, including NPCA's president, Paul C. Pritchard, petitioned New York's legislative leaders to enact stronger protections. "When the current recession ends," they wrote, "we can expect the Adirondack building boom to resume with a vengeance—unlike anything these lakes and mountains have yet experienced."

Proposals to strengthen the APA's development controls and provide funds for land acquisitions recently died in the state legislature. Despite support from Governor Cuomo and the state assembly, the protections were blocked by the state senate, largely through the influence of Sen. Ronald Stafford, a powerful Adirondack legislator who represents an increasingly powerful real-estate industry. Conservationists have vowed to overcome Stafford's legislative roadblocks in the 1993 session—but they have their work cut out for them.

Meanwhile, George D. Davis, a former APA employee and chief architect of the APA's zoning map, is spending much of his time these days in Russia, helping that country achieve what he helped to achieve for the Adirondack Park some 20 years ago. Davis, now a MacArthur Foundation Fellow, is devising a management plan for the Lake Baikal watershed, an area more than four times the size of New York State. This involves directing a team of U.S. and Russian scientists to map the region's natural resources and development constraints—"listening to the land, listening to the people," in his words.

As for the prototypical Adirondack Park, Davis is cautiously optimistic. "The great thing about the Adirondack Park is that it is still pretty much intact, like Alaska and the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. If we can get our act together, we can still save all these places."

The reason for Davis' rosy vision? "The developers have the power of money on their side, but we have the power of people," he maintains. "The number of people who use and love the Adirondacks is very large, and there are many others who just want to know that this park exists. If these folks can be mobilized, as they were in the earlier battles, the Adirondacks can be saved for the next century."

Richard Beamish, a long-time Adirondack guide, now serves as field representative for the National Audubon Society.

What You Can Do

Write to state senate leader Ralph J. Marino, reminding him that the Adirondack Park is a national treasure whose fate must not be left to the mercies of one development-minded legislator (Sen. Stafford) from northern New York State. Address: Sen. Ralph J. Marino, Majority Leader, NYS Senate, Albany, NY 12247. Please send a copy of your letter to Gov. Mario M. Cuomo, State Capitol, Albany, NY 12224, with a note urging him to lead the way to lasting protection for the Adirondacks.

When Cultures Collide

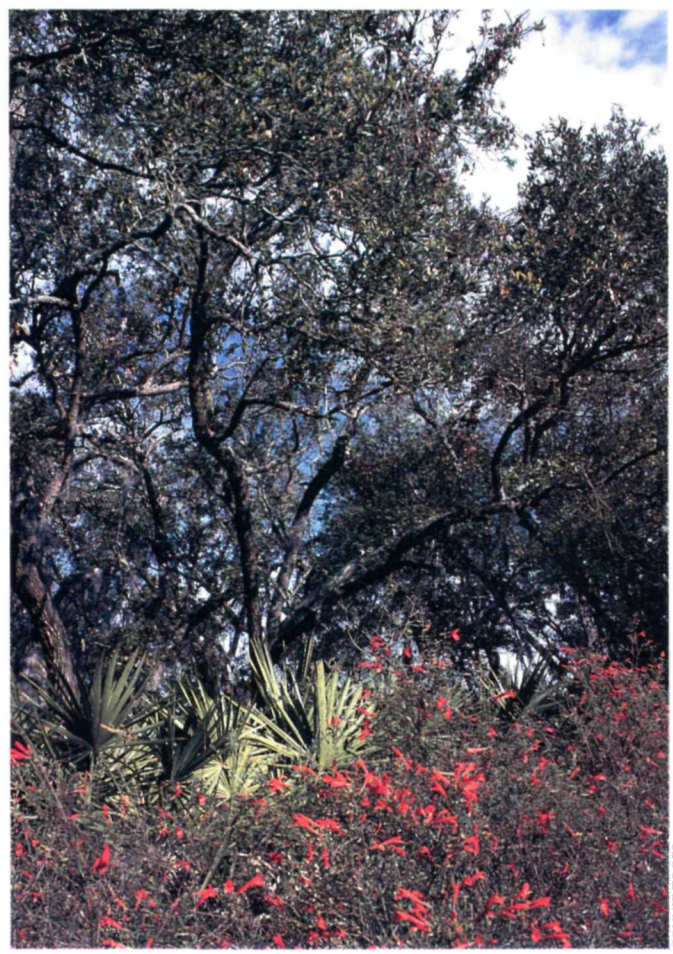
National park units trace the path of the Spanish through the "New World."

By Yvette La Pierre

THERE WAS NO celebration in America 100 years or even 200 years after Christopher Columbus' first voyage, but by 1792 festivities marking the journey had begun. Often these events did not incorporate the immediate and ongoing consequences of the explorer's find. When Columbus "discovered" the New World, dynamic and diverse cultures flourished here. Millions of people spoke hundreds of languages, and sophisticated trade routes spanned thousands of miles. These societies ran the gamut from small bands of hunters to powerful empires.

The contribution of these cultures is not the only underrepresented element in a typical presentation of U.S. history. The centuries-long presence of Spain in America has received only superficial treatment. Within 50 years of Columbus' voyage, Spanish explorers roamed the continent from the Gulf and Atlantic coasts to the Pacific in search of mythical cities and fabled wealth. The Spaniards brought profound cultural, social, and economic changes to Native Americans and the New World.

On this, the 500th anniversary, the National Park Service is helping to broaden the focus from Columbus' voyage to the resulting encounter of cultures. A variety of exhibits that depict efforts to convert Native Americans to Christianity have been planned throughout the park system at Spanish missions. Visitors also can explore the ruins of Native American and Spanish colonial societies at a variety of park units. The following is a sampling of some of the many parks in which visitors can continue the voyage that Columbus began.



CONNIE TOOPS

Gulf Islands National Seashore in Florida.

Gulf Islands National Seashore

Hernando de Soto sailed into what is now Tampa Bay on May 30, 1539. De Soto and his troops then began a march through *La Florida*, leaving a trail of devastated cultures behind. De Soto's troops offered the natives of this area their first encounter with Europeans, and they did little to leave a good impression. News of de Soto's ruthless treatment of the Indians traveled before him. The expedition sometimes found Indian villages abandoned or burned when they arrived. When contacts were made, the inhabitants urged the army onward with tales of gold and food to be found farther along. In the end, however, it was not direct aggression that wiped out the local people but the diseases that de Soto's troops spread throughout the Southeast.

The first Spanish settlement in what is now the United States—begun in 1559 on the shores of Pensacola Bay—was not as successful in subduing the Native Americans. The settlers had to fend off constant attacks by Indians, as well as assaults by hurricanes that destroyed their supplies and crude houses. After two years of struggling with starvation, disease, and aggression, the Spanish gave up on Pensacola. They did not return to the bay area until 1698, more than 130 years later. For the next 100

years, Pensacola was a pawn in the struggles among Spanish, French, and British colonial empires, and it changed hands several times. From 1797 to 1798, Spain fortified Pensacola by constructing the Bateria de San Antonio, captured in 1814 by Andrew Jackson. Seven years later, Florida was part of the United States.

Visitors to the Gulf Islands National Seashore can learn more about this tumultuous beginning to the colonization of the New World through special programs and guided tours of the Bateria and the first Spanish settlement. For more information, contact the park at 1801 Gulf Breeze Parkway, Gulf Breeze, FL 32561.

Pecos National Historical Park

During the time that de Soto was crossing the Southeast, another Spanish explorer, Francisco Vasquez de Coronado, led a force through the American Southwest in search of the fabled Seven Cities of Cíbola. When Coronado and his troops reached Pecos in 1541, they found an impressive pueblo with about 2,000 inhabitants. When it was discovered, the pueblo was at the peak of its power as a center for trade that linked the Rio Grande pueblos with buffalo hunters of the Great Plains. The Spanish realized almost immediately the missionary potential of Pecos and began the long and sometimes violent conversion of the Indians to Christianity.

In 1622 the mission was built. It would later be described as "a magnificent temple adorned with six towers, three on each side." The mission's purpose was to convert the native populations and to prepare them for participation in Spanish colonial society. The Franciscan missionaries learned, sometimes after years of attempted conversions, that the Indians accepted from Christianity whatever might be useful to them but did not relinquish their ancestral beliefs. Though many friendships were formed between the Spanish and Native Americans through the years, the oppressive colonial economic system and suppressive Indian policy led to a revolt by the Puebloans in 1680. After 12 years of war, the people of Pecos finally surrendered to the Spanish army, bringing their children to be baptized. Over the next two decades, friars came and went, and the pueblo and the mission fell into decline. In the end, both failed.

KERRICK JAMES

Salinas Pueblo Missions National Monument in New Mexico.

Today, the ruins of churches and pueblo testify both to the long and difficult exchanges between the cultures and to the strength and continuity of the pueblo before it was abandoned in the 19th century. September 19-20, the Gateway Festival will recall the traditional trade fairs that took place at Pecos in the 17th century among the Pueblo, Plains, and Spanish peoples. Throughout the year, visitors can tour the ruins at Pecos, as well as a kitchen garden of a Spanish colonial priest. A special exhibit examines the history of Native American and Hispanic peoples and includes the inaccuracies of stereotypes and myths about them. For more information, contact Pecos National Historical Park, P.O. Drawer 418, Pecos, NM 87552-0418.

Salinas Pueblo Missions

On an expedition to the Salinas Valley in New Mexico in 1853, Major J.H. Carleton came upon some ruins at dusk. "The tall ruins standing there in solitude had an aspect of sadness and gloom," he wrote. "The cold wind. . . appeared to roar and howl through the roofless pile like an angry demon." Carleton recognized the ruins as a Christian church, but he did not know that the long heaps of stone nearby marked the remains of a large pueblo. The pueblo is Abo, one of three pueblo and related mission remains included in the park.

Charged by the Pope with Christianizing the natives of the New World, Franciscan friars became active in the 1620s in what is now central New Mexico, building churches at the pueblos of Abo, Quarai, and Gran Quivira. In the 17th century, the Salinas Valley was a major trade center and one of the most populous parts of the Pueblo world, with perhaps 10,000 or more inhabitants. The Indians had developed a stable agricultural community and lived in apartment-like complexes.

Spanish settlements lacked the natural resources of some other colonies, and Spanish governors relied on profits from the sale of slaves captured in raids

KEN MCVEY

Tumacacori National Historical Park in Arizona is the site of a historic Spanish Catholic mission.

on Plains tribes and from goods produced by Indian labor. The Franciscans tried to establish cordial relations with the Indians and treat them with more respect than the settlers and the government, but the friars themselves placed heavy demands on the pueblos to support the missions. Following years of cultural change, Apache raids, drought, and epidemics of introduced European diseases, surviving Indians abandoned the pueblos in the 1670s, just 50 years after the friars' arrival.

The park is planning a temporary exhibit depicting Native American perspectives on the early encounter with Europeans and the resulting consequences. There will also be a one-day festival October 10, to commemorate the Columbus Quincentennial. For more information, contact Salinas Pueblo Missions National Monument at P.O. Box 496, Mountainair, NM, 87036-0496.

Tumacacori

Father Eusebio Francisco Kino, a vigorous Jesuit leader, first entered what is now southern Arizona in 1691, when he visited, at the request of the inhabitants, the small Pima village of Tumacacori. He said mass there under a brush shelter that the Indians had built for him. By 1698, according to the Jesuit, Tumacacori had an "earth-roofed house of adobe," fields of wheat, and herds of cattle, sheep, and goats. At every opportunity, Father Kino and his successors visited Tumacacori to encourage the Native Americans to embrace Christianity.

In 1767 the Jesuits were expelled from all Spanish dominions, and the next year the Franciscans took over the Sonora mission chain, which included Guevavi and Tumacacori. Repeated Apache raids forced the Franciscans to abandon Guevavi, and around 1772 Tumacacori became headquarters of the district's missions.

When Father Narciso Gutierrez, a Spanish Franciscan, arrived in 1794, he found the church nearly in ruins and was determined to build a magnificent one in its place. Though his church was never finished, Father Gutierrez stayed at Tumacacori until his death in 1820. During his years there, he helped the Indians obtain clear title to their land and established the legal boundaries of mission land. A year after the Franciscan's death, Mexico won independence from Spain. Most of the frontier missions were abandoned soon afterward, in part because the new government was unable to provide adequate military defense against hostile Indians. After the Spanish settlers, soldiers, and priests left, frequent raids by Apaches made life there impossible. When the Christian Indians finally abandoned Tumacacori in 1848, they carried the church furnishings with them to the mission of San Xavier near Tucson.

The church still stands, though the courtyard structures fell into ruin long ago. Visitors can explore the garden, church, and museum at Tumacacori. On December 1, 1992, the park has scheduled the 21st annual Fiesta de Tumacacori, celebrating the continuity of cultural heritage of the area. The day-long festival features crafts, food, and entertainment and begins with a mass to commemorate the arrival of Father Kino. For more information, contact Tumacacori National Historical Park, P.O. Box 67, Tumacacori, AZ, 85640.

Yvette La Pierre is a free-lance writer living in Grand Forks, North Dakota. She last wrote for the magazine about educational programs in the national parks. She is a former associate editor of National Parks.

In Denali

THOREAU HAD WALDEN Pond; Kim Heacox has Denali. For Heacox, Denali National Park and Preserve in Alaska is "a place to practice humility and respect."

In Denali describes one man's efforts to instill an appreciation for one of the country's remaining wild places: a sacred place preserved for spiritual rejuvenation; and a living place that provides sustenance to thousands of animals and plants. Heacox, the writer and photographer, has created a coffee-table book with a message.

Heacox's 96-page book looks as though it will be a shallow beauty, but the author sets the tone in the preface for what is to come. Although the Native American name for the highest mountain in Alaska is used in the park's title, McKinley is the name for the mountain itself. Heacox observes that the mountain was named "in honor of a president who had neither a passion for mountains nor an interest in Alaska." Heacox suggests that Alaska has been and continues to be an object of exploitation by those who care not for the land but instead for their own interests. This theme echoes throughout the book.

Heacox's pictures show the majesty of the mountains that dominate the landscape and the beauty of the animals and plants that depend upon the wilderness for survival. His images are used not so much to show what Alaska has to offer but to demonstrate what we could lose to greed and industry if the interests of a few are allowed to dictate how to operate our public lands.

"Industry and development are... termites chewing away at...[Alaska's] foundation, and Denali needs more development like Scrooge needs more shillings," he writes.

Heacox's intention is clear. Denali, and by extension Alaska, should not be sacrificed to the almighty dollar. Even so, he writes, "It is vital, of course, that people come here; that lives are touched and inspired, that wilderness values are affirmed and anxieties washed away."

Preservationists will welcome this book as a sincere effort to protect and maintain a sacred place. As Heacox asks, "...If the greatest concert halls can have limited seating, then why not our national parks?"

In Denali is available for $16.95, softcover, $29.95, hardcover; published by Companion Press, Santa Barbara.

—Linda M. Rancourt

Caribou from the book *In Denali.*

KIM HEACOX

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Ads must be sent camera-ready and received by closing date. November/December will close August 31; January/February will close November 2.

NOTICES

Earth Share

Federal employees can once again donate to NPCA through the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC), a program that encourages employees to contribute to charities through payroll deductions. NPCA is part of Earth Share, a CFC federation which is made up of 40 national environmental groups. NPCA received more than $300,000 in fiscal year 1992 from the CFC program.

Federal employees may designate NPCA (agency #0910) on their CFC pledge forms or donate to a combination of environmental groups in the federation.

The following states also have included NPCA in their employee campaigns: Arizona, Connecticut, Florida, Michigan, New Jersey, North Carolina, Rhode Island, Utah, Vermont, Washington, and Wisconsin. NPCA continues to apply for inclusion in other state and city employee campaigns.

If you are a city, state, or federal employee, please remember the national parks by donating to NPCA through your payroll deduction program.

HI-TEC

The NPCA HI-TEC Posters for Parks program has been well received by consumers nationwide. The limited edition poster (see page 13) illustrates the flora, fauna, and landmarks of 30 national parks. The program already has raised $14,500 for specific park projects. Look for a display in stores selling HI-TEC products.

The New Generation

Matrix Essentials, manufacturer of System Biolage hair care products, distributed 1.8 million commemorative posters during its second annual "Great Treesome" promotion. Consumers who purchased a System Biolage product received a poster as a thank-you from NPCA and Matrix Essentials. Because of the overwhelming success of the program, Matrix will plant more than 15,000 trees in Redwood National Park this year, helping to complete the restoration of old logging land acquired by the park in 1978. NPCA thanks all those who lent their support.

Grassroots

NPCA is coordinating the eighth annual Everglades Coalition conference February 20–23, 1993. The conference will include seminars on how to combat threats to the park and influence state officials to help protect Everglades National Park. NPCA members interested in attending the conference or becoming active in Everglades issues should contact Ellen Wilson, Everglades Coalition conference coordinator, at 202-223-6722 (ext. 239).

March for Parks 1993®
National Parks and Conservation Association®

March for Parks

NPCA's fourth annual March for Parks will be held April 16–18. Remember to promote the event early to raise the most money and awareness for the local, state, or national park of your choice.

The 1992 march was awarded the Certificate of Environmental Achievement from the National Environmental Awards Council, which represents 28 leading environmental organizations. March for Parks was recognized for its grassroots commitment to environmental protection.

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Presidential Places

PARK PURSUIT tests your knowledge of the history and natural resources represented within the National Park System. Clues can be found in past issues of the magazine, in books, or in literature about the parks.

The September/October quiz focuses on National Park System sites that commemorate U.S. presidents, and information has been provided to aid you in identifying those depicted.

Presidents have played significant roles in the history of the National Park Service. One signed legislation designating Yellowstone the country's first national park; another signed into law the special legislation that allowed the formation of the Park Service; and others have actively pursued legislation to protect vast tracts of public lands.

Many presidential sites remain in private hands, such as George Washington's homestead at Mount Vernon and Thomas Jefferson's estate at Monticello, both in Virginia. But many others can be found within the park system. National park sites commemorate birth- places, burial sites, and places where presidents were assassinated, such as Ford's Theater in Washington, D.C., where Abraham Lincoln was shot by actor John Wilkes Booth. Eight presidents died in office, including four who were assassinated. Besides Lincoln, James Garfield, William McKinley, and John F. Kennedy were shot.

Not all of the 41 presidents are represented in the park system, and most sites lie east of the Mississippi, as more than half of the presidents were born in Virginia, Ohio, Massachusetts, and New York.

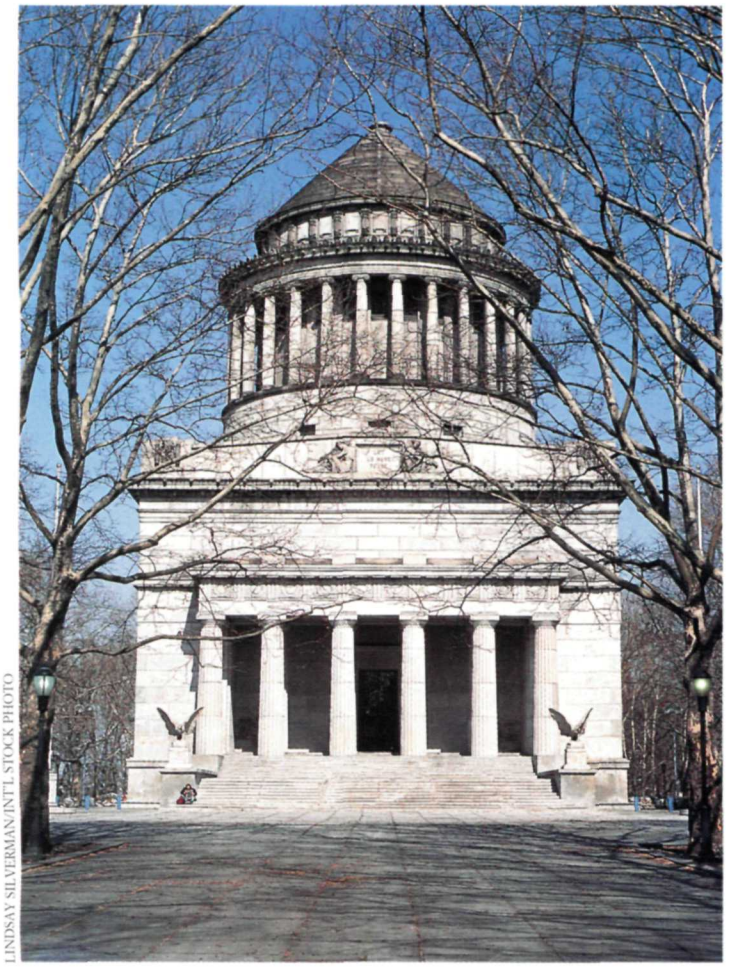
If you are unable to wait until next issue for these answers, call our 900 number (see page 6).

Answers to the July/August quiz are as follows: 1. Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore in Michigan; 2. Cape Lookout National Seashore in North Carolina; and 3. Point Reyes National Seashore in California.

---

1. This site is the birthplace of a man who became president after serving as commander-in-chief. He was inaugurated as president in New York City and served two terms before retiring to his farm. Whose birthplace is this, and what park is it?

CHARLES J. SHANNON

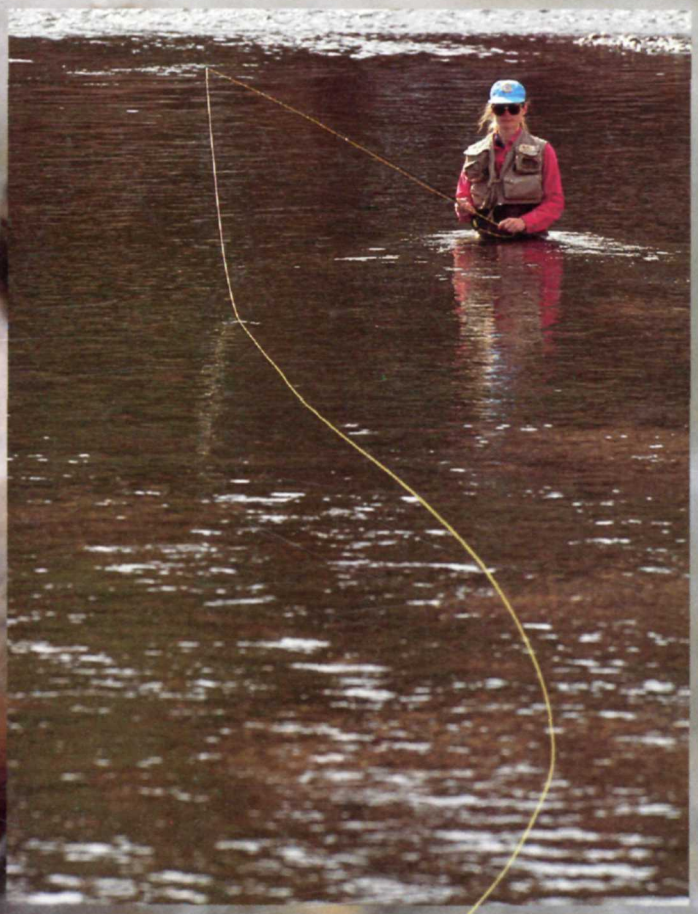


LINDSAY SILVERMAN/INTL STOCK PHOTO

2. As president the man commemorated by this site signed legislation establishing the first national park. This huge, classically proportioned mausoleum was erected by the American people, who thought it a fitting resting place. What national park site is this, and whose memorial is it?

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

3. This national park site was considered a "Summer White House" by the president who built it overlooking a bay. The president who lived here established more national park sites and monuments than anyone before him. Who lived here, and what national park site is it?



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